

# Christ Church and People

30p



June

Parish Magazine of  
Christ Church Stone

2007

# 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

---

## THE PARISH TEAM

<b>Vicar</b>	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Clare Nash (Office)	811990
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Irene Gassor	814871
<b>Parish Office</b>	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	
<b>Youth Worker</b>	Thomas Nash	286551
<b>Deaconess (Retired)</b>	Ann Butler	818160
<b>Readers</b>	David Bell John Butterworth Margaret Massey David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 813403 816713 813712 817987
<b>Music Co-ordinators</b>	Peter Mason Jeff Challinor	815854 819665
<b>Wardens</b>	Phil Tunstall David Rowlands	817028 816713
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>	Shirley Hallam, Arthur Foulkes	
<b>Prayer Request List</b>	Barbara Thornicroft	818700

---

## CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

<b>Booking Secretary</b>	Shelagh Sanders (Office) (Home)	811990 760602
--------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------

---

## CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street. Head: Mrs Lynne Croxall B.Ed.(Hons)	354125
Christ Church C.E.(Aided) Middle School, Old Road Head: C. Waghorn B.Ed(Hons),DPSE,ACP,FRSA	354047

# In This Issue

Diary for June	2
What matters most - Style or substance?	4
Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meetings	5
Christ Church First School	6
Barnabus Fund	7
Christ Church Middle School gardening	7
Street Life - the reality	8
An Opportunity on your Doorstep	9
“Radiance”	9
Pastoral Letter from the Bishop of Stafford	10
June sermon series - Joy and Power through Christ	11
Wolverhampton Bible Convention	11
William Wilberforce and Slavery Today	12
A Taste of Keswick	13
Lichfield Diocese income and expenditure 2007	14
When God says “No”	15
Roads for Prayer	16
From the Registers	16

## Christ Church



## and People

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

---

**Cover Story:** Jerry Cooper drew lots of wonderful pictures for this magazine, all of them buildings in our parish. This month the picture is of Northesk Street.

---

### Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website	<a href="http://www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc">www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc</a>
Parish office email	<a href="mailto:christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com">christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com</a>
Magazine contributions	<a href="mailto:christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk">christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk</a>

# June 2007

Fri	1		
Sat	2	8:30am 9:00am	Prayer meeting in church Breakfast in the Centre
Sun	3	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. Ezekiel 37 "A new future" (Oulton) Evening Prayer. John 14:15-31 "The Spirit of Truth"
Mon	4	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone at 78 Oulton Road
Tue	5	9:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 2:00pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Midweek service Seekers at the Middle School Tuesday at Two bible study Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	6	8:00pm	20's Group at the Vicarage
Thu	7	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	8		Wolverhampton Bible Convention begins
Sat	9		Oulton cream teas
Sun	10	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. Galations 1:1-10 "The gospel to cherish" (Oulton) Communion. John 15:1-17 "The True Vine"
Mon	11	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone at 78 Oulton Road
Tue	12	10:30am 2:00pm 7:30pm	Midweek service Tuesday at Two bible study Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	13	8:00pm	20's Group at the Vicarage
Thu	14	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	15		
Sat	16		
Sun	17	9:15am 2:00pm 6:00pm	Communion. Galations 1:11-23 "A break with Father" Jigsaw Kids Ministry event at 213 Newcastle Road. (Oulton) Evening Prayer. John 15:18-16:4 "N.B. All disciples"

# June 2007

Mon	18	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone at 78 Oulton Road
Tue	19	9:30am 10:30am 12:30am 2:00pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Midweek service Seekers at the Middle School Tuesday at Two bible study Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	20	7:30pm	Standing Committee meeting
Thu	21	1:20pm 2:00pm 7:30pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly Mother's Union summer lunch outing Deanery Synod meeting at Christ Church
Fri	22		
Sat	23		
Sun	24	9:15am 10:15am 6:00pm	Family service and Baptism. Galations 2:1-10 "One gospel for all" Fair Trade goods on sale in the Centre (Oulton) Communion. John 16:5-16 "Returning home"
Mon	25	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone at 78 Oulton Road
Tue	26	10:30am 12:30pm 7:30pm	Midweek service Seekers at the Middle School Youth Club at the Centre
Wed	27		
Thu	28	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	29		
Sat	30	10:00am	Lichfield Diocese Midi Churches Day

