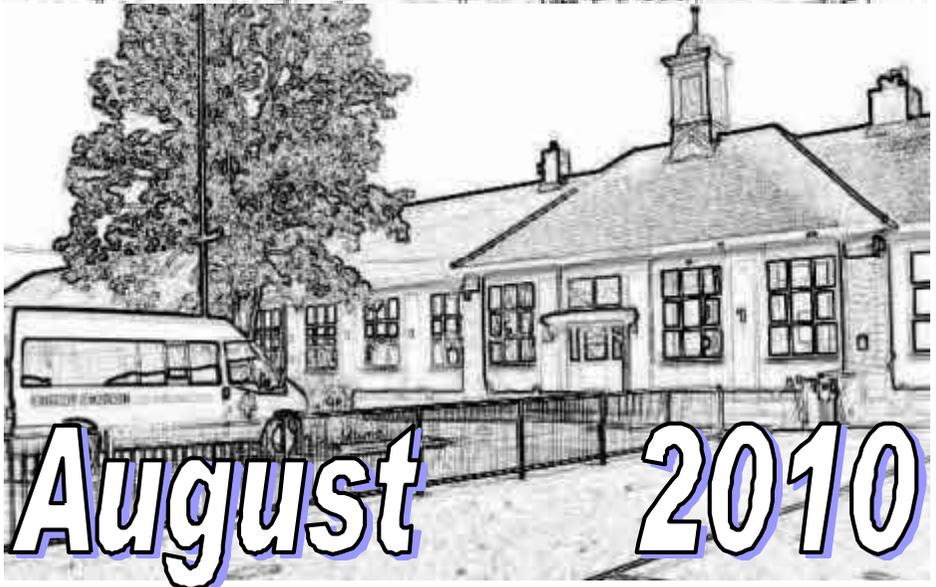


Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



August

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 812669
The Vicarage, Bromfield Court

Assistant Minister For Youth

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 815775
John Butterworth 817465
David Rowlands 816713
Michael Thompson 813712
Cecilia Wilding 817987

Music Co-ordinators Peter Mason 815854
Jeff Challinor 819665

Wardens Andy Stone
David Rowlands 816713

Deputy Wardens Phil Tunstall, Arthur Foulkes, Tim Saxton

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Booking Secretary Kate or Irene (Office) 811990

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 September magazine to us by 15th August.

Cover Story:-
Christ Church
Middle School

Subscriptions

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

August 2010

Sun	1	9:15am 12:00pm 5:00pm	Communion. Hebrews 12:29 "God is Fire" Picnic & Walk - meet at Christ Church Evening Prayer at Moddershall 1 Samuel 17 "Power not strength"
Mon	2		
Tue	3	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before midweek service Midweek service
Wed	4		
Thu	5		
Fri	6		
Sat	7		
Sun	8	9:15am 12:00pm 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Revelation 1:8 "Alpha & Omega - The eternal One" Picnic & Walk - meet at Christ Church Communion at Moddershall 1 Samuel 19-20 "Loyalty not lust"
Mon	9		
Tue	10	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before midweek service Midweek service
Wed	11		
Thu	12		
Fri	13		
Sat	14		

August 2010

Sun	15	9:15am 5:00pm	Communion Mark 14:61 "Jesus is the Christ" Evening Prayer at Moddershall 1 Samuel 25 "Anointed not arrogant"
Mon	16		
Tue	17	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before midweek service Midweek service
Wed	18		
Thu	19		
Fri	20		
Sat	21	10:00am	Coffee morning - Cecilia's House
Sun	22	9:15am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer 2 Corinthians 4:13-14 "The Cross of Faith" Communion at Moddershall 1 Samuel 26 "Patience not petulance"
Mon	23		
Tue	24	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before midweek service Midweek service
Wed	25		
Thu	26		
Fri	27		
Sat	28		
Sun	29	9:15am 5:00pm	Morning Prayer Hebrews 6:19 "The anchor of hope" Evening Prayer at Moddershall 1 Samuel 28 "Folly not wisdom"
Mon	30	3:00pm	Cream Teas at the Vicarage
Tue	31	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before midweek service Midweek service

Festivals, a fabulous aroma and a finalé.

