

## Welcome to the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul Moulton, Northamptonshire

**"equipping God's people, with God's Word, for God's world"**

### Welcome ...

You are holding in your hand the Welcome brochure for Moulton Parish Church. This Church has been here in the village for over 1000 years as a testimony to the enduring quality of the Christian faith and we are still welcoming people through our doors so that they can hear the exciting news of God's love for them in Jesus Christ. Please be assured of always having a warm welcome at this, your local Church and take the opportunity to look through this brochure to see the many and varied activities that make up our Church life. Whether you are a tiny tot or a young teenager, single or married, employed or retired, there will be something for you here.

If I, or a member of our staff, can be of any help, please do not hesitate to contact us either by telephone or e-mail. If you would like to know more about the Church or listen to sermons online, visit the website.

We look forward to meeting you and getting to know you better.

The Revd Peter Breckwoldt  
Vicar of Moulton Parish Church

### Meet the Vicar ...

Peter is married to Joy, a practice nurse, and they have three teenage children: Thomas, Natasha and Sophie. Peter worked in the civil service for the Ministry of Defence before entering the pastoral ministry. He trained at Oak Hill College in London and was Curate at Knutsford Parish Church before coming to Moulton in July 1992. He has many interests, among them films and football, but don't let his love for Man United put you off - he is ok really, and has a tremendous heart for God!



### The Revd Peter Breckwoldt

The Vicarage  
30 Cross Street  
Moulton  
Northampton NN3 7RZ

01604 491060  
vicar@moultonchurch.co.uk

### The Curate

#### The Revd Rob Miles

Rob joined the Church family at Moulton in 2008 after three years' training at Wycliffe College, Oxford. Before training for the ordained ministry Rob worked as a geography teacher in



Cambridge where he met his wife, Clare. They spent three years working for a church in Johannesburg before moving to Oxford. Rob's ministry covers many aspects of church life and Clare helps to lead "The Gap" after-school club for Moulton Primary School children. Rob and Clare have been married for 12 years and have three young daughters, Hannah, Zoe and Pippa.

Contact Rob on 491062 or by e-mail at  
[robmiles100@btinternet.com](mailto:robmiles100@btinternet.com)

### The Youth Worker

#### Mr Kaushal David

Kaushal and his family joined Moulton Church in Autumn 2006. Kaushal is married to Anette, who works as a research nurse at Northampton General Hospital. They have two daughters, Amalia and Anastasia, who are members of our Junior Church. As well as assisting with church services and other activities, Kaushal is Chaplain to Moulton Agricultural College and has responsibility for Christian ministry within Moulton Primary and Secondary schools.

Contact Kaushal on 671141  
or by e-mail at [Kaushal.David@moulton.ac.uk](mailto:Kaushal.David@moulton.ac.uk)



### The Apprentice Youth Worker

#### Mr Nick Trenholme



Nick graduated from Durham University in June 2008 and joined Moulton Church in September. He studied Biology and Chemistry for four years and was involved with the Christian Union, the local church and playing Ultimate Frisbee for his college. Nick's family lives near Bradford, West Yorkshire, and his two brothers are both currently attending university.

Contact Nick on 07712 627243  
or by e-mail at [nick\\_trenholme85@hotmail.com](mailto:nick_trenholme85@hotmail.com)



The Women's Worker  
**Dr Rachel Menon**

Having worshipped at Moulton Church, and served in various areas of ministry here for several years, Rachel stepped into the newly-created post of Women's Worker in January 2007. Rachel trained as a nurse and is married to Neil, a local GP. Together they lead one of the church homegroups, and they have two young children, Joshua and Ruth.

Contact Rachel on 646792 or by e-mail at [rachmenon@aol.com](mailto:rachmenon@aol.com)

Lay Reader

**Mr Terry Phillips**

Terry was licensed as a Lay Reader in 1982 and has been a Reader in Moulton Parish since 1989. He is married to Doris and they have two adult children and two grandchildren. They are currently involved in supporting the ministry at Moulton Evangelical Church and, at the Parish Church, Doris helps coordinate the Ladies' Fellowship group.

Contact Terry on 492974 or by e-mail at [td@tdphillips.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:td@tdphillips.fsnet.co.uk)



Lay Reader

**Mr David Wilson**



David works for a firm of Chartered Surveyors in Northampton. Before moving to the area he spent three years training for Christian ministry at Moorlands Bible College and was licensed as a Reader in May 2000. David is married to Rosie and they have two grown-up sons, Simon and Tim. David and Rosie lead one of our church homegroups and are members of our Prayer Team.

