

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



September 2011

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	Andy Cranston 1 Navigation Loop	
Youth and Children's Worker	Kieran McKnight 30 Oulton Road	600734 07814624107
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Music Co-ordinator	Peter Mason	815854
Wardens	Andy Stone David Rowlands	816713
Deputy Wardens	Phil Tunstall, 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) Academy, Old Road Principal: C. Waghorn B.Ed(Hons),DPSE,ACP,FRSA	354047

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Christ Church



and People

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

Reminder

The magazine costs 40p per month or £4 for a whole year

**Cover Story:-
Bromfield
Court**

Subscriptions

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

September 2011

Thu	1		
Fri	2		
Sat	3	8:30am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast
Sun	4	9:15am 3:00pm 6:00pm	Communion Mark 1:1-13 "God made known" Walking Quiz Evening Prayer at Oulton Luke 13:22-35 "A new kingdom"
Mon	5		
Tue	6	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am
Wed	7	7:30pm	Standing Committee
Thu	8		
Fri	9		
Sat	10		
Sun	11	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer Mark 2:1-12 "Authority to forgive sin" Communion at Oulton Luke 14:1-14 "Table talk"
Mon	12		
Tue	13	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 6:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club Christ Church Academy Governors meeting
Wed	14		
Thu	15	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly

September 2011

Fri	16		
Sat	17		
Sun	18	9:15am 2:30pm 6:00pm	Communion Mark 2:23-3:6 "A glimpse of the end times" Service at Autumn House Evening Prayer at Oulton Luke 14:15-24 "An heavenly banquet"
Mon	19		
Tue	20	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm ? 1:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club Archdeacon's training group sermon Stone ministers' fraternal
Wed	21	12:00am 7:30pm	Chapter meeting Swynnerton PCC meeting
Thu	22	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	23	8:00pm	Moddershall Harvest service
Sat	24	5:00pm	Harvest Supper at Christ Church
Sun	25	9:15am 6:00pm	Family Service Mark 6:30-44 "The great feast" Communion at Oulton Luke 14:25-34 "The bottom line"
Mon	26		
Tue	27	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club
Wed	28		
Thu	29	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	30		

Work, rest and worship

Once we visited the United States and I suffered a minor culture shock. We'd arrived after 'Labor Day.' When we came across an ice-cream cafe we discovered that it was closed. It was out of season. We were in holiday mode, but the season had changed.

In the USA 'Labor Day' falls on the first Monday of September. It commemorates the workers' contributions to national strength, prosperity and well-being. It also marks the unofficial end of summer, a long weekend to visit with family or friends and the last day of the vacation before a new school year begins. It owes its origins to the labour union which advocated 8 hours for work, 8 hours for recreation and 8 hours for rest.

It is perhaps a failing of the Christian church to downplay work. Yet it is part of our Creator's plan for us to engage in work, rest and worship. The blueprint for human life is found in the first book of the Bible which opens by stating how everything belongs to God: *'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth'* (Genesis 1v1). It later teaches that work is a key aspect of everyday life: *'the LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it'* (Gen 1v15). Our work is a vehicle for serving God and the wider community as we put our skills to good use. This helps us to understand two problems of modern life. The dignity given to work accounts for why being without work not only challenges us financially, but also is frustrating. Additionally, we were made to serve God but not to become a slave of the work we do, although the demands of employers today are very challenging. Ultimately, our value and self-esteem are to be found in relation to God and *not* to be rooted in our work. To use a building site analogy, we must first get the foundations sorted if we want the structure to stand firm. We are made to worship God: get this right and it helps to get the priorities in life right.

So, let this Autumn be the time when you put first things first: to work, rest and worship. Work where you can to put your skills to profitable use. Rest when you can to attend to relationships and recreation. But do not neglect to worship the LORD: for we were made to know Him and give our whole lives to His service.

Paul Kingman



Building Sandcastles

Earlier this year we made a purchase that has utterly transformed the Cranston family's seaside holidays. The flimsy plastic spade was superseded by an all shifting all digging deluxe steel version! Castles with moats that fill naturally can be dug in a matter of minutes (at least that's what it seems like!) Holes to Australia; boats; sculptures; and even a 'marble run' with boules as marbles are all projects that have been attempted with varying degrees of success. Civil Engineering modules weren't so futile after all!

And yet, as every sandcastle builder knows there is a certain futility about building sandcastles. However grand, however many turrets or ramparts it has, the incoming tide is a leveller. Literally! Sandcastle building is very much a miniature illustration of what the writer of Ecclesiastes observes as he considers life lived under the sun. So often his reflection leads him to the conclusion that in the grand scheme of things, life is meaningless. As surely as the tide levels the sandcastle, so death levels us, thus what benefit is there in toil and hard work?

