

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



February 2012

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 | 818983 |
| Youth and Children's Worker | Kieran McKnight 30 Oulton Road | 600734 07731984755 |
| 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-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 |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------|--------|

CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street.
Head: Mrs Lynne Croxall B.Ed.(Hons) 354125

Christ Church 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 March magazine to us by 15th February

Reminder

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

Cover:-
Morrison's

Subscriptions

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

February 2012

| | | | |
|-----|----|--|---|
| Wed | 1 | 7:30pm | PCC meeting |
| Thu | 2 | 1:20pm | Christ Church Academy assembly |
| Fri | 3 | | |
| Sat | 4 | 8:30am 10:30am | Prayer meeting followed by breakfast Marriage preparation |
| Sun | 5 | 9:15 am 6:00pm | Communion John 1:1-17 "Egoism and true greatness" Don't Waste your Life - Meal followed by course |
| Mon | 6 | 6:00pm | Breathe years 5-8 |
| Tue | 7 | 9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:00pm | Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Lighthouse years 2-4 Youth Club years 9-13 |
| Wed | 8 | | |
| Thu | 9 | 1:20pm 6:30pm 7:30pm | Christ Church Academy assembly Christ Church First School governors' meeting Deanery Synod |
| Fri | 10 | | |
| Sat | 11 | | |
| Sun | 12 | 9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm | Morning Prayer. Mark 8:27-38 "A trail blazer" Families at Four - new service for the whole family Don't Waste your Life - Meal followed by course |
| Mon | 13 | | |
| Tue | 14 | 10:00am | Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 |
| Wed | 15 | | |
| Thu | 16 | | |
| Fri | 17 | | |

February 2012

| | | | |
|-----|----|--|--|
| Sat | 18 | | |
| Sun | 19 | 9:15am 6:00pm | Communion. Mark 9:2-13 "A unique Son" Don't Waste your Life - Meal followed by course |
| Mon | 20 | 6:30pm | Breathe years 5-8 |
| Tue | 21 | 9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 1:00pm 3:45pm 7:00pm | Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Fraternal Lighthouse years 2-4 Youth Club years 9-13 |
| Wed | 22 | 7:30pm | (Ash Wednesday) Lent course |
| Thu | 23 | 1:20pm | Christ Church Academy assembly |
| Fri | 24 | | |
| Sat | 25 | | |
| Sun | 26 | 9:15am 6:00pm | Family service. Mark 10:32-45 "A ransom for many" Fairtrade stall after church Don't Waste your Life - Meal followed by course |
| Mon | 27 | 6:30pm | Breathe years 5-8 |
| Tue | 28 | 9:10am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 6:00pm 7:00pm | Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Lighthouse years 2-4 Christ Church Academy governors meeting Youth Club years 9-13 |
| Wed | 29 | 7:30pm | Lent Course |

The highest job and the lowest role

Who wants to be the leader? Just think of the pressures: political jostling with colleagues; media sound bites to reinforce or counter-attack; trying to align one's image and the message to convey; the blurring of private and public life so that personal life takes on global interest. Politicians struggle with all of these things. Football managers struggle with all of these things. Entertainers struggle with all these things. Business C.E.O.'s struggle with all of these things. Who is really up for taking on such a role?

Certain skills are essential for leaders: planning, identifying barriers and gaining the support from others – since leaders can only lead if people follow! Leadership courses abound, the bookshelves of the shops are heaving with suggestions as to the essential skills of the most effective people. Yet skills are not the complete answer.

The life of Jesus Christ profoundly affected his followers, both then and now. This historic leader towers over others and is respected even by those who don't follow. The reason for this is that Jesus' life shows an exact correspondence between words and actions. He was born to die, but his whole life pattern was one of self-sacrifice for others. Having announced his imminent death he called people to follow: *'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it'* (Mark 8v34-35). His demanding invitation is both startling and compelling. It is startling because the call to loyalty is uncompromising. It is compelling because his commitment and faithfulness to his people is total. The one who came to fulfil the highest job took on the lowest role of self-sacrificial service.

