

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



May 2010

PARISH DIRECTORY

SUNDAY SERVICES

Details of our services are given on pages 2 and 3.

Young people's activities take place in the Centre at 9.15 am
(see inside back page for details)

THE PARISH TEAM

Vicar	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
Curate	Tim Vasby-Burnie, 1 Navigation Loop Email tim@vasbyburnie.net	814244
Assistant Minister For Youth	Adam Rushton, 26 Victoria Street	813654
Electoral Roll Officer	Irene Gassor	814871
Parish Office	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	811990
Deaconess (Retired)	Ann Butler	818160
Readers	Dave Bell John Butterworth David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 816713 813712 817987
Music Co-ordinators	Peter Mason Jeff Challinor	815854 819665
Wardens	Phil Tunstall David Rowlands	817028 816713
Deputy Wardens	Andy Stone, Arthur Foulkes, Tim Saxton	

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Booking Secretary	Kate or Irene	(Office)	811990
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CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street. Head: Mrs Lynne Croxall B.Ed.(Hons)	354125
Christ Church C.E.(Aided) Middle School, Old Road Head: C. Waghorn B.Ed(Hons),DPSE,ACP,FRSA	354047

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Christ Church



and People

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Please get your contributions for the June magazine to us by 15th May.

Cover Story:-
The Talbot

Subscriptions

If you would like this magazine delivered to you regularly, please contact:
Mrs Marylyn Hillman, Park Lodge, Beech Court, Stone. Tel 815936

May 2010

Sat	1	8:30am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast at 9:00am
Sun	2	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. Ephesians 2:11-22 "God's new creation" Evening Prayer at Oulton John 20:24-31 "He had to confront"
Mon	3	7:45pm	Christianity Explored
Tue	4	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club Lighthouse Club years 3-5 Christ Church Youth Club years 12-13
Wed	5	10:00am 7:30pm	Incumbent training at Shallowford Last orders at Wetherspoon's with Tim VB
Thu	6	1:20pm 7:00pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly The Rock Youth Group years 9-11
Fri	7	10:00am 6:30pm	Friday Fellowship Breathe years 6-8
Sat	8	10:30am	Men's Convention - Manchester
Sun	9	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. Eph 3:2-13 "God's mystery revealed" Communion at Oulton. John 21:1-14 "He had to teach"
Mon	10	7:00pm 7:45pm	Cornerstone Christianity Explored
Tue	11	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club Lighthouse Club years 3-5 Christ Church Youth Club years 12-13
Wed	12		
Thu	13	1:20pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly The Rock Youth Group years 9-11 Deanery Ascension Day Communion
Fri	14	10:00am 6:30pm	Friday Fellowship Breathe years 6-8
Sat	15	10:00am	Jack's Plant Sale, 32 Redwood Avenue

Sun	16	9:15am 4:00pm	Communion. Ephesians 3:14-21 “Christian maturity” Tim Vasby-Burnie Farewell Service - Christ Church Centre. Text :John 21:15-25 “He had to re-instate”
Mon	17	7:00pm 7:45pm	Cornerstone Christianity Explored
Tue	18	9:30am 10:00am 3:45pm 6:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Lighthouse Club years 3-5 Governors meeting Christ Church First School Christ Church Youth Club years 12-13
Wed	19		
Thu	20	1:20pm 7:00pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly The Rock Youth Group years 9-11
Fri	21	10:00am 6:30pm	Friday Fellowship Breathe years 6-8
Sat	22	10:00am 5:00pm	Midi Churches Day - Rising Brook Baptist Church Farewell for Bishop Gordon Mursell- Stoke Minster
Sun	23	9:15am 6:00pm	Family Service Ephesians 4:1-6 “Keep the unity of the Spirit” Communion at Oulton Acts 1:1-11 “He had to equip”
Mon	24	7:00pm 7:45pm	Cornerstone Christianity Explored
Tue	25	9:30am 10:00am 3:45pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Lighthouse Club years 3-5 Christ Church Youth Club years 12-13
Wed	26	6:45pm	Visitation Service at Fulford - Wardens & Vicar
Thu	27	1:20pm 7:00pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly The Rock Youth Group years 9-11
Fri	28	10:00am 6:30pm	Friday Fellowship Breathe years 6-8
Sat	29		
Sun	30	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer Eph 4:7-16 “Exercise gifts for others” Evening Prayer at Oulton 1 Samuel “The Lord hears prayer”
Mon	31	7:45pm	Christianity Explored