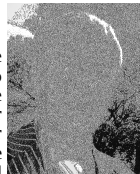
Contact David on 881164 or by e-mail at [davenrosie4@btpenworld.com](mailto:davenrosie4@btpenworld.com)

Lay Reader

**Mr Peter Storey**

Peter was a reader in the Chelmsford Diocese before transferring his licence to Moulton. He is married to Juliet and they have three adult children. They have been living in Northampton since 2003 when Peter joined Northamptonshire YMCA. He became a reader as a response to the gospel and a desire to share the love and grace of Jesus Christ with others. Peter and Juliet also play guitar in one of our church worship groups.

Contact Peter on 846615 or by e-mail at [peter.storey@northampton.ymca.org.uk](mailto:peter.storey@northampton.ymca.org.uk)



## Churchwardens



**Dr Andrew Ward**

Andrew works as a Research Scientist at Bookham Technology, Caswell and lives in Moulton with his wife, Bridget. Together they lead one of the church homegroups and initiated NEXT (Not EXactly Teenagers), a church group for those in their 20s & 30s. Andrew is chairperson of the PCC Outreach Committee & Bridget also serves on this Committee.

**Mr David Taylor**

David is married to Ann, a teacher, and they have three children: Matthew, Daniel and Rachel. Originally from Sheffield, they have been coming to Moulton Church since moving to Northampton in 1998, via Royston, Kings Lynn and Lincoln. Together David and Ann lead T3 and David is on the PCC and the Standing & Finance Committee. David is also one of the trustees of Northamptonshire YMCA.



## Deputy Churchwardens



**Mrs Shirley Keay**

Shirley lives in Overstone with her husband, Tony, a security officer. They have three grown-up children - Tim, Nicola & Stephanie - and two grandchildren, Amy & Thomas. Tim has helped redesign the church website, and Nicola, Amy & Thomas attend Oasis. Stephanie has recently graduated from the University of Northampton. Shirley is chairperson of the PCC Pastoral Committee and helps organise Prayer First.

**Mr Malcolm Shipley**

Malc and his wife, Liz have two daughters: Kate (23) and Rose (21), both living at home. Malc made his commitment to Christ at Moulton Church and has been an active member of the fellowship here for over 15 years. At church he is chairperson of the Buildings and Property Maintenance Committee, and he and Liz serve on the PCC and with T3, our young people's group for school years 7 to 9.



## WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

### Moulton Church Crèche

We are pleased to be able to offer a crèche facility at our 9.30am, 10.30am and 11am services, open to all under-threes. This purpose-built and equipped room is in the Church Centre and is staffed by volunteer members of the church family who are experienced in child care.

Following child protection guidelines we ask that, if your child is under 18 months, you stay with them. There is a video link with the church so that you can continue to listen to the service while you are in the crèche. Parents of older toddlers may come and go as they please.

For further information, contact **Sian Blackwell** on 712660 or **Michelle Nunn** on 499732.



### Moulton Junior Church

At Moulton we have a lively, popular and growing Junior Church staffed by leaders who are committed to the complete care and well-being of every child, as they teach them from God's Word, the Bible, and help each individual child get to know and love the Lord Jesus.

During the year our Junior Church meets every Sunday morning at the 10.30am service (EXCEPT on the second Sunday each month, when all the children are welcomed to, and take part in, our All-Age services in church at 9.30 or 11.00am). At MJC meetings, activities include Bible-based learning through quizzes, games, activity sheets, songs and drama, with a number of extra social events being arranged from time to time during the year, including participating enthusiastically in the annual Moulton May Festival procession through the village!

For further information, contact **Dick Syms**, our Junior Church Co-ordinator, on 780337.

### T3

Our T3 group is for young people in school years 7 to 9 and meets in the Church Centre during the morning service for 'T 'n' Toast' and later at 6.00pm, during the Sunday evening service, for Bible-based learning through fun activities. They also meet socially once a month on Friday evenings, either for a 'Club Night' in the Church Centre or for local outings which, in the past, have included uni-hoc, archery and badminton at the Benham Arena, an Indian-themed evening, a progressive supper around local church family homes, a video night and a visit to the cowsheds at Moulton College (very cute calves, very bad smell!).

A real highlight of the T3 year is the group's Weekend Away to St Mark's at Saffron Walden, which in the past has been extended to a 4-day stay, such is the enthusiasm within the group for spending time together and learning more about our amazing God! All the T3 team would welcome new members.