The season of Lent kicks in during February. It's traditionally a time to reconsider Jesus' extreme kindness to us and his call to an allegiance that will not compromise. Those who walk in the footsteps of Christ take on the lowest role of servant, but will one day receive the highest honour.

Paul Kingman



Why not join a house group? Have you got a good reason?!

The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” (Gen 2:18)

Now usually reference to this verse from Genesis 2 is done in the context of marriage or romantic relationships, so what is the curate doing linking it to house-groups?! Surely he isn't viewing them as some sort of Church dating agency?!!

No (although...!!) Well, the reason for referencing this verse is that it unmasks the general principle that runs through the Bible, namely; that we were made to be communal beings. God made us to be part of a community – his community, but while we can be good a social interaction, I fear that too many of us are spiritual hermits. We've bought into the worldly view that faith is a personal and individual matter.

But as we so often need to do with worldly wisdom, we need to realise that such a view is wrong and contrary to what the Bible teaches. In Acts 2:42-47 we read that

‘They [the first Christians] devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching...to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer...All the believers were together and had everything in common...Every day they continued to meet together...And the Lord added to their number daily.’

Following the Lord Jesus is not for the faint-hearted. And if we're to last the distance we all need help, support and encouragement. While coffee after the Sunday service provides a good opportunity for a catch-up, it's not a particularly good forum for asking questions such as:

- What's God teaching you at the moment?
- What can I be praying for you?
- What have you found most challenging/encouraging recently?

The list could go on! And that's what house groups are for! They're an opportunity for us to encourage one another in the daily struggle of trying to keep our eyes on Jesus. Whether they meet fortnightly or weekly, they should provide an opportunity to scratch below the surface and share hopes, encouragements, failings, disappointments and struggles. At our house group we aim to a time of Bible study – to refocus our eyes on God's promises and then a time of sharing and praying together. It's not rocket-science but it is wonderfully uplifting! *(continued on next page)*

Why not join a house group? *(cont)*

There are a number of house groups running across Stone and Oulton and we'd love to see more forming. Please don't let this year slip past without at least having a taster! For more information about the various groups please contact Paul or Andy and we'd be delighted to help!

Andy Cranston

Families 44

Christ Church's new monthly service for all the family!

With Cake, craft, songs and Bible stories.

Starting @4pm done by 5pm

Come and join the fun on:

| | |
|----------|---------|
| Jan 29 | Feb 12 |
| Mar 11 | April 8 |
| April 29 | May 13 |
| June 10 | July 8 |

We look forward to seeing you!

For more information contact Andy Cranston on 818983 or acranston.ccstone@gmail.com

Don't Waste Your Life

There will be the opportunity to join a 10-week course on discipleship called '*Don't Waste Your Life*' based on the book by John Piper. The course explores why and how to give up lesser pursuits and make your life count for eternity.

This course on Christian discipleship will start with a meal at 6 p.m. on Sunday 29th January in Christ Church centre. There will be more information on this course, but it requires you to buy both the book and study guide to take part. Purchase can be made through 10ofthose.com (through the Christ Church website or directly) or The Good Book Company (discounts for multiple copies).

Paul Kingman

A Generous and Hopeful Community

It really is bleak mid-winter for the planet Earth and its inhabitants. Even the wealthiest nations, including ourselves, have been living far beyond our means for years and it will be painful to correct this in a culture where ever-increasing wealth has been portrayed as a human right. What can the Church give to the nation to help us through the gloom?

As we put away our Christmas decorations and as Santa goes back to Lapland for another year it is good to remind ourselves that “The sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God” (St Paul: Romans 8:18). The world is longing for credible models for living together in a time of recession.

The stories of Santa Claus or St Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in modern Turkey, are many and various but they all celebrate someone who quietly gave money to the poor and desperate. The most famous variation is about the man who had three daughters but could not afford to marry them off so they would have to be sold into slavery. Nicholas heard of the man’s plight and put three pieces of gold down the chimney which landed in the stockings of the girls hanging out to dry over the embers. That story has inspired countless practical acts of kindness ever since.

