

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



September 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

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

Cover Picture:-
Railway Station

The magazine costs 40p per issue or £4 for a full year.

Subscriptions

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

September 2012

Sat	1	8:30am 7:30pm	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast Bollywood Night (St. Dominic's Social Club)
Sun	2	9:15am 6:00pm 6:00pm	Communion (no Sunday School) Acts 19:13-22 "The core of repentance" Gospel centred church 1 - Christ Church Evening Prayer at Oulton 2 Sam 13:23-39 "Sin's fruit!"
Mon	3	6:30pm	Breathe - Leader's meeting only
Tue	4	10:00am 3:45pm 7:00pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Lighthouse - Leader's meeting only The Rock youth club - Leader's meeting only
Wed	5	7:30pm	Standing Committee
Thu	6		
Fri	7		
Sat	8	10:00am	Ride and Stride (Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust)
Sun	9	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer; Numbers 1 "Safety in Numbers?" Communion at Oulton; Ps 4 "Evening Prayer"
Mon	10	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	11	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 yrs 2-4 Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	12		
Thu	13	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	14		

Sat	15		
Sun	16	9:15am 2:30pm 4:00pm 6:00pm 6:00pm	Communion; Numbers 6 “Drop-out or different” Autumn House service Families at 4 - service for the whole family Evening Prayer at Oulton Psalm 5 “Morning Prayer” Gospel-centred church 2 - Christ Church
Mon	17	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	18	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 yrs 2-4 Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	19	7:30pm	PCC Meeting
Thu	20	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	21		
Sat	22		
Sun	23	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer Numbers 10:11-36 “The fire of God’s presence” Communion at Oulton; Ps 24 “Praise and worship”
Mon	24	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	25	9:30am 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 yrs 2-4 Christ Church Academy governors’ meeting Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	26	12:00	Chapter meeting
Thu	27	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	28	7:00pm 8:00pm	Royal Foundlings Concert (see page 7) Harvest Service at Moddershall
Sat	29	5:00pm	Harvest Supper at Oulton
Sun	30	9:15am 6:00pm	Family service (Harvest) Numbers 11 “Food complaints” Gospel-centred church 3 - Christ Church

Beyond the Games

The summer months of Olympic sport have been a great treat! The astoundingly good success of 'Team GB' has been a privilege to witness. Such achievement is the result of dedicated training at enormous personal cost. Many competitors spoke in interviews about their family and friends who supported them with patience and encouragement. A lot turned on their bodies being in peak condition.

Yet we live at a time when there is so much emphasis on the body that we can neglect the soul.

In our media dominated world having the right image and looking our very best manipulates our worldview. It may inspire us to tone our muscles, diet towards a smaller clothing size, or buy new sports equipment to get into sport. But what plans have we for our spiritual development?

In one of the New Testament letters we are given the key to achieving the right balance. The apostle Paul doesn't rubbish taking care of our bodies, but helps us to see this care in the light of what is of greater importance. Success isn't achieved through fanatical diets, abstaining from good things that God has given to us to enjoy or by getting caught up in myths. Instead, we're to attend to what is spiritually wholesome: *'For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise both for the present life and the life to come'* (I Tim 4v8). A godly life is the good life that we hope to achieve by getting the right balance in our lives. But, we often try to achieve it through ways that do not deliver. Godliness comes from putting our trust in God: *'This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance (and for this we labour and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, and especially of those who believe'* (I Tim 4v9). So, a godly life is lived in relation to God, rather than distant from him or in defiance of his loving rule.

Why not make this new term, this autumn, the time when you engage more fully in the life of your local church to discover the riches of God's mercy which are ours through Jesus Christ? We explore this each Sunday and invite you to join us.

Paul Kingman.



5 Remember who you are before you get dressed!

Children grow up fast! It's a fact that I've become increasingly aware of, particularly this summer, as I've watched Joanna trying on her new school uniform. Our morning routines are about to change, but although Joanna's choice of clothes has been restricted, she will, like all of us (I hope!) continue to get dressed as a matter of priority in the morning.

Getting dressed is something that I guess most of us do habitually. We don't need to be told! But in Colossians 3 that's exactly what Paul does. He instructs the Christians in this little Church to get dressed! And not only does he tell them to get dressed he tells them what to wear!

