

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



October 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

Christ Church Academy, Old Road
Principal: Mr C. Wright 354047

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Christ Church



and People

Please get your contributions for the November magazine to us by 15th Oct

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Longton Road

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

October 2012

Mon	1	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8
Tue	2	10:00am 12:00pm 3:45pm 7:00pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Lighthouse years 2-4 Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	3		
Thu	4	1:45pm	Christ Church Academy Harvest service
Fri	5	9:45am	Christ Church First School Harvest service
Sat	6	8:30am All day	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast Women's Midlands Convention For information speak to Sue Kingman
Sun	7	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Communion; Numbers 12 "Moans about the mediator" Families at Four - service for the whole family Christianity Explored
Mon	8	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8
Tue	9	9:30am 10:00am 12:00pm 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	10	7:00pm	In the footsteps of Moses - David Nunn
Thu	11	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	12		
Sat	13		
Sun	14	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer Numbers 13:1-2, 16-33 "Fear versus faith" Christianity Explored

Mon	15	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8
Tue	16	9:30am 10:00am 12:00pm 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	17		
Thu	18	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	19		
Sat	20	All day	Diocesan Synod
Sun	21	9:15am 2:30pm 4:00pm 6:00pm	Communion Numbers 14:1-25 "The heart matters most" Autumn House Families at Four - service for the whole family Christianity Explored
Mon	22	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8
Tue	23	9:30am 10:00am 12:00pm 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	24	7:30pm	Standing Committee
Thu	25	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	26	7:00pm	Men's film night - contact Paul Kingman
Sat	27	5:00pm	Lymestone brewery visit - contact Dave Rowlands for details
Sun	28	9:15am 6:00pm	Family service Numbers 22 "Donkey knows best" Christianity Explored
Mon	29		
Tue	30	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30
Wed	31	5:00pm today	Light Party - ages 5-11 (years 1-6) Games, bouncy castle, tea, crafts, bible talk Selwyn lecture - Lichfield Cathedral

A taste experience that you can't beat!

October is a month in which food comes to the top of the list. In Stone the food and drink festival draws our attention to exotic foods and taste sensations. New things may not interest everyone, but clearly so many of us enjoy experimenting that shops and suppliers are never idle! Chefs continue to face the challenge of putting together new combinations to delight their customers whether around the home table or at a restaurant. Yet such great smelling foods and drinks often disappoint the tongue, promising the nose so much but delivering so little.

So, why is it that foods often have the most wonderful smell, but prove so disappointing to the taste? The *scientific reason* is that about 80% of what we think of as taste actually reaches us through taste receptors in the nose. How we taste something is determined by what we smell. What we smell can come either from what we inhale from the environment (we sniff a tasty dish of food) or from the aroma that occurs when we swallow (the aroma reaches the nasal passage).

There is a more profound reason which we are invited to discover more about. The Bible teaches us that all the things we enjoy in this life are but a hint of a far greater reality found in God. So, we read, "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that takes refuge in him" (Ps 34v8). Knowing God is possible through his Son Jesus Christ and this relationship is a good one – a pleasant and joyful experience. The Bible goes further in describing how we can spend money, time and effort on things that ultimately disappoint our deeper longings. True satisfaction comes from engaging with God: "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labour on what does not satisfy? Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live" (Isa 55v1-3).

Is this something that you know as true? If the answer is 'yes' then the Autumn term provides a new opportunity to develop this relationship. If the answer is 'no' then I would like to encourage you to taste and see that the Lord is good.

(continued on next page)



We are running 'Christianity Explored' course, which covers the basics and helps us to discover this amazing relationship with God. The food we serve will be basic, but a truly satisfying engagement with God is available. If you thirst to know more of God then either this course or our Sunday meetings to help us know and be known by the living God.

Paul Kingman.

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.**

European Christian Mission Evening

At Rising Brook Baptist church on Friday October 12th, at 2 pm, David James (ECM co-ordinator for Austria and Germany) will be speaking about their youth ministry.

