

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



May

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	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	Pete 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
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Christ Church Academy, Old Road

Head: C. Waghorn B.Ed(Hons),DPSE,ACP,FRSA	354047
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Christ Church



and People

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

Cover Story:-
Trent
Hospital (now
flats and a
clinic)

Subscriptions

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

May 2012

Tue	1	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 1:00pm 3:45pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Fraternal Lighthouse years 2-4 Christ Church Academy governors meeting Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	2	7:30pm	Deanery Synod - Aston
Thu	3	1:20pm 7:00pm	Christ Church Academy assembly Archdeacon's visitation
Fri	4		
Sat	5	8:30am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast
Sun	6	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion Revelation 2:12-29 "Truth and holiness" Evening Prayer at Oulton John 3:14 cf 12:20-36 "Look to Christ"
Mon	7		
Tue	8	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	9	7:30pm	Standing Committee
Thu	10	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly Archdeacon's visitation at St Peter's Rickerscote
Fri	11		
Sat	12	10:00am	"Love, live and tell the good news". Rico Tice Seminar in the Church Centre
Sun	13	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. Speaker Craig Dyer Revelation 3:1-6 "Readiness" Families at Four - service for the whole family Communion at Oulton John 6:52-59 "Feeding on Christ by faith"
Mon	14	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8

Tue	15	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am 3:45pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship, Castle Church, Stafford, with Micael Nazir-Ali Lighthouse years 2-4 Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	16		
Thu	17	1:20pm 7:30pm	Christ Church Academy assembly Deanery Ascension Day Communion at Fulford
Fri	18		
Sat	19		
Sun	20	9:15am 2:30pm 6:00pm	Communion; Revelation 3:7-13 "Opportunity" Autumn House service Evening Prayer at Oulton John 7:25-44 "Living water within"
Mon	21	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8
Tue	22	9:30am 10:00am 3:45pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Lighthouse years 2-4 Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	23	10:00am 7:30pm	Spiritual needs of the Elderly-St Francis Meir Heath PCC meeting
Thu	24	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	25		
Sat	26	7:30pm	Riding Lights Performance "Monsieur de Coubertin's Magnificent Olymlic Feat"
Sun	27	9:15am 6:00pm	Family service; Revelation 3:14-22 "Wholeheartedness Communion at Oulton John 10:11-15 "The shepherd and his sheep"
Mon	28	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8
Tue	29	9:30am 10:00am 3:45pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Lighthouse years 2-4 Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	30		Christ Church First School Street Party- Jubilee service. Olympic Torch passes Stone
Thu	31	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly

The Eternal Flame

Our children's holiday club after Easter was called '*On Your Marks.*' It had a sporting theme as we looked at how Jesus invites us onto his team. We wore a team strip, we decorated the church buildings with flags and banners, we did daily warm-ups and even had an eternal flame burning! At the Olympic Games a torch is used to light the cauldron so that the eternal flame burns throughout the contest. The symbol of the eternal flame has of course got classic origins: it celebrates the theft of fire from the Greek god Zeus by Prometheus.

An eternal flame features in ancient Israelite history. A seven branched candelabra was to burn continuously in the Tabernacle set up by Moses in the desert: "The fire on the altar must be kept burning; it must not go out. Every morning the priest is to add firewood and arrange the burnt offering on the fire and burn the fat of the fellowship offerings on it. The fire must be kept burning on the altar continuously; it must not go out" (Leviticus 6v12-13). It was later located in the Jerusalem Temple and, beyond its destruction in AD 70, modern Judaism continued the tradition by having a sanctuary lamp always lit above the ark in the synagogue. The fire seems to have represented the continual worship of God, the ongoing dedication of the worshipper and a reminder of the worshipper's constant need of atonement for their sin.

In the New Testament the continual presence of God with His people is assured: the blood of Christ ensures our at-one-ment with God. But this promise carries with it the responsibility to ensure that we keep the divine fire burning within our lives. The Apostle Paul instructs the church: "do not put out the Spirit's fire" (I Thess 5v16). It also speaks of our ongoing need for atonement, but that "he [i.e. Christ] always lives to make intercession for us" (Heb 7v25). What wonderful truths!