**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	Friday Little Fishes	11.00 am
-----------------	---------	----------------------	----------

## What matters most - form or substance?

---

They say that first impressions count. They reckon that the first 30 seconds matter a great deal in shaping decisions about other people. So, when it comes to meeting candidates at an interview we look them up and down. The way someone dresses for the day sends out signals that are interpreted. We weigh up whether someone's style will appeal to the youth or to the elderly. In today's world image is a powerful force to reckon with. The media knows this. You and I know this. But we still are suckers for image or form.

When it comes to leadership, impressions count for a lot. In the French Presidential election campaign people discussed whether a candidate projected the right image for modern France. Now we know who will be the new leader of the Labour Party and our Prime Minister after much speculation and debate. Judgments may well be based on external appearances as we hear ourselves say: 'I do/don't like the look of him!'

Thankfully, when it comes to the basis for God's choice of people to bring about His purposes, external appearance does not matter. How we look is neither important nor unimportant to God. What matters most is what lies beneath the surface: a person's motivations. There is an incident in the Bible where Saul, the first king of Israel, turns out to be a disaster. It reflected badly on the prophet Samuel who anointed Saul as king. He then had to go and anoint one of Jesse's sons as king. He assumed the oldest son Eliab was the one; after all he was tall and handsome. But *'the Lord said to Samuel "Don not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart"'* (1 Sam 16v7). Having seen seven sons and been told the same thing, finally the youngest (and handsome) boy David was anointed as king. Why? Well, he would prove to be a man after God's own heart.

So, we may be swayed by form (the outward appearance), but what truly matters is the substance (our motivations and desires). For Christians this means giving our loyalty to Christ above all others and no longer viewing other people from a worldly point of view.

Yours in Christ,

Paul Kingman.



## 5 Vestry & Annual Parochial Church Meetings

---

The Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) were held in Christ Church Centre on Wednesday 18 April 2007 at 7.30pm. 37 people attended.

At the Vestry Meeting, Dave Rowlands and Phil Tunstall were elected as Church Wardens for the coming year, and Arthur Foulkes and Shirley Hallam were elected as Deputy Wardens – also for one year. The Vicar expressed the appreciation of the church for the work of the Wardens and Deputy Wardens over the past year.

At the APCM, we received reports from:

- Jacqueline Abrahams, PCC Secretary, on the past year in the church;
- Kevin Reynolds, Treasurer, on the financial year in the church. Giving has increased over the year as has expenditure. A small amount of the legacy has been spent on the centre; the most noticeable being on the replacement carpet;
- Dave Rowlands and Phil Tunstall on behalf of the Wardens;
- Irene Gassor on the electoral roll. This has been completely revised in accordance with the rules of the Church of England. Consequently there are fewer on the roll (122 members) but this a more realistic reflection of the church membership due to people having moved from the area since the last full revision;
- Shirley Hallam for the Stone Deanery.

The annual reports submitted by the Vicar and various church groups are included in a green-coloured booklet available on the book stand in the Centre and at the back of church.

PCC Members: George Holden, Kevin Reynolds, Jeanette Rowlands, Andrew Stone and Estella Woodhead were elected to serve for the next three years.

In conclusion, the Vicar said there were lots of things to give thanks for. He also said there was plenty to pray about for the forthcoming year. The meeting concluded with a time of prayer.

Time flies and already we find ourselves in the Summer Term with all the seasonal activities that come with it!

Immediately on our return to school following the Easter break Reception children were invited to the celebration to open the Crown Meadow's disabled access bridge over the Scotch Brook. Following speeches by the guest, Sir William Laurence, Chairman of the Heart of England Tourism Board and our Mayor, Harry Brunt, the children had fun led by the older children looking for the different wildflowers and plants. All this exercise gave rise to enormous appetites which were well catered for in the delicious buffet which was provided. We certainly enjoyed representing our school at this historic occasion!

Our Recorder group are currently practising hard in preparation for the Annual Recorder Workshop which takes place at Walton Middle School on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Children from most of our First Schools take part along with representatives from our two Middle schools. This provides the children with a valuable opportunity to make music together and enables them to meet children from other schools as they all prepare to move to either Christ Church Middle or Walton Middle.

