

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



May

2009

PARISH DIRECTORY

SUNDAY SERVICES

Details of our services are given on pages 2 and 3.

Young people's activities take place in the Centre on Sundays 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
Assistant Minister For Youth	Adam Rushton, 26 Victoria Street	813654
Electoral Roll Officer	Irene Gassor	814871
Parish Office Email	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	811990
Deaconess (Retired)	Ann Butler	818160
Readers	Dave Bell John Butterworth David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 816713 813712 817987
Music Co-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	Kate or Irene	(Office)	811990
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CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street.

Head: Mrs Lynne Croxall B.Ed.(Hons)	354125
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Christ Church C.E.(Aided) Middle School, Old Road

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

Christ Church



and People

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

Cover Story:- Meaford School (see page 15)

May 2009

Fri	1	1:10pm	Assembly at Alleynes
Sat	2	8:30am	Prayer meeting, Breakfast in the Centre at 9am
Sun	3	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. 2 Timothy 1:8-18 "The Saviour's achievement" Evening Prayer at Oulton Mark 6:30-44 "Jesus the provider"
Mon	4		
Tue	5	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30am Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School Lighthouse Youth Club Christ Church Youth Club Visitation service at Tittensor
Wed	6	1:10pm	Assembly at Alleynes
Thu	7	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	8	6:30pm	Breathe
Sat	9		
Sun	10	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer 2 Timothy 2:1-13 "The essentials" Communion at Oulton Mark 6:45-56 "Jesus the rescuer"
Mon	11	7:00pm 7:30pm	Cornerstone for teenagers Christ Church PCC
Tue	12	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30am Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School Lighthouse Youth Club Christ Church Youth Club
Wed	13	1:10pm 7:30pm	Assembly at Alleynes Deanery Synod at Fulford
Thu	14	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	15	6:30pm	Breathe
Sat	16	7:30pm	Christian Aid Quiz in the Centre (see page 12)

May 2009

Sun	17	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion 2 Timothy 2:14-26 "Approved workmen" Evening Prayer at Oulton. Mark 7:1-23 "Jesus the revealer"
Mon	18	7:00pm	Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	19	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30am Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School Lighthouse Youth Club Christ Church Youth Club
Wed	20	10:00am	Men's Fellowship
Thu	21	1:20pm 7:30pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly Deanery Ascension Day communion at Cotes Heath
Fri	22	6:30pm	Breathe
Sat	23		
Sun	24	9:15am 6:00pm	Family Service. 2 Timothy 3:1-9 "Signs of the times" Communion at Oulton. Mark 7:24-30 "Jesus for all"
Mon	25		
Tue	26	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before midweek service Midweek service
Wed	27		
Thu	28		
Fri	29		
Sat	30		
Sun	31	9:15am 4:00pm	Morning Prayer 2 Timothy 3:10-17 "Equipped to serve" Picnic at Moddershall, followed by- Evening Prayer at Moddershall Mark 7:31-37 "Jesus the joy giver"

Integrity

Recently there have been a number of sleaze stories in the media. One startling story after another has been publicised: the leakage of security information; inappropriate humour in public broadcasting; generous financial packages for outgoing heads of failing businesses; the serious neglect of residents in care homes; some surprising details of parliamentary ministers expense claims; the wayward e-talk of government employees. Whether it has been right to publicise such information or whether the media have crossed the line in terms of standards is being debated as people have reacted with a mixture of surprise and protest. We expect people to act responsibly.

In particular public office relies on earning the respect of the public. We instinctively know that things should not be this way. We know too that those who do act with integrity are not always given credit or an easy time for not compromising. At the end of the day bad behaviour tarnishes the reputation of those who govern us and leads to a disregard for an institution whose existence is for our good.

The church is not without fault. It too can be dogged by double standards. Yet it has a far greater responsibility to display integrity by living a Christ-like life as it upholds the Bible's teaching. The reason for this greater responsibility is that Jesus' followers are ambassadors for Christ. Sinful behaviour reflects badly on the risen and ascended Lord Jesus who reigns in heaven and is to be worshipped as the majestic king. Where there is a lack of integrity in the church it leads to cynicism or mistrust of Christians who are hypocrites.

The vital importance of Christian integrity is spelt out again and again in the Bible. Here's just one striking example that I reread recently: "*Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life*" (Phil 2v14-16a). Followers of Christ are to display the glorious truth of the Lord Jesus in the way we think, speak and act towards others. If our words and lifestyle match, then we will display integrity and this will encourage faithful devotion of others to the Lord Jesus.



Paul Kingman.