For further information, contact **David & Ann Taylor** on 648310



### Moulton Youth Fellowship (MYF)

Our young people in school years 10 to 13 meet on Sunday evenings at 7.30pm in the Youth Room of the Church Centre and some at a mid-week Bible study group. Every term a special MYF programme is arranged providing a weekly opportunity our teenagers to get together to learn from the Bible and pray, to share food and fellowship, and to socialise and have fun. Sometimes the meeting will take place at a different church and frequent social events are organised including video nights, sleepovers, cinema trips, special meals, BBQs and parties. An increasing number of MYF members now like to take part in various CYFA camps each Summer, and a MYF Weekend Away is arranged during the Autumn which is well-attended and good fun for the leaders, helpers and teenagers alike!

For further information, contact **Dom & Kat Banham-Hall** on 01908 337912.

## CHURCH MUSIC

### Church Choir

At Moulton we have an enthusiastic choir which is open to all ages from nine years. As well as being involved in leading the musical worship at Sunday services, the choir also sings at the many special services, including weddings and confirmations, which take place at this church. Usually, at least once a year, maybe at Easter, Pentecost or Christmas, the choir presents a major musical work, involving the church musicians and extra singers. In our Diocese each October a Choir Festival takes place at Peterborough Cathedral, where our singers are just one of more than fifty church choirs in attendance! Regular choir practice takes place in the church every Wednesday (7.30 - 9.00pm) and new members are always welcome - whether soprano, alto, tenor, bass or somewhere in between! No audition necessary - just come along one week and see what goes on!

For further information, contact **Chris Hamson** on 646657.



### Church Music Group

The church music groups provide music for our Sunday services 2 or 3 times a month. Church musicians are organised into a rota of four teams and play a variety of instruments, from orchestral to those more associated with folk or modern music. New players are always welcome, whether of a moderate or more accomplished standard. Rehearsals take place in church on the Monday evening prior to the Sunday service at which the group will play.

For further information, contact **Joanna Wilson** on 415046 (rotas) or the Church Office on 495393.

### Church Bellingers

Our all-age team of bellringers - boys & girls, men & women - ring for two services every Sunday, for weddings, and on other special occasions, including ringing the handbells at some of our Christmas services. They meet in the church tower on Mondays from 7.00 - 9.00pm for their weekly practice, enjoying the challenge of improving their performance as a team. Many of them are members of the local Guild of Bellingers and visit other towers to ring on different sets of bells. If you are interested in seeing the ringing, learning more about it, or joining the team, you would be most welcome.

For further information, contact **Barry** or **Mollie Care** on 646818.

## PRAYER AND FELLOWSHIP

Prayer and fellowship are central to the life of our church and there are many opportunities, apart from formal church services, for us to share our faith and encourage one another.



### Homegroups

Our homegroups meet every two weeks during term-time to study the Bible and pray together in a number of homes in and around Moulton village. There are usually about 10-12 people in each group and all are very welcoming to newcomers. These groups are central to our church fellowship and, as well as helping us to know and understand God's Word better, they aim to provide pastoral and prayer support for each individual member. Each term we undertake a different area of study; for example, last year our topics were the Book of Jonah; then a series entitled 'God's Big Picture' (which was an overview of the whole Bible!); followed by 'Lost For Words' - a course designed to help us share our faith. If you are interested in joining a homegroup, there is sure to be one that is just right for you, whether you are young or old, talkative or timid, new to the faith or a more 'mature' Christian! Please speak to Peter (the Vicar) who would be pleased to suggest which group might be best for YOU.

For further information, contact the **Church Office** on 495393.

### "Prayer and Praise"



This informal meeting takes place once a month in the Church Centre, usually on a Tuesday or Thursday from 8.00-9.15pm, followed by light refreshments and time for fellowship. The organisation and presentation of the evening's programme is undertaken by each of our homegroups in turn. There is a visiting speaker who gives a short talk on the evening's chosen Bible passage, and our time together includes opportunity for musical worship, and silent and spoken prayer. **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

For further information, contact the **Church Office** on 495393.



## “Prayer First”

“Prayer First” is an informal ladies’ prayer meeting which takes place on the first Saturday of each month from 8.30-9.30am. We meet at the home of Ruth Tomiak to catch up with one another over a light breakfast; then after a Bible reading and short introduction to prayer by one of the group, we focus on praying for the needs of our church, our community and each other for the rest of our time together. All ladies are welcome to join us.

For further information, contact **Shirley Keay** on 648162 or **Ruth Tomiak** on 494774.



