

Christ Church and People

40p



July

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

2008



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	Tim Vasby-Burnie, 1 Navigation Loop Email tim@vasbyburnie.net	814244
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	David Bell John Butterworth David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 816713 813712 817987
Music Co-ordinators	Peter Mason Jeff Challinor	815854 819665
Wardens	Phil Tunstall David Rowlands	817028 816713
Deputy Wardens	Andy Stone, Arthur Foulkes, Tim Saxton	

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Booking Secretary	Carole 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 C.E.(Aided) Middle School, Old Road

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

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Christ Church



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and People

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

Cover Story:- King David, Pete Mason's real steam locomotive. Come and see it on July 6th

July 2008

Tue	1	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am 7:30pm 8:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly in church Coffee before service Midweek service Youth Club in the Centre Housegroup at 2 The Glen
Wed	2	7:30pm 7:30pm	Standing Committee Prayer Group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	3	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	4		
Sat	5	8:30am 9:00am	Prayer meeting in church Breakfast in the Centre
Sun	6	9:15am 2:00pm 6:00pm	Communion James 3:13-18 "Two kinds of wisdom" Steam train rides at 213 Newcastle Road Tim and Kate Lee visiting (see page 9) Evening Prayer at Oulton Psalm 39 "Enduring discipline"
Mon	7	9:00am 7:00pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	8	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly in church Coffee before service Midweek service Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	9	7:30pm 7:30pm	Stone Deanery at St. Luke's Tittensor Prayer Group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	10	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	11		
Sat	12		
Sun	13	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer James 4:1-12 "Conflict resolution" Communion (Fete service) at Oulton Psalm 40 "Celebration through consecration"
Mon	14	9:00am 7:00pm 7:00pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers Home Group 15 Coalport Drive

July 2008

Tue	15	10:00am 10:30am 7:30pm 8:00pm	Coffee before service Midweek service Youth Club in the Centre House Group at 2 the Glen
Wed	16	7:30pm 7:30pm	PCC meeting Prayer Group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	17		
Fri	18	10:45am	Christ Church Middle School leavers service in church
Sat	19		
Sun	20	9:15 am 6:00pm	Family Service James 4:13-5:6 "God's will and wages" Ralph and Dagmar Baron visiting Communion at Oulton Psalm 41 "Renewed fellowship"
Mon	21	9:00am 7:00pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cheese and wine evening at 15 Coalport Drive. All welcome
Tue	22	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before service Midweek service
Wed	23	7:30pm	Prayer Group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	24		
Fri	25		
Sat	26		
Sun	27	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion James 5:7-12 "Patient waiting" Evening Prayer at Oulton Romans 12:9-21 "Be devoted to one another"
Mon	28	9:00am	Prayers for schools and young people
Tue	29		
Wed	30	7:30pm 7:30pm	Summer School of Prayer at Christ Church Prayer Group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	31		

Short Beds and Narrow Blankets

As a family, we tend not to make many plans in advance of our holiday time. The one exception being the plan to make the beds as soon as we arrive so that we get some good rest! Unfortunately one recent holiday was spoilt by our struggle with a very hard mattress – a big disappointment. The bed did not deliver the expected comfort. The people of ancient times had a proverb to describe this sort of experience: short beds and narrow blankets.

The proverb found its way into the Bible when God spoke to His people about how foolish they'd been to make an alliance with Egypt. They did it to safeguard their future. The prophet Isaiah pointed out how would not deliver: *'The bed is too short to stretch out on, the blanket is too narrow to wrap around you'* (Isaiah 28v20).

We live in an age where sub-Christian teaching is all too easily picked up from the market place of ideas. Alternatives appear to offer a more comfortable religion and one that fits well with society. There is a rising trend to flatten out the distinctive characteristics of Jesus Christ: we happily retain his inspiring example, but drop his unique identity, which sits awkwardly in the global village of ideas; we uphold his teaching on loving our neighbour as ourselves, but daren't suggest that it would be the loving thing to say that what a neighbour is doing is wrong. But, these ideas are nothing more than short beds and narrow blankets! They don't deliver the promises of knowing God and living according to his way of life and peace.

Isaiah told God's people that the Lord would demolish what was false in order to build what was true: *"See, I lay a stone in Zion [i.e. renewed Jerusalem] a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed"* (Isa 28v16). The words concerned a faithful remnant who would stand against the current trend, place their whole confidence in the Lord who would deliver them. The words are quoted in the New Testament and applied to Jesus Christ whose resurrection marked him out as the cornerstone (Acts 4v11; Eph 2v20; 1 Peter 2v6). Those who entrust themselves to him will be saved and not be put to shame.

