

Christ Church and People

30p



October

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

2006

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

Vicar	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
Parish Administrator and Electoral Roll Officer	Irene Gassor (Office) (Home)	811990 814871
Parish Office	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email christchurchcentre@pgen.net	
Youth Worker	Thomas Nash	286551
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Music Co-ordinators	Peter Mason Jeff Challinor	815854 819665
Wardens	Phil Tunstall David Rowlands	817028 816713
Deputy Wardens	Shirley Hallam, Arthur Foulkes	
Prayer Request List	Barbara Thornicroft	818700

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Booking Secretary	Shelagh Sanders (Office) (Home)	811990 760602
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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



and People

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

Cover Story: Jerry Cooper drew lots of wonderful pictures for this magazine, all of them buildings in our parish. Here is a picture of houses at Whitebridge

Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website	www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc
Parish office email	christchurchcentre@pgen.net
Magazine contributions	christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

October 2006

Su	1	9.15 am 6.00pm	Morning Prayer : Mark 11:12-26 " <i>The Son is Judge</i> " Communion Christ Church:Celebration of Reader Ministry Sermon Text: Isaiah 50:4-9a "Struggling to engage"
Mo	2	9.00am 1.30pm 7.00pm	Prayers for the schools and young people of the town Christ Church Middle School Harvest service at School Harvest Supper at Moddershall Village Hall for the benefice
Tu	3	9.30am 12.00 7.00pm 7.30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Seekers group at the Middle School Christ Church First School governors meeting Youth Club in the centre
We	4	2.00pm	Mothers Union Communion Service joint with Oulton Mothers Union held at Christ Church
Th	5	1.20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fr	6	9.30am	Christ Church First School Harvest Service
Sa	7	8.30am 9.00am	Prayers in church followed by Breakfast in the Centre
Su	8	9.15am 6.00pm	Morning Prayer Mark 11: 27-12:12" <i>The Son is rejected</i> " Communion Service at Christ Church Sermon Text: Malachi 1 " <i>The Lord's love</i> "
Mo	9	9.00am 6.30pm	Prayers for the schools and young people of the town Cornerstone for teenagers at 78 Oulton Road
Tu	10	10.30am 7.30pm	Communion in Church Youth Club in the centre
We	11	7.30pm	PCC mission action plan meeting
Th	12	1.20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fr	13		
Sa	14		
Su	15	9.15am 6.00pm	Communion Service Sermon Text: Mark 12: 13-27" <i>Teacher of the critics</i> " Evening Prayer Bereavement Service Sermon Text: Malachi 2 " <i>The Lord's rebuke</i> "

Mo	16	9.00am 6.30pm	Prayers for the schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers at 78 Oulton Road
Tu	17	9.30am 7.30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Youth Club in the centre
We	18	8.00pm	Keele Bible Assembly at Keele University
Th	19	1.20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fr	20		
Sa	21		
Su	22	9.15am 6.00pm	Family Service Sermon Text: Mark 12: 28-34 " <i>The greatest commandment</i> " Communion Service at Christ Church Sermon Text: Malachi 3 " <i>The Lord's messenger</i> "
Mo	23		
Tu	24	10.30	Communion in Church
We	25		
Th	26		
Fr	27		
Sa	28		
Su	29	9.15am 6.30pm	Morning Prayer Sermon Text: Mark 12: 35-44 " <i>Misleading assumptions</i> " Churches Together in Stone at St John's Stone Sermon Text: Malachi 4 " <i>The day of the Lord</i> "
Mo	30	9.00am 6.30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers, at 78 Oulton Road
Tu	31	9.30am 4.00pm 7.30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Children's Light Party Youth Club in the centre

Activities for young people take place in the centre during the Sunday morning service each Sunday except the fourth 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 other Lord's Prayer.

In the Lord's Prayer we say '*give us this day our daily bread*' – it slips off the tongue easily. At our Harvest services we celebrate with gladness that "all is safely gathered in" as the hymn puts it. It's certainly good to give thanks to God for all that He has provided: our lives depend on having a good harvest even though we have superior crop technology and more sophisticated storage systems than ever before. But it takes hard work, patience, planning and sheer effort to produce the crops and lots of workers to bring in the harvest – even though God is the one who gives the growth. So, Harvest Festival services we celebrate God's general grace: the fact that He shows undeserved favour to all by supplying our basic needs.

