

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



September 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

**Youth and Children's
Worker** Kieran McKnight

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

IN THIS ISSUE

Diary for September	2, 3
The Fish	4, 5
September Sermon Series	5
Commissioning of our Youth and Children's Worker; Sun 5th Sept	6
Harvest Supper	6
Fair Trade	6
Time for God	7, 8
PCC News	9
Hello from Kieran	10
Faith	10
Farewell to Adam, Helen Clare, Eden and Judah	11
Colin Wheat	11
Books of the Old Testament	12
A Weekend in Wigan	13, 14
Pastoral Care Day	14
Sponsored Cycle Ride and Walk	15
Juvenile Diabetes Research	15
Registers, Rotas, Roads for Prayer	16
Groups and Activities	17

Subscriptions

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

Christ Church



and People

Please get your contributions for the October magazine to us by 15th September.

Cover Story:-
Railway lines

September 2010

Wed	1		
Thu	2	7:00pm	Wedding rehearsal
Fri	3	2:00pm	Wedding of Gemma Sutton and Jonathan Blurton
Sat	4	8:30am 9:00am	Prayer meeting Breakfast
Sun	5	9:15am 4:00pm	Communion Family service Ruth 1 "Emptiness" Kieran McKnight commissioning at Christ Church Luke 10:1-24 "Pray for harvest workers"
Mon	6		
Tue	7	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before midweek service Midweek service
Wed	8	7:30pm	Standing Committee
Thu	9	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	10		
Sat	11	10:00am	Historic Churches Cycle Ride and Walk (p. 15)
Sun	12	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. Ruth 2 "Seeking" Communion at Oulton Hebrews 12:1-13 "Discipline before harvest"
Mon	13	9:30am	Mums and Toddlers - first group this term
Tue	14	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service Midweek service
Wed	15	7:30pm	Coffee tasting evening - Church Centre

September 2010

Thu	16	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	17		
Sat	18	7:30pm	Audley Male Voice Choir
Sun	19	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. Ruth 3 "Finding" Evrning Prayer at Oulton 1 Corinthians 9:1-18 "A material harvest"
Mon	20		
Tue	21	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am 1:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service Midweek service Fraternal
Wed	22	7:30pm	PCC
Thu	23	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	24		
Sat	25	9:30am 5:00pm	Pastoral Care Day (p.14) Harvest Supper - Oulton First School
Sun	26	9:15am 3:00pm 6:00pm	Morning Prayer (Harvest). Ruth 4 "Fullness" Welcome service for Bishop of Stafford, in Lichfield Cathedral Communion at Oulton Galatians 6:7-9 "We reap a harvest"
Mon	27		
Tue	28	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am 6:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service Midweek service Christ Church Middle School governors meeting
Wed	29		
Thu	30	11:00am	Christ Church Middle School Harvest Service

All youth club dates and times are being reviewed and are to be confirmed at a later date.

The Fish

At the start of Jesus' public ministry he went down to the shore of Lake Galilee. There he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, as they were working fishermen. He said: '*Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men*' (Mk 1v17). Ever since then the fish has been used as a Christian symbol.



The Greek word for fish **ΙΧΘΥΣ** (*ichthus* or *ichthys*) was the recognised sign of Christians. The *ichthys* is seen in 1st-century catacombs in Rome where Christians were able to bury their dead in secret, during their persecution by the Roman Empire in the first few centuries after Christ. They used the fish symbol to mark their meeting places and tombs, or to distinguish friends from foes. It is thought that when a Christian met a stranger in the road, the Christian sometimes drew one arc of the simple fish outline in the dirt. If the stranger drew the other arc, both believers knew they were in good company. You might see the symbol as a car sticker to signal that the driver is a practising Christian.

The Greek capital letters **ΙΧΘΥΣ** may often added to the fish symbol as shorthand for some Christian truth. Each letter comes from the first letter of five Greek words:

Ἰησοῦς Χριστός Θεοῦ Ὑιός, Σωτήρ

(sometimes written for ease of reading as *Iēsous Christos, Theou Huios, Sōtēr*).