A young couple were in trouble because the man lost his job and were in danger of losing their house. An older couple in the same church house group heard about this and gave them the money to continue paying their mortgage. The young man eventually found work and soon sent a cheque to repay the older couple. These however refused the money, explaining that it had been a gift, not a loan. So the younger couple wrote to the vicar and wardens asking them to use the money to start a fund for others in financial difficulties, and it became a Family Fund which helped many.

This new year will be tough for many as they are made redundant. An idea which surfaced in the last recession could be revived now. If one out of ten people in a large firm are to be made redundant the other nine might volunteer to take a pay cut so that the tenth person could be kept on. It would give both the one tenth and the nine tenth a sense of “all being in it together” and to other firms and organisations it could be an encouragement to keep the Christmas spirit going into the New Year.

(continued on next page)

A Generous and Hopeful Community *(cont)*

In a time of hardship God reveals a community which builds on trust and hope. “We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now.”

We have one of the secrets of community building, which is to strain forward to the future reign of God in which the meek will inherit the earth and the peacemakers will be called his children. This is why we aim to have a lively Christian presence in every place. We are called to be nothing less than a model for a generous and hopeful community. That is not easy. But it is a goal worth striving for. Happy New Year.

Jonathan Gledhill, Bishop of Lichfield

Marriage Preparation

On Saturday 4th February we hold our annual marriage preparation session for those who are soon to become husband and wife. This half day is primarily for those getting married in one of our churches in the benefice this year. The purpose is to cover some of the key issues to help us develop healthy marriages.

Lent Course

We will have a short course during Lent starting at 7.30 p.m. with refreshments and then the course itself beginning on Wednesday 22nd February. Details will be available in each of our churches nearer the time, but do plan to come to this course as we aim to grow as Disciples of Christ.

Paul

The Hezekiah Years by Penny Wheat

Penny’s book tells of the long illness and death in 2010 of her husband Colin. His case was one of the ones investigated in the inquiry into problems at Stafford Hospital. There are some more cheerful notes in the book however, telling of their younger days. Both Penny and Colin were in the choir at Christ Church in the days when robes were worn. The book costs £6.99 and can be obtained from Selah Ministries www.selahministries.co.uk . Profits from the book will go to Katharine House.

Dave Bell

Advent Window Memories

Advent Windows over for another year, I would like to thank everyone who provided soup on the 24th Dec, also those who came into the kitchen to help serve, your contributions were much appreciated, so a big “well done” and many thanks. I would also like to share with you some of my favourite memories of Advent Windows 2011.

The first window to open was at Dunoon, titled “Annunciation” (Luke 1:26-38). Obviously done by a professional window designer, a very beautiful window, but for me seeing the word of God written up, highlighted, and illustrated in Stone High Street in the year 2011 - Brilliant!

My next special memory is of the Blue Rooms (Window No. 3). The story of Silent Night, one of my favourite carols. We squashed into the Blue Rooms on a cold Saturday morning to hear Monica Darlington tell us the origins of the carol, a lovely story told so well. Monica even managed to sing the beginning of the carol in German - I was so impressed. I know mine were not the only eyes filled with tears at the end when we all sang Silent Night in English - magic!

Then to meet a lovely lady named Serina Skov Campbell. She is the Consular Assistant at the Royal Danish Consul in Manchester. She stopped off in Stone on her way to Manchester to open window No. 12 (Bailey’s DIY). The story was Hans Christian Anderson’s story of the Little Match Girl. Serina has a Dansih mother and she told us of how at home on Christmas Eve, her family gather around the Christmas tree and tell stories, this one of the Little Match Girl being one of her favourites. As Sheila Hawley told the story, I glanced at Serina, she was enthralled, obviously bringing back special memories for her. She told us she was going home for Christmas and was so looking forward to it. Serina was a joy to meet, a lasting memory for me. *Dilys*

Children’s Society House Boxes.