Life Follows Death. There's No Other Way

I'm writing this one day after Easter. We have been pondering the death of Jesus – that great moment when God pushed us to one side and achieved salvation entirely by himself. And we have celebrated the powerful resurrection, when death itself was silenced.

Death then resurrection: that's the pattern. That's how God did it through Jesus, and that is how his followers are to live also.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he **must** deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it.” (Matthew 16:24-25)

This is the next verse in my little series on verses that, on the whole, are not *actually* believed by Christians in the West. We live in a culture that glorifies selfishness: chose the partner that makes *me* happy, follow *my* dreams wherever they lead, change church when it stops meeting *my* tastes, don't bother attending church when it doesn't suit *my* timetable.

Jesus says such an attitude is incompatible with being one of his followers. Ultimately, living to suit *my* life will result in me losing it. But if I trust Jesus, throwing away my interests and following his priorities, I will discover eternal life. In every decision, both great and small, a Christian is called to die with Christ – yet with complete confidence that Good Friday is *always* followed by Easter Sunday.

Unless a seed falls into the ground and dies, it cannot bear fruit. We have too many living people in the Church and not enough who are dead to the world. Dead people have nothing to lose in battle. They fight with abandon. They fight despite overwhelming odds. They fight with weapons that are not theirs simply because they own nothing of their own anymore. Therefore, God equips them with His weapons and His gifts. And those dead people change the world.

The cross is death to the self. And until we're dead, we're useless to the Kingdom.

(<http://tinyurl.com/c3jm67> – from the Cerulean Sanctum blog)

By the time you read this Easter may seem a distant memory. But don't forget the pattern: death, then life. The cross is the path to joy – so let's pursue joy together!

Tim Vasby-Burnie
tim@vasbyburnie.net

Review by Tim Vasby-Burnie

It's the question that lies behind so much of our actions and behaviour: who am I? Who are You? We live in times when asking this question is as vital as ever, yet the answers seem in short supply. Enter “You: An Introduction” by Michael Jensen.

Over 15 short chapters this book explores different aspects of what it means to be human: such as having bodies or being children. This is a fun and fascinating read. *Fun* because Michael Jensen writes in a conversational way about topics of immediate interest. He is happy to quote well-known theologians The Red Hot Chili Peppers alongside some dead guy called Karl Barth. Like the title, even the section headings within each chapter cause a wry smile in the reader. *Fascinating* because he has clearly done his research (even interviewing body piercing aficionados!) so that he writes as someone who knows both the world and the Bible. Although short, in each chapter you will find serious engagement with issues of profound significance.

Apart from the last three, there is no need to read each chapter in order. This makes it great for dipping in and out of: ideal bed time reading. Yet from cover to cover Michael Jensen shows that the question of who we are is essentially bound up with the question of who Jesus is. Knowledge of Christianity is never assumed; instead, you will find a compelling portrait of Jesus and a convincing discussion of his relevance.

This is a great book to give to non-Christian friends, even those who tend not to read books. Or maybe for Christians in their late teens through to early thirties. Certainly anyone will find a great deal here to enrich your thought and conversation with others. Perhaps the best way to use it would be as a conversation starter – maybe by being used as the basis for group reading and discussion. “You: An Introduction” began life as a blog and each chapter concludes with some of the comments posted online, so you feel invited to continue the discussion wherever it leads. Best of all, whether you read it individually or with others, you will discover how Jesus is the answer to our deepest questions.

Available at www.thegoodbook.co.uk

See the author introduce his book at

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBe9BNg_i38

EASTER FLOWERS

The Flower Guild would like to thank everyone for their kind donations towards the purchase of flowers for Easter.

Marylyn Hillman

7 Bishops issue emergency appeal for Myanmar (Burma)

The four bishops in the Church of England's Diocese of Lichfield have tonight issued an emergency appeal for prayers and cash for the people of Myanmar (Burma).

The bishops of Lichfield, Shrewsbury, Stafford and Wolverhampton have written to all churches in the Diocese asking for special collections to be taken up in churches on Sunday 11th or 18th May to support the Bishop of Lichfield's Emergency Appeal. They are also asking church councils to make special one-off donations in response to the crisis.

In their letter, the Rt Revd Jonathan Gledhill, Bishop of Lichfield; the Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith, Bishop of Shrewsbury; the Rt Revd Gordon Mursell, Bishop of Stafford; and the Rt Revd Clive Gregory, Bishop of Wolverhampton; say: "Like us, you are no doubt watching the pictures from Myanmar (Burma) with a feeling of helplessness, and asking "What can I do to help?" It is difficult to know what to do when faced with a disaster on this magnitude: tens of thousands dead, 40,000 people missing and one million people homeless.