## Christian Education

There is an ongoing programme of Christian education at Moulton Parish Church. As well as the opportunity to hear a variety of Christian speakers at services and meetings throughout the year, bringing us a fresh insight into different areas of the Christian life, courses addressing specific issues and interests are organised regularly. ‘**Christianity Explored**’ is run two or three times a year and is designed to help people think more deeply about the Christian faith. A follow-on course, ‘**Getting Going**’, helps those who have chosen to take their knowledge and understanding a stage further. We also run courses looking at various subjects from a Christian perspective. To date, topics have included ‘*Making For A Better Marriage*’, ‘*Visiting And Befriending In The Parish*’ and ‘*Growing Leaders*’. In addition we arrange ‘**Away Days**’ and ‘**Weekends Away**’ when many members of the church family - of all ages - spend valuable time together, away from the demands of normal daily life, to study the Bible and share fellowship. Christian speakers are invited to come and help us explore different aspects of our faith through Bible study, workshops, seminars and discussion groups. Children’s groups run alongside the adult teaching sessions at all such events.

For further information, contact the **Church Office** on 495393

## “Prayer Triplets”

Many of our church family belong to prayer triplets - same-sex groups of three who meet together informally in each others’ homes for fellowship and prayer support. These small groups provide a friendly and intimate atmosphere in which to share with one another on a deeper level.

For further information, contact **Joy Breckwoldt** on 491060.

## CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

At Moulton we take very seriously the need to spread the Good News of Jesus to others. We regularly organise mission activities to reach out to the local community and, beyond our own parish, we are committed to supporting a number of missionary societies involved in Christian work nationally and worldwide.

The church has built up strong ties over the years with this particular organisation. We are linked with mission partners in different parts of the world and our regular financial contributions help to finance the work they do amongst needy communities overseas. Following the return of our previous mission partners (Andrew and Camilla Symes) from South Africa to the UK, we await notification of another link family to support through Crosslinks.



**CROSSLINKS**



We have a church representative on the local committee of Bible Society, which organises various events throughout the year, supported by churches in and around Northampton, to raise funds for this organisation. Some members of the church family hold Bible Society collecting boxes in their homes or subscribe to the ‘Bible-A-Month’ club. Bible Society aims to provide translations of the Scriptures in as many languages as possible for distribution worldwide, especially to those who are unable to access or afford them easily for themselves.

World Vision seeks to help poverty-stricken third-world communities by providing much-needed aid, especially through self-help schemes and child sponsorship. Our baby and toddler group, ‘Oasis’, collectively sponsors a child from Africa and many others in the church family take part in an annual Sponsored Famine, where they go without food for 24 hours to raise money for World Vision. Last year our Junior Church supported World Vision’s ‘Apple Pies for Apple Trees’ project and the money raised paid for the provision of two orchards in Central America. This year they fetched water on foot from the local Fire & Rescue Service HQ to gain an insight into how people, especially children, in impoverished third-world communities have to ‘walk for water’ every single day just to survive.



**World Vision**

Spurgeons operates internationally in many different aspects of care for children and their families. At Moulton we support this Christian organisation financially - some have collecting boxes at home and, in addition, an annual donation is sent from the whole church family - and then our Christingle service each year is dedicated to Spurgeons’ work. Families are encouraged to bring a children’s gift to this special Christmas service and all donations are forwarded to Spurgeons for use wherever they see the greatest need.



**Spurgeons**  
for children and young people



### Christian Solidarity Worldwide

Voice for the Voiceless.

Christian Solidarity Worldwide exists to support the suffering church and sees itself as providing a crucial 'voice for the voiceless', wherever

Christians are being oppressed, mistreated and persecuted for their faith. CSW regularly reports on the difficult and dangerous conditions in which our brothers and sisters in Christ find themselves, enabling us to pray for them, and send cards and letters of encouragement. In certain cases, where it is considered helpful and appropriate, we are also requested to contact government ministers and foreign embassy officials to highlight some of the situations which come to the attention of CSW. We support the investigative and advocacy work of CSW financially by sending an annual donation on behalf of the church family, and occasionally a CSW speaker will come to talk about their work.



We support the YMCA, whose Northampton headquarters is based at Moulton Park, by an annual donation and also by collecting toiletries and food items every Christmas for distribution locally amongst the homeless and needy youngsters this organisation seeks to reach and support.

### Marcos Machado

Moulton Parish Church started to support Marcos through TEAR Fund when he was 4 years old. Marcos comes from a split family and lives in Fortaleza, Brazil. This is a poor area with high unemployment and a large alcohol and drug problem. Marcos is now 13 and through our help he is receiving an education and a decent meal each day. Marcos loves football - especially the World Cup! He rides a bike and has flute lessons. Marcos is also able to attend the 'Living Waters Project' which is a Christian youth club where he learns about Jesus. Marcos' situation holds huge challenges for him as he grows up - this is where our prayers come in! Pray boldly for Marcos because God loves him very much.