So, why not take the opportunity this holiday to discover more about Jesus? Read one of the four Gospels. Or read *'The reason for God'* (Tim Keller). You'll be amazed at who Jesus is and what he has done for us. I hope you have a great summer.

Paul Kingman.



One Year On

Can you believe it has been a whole year since we arrived? We can't; I'm sure Christmas was only a few weeks ago! Even more shocking: in 18 months time I start conversations about where to go next. I can honestly say I'm in no rush to move on. Our first year has been a source of great joy and we are ever so thankful to God for the welcome we have received from you.

In 1 Samuel 7 the LORD rescues Israel from an attack of the Philistines, and Samuel marks the occasion by setting up a stone called Ebenezer. A few old hymns speak of Ebenezer, but I suspect most people today would not have a clue what it means. Samuel explains: the stone is named Ebenezer because "Till now the LORD has helped us" (verse 12) and, as the footnote explains, Ebenezer means "stone of help."

The stone was a visual memorial to God's faithfulness - future generations could look at it and be reminded of the way the LORD helped his people in the past, and promised to help in the future. I might not be setting up a large rock in the garden but maybe this is an Ebenezer article: God has been faithful and gracious in so many ways and we know he will continue to provide and lead.

Life as a church family includes testifying to one another of God's faithfulness - sharing our Ebenezers. As we share our stories we find one another encouraged and motivated to keep trusting Jesus Christ. How about resolving that each week we will think about how God has been faithful and share that testimony with someone else?

My first article included words from a song, so let me do it again; from "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing":

Sorrowing I shall be in spirit,
 Till released from flesh and sin,
 Yet from what I do inherit,
 Here Thy praises I'll begin;
 Here I raise my Ebenezer;
 Here by Thy great help I've come;
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
 Safely to arrive at home.

The PCC met on Wednesday 14 May 2008 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided.

- Our recent Quinquennial inspection showed the church to be in a reasonably good condition. The most important issue to be addressed is the state of the current electrical installation in the church. This has already begun to be pursued.
- The proposed plans for the alterations to the access between the church and the centre were studied. It was agreed to submit a Faculty application in-line with the plans. A Public Notice is to be placed in the local newspaper for four weeks giving notice of work on the churchyard involving the removal of the memorial. A brief summary of this notice is also to be placed in the weekly notice sheet.
- A calendar of summer social events is to be coordinated by the Vasby-Burnie family. If you are willing to host an event, e.g. picnic, walk, open garden, speak with Tim or Caroline.
- Various people were elected to serve the PCC in the role of specific officers.
- A draft 'Giving' booklet was reviewed. It was felt that there should be more detail on issues such as, our main areas of expenditure, average weekly cost of running the church, special projects that we are fund raising for and/or support. It was agreed to hold a 'Gift Day' on Sunday 6 July 2008 and annually thereafter in April.
- The mission task group presented a revised table giving details of the distribution in 2008 of the 10% freewill offering in 2007. This has enabled us to focus our giving to individuals rather than organisations.

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 16 July 2008 at 7.30pm.

Two events dominate the media as I write this. The first is the horrifying discovery of the crimes of Josef Fritzl, in the Austrian town of Amstetten: he imprisoned and abused his own daughter, and several of the children he fathered through her, in a soundproof underground cellar beneath his own house for 24 years. The second is the local election results, in which Labour have suffered their heaviest losses for many years.

These two events have more in common than we might think. It's easy to demonize Josef Fritzl. And it's certainly hard to imagine a more monstrous or revolting crime. The publication of photographs showing him sunbathing in Thailand while his helpless daughter and several young children were locked in his basement is bound to make us ask: how could anyone do such a thing?

And yet Josef Fritzl represents merely the most extreme form of a very common philosophy of life: I will do what makes me happy, and if that causes others to suffer, hard luck. In fact you could argue that, by our refusal to face the truth about climate change, we are as guilty as he is – we are in effect locking our children and grandchildren into a world with no future and throwing away the key. We are right to be disgusted at these crimes. But mere disgust is too convenient. There are lessons for all of us to learn.

And what about the local elections? The decline of one large political party need not in itself be bad news, whatever your personal preference: bad results can often galvanize politicians into doing better. More worrying is a widespread sense of drift: pollsters report increasing numbers of people who feel disaffected with all the mainstream parties, and either don't vote or vote for the BNP instead. Again, it's easy to disapprove. A wiser course would be to consider how to promote a better alternative.