"But there are two things we can do which will make a big difference. We can pray and we can give."

The bishops are also asking youth groups in the diocese to consider staging special fundraising events, such as car washes and talent auctions to raise funds. Every penny received from the appeal will be used to aid the people of Burma, primarily through the Anglican Church in Myanmar working with the mission agency USPG: Anglicans in World Mission.

The bishop's say: "Some people have already given through the Disasters Emergency Committee. However, we wish to commend a way of responding further, following the lead of our companion diocese of West Malaysia, which has close ties with the Anglican Church of Myanmar. The Anglican dioceses in Burma are already engaged in long-term agricultural, educational and sustainable development initiatives. Local churches in the country are already deeply involved in the current relief efforts, but they are already looking to the rebuilding and replanting work that will be essential in the coming weeks and months.

"Our partners in West Malaysia have already sent an immediate cash gift to the Church in Burma, and Bishop Ng Moon Hing has appealed to his congregations for funds and also for two or three volunteers to go to Burma and report back on what more needs to be done.

(continued on next page)

“Of course, in addition to financial gifts, we also need to pray for the victims of the disaster – those who are bereaved, those who are injured, the homeless, the suffering; we need to pray for the leaders of Burma and for the international community – including the United Nations – that a way will be found for the international community to play a full part in the relief efforts; we need to pray for the Christian community of Burma, for strength and wisdom as they respond to the disaster around them; and we need to pray for international aid agencies, including British organisations such as the Disasters Emergency Committee, and its members, which include Christian Aid and Tearfund, as they consider how best to bring relief from the suffering.”

They add: “Please respond positively to this disaster and demonstrate the love of God in a practical way to desperate people.”

People can support the appeal by sending a cheque, payable to “Bishop of Lichfield’s Emergency Appeal” to Saint Mary’s House, The Close, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 7LD or through internet banking (Sort Code: 30-95-04; Account number: 01559211; Account name: Bishop of Lichfield's Emergency Appeal). A Gift Aid pledge form is available online at www.lichfield.anglican.org/emergency.

Sermon series starting in May

Mornings in Stone and Oulton:

Paul’s second letter to his colleague Timothy was written from prison. It is literally Paul’s ‘last will and testament’ as his own future is soon to end. Here Paul instructs his colleague about the foundations of the faith for the community of faithful believers. They must guard the good news by living and proclaiming it.

Moddershall & Evenings:

We look at a large swathe of Jesus’ teachings in his hometown and its surrounds and the mission entrusted to his disciples. There is opposition to the truth leading to the rejection of Jesus in Nazareth. Only those whose eyes Jesus opens respond with faith. Here we learn of Jesus and his followers: what characterises their identity, their call and their mission.

Ian Hawley - a brief obituary

Ian Hawley was born on 10th April 1939 in S.W. Sheffield and died on 30 Mar 09 aged 69 in Stone. Ian was a lifelong supporter of Sheffield United and Vauxhall cars!

His working life began with a business apprenticeship at a steel firm in Sheffield. He studied and qualified as a Chartered Secretary before training as a lecturer in Huddersfield where he met his wife Sheila. Ian lectured at Aston College in Birmingham until 1972. They moved to Trentham when Ian got a post at Newcastle College in North Staffs. Ian joined Barlston golf club and by his own admission 'played with much enthusiasm, but not much success!' He was delighted to be club President in 2002. He was treasurer at Trentham church (1993-2002); treasurer for the golf club; then, when they moved to Stone in August 2003, he was assistant treasurer at Christ Church and secretary to the Stone Deanery. Ian applied himself with persistence and was a great servant of the Lord Jesus despite his poor health. He will be greatly missed, but well remembered.

Revd Paul Kingman.

Thank you from Sheila

Thank you all for your love, support and prayers after the sudden death of Ian.

Thanks to Paul and Tim for their prayers and the time they gave to listen and to Adam for reading at the thanksgiving service. Many people commented on the service; they especially appreciated the music beforehand. (My musical neighbour commented how beautifully Jim and Sue played.) Thanks also to the Coalport Drive Home Group who served the hot drinks afterwards. A final thank you to Marylyn who decided to use the flowers as they were and place them at the foot of cross, which I found very moving on Easter Sunday morning.

The money raised for Tearfund will go towards their new campaign *Make Life Flow* (for water and sanitation projects).