He's gone! So let's keep praying

It's a month of goodbyes. Four I will note. First, many expect a change of political party in government that will greatly influence parliament. To say 'he's gone' may or may not be a welcome change - depending on your political views. What is the Christian responsibility towards politics? In Paul's letter to his younger colleague Timothy he says: *'I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness'* (I Tim 2v1-2). Prayer draws on heaven's resources for those in leadership, so that we can live in a way that pleases God.

Second, we say goodbye to Tim, Caroline and Hannah Vasby-Burnie. After three years with us as Assistant Curate we hope his experience will prove to be useful for future ministry in Wednesbury. What should we pray? The apostle Paul's hope for his colleague was to hold firm to the faith he once embraced and now is now entrusted to teach: *'watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers'* (I Tim 4v16). Two main temptations are either to water down the message in order to avoid offence, or to pull back from living a godly life so as to appear more relevant. They both have disastrous consequences. The good news of Jesus Christ is life giving. So, we pray that the V-B's will both live and teach the whole counsel of God.

Third, we say goodbye to the Bishop of Stafford who retires so as to safeguard his voice. We are thankful to God for his ministry in the Diocese and hope that during his retirement Bishop Gordon and his wife Ann will be aware of God's continued grace and have new opportunities to further the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Finally, we remember Jesus' ascension and exaltation to the right hand of the Father. Jesus said that his own departure would be followed by an important arrival! He would send the church his *'Spirit of power, love and self-discipline'* (II Tim 1v7). We're to pray so as to avoid resisting or hindering the Spirit's work in our own lives, for we have been saved and called to live a holy life. Jesus' ministry continues today through his Spirit-empowered church to call people to turn back to Jesus, to live by faith and look forward to the day of his return.

Paul Kingman.



Protected by Grace

What would be a suitable last article for this magazine? Caroline, Hannah and myself have been here just short of three years and now we're off to Wednesbury. If you want to hear my parting thoughts, you'll have to come along to Christ Church centre on May 16th at 4pm.

Maybe the apostle Paul's final words to Ephesus could be an inspiration. You'll find them in Acts 20, go have a read. Paul knows he will never see these beloved church leaders again; imagine the poignancy, the tenderness, the grief. Leaving them felt like being torn away (21:1).

Paul knows he will not be around to protect these young-in-the-faith disciples. But he knows something that will keep them safe: the message of God's grace.

“Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among God's chosen people.” (see verse 32)

The message of God's grace – this story of Jesus' life, death, resurrection and future return in glory – isn't simply what you believe when you start the Christian life. It's the message that keeps you going. This word of grace will make you strong, build the church, and give you a fantastic future to look forward to.

So read this message: pick up your Bible and get going. Listen to it: make sure you are present when this word is proclaimed on Sundays. Speak it to one another: encourage one another with reminders of God's grace. Study it: are you getting your teeth stuck into a good Christian book? Sing it, memorise it, think about it, pray it, enjoy it.

I've written “it” too many times. The message concerns a person; three persons in fact: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In this message God is revealed and through this message you can know him. The Bible, the sermon, the book, the hymn... these are what the Spirit will use to bring you to the Son, to the glory of the Father. Jesus is what life is about.

That's my prayer for you: that you are committed to God's message of grace. We would value your prayers for us along the same lines.

Enjoy Jesus!

Tim Vasby-Burnie

<http://vasbyburnie.net>

Dead or Alive?