### Diocese of Bungoma

Peterborough Diocese is linked with a diocese in the west of Kenya called Bungoma, and a number of churches in the Peterborough Diocese have links with parishes there. In September this year one of our churchwardens, David Taylor, with join thirteen other people from ten churches around our diocese to travel to Bungoma for two weeks in order to foster closer links between the individual churches. Moulton has been supporting a theological college called the Wycliffe Centre and David's first week will be spent at the college and also in the Musikoma parish on the outskirts of Bungoma. The second week will be spent in a remote parish called Masuno, staying with Christian families and trying not only to understand the challenges they face and also seeking ways in which we can help.

For further information about any of the Christian mission societies supported by Moulton church family, contact our Outreach Committee chairperson, **Andrew Ward** on 642428.

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) consists of the Vicar, Churchwardens, our Deanery Synod representatives, and around 20 elected or co-opted members of the church family. It meets about six times a year to discuss general church business, as well as coming together when urgent matters arise, and for an annual PCC Away Day.

Over the past twelve months, some topics for discussion and decision have been:

- the finances of the church;
- the church mission week;
- the "Blue Door" after-school club for teenagers;
- a review of our musical worship;
- the issue of lay rectorships;
- new appointments to the staff team;
- the appointment of new Deanery Synod representatives;
- the security of the church office and buildings;
- the Diocesan Vision Strategy;
- the possible future appointment of women bishops;
- the re-ordering of the church building and
- the role of the new Women's Worker.

For those interested in finding out more about these discussions, we keep a brightly-coloured folder of PCC meeting minutes in the church which any member of the church is free to peruse at their convenience.

Our PCC has a number of sub-committees each led by a member of the PCC and accountable to it. These committees and their chairpersons are:

- Standing and Finance Committee - Peter Breckwoldt (491060)
- Buildings and Property Maintenance - Malcolm Shiple (499064)
- Outreach Committee - Andrew Ward (642428)
- Pastoral Committee - Shirley Keay (648162)
- Social Committee - Steve Morrow (494482)
- Re-ordering Committee - Roger Smart (642146)

The responsibilities of each of these sub-committees are probably self-explanatory but, for their specific terms of reference, or if you would like to know more about the work they undertake on behalf of the PCC, contact the committee chairperson direct, or our PCC Secretary, **Jean Garlick** on 584968.

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



### 'Oasis'

At 'Oasis', our weekly baby and toddler group, we welcome all preschool children and their carers for story time, singing, craft activities and free play. We arrange a different programme each half-term linked to a theme which introduces the children to the Lord Jesus in a way they can begin to understand for themselves. There are refreshments available for adults and children and we meet every Monday during term time in the Church Centre from 10.00 to 11.15am.

For further information, contact **Charlotte Yarker** on 493812 or **Sian Blackwell** on 712660.

### 'Take-A-Break'

'Take-A-Break' is our well-established drop-in session for anyone who wishes to come along for a cuppa and a chat on a Wednesday afternoon. It begins at 2.15pm and continues through the afternoon to include serving the children and carers who come to 'The Gap' after-school club. New helpers are always welcome.

For further information, contact **Barbara Thompson** on 643796



### 'The Blue Door'

The 'Blue Door' is another after-school club, this time for teenagers between 11 and 16 years old. It meets at Moulton Evangelical Church and aims to provide young people with a safe space in which to relax and spend time with their friends. It is held just on Thursdays at the moment (3.30-5.30pm) but, with a little more support, it is hoped to open the 'Blue Door' on a twice-weekly basis in the future. If you would like to help, please speak to one of the organisers.

For further information, contact **Kaushal David** on 671141

### 'The Gap'

'The Gap' is held after school on Wednesdays in the Church Centre and is attended every week by more than 50 children and their parents/carers, mostly from Moulton Primary School. Refreshments are available to all and everyone enjoys the opportunity to relax and chat, play with the toys provided or take part in games and craft activities. It is a very hectic but enjoyable time, and there is always a need for more helpers so, if you would like to get involved in any way, please get in touch with a 'Gap' leader SOON!

For further information, contact **Clare Miles** on 491062.

### 'NEXT'

'NEXT' (Not EXactly Teenagers) is a group for young adults, singles and couples, in their 20s and 30s, who are too old for Moulton Youth Fellowship (MYF) but would still like to meet and socialise in a friendly, Christian atmosphere. The group meets about twice a month to do fun things like going out for meals, to the cinema or ten-pin bowling - or just chilling out with a pizza and video at someone's house! Please join us!