Sheila Hawley

LADIES. MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

BODY AND SOUL

1 4 T H M A Y 2 0 0 9
T H U R S D A Y

Where and for Whom?	BODY	SOUL	Want more info?
<p>Christ Church Centre Christ Church Way, Stone ST15 8EB at 7:30 pm All Ladies invited!</p>	<p>Get creative! Come take part in jewelry making led by the talented twosome, Jeanette Rowland and Mary Holden. There will also be plenty of delicious canapes for our taste buds to enjoy.</p>	<p>It is always encouraging and challenging to hear what God has done in the lives of His children. Emma Greenbough is traveling from New Ferry on the Wirral to give us a peek inside her life experiences...</p>	<p>Speak to Sue (812 669), Caroline (814 244) or Helen Clare (813 654) Invitations from Church Office: 811 990</p>

A Lineage of Grace, by Francine Rivers

Tyndale House Publishers, ISBN-10: 0-8423-7110-9

ISBN-13: 978-0-8423-7110-0 Book Review

Have you ever wondered what motivated Rahab the prostitute to hide the Isarelite spies? Or how it felt for Ruth to lose her father-in-law, brother-in-law and husband? What it was like for Bathsheba bringing up her sons in King David's household? Or how Mary felt when Jesus disappeared for 40 days after his baptism?

In this book, Francine Rivers enters the lives of five women who are mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus, and fleshes out the Biblical accounts in a way that brings them vividly to life. Yes, it's fiction, but the stories are firmly rooted in scripture and the historical context of each is faithfully researched. I found that, while reading them, I was constantly prompted to flick through my Bible and check out the validity or plausibility of the narrative, and was often surprised at how my understanding was broadened by what I discovered. Each story also comes with a "Seek and Find" study section at the end; I didn't use these myself, but they might be useful for group discussion.

This publication is the omnibus edition of five independent novellas, each available separately. I bought the full version because it was cheaper that way, but I'm glad I did, and I've already recommended it to lots of my friends. May I recommend it to you too? Sue Kingman

Christian Aid Trek

You may have noticed in the Press that one of the events being advertised to raise money for Christian aid this year will be a sponsored trek along Hadrians wall. This will take place from 3 to 5 July.

Margaret and Barry Hutchinson and Alison Greer had already decided to carry out the trek along the wall but not during Christian Aid week, however they would like sponsors and will split the money that they raise, equally between Christian Aid and the Donna Louise Trust.

The Hutchinson/Greer trek will take place between 23 to 25 May and will be for a distance of 42 miles so you can sponsor us individually or as a group for the whole trek or, if you are feeling particularly generous, per mile (remember that one of us is of quite an advanced age).

Don't delay, sign up today.



Solar energy in Malawi

A solar-driven water project is helping people in central Malawi.

Colombia: caught in the crossfire

Christian Aid Partner PDPMM is helping communities find some sort of peace amid the violence of Colombia's Magdalena Medio region.

Bangladesh: how your money helps

A rickshaw puller from northern Bangladesh has not looked back since he received a batch of ducks on credit from a Christian Aid partner.

India: Deccan Development Society

The Deccan Development Society has helped revolutionise the lives of thousands of women in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

Bolivia

Our Bolivian partner CEDLA played a key role in campaigning for and winning a fair share of its country's gas and oil tax revenue.

Quiz in aid of Christian Aid on Saturday 16th May at 7.30pm in the Centre £3.00 per person, come on your own or bring a team. Second hand book sale and refreshments at the interval.

Phil Tunstall would like help taking out and collecting envelopes.

A Knight's Quest

Just after Easter this year, Sir Prance Alot (Shelagh Sanders) and his trusty sidekick Jester Minute (Jacqueline Abrahams) got fed up with living in the Kingdom of Smell with all its whiffs and pongs, and decided to set out to find a better kingdom to belong to. On Tuesday 17th April they arrived outside the kingdom of King Ethelred the Brave (Christ Church, Stone) and began their quest to enter the kingdom. Here they were joined by nearly 50 children from all over Stone and the surrounding area, cunningly disguised as six regiments from English castles, and more than 20 leaders, bedecked in beautifully crafted tabards. Before our valiant pair could get through the gates, they were stopped by Princess Sweet Pea (Emma Sanders) who claimed to be the king's daughter and set them various challenges to complete, all of which they failed miserably! However, every day the travelling story-tellers (Paul Kingman and Adam Rushton) would come by and tell us all wonderful stories about King Jesus to cheer us up, which we would discuss back at the barracks, and there were songs about him too.