My Dad tricked me. Aged seven, it was my first trip to London and we went to Madame Tussaud's. Seeing that I needed the lavatory, he told me to ask the attendant at the foot of the stairs where to go. When I asked him, the attendant didn't answer. Only by touching his cold hand and turning to see my father grinning, did I realise he wasn't alive, only a wax dummy.

Dead or alive? Response or non-response is the test. Why are so many people only half-alive? Why is it that children seem to be more vividly alive than their parents? Or why should young people express so great a dread of becoming middle-aged?

I like the seaside - the beach, the sea and the rock pools - but I didn't realise how dull I had become to its wonder until I enjoyed it with a toddler. To walk twenty yards along the beach could take half an hour because every pebble, every bit of shell, every dry twig or bit of seaweed was an object of such wonder and awe that you had to squat and examine and squeal with delight. Heaven lies about us in our infancy and even a trek across the beach can become the golden journey to Treasure Island. Where did it go, that intensity of response? How comes it that most of us lose the gift of seeing the ordinary as extraordinary? This is why Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is for the childlike, for it is the Kingdom of the fully alive. The unaware and the half-dead have no place in it because they have no feeling for it.

There is a frustrating amount of deadness around- the sleeping sickness, apathy and lack of response. Perhaps its fear that does it. We shrink from the pain of being fully awake. The child who is so intensely alive to the wonder of each shell and pebble quickly discovers that she can't tunnel that vision so as to be aware of only the beautiful and happy things. Eyes that remain open to the glory of the world must see its ugliness as well. So growing up is usually a process of closing up. Awareness makes demands. Awareness hurts. So we begin to grow a protective shell and become a bit blind, a bit deaf, a bit dead.

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In the gospels, Jesus is portrayed as a Man totally alive to God: supremely aware and responsive. He noticed the unattractive small character perched in the sycamore tree and he heard the cry of the blind beggar above the noise of the crowd. 'In him was life and the life was the light of all people' (John 1:4). During Holy Week and Easter we remember how that life went down into death and was overwhelmed. On the cross, the aliveness of Jesus Christ went down under the deadness that is our sickness and sin. Surrendering himself to death, he drew it into himself and absorbed it. Our sin was absorbed in Christ's forgiveness. Jesus has opened up a way for us. He transformed death into life.

At Communion we remember that he died to bring us new life. The bread is broken as he was; the wine is poured into the cup as his life was poured out. 'Because I am alive, you shall be alive also'. God transforms bread because he wants to transform us. Not for a warm fuzzy glow, not just to feel 'blessed'. We are blessed to be a blessing to others, to make a real difference.

The invitation is there. It's not forced on anyone but neither can you receive by sitting back and doing nothing. He says: *Ask. Come. Take.* His aliveness is on offer. Choose life!

Mark Rylands

How well do you know your bible stories?

It's very easy to get bible stories muddled up with each other. Here are some answers given in a bible quiz by children at an American elementary school. Do you know what the children were thinking about?

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.

Samson slayed the Philistines with the Axe of the Apostles.

Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.

The seventh commandment is Thou shalt not admit adultery.

Last Orders at Wetherspoons!

Join Tim as he says goodbye to Wetherspoons (in Stone, at least). From 7.30pm at the Poste of Stone on Wednesday 5th May. Tim says he's going to starve himself in preparation for a large mixed grill; feel free to join him for a meal or just a drink.

Be Men!

The annual Northern Men's Convention (the Armitage Centre, Manchester) will be on Sat 8th May 2010. The day is entitled 'Be Men!' walking with Jesus – it will help us to look at what it means to walk with Jesus as a disciple. The speakers are David Johnston (pastor of Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church in Bangor) and Christopher Ash (Director of Cornhill Training Course, London). Cost £18 when booked in advance. Booking via www.thegoodbook.co.uk/nmc.

Paul Kingman

Deanery Ascension Day service: 7.30 p.m. Thurs 13th May at Oulton church

This year we are to host the Deanery Ascension Day service of Holy Communion at St John the Evangelist Church, Oulton. The service will start at 7.30 p.m. and will be followed by light refreshments.