(continued on next page)

And this, surely, is where Christianity comes in. The Bible is full of stirring visions of a new cosmos - not just a new church, but a new world. Revelation 21 is one example; Jesus' Sermon on the Mount is another. A third is Isaiah 65:17-25, in which God promises to build a new Jerusalem in which ill-health will be unheard-of, everyone will be properly housed and employed, and even animals will live together in peace.

A fantasy? That depends on us. And anyway, we need good and attractive fantasies which will draw people away from the sick perversions of a Josef Fritzl and the empty slogans of so many politicians.

For a really compelling dream or vision draws people together in a common cause. As I write, one other event has hit the headlines. Stoke City have been promoted to the Premiership; and the whole of North Staffordshire is celebrating - as I'm sure they are down the M6 in West Bromwich too!

But if football can draw people together, so can faith; for God has entrusted to us a tremendous vision of how the world can be remade in obedience to Jesus Christ. The best response to the moral decay and political apathy we see around us is to offer, and live, Christ's vision for a new and better world.

Gordon Mursell
Bishop of Stafford

Who prints this Church magazine?

After the contributions have been collected together, then squeezed into 20 pages (or stretched into 24), the manuscript is handed in to the church office, where Dorothy prints it on the Risograph. Then the "Collators" take over - up to 390 copies are printed and that is a lot of sheets of paper. The Collators include Maureen and Richard, Diana, Diane, Doris, Eileen, Brenda, Cecilia, Eva and Margaret.

Thank you all for your help.

Dave Bell

Steam Train Rides!

On July the 6th from 2pm to 5pm there will be steam train rides at Pete and Liz's house (213 Newcastle Road). Refreshments will be on sale, including Cream Teas, during the afternoon, with "All Day Rider" Tickets available from the Ticket Office.

All proceeds are going to support The Jigsaw Ministry in the Philippines with Tim and Kate Lee, who we hope will be with us for the afternoon.

Come to have a great time, experience the sound and smell of steam trains, and be prepared to give generously.

Pete and Liz Mason

Summer School of Prayer

During the summer we are providing an opportunity to learn and grow in Christian prayer during four Wednesday evenings. This is a privilege to enjoy and a discipline to develop. The meetings will be in Christ Church Centre 7.30-8.30 p.m. On:

Weds 30th July Weds 27th August

Do come if you can for all or some of the meetings.

Church Weekend 'at home': 5th-7th September

We have planned a weekend for our Benefice entitled Our Gospel Mission. This will be a fun weekend of teaching, fellowship and meals together from Fri 5th to Sun 7th September. This will be a great opportunity to spend time as a church family as we learn about how to be better equipped for God's mission.

Brochures will circulate this month with more details including the small cost to cover expenses of the weekend. Our speaker will be Revd John Hamilton who is Rector of The Sherbornes with Pamber (three villages in Hampshire).

Paul Kingman.

Ralph & Dagmar BARON with Simon plan to be with us over the week-end 19/20 July. They will introduce themselves during the Morning Service on the **20th July** and, in the Centre after coffee, will tell us more about Hebron School and the valuable work done there to enable parents to continue with the work God has called them to, often in remote situations, while their children receive a first-rate education.

After their presentation, we plan to have lunch together with Ralph, Dagmar & Simon in the town. Any who would like to join us and get to know the family a little better are welcome to join us. Please tell Cecilia if you would like to join us so that we have some idea of numbers. We will need to book if there are a lot of us!! **Book the date in your diary.**

Tim & Kate LEE with Rebekah, James and Grace flew back to the UK on 8th June and are expecting to be in this country for two months. They plan to be with us on **6th July**, speaking briefly in the Morning Service, and then giving a presentation in the Centre after coffee. We will probably have a bring-and-share lunch together in the Centre after the presentation prior to going on to the **trains-in-the-garden** event at Pete and Liz's in the afternoon. Yes, it is the **same day as the Gift Day.** (*See elsewhere in the magazine about the train event and Gift Day.*)

Just before Tim & Kate flew home, they sent an urgent prayer request concerning **Mark**, mentioned in the June prayer diary. Mark is a young man in his 20s from a very abusive background, who Tim & Kate took on at Jigsaw as their resident Janitor. He needs counselling and long-term rehab care to overcome his abusive past. He has severe eye problems which it was hoped might be amenable to surgery. However, it has turned out to be an inoperable problem. You can imagine his disappointment.