Do you know the other Lord's Prayer? Do you know why he taught us to pray it? Jesus said to his disciples: '*The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few*' (Mt 9v37). We then get the other Lord's Prayer as Jesus spells out the consequence of this need for workers: '*Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field*' (Mt 9v38). A harvest of lost souls needs to be gathered in during the time that remains before the return of Jesus Christ as our judge. It's a major task with limited time and so we are to pray for more workers. Such workers will need to be grown up from within congregations as they are trained in handling the Bible and given the experience in gospel ministry. It's great that a long-standing member of Christ Church, Peter Nisbeck, is being ordained for ministry in Newcastle under Lyme and also that we can celebrate the re-licensing of our Reader team (both on 1st October: the first at Lichfield a.m. and the latter at Christ Church p.m.). But one thing is clear: when people believe the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ, they can't but be engaged in spreading the gospel. When we experience the grace of God* the consequence is that we will long for others to know it for themselves. This relationship with Christ is evidenced in our prayers for the lost, our spoken witness as we talk about what it means to know and follow Jesus, and it will also be seen in our actions. These things express our love for Christ as we obey his commands that direct our prayers, our speech and our actions. (continued on next page)

The other Lord's Prayer (cont)

So, will you pray the other Lord's Prayer for more harvest workers? Will you give yourself to supporting our local efforts to bring in the harvest of souls? The time is running out before Jesus Christ's return. Let's pray that that all will be safely gathered in before he comes and let's give ourselves to his service so that it is.

Paul Kingman.



* The discipleship course called *Christianity Explored* begins again this month – it explores God's grace. Join in to find out more.

Celebration of Reader Ministry: Sun 1st October 6.00 p.m.

At the evening service of Sunday 1st October we welcome Revd Canon Brian Reeve as our guest preacher at our service of celebration of Reader ministry. Brian was a former Vicar of Christ Church from 1974-84.

The role of the Reader is to support the ministry in our benefice of churches through their licence to preach and lead services. In this benefice our team of Readers enable us to enjoy a variety of services in each of our three church buildings. Periodically the Readers have to have their licences renewed after approval by the PCCs. This has now been done, but we want to mark this locally. So, do join us for the service and refreshments afterwards to support the Readers and to meet Brian and his wife Catharine.

Confirmation Service November 5th 2006

There will be a Confirmation Service at Christ Church on Sunday November 5th. If you are interested in becoming confirmed, please speak to Paul Kingman.

The Ultimate Discovery

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Christianity Explored is a 7-week course in Christian faith. The course is suitable either as an introduction or as a refresher to the Christian faith.

We make no charge for the course which begins again on Thursday 5th October 2006 at Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone.

Contact John and Jan Butterworth for details or see the website
www.christianityexplored.com

Gift Day Service: Sunday 29th October.

The support of the ministry of Christ Church depends entirely on the gifts of those who attend. We aim to help all who follow Christ to know him better and to make him better known in obedience to the great commission to 'make disciples.'

Once a year we aim to hold a special gift day service to provide a special opportunity to respond to God's goodness to us. God has graciously shown us His great love and kindness in the gift of His Son Jesus Christ. He has given us many resources to be stewards of including our time, energy, skills, property, homes and income. It is important that we consider Jesus' teaching about how to handle our wealth and to review our giving, so that we do not feel under compulsion but are able to give thoughtfully, regularly and joyfully.

From Sunday 7th October a letter will be sent to all on the electoral roll and others who are part of the church family. This will give time to consider under God what our response should be. The gift day service will be a time when we celebrate together: '*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, His love endures forever!*' (Psalm 136v1).

Paul Kingman.

“Back to School” slogans calling out from shop windows and blackberries appearing in abundance in the hedgerows—both annual signs that the Autumn Term is here again. A chance for both teachers and pupils to make a fresh start.

We have welcomed 17 new children and their families into our Reception Class and several more have joined older classes — already they are settling into school routine—confidently sporting new haircuts and smart shoes! We hope that they enjoy working together in our home/school partnership.

Whilst we have had our holidays, teams of decorators and tradesmen have been busy in the building and we have returned to find the hall bright and freshly decorated, curtains cleaned and the floor just dazzlingly sanded and polished! A most refreshing place to be.

Immediately on our return, we begin our busy schedule of events. Our Choir children have been invited to sing at Lichfield Cathedral on November 7th and in preparation for this, the organist and 6 choristers are to visit us for lunch and then to spend some time rehearsing the songs with us. We are very excited to have been invited and we are looking forward to meeting the boys and finding out more about the Cathedral School. We are hoping that they will enjoy our lunchtime activities in the playground!