The hymn by Charles Wesley brings together these ideas: (*see next page*)



The Eternal Flame *(cont)*

*O thou who camest from above
The pure celestial fire impart
Kindle a sacred flame of love
On the mean altar of my heart.*

*There let it for Thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze
And trembling to its source return
In humble prayer and fervent praise.*

So, as we track the route of the eternal flame and it passes by our area on 30th May, perhaps it will serve as a reminder to Christians of the greater impact of ensuring that the Spirit's flame is never quenched in our lives. We have the festival of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was given to all of God's people on the Sunday before the torch passes through our area. It is a timely reminder to live as the people God intends us to be: on continual worship of whole lives dedicated to Him.

Paul Kingman

Easter Flowers

Thank you from the Flower Guild for the very generous donations given to us to purchase the Easter flowers. It gave us all great pleasure to use our God given talent to decorate our church at Easter time.

Marylyn

Fair Trade Goods Stall

Fair Trade Goods will be on sale on May 27th in the Church Centre, after the morning service

Sunday sermon series in May

Mornings at Christ Church, Stone & Oulton:

Revelation 1-7 ~ a message for the end times. The book of The Revelation to St John has the intriguing start: ‘The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what soon must take place’. The book has since been the happy source from which all sorts of loopy ideas have surfaced. So, let’s get hold of what we are to learn from the opening few chapters – looking at the Spirit’s words to the church which is the word of God for today.

Moddershall mornings and Evenings at Oulton:

Eternal life in John’s Gospel. The theme of eternal life needs unpacking. It does concern life in heaven, but it certainly is to start now. But who can be sure of heaven? How do we enter it? What does it look like? Here’s an opportunity to get to grips with an exhilarating centre-piece of the faith.

“Love, live and tell the good news!”

Do you remember Rico Tice? He kindly came to speak at our event at Stoke City Football Club in March 2010 as part of ‘A Passion for Life.’ He has asked us to host the following event for our churches and those in North Staffordshire.

“Love, live and tell the good news!” Rico Tice will lead an informal two hour seminar geared to everyone in the church family, offering encouragement and training in evangelism that will be as practical as it is Biblical.

Christ Church, Stone on Saturday 12th May 2012

9.30 a.m. Registration & coffee

10.00-12.00 Seminar: “Love, live and tell the good news!”

Please let us know if you are coming so that we can provide refreshments

Stories about The Story

At some point in 1992 we finally got to the end of what must be a candidate for the longest bedtime story ever! For over three years dad had been reading *'The Lord of the Rings'* to my brother Jonathan and me. It is an epic tale of good versus evil and J.R.R.Tolkien wrote it with a view to reflecting the overall story of reality.

Some years later, when I was at university, I would often head into Oxford during the holidays to catch up with a friend. *The Eagle and Child* pub was a regular destination and it was here that Tolkien, C.S.Lewis and other Christian friends had met years previously to discuss how they could write stories laden with the truth of the story of Jesus Christ.

In fact it was a conversation with Tolkien about the truthfulness of myths that played an instrumental role in C.S.Lewis putting his trust in Jesus Christ and renouncing atheism. Tolkien's argument was that *"in making a myth...in peopling the world with elves and dragons and goblins, a story-teller...is actually fulfilling God's purpose and reflecting a splintered fragment of the true light."* So every story reflects the overall story of reality. Thus in a full story there will be a fall with an evil one, a saviour/hero who comes to undo that fall often doing it to win his bride. Typically the whole thing ends in a marriage with the evildoers being punished and the hero and his friends living happily ever after.

As we begin a series of sermons on the letters to the Churches from the book of Revelation – a book that many Christians find difficult and disturbing – it's worth remembering the overall story of reality. Revelation is essentially a God's-eye view on history detailing that story of reality – Jesus coming to win back his bride from the grasp of the evil one. In chapter 19 we read this victorious anthem:

**“Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.
 7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!
 For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
 and his bride has made herself ready.**

The letters of chapters 2-3 are essentially a call for the bride to make herself ready. As a married man I have a degree of appreciation for what is involved for a bride to get ready for her wedding day and no doubt with two daughters my understanding is set to deepen further yet!

(continued on next page)

Months are spent preparing for the perfect day and God expects us to be doing likewise as we await that day when we will be joined to Jesus forever. The Church – those people all over the world who trust Jesus as their Lord and Saviour – is Jesus’ bride, and as his bride we should be looking forward to and preparing for our wedding day.