For those who see nothing beyond our material world this is a tricky question to answer. Yet for those who, like the writer of Ecclesiastes, can discern God in the seasons of life, there is recognition that the pleasure and satisfaction that is derived from a hard afternoon's digging is a gift from God. There is also acknowledgement that ultimately everything we do will be judged not by admiring passers-by or even by those who benefit from what we've done, but by God.

Indeed having told us that 'much study wearies the body' (an apt line for a new academic year!) the writer of Ecclesiastes concludes by suggesting that it's our duty to honour and respect God and keep his commandments because ultimately whatever we do will be judged by God. Put like this honouring, respecting and obeying God could seem as onerous and wearisome as much study! But Isaac Watts surely captured the correct understanding of what the writer meant by 'our duty', in the words of the hymn 'When I survey the wondrous Cross'. The last verse reads:

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small,
Love so amazing so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

To consider all that Jesus endured in our place surely should leave us joyfully and delightfully living our lives for him and in obedience to him. And by my reckoning that means that even futile sandcastles can be built for his glory!

Andy Cranston

Net Practise

In cricket, net practise is essential for batsmen. For some time now, Kevin Pietersen has been having trouble facing left arm spinners. Has he given up? No. This summer he faced up to the weakness in his game and has spent long days in the nets practising, out of the public eye. Back in 2005, when Andrew Strauss was bamboozled in the first two Test matches by Shane Warne, the Australian spinner, he also went away and spent hours in the nets with 'Merlyn', a spin bowling machine. 'Merlyn' proved to be a bit of a wizard as Strauss then scored a century in the next Test match at Old Trafford, further good scores in the following Tests, and helped England win 'The Ashes' for the first time in 18 years. This summer, Andrew Strauss has again been struggling with his batting. As I write, he is undertaking extra practise at county level trying to regain his form in time for the Test matches against India. Sir Alex Ferguson famously said that 'success is 5% inspiration and 95% perspiration'. Natural ability is certainly necessary for success but perseverance is essential.

If perseverance is essential for a cricketer, it is crucial for a Christian. Not that we have to strive to gain God's affection, or fight to be rescued by him. No, as Paul reminds us in his letter to the Church in Rome, 'while we were yet sinners Christ died for us'. New life in Jesus Christ is a free gift from God. His overwhelming love for us and his Spirit within us are the pump and the lifeblood that send us out to live and work to his praise and glory in the world.

Growing as a Christian, however – walking in the footsteps of Jesus – demands some application. Persevering to make time to be in the presence of God – the source of our inspiration - seems to be the struggle that most Christians face. A survey carried out in 2001 found that only 23% of Anglicans pray daily. Many of us struggle to keep a daily discipline of prayer and quiet when we are open to God and the direction of the Holy Spirit. And if individually and corporately our relationship with God is weak, how can we, as a Church be guided by him and what, of substance, do we have to share with the world?

There is a difference between 'finding time' and 'making time' to be in the presence of God. 'Finding time' seems to be a matter of chance, 'making time' is a matter of will. We are being challenged to make it a matter of will. As a Church and as individual Christians we are so much in need of God's inspiration. Thankfully, we are not left floundering in our weakness.

(continued on next page)

Bishop Jonathan has written a 'Rule of Life' as a simple guide to help us look at our spiritual life in a way that helps us grow; and a group led by Philip Swan, the Director of World Mission, is introducing 'The Order of St Chad' which will help us go deeper in prayer, mission and discipleship. Together with these, a Diocesan-wide venture to help us find ways to pray and grow as followers of Jesus is being planned for the New Year.

Called to make a difference in the world and called to become more like Christ day by day. We can't do the first without the second being a reality - both in our lives and that of our Church. When people meet the local church will they meet the Living God? The answer is probably: only if the local church is inspired by God. Persisting in prayer seems to be the path to God's inspiration. Brother Lawrence, a seventeenth century French monk taught that we need to practise being aware of God's presence: 'whoever practices God's presence will soon become spiritual. How can we be with him unless our thoughts are with him? How can he be in our thoughts unless we form a holy habit of abiding in his presence, asking for the help we need each moment of our life?'

If you are struggling, like me, or have fallen out of the habit then be inspired by Brother Lawrence, Andrew Strauss and Kevin Pietersen.

Enjoy the net practise! *Mark Rylands, Bishop of Shrewsbury*

See page 14 for more about cricket

Sermon series in September

Mornings at Christ Church & Oulton: '*News of the hour*' (Mark 1-9) opens with a bang! The Gospel of Mark skips the preliminaries (the infancy narratives) and introduces the Lord Jesus Christ ready to go on mission. Who is he? Why did he come? What is the right response? Come and investigate!