Changing Seasons

As I sit looking out over the entrance to Navigation Loop, it's clear that autumn is on its way. Our resident House Martins are no longer distracting me with their effortless soaring, swooping and noisy chatter. They've headed south. The leaves on the trees opposite are turning yellow and beginning to drift to the ground in the gentle breeze. Coats have replaced T-shirts on those walking up the road and beyond the estate; golden fields of corn, wheat and barley have been returned to earthen brown. It's a wonderful demonstration of the faithfulness of God to his promise in Genesis 8:21-22

“Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

And yet while the changing seasons are a testimony to the goodness and faithfulness of God, this passage presents us with a rather unflattering verdict on ourselves – ***even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood.*** It's the sort of comment that causes us to bristle with indignation. After all, evil is what people who carry out atrocities do and think. To label someone who contributes to their community, minds their own affairs and generally lives as a good citizen, as evil is verging on slander is it not?!

Well in today's politically correct society – quite probably!

But before you start filing a lawsuit against your curate – notice that this is God's verdict and it's his verdict on us all; me included! God is a holy God. It's something that many in society and even the Church just don't understand. He is utterly other than us – bigger and more morally pure and perfect than we can comprehend. And when God sets the standard, whatever society may think, ultimately we all come up very short.

But as every new season testifies – God isn't done with us. Despite the state of our hearts towards God, his heart is full of mercy, grace and compassion towards us. Reflecting back on this passage Peter writes in 2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. *(continued)*

So as the House Martins wing their way south and the leaves continue to drift from the trees, the changing season is firstly a reminder of God's ongoing goodness, patience and faithfulness. But secondly it's a reminder to repent – to turn back to God and submit to him. And whatever season of life you find yourself in, today's a good day to do just that!

Andy

P.C.C. news

The P.C.C. met on 11th July 2012 and the following matters were reported:

- The proposed new heating system for the church did not get approval from the Diocesan Faculty and therefore it was decided to look into ways of improving the efficiency and output of the current system. It was also suggested that we look into ways of insulating the church.
- The current state of the funding for the Youth Ministry was discussed at length and it was agreed that the Youth Ministry was a vital facility providing an important link to the youth of the church and the community. The fund now needs to be fully self financing and therefore urgent action is needed to increase giving to secure the future of this most important provision.
- Rev Kingman invited PCC to read *'The Gospel Centred Church'* by Steve Timmis & Tim Chester and meet to discuss and pray on Sun 2nd 16th & 30th Sept at 6 p.m. (bring and share supper). This is to look at the whole life of the church together.
- A Christianity Explored course will start in Oct/Nov
- The Youth clubs are doing well resulting in some new youngsters attending church.
- It was reported that the planning for this year's Advent Windows is proceeding well with many retailers wishing to take part. It was suggested that the PCC should consider making this an annual event. It was agreed to discuss the matter at the next meeting.
- The distribution of the Jubilee bibles to the schools in the benefice was very well received.

The next P.C.C meeting is on Wednesday 21st November at 7.30pm.

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 - 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:

October 7 th	October 21 st	November 4 th
November 18 th	December 2 nd	December 16 th

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

In the Steps of Moses

DVD to be shown in church on October 10th at 7pm

Reviews

Wonderfully illustrated survey of the life of Moses.

--Rev. Rico Tice (Christianity Explored)

A very fine teaching tool and a great inspirer of faith!

--Rt. Rev. Michael Baughen

A real treat! David Nunn takes us through the life of Moses, not just with all the historical and geographical details, but also with the deeper, everlasting truth that is as relevant today as ever. David brings Moses to vibrant life on our screens! --Rev. Dr. Paul Blackham

Description

In the Steps of Moses is an exhilarating exploration of the life of Moses and the book of Exodus. Host David Nunn carefully traces the Biblical texts and takes us to the very places where the events happened. The Exodus stands as the iconic event of the Hebrew Scriptures, and In the Steps of Moses shows us what really happened and why this ancient story continues to change the world today.

In his pastoral letter for October 2012, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt Rev Jonathan Gledhill, looks at how we view the poor in comparison to Jesus' teaching

There are two men called Lazarus in the New Testament. We know very little about either but together they teach us important and controversial things for understanding and living the Gospel. The first Lazarus appears in John 11:1-44 as the brother of Mary and Martha who lived in Bethany. The second Lazarus is the poor man of Jesus' parable in Luke 16:19-31 who lies at the rich man's gate.