Later in May we will be enjoying our Sports Day, hopefully in fine weather, although we always plan a contingency date, just in case!

Year 4 children are thrilled to be visiting Lichfield Cathedral in June to take part in the annual Open Door project. Again, an opportunity not only to visit this wonderful building but also to meet others and to try crafts which are new to them.

Next Year's intake of new children are set to visit us for their induction programme of 5 weekly visits. These are designed to ease the transition between home/nursery and school and to give the children (and parents) an idea of the exciting things which await them at school.

Our diary becomes so full, we realise how many opportunities and experiences these children meet during their days at school.

Janet Booth Early Years' Coordinator.

## Barnabus Fund

---

This organisation helps the persecuted and destitute Christians. For instance, it has built a school and looks after and feeds orphans in Bethlehem. It feeds displaced Christians in Iraq. And these are only two instances of the many ways in which the Barnabus Fund helps Christians in the Middle East and other places around the world.



You can see therefore just how much your prayers and money are needed to help them in their time of need. As it say in Galations Ch. 6 v 10 “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially those who belong to the family of believers.”

Remember how St. Paul urged the church at Corinth to set aside a contribution at the beginning of the week as we are able, so that we can help our brethren in need. Let us in this day and age do the same.

---

## Christ Church Middle School

ARE YOU A GARDENER?

DO YOU HAVE TIME TO SPARE BETWEEN 12:15-1:15 ON A WEDNESDAY?

Form 7G at Christ Church Middle School are working on a Citizenship project to improve their school grounds. We would welcome any practical help you can offer or any donations of materials e.g. compost, plants, plant pots, tools and white masonry paint. If you are able to help in any way please contact:-Mrs Bell at Christ Church or Mrs Abbot via the Christ Church Middle School office. Emily.H. Carys.M.M.C. Abby.D.

## Street life – the reality

*An excerpt from 'Jigsaw News' - the news sheet sent out by Jigsaw Kids Ministries in Manila with which our CMS Link Partners, Tim & Kate Lee work*

'Jigsaw works with over 800 kids each week. Some of these kids spend their lives literally 'on the street from early morning to late at night – some even sleeping on the street. Doing what? you may ask. Trying to get a few pesos by begging from cars waiting in traffic; selling cloths in exchange for food from syndicates; escaping the abuse of crowded homes. No-one seems to care where they are.

Imagine hot sun and clouds of polluted smoke not to mention the danger of being hit by a car – would you let your child do this? – for 10 or 11 hours a day? These kids range in age from 5 to 16 and thankfully some of them do now come to our Jigsaw centres where they get fed, have a rest, and be special kids for a while. It's not enough but it's a start and we at Jigsaw are always looking at ways that we can help them more permanently. For some, this may be school sponsorship; sadly, for others, they are too old to start school. For others it may be finding residential care – again though, after 12 years of age, this is not an option. For some drug rehab, but for **ALL** of them **JESUS** is there and freely available and it's his message of **LOVE** that we want the children to hear and know.

**Pray for these kids at risk. Pray for Jigsaw who, in 2007 want to set up a group of workers who specifically watch out for the most at risk kids that come to Jigsaw and positively intervene to make their lives better.'**

*If you would like to know more about Jigsaw Kids Ministries and how you might support them in prayer and/or financially, look in the red folder on the cupboard under the overseas mission notice board or ask Cecilia.*

*A fund-raising event for Jigsaw is being planned for 17<sup>th</sup> June 2007 – look out for details.*

## An Opportunity on your Doorstep

---

Shallowford House (the Lichfield Diocesan Retreat and Conference Centre) is only 4 miles away from Stone. Have you looked at this year's programme of events? If you've never been to anything at Shallowford ... why not give it a try .....Looking ahead the programme for the rest of 2007 includes:

June A weekend led by the Ven. Chris Liley entitled "Out of Time " -Living in eternity in the everyday.

August - "Poetry, Painting and Prayer" - a week of relaxation, reflection and recreation;

September sees a Quiet Day organised by the Friends of Shallowford with a Celtic Theme led by the Rev. Peter Ashby.