The summer is full of special events. From Edinburgh to Reading huge crowds will enjoy festivals of orchestral or rock music, stage or street drama, or even the rediscovery of a community picnic. The summer holds many treats to enjoy that and point to things greater than everyday life. One of the most exotic festivals at the end of August is the Notting Hill Carnival. It owes its existence to Black immigrants from the Caribbean, especially Trinidad, who felt on the edge of society. It brought together people who felt that they faced racism, lack of working opportunities, poor housing conditions and low self-esteem. In the 1960's the sound of the steel band was first heard - its infectious style of music and rhythm encouraged great celebration. As steel drum music floated down London's streets it was like music from another land.

These festivals are attractive for the sheer enjoyment of live artistic performances. There's also a sense of occasion as large crowds travel to be part of a temporary community, united by a common passion.

A Christian understanding of such highs of enjoyment is that they point to something far greater. A hint is found in the Psalms (a collection of praise and prayers set to music, but only the lyrics remain): *'Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises'* (Ps 67v6-7). Here's the exuberance of God's people. It overflows into a desire that others are drawn in: *'May all the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth'* (Ps 67v3-4). God's Kingdom and perfect rule will last forever. These blessings come to us through Jesus Christ and are overwhelmingly good. Even the most general of blessings is like music from a distant land, or like a fleeting smell of an appetising aroma that makes us want more! One day there will be an enormous gathering in heaven of God's people who are drawn from every tribe and nation assembled around the divine throne. This will be the finale, but also the future for all who are followers of Jesus Christ.

I hope that your summer has many enjoyable occasions. I hope too that you will join us as we meet together in anticipation of the great day that awaits.

Paul Kingman



Putting Parishes First

COALITION seems to be the in-word these days. For the first time in over 70 years we have a UK Government that is not a single party. Instead we have two parties, historically with conflicting policies, agreeing to a power sharing deal at national level.

Consultation is now an inherent part of the political agenda. Without negotiated approval nothing can be achieved. It took time and probably a great deal of heart searching before both political parties put aside their differences and their individual aspirations to take office together.

Of course there are bound to be the sceptics who will cast doubt on such a political marriage, but equally there will be those who are very anxious for it to succeed.

Many of the electorate have become disillusioned with single party government and yearn for people's needs to be put first.

It is no different here in the Diocese. I believe we must do all we can to work together in unity to grow the Kingdom of God.

Those of us in St Mary's House need to be working collaboratively (in coalition) with all our parishes enabling us to make new disciples, win new generations and transform communities.

Jesus strived to bring togetherness and unity amongst his followers, despite there being those on the sidelines who were anxious to see his downfall. They wanted it not because they felt it would be best for God's kingdom, but because it would be best for their own political careers.

In these months since coming to Lichfield I have found a real heart throughout the Diocese for taking the mission of God forward. Thank you, not just for the warmth of your welcome to the new girl, but also for the way you have continued to give sacrificially to the common purse despite hard economic times and your desire to do new things at parish level. Additionally, so many people have been open and honest with me about their perceptions of life in the Diocese. Such openness has helped me understand better some of your frustrations and hopes for change.

(continued on next page)

Putting Parishes First *(cont)*

I want people to know that the Diocese administration is here to empower Parishes – that is why we have issued the leaflet “Putting Parishes FIRST” and re-structured the team to give us the best chance of making that happen. I hope it’s given us all a platform to build on as we continue to work together to honour God in our vast and diverse Diocese.

Diversity is not a negative thing. Understanding our differences, difficulties and frustrations should ultimately strengthen us.

Politically and economically times are tough, but as the saying goes when ‘the going gets tough the tough get going’ – we have the greatest of role models in Jesus. He broke down barriers, built relationships and transformed the lives of those he came into contact by giving them hope and purpose. That is the common task before us all.

If we put the life of the Parish and our communities first, I believe we will continue to see growth and health and most importantly a unity in the spirit. Now that’s coalition!

Mrs Julie Jones

Diocesan Secretary and Chief Executive, Lichfield Diocese

Welcome to Kieran McKnight

We said goodbye to Adam Rushton and his wife Helen-Clare last month,; we hope that their new work in Tarlerton, near Preston, will go well. But - we have a new youth worker, Kieran McKnight, who will soon be moving to Stone and joining us. We pray that he will settle in well and be happy here.