The raising of Lazarus of Bethany, in the greatest sign in John's Gospel before the resurrection of Jesus himself, teaches us how the love of Jesus for his friends has power even greater than the power of death. The parable of Dives, the rich man, and Lazarus, the poor man, shows us that when inequality reaches a certain point it becomes an abhorrence to God and to his sense of fair play. Jesus does not seem to mean that wealth is a vice—Abraham, who appears in heaven in the parable, was rich. But Jesus is contradicting his contemporaries by asserting that the poor and destitute who trust in him will be with him in heaven, while those who separate themselves from the poor are in danger of separating themselves from heaven when the resurrection comes.

Since the beginning of the recession we are becoming increasingly clear that “we are all in this together” is the right challenge but that the gap between rich and poor is in fact growing at an alarming rate. Some argue that if we do not increase the pay to the rich they will take their gifts to the USA. There is a contradiction here, because these are the very same people who are desperate to convince us that they knew nothing of what was going on in their companies in the run up to the great crash. Will US firms really want to hire bosses who did not know what was going on under their noses?

No one has successfully demolished *The Spirit Level* by Wilkinson and Pickett who maintain compellingly that “Equality is Better for Everyone.” The hugely popular *Justice* by Michael J Sandel argues for “Morals in the Marketplace” and for God's justice as the guarantor of true freedom. Christian Aid has been touring the country with its “Tax Bus” campaign, pointing out that the Government reckons the cost to the exchequer of unfair tax dodging is likely to be over more than £35 billion

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Bishop's Letter *(cont)*

It is well worth while looking up www.christianaid.org/taxjustice to see how most of the coming cuts which the Chancellor of the Exchequer is to impose upon us would be unnecessary if we could catch up with the major tax avoiders. I remember going to a breakfast meeting with business people in the Channel Islands at which a man in the finance industry said it was on his conscience that most of the money he had to look after really belonged to governments of poor nations and should be being used for schools and hospitals rather than tax avoidance.

Jesus' love for his friend Lazarus reminds us that when we say goodbye to family and friends at a funeral we are commending them to one who has defeated the power of death. Jesus' parable about another Lazarus shows us that in our treatment of fellow citizens, including the poor, we are to anticipate the justice of heaven. This is Good News for us all and especially for the poor.

The Romania Trip

To me the Romania trip was an eye-opening experience. I saw how even the littlest things can have a huge impact on someone, such as giving up time to run a kids' club, or help renovate a church door and wall, or giving a family a food package. We did all of these things and we saw how the people were affected by it and we saw how grateful they were with the little we did because it gave them so much.

Running the kids' club was fun for us and them. Over the summer, most children from the larger towns are sent to live with their grandparents for the holidays, so they would have either been working or doing nothing for most of their time there, so we gave them something to do for a week where they could enjoy themselves and learn some Bible stories. At the kids club we played games, did crafts, sang some songs and taught them some Bible stories. We sang the songs in English and it was really touching because they sang in English too, they wouldn't have understood all of the words, but they put the effort in anyway.

We also helped with our host's church, repainting the door and removing the old layer of concrete off the wall. It was very hard and tiring work, but the end result made it all worthwhile.

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The other thing we did to help the people there, was delivering food to poor families who needed the food. When we visited these families, we saw the despair and hopelessness in their eyes because they had so little and they knew it. But the change in their faces when we showed up with all of this food was amazing, their faces lit up and changed so much when we gave them the food. Some of the conditions they were in were awful, most of the houses were pretty run down and one house was just a room, which was the kitchen, living room and bedroom. It made me realise just how lucky we are to have so much. But despite the amount we have, we give away so little compared to those who have a lot less, because one family, when we arrived, we so happy and grateful with what we did, that they gave us their dinner. This was really touching and showed me how grateful these people were with what we did.

The final thing we did on the trip was the ‘Bush Camp’, which was a poverty simulation at the Exodus centre. We spent two nights in a shelter which we had put up ourselves and it was made of two tarpaulins and wooden planks and pallets. It was an interesting experience because we did a variety of activities, which simulated various aspects of poverty, such as disabilities in poverty, working life in the slums and all of our meals were made on less than \$1 a day. It made me realise how hard it is for people who live in poverty and how simple it can be to help them.