October - "Into Your Hands " - trusting a loving God in the challenges of our life's journey - led by Roger and Sally Vaughan.

November - a pre-Advent weekend led by the local Stafford poet Pat Marsh - "Prepare to Welcome Him " - based on contemporary poetry and meditation.

Also there are two Individually Guided Retreats - one in August and the other at the end of October. (Have a word with Sally Vaughan if you've not heard of these before.) Shallowford House is a pleasant, welcoming and comfortable place, set in its own grounds. Most rooms are en-suite and the food is excellent. There are programmes available at the back of church or if you want more information, phone the Warden on 01785 760233 .

---

### "RADIANCE"

A day of spiritual refreshment, exploration and learning at Lichfield Cathedral. Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

- \* Keynote address by Father Ken Leech, an internationally recognised authority on spirituality and prayer .....
- \* Seminars led by Bishop Gordon Mursell..... David Runcorn ..... Jane Gledhill.... Andrew Baker ... each exploring different aspects of spirituality.
- \* A variety of workshops going on during the day ...

The day will start at 10 am with refreshments and end at 4 p.m. The cost will be £5.00 . This looks like being an excellent day - an opportunity not to be missed.

I have registration forms for those who would like to book in for the day. (There will also be two seats available in our car if anyone would like a lift.) Sally Vaughan

## A Ministry of Innovation

Last autumn, I spent a fascinating half-day visiting Alton Towers. I was taken on a comprehensive tour (which fortunately did not include a trip on Oblivion, though it would have done if I'd been brave enough) and talked at length with the Managing Director.

One of the things that impressed me about the place is the high value they attach to what is now usually called “blue sky thinking” or “thinking out of the box.” The organisation that owns Alton Towers, Tussauds, pays for (if I remember rightly) at least two full-time people to spend their time dreaming dreams about how they can improve their performance - what new rides they could introduce, where the leisure industry is going, and so on.

This whole area is becoming increasingly significant in business and the professions. Large insurance companies have “Innovation Departments” or similar bodies, responsible for envisaging new possibilities for the future of the company. I myself have a friend who is the Professor of Innovation Studies at one of our great universities.

In a fast-changing world, every organisation needs to be constantly reflecting on where it is going and whether it needs to adapt in some way to the new challenges it faces.

The Bible has a great deal to say about innovation and blue-sky thinking. It calls this “prophecy.” Isaiah, Jeremiah, Micah and others were constantly encouraging God’s people to think afresh about how they were responding to God’s call, what their vision was, and what kind of new future God was calling them into.

But where is this kind of thinking going on in the Church? Does the General Synod advocate the setting-up of an innovation department? What is the equivalent in your parish? More generally, where are the Isaiahs and the John the Baptists of our own day? Jesus began his own ministry with a thrillingly innovative prospectus which sets out the bold new future he came to introduce.

We call it the Beatitudes: blessed are the poor in the spirit, those who mourn, the meek, and the peacemakers - theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Perhaps Alton Towers can teach us a thing or two about the importance of putting blue sky thinking back where it once was, at the heart of the Church’s life?

What motivates and equips the Christian to serve Jesus Christ? Is it a sense of nagging obligation as you struggle to achieve impossible targets? Or is it a heart full of joy?

During this month we begin two new sermon series, which help us to understand the source of joy and power to follow Christ. In the mornings we will tackle Paul's letter to the Galatians, while at Moddershall/evening services a series on what Jesus taught about the Holy Spirit in John's Gospel.

Galatians majors on what God's grace in Jesus Christ means for the believer. It is the wellspring of Christian joy – the more we understand it the more we delight in what God has done for us.

A helpful companion is book 'Finding Joy – a radical rediscovery of grace' by Marcus Honeysett (156 pp. IVP £7.99). The author goes 'joy-spotting' in Galatians and Philippians. It's an easy but helpful read as it shows how grace brings the blessings of forgiveness, peace, hope, security, rescue, reconciliation and eternal life.