Due to his background, it is inappropriate for Mark to stay at Jigsaw in Tim's absence and there is a risk that he will return to his former life on the streets. The urgent prayer request was that they would know what to do. They felt it would be best if Mark returned to his home province. A few days later, we received news telling us that he left Jigsaw on good terms with everyone. Tim prayed with him and took him to the bus station and gave him the money for a ticket back to his province. Whether he bought the ticket or stayed in Manila they don't know. Mark was deeply affected by the love and care shown to him in the two months he was with Jigsaw. **Pray for Mark.** He is now in the care of God. Pray for Tim and Kate to be able to trust God for Mark. *(continued)*

Mission News *(continued)*

Owen & Tracy HUMPHREYS with Steffan and Jonathan are remaining in India during the long summer vacation and Ben is joining them for five weeks. ‘Humphreys News’ came through to us just after the June magazine went to press. The following three paragraphs are from the ‘News’ Owen & Tracy wrote:

- **Ben** is coming to the end of his ‘GAP YEAR’. it has been a steep learning curve for Ben...(and a ‘trusting curve’ for mum and dad). His job in JJB Sports came to an end and he is now working in a petrol station behind the till – he says it’s a lot easier! We are all looking forward to reuniting as a family in June, counting the days! After the school holidays Ben still has a few weeks till he begins Uni in Loughborough where he will study International Relations. **Please pray he will be able to keep his job, or he would find another one till he goes to Uni. Pray that the Lord would prepare him for another transition into college life, and that Ben would want Jesus with him when he gets there.**
- **Jonathan** has recently broken (cracked) his arm ... again! (playing football). He is in plaster until the end of term. **Pray that God would continue His work in Jonathan’s life and in the many others who have responded to Him in one way or another over the past academic year.**
- **Owen** has enjoyed his time teaching Maths in the Middle School and English as a second language in DEL (Dpt. of Enhanced Learning). As they have plenty of Maths teachers for next year he may be teaching science in the Middle School as well as continuing in DEL. Since leaving Junior School his role is really to fit in wherever needed. He has also been asked to consider taking on a small management role in coordinating the Middle School. **Pray for wisdom to know what jobs and roles he should take on.**

Cecilia Wilding

A Big Thankyou

Thank you so much to all those who contributed to the Myanmar (Burma) Emergency Appeal via Tearfund. Cheques totalling £674.30 have already be sent to Tearfund towards the Appeal. A further small amount will be sent shortly. Thank you. *Cecilia Wilding*

News from Stephen and Tabita Bell

(Stephen and Tabita work with European Christian Mission in Zagreb)

Dear Friends,

We've had an exciting time since we last wrote! Here's our news.

Conversions and Baptisms!

We have been thrilled this spring that not only has Zdenka given her life to God, but her husband Mladen has also! Real answers to real prayer! Thanks! He gave his life to God during the service on 18th May and the next Sunday gave his testimony in front of church. Josip and I have started weekly sessions of „Christianity Explained“ with them. Please pray now for their dynamic growth! Sisters Maria & Estera were also baptised.

More Church-space needed!!!

We see this as a real movement forward and pray that more are inspired to convert. We have been having regularly over 60 congregations and recently over 70. Last Sunday we lost count at over 80! We started our building project 18 months ago because we were renting, but now we will soon have to start thinking about new premises anyway! Maybe God is planning for growth, which is why he prompted us to save and look for new premises!

Planning for Growth - Training Worship Leaders

Last letter we introduced you the „Co-workers' Council“, organised to assist in leadership of practical activities in the church and also to gain leadership experience for when we missionaries leave. Last Saturday nine of us met for 3 hours. Josip, John, Tihomir & myself all shared principles of preparing and leading a service and then after a coffee pause we ALL prepared and gave a 2-minute session, which we all watched on digital projector for praise and criticism. Please pray as we seek to develop our gifts!

Personal evangelism & follow-up

Next Autumn we are planning Bible-Study Leadership Training and in the New Year we want to make a concerted 2 month focus on training every church member on personal evangelism and follow up, leading up to a series of evangelistic meetings at Easter and Pentecost.

New Churchplant Plan

After much prayer, it is planned to start a housegroup in the area of Dugo Sela in September.

Stephen, Tabita, Snezana, Joshua + Benjamin

Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust

Sponsored Cycle Ride and Walk

Saturday 13th September 2008

13th September seems a long way off - but make a note of the date now! How about cycling or walking round our area visiting churches and collect sponsorship for the number of churches you visit? There are churches involved all over the county but a list of those in this area and a map showing locations will be in church nearer the time. The sponsor money is equally divided between the Historic Churches Trust and our own church.

Could you cycle or walk to help fund the proposed alterations?

To hear about the delights of cycling speak to Sandra Morray who has raised lots of money over the years – but don't expect to keep up with her. Dorothy Wilson is thinking about a walk in Stafford to visit churches. (Not walking from Stone). Speak to her if you are interested in doing that.