The princess's challenges inspired a feisty games tournament between the regiments, and various craft projects to make. Then the Master of Quizzes (Tim Vasby-Burnie) would turn up and test us on all we had learnt. Eventually, Princess Sweet Pea overstepped the mark and sent Sir Prance Alot to steal treasure from Dragon Malevolent, who captured him and held him to ransom. Well, Jester Minute didn't have two farthings to rub together, and all seemed to be lost, until a mysterious knight (Tom Woodhead) arrived and offered to rescue Sir Prance Alot himself! Great was the rejoicing on his return, when we realised that the mysterious knight was none other than King Ethelred the Brave, and that he had paid the price for Sir Prance Alot's ransom. Princess Sweet Pea was shown to be an impostor, and our brave pair were finally allowed into the kingdom, if they agreed to be faithful subjects of the good king. There was great rejoicing too as we realised that Jesus the King does the same for us – pays the price for our failures and welcomes us into his wonderful kingdom if we trust in him.

I am very grateful to the fantastic team of leaders and helpers who made this year's Holiday Club one to remember. Thank you all.

Sue Kingman



Great - Sophie

Fantastic - Jessica

Too good for words - David

Amazing - Patrick



Great and very exciting, a lot of fun. Jennifer

Castle building is best - Hannah

I like the castle-building - Alice

Really good - Eloise

Really, really good - Maia

Everything is the best bit

3rd May

Saltersford Rise
Rolt Close
Millenium Way
Cameron Wharf

10th May

The Crescent
Millers Gate
Harley Drive
End of Granville Terrace

**17th May**

Albert Street
Alexandra Street
Arthur Street
Berkeley Street

24th May

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court

31st May

Kent Grove
Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent

Meaford School (1885)

A new teacher (Miss Dukes) was appointed to the Meaford School in July 1885. The vicar, Revd Pearman, took the opportunity to write a few words in the magazine concerning the education of children.

Many parents seem to think that if a child is *sent* to school there is an end of the whole matter, and all responsibility is discharged. There are *three* things laid down which would be well if parents would bear them in mind. They are (a) Attendance, (b) Demeanour, (c) Progress. Now just to take these one by one—

(a) *Attendance.* This should be *regular* and *punctual*. An irregular child is a hindrance to a school. Yet how many children are kept away half days for the most trivial reasons. Then they should be *in time*. A late mark is a *lost* mark and a *lost* lesson. Parents can do much in this way to help forward the teacher's work. (b) *Demeanour.* Good behaviour and tidiness, neatness in dress and appearance, all very necessary habits, and are amongst the best lessons a child can be taught, (c) *Progress.* If the first two are attended to, then you may leave this to the teacher.

It is sure to follow.

FROM THE REGISTERS

FUNERALS

5th April	Marjorie Hawcroft	Age 78
6th April	Ian Hawley	Age 69
7th April	Richard Francis Belfield	Age 64

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

3rd May	D. Davies	M. Hutchinson
	I. Gassor	B. Hutchinson
10th May	J. Abrahams	T. MacFarlane
	A. West	D. Pickles
17th May	V. Ledward	P. Hipkiss
	K. Thompson	J. Rowlands
24th May	D. Wilson	A. Greer
	C. Wilding	G. Holden
31st May	D. Davies	M. Hutchinson
	I. Gassor	B. Hutchinson

FLOWER ROTA

3rd May	Mrs S Vaughan
10th May	Mrs M Hutchinson
17th May	Mrs G Martin
24th May	Mrs G Banks
31st May	Mrs A Illidge



Christ Church on the Internet

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

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 Circle	Jeanette Rowlands.....816713
Pastoral Care Group	Ann Butler.....818160
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 in the Centre during term time.

Monday Toddlers 9.30 am

THE MAGAZINE TEAM

Mission News & Prayer Diary Cecilia Wilding 817987

Please send material for the magazine to

Dave Bell, c/o Christ Church Parish Office, Christ Church Way,
Staffs ST15 8ZB or by email to christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

Christ Church welcomes you!

Whether you are new to the Stone area or have been living here for some time you are welcome to come to this church. The church is made up of adults and children who want to know more about the living God, who has supremely revealed Himself in Jesus Christ and continues to speak to us through His Spirit-inspired word, the Holy Bible (which can be read online at www.biblegateway.com and we recommend a modern translation e.g. the New International Version or English Standard Version).

We are a Christian church, because at the heart of what we believe is the fact that to know God personally we must put our trust in Jesus' death for our forgiveness so that we can be reconciled to God. We are part of the Anglican church, the basis of its Trinitarian belief is summarised in the Book of Common Prayer with its 39 articles, though we unite in Christ irrespective of denomination. We are an Evangelical church, as we see that the Bible is God's word for us and so is to inspire all that we do. This church was established with the help of the renowned Charles Simeon.

Our church meetings help us to grow in our understanding of what the Bible tells us about God, and this is something that we encourage others to investigate especially through our *Christianity Explored* course (see details on the national website www.christianityexplored.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