Paul Kingman

Jack's Plant Sale

Advance notice of Jack Sutcliffe's plant sale Saturday, 15th May 2010 from 10.00am to 4.00pm at 32 Redwood Avenue, Stone. Proceeds will go to Jigsaw Ministries.

Many thanks.

Poverty – Let's End It: Christian Aid Week 9-15 May 2010

‘Yes, poverty can be ended. It is about working together and it's about bringing the best out of individuals and into the community. Yes, poverty can be ended.’

Rev Nan Wyn Powell-Davies, minister and Christian Aid supporter

Christian Aid Week is a wonderful opportunity for the church across the UK and Ireland to unite in the fight to end the scandal of poverty. In May this year, around 300,000 people, working with 22,000 churches, will reach out into their local communities by organising events, door-to-door collections and church services, driven by a passion to put an end to the injustice that keeps billions of our neighbours around the world living in poverty.

With the help of Christian Aid partner MNU, thousands of lives have been changed for the better in Kiambiu, a slum area of Nairobi, Kenya. Before MNU began working in the slum, residents of Kiambiu had no access to clean water. Over the last 10 years, MNU has helped the community to install clean water supplies, which have helped to reduce the spread of diseases, such as typhoid. ‘When we started as a group we had a goal, we had a dream and we are now working to realise it,’ says Catherine Nyaata, a community activist in Kiambiu.

If you can help with this years Christian Aid collection, please pick up a pack of envelopes from the display in the centre, sign for them, follow the instructions in the handbook and return the collected envelopes to me. Many thanks.

Phil Tunstall

Farewell service for the Vasby-Burnies

Sunday 16th May will be Tim Vasby-Burnie's last Sunday as Assistant Curate in this Benefice. We will be holding our usual services in the morning, but invite all congregations to come to a farewell service at 4pm in the church centre followed by refreshments.

Paul Kingman

Bishop Gordon's farewell service

A farewell service for The Rt Revd Gordon Mursell, Bishop of Stafford will be held at Stoke Minster at 5pm on Saturday 22nd May 2010. The event is by ticket only which can be applied for by contacting Lindsay Churchill, the Bishop's PA.

THANK YOU

The Flower Guild would like to say a 'Big Thank You' for all of the generous donations given towards the purchase of the beautiful flowers which filled our church at Easter.

Marylyn Hillman

PCC News (from the meeting on 15th March)

Various maintenance issues are currently being considered by the Centre Management task group. These include decoration, carpet cleaning and the condition of the chairs. A replacement programme for the chairs is being considered.

Work to clear the pathway between the church and Bromfield Court has been commenced by Phil Tunstall. A date and details of a Saturday for a working party to meet to complete this work are yet to be finalised.

We reflected on our Youth Work that started 5 years ago and looked with encouragement at what has been achieved so far. We have regular contact with 80 to 90 young people. It is also good that so many people have given to support this work, thank-you.

A farewell event is being organised for the Curate and his family on Sunday 16 May. His institution in Wednesbury takes place on Wednesday 16 June. We are investigating hiring a coach to transport members of Christ Church and Oulton.

Bishop Gordon's farewell event is scheduled for Saturday 22 May at Stoke Minster at 5pm

Giving to one-off collections was discussed, e.g. the earthquake appeal for Haiti. These are in addition to our regular giving to mission work. It was agreed to summarise this one-off giving with a short report in the Annual Reports booklet for the APCM.

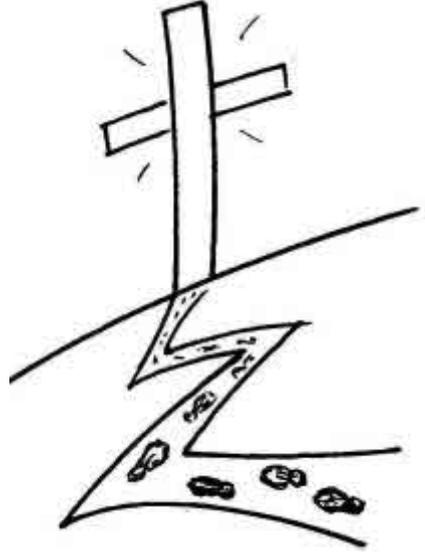
The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 12 May 2010 at 7.30pm.