Nearer the time Sponsor forms will be available from Dorothy .

Christian Aid Collection June 2008

The amount raised from this year's Christian Aid Week door to door collection in our parish (or some of it) is a marvellous £1242.71p. It's often hard work and this year has been no exception, we're in the 'plastic' age and people don't have much cash in the house, things are tight for everyone financially too and many don't respond to the knock on the door. So, all things considered, adding the fact that only 29 streets were covered, the amount is very good and people have been very generous in their giving. A big thank you to those who made this years effort a success.

Another Christian Aid event (new this year) was the Quizaid. This was held in the centre on Sat 24th of May and those who came seemed to enjoy themselves, particularly the winning team from St John's URC, and with questions about Harry Potter, Eggs Benedict, The River Thames and The Scalene Triangle, there was plenty to keep the teams focused. At the end of the evening, and the presentation of winners certificates!!!! (no prizes, it was for charity after all) £90 had been raised. Thank you for your support.

Phil Tunstall.

It takes strength to be firm. - It takes courage to be gentle.

It takes strength to stand guard. - It takes courage to let down your guard.

It takes strength to conquer - It takes courage to surrender.

It takes strength to be certain. - It takes courage to have doubt.

It takes strength to fit in. - It takes courage to stand out.

It takes strength to feel a friend's pain. - It takes courage to feel your own pain.

It takes strength to hide feelings. - It takes courage to show them.

It takes strength to endure abuse. - It takes courage to stop it.

It takes strength to stand alone. - It takes courage to lean on another.

It takes strength to love. - It takes courage to be loved.

It takes strength to survive. - It takes courage to live.

--author unknown

"...as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and of good courage...." (Joshua 1:5b-6a).

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we know that many are going through difficult times. Some are suffering because of family relationships, others because of addictions, others because of financial trouble, still others because of disease and physical pain. Countless others struggle with the normal stresses that go with living in this world. We pray that you would help each of them to sense your presence so that they will draw closer to you. May they find their strength and courage in you. In the name of Jesus, amen.

(from Mike Thompson)

ROADS FOR PRAYER

6th July

Albert Street
Alexandra Street
Arthur Street
Berkeley Street

13th July

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Terrace



20th July

Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent
Mount Road

27th July

Mount Street
Old Road
Stonefield Court
Stonefield Square, Kent Grove

Doing the Lambeth Walk!

The Lambeth Conference is one of the global Anglican Communion's Instruments of Communion. It takes place every ten years at the invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury and is an occasion when bishops can meet for worship, study and conversation. Archbishops, diocesan, assistant and suffragan bishops are invited.

Also invited are bishops from other churches 'in communion' with the Anglican Communion, bishops from United Churches and a number of ecumenical guests.

The Lambeth Conference runs from 16th July to 4th August. Traditionally, bishops attending Lambeth visit English dioceses for a few days before going to Canterbury and this year the Diocese of Lichfield and our companions in Malaysia, South Africa and Canada, and in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mecklenburg in north-east Germany, have planned the highlight of CrossTalk, their two year mission-prayer twinning programme, to coincide with these pre-Lambeth visits.

From 1-15 July churches in towns and villages across the Lichfield Diocese will host visitors (and bishops) from their prayer-link churches. The visits will culminate in the international CrossTalk Conference, the CrossTalk Festival, a youth conference and a special pre-Lambeth international service of friendship and partnership in Lichfield Cathedral.

Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc
Parish office email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

25th May Holly Elizabeth Spencer
 8th June Sean James Latham

FUNERALS

21st May Lindon Thomas Bowden
 Stafford Crematorium
 16th May Rita Jones

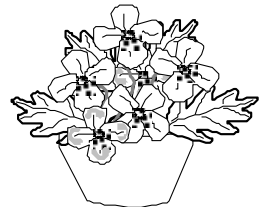
SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

6th July I. Gassor, A.Greer
 B.Hutchinson, M.Hutchinson
 13th July G. Holden, J. Abrahams
 A. West, T. MacFarlane
 20th July P. Hipkiss, D. Pickles
 D. Davies, V. Ledward
 27th June C. Wilding, K. Thompson
 J. Rowlands, D. Wilson

FLOWER ROTA

6th July Mrs J. Rowlands
 13th July Mrs J. Butterworth
 20th July Flower Guild
 27th July Mrs K. Thompson



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

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
Friday "Little Fishes" (Fri 11am – 1.30pm)	Cecilia Wilding.....817987

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 in the Centre during term time.

Monday Toddlers 9.30 am **Friday Little Fishes** 11.00 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.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