For further information, contact the **Church Office** on 495393.

### Men's Fellowship

What better place to socialise and listen to a wide variety of Christian speakers than in the local pub?! The Men's Fellowship meets in the Moulton Working Men's Club once a month from October to March and is a great opportunity for us and our friends - Christian and non-Christian - to get together over a drink to consider and discuss different contemporary issues from a Christian perspective. At other times of the year we arrange a programme of prayer breakfasts, a men's Weekend Away and other social events which serve to deepen and enrich our friendship and our faith.. Why not join us?

**All men are welcome.**

For further information, contact **Ian Rouse** on 716668.

### Lunch Club

Our Lunch Club is open to all, but is particularly popular amongst the more mature members of our church family!

It takes place in the Church Centre on alternate Wednesdays during most of the year, beginning at 12.15pm, and is regularly over-subscribed, attracting more than 60 people from both the church family and local community. For a small cost, those who attend can enjoy an excellent freshly-cooked meal, lively company and a talk by a Christian speaker.

For further information, contact **John Cutler** on 644189

### Football & Cricket

At Moulton we enjoy a number of sporting activities including football and cricket. There is football every week on Friday evenings at Moulton College, followed by refreshments in The Telegraph, and over the summer months, our Cricket XI takes part in a number of fixtures against other local teams. Our success is variable but the after-match teas are legendary! A very popular 'Cricket Dinner' is organised in the Autumn. Players of all standards are welcome to join either group.

For further information, contact **Stuart McKee** on 670294 or **Peter Breckwoldt** on 491060 (football) or **David Taylor** on 648310 or **Andy Tresias** on 654017 (cricket).

## Church Flowers

A dedicated team of ladies helps to keep our church looking beautiful with ongoing floral displays throughout the year, particularly at Christmas, Easter and Harvest, and during the Moulton May Festival when we have many extra visitors. New helpers are very welcome!

For further information, contact **Margaret Redman** on 491695.



## SMILE Knitters

The SMILE Knitters group exists to support the charity SMILE International with knitted or crocheted garments, blankets and toys for distribution to needy families and communities overseas. We meet up every month in one of our homes to enjoy fellowship, refreshments, encouragement and prayer together. Our work is kindly supported by the church family with donations of wool, etc, and anyone is welcome to join us.

For further information, contact **Shirley Keay** on 648162.



## Ladies' Fellowship

Our Ladies' Fellowship is for women of all ages and meets on the first Tuesday of each month (except in July/Aug). Beginning at 2.30pm, the meetings usually consist of a talk by a visiting speaker, followed by light refreshments and chat. We join with the other Moulton churches for the annual Women's World Day of Prayer and for other occasional meetings and outings during the year.

For further information, contact **Doris Phillips** on 492974.

## 'Options' for Women

Led by our Women's Worker, Rachel Menon and the Moulton 'Activate' team, 'Options' is a fortnightly term-time meeting for women held in the Church Centre from 7.45-9.30pm on alternate Monday evenings. Here women can choose from a range of activities, including netball, crafts, cooking, book reading club, etc. Before the end of the evening we come together for light refreshments and to hear how one woman has taken the 'option' to invite Jesus into her life and be changed by the difference he makes. All women are invited and are welcome to bring a friend who may be new to the church or wanting to find out more about the Christian faith in a friendly, informal and relaxed environment.

For further information, contact **Rachel Menon** on 646792 or **Sue Smart** on 642146.

## CHURCH FINANCE

Like a lot of things these days, running a church and all its associated activities isn't getting any cheaper! We need to pay our share of the Church of England costs for the area, run the church buildings (including our busy church office) and support all the different groups that operate as part of our regular activities. On top of that, the church has a stated aim of ensuring that 10 per cent of its regular income is given to support groups or individuals doing Christian work outside the parish of Moulton, both in the UK and overseas.

### PLANNED GIVING

To enable us to meet all our outgoings, we encourage every member of the church family to consider prayerfully how they can contribute financially to this work. If you are interested in finding out about the different methods of giving that are available, and how the church can make that giving as efficient as possible, please speak to the Treasurer or Planned Giving Secretary who will be happy to assist.

### LEGACIES

We also ask people to consider making provision for the church as part of their will. Whilst we acknowledge that people will have many areas that they wish to support in the event of their death, we have also seen over the years many wonderful projects that have been completed as a result of generous legacies. Any money that people choose to leave for the church can be targeted at a specific project of particular interest to the donor, or for general use in which case the Vicar and Churchwardens would decide where the money might best be used.