Moddershall & evenings: we draw to a close our series in *Luke 10-12 Jesus' identity, mission and call* which helps us to get to grips with what genuine discipleship involves.

Paul Kingman

Harvest Supper: 5 p.m. on Saturday 24th September

Our Harvest Festival services are held on the last weekend of September each year. We also have a Harvest Supper for all three of our churches in the benefice on the same weekend. It is a time of light hearted fun, an opportunity to eat some lovely food and to hear a brief update on how the work of TEAR Fund makes the harvest possible for countries in the developing world. This year the supper will be in Christ Church Centre, Stone.

Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust

Ride and Stride

Saturday 10th September 2011

It's that time again! If you have a bike, how about riding round the local countryside to visit a few of the churches? Get a few people to sponsor your ride. If you would rather walk, the numerous churches in Stafford make a good route. If you are more the sedentary type, offer to spend an hour in the Centre to receive visiting cyclists. More information on the centre notice board and from Dorothy Wilson. 01785 812078

PCC News

The P.C.C. met on 13th July 2011 and the following matters were reported:

- The committee agreed to donate £3,000 from the money left from the cost of the new front entrance to the Barnabas Building Project, a Christian project to fund the building of low cost housing in Pakistan.
- A special package of charges has been set up for anyone hiring the centre and church for concerts.
- It was suggested that we could organise something to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee next June.
- Enquiries are being made to invite the Riding Lights Theatre Company back next year to perform their latest play which has an Olympic theme.
- Christchurch was unable to run Soul, the Christianity Explored course for young people for Year 8 pupils due to lack of space in the Summer timetable. They are therefore hoping to run it in the next academic year either in the Autumn or Spring term.

Shelagh

Gail Banks

Dear Vicar Paul and Christchurch Fellowship,

I just wanted to say a big thank you from my heart to yourself and all the fellowship at Christ Church for such a wonderful send off for Gail on Wednesday. I never got chance to say thank you to the ladies of the choir, it was great to see them, unexpected but it warmed my heart and they made the praise so much more meaningful, it touched my heart and I'm sure lifted the congregation closer to God because a few have said to me that they could feel the love there.

I would also like to say thank you for the food so lovingly prepared, everyone enjoyed it, you did her proud, God was smiling down that day, you did Him proud.

Gail received so much prayer, love and support from you all and it mattered, it helped her enormously and spoke of the love of Jesus. She never faltered to the end, she knew where she was going and that Jesus was going to meet her.

Thank you again for making it special.

Regards, *Hazel* (on behalf of Gail's family)

In the eighties and nineties Christ Church had a dance-in-worship group. Weekly we met to talk, dance and pray and quite frequently our dances were part of Sunday services. The Carol service was a challenge –dancing to Cliff Richards' Saviours Day was memorable. We also took part in the Roger Jones musicals which Stone churches produced during those years. Gail was a vibrant and enthusiastic member of the group for many years. She was particularly keen on the flags which she spontaneously used on occasions. For us she will live on in the songs we once danced together.

Dilys, Dorothy, Jeanette, Margaret.

Gail Banks died on Fri 15th July 2011 aged 61. The funeral was at Christ Church, Stone on weds 27th July and she was buried at St John the Evangelist Church, Oulton (her mother's grave).

QUIET GARDEN DAY

Leader: Sally Vaughan

Friday 30th September

10.00a.m. (coffee available from 9.30a.m.) - 4.00p.m.

Come and spend a Quiet Day and enjoy the lovely grounds and house at Shallowford.

To book: phone Shallowford on 01785 760233.

Cost: £19.50 includes lunch and refreshments.

Vicarage Cream Teas

With cloud, rain and sunshine the weather on the Vicarage Cream Tea afternoon was almost as varied as the wonderful selection of cakes on offer. There were also plants, interesting jams and other goodies on sale, all proceeds to the Youth Fund.

It was delightful to have time to sit and chat, admire the garden and enjoy the hospitality. Thanks to Sue and Paul for a lovely afternoon with £85 raised for the Youth Fund.

Enid

Summer Socials *(Summer is not over yet!)*

Sun 4 September

Walking Quiz

Meet Christ Church Centre 3pm

Town walking quiz, with refreshments back at the centre

Contact: Jeanette 01785 816713

Look out for more information on Sunday morning notice sheets

The Keswick Convention in the heart of the Lake District was enhanced this year by clear blue skies and strong sunshine. So, week two promised to be one of the best yet with both weather and Word in harmony.