*Paul Kingman*

---

**Wolverhampton Bible Convention** - an interdenominational bible teaching weekend Friday 8th - Sunday 10th June 2007

**Location:** The University Site, Compton Park, Wolverhampton WV3 9DX (ample car parking available)

**Speaker:** John Stevens (City Evangelical Church)

**Theme:** *Under Pressure - Christian living in a secular society (studies in 1 Peter)*

Friday 8th June, 8-9.15pm - God's people in a secular society

Saturday 9th June, 2.30-3.45 - God's church in a secular society

Saturday 9th June, 5-6.30pm - God's government in a secular society (session concludes with short act of worship, including Lord's Supper)

Sunday 10th June, 8.30-9.30pm - God's judgement of a secular society

Suitable activities for children will be available during the Saturday afternoon sessions, and facilities for picnics between the two sessions.

For further information, contact John Clark on 01785 780689 or Jon Richmond on 01902 673150.

When sorting out some papers recently I came across an article I wrote around the time of 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of William Wilberforce, in July 1983, for the "in house" magazine of the company I then worked for. I did not think it particularly controversial but the editor passed it to the directors to see and they decided not to allow it to be published! As we commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "Abolition of Slavery Act" I have submitted it to the editor of "Christ Church and People" for its first public printing!

### **JULY 1983 AND STILL SLAVES?**

This month the Prince and Princess of Wales celebrate their 2<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary. This month also, we commemorate the death of the great reformer William Wilberforce. He died 150 years ago just three days after the decision of the House of Commons to abolish slavery in the British Empire.

Is there a connection between these two events and if so is there a lesson the working man today can learn from these well known names?

First the Princess: Many people no doubt consider the lifestyle and wealth available to Princess Diana both unnecessary and unfair. Maybe it is, but to whom? She can, one suspects have virtually anything. However, money and power do not guarantee happiness and no doubt she cannot DO what she pleases most of the time. Does she feel, or will she become, a slave to life in the public eye? Many newspaper reports suggest this may be the case.

Now Wilberforce and a different aspect of slavery: He took a very practical and down to earth approach and gained immense influence. He used this first to stop the iniquitous slave trade and then to liberate the slaves. Today it is astounding to think that many slave traders considered themselves to be true Christian people!

What does this tell us apart from the fact that we don't want to be slaves or enslave others? How can we honour the progress made by such a man as Wilberforce, today? One way which would appeal to him would be to devote our efforts appropriately to present day tasks. We still have our opportunity in 1983.

Many millions of people are literally slaves today, though maybe in a different sense. Men, women and children in Latin America, Africa and India are enslaved by poverty. Many villages in India have no fresh water and its collection can mean many miles to walk for the people every single day of their lives. Compare that with our disruption during the water dispute last winter. People all over the world are enslaved by wars in which they want no part, by drugs and nowadays increasingly by unemployment and even space invader games. How much better off are many of us today?

Those of us in work can consider ourselves fortunate to be able to earn a living, but people in work can also feel enslaved.

*(continued on the next page)*

For example workers with repetitive assembly jobs can sometimes find life at work intolerably difficult to cope with. Whereas Wilberforce took on the moral responsibility to free people from slavery, and perhaps the behaviour of the media could help the Princess of Wales feel a greater freedom if it so desired, much responsibility today lies with those in authority to make realistic and practical approaches to improve the situation for the working man wherever possible. Much has been accomplished over the years to help engender better working relationships between 'master and servant'. People need to be considered as people if they are to give of their best. We are all different and have different needs. The importance of the needs of the team - the employees, the tasks - our jobs, and the individuals - ourselves must be recognised and taken into account. The involvement of employees in overall company planning and decision making, increased emphasis on communication, appreciation of peoples efforts and difficulties, introduction for example of flexitime all help employees to achieve a sense of belonging to a caring working community. This in turn leads to a more satisfied workforce which is good for any business.

What is the lesson for us today? Only that if we are to continue to follow the lead set all those years ago by William Wilberforce and to attempt to free ourselves from the slavery of everyday life in a civilised 20<sup>th</sup> century society, we must all have concern for our fellow human beings and work to improve our personal relationships with everyone we know and meet. What better way can we show our respect for such a great reformer as William Wilberforce?

Dave Rowlands July 1983

NOTE: Not a lot seems to change does it?