It’s that time of the year again. If you have a Children’s Society house box could you let me have it, please. Either bring it to church and give it to me or leave it in the parish office, please do not leave it in the church. Alternatively let me know and I will collect it from your home. *Sandra Morray*
(Children’s Society Secretary)

Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust

Each year in September our church opens to receive cyclists and walkers who visit as they take part in a sponsored fundraising event for Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust. I'm sure that many of you have sponsored Sandra and Chris Morray who have ridden hundreds of miles over the years. Here is some information about the charity which helps Staffordshire's Churches. The charity began in 1953, but changed its name to the present one in 1982. In the years since formation 247 churches of several denominations have been assisted. In 2011 sixteen churches received grants amounting to £26,000.

To quote from their website:

The landscape of Staffordshire presents a variety of contrasting faces – from the Moorlands in the north, the Vale of Trent in the centre to Cannock Chase in the south. Staffordshire's heritage includes a wealth of churches which have formed the focus of community life, often for centuries. There are churches ranging from pre-Norman village churches over 1,000 years old to masterpieces of Victorian Gothic, being relative youngsters just over a century old. These buildings, each one of them unique, are still loved and treasured, even by those who choose not to attend them regularly.

But the price of this beauty and history is high. It costs a lot of money to keep an ancient church in good repair, and old buildings deteriorate faster than new ones. Weather takes its toll on stonework, brickwork and roofing, while infestation by woodworm and death-watch beetle attacks the wooden structures of roofs and flooring. Stained glass windows also suffer from the effects of age, and require repair and restoration.

Many of the materials and techniques used in maintaining historic churches are expensive. They demand the nearly-forgotten skills of the few surviving craftsmen who are able to repair lead roofs in the traditional way, to carve and shape stone in the fashion of the original mediaeval masons, or to restore stained-glass windows to their original jewel-like beauty.

Often the burden of maintaining an ancient church is born by a small number of people, determined to preserve their building in which God is worshipped, in many cases over hundreds of years.

Do look at the website: www.staffordshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk and take more seriously the thought that our church is in this category.

It may come as a surprise to you that there is more to The Historic Churches Trust than a few people having a sponsored day out. It may encourage you to dust off the bike or boots for next September. *Dorothy*

The P.C.C. met on 16th November 2011 and the following matters were reported:

- The next Riding Lights performance will be on Saturday 26th May 2012
- The fund raising event at Langtry's was a great success and combined with money donated after the church service the next day the total amount raised to date was £598 which should be matched by HSBC
- After much discussion it was agreed to look at a new approach to Sunday evening worship which would involve a meal, message and mingle to build on friendships and fellowship.
- Rev Cranston proposed a 4pm service to be held on one Sunday every month aimed at Lighthouse aged children and their families and baptism families. The proposed running order would be:

Refreshments

10-15 minutes - craft

10-15 minutes – children's songs

10-15 minutes – Bible reading and talk

It was agreed to look into starting the scheme in the new year.

Suggestions were also made to make family services more interactive with more involvement from the children at the start of the service.

Other ideas are to run a Parenting course and a Dads and Toddlers group on one Saturday a month.

- Adam Baker's visit to the schools was well received. The concert at the church went well but unfortunately due to the timetable restrictions at Alleynes School the event was not as well publicised as was hoped.

There have been some new people at the Tuesday Youth Club, some as a result of the concert. The other youth groups are doing well. Thanks to all who helped at the concert and school. The Romanian trip will go ahead in 2012 at the beginning of the school summer holidays. .

The next P.C.C meeting is on Wednesday 1st February 2012 at 7.30pm

Shelagh

About 65 Oranges were made into Christingles by the children and parents, the children finding out what each symbol represented.

There were excellent crafts for the children, once again thanks to Estella. It was a very busy time and a great atmosphere, with a few old friends arriving and joining in.

Then into church for a short service, a talk from Dave Bell with lots of interacting with the children, singing, prayers and the lighting of the Christingles.

Afterwards we enjoyed refreshments.

Once again children from Oulton First school and Christ Church First school took a Christingle collecting candle home and along with children from Christ Church and the Toddler Group a fantastic £283:05 was sent to the Children's Society, helping them to continue their valuable work with young runaway and homeless children in the UK.