Overall I thoroughly enjoyed my trip to Romania as it was an experience that was worth doing as it helped me see how much we take for granted and how little we actually need.

Philip Stone

Walking Quiz. Sunday 26th August

30 keen quizzers arrived and, in 8 teams, participated in the

“2nd Christ Church Walking Quiz”.

All had a great time (well, that’s what they said!) and arrived back at the Centre within 90 minutes for marking, tea and cakes. Only one team – “Kelly’s Heroes” – the extended Kelly family with Pete and Liz correctly answered all 26 word and 11 picture clues. The adjudicators were tempted to deduct points for too many (9) in the team but relented! If you missed the Quiz but would like to have a go on your own, as a sampler, then ask Phil Tunstall for the paperwork. You WILL enjoy it!

Dave Rowlands

The steam and sausages were great but the sun didn't arrive. However, neither did the rain until we'd just about finished the steam and were well into the sausages! A good number of folk turned up – well over 30, I would guess – and everyone had a smashing time. Thanks Liz and Pete for your hospitality once again.

Dave Rowlands

Joni Eareckson Tada- 'On the Cross'

(found in the internet by Kieran)

“On your back with you!” One raises a mallet to sink in the spike. But the soldier's heart must continue pumping as he readies the prisoner's wrist. Someone must sustain the soldier's life minute by minute, for no man has this power on his own. Who supplies breath to his lungs? Who gives energy to his cells? Who holds his molecules together? Only the Son do “all things hold together” (Colossians 1:17). The victim wills that the soldier lives on—he grants the warriors continued existence. The man swings.

As the man swings, the Son recalls how he and the Father first designed the medial nerve of the human forearm—the sensations it would be capable of. The design proves flawless—the nerve performs exquisitely. “Up you go!” They lifted the cross. God is on display in his underwear and can scarcely breathe.

But these pains are a mere warm-up to his other and growing dread. He begins to feel a foreign sensation. Somewhere during this day an unearthly foul odour began to waft, not around his nose, but his heart. He feels dirty. Human wickedness starts to crawl upon his spotless being—the living excrement from our souls. The apple of his Father's eye turns brown with rot.

His Father! He must face his Father like this!

From heaven the Father now rouses himself like a lion disturbed, shakes his mane, and roars against the shrivelling remnant of a man hanging on a cross. Never has the Son seen the Father look at him so, never felt even the least of his hot breath. But the roar shakes the unseen world and darkens the visible sky. The Son does not recognize these eyes.

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“Son of Man! Why have you behaved so? You have cheated, lusted, stolen, gossiped—murdered, envied, hated, lied. You have cursed, robbed, overspent, overeaten—fornicated, disobeyed, embezzled, and blasphemed. Oh, the duties you have shirked, the children you have abandoned! Who has ever so ignored the poor, so played the coward, so belittled my name? Have you ever held your razor tongue? What a self-righteous, pitiful drunk—you, who molested young boys, peddle killer drugs, travel in cliques, and mock your parents. Who gave you the boldness to rig elections, foment revolutions, torture animals, and worship demons?

Does the list never end! Splitting families, raping virgins, acting smugly, playing the pimp—buying politicians, practicing extortion, filming pornography, accepting bribes. You have burned down buildings, perfected terrorist tactics, founded false religions, traded in slaves—relishing each morsel and bragging about it all. I hate, loathe these things in you! Disgust for everything about you consumes me! Can you not feel my wrath?”

Of course the Son is innocent. He is blamelessness itself. The Father knows this. But the divine pair have an agreement, and the unthinkable must now take place. Jesus will be treated as if personally responsible for every sin ever committed.

The Father watches as his hearts treasure, the mirror-image of himself, sinks drowning into raw, liquid sin. Jehovah’s stored rage against humankind from every century explodes in a single direction.

“Father! Father! Why have you forsaken me?!”

But heaven stops its ears. The Son stares up at the One who cannot, who will not, reach down or reply.

The Trinity had planned it. The Son endured it. The Spirit enabled him. The Father rejected the Son whom he loved. Jesus, the God-man from Nazareth, perished. The Father accepted his sacrifice for sin and was satisfied. The Rescue was accomplished.

This article first appeared on Jean Williams' blog in all honesty (<http://jeaninallhonesty.blogspot.com/>) and is reprinted with permission.