---

## **A Taste of Keswick**

**STEVE BRADY**

At 7pm at Christ Church on July 4th

Join us for a meal and watch a DVD presentation of Steve Brady speaking about

**“How to get up when you are down”**

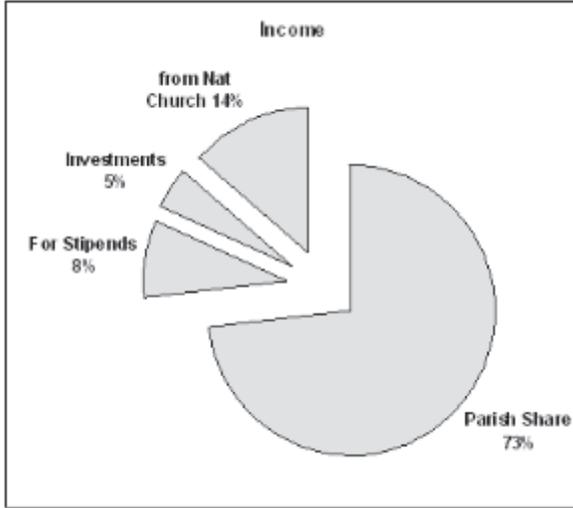
Based on Psalms 42 and 43

**Tickets £1**

From Christ Church office or Mike Thompson or Chris Kirkbride

# 14 Lichfield Diocese Income and Expenditure 2007

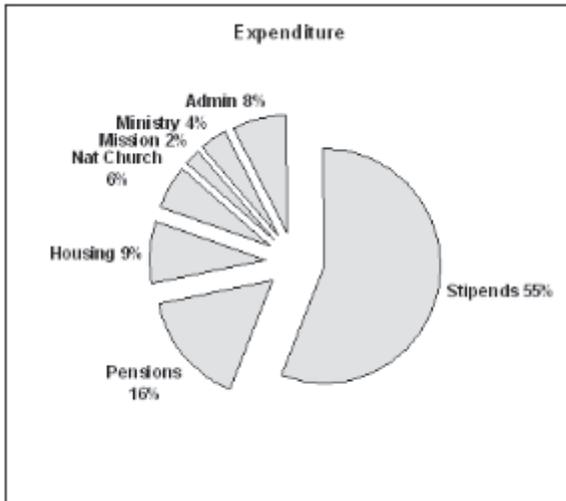
Lichfield Diocese has published on its website details of the budget for 2007, and some extracts are below. There is more detail there (and some more interesting articles too) - do have a look at <http://www.lichfield.anglican.org>.



## INCOME

£million

Parish Share	10.28
For stipends	1.17
For training	0.03
Investments	0.42
Donations	0.13
From reserves	0.12
From National church	1.92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14.07</b>



## EXPENDITURE

£million

Stipends	7.9
Pensions	2.25
Housing	1.22
Training	0.34
Missions	0.95
Administration	1.07
To National church	0.34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14.1</b>

## WHEN GOD SAYS NO

---

There is a story about a girl who wrote a letter to a missionary to let him know that her class had been praying for him. But she'd been told not to request a response to her letter because the missionaries were very busy. So the missionary got her letter. It said, "Dear Mr. Missionary, we are praying for you. But we are not expecting an answer."

Does that girl summarize the prayer lives of many Christians?

Sometimes we pray without expecting an answer, even though God has assured us that He does indeed hear our prayers. David said, "I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my supplications." (Psalm 116:1). But many of us struggle with the nagging question, "Is God really listening to me?" Yes, He heard David, He heard Elijah, and He heard the apostles. But does He hear me?

How do we really know that our prayers are answered? There are times when we see visible results. We may pray for someone who's sick and then they get well. But more often, our prayers don't produce flashing "neon" answers. How do we as Christians account for that happening? How do we explain the fact that so many of our prayers seem to go "unanswered"?

The truth is, for a child of God there is no such thing as an unanswered prayer. Maybe you've heard it said before that God answers prayer in three ways. Sometimes the answer is "yes." Sometimes the answer is "no." And sometimes the answer is "wait a while." It's easy to accept an answer of "yes," but what about when God says, "no"? Here are three principles:

First of all, we need to trust God enough to realize that our all-loving, all-powerful Father loves us and has our best interest at heart. So when it seems that God says "no" to our prayers, we must trust Him enough to understand that there must be a good reason for it.