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness and love are the characteristics that Christian people should be dressing themselves with every morning. It's a challenging instruction – particularly when so many of the people we come across can be difficult, hurtful, stubborn or foolish! Easier said than done!

But then that's why Paul encourages us to remember who we are before we get dressed! You see Paul's instruction about clothing ourselves ready for the day ahead comes after he's reminded this group of Christians who they are as God's chosen, holy and dearly loved people.

They're to remember who they are first, because our lives as Christians should flow from three things God has done for us:

1. He's lavished his love on us – Jesus' death for us is a clear demonstration!
2. He's chosen us to be not only his friends but part of his family.
3. He's made us holy – he's cleaned us up from the shameful things that we like to keep covered up

You see when we remember who we are before God – that he's even willing to love little you and me, it makes all the difference in the world as to how we'll be prepared to treat the difficult, stubborn, foolish and hurtful people we come across – particularly when we remember that God loves them too!

So as a new school year begins can I encourage you to remember who you are before you get dressed! And if you're not yet part of God's family – one of his people, can I encourage you to become one – it's not easy but it'll transform your life...and not just the clothes you wear!

Andy

Holiday at Home (Report)

When I first heard of this idea, I thought, **OH GOODY!** Perhaps I can dress up as a pirate, or shepherd or even a king. And then on Sunday Morning at the 'Holiday at Home service' we would be all dressed up and sing the new songs and do the drama we had learnt.

I have to tell you it was not like that at all. We did sing at the start of each session, not new songs, but old tunes, sometimes with new words, which at times did not seem to fit the tune.----- But that was all part of the fun.

Mysteriously, Roger often played 'Some Where Over The Rainbow', (not literally) but we never sang it?



The Hosts were Paul, Sue, Phil, Kieran, Pam, Kathleen (not my Kath), Dorothy, and others. I shall refer to these as the --- 'Senior Young Group'. (SYG)

Also Eloise, Verity, Dominique, Catherine ,Alex, Will, and other friends. I shall refer to these as the -----'Younger' Group. (YG)

The visiting speaker was Chris who came with his wife Elaine from Haroldwood. (Paul's former parish)

Then there were those of us who participated approx. 25.per day, I shall refer to these as the -----'Elder Group'. (EG)

The Daily Pattern was as follows:-

1. EG would arrive in 'ones' and ' twos' at the centre foyer, to be greeted by YG who took the daily fee and ticked the register.
2. EG would sit down, SYG would issue hymn sheets, sorry I mean song sheets, and Roger would set off on the keyboard and EG would follow. (that is singing not running)
3. EG Sat at the tables for a Quiz led by Phil on days 1 & 2, and Puzzles led by Dorothy on day 3. Help readily given by YG
4. EG then moved to Westbridge room for a snippet of the Holy Land. (on DVD of course).
5. EG moved back to tables for a craft session conducted by Sue ----- Day 1 Card making. ----- Day 2 Box making.----- Day 3 Cross decorating. ----- Much help given by YG
6. EG moved back to Westbridge room for the Bible talk by Chris.
7. Finally EG moved back to tables, which had been loaded with homemade food and decorated with flowers by SYG and YG during the Bible talk.

(continued)

Holiday at Home *(cont)*

Orders for drinks were taken and charmingly served by YG

As you can see from this report, as well as containing Spiritual content and using practical skills, there was also a physical exercise time, because between each activity there was a change of location and seat. -(Up, Walk, Stretch for some, Sit etc.)

This ploy was obviously to prevent DVT (Deep Vein Thrombosis) and also to wake up the dozers. ---Though I suspect there were none of the latter.

The whole event was well structured and executed for the EG by the SYG and YG. ----- (When is the next one please?)

So from the EG to the SYG and YG a very big Thank you -----

Mike (Octogenarian)

Royal Foundlings in Stone

Glasgow Rockers, Royal Foundlings have quickly become one of Scotland's favourite and premier Christian rock bands. 2011 see's the end of their first full year of gigging together, gigs that ensure you get moving to their powerful riffs, great melodies and powerful message of Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Royal Foundlings are passionate about God and exist to spread the good news of His word to as many people as possible. They simply use the music and skills that God has blessed them with to achieve this reality.