Are ALL our sins are forgiven?

I do not like clichés and for the life of me I don't know how many more Olympiquesque analogies I can stomach!

However over the last few weeks the media has been full of celebrities and newscasters discussing ways of keeping the flame alive (the spirit of the Olympic Games) now that I can take on board.

Keeping the Flame Alive is very important- indeed one may argue that it is our duty to do so. By using the term 'The Flame' I am of course alluding to the Holy Spirit- the allusion being the appearance of 'tongues of fire' at Pentecost (Acts 2:3) The Spirit seems to reveal itself as an holistic, disembodied entity that bears a lesser weighting than the other aspects of the trinity.

So one must begin to enquire- truly how important is the Holy Spirit? The Spirit is at the beginning of creation (Gen 1:2 the spirit of the LORD) and at the end. (Rev 2:7 'Let him hear what the Spirit says') It is also important to remember that without a beginning there is no end, which in turn heightens the holy Spirit's importance; it is the driving force of creation.

Out of the trinity (God –Spirit-Jesus) he seems to be the *most* important. In both Mathew's Gospel (12:31) and Marks (3:29) we are told by Jesus (who was filled with the spirit) that if we speak or blaspheme against the Spirit then we are eternally damned, cast out of heaven either in this age or the next (after the Cross) Yet we are forgiven for blaspheming against God or Jesus who, let's face it **JC** is used commonly followed usually by a few mixed and colourful expletives.

So it seems not ALL sins are covered by the Cross.

Thirdly is the spirit a disembodied entity or does it have form and substance. There are times when the spirit is possibly manifest; in Genesis the Spirit of God hovers over the waters, in Exodus (3:2) Moses is confronted with the burning bush and again during the flight out of Egypt (13:21) its seen as a pillar of fire. And my favourite (or I like to think so) Daniel (3:25) the fourth man in the furnace who looked like the son of the Gods (a fiery form perhaps) and lastly at Pentecost the tongue of fire that split apart and rested on the Disciples. Of course this is all conjecture but its food for thought.

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ROADS FOR PRAYER

7th October

Longton Road
Northesk Street
Lotus Court
Margaret Street
Meaford Avenue

14th October

Newcastle Street
Radford Close
Newcastle Road
Radford Street
Station Road

21st October

The Avenue
Trent Road
Tunley Street
Trinity Drive

28th October

Airdale Grove
Airdale Road
Airdale Spinney
Cross Street



Are ALL our sins are forgiven? *(cont)*

The Spirit (sent by Jesus) empowers us (1 Cor 12:1) and transforms us so when all the parts of the body are working for the glory of the LORD the church begins to do what it says on the tin: to find ways to reach out to our community. Christianity is the Good News its life transforming. We need to be servant-hearted and a beacon of hope in the centre of Stone.

So what would Jesus be doing if he was at Christ Church and would we recognise him? For the latter I reckon he would be washing our feet or making the coffee.

Steve G-M

Church Family News

Congratulations to the Hallows family on the birth of James Peter - Shirley has been seen with a beaming smile cradling her new grandson. Also congratulations to Adam and Helen Clare, Shiloh was born at the end of July.

Best wishes to our young people returning to university and those going for the first time. Also well done to Philip Stone, Pippa Hipkiss and Emma Sanders on their excellent examination results.

Those of you who remember Dave and Chris Holton (Pathfinder leaders here and mission links while in Uganda) will be delighted to hear that their elder daughter Keziah celebrated her marriage to Mark Vasquez at the end of August.

If you have some joyful news to share, please let us know! *Enid*

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM

12th August Kaiden Jai Harvey-Hodges

FUNERAL

16th August Elaine Hargreaves Age 51

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

7th Oct	G. Holden	J. Abrahams
	D. Davies	D. Wilson
14th Oct	C. Wilding	T. Woodward
	J. Rowlands	K. Woodward
21st Oct	P. Roberts	A. West
	V. Ledward	K. Thompson
28th Oct	P. Hipkiss	G. Donaldson
	G. Holden	J. Abrahams

FLOWER ROTA

7th Oct	Mrs A. West	14th Oct	Mrs E. Leese
21st Oct	Mrs D. Wilson	28th Oct	Mrs D. Pickles

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 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).