Jack's Plant Sale

We have now reached our final total and are pleased to announce that a cheque for £620.00 has been forwarded to Jigsaw Ministries!

We really enjoyed the whole event of the plant sale and hope that you will enjoy your gardens!! A big thank you for all your support!!

Jack and Barbara Sutcliffe

Summer Socials

Sat 31st July	Women's Circle Lunch
12:30 pm	Oulton Village Hall 2 Course Lunch £12.50 inc. glass of wine. Transport available, suitable for all
Contact: Ruth Parsons 01785 815275	

Sun 1st August	Picnic and Walk (1)
12 noon @ Christ Church car park	Consall (nr Wetley Rocks) There is a visitor centre, lots of grass for picnics and games, short walk round ponds or to canal and Churnet Valley railway 5 mile walk for the energetic, some hills and lots of steps. Bring Picnic
Contact: Dorothy Wilson 812078	

Sun 8th August	Picnic and Walk (2)
12 noon @ Christ Church car park	Consall (nr Wetley Rocks) There is a visitor centre, lots of grass for picnics and games, short walk round ponds or to canal and Churnet Valley railway 5 mile walk for the energetic, some hills and lots of steps. Bring Picnic
Contact: Dorothy Wilson 812078	

Summer Socials *(cont)*

Sat 21st August	Coffee Morning @ Cecilia's House
10 am, 23 Larchfields	Fair Trade goods on sale. Proceeds to LAMB Hospital Poor Fund, Bangladesh. Suitable for all ages, not weather dependent
Contact: Cecilia Wilding 01785 817987	

Mon 30th August	Cream Teas @ the Vicarage
3-5pm Christ Church Vicarage, Bromfield Court, ST15 8ED	Teas, scones & cake in the Vicarage garden, or indoors if wet
Contact: Sue Kingman 01785 812669	

How not to Pray

Reverse humility

"Lord, I pray you would forgive the leaders of our fellowship for their ignorance and laziness..."

The Announcement Prayer

"Dear Lord, please be with next Sunday's potluck, which will be at Amy and Arthur's home on 333 Mockingbird Lane. Dear God, help us all to remember that all families last name A-L need to bring sandwiches and families last name M-Z need to bring dessert. Amen

The Gossip

"Lord, please forgive Pam [not present] for her sexual lust towards George [who is present]."

The Authorised Version-only Prayer

As the quotation goes, "If King James English was good enough for Saint Paul, it is good enough for me."

"We beseech Thee, in Thine tabernacles, O Lord. Ye forgiveth the bowels of iniquity as an ensample..."

Bible-a-Month Club

The **Bible a Month Club** makes the Bible available around the world month after month after month.

By joining the Club one can give a Bible to someone every month

- Provides **free or low-cost Bibles** for some of the billion people who live on less than 60p a day.
- Helps **translate the Bible** at a time when more than half the world's languages still wait for even one book of the Bible.
- Brings **the Bible in Braille** to blind people. Around 314 million people globally are blind or can't see clearly.
- Provides **the Bible in audio** to reach those who live in cultures that don't or can't read.

The Bible-a-month Club is just one of the activities of the Bible Society. Here are some others:-

Translating Bibles

For the past 200 years, Bible Societies across the world have worked to make the Bible available in the languages people need most. As a result, they have been responsible for more than **300 of the 450 languages** that now have a translation of the whole Bible. This has made the Scriptures accessible to more than five billion of the world's population.

However, **more than 4,400 languages still wait** for even one book of the Bible. This means millions either have no access to the Bible at all or can only encounter it in something other than their 'heart' language.

The big picture is that there are 6,912 languages in the world. Of these –

- 451 languages have a translation of the whole Bible.
- 2,479 languages have part of the Bible.

This leaves 4,421 languages still waiting for even one book of the Bible.

Bibles for Refugees

Bible Society works with **dedicated specialists** to provide refugees with the Scriptures in languages they can understand.

We never hand out Bibles indiscriminately. And are always **sensitive to the risks** that come from such diverse groups of fragile and vulnerable people living so closely together.

We also work in partnership with agencies working to meet the refugees' physical needs and with churches and mission agencies determined to meet their spiritual needs.

John Price - New UK Coordinator for Jigsaw

Hi to you all, fellow Jigsaw parts.