### MOULTON ADDITIONAL STAFF TRUST (MAST)

In addition to the general running of the church, a separate trust has been established to provide financial support for extra staff to work in the church (Moulton Additional Staff Trust, or MAST). This trust currently funds the work of both our Youth Worker and our Women's Worker and is supported by Moulton College, the Parish Council and numerous trusts, as well as the Moulton church family.

For any of these matters, or any other area of financial support that you may wish to explore, please speak to a member of the Finance Team. You can be assured that no pressure will ever be applied to you with regard to your giving and all such matters will be handled with absolute discretion.

For further information or advice please contact the **Church Office**, on 495393 or the Planned Giving Secretary, **Richard Hughes** on 648563.



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF MOULTON CHURCH

### Early Beginnings

There are good reasons for believing that the hilltop site of our present church, with two streams meeting at the foot of the hill and the villagers' huts clustered around and along the valley, was used as a meeting place long before the coming of Christianity. It is known that a small wooden church stood here during the seventh Century when the call to worship was made by "runners", or by striking together pieces of "Sacred Boards".

### Saxon Times

This early building was burnt down by Danish invaders towards the end of the seventh Century, was promptly rebuilt, but suffered the same fate again. In the early part of the eleventh Century a stone building was erected consisting of a chancel, nave and tower with one or possibly two bells. It was dedicated to St Peter.

### Norman Period

In the year 1265, during the "Barons' War", the church was laid in ruin. The rebuilding was slow until, in 1298, Oliver Sutton, the Bishop of Lincoln (in whose Diocese Moulton lay at the time), commanded the villagers to set their church in order. The work was done whilst Robert de Botelbrigge was the Vicar, building on the foundations and remaining walls of the old church. It was an ambitious scheme, enlarging the church by the addition of the south and north arcades (which were dedicated to St Paul) and a larger tower containing a ring of four bells. This was the beginning of the church in the form with which we are familiar today.

### Later Additions

Late in the fourteenth Century, the south porch was added, to be followed by the raising of the elegant top part of the tower, to which a wooden spire was added circa 1422, making it 110 feet high. There was little further change until the time of the Civil War when, in about 1645, the lead was stripped from the roof and the spire by Parliamentary troops to be used (so tradition has it) to make bullets, needed when Cromwell's men met the Royalists at the Battle of Naseby. The demolition of the spire left the tower 79 feet 3 inches high and it stood 420 feet above sea level.

Between 1450 and 1540 two new bells were added to the existing ones to make a ring of six. One bell, given by the townspeople of Moulton, was set apart as a special 'Mote Bell' (or Great Bell) to be used as a clock bell, and to be "*ronge whan any casualys shall chaunce and for ye gathering togyther ye Inhadbytants of ye sayd towne to ye Courte and other their necesaryes.*"

When Cromwell's men left the district, the stained glass disappeared, the chancel window was destroyed and some of the bells were missing or damaged.

A gallery was erected in 1738 across the west end of the church hiding the tower arch, but this was removed during the work of restoration in 1886. In 1795 the bells were re-hung, once again forming a ring of six.

### Restoration 1884-1886

This was to be done at a cost of £1,200 but in fact, the final cost was £3,500. Alterations included the entire removal and rebuilding of the roof of the nave and aisle, the tower parapets and the north arcade. Where necessary, new floors and pews were installed. The walls were scraped of old plaster and whitewash, and the stonework was repointed.

Sadly the faded old mediaeval wall paintings were also removed. When the work was completed, the church was reopened by Archbishop Magee on 15 June 1886, in the presence of "*a large concourse of people and a hundred visiting clergy. The procession was led into the church by the choir, white-robed for the first time since the Reformation.*"

In 1879 the churchyard was closed to any further burials due to a lack of space.

The nineteenth Century came to a close with the gift to Moulton Church, in 1899, of a beautiful stained glass window at the east end of the church, depicting the Last Supper. It was given in memory of Philadelphus Jeyes of Holly Lodge, and his new wife. At the same time, new communion rails were installed and the chancel was paved with Minton encaustic tiles. Also in 1899, a new clock and chimes were given in memory of Mr Lewis, who had been the village doctor for many years, and his wife. The clock, which is still in good working order today, was dedicated on the 11 December 1902 by the Dean of Peterborough.

### The Twentieth Century

On St Barnabas' Day 1907 a public meeting was held to consider the advisability of purchasing a room known as the Pinafore Factory, and owned by the Brook Manufacturing Company, for use as a Church Room, at a cost of £180. All was agreed and the Room was subsequently in use until 1970.

In 1934 two new bells were acquired, new oak choir stalls replaced the worm-eaten old chairs previously used and many other improvements were made.