“God's word is what we live for and it's in His name that we do what we do.”

Royal Foundlings are now wanted throughout the world for shows due to their powerful songs, message and emphatic live performances!! In fact, if you haven't yet seen this band live yet, you're missing out!

During the week of Sept 25-30th we will be joined by the Royal Foundlings. They will be taking part in Schools work as well as being involved with all our youth and children's activities through out the week. The week will climax with an event held in the church where the band will do a set followed by Pastor Steve Karma speaking about how Jesus saved him from a life headed towards destruction. For more information Speak to Kieran Mcknight.

Coming Back

In his pastoral letter for September, the Bishop of Stafford answers a question often posed and urges parishes to offer a smiling welcome during 'Back to Church Sunday'

People say to me: "Bishop! You don't have to go to Church to be a Christian!" I am afraid that I have to disagree with them. If we are in sufficient good health to get to Church, then as Christians we should do so – not out of a sense of guilt or because we feel coerced but because we should want to offer praise to God in the company of other like-minded people.

Right from the start Jesus gathered people around him because Christianity is both a personal and a social religion – reflected in the Great Commandments that Jesus gave us to love God and each other. 'Church' is not a building but the gathering of those who follow in the Way of Jesus. Where two or three are gathered together in the name of Jesus they are being 'Church' – wherever they are! You do not have to belong to a Church to be a good person or do good deeds but belonging to a worshipping community is a key part of what it is to be a Christian. When Groucho Marx was asked why he did not belong to any clubs he replied that he would never wish to belong to a club which would have someone like him as a member! The Christian Church is exactly the opposite in that it welcomes all people – it is inclusive because as Christians we recognise we ALL fall short of the perfection we see in Jesus yet he goes on loving us and accepting us and his healing love helps to transform us.

Being part of the Church is more than belonging to a social club for once we know we are valued and loved by God and our fellow Christians, then we find that we start to value ourselves much more. We also are nourished by the mutual support we offer and receive.

Being part of a Church does not always mean that we agree with one another – for we still remain individuals with our own ideas and likes and dislikes, but at least we can strive to disagree in an agreeable way! Whatever discussions go on in the Church (and they have for 2,000 years!) we have to remember that through Baptism we are brothers and sisters in Christ and that the love He has for us and that we should have for each other, should be far greater than any division between us.

(continued on next page)

Coming Back *(cont)*

During September Churches in our Diocese will be inviting people to come Back To Church. Not just putting up a poster but making personal contact and offering to bring people – those who attend Church regularly forget what an ordeal it is for many who are not used to coming to walk through those doors! Hopefully, those who come back to Church (or attend for the first time) will find a warm welcome. They will need to be reassured that they are not sitting in someone's seat and if they have children to know that they too are really welcome and that there are story sacks or other kinds of special activities available. Practical information like where the coffee will be after the worship can really worry some people so making sure they know will enable them to relax and enjoy the worship.

For those who have never been to Church before, it will be a daunting but also exciting experience and hopefully nothing like the kind of caricature often portrayed in the media. Those returning will probably find that things have changed since they were last there – perhaps in their opinion for the better but it may be they do not like what they might consider a 'modern approach'! If this is the case, they will need help to go to a different Church where they will feel comfortable and able to pray yet also be challenged and stretched so that their faith grows and they are able to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the love that Jesus has for them and for us all.

The Bishop of Stafford, The Rt Revd Geoff Annas

Harvest Supper: 5 p.m. on Saturday 29th September

Our Harvest Festival services are held on the last weekend of September each year. We 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 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 Oulton First School, in Oulton.

Ride and Stride

Saturday 8th September 2012

Sponsor forms and lists of churches to visit on Ride and Stride Day are available from Dorothy Wilson . If you haven't tried it before, dust down the bike, boots or trainers and have a day out. In this sponsored event Christ Church get half the sponsor money back!