The theme of 'Mission' encouraged the speakers to draw on texts across the Bible and this year's jigsaw approach beautifully illustrated both the purpose and continuity of God's plan for the world as a whole – clear from the dawn of time and strong on intention for all of us to play a part in mission.

The shape of the days began with a choice of four seminar streams where ideas and experience were exchanged. Options this year included; distribution of the Bible, ministry of parenting, Bible mission and church life. Following on was the daily Bible study session, usually focused on one book from the Bible but this year on the theme of mission across a range of O.T. and N.T. texts. Chris Wright drew out how dealings with Israel were part of and not separate from God's global mission to all peoples in all places. After lunch there was an option to attend sessions based on Isaiah and the call to mission.

The convention came together again in the evening for a celebration of music, prayer and preaching. Music was supplied by Colin Webster's group, who introduced several new worship songs as well as playing some rousing favourites for the 3000 congregation to heartily join in. The preaching, from 6 speakers, was thought provoking and scripture based yet with several memorable lines such as;

'Mission can be like catching fish in a leaky bucket when good teaching and fellowship doesn't follow.' *Krish Kandiah*

'Every church member is part of God's whole church mission and should remember they're, 'Re-entering the missionary field' each time they leave church.' *Chris Wright*

'We are meant to glorify God Almighty not settle for God All Matey'. *Steve Brady*

'The clarity, sufficiency and supremacy of the bible are the norm for what the church does and teaches.' *Bishop Nazir Ali.*

(continued on page 12)

We were also introduced to two guests of the convention, Berti Dosti and Henry Olonga who gave their personal testimonies. Berti gave his through an interpreter, who was the man whose first broadcasts were those heard by Berti. A warm and generous ovation was given to both men.

Believe it or not, we also had time for a trip around the lake, a bus ride to beautiful Buttermere, the charities exhibition at Rawnsley, Derwent pencil museum and leisurely picnics in Hope Park.

At the end of the week we returned home better informed about our Christian faith, refreshed and thankful for a very positive and enjoyable week.

Rob

Introducing the Two Saints Way Pilgrimage Route Project

When Pam & I first came to Stone in 2007, I was particularly intrigued by the foundational story of Stone about the martyrdom of Wulfad and Rufin, which is briefly told on the town railings at the top of the High Street. Some people dispute whether this actually happened, but important characters in the story like St Chad and St Werbergh certainly were historical and were key players in bringing the gospel to ancient Mercia. I soon found a number of sites between Trentham and Stafford which had links with the legend and so conceived of the idea of a story trail. One day I was talking with a medieval historian at Keele University and he pointed out that there had been a pilgrimage route between Chester (associated with St Werbegh) and Lichfield (associated with St Chad). That conversation was the seed of the idea which has now developed into the Two Saints Way Project to revive an 88 mile pilgrimage route.

The situation now is that good partnerships have been established with a number of organisations and a steering group meets regularly with representatives from both the cathedrals, the tourist boards, British Waterways and Staffordshire University. The route has been planned and approved by the Rights of Way officers and a draft guidebook has been produced and is being regularly used by pilgrims who have already started walking the route. We hope to waymark the route next summer. A new website is in operation and I do recommend you visit to get a better grasp of the project – www.twosaintsaway.org.uk

(continued on next page)

In the past, route finding along pilgrimage routes was quite problematic, but you looked out for sign posts (if you could read) and you asked people. Shrines and piles of stones would re-assure you. More recently we use maps and guide books, but on the Two Saints Way, we plan to move one step further, by having the route accessible via mobile phone through the QR (Quick Response) code technology. The QR codes will be discreetly positioned on finger posts and interpretation panels and they will give the walker all the information he or she needs to navigate the route successfully. Furthermore this system will involve a wide range of interactive opportunities such as bringing up a reconstruction of the monastic settlement in Stone so that you can take a virtual tour of the site as it would have been a thousand years ago!

And what about Christ Church in all this? Well in medieval times, churches along pilgrimage routes were very important places where pilgrims could pause to reflect and be refreshed before they continued their journey. Often hospitality was also provided for pilgrims. This tradition continues on the famous Camino de Santiago in Spain. I am eager to find different kinds of accommodation possibilities including church hall floors for youth groups and maybe there might be folk in the church willing to provide B&B for a suggested donation for a pilgrim on a low budget.

Here are some other ways you could get involved:

- Adopt-a-mile. In order to both raise funds and secure the long-term future of the Two Saints Way, we are encouraging individuals, churches, schools and other groups to adopt-a-mile of the Two Saints Way. It would be a great help if the church could help to engage the schools and others in the town to take this kind of special interest in the path. This could include for example a commitment to regular litter clear up along the route. For schools there will be a wide range of educational opportunities, including devising local circular walking route associated with the Two Saints Way.