On October 6th we will celebrate Harvest with a service of praise and thanksgiving in Church. During the service we are thrilled to be able to ask Rev. Kingman to dedicate the beautiful Worship Table cover which has been made for us by the members of the Banner Group. They looked at designs generated by the children and over a period of many months have used these ideas and have designed and prepared a table cover which is cleverly reversible and will enable us to display Harvest, Easter, Christmas and school scenes, depending on the time of year. (continued on next page)

We wish to thank the Banner Group members most sincerely for all their hard work and commitment which has resulted in this beautiful gift. It will certainly add to our times of stillness and reflection as it covers our Worship Table. Thank you once again. As a school we really value the extra dimension of richness which these links with our Church family bring to us.

Janet Booth
Early Years' Coordinator.



The Secret of Living

The secret of living
is learning to pray-
Its asking our Father
for strength for the day!
Its trusting completely
that his boundless grace
will overcome care
and each problem we face!
Its walking by faith
every mile that we plod.
And knowing our prayers
bring us closer to God!

Whatsoever ye shall ask
in prayer, believing ye
shall receive.

Matthew 21.22

Audrey

Duke of Edinburgh Service

As you may already know, Bethan Beauchamp and I are in the middle of our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, and we both have chosen to do the service part of the award at Christ Church.

Our aims are to help keep the church tidy, serve refreshments after selected services and help at some events being held in the church centre etc.

We hope to give help where it is needed, so if you find something that needs doing around the church, don't be afraid to ask us (as long as we are not *too* busy or on holiday!).

Tom Woodhead

Sparkford 3 CYFA Venture

Sparkford 3 CYFA Venture was from 17th to 25th August this year. Tom Woodhead, Alex Bramham, Clare and I set off down to the South West eagerly anticipating the week ahead.

We were staying in Hazlegrove House, a boarding preparatory school near Yeovil with brilliant facilities. It has tennis courts, squash courts, an indoor swimming pool, a large sports hall, 9 hole golf course, all weather sports pitch, craft rooms and much more.

The theme this year for the venture was Sparkford All American High School. We had a great time doing lots of themed events. There was a home coming pep rally, an All American All Stars tournament, a themed meal, a film school in location in Sherborne and even a nerd prom night to finish with.

There were also off site activities too. There was a day at the beach, bowling, laser quest, climbing, high ropes, water slide activities, a dance school to name a few.

The main thrust of the venture though is to introduce the young people to the person of Jesus Christ through the Bible and encourage those who are already Christians to continue relying on Jesus alone. This was done through seminars, Bible studies and Bible talks.

The seminars included such topics as, 'Can you trust the Bible?', 'What about those who've not heard?', 'The occult', 'School' and 'Relationships.' These were all very helpful and produced lots of discussion.

The evening talks covered a wide range of main doctrines such as sin and judgement, the cross, Church, the Christian life and Bible reading. They were really good at correcting common misconceptions and giving clear, practical Bible teaching on these issues.

The morning Bible studies covered passages on person of Jesus, the resurrection, creation, reassurance, Jesus' return, prayer and evangelism. And again they were a very useful time to ask questions and study God's word in small groups.

We all had a brilliant time and are looking forward to next year. our hope is that even more people will be able to come to Sparkford 3 2007. Tom Nash

St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy

St Luke's Hospital for the clergy is one of the organisations to which Christ Church gives a small donation each year, but what does it do? The following extracts from their web site (www.stlukeshospital.org.uk) and a recent letter will give us some idea.

The very special spirit of St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy

St Luke's is a hospital providing free treatment for Anglican clergy and their dependent families, and certain others involved in ministry. Founded in 1892 and completely modernised in 1994, it is one of London's most up-to-date acute hospitals. It also provides private treatment for non-clergy.

Our Aim

Our aim is simple – to heal and make whole again all those who are eligible for treatment at St Luke's, to do so as quickly as we can, and as far as possible at a time convenient to the patient so that they may return to their families and ministries with the minimum of delay and disruption.

At present the Hospital is closed for refurbishment but their work is continuing. They write ' While we are closed we will still be able to look after the health needs of clergy, their spouses and dependent children, ordinands, Church Army Officers and monks and nuns of the Church of England. Our Honorary Consultants (200 of the country's leading clinicians) will continue to provide support in the form of consultations, though these will be in their rooms. If treatment is needed, this will have to be in local NHS facilities. Our psychiatric service will not be affected. The Hospital should be fully open again early in 2007.

In a **recent letter**, they write – 'there has been a marked increase in patients from overseas over the last year - particularly Africa. These clergy and their families come to us, often, as a last resort when their condition is far more advanced and treatment more complex. The cost of treatment is high but absolutely vital. These clergy and missionaries are often the only trustworthy leaders in their communities. In an increasingly turbulent world, we are passionate about the need to heal these people and return them to their flock.'