(D Wilson 01785 812078)

Fair Trade Goods Stall

Fair Trade Goods will be on sale on September 23rd in the Church Centre, after the morning service

Sermon series in September

Mornings at Christ Church & Oulton: ‘Coach Trip – final vote’ (Numbers). We look at the book which covers the journey of God’s people to the Promised Land. It’s got a lot of stuff about who should do what when it comes to religious practices, but it also has lots of stories about covers leadership crises, family jealousy, widespread discontent, unbelief, rebellion and even apostasy! It was a book which Jesus often referred to for lessons about genuine spirituality in the face of challenges and new situations to face.

Moddershall & evenings: *Prayers from the Psalms*:

This series draws on a rich resource for the Christian’s prayer life. We can’t directly read off the page, as many concern the Lord’s anointed and point us to the life of Jesus. But we also find that the situations we face find suitable prayers in this compendium of prayer.

Paul Kingman

Andy was well supported by members of Christ Church and Oulton when he was ordained as priest on the 23rd June. The Service was at the Minster Church of St Peter ad Vincula, Stoke-on-Trent (to give it its full title). We were told there has been a church on this site since the 7th century. We were also told that Stoke Minster had been chosen because the Civic Centre car park was close by and would be empty at 4 p.m. on a Saturday. However, there was a Hindu wedding celebration taking place and the car park was nearly full! Whilst apologising for this, the Archdeacon reminded the congregation that Stoke is a multi-faith city.

Andy was ordained with 3 other assistant curates from parishes in Stoke, Newcastle and Stretton (near Burton). The Service was introduced by the Bishop of Stafford who prayed for the ordinands. The Bible readings (Isaiah 61, 1-3, Titus 1 5-9 and John 20 19-23) were read by the ordinands.

The sermon was preached by the Venerable John Hall who was living and working in the city when he was first called to Ministry. He emphasized to the ordinands the importance of their own families; his sermon was interrupted by a phone call from his wife - which he answered! He concluded his sermon by mentioning the opportunities for mission that could arise from a funeral service.

After the candidates were ordained by the Bishop they were presented with a chalice. These were placed on the altar and would be used by the newly ordained priests in the Communion Service which followed. A collection was taken for the Bishops Ordination Fund which supports ordinands and their families during training.

After the Service, we went back to the Centre where Andy and his family and friends joined us for a buffet supper to celebrate the next stage of his Christian ministry.

Sheila

(This article should have gone into the August magazine, but was gobbled up by the spam filter. Apologies for this- from now on I will check the spam as well. DB)

Families @4

Owing to the success of Families @4 (we've had 100 different people pass through the doors since we started in January) we will be meeting twice monthly after September - on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. The format will remain the same - Cake, craft, songs and Bible stories, starting @4pm done by 5pm and we would love to have more people joining us, whether or not you're already involved in one of the benefice churches! The dates up to Christmas will be:

September 16th

October 7th

October 21st

November 4th

November 18th

December 2nd

December 16th

We look forward to seeing you! For more information contact Andy Cranston on 818983 or acranston.ccstone@gmail.com

One life. What's it all about?

***Christianity Explored* is an informal 7-week course for people who'd like to investigate Christianity, or just brush up on the basics. Looking at Mark's gospel, it explores who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him.** You won't be asked to pray, sing or read aloud, and you can ask any questions you like. Or, if you prefer, you can just come along and listen.

Christianity Explored is primarily for anyone who wants to investigate Christianity informally with a group of other people. Whether you have previous experience of Church, Christians and the Bible, or none at all, this course is for you. Everyone is welcome - from the most sympathetic Sunday schooler to the convinced atheist. The course will be run on Sunday evenings and a meal is provided at the start of the evening. After a brief group discussion on the course material from the week before and a new passage from the Bible, there is a talk or DVD on the theme for that week. Then the groups discuss any questions that have arisen, and the evening ends at about 8pm. Of course, many people stick around a bit longer possibly for a coffee to discuss any further issues they might have. The ***Christianity Explored*** course starts at 6 p.m. on **Sunday 7th October**. For more information visit the website: ***www.christianityexplored.org/course***

An amazing meeting at Keswick Convention

I had an unexpected meeting at the Keswick Convention this summer when an Explorer from a camp I had been on 24 years ago came over to introduce himself to me.