The meaning is a neat summary of some key foundations of Christian faith:

- Iota (i) is the first letter of *Iēsous* for "Jesus".
- Chi (ch) is the first letter of *Christos* for "anointed".
- Theta (th) is the first letter of *Theou* for "God's".
- Upsilon (y) is the first letter of *yios* for "Son".
- Sigma (s) is the first letter of *Sōtēr* for "Savior".

(continued on next page)



This is life-changing news as it is packed full of hope! The point is that through Jesus Christ, God's Son and our Saviour, we can be forgiven, we can know the living God, we can be part of a community connected to one another by faith in Jesus. His followers are to be fishers of men *i.e.* to join the family business of gathering people to live under the reign of King Jesus. For one day he will return to be our judge and to take his faithful people home to heaven.

This is what we explore together in our meetings especially on Sundays. This is what we hope you will come to investigate and delight in more and more. We have a special Harvest Festival service at the end of the month, which is an easy way into the life of the church. Why not make this term a time to make a fresh start with God?

Paul Kingman

September Sermon Series

Mornings at Christ Church & Oulton: Ruth was a risk-taker. She took chances that few people would be willing to take. But, as we often see in the Bible, God rewarded her radical, faith-filled decisions. It's part of the reason why a widowed peasant-immigrant would become part of the nation's most important family tree – and ultimately, the family tree of the King of kings.

Moddershall and evenings: just mention the word 'harvest' and we think of apples, pears, wheat and "broad beans sleeping in their blankety beds" to quote a children's song! The word crops up (excuse the pun!) in various contexts in the New Testament to illustrate various gospel truths about the end goal.

⁶ **Commissioning of our Youth & Children's**

Worker: Sun 5th Sept 2010

On Sun 5th Sept at 4pm we will hold a commissioning service at Christ Church for Kieran McKnight - who will be starting as our new youth and children's worker. We look forward to meeting his supporters from Glasgow and the surrounding area!

There will be a BRING AND SHARE MEAL to follow – so please notify the wardens of what you can bring.

Harvest Supper

The harvest supper will be held at Oulton School on Saturday 25th September at 5pm. St John's will host the evening. We will be enjoying jacket potatoes with different fillings plus a "pud" and entertainment.

Please join us, a donation of £2.50 towards the cost would be appreciated. We would be grateful to know numbers so if you would like to join us please let Dave or Andy know.

Thank you.

Ruth Parsons

Fair Trade

The new Traidcraft catalogue has arrived packed with super gifts. Toys, scarves, home items and lots more. If you would like to see a copy please ask Sheila.

When you buy a product from the Fair Trade range you are helping people to work and live.

Ruth Parsons

Traidcraft - What we do

Our mission is to fight poverty through trade, practising and promoting approaches to trade that help poor people in developing countries transform their lives.

Established in 1979 as a Christian response to poverty, we combine a trading company and a development charity.

We build lasting relationships with producers, support people to trade out of poverty and work to bring about trade justice.

Time for God

I wonder if we British don't really value rest and relaxation? We seem to make a virtue out of unceasing work; we boast about how busy we are, as if the hectic pace of our lives is proof that we are important and significant. We feel guilty when we're not working and we're suspicious of anyone who lifts their nose from the grindstone for too long. In France, the whole country basically shuts down for the month of August and everyone heads for the beach or the mountains. While the number of public holidays in Britain is eight; on the continent it's ten or eleven. Despite working more hours, it is debatable whether our country is any more productive. Indeed, Britain has one of the highest records for workdays lost due to sickness in Europe.

In our fast paced world, tales of emotional exhaustion and spiritual bankruptcy are not uncommon and stress is a recognised illness. People feel stretched and overloaded – indeed it is expected of them! I noticed a recent advert on TV that promised to keep you looking fresh, even after sixteen hours. It seemed to be applauding those 'tough people' who worked sixteen hour days. Crazy!

We were not, however, designed to be forever on the go. Fast paced lifestyles and little sleep rob us not only of energy but also of relationships. This seems to be a particular danger in the Church where it is all too easy for work and ministry to become the other woman or man in a marriage. We rob ourselves, however, when we desire autonomy or when we imagine we are indispensable, declaring that we can manage alone, that we don't need anyone or anything else to help us. As Charles de Gaulle once said: 'the graveyards are full of indispensable men'.