(continued on next page)

- Trialling the Route. We would like more people to try out the route and check my route description or take photographs
- Prayer. We believe that the impact of the whole project and its effect on those who journey on it will be greatly enhanced through prayer. We view it as an opportunity for sensitive missional approaches and hope that many will come to the Way through walking on the Two Saints Way! We send out emails about five times a year with news and points for prayer.

I notice that I have started using “we” more often and this is appropriate because Tim Saxton is in on this with me and has been a great help. Where would I be without him when I have a computer problem!?



If you would like to find out more about the Two Saints Way Project and would like to receive regular updates please contact me at dlpott@twosaintsaway.org.uk or phone me on 07932 790525.

David Pott

Lichfield lifts Church Times Cricket Cup

The Lichfield Diocesan Clergy Cricket Club has lifted the 60th Church Times Cricket Cup; beating Bath and Wells in a closely fought contest.

It was Lichfield’s first time in the final of the competition; which Bath and Wells have yet to win despite yesterday’s appearance being their seventh in the final. The match was played at the Walker Ground in Southgate, north London; the alternative home of Middlesex County Cricket Club, and dozens of supporters made the trip from the Midlands to support the Lichfield team.

Lichfield lost the toss and batted first; making slow progress towards their innings total of 195 for 8; with Man of the Match Mark Rylands (Bishop of Shrewsbury) 74 not out. Bath and Wells started well but were all out for 155. *(This is the sequel to the article in the August magazine, when we reported that Lichfield had reached the final. Cricket seems to have been on the mind of the Bishop of Shrewsbury this month)*

4th September

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court

18th September

Mount Road
Mount Street
Old Road
Stonefield Court

11th September

Kent Grove
Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent

25th September

Stonefield Square
Victor Street
Victoria Street
Whitebridge Lane



The Light of the Lord

Was ever light so bright as when I first beheld my Saviour's face.
Was joy ever so complete until I met him face to face.
Was wisdom ever given here?
Until my Saviour came.
And will I see Him walk this earth amid its cold terrain?
Yes, I will see and know my Lord as I his will achieve.
And I will set my sights on Him and only Him believe.
And those who are standing on the edge
Will see His light and joy.
And they will rush to join the flock
My Jesus to enjoy.
So lift your spirits kindly souls
For Jesus is your guide,
your guard, your friend,
your advocate
And so much more besides.
For don't you know He died for you
That you might be forgiven
That you may know eternal life
And all the joys of heaven.
So ask Him in, he's knocking loud upon your door you know,
So simple, just say 'Here I am,
Forgive past sins and so I welcome you Lord Jesus Christ'
To you my life I give
As you so very long ago gave yours that I might live.

Submitted by Dave Rowlands; written by his friend Marjorie in 1990

FROM THE REGISTERS

WEDDING

9th July Peter Goodman and Debbie Norvall

FUNERALS

27th July Gail Banks Age 61
 Stafford Crematorium

21st June Wendy Lyth Age 67

6th July Sarah Jane Shelley Age 95

SIDESPERSIONS ROTÆ

AM

4th Sept J. Rowlands J. Abrahams
 D. Wilson G. Holden

11th Sept D. Pickles C. Wilding
 D. Davies A. West

18th Sept V. Ledward T. MacFarlane
 J. Abrahams K. Thompson

25th Sept P. Hipkiss D. Wilson
 G. Holden J. Rowlands

FLOWER ROTÆ

4th Sept Mrs S. Hawley

11th Sept Mrs E. Cook

18th Sept Mrs S. Hallam

25th Sept Harvest

PRAYER REQUESTS A prayer circle of individuals (in touch by telephone) is ready to respond to requests for prayer, in confidence, at any time; please ask or ring Ann Butler 818160 or Jeanette Rowlands 816713.

Christ Church on the Internet

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

Deanery Synod Reps Mrs S Hallam, Mr D. Rowlands, Mr R. Brandon
P.C.C. Members Mrs I. Gassor, Mr D. Beauchamp, Mr G. Donaldson
 Mrs S. Sanders, Mrs D. Wilson, Mrs J. Abrahams
 Mrs K. Latham, Mr P. Mason, Mrs D. Hazlehurst
 Mrs A. Burton, Mrs M. Hillman, Mrs C. Snaith
 Mrs L. Kelly, Mr K. Reynolds, Mrs E. Woodhead

Secretary Shelagh Sanders
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 Requests 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