



Elham Valley Group Newsletter 28th June 2026

"Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all"

Find us online : www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk OR
www.achurchnearyou.com

This week's services : 4th Sunday after Trinity

10am – Benefice Eucharist – All Saints, Stanford

A celebration of Revd Stephen's 20 years of ordained ministry*

Tuesday 30th June – 8.30am – Morning Prayer – Elham

The Collect:

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer:

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 28: 5-9

Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; ⁶ and the prophet Jeremiah said, 'Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfil the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. ⁷ But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸ The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹ As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet.'

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10: 40 - end

'Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.'

Please Pray for Mark, Andy Ashman, Val Pinder, Roger Goody, Jenni Lister, The Bradley family, Wendy Cook, Sue Leaver, Millie Collins, Jill Fitch, Poppy Allard, John Meers, Michael Kirk, Alice Mills, Lilian Bowles & family, Claire Laker.

Please contact the Benefice Administrator Alison Dale 07985025381 or beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk to add people to the prayers.

Please pray for the departed, Jan Hall, Martyn Bowles, and those for whom an anniversary of death falls at this time, Vera Austin, Doreen Paton, Flora Moore, Owen Morris Jonathan, Joan King, John Long, George Crow, Jean Hawkins & Sylvia Stewart.

To arrange for Funerals, Thanksgivings, Blessings, Renewal of Vows and *all other services* please contact the Rector – revcarolbates@gmail.com 0777 239 4855

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the Benefice Administrator as above.

***Refreshments & drinks (including a celebration cake & wine!) will be served outside – any donations of finger food or cold drinks would be very welcome (best kept in cars until after the service). There will be tables under a gazebo for these. Cups & plates will be provided. Please bring a folding chair if you wish to sit to eat as we are unsure of numbers. Please note there is no toilet at Stanford.**

Parish Notices:

Weddings –Charlotte Jennings & Ross Smith – Sat. 27th June 1pm – Acrise;
Sarah Cullingham & Neal Abbott – Sat. 4th July 12pm – Elham; Elizabeth Sumner & Andre Allen – Sat. 11th July 1pm - Elham

Baptism – George Rolfe – Sun. 28th June 1pm – Acrise

Funeral – Joan Moore – Fri. 10th July 11am - Lyminge

Denton & Wootton Church Fete – Sat. 4th July 11am-4pm – Denton Village Hall

Benefice Notices: