

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



July

2014

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 page 17 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 office@christchurchstone.org	811990
Deaconess (Retired)	Ann Butler	818160
Readers	Dave Bell David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 816713 813712 817987
Music Co-ordinators	Pete Mason Sue Kingman	815854
Wardens	Andy Stone David Beauchamp	286526
Deputy Wardens	Phil Tunstall,	817028

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: Mr N. Chesters	354125
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Christ Church Academy, Old Road

Principal: Mr C. Wright MAEd	354047
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Christ Church



and People

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Please get your contributions for the August magazine to us by the 15th July

Cover Picture:-

Alexandra Street

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

July 2014

Tue	1	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	2	6:00pm	KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	3	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	4		
Sat	5	8:30am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast
Sun	6	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Communion 1 Corinthians 5 "A changed people" Families at Four Gospel Centred Life (2) <i>Pretending and performing</i>
Mon	7	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	8	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 1:10pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30 Seekers Club Alleyne's assembly Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	9	1:10pm 6:00pm 7:30pm	Alleyne's assembly KingZone yrs 2-4 PCC meeting
Thu	10	1:10pm 1:20pm	Alleyne's assembly Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	11		
Sat	12		
Sun	13	9:15am 2:30pm 6:00pm	Morning Prayer 1 Corinthians 6 "A saintly people" Autumn House service Gospel Centred Life (3) <i>Believing the Gospel</i>
Mon	14	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8

Fairtrade goods will be on sale after the service on July 27th

Tue	15	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	16	6:00pm	KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	17	9:30am 10:45am	Christ Church First School Leavers' assembly (school) Christ Church Academy Leavers' service (church)
Fri	18		
Sat	19		
Sun	20	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Communion Luke 5:17-39 "Controversy in Galilee" Families at Four Gospel Centred Life (4) <i>Law and Gospel</i>
Mon	21		
Tue	22	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30
Wed	23		
Thu	24		
Fri	25		
Sat	26		
Sun	27	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer Luke 6:1-16 "He's the Lord of all" Gospel Centred Life (5) <i>Repentance</i>
Mon	28		
Tue	29	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30
Wed	30		
Thu	31		

The Cup for the World

World Cup football news spreads rapidly! Each match is talked about at great length before, during and after it is played. By the time you read this we will be nearing the final on 13th July. Who will have qualified to hold the cup of victory?

‘FIFA’, the organization that directs the event, has its own motto: *‘For the Game. For the World.’* The vision of nations from around the world coming together to play sport certainly helps to foster good relationships, even if there have been controversies along the way! Originally there was a trophy called *‘Victory’* which was renamed the Jules Rimet trophy (1930-70). It depicted ‘Nike’ the ancient Greek goddess of victory. The present day *‘FIFA World Cup Trophy’* was introduced in 1974. It is made of 18 carat gold with a malachite base; it stands 36.8 centimeters high and weighs 6.1 kilograms (approximately equivalent to three bags of sugar). It depicts two human figures holding up the Earth. The cup is a trophy that the nations long to hold high, making the victors feel like they are king of the (footballing) world.

In the Bible the word ‘cup’ is used with great significance. It is used to convey both a negative and a positive meaning: for it speaks of the cup of mourning over judgment and also the cup of joyful celebration. The judgment idea is found in one of the major Old Testament prophets which speaks about the ending of: *‘See I have taken out of your hand the cup that made you stagger; from that cup, the goblet of my wrath, you will never drink again. I will put it into the hands of your tormentors...’* (Isaiah 51v22-23). The Psalmist speaks about the cup of joyful victory: *‘you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows’* (Psalm 23v5). When we turn to the New Testament we discover that the cup of victory comes at a very high cost. Jesus spoke about his death at the last supper he ate with his friends: *‘this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you’* (Luke 22v20). One worthy individual alone could handle this cup. The real ‘world cup’ is the cup of salvation. Jesus alone drank this for us. His deliverance is from a world order that stands opposed to God and faces judgment. We share in his victory over the world. He is the one to be celebrated as the champion over all. *Paul Kingman*



As a youngster the month of July meant one thing – summer holidays! Most of the holidays would be spent playing football or cricket in the garden, but for a couple of weeks we'd pack our bags, load up our Land Rover (often doubling its height with the luggage we strapped to the roof) and head off to Switzerland to see my Uncle and Aunt. A whole assortment of books and games would be collected to keep us entertained in that age before computers and in-car DVD players and invariably there would be French and German phrase books to aid our communication with the natives!

I'm ashamed to say that my linguistic skills were much better then than they are now, but even then there were times when the phrase book was a life saver! Money was saved, food was identified, directions became clear and conversations continued. And for the Christian, the Holy Spirit is like a foreign language phrase book.

In his letter to the Church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul says: *“The person without the Holy Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Holy Spirit.”* 1 Corinthians 2v14

Without the help of the Holy Spirit, the things of God and the importance of Jesus death are nonsense to us, gobbledegook and incomprehensible. We might have a Bible or listen to the occasional (or even regular sermon), but unless the Holy Spirit helps us understand what we're reading or hearing, it might as well be in French or German or Swahili! Has that ever been your experience? If it is, or ever has been, my simple advice this summer is to invest in a proper phrase book. But unlike the ones that are found in bookstores, travel agents or on iTunes, God gives the Holy Spirit free to all who earnestly ask. Jesus said *“If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”* Luke 11:13

So go on – ask him! And discover for yourself how God's translator isn't only a life saver – but also a life giver!

Happy Holidays!

Andy Cranston

Regeneration

Recently a group of leaders from different faiths met together at the invitation of Stoke City Council to ask for God's Blessing upon the new Smithfield Business District of the City. The latest stage in the regeneration of this vibrant centre of the Potteries, Smithfield will eventually house some of the Civic Centre Offices as well as attracting new businesses who want to invest in Stoke.

This gathering was significant for two reasons:

Firstly, another affirmation by a City Council of the importance of faith communities and that we are still primarily a nation that believes in God. We may, in a multi-cultural society, have different ways of expressing that belief but our common recognition that there is a power much greater than ourselves binds us together more than our differences separate us. Politicians of all parties recognise that without the commitment and dedication of volunteers from the faith communities, much of what makes our society caring and compassionate would be eroded. Society as we have come to know it would not survive without people of faith.

Secondly, investment in a new business sector is a reflection of the improving financial situation in this country. Recent polls have indicated that there is once again a 'feel good factor' as we have a sense of emerging from a period of austerity. This is not to deny that there are many who are still suffering financial hardship because of an inability to find employment or because of low wages or inadequate benefits. But generally, the economy is showing positive signs of recovery.

This is a good time for people to invest in the West Midlands and we each of us have a role in bringing people here. It is really difficult to attract people to move up from the South and down from the North! Many genuinely have no idea of all that the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Lichfield has to offer – everything from exciting cities and smaller towns of great character to some of the most beautiful countryside in the whole country. With good public transport links (even without HS2!), motorways and four major airports close at hand, the only thing we lack is a coastline! Yet people still tend to think of 'dark satanic mills' or of the Midlands as being somewhere you pass through on the way to somewhere else! Consequently it is hard to attract business investment and new people to teach in our schools, work in our hospitals or minister in our churches.

(continued)

We can produce endless leaflets and literature and even DVDs extolling the merits of living and working here but YOU are the most attractive thing about the Diocese of Lichfield! If you take every opportunity you can to praise this area and invite family and friends to visit you from other parts of the country, then word will spread. Others will come to understand what we already know – that God has blessed this part of Creation in so many ways. We need to attract new people to come and settle here if we are to have new job opportunities and increasing prosperity for all and like the Gospel itself, the good news about the West Midlands and especially our Diocese is most effective when spread by word of mouth and personal invitation.

In the words of St Peter: “Master, it is good for us to be here” – so let’s tell others!

Geoff Annas, Bishop of Stafford

The Gospel centred life

How is the gospel of Jesus to transform our lives so that we continually bear fruit? A short course of study for Sunday evenings called ‘The Gospel Centred Life’ guides us through some key lessons. These nine studies explore how following Jesus affects the whole of life, irrespective of how long we have been a follower. We are due to start on Sunday 29th June. The course should carry a warning: this will affect how you see life as a follower of Christ. The course book costs about £6.

“This course is a fantastic overview of what the gospel is, what it does in us, and how it works through us. Time in the Bible is followed by reading an article, with plenty of room for discussion” (from a review).

Paul Kingman

⁸ Roger Vaughan – “High Octane Charismatic” or...?

Opening a new series of sermons a few weeks ago on I Corinthians, Paul, our vicar, gave a very competent résumé of the problems which are addressed in this letter.

He referred to members of the Corinthian Church who were boasting about their Spiritual gifts but not showing love as “High Octane Charismatics”. (1 Cor. chapters 12-14)

Now this set me thinking.

You see, in the seventies I was deeply helped by the insights of the so called Charismatic Movement. I had been ordained about ten years, and vicar of Tunstall for three. Like many other keen and fairly new parish priests, I overworked and over worried. My first curate had moved on and I was struggling on my own. To cut a long story short I ended up out of action for three months with a possible heart attack.

Parish responsibility had become a “lead weight” on my shoulders.

During the recovery period I read Colin Urquhart’s book “When the Spirit Comes”. I had been at college with Colin and like to think I helped him with this Greek! So how was it, I wondered, that he was writing a book about his church in Luton, and I was in a such a mess in my Potteries parish?

I read other books and talked with other Christians who were claiming similar experiences to Colin, notably the late Revd David Watson.

I realised that whilst I was trying to do things *for* Jesus, these Christians were allowing Jesus to do things *through* them!

I needed a new approach and my desperate situation set up a spiritual thirst for change. (See St John 7:37-39). I began to ask that my life would be transformed through the power of the Holy Spirit. As Jesus promises in Luke 11:9-13 this gradually happened. What is more it began to spread though many members of the congregation at Tunstall.

I learnt that I did not have to struggle or justify myself by the amount of work and worry I carried. The “leaden” burden of trying to run a parish was not mine to carry. Jesus has already carried the greatest burden for us all.

(continued on page 9)

My weakness and sense of failure broke down my proud resistance, and I had to become humble enough to ask for God’s help through the Power of His Holy Spirit.

This new attitude began to spread through the congregation. We realized that any gifting had to be accepted as a token of His love, supplying our need. Some people displayed gifts of healing, others from time to time seemed to speak God’s words to us prophetically and so on. Such gifts, when they were manifested, had to be used to bring God’s love to others.

It’s all there in I Corinthians, I had read it many times but never realized that it applies to every follower of Christ.

The burden of Christian ministry fell away, to be replaced by the excitement and wonder in a congregation that could say with St Paul “I have been crucified with Christ It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me” (Gal2:20)

I am still on that exciting journey of discovery. Of course time and time again I fail, and fall back to old patterns of behavior. I don’t think of myself as a “High Octane Charismatic”....but rather as one whose “chains have fallen off” ...or to use the petrol analogy an **Unleaded Christian**.

Roger

What we talk about when we talk about evangelism

The story goes that when the British explorer Joseph Banks landed in North Queensland in 1770, he saw a kangaroo for the first time. Puzzled to know what this animal was, he pointed to the animal and asked a local man. "I don't understand you," replied the man, which in his Aboriginal mother tongue of Guugu Yimithirr is just one word: "Kangaroo."

For years it was popularly believed that to call these animals 'kangaroos' was based on a profound and embarrassing misunderstanding.

Evangelism is such a word. For Christians, it's the name for an activity that some love and others hate – it's a passion for some and an embarrassment for others. For non-Christians, it's a word that can send them running to the hills, feeling they are in danger of having something 'done' to them. (I wonder which of these descriptions fits you – and what you've experienced in the name of evangelism to make you feel this way?)

(continued on page 10)

The P.C.C. met on 7th May 2014 and the following matters were reported:

- The replacement of the heating in the church has been finalised and we are now just awaiting confirmation of the date the work will commence. There will be some disruption and the church may be unavailable for up to two weeks. This will probably result in one Sunday service being held in the centre.
- We have raised enough money to send 170 bibles to Pastor Joshua at the Zion Christian Centre, Bamburi, Kenya in addition to four Kiswahili Bible Commentaries which have already been sent.
- Mr A Stone agreed to be the Responsible Person for Child Protection at Christ Church with Mr D Beauchamp as his deputy.
- The Easter Holiday Club (Space Academy), based on the book of Daniel, was a great success. Thanks were expressed to everyone who helped

The next P.C.C meeting is on Monday 9th July 2014.

What we talk about when we talk about evangelism *(cont)*

Given all this controversy around the word, it was no surprise that when, on taking office last year, I declared evangelism as one of the three priorities for my ministry. Some people thought I was profoundly misguided, while others jumped for joy.

However, it's my belief that if only we truly 'got' evangelism, we, the Church would live to show what it meant. And to 'get' it means to receive it, and to give it. Continually. And if we lived what we spoke of, and spoke of what we lived, no-one would have to point at the Church and wonder what it was for.

This Pentecost the Archbishop of York and myself are calling everyone who counts themselves as a follower of Jesus, to join us in asking the Holy Spirit to work across the country in our parishes and communities, our friends and our neighbours, and in his Church that the Good News of Jesus Christ can be proclaimed, heard, lived and trusted. We are doing this for three reasons. *(continued on page 14)*

¹¹ **Armchair Birdwatching from RSPB Minsmere**

One Sunday at the beginning of June I arrived at Moddershall Church for their morning service and was serenaded by a number of birds singing in the trees. It reminded me that I had heard a cuckoo earlier in the week - a rare sound I'm told as the cuckoo has been in decline and is only on our shores for around six weeks before flying off again back to Africa.

I had been watching some of the "Springwatch" programmes as they highlighted birds as they began to hatch their eggs. I then found myself on the BBC Red Button, the 24 hour rolling live programme "Springwatch Extra" to see how the birds were getting on and was hooked.

The Bittern and her chicks quickly became the stars of the show. Because of heavy rain their nest was in danger of being flooded. I was eager to find out more, so early the next day I tuned in. Thankfully the nest was safe and the chick's mother was on hand to give them breakfast.

The Blue Tits were next to grab my attention as they were expected to fledge any day. But they kept everyone waiting until at last they all left the nest with the ninth and last chick needing encouragement from mum as she gave him a tasty caterpillar.

The caption at the bottom of the screen gave them a good send off with some words from the "Sound of Music" - "so long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen goodbye...goodbye....goodbye". A Tawny Owl chick peeping out from the nest with the caption "I spy with my little eye" all added to the charm of my viewing.

Would the Reed Warbler chicks all hatch before the cuckoo finds the eggs? Will the Avocet chicks come under attack from the noisy black-headed gulls? Life is precarious for the newborn!

Jesus said in Matthew 6:26 *"Look at the birds, they do not sow or reap or store, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not more valuable than they?"*

So Jesus invites us to look at nature and to see God's faithfulness displayed there just as it is for us. By seeking first God's kingdom and righteousness, what we really need will become clear.

Ann Butler

Ride and Stride

Saturday 13th September 2014

It's that time again. For years Sandra and Chris Morray have ridden round the churches of Staffordshire. While I hope they will continue to do so for many more years, there must be some others who have bikes!

How about cycling or walking round our area visiting churches? Collect sponsorship for the number of churches you visit. There are churches involved all over the county. The sponsor money is equally divided between the Historic Churches Trust and our own church.

Will you walk or cycle or stay at Christ Church on the morning to welcome visitors to our church?

Nearer the time Sponsor forms will be available from Dorothy Wilson who also knows a walking route round Stafford taking in ten churches.

Saturday 13th September will soon come round - so make a note of the date now and put it on your calendar!

Dorothy

Ponder while you Wander

Arriving in Settle one afternoon, we had a walk around the town. Away from the main street we found an old red telephone box; the sign at the top read

GOD  YOU

Intrigued, we opened the box and found it was a mini information centre for local churches. It was the end of the day and there were few leaflets left but we picked up one titled "Ponder while you Wander". This turned out to be a very pleasant guided walk around the local places of worship and other attractions. After each stop was a short prayer or point for contemplation. An excellent idea produced by Churches Together in Settle and District. How wonderful to use local landmarks to remind us to pray for those who work and worship there and to thank God for what he has done for us.

Enid

see www.ctisad.org.uk

From the Beesigomwes in Botswana

Greetings dear partners. We are sure its much warmer there in Stone and that you are able to have longer time of daylight. We are well but feeling much colder than we used to when we were younger. Winter used to seem much better than the over 40 degrees C Botswana summer.

Ministry is getting a little more challenging with changes of strategy. We desire to make all we do OUTCOME-BASED. We are not sure whether we are responsible for outcomes of what we do or its still God. "Onehope" graciously still provides us with high quality literature for free.

For this change to take place our store is still full of materials we have been distributing in schools and churches hoping someone will open them with the children. Our target this year is to train and distribute over 160,000 Christian books addressing felt needs of children and youth, Sunday school curriculum for 5 - 12 year old children, Our target group is 5 - 19 years giving a total of 700,000 children and youth in the next five years. We also have books on family helping parents to sow seeds in their children in the morning, noon and evening.

The new strategy does not allow us to move as quickly as we have done over the year. We have therefore taken this week to pray and seek God's face on his ways, timing and purposes for our ministry remaining time in Botswana. This can be anything. Please join us to pray that He will show us what wants accomplished by the aging missionaries and partners.

On the family front, all is well. Hannah has a job interview in Uganda tomorrow. Pray she faces the panel boldly and gets the job. Elijah and Prisca are doing ok with their baby. Prisca decided to be a stay home Mom. Joel has one more semester to finish his research paper and Martha has started second year.

Robinah's health has not been very good and the medical costs here need someone to have medical insurance. But God is in control with our Jesus Insurance as one doctor calls. I am much better with a few age pains here and there but the Lord keeps renewing our youth like Eagles.

Our eyes are on Uganda. Jonathan's Presidency of the Association of Ugandans in Botswana, helps us to think about home more. He has to meet every Uganda government official that visits Botswana but also helps to keep the Ugandan community together in good and bad times.

(continued)

We are now seriously thinking of building a home in Uganda and may be planting a few food and fruit trees in the hope that God will release us soon.

Pray for better transport too. Faith car is getting worse and soon we shall be spending more time under it repairing it than inside it.

Timothy is a big boy with an adopted daughter that he loves so much. She came to Botswana with her grandmother who found the mother had put her in an orphanage. We know God is preparing Timothy for ministry since his passion is children. Jonathan Jr is working hard in grade six. He is preparing to do Primary living examinations just in case we leave before end of 2015.

Our church here in Gaborone went through a bad crisis that led to the pastor to resign. This has changed many things but it is beginning to pull out of the problems. Pray that it settles down quickly.

Looking back, we do not know where we would be without your support. We keep praying the Lord keeps you and rewards you for all your labour in the African Mission field.