During the years of the Second World War, the incumbent was Revd G C Beach, a good musician who, when the church was without an organist for several months, both took the services and played the organ himself, remarking from the pulpit: "Just bear with me for a few moments, please, until I reach the organ."

In the 1950s, the church tower was restored at a cost of £1,200. At the same time a row of condemned cottages bordering the west side of the churchyard came onto the market. This property was purchased and gave space for a car park and future Church Room. Within the church building, a new oil-fired heating system was installed in 1961, which proved very

effective until the price of oil soared in the 1970s. Other work carried out in the Sixties included the erection of a beautiful oak and glazed screen to fill the tower arch, a new vicar's vestry was established in the north-west corner of the church and, in 1967, a new organ was purchased from a redundant Methodist church in Streatham. This was installed in the south-east corner of the church, forming a new choir vestry and the north-east corner was made into a 'Lady Chapel'.

In 1968 some fame came to Moulton when the BBC programme "Sunday Half Hour" was broadcast from the church. This proved to be such a success that later we were asked to host the television programme "Songs of Praise" and also a third programme of hymns and prayers which went out on the BBC World Service.

In 1973 the church bells were remodelled into a more tuneful ring of ten by Taylors of Loughborough and a new ringing chamber was built in the tower, 18 feet above ground level.

In 1979, whilst the Revd Victor Gillett was the Vicar, the south-west window was much improved by the installation of two beautiful stained glass panels, depicting St Peter and St Paul, moved down from the tower where, previously, they could not be properly appreciated. In 1985 modern electric heaters were installed into the church building.

The new Church Centre was opened in 2000. About the same time a sound system was installed in the church, with a video link to the Church Centre.

#### Special points of interest:

- The shaft of the Saxon preaching cross, discovered under the floor of the chancel in 1885, now standing in the south aisle next to the choir vestry.
- The Saxon lookout and arrow stone above an arch between the nave and north side.
- Eight decorated Saxon stones, which have been identified at various points around the building and churchyard.
- Two of the bells, which are very unusual in that they are dedicated to a Baptist minister and missionary, the great Dr William Carey, who conceived the idea of founding the Baptist Missionary Society when he was living in Moulton and was pastor of the chapel here.

Compiled by **Robert and Beryl Eady** (1985).  
Updated 2000.

#### References:

Stone Crosses of Northamptonshire, Markham, 1901.  
Churches of Northamptonshire, 1849.  
Moulton Church And Its Bells, Dr S Madge, 1895.

## SUNDAY PROGRAMME

Our regular Sunday programme of meetings is as follows:

#### 1st Sunday in month:

9.00am Holy Communion (said service lasting approx. one hour)  
10.30am Holy Communion (crèche, Junior Church and T3)  
6.00pm Contemporary Service in church and T3 in Church Centre  
7.30pm MYF in Church Centre

#### 2nd Sunday in month:

9.00am NO SERVICE at this time on 2nd Sunday  
9.30am All-Age Worship (crèche available)  
11.00am All-Age Worship (crèche available)  
6.00pm Holy Communion in church and T3 in Church Centre  
7.30pm MYF in Church Centre

#### 3rd, 4th, 5th Sundays in month:

9.00am Holy Communion (said service)  
10.30am Morning Worship (crèche, Junior Church and T3)  
6.00pm Evening Prayer in church and T3 in Church Centre  
7.30pm MYF in Church Centre

Occasional changes occur - please check with the Church Office if in doubt.

## MORE INFORMATION

**Weekly Noticesheet**, available in church each Sunday, highlighting details of forthcoming events, meetings in the current week, general information and items for prayer. Compiled by Elizabeth King (Church Office: 495393).

**Monthly Magazine** which includes a topical, thought-provoking message from Peter or Rob, information about church groups, meetings and future events, testimonies, book reviews and other articles by members of the church family. Edited by Shirley Keay (648162).

**Church Website** at [www.moultonchurch.co.uk](http://www.moultonchurch.co.uk), inviting you to check out all our latest news and resources which await you there. Managed by Ian Rouse (716668).

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

**Moulton Parish Church Office**  
**Moulton Church Centre, Church Hill, Moulton, Northants, NN3 7SW**

**Office hours:**  
Monday to Friday  
9.30am-1.00pm

**Telephone:** 01604 495393  
**E-mail:** [admin@moultonchurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@moultonchurch.co.uk)  
**Website:** [www.moultonchurch.co.uk](http://www.moultonchurch.co.uk)

**Church Office Administrator: Mrs Elizabeth King**

This edition: March 2009