While I was in the coffee queue someone mentioned my name and a young man overheard the conversation and asked me: “Are you the John Butterworth who was a dormitory leader at the Felixstowe Pathfinder Camp in 1988 and 1989?”

I said I was and Simeon Locke told me he had been in my group for two years running when he was nine and ten years old.

Simeon is now married to Gemma and they have a young baby daughter Elodie.

They are about to go out with ReachAcross to help the church in Kayes in Mali, West Africa, or if the political situation in the country worsens they will stay first in Senegal.

I was touched he remembered me, delighted he introduced himself and that he was actively involved as a Christian.

It is the third year running I have been to the convention as a volunteer and this was the most memorable for the many fascinating people I met.

An added bonus was that I sold a large number of my Albanian book, *God's Secret Listener*, published by the Monarch division of Lion Publishing in Oxford.

It also made a difference that it hardly rained unlike the previous two years and that I was helped very ably on the European Christian Mission stand by the East of England volunteer Don Gyton and Philipp Ruesch who is with Trans World Radio in Vienna, Austria.

As well as European Christian Mission and Trans World Radio having links through Berti Dosti's story in the book the two agencies are now working to help promote each other.

What amazed me was the number of people who said they found the interview about how Captain Dosti became Pastor Dosti very moving at last year's convention.

I again stayed in Brun Lea Guest House in Stanger Street which I can thoroughly recommend. It is only yards from the town centre and about 100 yards from the Earthworks exhibition area where all the mission stands were situated.

There were more than 3,000 visitors during the first week of the convention which went very well.

(continued)

Unexpected Meeting *(cont)*

In particular, I thought the guest lecturer, Andrew Dilnot, spoke excellently about Biblical principles in the funding of the care of the elderly. The ensuing discussion was first class and very helpful.

Andrew certainly has an impressive CV. He is Principal of St Hugh's College, Oxford; a Pro Vice Chancellor of Oxford University; Chairman of the United Kingdom Statistics Authority; Director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies from 1991 to 2002 and Chairman of the Commission on the Funding of Care and Support, which reported to the Government recently.

It capped a memorable Keswick Convention for me and proves that you never know who you are going to bump into at these Christian conferences.

John Butterworth

TEARFUND

Tearfund is a Christian international aid and development agency, working in over 50 countries around the world (including UK). Its core belief is that aid must be given regardless of race, religion, nationality or gender. It should never be used to further a particular political or religious standpoint.

Tearfund is present in disaster situations and recovery via response teams. It speaks out on behalf of poor people nationally and internationally, by petitioning governments, campaigning for justice and highlighting key poverty issues wherever possible.

On development issues, Tearfund works through local churches and church based partner organisations. The 10 year vision is to see 50 million people released from spiritual and material poverty. They mobilise and equip local churches to work towards that vision.

At Christ Church, we donate to the general work of Tearfund at Harvest. We also donate via Tearfund in disaster situations such as the East Africa Appeal in July 2011. We can be sure our donations go to where there is greatest need as Tearfund usually have partners already working there. In situations of greatest need Disaster Management teams will be sent out; on some occasions to support partners who are unable to cope with the scale of the emergency, on other occasions where there is no local partner.

(continued on next page)

With the proceeds of ongoing East Africa Appeal, Tearfund has been able to help 80,000 people in Ethiopia, 67,000 in Kenya and 55,000 in Somalia. All the projects have improved water supplies. In Somalia this has involved ‘water pans’ – craters to catch and store rain water. Two old ones have been repaired using local labour. The pans can provide water for thousands of people and livestock for several months.

Water and sanitation is one of Tearfund’s key issues. Together with Cord they are running a toilet twinning project. More than 9,000 people or organisations have twinned their toilets with a latrine in Africa or Asia, (including the Parents and Toddlers group who have twinned one of the toilets in the Centre.) The next target is 10,000 - the number of toilets at the Olympic Games! You can find out more details at www.toilettwinning.org or pick up a leaflet in church.

In 2011 Tearfund introduced a new prayer initiative - One Voice ‘praying about global poverty together week by week’. (www.tearfund.org/praying) The leading prayer concern is on the Mission Notice Board each week and also in the Mission News and Prayer Diary section of the magazine each month.