On behalf of the Children's Society a big thank you to all who gave so generously and contributed to an enjoyable afternoon and beginning of the Christmas celebrations.

Sandra Morray

A Big Thank You

I know that December 16th 2011 seems a long way away now but I was not able to fully express what I felt in the January magazine due to time restraints in printing before Christmas. I was overwhelmed by the number of friends who came to the party given to me by the church family for my 80th birthday, and I want to thank everyone who came and all who were not able to come but sent their good wishes. As those of you who were there will know that I was surprised by a "This is your Life" bringing back many memories of the days when I was the Brown Owl at Christ Church with quite a few of the Brownies (now adults of course!) being present, and the days helping in the Climbers Sunday School. I don't know how Maureen Recine managed to find out so much about my life, apart from Brownies being one of them herself, bringing in people not only from the church but from my family life and working days. A BIG THANK YOU goes to all who contributed in any way to give me such a wonderful evening - one which I will never forget. I would also like to thank all who contributed to the United Benefice Rock Youth Ministry (£210) – an activity very dear to my heart.

Irene

An Evening with Phil and Arthur

Saturday 3rd March at 7pm in the Centre
Something for Everyone

Sale of plants and pots of spring bulbs
Have a guess at some games – 50p a go
with great prizes to be won

Be part of a team in a lighthearted team
quiz

Refreshments

Proceeds to the Church general fund

Tickets £2 from Phil or Arthur, or from Irene and Kate in the office

Easy Fundraising

I have registered Christ Church with Easy Fundraising - the referral method means we can earn 1-2% of people's on line purchases, which can add up and will help raise funds without any extra 'giving'.

People do have to register with the site, but that is easy too.

Support Christ Church Youth Fund free when shopping online with over 2000 popular retailers, including Amazon, Argos, M&S, John Lewis, Debenhams, HMV, Vodafone, DELL, The Body Shop, PLAY.com, Interflora, Comet and many more.

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ccsyouthfund>

Raise funds for your chosen cause when you search the Web with easysearch - the best results from Yahoo!, Bing and Ask.com in one simple search.

<http://ccsyouthfund.easysearch.org.uk>

Andy Stone

HI! Greetings from Zagreb!

Just want to send you some latest prayer news and needs.

Dubrava church, Zagreb Croatia

Praise God for a great building! We can now seat 200 (under crammed revival conditions!), but are seeing between 80 and 100 attending regularly Sundays. We are imminently ready to start "phase 2", which involves resurrecting the "tidied up building site" in the front half of our premises immediately opposite the huge mega-city-shopping-centre "Garden Mall" (parking for 2000+ cars!). We aim to have an ongoing evangelistic/care ministry from the front of our yard to the 100's of 1000's just 70m away across the road. Pray for our plans and IMPLEMENTATION thereof! Ideas to date are offering coffee, chats and even free toilet facilities!

Balkan Project "Accelerated church planting - 50 years in 5"

Key and strategic prayer request! Pray that by May 1st 2012, 14 Brazilian missionaries would have already arrived in Croatia and Bosnia! Pray for ECM Brazil and Director Leo as they make the need and project known amongst the 51 million evangelicals over there. To date we have 3 very special missionaries; Eduardo (footballer, musician and evangelist), Viviane (Brazilian ECM director Leo's secretary, singer and evangelist) and Carla (theologian and social ministries). Pray also that by Summer 2012 we have four firm candidates from Ukraine. We know of two definitely interested and one who could be.

Pray for the churches willing to partner in the project, ready to accept missionaries and seek the lost for Jesus:

Croatia: Varaždin and Dubrava; **Bosnia;** Novi Travnik and **Slovenia:** Kočevje

Pray for encouragement, boldness and determination. It is one thing to have a vision, it is entirely another to put it into action!

Finances: Pray for George Brown (ECM USA) and Kent Anderson (ECM UK) as they seek to find keen Christians wanting to donate to the project financial logistics. Pray that Christians in Ukraine, Brazil as well as church members in Croatia, Bosnia and Slovenia would give mightily to see revival growth and enthusiasm spread in the Balkan regions.