Secondly, we must not forsake God. We must continue to be faithful to our responsibility before God.

And thirdly, we need to realize that the answer may not be "no," but only "wait a while." Be willing to let God answer in his own time, in his own way, and in his own power.

We need to foster an entirely different view of prayer. Looking from the proper perspective, we will not ask "What happens when God says no?" but rather "What happens when God says yes?" That the God of the heavens would listen to us and our needs is a great testimony to His great love for us.

# FROM THE REGISTERS

---

## FUNERALS

23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Margerie Riley	Age 85
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Alan Deere	Age 87
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Richard Albert Lewis	Age 89

## SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

3 <sup>rd</sup> June	I.Gassor, A.Cumberlidge, M.Hutchinson, B.Hutchinson
10 <sup>th</sup> June	A.West, V.Ledward, D.Davies, D.Wilson
17 <sup>th</sup> June	A.Greer, G.Holden, J.Abrahams, D.Pickles
24 <sup>th</sup> June	P.Hipkiss, J.Rowlands, S.Hallam, T.MacFarlane

## FLOWER ROTA

3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Mrs A. Illidge
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Mrs I. Gassor
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Mrs L. Mason
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Mrs S. Morray



## ROADS FOR PRAYER

### 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Navigation Loop  
Rangeley View  
Barnton Edge  
Anderton View/Way

### 17<sup>th</sup> June

Cressey Close  
Joules Drive  
Cauldon Way  
Harecastle Bank

### 10<sup>th</sup> June

Bentley Close  
Rendel Grove  
Brindley Close  
Rudyard Close

### 24<sup>th</sup> June

Saltersford Rise  
Rolt Close  
Millenium Way  
Cameron Wharf



<b>Deanery Synod Reps</b>	Mrs S Hallam, Mr I Hawley, Mr D. Rowlands
<b>P.C.C. Members</b>	Mrs I Gassor, Mrs M Hillman, Mrs E Mason, Mr P Mason Mrs D Wilson, Mrs E Woodhead, Mrs J. Rowlands Mrs S. Morray, Mrs J. Abrahams, Mr K. Reynolds Mr A. Stone, Mr G. Holden, Mrs A. Greer
<b>Secretary</b>	Jacqueline Abrahams.....817020
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kevin Reynolds.....851595
<b>Envelopes, Gift Aid</b>	Nesta Challinor

## GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

<b>Climbers 3-7 years</b>	Sandra Morray.....286093
<b>Explorers 7-11 years</b>	Estella Woodhead.....761659
<b>Pathfinders 11-14 years</b>	Enid Bell.....815775
<b>Cornerstone Bible Study</b>	Thomas Nash.....286551
<b>Youth Group Yr9 upwards</b>	Thomas Nash.....286551
<b>Banner Group</b>	Jeanette Rowlands.....816713
<b>Church Missionary Boxes</b>	Cecilia Wilding.....817987
<b>Flower Guild</b>	Marylyn Hillman.....815936
<b>Men's Fellowship</b>	Mike Thompson.....813712
<b>Missions Secretary</b>	Cecilia Wilding.....817987
<b>Prayer Group</b>	Jeanette Rowlands.....816713
<b>Parents &amp; Toddlers</b> (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)	Sandra Morray.....286093
<b>Friday "Little Fishes"</b> (Fri 11am – 1.30pm)	Cecilia Wilding.....817987

## THE MAGAZINE TEAM

<b>Mission News&amp; Prayer Diary</b>	Cecilia Wilding	817987
<b>Please send material for the magazine to</b>		
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](http://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.com](http://www.christianityexplored.com)). If you would like details of when the next local course is starting then please contact the church office.

We have children's and youth activities running during the Sunday meetings and also during the week, such as our Tuesday evening youth club. Adults may be further involved through small groups which meet for Bible study and prayer, a midweek communion service and a monthly prayer meeting.

Our community involvement includes links with the local schools: Christ Church First, Oulton First, Christ Church Middle and Alleyne's High.

We also have links with the Church in India, The Philippines, Croatia, Botswana and Pakistan.

This magazine and the church website concern Christ Church in Stone, but we are linked with the churches in Oulton and Moddershall (see separate magazine and website).

---

### Subscriptions

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