Jesus may have worked long hours teaching and healing but he knew that he needed to draw aside, to step out of the rush and away from the demands laid upon him. He knew of his need to find peace and to reconnect with his Father, gaining spiritual energy and sustenance in solitude. Exhaustion is a fact of life. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that even young people grow tired and become weary. He tells us that the remedy for weariness is rest, waiting on God, waiting to be filled with his strength. So if the prophets recognised the need for spiritual refuelling and Jesus prioritised time alone with his father, how much more do we need it?

(continued on next page)

We need to relearn this... I need to relearn this! More than that the world needs us God's people – his Church – to model a healthy rhythm of work and rest for we live in a world that is a long way out of balance. In our society, young and old seek oblivion in alcohol; anti-depressants are amongst the most prescribed medications. People are yearning for real rest as the lie of consumerisms' ability to satisfy in any meaningful way is being exposed. This deep recession gives us an opportunity and a choice. It could mean that we go on blindly working harder and harder to obtain the things we have grown used to possessing; or it could mean a time to take stock and count our blessings for what we enjoy – what Archbishop David Hope called an opportunity to model a lifestyle of 'enoughness'.

If you're like me, it will be an evening fishing on the river; if you're like the Archdeacon of Salop, it will be playing with your model railway in the attic: a walk in the park; reading a good book; playing games with your children and grand-children, listening to the radio, visiting neighbours and friends – there are so many simple and inexpensive ways to discover re-creation.

As a creator of community, the church is called to model the true worth of human beings as men and women made in the image of God. Making room for the marginalised and the newcomer, providing opportunities for people to meet, relax, play together and strengthen friendships, is a wonderful way to help people belong and feel cherished. In these simple acts we proclaim good news to our neighbours: 'you have great worth, regardless of how much or how little you accomplish. You have value because God is your Father and, in Christ, you are loved as his very own.'

Mark Rylands (Bishop of Shrewsbury)

The PCC met on Wednesday 14 July 2010 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided.

- The revised Mission Action Plan was approved. This covers the work of the whole benefice and is set out under the 4 primary purposes defined by the diocese; *Growing together* through worship and prayer; *Growing up* through teaching and nurture; *Growing more* through outreach and evangelism; *Growing out* through justice and care
- Mrs Gill Latos was appointed as the Child Protection Coordinator and is supported by Mrs J Hipkiss who coordinates the CRB checking process
- We have been awarded an extension to the faculty until April 2012. This will allow us sufficient time to complete the works that we planned, including improvements to the chancel.
- It is hoped we can get the shops in the town to put together a series of Advent windows in December. The idea is that each shop will take 1 day each and dress their windows with a Christmas theme. Number 24 will be at Christ Church and will be a living nativity scene.
- There will be a service at Lichfield Cathedral at 3.00pm on Sunday 26 September 2010 to welcome the new Bishop of Stafford, The Revd Canon Geoff Annas. There are 'no restrictions on numbers' but admission to the service will be by ticket only. Order by e-mail or post by 31 August to Emma Williams. Tickets will be sent out by 10 September.
- Since the installation of the new church entrance it has been noticed that the new doors are awkward to open for those in wheelchairs and with pushchairs and too heavy for the children and elderly. We are investigating automatic opening for these doors. In addition, as reported previously, we would like to improve the pathway that goes across the rear church yard to Bromfield Court. Linking this path to the front of the church we would also like to create some additional hard standing parking at the end of the church centre, where the small grassed area is. This would provide some spaces closer to the building. We are to apply for a grant to help fund this work as adaptations to improve accessibility under the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 22 September 2010 at 7.30pm.

Hello from Kieran

Hello my name is Kieran Mcknight and I'm the new youth and children's worker. I am from Airdrie, which is near Glasgow. I grew up in Plains Evangelical Church where my father, is the minister. Throughout my teenage years I participated in various missions and even lead a trip to Romania to run kids clubs.

I have spent the last three years studying theology at International Christian College in Glasgow. I was fortunate enough to have spent my second year at the Moody Bible Institute in downtown Chicago. Over this past year I've been doing an internship with Harvest Bible Chapel, a new church plant in Glasgow. This included youth work, coordinating prayer ministry, being involved in the Evangelism team, as well as being mentored by the minister of that church. My time at Harvest was very useful in preparation for serving in the Youth Worker role I am about to undertake.

I am really looking forward to getting to know the church, the community, and most of all the young people. If I can be of any assistance feel free to contact me : kieran.j.s.mcknight@gmail.com

Blessings, *Kieran*

Faith

.....I can only prove my faith by praying for others, as Christ prayed for Peter and others.

I can only prove my faith by being ready to forgive and forget the evil words and deeds of others, even as Christ forgave his enemies on the cross.

I can only prove my faith by being willing to suffer for others, even as Christ suffered for others....

(extract from "Liturgy of Life" by Donald Hilton)

¹¹Farewell to Adam, Helen-Clare, Eden and Judah

On Sunday, 25th July, a joint benefice service was held at Christ Church to say farewell to Adam, Helen Clare, Eden & Judah before they departed for their new life at Tarleton Nr Preston. They have been with us for two years – Adam as our Minister for Youth and Helen Clare, not only supporting him, but taking a big part in our church family. In that two years Adam has worked in the three church schools and also at Alleyne's. He has been responsible for setting up three separate youth clubs for young people of school ages 7 to 16 as well as carrying on with the established Cornerstone.

The weather was kind and we were able to hold an open air service on the “terrace” in front of the new doors. The service was well attended and we were joined by a number of Guides from Mombassa together with their Pastor, Joshua, who had only arrived in this country that day. The service was followed by a tea of oatcakes and cheese and scones with strawberry jam and cream. We thank Adam and Helen Clare for all the work they have done for us and we pray that the family will do well in their new venture.

Irene

Colin Wheat (March 1933-August 2010)

We are sorry to announce the death of Colin Wheat, who was a much-loved member of Christ Church choir for many years. Of recent years Colin and Penny have worshipped at Church Lane Evangelical Church in Stafford, where they lived. The funeral on August 11th celebrated his many achievements, his great love for others and his faith. The packed church was evidence of the many people whose lives he touched for the better.

Enid

Books of the Old Testament

M I A C O O A B R L P S A L M S U Z G R
 X S V G Q M E Z O F O P I S A I A H U J
 T I P R O V E R B S E R X L V K S T U E
 K S L S G N I K N E H E M I A H H J A R
 A E O E U L T D G I A G G A H A E Z E E
 Z N H G O V F W P Z Z K Y I H C A L A M
 E E L F O J O A Y Q Y W P I E L N Y N I
 Z G L A M E N T A T I O N S I V S A J A
 E D D E U T E R O N O M Y N R E T H V H
 K L H A N O J Z I N A P O Q I N A U Z H
 I I S L H N H U X E H A W T H I K L Q Z
 E D O S D A R G S J U L S R N F L I O O
 L S N M E U I O F A O A A A Y E U H L H
 U N G N I L H R H O I S H O V K A R E K
 K U O Q V S C P A S F P H I D I E J U U
 L M F J O B J I E H E K T U D E X U M K
 E B S N H D M L N Z C I B A A S O D A K
 I E O A T A C B D O C E B T W T D G S A
 N R N H A C C Z U U R O Z L S H U E W B
 A S G U E C E I S M R H C E Z E S S O A
 D Q S M N E V T M K Q L C H Y R R S Z H

How many OT books can you find here? The books don't include any numerals, just the name.

If you can find 25 books - Good

Over 33 - Excellent

Honourable mention next month for the person who finds the most books!

A Weekend in Wigan

I thought you might like to hear about a typical few days' boating Oop North.