Roger Vaughan writes about: “The Painful Path to Forgiveness”

I am writing this in Holy week, thinking about the human failures that led Jesus step by step to the Cross. Betrayal, denial, false accusations, protection of secular and religious power, torture, and the need to focus all this and much more on one person.

Similar acts of human cruelty continue today and are constantly before us in the media headlines.

However there is a difference. At the excruciating climax of this painful path Jesus cries “Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing”. (Luke 23:34).



Forgiveness is not easy, in fact it’s a diabolically painful process. But we try to avoid the pain of forgiveness with trite statements. For example I have heard people advise hurt friends “Just forgive them”...Just?! Anyone who gives that advice has not taken many steps themselves along the path to forgiving.

Then again there’s the commonly used phrase “forgive and forget”. But think about it, you can only really forgive when you remember. When Jesus uttered his great prayer of forgiveness from the Cross to His Father, I am sure he was remembering all the human sins, and moral weaknesses that had brought him to this awful moment.

Forgiveness is not a “once off” action. The emphasis in the Greek of this passage is that Jesus kept on praying “Father forgive”...It’s a “seventy times seven” action. In fact we have to repeat forgiveness so often that it becomes a habitual attitude. If you have been hurt by someone, forgiving once is not enough.

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“The Painful Path to Forgiveness” (cont)

Every time their action comes to mind, you need to take another step along that painful path of forgiveness.

We also need to remember that forgiveness does not put everything right. The victim of a terrorist atrocity may be able to forgive the perpetrator, but all the forgiveness in the world will not replace a leg that has been blown off in the bomb blast. As Archbishop Desmond Tutu says *“Forgiveness cannot not put the clock back – but it can move us and the perpetrators on”*.

Nor does forgiveness diminish the demands for justice, and the abhorrence of sinful actions. Let’s be in no doubt that the path to forgiveness is a tough one.

But Good Friday is not complete without Easter day. And on Easter day in the evening Jesus uttered another memorable statement about forgiveness. His breath, that had ceased on Good Friday, is breathed anew into the disciples with these words.



“Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven” (John 20:22 -23)

The Resurrection of Jesus and the Coming of the Holy Spirit changes the painful path of forgiveness into the **Glorious way of Forgiveness.**

Through the Holy Spirit we are given the huge responsibility and power to do what Jesus did. God speaks to people through our forgiving actions. But this sort of forgiveness is the work of the Holy Spirit through us.

In his book “Rumours of another world” Philip Yancey cites an episode from the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission. A woman’s son had been shot and later she was forced to watch her husband tied to a woodpile and burnt to death.

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“The Painful Path to Forgiveness” *(cont)*

Now the policeman responsible stood before her. In payment for his terrible crimes she wanted him to spend a day twice an month with her “So that I can be a mother to him” for as she said after the death of husband and son she “had a lot of love to give”

“I would like Mr van de Broek to know that he is forgiven by God, and that I forgive him too. I would like to embrace him so that he can know my forgiveness is real” Apparently those present started to sing “Amazing Grace” but the policeman did not hear the hymn...he was so overwhelmed that he had fainted.

Such actions don’t come naturally, they are supernatural.

Yancey ends the chapter with these words

“Revenge perpetuates the evil. Justice punishes it. Evil is overcome by good only if the injured party absorbs it. Refusing to allow it to go any further. And that is the pattern of otherworldly grace that Jesus showed in his life and death.”

Friends,

Forgiveness is a painful path, but a glorious way.

Roger

More mixed-up bible stories (see page 7)

The greatest miracle in the bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.

The Epistles were the wives of the apostles.

St Paul cavorted to christianity, he preached holy acrimony which is another name for marriage.

One of the Opposums was St. Matthew who was also a taximan.