Tim has appointed me as the 11 XL W UK Co-ordinator. My name is John Price and I live in Hemingford Grey, Cambs. I am a committed Christian and met Tim & Kate quite by chance! when our church leader asked us all to form small groups of five or six to pray. Tim said two prayers, 1) that he needed help in Jigsaw and 2) that his house would sell. Well that was easy, I was sitting next to him so could answer his 1st prayer and God has just answered his second. What a coincidence, ha, ha!! God works in wonderful ways.

The official email is now 'jigsawkidsuk@yahoo.co.uk'

DIRECT NEWS FROM THE PHILIPPINES

For the past year the literacy program has had 53 students, but now there are only 3 continuing. **WHY? Because — wait for it— 50 children students from the Jigsaw literacy programme have taken entrance tests into the local schools and passed with highest marks.** Some of the children who had their parents with them saw the look of pride on their parent's faces as the teachers asked which private schools the children had been attending as their language skills were by far the best! Through your ongoing support, love, prayers and giving, Jigsaw Literacy programme has empowered children incredibly. Besides continuing the literacy programme for a new batch of 23 students, Jigsaw is also supporting the families of the former students in their new endeavour to look after their children and bring them to school. This support is given through the expertise of Jigsaw's social worker and by providing them with school books and uniforms. It is amazing how your support and prayers are changing the lives of these 50 children and so, many more.

The GOOD NEWS is that a lot is happening and Tim hopes to put down information in his massive missive which should be sent next week.

One of the core values of Jigsaw is 'BEING THERE' for the children, day after day, week after week, month after month, never leaving them or abandoning them, 'NO MATTER WHAT.' Sometimes we know you must WONDER 'what is happening' is 'anything happening', we want to encourage you all that Jigsaw is 'BEING THERE' day in and day out for these such needy children and we want to thank you even in the quiet times for 'BEING THERE' for Jigsaw; Being there without thanks and without reward. It is this sacrificial ongoing 'Being there' for Jigsaw that you do, that allows Jigsaw in the Philippines to keep on 'BEING THERE ' every day for these children. We praise God for your 'being there, no matter what' love.

Thank you again for your prayers and support,

John Price

The "U" in JesUs

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
 God even stuck U in the name of His Son.

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true
 You can't spell out JesUs and not include U

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
 For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
 It even takes U to spell crucified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
 He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
 and this word resurrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,
 He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

"Now go into the world and tell them it's true
 That the love I have shown is not just for U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,
 Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
 He'd like them to know, :
 But it all starts with U.

Joe and I went to Anglesey in May. On the Sunday morning we went to Church in Valley and one of the Welcomers handed me a church magazine as I left. This is a poem from it. Dilys

Pastoral Care Day

St. Mary's Abbey, Colwich, Nr. Stafford

Led by

Revd. Dr. Jeff Leonardi

Speaker

Revd. Prebendary Roger Vaughan

**"This is the way,
walk in it"**

25TH SEPTEMBER, 2010

9.30AM-3.30PM

Please bring your own packed lunch

Coffee, Tea etc. Provided

Suggested Donation £7.00

Payable by Cheque in advance to P. Shepherd

4 The Haybarn, Sandon Road, Stafford. ST16 3YQ

Tel: 01785 248482

FRIENDS OF SHALLOWFORD HOUSE INVITE YOU TO

GARDEN PARTY & ART EXHIBITION

at Shallowford House, Norton Bridge
on Saturday 7th August, 2010
from 2pm until 5pm

REFRESHMENTS AND STALLS:

CREAM TEAS • GOOD QUALITY PLANT STALL
CAKE AND PRODUCE STALL • BRING & BUY
WHITE ELEPHANT • TOMBOLA • RAFFLE

Art exhibition of work by local artists and a
chance to see them at work including:

RITA BANKS • PAM KULIKOWSKI
STEVE ROWLEY • VANESSA TIMMIS
JIM ROWLEY

Musical performance throughout
the afternoon from

REVELLATIONS CHOIR

**ENTRANCE
IS FREE!**

Voyage to a Cathedral

Travelling north up the Shropshire Union Canal we passed through Chester and arrived at Ellesmere Port, the terminus. British Waterways let us out through the lock onto the Manchester Ship Canal and we turned west for Eastham Lock and the River Mersey. We had 4 nautical miles of estuary on the full tide and then we were to be locked through into Salthouse Dock.