We had been following the River Douglas ever since we had come off the Lancaster Canal via the River Ribble and the tidal Douglas. Before the Rufford branch of the Leeds and Liverpool canal was constructed goods were brought up the Douglas as far as Wigan and you can still see remains of locks and weirs. On Thursday we found ourselves in the most beautiful valley with the river just across a field from the canal, quite safe for the dogs to run free, the first blackberries ready to pick, Utopia! We decided to have a day moored up with no boating, just greenery. We both agreed it was one of the very best moorings we'd ever had in 15 years of boating.

On Saturday morning we reluctantly pulled up our mooring pins and headed for Wigan Pier. Gradually the glorious countryside gave way to ruined industry, bankrupt car dealerships and derelict garages, fine old pub buildings with their roofs destroyed, and there we were, mooring up to a row of rings just by the Pier itself. A noticeboard explained that the Pier had been a coal staithe but that its real site was not known so in the 1980s students had built a guesstimate.

We walked along the towpath with Jim and Jess and found it littered with cigarette ends and empty packets warning of DEATH. A tripboat skipper called out to advise us against leaving the PM2 moored just there because the clientele of the adjacent nightclub come out onto the towpath to have a fag and destroy any boats they might come across – just a bit of harmless Saturday night fun! We boated round the corner and found still more rings but no other boats. We decided to try one night here and trust in the Lord.

When we woke on Sunday morning there had been no problems and we felt Wigan was worth more than one night's stay. I checked the Boaters Christian Fellowship List and found All Saints Church up in the town centre with Holy Communion at 9.30. What a contrast!

(continued on next page)

A beautiful church standing in quite extensive grounds with flowerbeds. Inside pale cream paint and angels everywhere with gilded tips to their wings. Some impressive stained glass windows including one with four angels surrounding St Christopher carrying the Christchild, this by William Morris. The New English Hymnal full of the dear old hymns I know so well. And the warmest welcome I've had all boating year. I went back down to the squalor of the canal singing praises. The real Wigan was there in that church among those friendly faces.

Monica Darlington

Diocese of Lichfield

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

Sponsored Cycle Ride and Walk**Saturday 11th September 2010**

Dorothy Wilson has sponsor forms for anyone who wants to cycle. She also needs people, one per hour between 10am and 6pm to be at the church to register visitors. An excellent opportunity as well, to put in an hour's weeding in the garden.

Juvenile Diabetes Research

Some of you may know that my grandson Oliver Wilson was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes six months ago at the age of two and a half. He has the prospect of administered insulin for the rest of his life. By the time you read this his grandfather will be near to completing a list of gruelling physical challenges. Look at this website

<http://www.justgiving.com/TonyWilliamsJDRFSponsorship>

and I hope you will be moved to donate - you could donate as **Gran's friends!**

Dorothy Wilson

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

BAPTISMS

18th July Ava Bridgette Lacy-Colson
 25th July Deborah Nuttall

FUNERAL

22nd July Philip Withers Aged 60

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

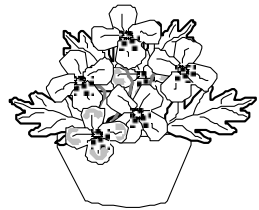
AM

5th Sept	A. West	G. Holden
	D. Pickles	J. Abrahams
12th Sept	K. Thompson	T. MacFarlane
	D. Wilson	J. Rowlands
19th Sept	D. Davies	B. Hutchinson
	C. Wilding	M. Hutchinson
26th Sept	P. Hipkiss	J. Abrahams
	D. Pickles	A. West



FLOWER ROTA

5th Sept	Mrs S. Hawley
12th Sept	Mrs E. Cook
19th Sept	Mrs S. Hallam
26th Sept	Harvest



ROADS FOR PRAYER

5th September

Albert Street
 Alexandra Street
 Arthur Street
 Berkeley Street

19th September

Kent Grove
 Meaford Avenue
 Mount Avenue
 Mount Crescent

12th September

Chestnut Grove
 Edward Street
 Field Terrace
 Field House Court

26th September

Mount Road
 Mount Street
 Old Road
 Stonefield Court



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 Richard Latos

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 Sandra Morray.....286093
 (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)
3rd Stone Brownies Janet Smith.....815939
 (Mo 6:00-7:30pm, First School)

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