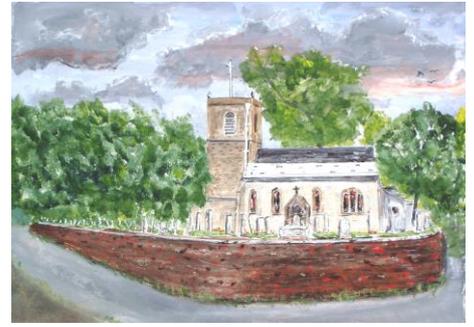


St. Peter's Church, Swettenham



NOTICE SHEET
16TH NOVEMBER 2014
FAMILY SERVICE
2ND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

A very warm welcome to the community here at St. Peter's where worship has been offered on this site since Saxon times. The present Church building has its origins in the late 13th Century and has been the place of worship for the village of Swettenham since then. If you make use of a hearing aid please switch to "T" for enhanced sound.

Please ensure that mobile phones, cellular phones and pagers are switched off.

There will be a collection taken during the Offertory Hymn for the Ministry, Mission and upkeep of this beautiful Church building that costs **£2,417 month** to maintain. Please use one of the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews as this adds 25% to the value of your offering, thank you.

Our Hymns for today:

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	629 Teach me my God and King
THE GRADUAL HYMN:	752 Will you come and follow me?
OFFERTORY HYMN:	716 We have a gospel to proclaim
RESCESIONAL HYMN:	379 Give me joy

THE COLLECT

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT (HEBREW BIBLE): Zephaniah 1.7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.' Their wealth shall be plundered, and

their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

NEW TESTAMENT 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11

There is no need to write you, friends, about the times and occasions when these things will happen. For you yourselves know very well that the Day of the Lord will come as a thief comes at night. When people say, "Everything is quiet and safe," then suddenly destruction will hit them! It will come as suddenly as the pains that come upon a woman in labor, and people will not escape. But you, friends, are not in the darkness, and the Day should not take you by surprise like a thief. All of you are people who belong to the light, who belong to the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, we should not be sleeping like the others; we should be awake and sober. It is at night when people sleep; it is at night when they get drunk. But we belong to the day, and we should be sober. We must wear faith and love as a breastplate, and our hope of salvation as a helmet. God did not choose us to suffer his anger, but to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us in order that we might live together with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes. And so encourage one another and help one another, just as you are now doing.

GOSPEL Matthew 25: 14 - 30

"At that time the Kingdom of heaven will be like this. Once there was a man who was about to leave home on a trip; he called his servants and put them in charge of his property. He gave to each one according to his ability: to one he gave five thousand gold coins, to another he gave two thousand, and to

another he gave one thousand. Then he left on his trip. The servant who had received five thousand coins went at once and invested his money and earned another five thousand. In the same way the servant who had received two thousand coins earned another two thousand. But the servant who had received one thousand coins went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money.

“After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The servant who had received five thousand coins came in and handed over the other five thousand. ‘You gave me five thousand coins, sir,’ he said. ‘Look! Here are another five thousand that I have earned.’ ‘Well done, you good and faithful servant!’ said his master. ‘You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!’ Then the servant who had been given two thousand coins came in and said, ‘You gave me two thousand coins, sir. Look! Here are another two thousand that I have earned.’ ‘Well done, you good and faithful servant!’ said his master. ‘You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!’ Then the servant who had received one thousand coins came in and said, ‘Sir, I know you are a hard man; you reap harvests where you did not plant, and you gather crops where you did not scatter seed.

I was afraid, so I went off and hid your money in the ground. Look! Here is what belongs to you.’ ‘You bad and lazy servant!’ his master said. ‘You knew, did you, that I reap harvests where I did not plant, and gather crops where I did not scatter seed? Well, then, you should have deposited my money in the bank, and I would have received it all back with interest when I returned. Now, take the money away from him and give it to the one who has ten thousand coins. For to every person who has something, even more will be given, and he will have more than enough; but the person who has nothing, even the little that he has will be taken away from him. As for this useless servant—throw him outside in the darkness; there he will cry and gnash his teeth.’

ADDRESS – Revd Pamela Soult

POST COMMUNION

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

NEXT WEEK AT ST. PETER'S - 6.30PM EVENSONG



**St. Peter's
Christmas Fair**
Saturday
29th November
The Swettenham Club
12 noon - 2.00pm
Turkey Baps
REFRESHMENTS
Cake Stall **Raffle**



St Peter's Church
**Advent
Carol Service**
with The Kingsfield Singers
Sunday
November
30th
6.30pm



There will be a
cake sale after
the service this
morning to support
our young choir.



Thank you for your continued support!

Can you help to
make someone's
day special?

Christmas Hamper Items

Teabags
Coffee
Sugar
Long Life Milk
Coke
Squash
Custard
Marmalade
Tinned Ham
Tinned Tuna / Salmon
Tinned Meat
Instant Noodles
Pasta Sauce
Chutney
Tinned veg
Mince pies
Pickled Onions
Crisps/Pringles
Christmas Pudding
Christmas Cake
Chocolate Log
Tinned Fruit Salad
Biscuit Selection Box
Sweets / Chocolates



All needed
by Wed 11th
December



The Storehouse is hoping to make up 250 Christmas Hampers for the needy within the old Borough of Congleton and it would be great if we could send some items to go in these. If you would like to donate small items of Christmassy food and goods please place them in the box at the back of Church. The hampers will be made up on **Thursday 11th December at 9.30am**, if you wish to go over and help to do this, you will be made very welcome.

The Storehouse is also in need of small Christmas gifts as they are going to be putting together presents for around 500-700 people in need in our community (for example a selection box, gifts for children and adults).