We headed northwest, following the buoys on our chart and the landmarks on the Liverpool skyline, the most prominent of which were the Anglican and Metropolitan Cathedrals. The slender spikes atop 'Paddy's Wigwam' were a surprising contrast to the red sandstone bulk of the Anglican pile.

It is a great treat for me to worship in a cathedral with choral services. Terry spoke warmly of the Magnificat and the Nunc Dimittis and I was happy to go along with his suggestion. When I was a girl I sang in the choir of our village church in Clyro where the Rev Francis Kilvert had been curate and I always found Evensong the most moving of the services, especially in the winter. The church looked so welcoming and the collect 'Lighten our darkness' really meant something to a child – 'Defend us from all perils and dangers'. So off we trudged up the hill to Liverpool Cathedral.

It is built on a mound in the middle of a quarry and so has a sort of moat around it and as I looked up at the huge tower I felt a terrible weight above me. The size of the building was intimidating – it is the biggest UK cathedral and the fifth largest in the world. We went inside and there was more red stone and bulky sculptures. As we walked up to the choir stalls where Choral Evensong would be held the atmosphere was so unlike the feeling I get when I arrive at Christchurch, that of belonging to a family. I prayed that I would be able to feel God's presence.

The service began, the choir sang, nothing really seemed to connect with me at all until the Nunc Dimittis. As we reached 'To be a light to lighten the Gentiles' the sun's rays suddenly came streaming in through a high window and dazzled me and I knew that the Lord had once again answered my prayers.

Monica Darlington

Sponsored Cycle Ride and Walk

Saturday 11th September 2010

Saturday 11th September is not so far away - so make a note of the date now!

How about cycling or walking round our area visiting churches? Collect sponsorship for the number of churches you visit. There are churches involved all over the county. The sponsor money is equally divided between the Historic Churches Trust and our own church.

Will you walk or cycle or stay at Christ Church to welcome visitors to our church?

Nearer the time Sponsor forms will be available from Dorothy who also knows a walking route round Stafford taking in ten churches.

Go now and put the date on your calendar!

Dorothy Wilson

How not to pray (*cont*) (*acknowledgements to acts17-11.com*)

The Theologian

Here the person feels led to lecture God on various points of theology: "Lord, you are God. You are the Triune, Immutable, Omniscient, Revelatory, the First Principle. You even know what I am going to pray next!... [etc.]"

The Lecturer

Here the motive is to harangue someone else:-

"Lord, forgive the congregation for their continued failure to tithe. For 'The tithe is the Lord's', [and on and on]"

Christ Church on the Internet

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

SIDESPERSONS ROTA

AM

1st August	D. Davies V. Ledward	K. Thompson T. MacFarlane
8th August	A. West A. Lloyd	G. Holden D. Pickles
15th August	D. Wilson J. Abrahams	B. Hutchinson M. Hutchinson
22nd August	P. Hipkiss J. Rowlands	C. Wilding D. Davies
29th August	V. Ledward A. West	T. MacFarlane K. Thompson



FLOWER ROTA

1st August	Miss D. Price
8th August	Mrs M. Hillman
15th August	Mrs B. Boote
22nd August	Mrs A. Lloyd
29th August	Mrs C. Stone



ROADS FOR PRAYER

1st August

Navigation Loop
Rangeley View
Barnton Edge
Anderton Way/View

8th August

Bentley Close
Rendel Grove
Brindley Close
Rudyard Close

15th August

Cressey Close
Joules Drive
Cauldon Way
Harecastle Bank

22nd August

Saltersford Rise
Rolt Close
Millenium Way
Cameron Wharf

29th August

The Crescent
Hartley Drive
Millers Gate
End of Granville
Terrace



Deanery Synod Reps Mrs S Hallam, Mr D. Rowlands, Mr R. Brandon
P.C.C. Members Mrs D. Davies, Mrs I. Gassor, Mrs L. Mason
 Mr M. Thompson, Mrs D. Wilson, Mrs J. Abrahams
 Mrs K. Latham, Mr P. Mason, Mr A. Rushton
 Mr T. Woodhead, Mrs A. Burton, Mrs M. Hillman
 Mrs L. Kelly, Mr K. Reynolds, Mrs E. 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