Pray for continual conversions: With phase one of this project we hope to plant 8 new churches in identified cities and develop the two new church-plants in the Varaždin zone over the next 5 years. However, the main goal is to see many people discover Jesus and accept His lordship in their lives. The mission is already on! Pray that "people would be added to His church daily". That is our main prayer. Thank you for joining with us!

Stephen and Tabita Bell

Greetings from The Beesigomwes

Best wishes for 2012. May the Lord bless you as we together celebrate the birth of the Saviour of the whole world Jesus Christ. Thank you for your continued financial and prayer support and for spiritual nurture. Our vision and mission and indeed all the plans of Family Connections Bows and Arrows (FCBA) reaching its audience would not have been a blessing to anyone without your partnership.

Current Theme: Equipping Community leaders, School heads, Parents and Teachers to Transform School and Home Environments through the “Why Wait?” Character Education Programme for the Faith Sector. We currently target 22 schools in Kweneng East District and funding permitting may add another twenty schools in the Central District and Francis town Areas. We desire to provide evidence based biblical solutions to problems identified in schools and homes by community leaders, school heads, parents and teachers. The children need to be involved in identifying their needs and are given opportunity to be part of the solution. Praise the Lord for a government willing to pay for some workshops.

Family News

As you may guess, this year may be our last with almost a full nest. Come next year, Elijah, Hannah, Joel and Martha will be in Uganda the last three at university. Timothy may also be somewhere and Nicholas in his final year at North West University in RSA. Jonathan Junior will be the only one to fetch our reading glasses when we buy them. We have acquired two pappies and the old Reginahs (chickens) are multiplying. Faith house looks better but may soon be a lonely place at night when the office closes. Pray it becomes a blessing to more people.

More Praise and Prayer items:

1. Praise the Lord for those who receive Christ during the workshops and pray for mentors to work closely with them in school communities.
2. Praise the Lord for three couples, Kenyan, Nigerian and Tanzanian who have been part of our financial and prayer team but are relocating back to their countries this year. Pray for them as they settle back. Who takes their place is a prayer item.
3. Thank God for dedicated volunteers who bless us and the work when they come to use their talents, treasure and Time to push the work at hand. What a blessing they are. Some school heads and community leaders are beginning to shine as they take ownership of the programme.
4. Its very hard to see missionary children through school. It takes lots of faith to know what God is thinking and wants to accomplish when they drop out for lack of fees. Romans 8:28 becomes handy.
5. Thank God Robinah is able to take Joel to Uganda for school and for other social functions. Pray for Martha’s University place in 2012 in Uganda.

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

| | | |
|----------|-------------|---------------|
| 5th Feb | K. Thompson | J. Abrahams |
| | G. Holden | D. Pickles |
| 12th Feb | D. Wilson | C. Wilding |
| | J. Rowlands | T. MacFarlane |
| 19th Feb | A. West | V. Ledward |
| | D. Davies | K. Thompson |
| 26th Feb | J. Hipkiss | D. Pickles |
| | G. Holden | J. Abrahams |

FLOWER ROTA

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| 5th Feb | Mrs J. Booth |
| 12th Feb | Mrs Buckley |
| 19th Feb | Mrs M. Hillman |
| 26th Feb | Flower Guild |



ROADS FOR PRAYER

5th February

Alma Street
Bromfield Court
Dominic Court
Granville Terrace

19th February

Northesk Street
Radford Close
Radford Street
Station Road

12th February

Longton Road
Margaret Street
Newcastle Street
Newcastle Road, King's Terrace

26th February

The Avenue
Trent Road
Tunley Street
Trinity Drive



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 - 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 and ordinal, though we unite in Christ irrespective of denomination. We are an Evangelical church, as we see that the Bible is God's word and so is to inspire all that we do. This church was established with the help of the renowned Charles Simeon and the patronage is the gift of the Simeon's Trust.

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.org). 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 Academy 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).

Subscriptions

If you would like this magazine delivered to you regularly, please contact:
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