The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 decibels.

Hi everyone

Its been a while since we last wrote so just thought we would update with what's happening with us as a family and the project Jigsaw in the Philippines.

Family News:

Our three kids are now very settled into their schools and have made some good friends. Rebekah has been selected to take part in an inter schools maths quiz which she is excited about. James is still loving his football and his under 9's team has not lost a match yet this season. Grace's nursery school hatched out chickens which she thought was amazing, especially as she got to hold one!!

Our house is still not sold – we keep lowering the price but still not much interest. Please pray for a break through for this as we can't afford to keep paying rent and mortgage and two lots of council tax!! .

My job (Kate) will finish end of May, so I need to look for a new job. Please pray that God will lead me to the right job and one that fits in with the family better than my current one.

Due to family circumstances and the uncertainty of not knowing when we may move Tim has decided to postpone studying until next year.

We have now settled into a church and are really happy that we moved to St. Ives. We love the countryside which is such a relief after living in a city for so many years. Its also great having my parents near by.

Jigsaw News:

Tim got back from the Philippines in February after an intense but successful trip. He was able to sort out and update many of Jigsaw's policies, strengthen organisational structures and encourage the staff in the fantastic work they are doing. It has taken a while for the staff to get used to not having Tim make all the decisions and although this initially left a void it has now bought strength and maturity to Jigsaw Philippines. Tim was able to see big changes in self-confidence , skills and talents of the local staff and for this we praise God. Tim is due to go again in June so pray that this trip will be equally fruitful. In the meantime Tim is very busy coordinating Jigsaw, writing curriculums, overseeing budgets and finance and taking part in daily skype meetings with staff about specific projects. But however hard he works it seems an impossible task for one person.

(continued on next page)

Tim has a vision to develop a UK team of people to better support the growth of Jigsaw Philippines and maybe other children's organisations around the world. Please pray for this vision that God will lead us in the right direction and provide the people that are needed. At the moment this seems an impossible vision.

The things that are happening in all of the projects are amazing and each week we hear stories of children whose lives have been touched from simply having a regular hot meal in the feeding programme to having safe and secure places to play and grow. The literacy programme is growing and has 38 new children. It is a joy to hear stories of children who have never had the chance to go to school learn to read and write for the first time.

The special educational needs classes are growing in strength and continue to be a refuge for many children who have no other place to go. Jigsaw continues to work with other organisations to work with street children. Recently, Jigsaw worked with other agencies to help rescue an abandoned twelve year old boy. Please pray for the boy as the circumstances are very difficult.

Jigsaw is now growing and developing as a Pilipino Mango tree and every day we see wonderful things happening because of this. Please continue to pray for all the areas of Jigsaw. It's amazing but very hard work for Tim and the staff in Manila. Please pray for the finance and protection it needs to continue.

We recently had our AGM for the Jigsaw UK charity. It was so encouraging to see so many people there from so many different churches. Jigsaw would never exist without all of your prayers and support. We especially want to say thank you for all the gifts and fundraising events that so many of you are involved in – it would take at least three pages to write them all down!!! We just want to say thank you to God who through you financed Jigsaw with over £56,000 last year. How amazing is that as this was just the amount that was needed.

Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website	www.christchurchstone.org
Parish office email	christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com
Magazine contributions	christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM

28th February Joyella Jeffries

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

2nd May	A. West	G. Holden
	A. Lloyd	D. Pickles
9th May	J. Abrahams	B. Hutchinson
	D. Wilson	M. Hutchinson
16th May	J. Rowlands	T. MacFarlane
	D. Davies	V. Ledward
23rd May	C. Wilding	K. Thompson
	P. Hipkiss	A. West
30th May	J. Abrahams	G. Holden
	A. Lloyd	D. Pickles



FLOWER ROTA

2nd May	Mrs S. Vaughan
9th May	Mrs M. Hutchinson
16th May	Mrs G. Martin
23rd May	Mrs G. Banks
30th May	Mrs A. Illidge