(Funds are needed to maintain the free service the Hospital provides and for the refurbishment. If you would like to help financially in addition to what Christ Church already sends, have a word with Cecilia and/or look on their web site – www.stlukeshospital.org.uk)

From our American Correspondent

Dear Friends

It's great to receive the Parish Mag by email every month while we're away. We feel so close to all of you.

It has been an exciting time these last few days – Tropical Storm Ernesto arrived, travelling north from Florida where it had picked up a great deal of water which it proceeded to dump all over us, the *Phyllis May*, and the boatyard indiscriminately, for 18 hours. The waters rose until they covered our pontoon and spread into the Carpenters Shop, the Machine Shed and almost everywhere else. The approach road to the yard was under water and passable only by 4-wheel drives. Terry had to have a hernia operation two weeks ago so I had to carry Jim through six inches of water to a small dry area three times a day. Jim weighs 30lbs!

At times like these I find that the Psalmist David feels everything that I am feeling, and says it much better. “I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help”. “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death”.

I was concerned that I would not be able to get to church but by Sunday morning the floods had started to recede and we could get the car out again. Our first hymn was “lead us heavenly Father, lead us, o'er the world's tempestuous sea”!! And during the announcements a lady explained that she hadn't been able to contact people as planned about some church function because her house had been struck by lightning and all the electrics were burnt out.

I will write again soon. Please keep us in your prayers.

Monica Darlington

(Monica and Terry, together with Jim (a whippet) are making a voyage in their narrowboat along the south-east coast of the USA)

Reflections on the Joscelyne's year at Hebron School in South India. Hebron is an international school which serves missionary families around Asia.

It was just over a year ago when we said our goodbyes at a great farewell party at Pete and Liz Mason's house and garden. It was a lovely lazy sunny day with train rides put on for us. Erica was just about toddling and still unsteady on her feet.

My family took us to the airport – destination South India. We were one of those families that everybody tut tuts at because of our overflowing luggage trolley. We were wondering exactly what God had in store for us. We had a mixture of feeling a little nervous and excited but the in-flight and travel demands of a 1½ year old didn't allow us to think much about what was in store. The last section of the journey was up a mountain to Ootacamund, the hill station where Hebron School is situated, was gruelling, very tiring, very scary but breathtakingly beautiful.

Dominic's job was to be primary carer to Erica and also contribute to the ICT (computer) department and I was to teach technology. Many mothers (and other primary carers) will agree that being the primary carer of a young child is the most difficult job they have undertaken. Dominic now has massive respect for any parent who takes on this role. I have seen Erica's relationship with her daddy absolutely blossom over the last year and the time and energy he has invested in her has paid dividends. One of Dominic's main accomplishments professionally was to write a programme for Hoz (the hospital on site) which is now helping the health team manage records of the staff and student community.

I was assigned to teach technology. Technology as a subject in schools is varied and parts of it I had previously taught. However, what I was asked to teach was nothing I had done myself, never mind taught. So, steep learning curve for me. I was lucky that my head of department was very patient and spent time showing me how to cut, shape, form and join wood, metal and plastic. I was a little stumped over electronics but was supported by Dominic to the extent that he even delivered some of these lessons. (continued on next page)

Reflections on the Joscelyne's year at Hebron School in South India. (cont)

He never thought he'd be back in the classroom when he left teaching about six years ago. God always seems to have these surprises in store.

Whenever we met the parents of the children it reminded us why we were there. The parents were serving all over Asia and their stories were always interesting and their faith in this service amazing.

Well, after all the hard work anguish and at times stress I think that God has given us more in terms of the opportunities and experience that we had than we could ever give to Him. Looking back it feels like what we contributed is just a drop in the ocean. But then, the ocean is made up of drops and don't we all make up God's ocean.

Thank you for your support. Clare Joscelyne

SEND A COW

I am sure that you will have seen Christmas well advertised in our shops and through your mail by now!

This year I shall not be organising "Send a Cow" subscriptions in lieu of Christmas cards to friends within our church fellowship. However I sincerely hope you will continue to support this charity or indeed one of the other charities that have introduced the same scheme into their programme of aid. Please look out for them and ask if you need any information I might have.

Thank you for the support you have previously given to this very worthwhile work.

