

Saturday 3 April 2021

Dear Friends

As we emerge from the restrictions of the pandemic, I am pleased to announce the following developments in our ministry provision:

We have been much blessed by the excellent work of Adam Tomkinson-Davies and Alastair Basset, who will complete the second year of their Ministry Traineeship this summer and go on to new opportunities and increased responsibilities. We are delighted that Ministry Trainee Josh Pile is staying for a second year and look forward to working with him to develop his gifts within our church family. Josh will be joined by three first year Ministry Trainees – Tamika Armstrong from north London, Ruth Barker from Sunderland and Josh Sutton, who lives locally, already volunteers on our Technical Team at the 6.30pm service, and has been actively engaged in our Children's Ministry. This brings the team of Ministry Trainees to four. This temporary increase in the size of the Ministry Training Scheme will be very useful as we recover from the pandemic, relaunch our youth and children's activities as in-person programmes, and develop our evangelism of the young within the parish.

It has been wonderful to have Terence with us as a non-stipendiary curate over the past few years. Terence has now reached the end of his curacy but we are not losing his valuable services quite yet. I am delighted to say that he will continue to serve here as our non-stipendiary Associate Minister while he seeks a future role to follow on from his curacy. This change of title is both a legal requirement to extend his ministry beyond his curacy, and a reflection of the value of his ministry and the many gifts he brings to us. Terence adds: "I have loved being part of the church family at Christ Church and ministering here, and am excited to have the privilege to serve here for a while longer".

As we approach the summer, I am also pleased to announce that a new curate Nicolette Wolf will be joining us to serve her title as curate here at Christ Church. Her ordination at the Abbey will be on Saturday 26 June. Nic writes: "What a privilege to be coming to Christ Church to serve my Curacy! I am so grateful for the opportunity to get to know you all, to worship with you, serve you and learn from you. Phil and I have lived in Chorleywood for five years. We have three children – Sophia (9), Naomi (10) and Reuben (12). We have a white scruffy dog called Boaz and a very old but self-assured cat called Emileen! We are all so excited to be joining you.

"A bit about me: after school, I trained and performed in singing, radio presenting and acting before moving into adult education. I then founded the leadership communication consultancy Marcus-Wolf and have been coaching business executives for 15 years. For the last five years I have also been the CEO of a Christian philanthropic charity called BeMORE. I am near to completing my Ordination training at St Mellitus College in London. I like dark chocolate... quite a lot. I'm passionate about horses. There is nothing I like better than sharing good food with friends. I also try to enjoy exercising! Phil, the children and I cannot wait to meet you all!"

I know you will join me in praying for all those mentioned, as we begin to move out of lockdown and look to God's future blessing,

Yours in Christ,

David and the Churchwardens