It begs the question ‘How should we be getting ready?’ to which joining us at Church on Sunday is part of an answer!

I look forward to seeing you!

Andy

We must Listen to the Young

These are my favourite months of the year! Early summer brings a freshness and vitality as the trees are clothed in green and we feel the sun once more. This is also the time of Pentecost (this year May 27th) when we are reminded how the Holy Spirit brings a freshness to our worship and our relationship with God. Filled with the Spirit, we are empowered to follow in the Way of Jesus and show in our lives those ‘fruits’ of the Spirit listed in the Letter to the Galatians: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22).

Recently I was in Kuching in Sarawak, representing Archbishop Rowen at a special Service when Bishop Bolly was installed as the Archbishop of the Province of SE Asia. Although the liturgy was quite traditional there was a freshness about it that came from the enthusiasm of the congregation. Preaching at 6.45am in one of the city churches, there was a congregation of over 300 (their usual number at this service). The nearby Cathedral had over 1,000 communicants at their 7.00am celebration and with worship in these Churches throughout the day (in several languages!) it became clear that in a country where Christianity is not the main religion of the State, never the less Church attendance was still seen as being very important.

A colleague from the Philippines told me that in his country the average age of church-goers was just 25 (compared with our average age of 61).

(continued on page 9)

The reason he gave for this was that in his country parents thought it really important to bring their children to Church from birth and so young people not only feel totally 'at home' in the Church setting but attending worship is second nature to them and they would not think of not coming week by week. These younger people offer a natural vitality to the life of the Church and guided by the wisdom of older members, they take a very active role in leading all that goes on.

Following on from this, I was delighted when we were able to meet with young people from our own Diocese in the 'Regeneration' event held in Stafford at the start of March. We heard many comments about what it is like to be a young Church Member in the Diocese of Lichfield today and were given much food for thought.

Some spoke movingly of those who had played an important part in bringing them to faith – I was particularly grateful to the person who spoke of her desire that the church should be 'one' and that she had no wish to be segregated off from the older members of her church congregation, rather that young and old should mix together and learn from each other.

As we all continue the really exciting (and slightly daunting) process of shaping ministry in our Diocese for the foreseeable future, I pray that we will allow freshness into our thoughts. Guided by the Spirit, I hope that we will allow ourselves to be influenced by younger Church Members and also those new to our congregations.

We need their ideas because we have to be totally honest and acknowledge before God that although there is much that is good about the life of the Church in our Diocese, we have not got it all so right that our buildings are full of people of all ages. Younger members of our churches should be encouraged to join our PCCs and decision making bodies and we should listen to all that they have to offer.

It is their enthusiasm and new ways of understanding that will bring that freshness and just as the blossoms of May eventually become the fruits of the later Summer, so, with their input and God's Grace, we will see that flourishing Christian Presence in every Community!

Rt Revd Geoff Annas, Bishop of Stafford

On Your Marks!

“On Your Marks...” Holiday Club

Excitement was building after months of fervent activity; posters, hand-bills and a banner had heralded the event, then came the flags, bunting and sports paraphernalia. Finally, on the 10th April 2012, six teams of ‘athletes’, aged 4-11 from all over Stone and the surrounding area, watched in awe as the Eternal Flame was lit in Christ Church, marking the beginning of the “On Your Marks...” Global Games.

Our host for the Games was Chief Sports commentator Andy Cranston, who took the opportunity to dress up in a different sports kit every day. He was ably supported in his role by our reporter in the studio Ann Core (Louise Kelly) and roving reporter Ian Quisitive (Marcus King), who kept bumping into an interesting character called Peter (Tom Woodhead). Peter was part of “Team Jesus”, and as the week went on, we found out more about what that meant and how we could join the team too.

The athletes took part in their own competitions: throwing the javelin (paper aeroplane), putting the shot (bean bag), long jump and Olympic Torch relay (using an ice cream cone). They also enjoyed making crafts and singing songs based on the Bible stories they had heard.

The Closing Ceremony at Christ Church on Sunday 15th April was well attended, and the whole team with its supporters tucked into a well-deserved Champion’s Chomp of rolls with sausage and bacon afterwards. Many thanks to Shelagh and Kevin Sanders for cooking, and to the 30+ leaders and helpers who made the whole week a great success.