Thank you again *Jonathan and Robinah Beesigomwe*

What we talk about when we talk about evangelism *(cont)*

First, because 'evangel' means literally the proclamation of 'good news'. In the New Testament book of 2 Corinthians, St Paul says "we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again". In Jesus, God has chosen to effect life for us, to make all the difference for us, to free us by bringing us grace, mercy and hope. This is the most wonderful news any of us could ever receive. Following Jesus is the best decision any person can ever make. We are convinced of this.

Second, because we cannot persuade people of this fact, or help them see it on our own – only God can do this. The Holy Spirit is the only one who can work to open someone's eyes to glimpse the beauty of Jesus, or unstop someone's ears to hear his voice inviting them to receive the words of life, or free people's feet from the things that keep them from following. We must pray for the work of the Holy Spirit on and in each person, in every community in this country. *(continued on page 15)*

Third, because as a Church we know we cannot do this on our own. The task before us cannot be overestimated. We could easily be disheartened. But God never leaves us on our own, he never throws us back on ourselves. He sends his Spirit to commission us, send us, empower us and help us present Jesus Christ – his life, his death, his resurrection – to each and every person.

This is what we talk about when we talk about evangelism. Or more accurately, who we talk about when we talk about evangelism. Because it is all about issuing the invitation of Jesus Christ to follow him. And that is an invitation which is issued to all.

Have you received it yet? Have you accepted it yet? Are you willing to be used to set this invitation before others?

Archbishop Justin Welby

Things God won't ask

God won't ask what kind of car you drive; He'll ask you how many people you drove to church.

God won't ask you how big your house is; He'll ask how many people you welcomed into it.

God won't ask about the clothes in your wardrobe; He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.

God won't ask which neighbourhood you lived in; He'll ask how you treated your neighbours.

God won't ask how many friends you had; He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

God won't ask what your highest salary was; He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.

God won't ask why it took you so long to seek Salvation; He'll lovingly take you to your mansion in heaven and not to the gates of hell.

(from Gladys' collection of favourite church magazine bits)

REGISTERS AND ROTAS

SIDESPERSIONS ROTÆ

AM

6th July	J. Abrahams	D. Shemilt
	J. Rowlands	K. McKnight
13th July	G. Holden	C. Wilding
	J. Bowes	P. Tunstall
20th July	V. Ledward	K. Thompson
	D. Davies	K. Woodward
27th July	P. Hipkiss	P. Roberts
	D. Wilson	D. Pickles



FLOWER ROTÆ

6th July	Mrs J. Rowlands
13th July	Mrs M. Hillman
20th July	Mrs K. Thompson
27th July	Miss B. Freakley



ROADS FOR PRAYER

6th July

Navigation Loop
Rangeley View
Barnton Edge
Anderton Way/View

20th July

Cressey Close
Joules Drive
Cauldon Way
Harecastle Bank

13th July

Bentley Close
Rendel Grove
Brindley Close
Rudyard Close

27th July

Saltersford Rise
Rolt Close
Millenium Way
Cameron Wharf



Groups and Activities

Deanery Synod Reps	Mr R. Brandon	
P.C.C. Members	Mrs I. Gassor, Mr G. Donaldson, Mrs K. Latham Mrs S. Sanders, Mr P. Mason, Mr G. Holden Mrs A. Burton, Mrs M. Hillman, Mr K. Reynolds, Mrs E. Woodhead	
Secretary	Shelagh Sanders	
Treasurer	Kevin Reynolds	850135
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
Missions Secretary	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
Prayer Group	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
Parents & Toddlers (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)	Sandra Morray.....	286093
3rd Stone Brownies (Mon 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 **Breathe** (years 5-8) Monday 6:30 pm

Youth Club (years 9-13) Tuesday 7:00 pm **Kingzone** (years 2-4) Wednesday 6:00 pm

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 on the Internet

Parish website	www.christchurchstone.org
Parish office email	office@christchurchstone.org
Magazine contributions	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 and Botswana.

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).