Sheila

Hi

Hello

Are you there?

Yes I am

Will you raise me up?

Yes I will

Why?

Because I care for you

I cannot see you?

No, but God is there for you

How will you raise me up?

I am in front of you and at your left side and at your right side...

My Spirit is in all of those places

And behind you

Catrina

WRITTEN BY LENDEHL VICE PRESIENT OF JIGSAW PHILIPPINES.

August 9th 2012

Call for Prayer for those who continue to be devastatingly affected by the flooding in Metro Manila.

ONCE AGAIN MANILA IS IN CRISIS AND THE MOST VULNERABLE ARE THE CHILDREN AND THE POOREST OF THE POOR, THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF JIGSAW, INCLUDING JIGSAW WORKERS THEMSELVES.

We bid your prayers for the children, their families and Jigsaw staff in Metro Manila suffering from intensive flooding. The continued typhoons and downpours of rains beginning Monday has caused the overflowing of major dams and rivers in Metro Manila and nine surrounding provinces causing heavy flooding. The La Mesa dam, which supplies water to the National Capital Region of 12 million people, spilled excess water for a second time early Tuesday into the rivers flowing into Quezon City, Malabon, Valenzuela and Caloocan, where several villages were submerged, creating full emergency alert from the government.

We pray for Jigsaw workers specially those living in Area4 where one of the Jigsaw center is located. The community has been 60% submerged in water where the Jigsaw staff worked tirelessly in bringing the children and their families to a safer ground. Jigsaw staff and families stayed overnight of Tuesday in the Jigsaw main office. Alert level has gone down to Green/extreme signal on Wednesday morning which meant that the water is catastrophic but has slightly subsided and safer to go back home. All of them went back and started cleaning their houses and try to put the broken pieces of their lives back together where they could only to be frustrated when torrential rains started pouring again in the afternoon. At 3 PM today, water level at the Marikina River raised to the 20-meter mark, way above the critical level of 18 meters. *(continued)*

Jigsaw Flooding *(cont)*

This prompted local authorities to raise Alert Level 4/extreme emergency again. The staffs have to go back at the office as this is on higher ground and is concrete while the children and families went back to government evacuation sites.

PLEASE PRAY

1. Please pray for the rain to stop
2. Pray for those who lost their family members in the floods.
3. Pray for Jigsaw children and staff who have to be back in the evacuation sites.
4. Pray for the traumatised communities Jigsaw works in and especially for the children.
5. Pray for Strength and comfort for the people.
6. Pray for Jigsaw staff as they seek to be a strength even as they are too driven from their homes and communities.

Added note

Dear all Jigsaw Family I have been in much contact with Jigsaw as these devastating and traumatic floods rise. I never understand why it is the places with the most vulnerable, that suffer so much extra suffering like this. Please pray as Lendhel has requested above from the heart of the flooded areas. Please also give if you can, we know so much is asked for these days, but as Jigsaw seeks once again to help re-house and relocate children and families and provide trauma counselling and to continue our Kids Clubs and work in the heart of the suffering we need money for food clothes, rebuilding and so much more. Even the smallest amount helps. However, prayers are what are most needed in this overwhelming situation for so many who are suffering so much. Sorry to ask once again. Thank you for your love and prayers.

Tim Lee – Jigsaw.

Jigsaw Postal address

21 Tamar Close, St Ives.

Jigsaw Flooding *(cont)*

Greetings to everyone once again, thank you for your prayers and love. We have had requests from some people for links to more information on the flooding in Manila. This is once again a terrible time in Manila for so many, many people. Please find links below to help with prayers for this situation.

Just to note also that these last two emails are general emails sent to a large group of all those who pray and support Jigsaw. The previous email was a general appeal for prayers and gifts not to individuals. We appreciate so much how much you all give and this is not an appeal to those who already give so much and make it possible for Jigsaw to run day after day, week after week, But instead it is a general appeal for help once again in extraordinary situations. Thank you so much.