Sue

Answers to last month’s puzzles

John 3:16, John 1:1, John 14:6

Gen 1:1, Exodus 20:12

Acts 1:1, Romans 8:1

Christian Aid Week 2012

Christian Aid Week is Britain/Ireland's longest-running fundraising week and has been a firm fixture in the calendar of many thousands of people each year since 1957. It is famous for the distinctive envelope that drops through the letterboxes of millions of homes each May – and for the massive impact that the week has made in the fight to end the scandal of poverty around the world.

This year's Christian Aid Week is May 13th/19th

Christian Aid works with local organisations around the world to help poor communities find solutions to the problems they face and give them the support they need to make these changes. Mary Samuels lives in a remote part of Sierra Leone where hunger was once a constant threat. With support from Christian Aid partner the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone, Mary and members of her community are raising their voices to bring change and are being given the tools needed to help themselves out of poverty. Hoes and farming knives are simple tools, but these basic implements are being used to bring about long-lasting change

Please help by taking part in the door to door collection in our parish, look for the packs in the foyer or speak to Phil Tunstall 817028

Names of God

God of Hosts	1 Sam 17:45
Most High God	Psalm 7:17
My Shepherd	Psalm 23:1
Provider	Genesis 22:14
My Banner	Exodus 17:15
Peace	Judges 6:24
Our Righteousness	Jeremiah 23:6
Healer	Exodus 15:26
God who sanctifies	Leviticus 20:8
God is there	Ezekiel 48:35

The P.C.C. met on 12th March 2012 and the following matters were reported:

- On Saturday 12th May Christ Church will be hosting a conference from 10 – 12pm on ***Loving, living and telling the good news'*** . The aim of the conference is to give us encouragement over our corporate life as Christian churches and in our personal evangelism at a time when it is hard. The guest speakers will be Rico Tice and Craig Dyer. Craig Dyer will also be taking part in the following Sunday service 13th May. Refreshments will be served.
- Consideration was given to purchasing a portable projector that could be used when required in church. It was decided not to proceed due to the cost and limited proposed usage.
- The new principal appointed to Christ Church Academy is Mr Chris Wright.
- The Riding Lights Theatre company will be performing ***Monsieur De Coubertin's Magnificent Opymlic© Feat***", a light-hearted production along the lines of the Olympics, with a message to think about, at Christ Church. The performance is at 7.30 p.m. on Sat 26th May 2012.
- The three Families at 4 sessions have been very well attended with up to 77 people attending. 30 -35 of the people attending do not regularly attend church.

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 23rd May at 7.30.

Shelagh

Children's Society Boxes

Thank you so much to all who gave so generously through the house boxes to the Children's Society. House boxes raise over £2 million a year for the Society's work, bringing new hope to children who face danger, discrimination and disadvantage in their daily lives here in the UK. Every year 100,000 children run away from home. We help young people escape danger on the streets and work to tackle the causes that led to them running away in the first place. There are over 65,000 children in care and many aren't given a say about important decisions affecting their lives. We help young people in care understand their rights and ensure they are listened to when it matters.

If you think for a moment, I'm sure there was someone who taught you why you should not hit other people or take things that did not belong to you? In my case it was my parents who taught me my values and I in turn have passed them on to my children as they were growing up. There are many children here in Britain who do not have that support. Parents may have drug or alcohol or mental health problems and are simply unable to give their children the childhood they deserve. As a result they drift from getting into trouble at school, into petty crime and possibly serious crime. As you can appreciate the work of the Children's Society is very important, there are thousands of children at risk who need our help.

This year £249.10 from the house boxes will in a small way help with this work, but there is much more to do. Support at the right time can turn a child away from crime and antisocial behaviour. If you are interested in a house box please let me know and I will be pleased to let you have one.

Sandra Morray

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

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

MONSIEUR DE COUBERTIN'S MAGNIFICENT OPYMLIC© FEAT!

"Riding Lights must take Gold for packing non-stop humour and fast-paced historic and cultural detail into a first-class performance." YORK PRESS

London is limbering up for an athletic summer. The stadium is built, the torch is lit and grants for the cultural olymp-events are handed out. But not to everyone.

Taking this hurdle in his stride, theatre entrepreneur Simon Baxendale goes ahead with a national tour of the show which everyone will want to see: the glorious, remarkable and often hilarious story of the rebirth of the Opymlic© Games in Athens in 1896...