ROADS FOR PRAYER

2nd May	9th May
The Crescent	Albert Street
End of Granville Terrace	Alexandra Street
Millers Gate	Arthur Street
Hartley Drive	Berkeley Street
16th May	23rd May
Chestnut Grove	Kent Grove
Edward Street	Meaford Avenue
Field Terrace	Mount Avenue
Field House Court	Mount Crescent



30th May
Mount Road
Mount Street
Old Road
Stonefield Court

Deanery Synod Reps	Mrs S Hallam, Mr D. Rowlands	
P.C.C. Members	Mr G. Holden, Mr K. Reynolds, Mrs J. Rowlands Mr A. Stone, Mrs E. Woodhead, Mrs D. Davies Mrs I. Gassor, Mrs E. Mason, Mr M. Thompson Mrs D. Wilson, Mrs J. Abrahams, Mrs K. Latham Mr P. Mason, Mr A. Rushton, Mr T. Woodhead	
Secretary	Jacqueline Abrahams.....	817020
Treasurer	Kevin Reynolds.....	851595
Envelopes, Gift Aid	Nesta Challinor	

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Climbers 3-7 years	Sandra Morray.....	286093
Explorers 7-11 years	Estella Woodhead.....	761659
Pathfinders 11-14 years	Enid Bell.....	815775
Banner Group	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
Church Missionary Boxes	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
Flower Guild	Marylyn Hillman.....	815936
Men's Fellowship	Mike Thompson.....	813712
Missions Secretary	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
Prayer Group	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
Parents & Toddlers (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)	Sandra Morray.....	286093
3rd Stone Brownies (Mo 6:00-7:30pm, First School)	Janet Smith.....	815939

Young People's Activities take place in the Centre during the Sunday morning service except on the fourth Sunday in the month, which is the family service.

Climbers 3-7 years *Explorers* 7-11 years *Pathfinders* 11-14 years

The following activities take place every week week in the Centre during term time.

Monday Toddlers 9.30 am

THE MAGAZINE TEAM

Mission News& Prayer Diary Cecilia Wilding 817987

Please send material for the magazine to

Dave Bell, c/o Christ Church Parish Office, Christ Church Way,
Staffs ST15 8ZB or by email to christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

Christ Church welcomes you!

Whether you are new to the Stone area or have been living here for some time you are welcome to come to this church. The church is made up of adults and children who want to know more about the living God, who has supremely revealed Himself in Jesus Christ and continues to speak to us through His Spirit-inspired word, the Holy Bible (which can be read online at www.biblegateway.com and we recommend a modern translation e.g. the New International Version or English Standard Version).

We are a Christian church, because at the heart of what we believe is the fact that to know God personally we must put our trust in Jesus' death for our forgiveness so that we can be reconciled to God. We are part of the Anglican church, the basis of its Trinitarian belief is summarised in the Book of Common Prayer with its 39 articles, though we unite in Christ irrespective of denomination. We are an Evangelical church, as we see that the Bible is God's word for us and so is to inspire all that we do. This church was established with the help of the renowned Charles Simeon.

Our church meetings help us to grow in our understanding of what the Bible tells us about God, and this is something that we encourage others to investigate especially through our *Christianity Explored* course (see details on the national website www.christianityexplored.com). If you would like details of when the next local course is starting then please contact the church office.

We have children's and youth activities running during the Sunday meetings and also during the week, such as our Tuesday evening youth club. Adults may be further involved through small groups which meet for Bible study and prayer, a midweek communion service and a monthly prayer meeting.

Our community involvement includes links with the local schools: Christ Church First, Oulton First, Christ Church Middle and Alleyne's High.

We also have links with the Church in India, The Philippines, Croatia, Botswana and Pakistan.

This magazine and the church website concern Christ Church in Stone, but we are linked with the churches in Oulton and Moddershall (see separate magazine and website).

Subscriptions

If you would like this magazine delivered to you regularly, please contact:
Mrs Marylyn Hillman, Park Lodge, Beech Court, Stone. Tel 815936