Tim – Jigsaw.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-19190685>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-19160604>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-19160563>

Bollywood Night

Indian Meal and entertainment
7:30pm Saturday 1st September

St Dominic's Social Club	£10 per person
In aid of the Guides trip to Mombasa	
Contact Shelagh or Emma	01785 760602

Bollywood dancers will provide entertainment.

Bring your own drinks

ROADS FOR PRAYER

2nd Sept

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court

9th Sept

Kent Grove
Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent

16th Sept

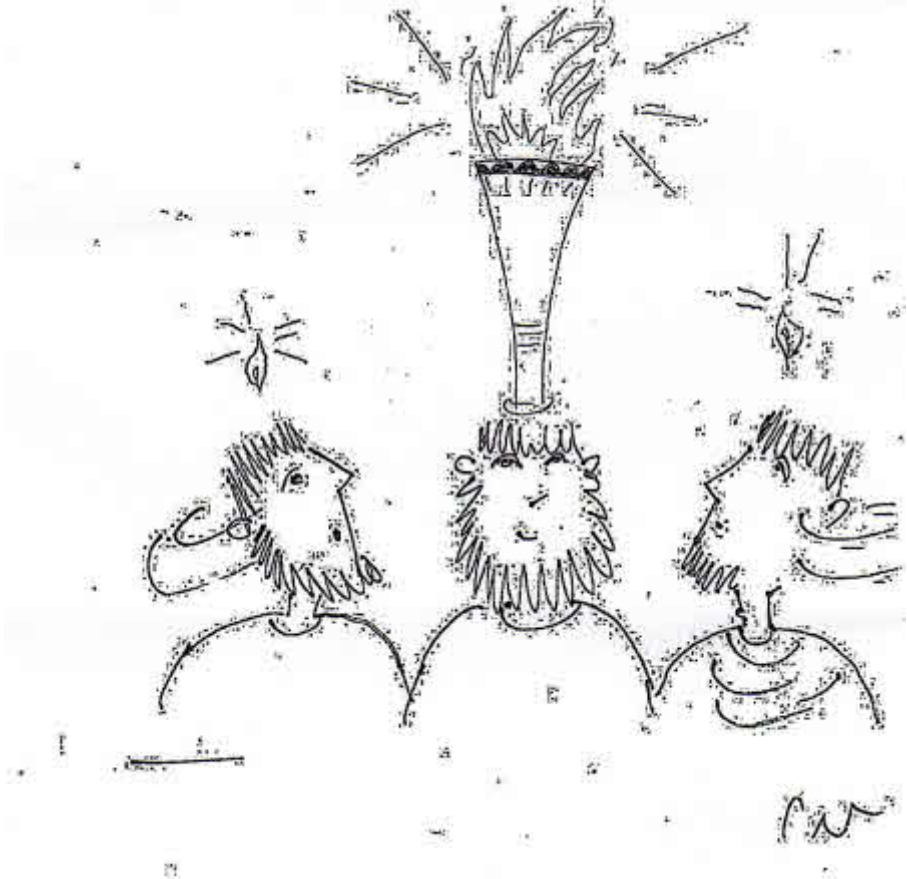
Mount Road
Mount Street
Old Road
Stonefield Court

23rd Sept

Stonefield Square
Victor Street
Victoria Street
Whitebridge Lane

30th Sept

Alma Street
Bromfield Court
Dominic Court
Granville Terrace
King's Avenue



“Flames”

Steve

From the Registers

BAPTISM

29th July Jamie Reece West

FUNERAL *(Stafford Crematorium)*

25th July Gwendalyn Askey Age 67

Sidespersons Rota

AM

2nd Sept V. Ledward D. Pickles
A. West K. Thompson

9th Sept D. Davies G. Donaldson
G. Holden J. Abrahams

16th Sept C. Wilding T. Woodward
D. Wilson K. Woodward

23rd Sept P. Roberts J. Rowlands
D. Pickles A. West

30th Sept P. Hipkiss K. Thompson
V. Ledward G. Donaldson

Flower Rota

2nd Sept	Mrs S. Hawley	9th Sept	Mrs E. Cook
16th Sept	Mrs S. Hallam	23rd Sept	Flower Guild
30th Sept	Harvest		

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 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
 Mrs S. Sanders

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 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 and website).