Enter onstage Baron Pierre de Coubertin, boasting an impressive moustache and an even larger sporting vision, inspired by everything from Ancient Greece to Tom Brown's Schooldays. He wants to re-invigorate the world, body mind and spirit, with heroic sporting endeavours... and this time he wants everyone to wear clothes!

But long before any shorts are pulled on in earnest, Monsieur de Coubertin has his own marathon to run, discovering, not for the last time, that international sport is far from an easy game. Epic, energetic and full of unusual sporting skills, Monsieur de Coubertin's Magnificent Opymlic© Feat! is an exhilarating new show about the revival of what has become the greatest sporting event on the planet.

See it at Christ Church, Stone on May 26th at 7:30pm

We can obtain a significant discount if we make a block booking. If you would like to come, make your booking *early* through the Church office. Otherwise,

For tickets phone *01904 613000*

Book online at

<https://kiosk.iristickets.co.uk/k?RidingLights&mdcstone>

Don't Waste your Life!

(A book written by John Piper)

On Sunday evenings at Christ Church we have been studying together a book written by John Piper, and watching a DVD that goes with it. We started each meeting with a shared meal, which upheld the high standards of shared meals at Christ Church (I remember the first time I attended a shared meal at Christ Church, in 1977, not realising that a quiche was the minimum expected. I brought with me jam sandwiches made from old crusts, expecting to eat them myself and was horrified when I was asked to place them beside offerings brought by other people. Even worse, a visiting Nigerian minister insisted on eating them despite my entreaties).

The book deals with John Piper's own experience of faith, based upon complete commitment to God with no half-measures. He was stirred by a story told by his father of an old man who came to faith and wept in the church because he knew that he had wasted his life. For the young John this was "a fearful and horrible thought" – and spurred him on to be sure that he did not waste his life.

In the early '60s when John was a student, Existentialism was in vogue and the idea that there was a true God was not popular. His battle against Existentialism and other forms of woolly-mindedness was very important to him, and we at Christ Church had to spend a couple of evenings considering these ideas last examined by us (if ever) while at college or university. Much of modern thinking is based upon the destructive premise that there can be no absolute truth or certainty, and Christians need to avoid falling into this trap.

The DVD was accompanied by mournful music and showed scenes of time passing before John Piper spoke to us, urging us not to waste time, not to waste our lives and not to waste our money, but to put our lives on a war footing as we fight against unbelief. Our weapons are our lives, our money, our jobs and our behaviour. Through all of these things we should make it clear that serving Jesus is our over-riding objective that pushes everything else into second place, just as during a war everything is dominated by the need to win whatever the cost.

Dave Bell

Seen in a church magazine in King's Lynn

"Burial charges are to go up at the cemetery; the increased cost of living is blamed".

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA**AM**

6th May	C. Wilding D. Davies	J. Abrahams D. Wilson
13th May	A. West G. Holden	D. Pickles J. Rowlands
20th May	J. Abrahams C. Wilding	D. Wilson K. Thompson
27th May	V. Ledward G. Holden	D. Davies D. Pickles

FLOWER ROTA

6th May	Mrs S. Vaughan	13th May	Mrs M. Hutchinson
20th May	Mrs G. Martin	27th May	Mrs A. Illidge

ROADS FOR PRAYER**6th May**

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court

20th May

Mount Road
Mount Street
Old Road
Stonefield Court

13th May

Kent Grove
Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent

27th May

Stonefield Square
Victor Street
Victoria Street
Whitebridge Lane

**Christ Church on the Internet**

Parish website

www.christchurchstone.org

Parish office email

christchurch.centrel@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 Group	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
Parents & Toddlers (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)	Sandra Morray.....	286093
3rd Stone Brownies (Mo 6:00-7:30pm, First School)	Janet Smith.....	815939

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

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

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

Monday Toddlers 9.30 am

THE MAGAZINE TEAM

Mission News& Prayer Diary Cecilia Wilding 817987

Please send material for the magazine to

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

Christ Church welcomes you!

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

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

Our church meetings help us to grow in our understanding of what the Bible tells us about God, and this is something that we encourage others to investigate especially through our *Christianity Explored* course (see details on the national website www.christianityexplored.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 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).