Audrey

FAIRTRADE

Fairtrade goods will be on sale in the centre after the Family Service on October 22nd. Sheila (H)

John Ayrton of Interserve is joining us at Harvest and preaching at the Morning Service at Christ Church and Oulton. Both the Baron and Humphreys families, and Rebecca, are Interserve Partners. John has visited us before in connection with the Afghanistan eye camp appeal headed up by John Butterworth. But what is Interserve? (*The following is taken from their leaflet entitled 'this is interserve'*)

Our Roots

From its roots in India in 1852, when its vision was to train women teachers, Interserve has grown and developed and now has approximately 600 mission Partners, from nineteen different sending countries, in Asia and in the Arab world, as well as in the UK. Partners use their professional skills, such as in medicine or teaching, to share the love of Christ with the people they live and work among. Interserve England and Wales has about 150 Partners, 30 of whom work in England and Wales with Urban Vision.

Our Mission

Our mission is to serve the churches in England, Wales, the Isle of Man and the Channel Isles so that they may play their full part in serving Christ across cultures.

Our Partners

Our partners are mainly professionals who have a wide range of skills, and are willing to use them to serve others in medical, educational and development work, as well as in the arts, sports and sciences.

Interserve Partners aim to meet both the spiritual and physical needs of the people they serve. All are involved in the planting and strengthening of the church in the countries where they work.

Why get involved?

Jesus' commission to 'go and make disciples of all nations' (Matthew 28:19) applies to all Christians. We at Interserve are in partnership in mission with those who go, those who pray, and those who give in support of the Partners who work amongst the peoples of Asia, the Middle East, North Africa, wherever they may be.

Getting involved in mission – however you are called – means that you can, and will, be able to make an eternal difference in the lives of those who don't know Jesus. Why not prayerfully consider your involvement in the Lord's work through Interserve?

(If you would like to know more and get involved, ask Cecilia, or take a copy of the leaflet 'this is interserve' on top of the cupboard under the overseas notice board)

15 ROADS FOR PRAYER

Please pray for people living in these streets of our parish

1st October

Navigation Loop
Rangeley View
Barnton Edge
Anderton View

8th October

Bentley Close
Rendel Close
Brindley Close
Rudyard Close

15th October

Cressey Close
End of Granville Terrace
Cauldon Way
Harecastle Bank

22nd October

Saltersford Rise
Rolt Close
Millennium Way
Cameron Wharf

29th October

The Crescent
Joules Drive
Millers Gate
Harley Drive



Cornerstone Review-September 2006

As we look back on the last year Cornerstone has been a real highlight. We have had a great time working through Mark's Gospel but taking some detours along the way to work through the Just For Starters Bible study series.

We have had lots of fun and it has been great seeing the young people from both Christ Church and St. John's Oulton meet up each week. We have enjoyed meeting each week and having a meal followed by some games and a Bible study. We have also had question evenings when it is an open floor for questions and also an 'Invite a Friend' evening where there was a short talk explaining the truth of Christianity.

There have also been some socials this year with a film night and a cinema trip included. We are very much looking forward to the coming year and hope that those coming up to Alleyne's from Christ Church Stone and St. John the Evangelist Oulton will be keen to join us.

Also just to note that the new time of Christ Church Youth Club is Tuesdays from 7.30pm to 9pm
Tom Nash

FROM THE REGISTERS

Wedding

Sat 19th August 1.30pm Wedding of Jonathan Marsden
and Helen Bourne

Funeral

14th September Beatrice Annie Murray Age 93

JSIDESPERSIONS FOR OCTOBER

1 Oct	AM	PM
	J.Rowlands, D.Wilson M.Holden, G.Holden	D.Shemilt
8 th Oct	C.Wilding, A.Greer V.Ledward, P.Tunstall	P.Tunstall
15 th Oct	B.Hutchinson, M.Hutchinson A.West, T.MacFarlane	D.Shemilt
22 nd	P.Hipkiss, S.Hallam G.Holden, M.Holden	P.Tunstall
29 th	B.Hutchinson M.Hutchinson A.Greer, V.Ledward	D.Shemilt

FLOWER ROTA

1st	Harvest
8th	Mrs E. Leese
15th	Mrs A. West
22nd	Mothers Union
29th	Mrs D. Pickles



Deanery Synod Reps Mrs S Hallam, Mr I Hawley

P.C.C. Members	Mr J Challinor, Miss B Cooper, Mrs I Gassor Mr D Guerrard, Mrs M Hillman, Mr T Lockett Mrs E Mason, Mr P Mason, Mrs D Wilson Mrs E Woodhead	
Secretary	Jacqueline Abrahams.....	817020
Treasurer	Kevin Reynolds.....	851595
Envelopes	Ian Hawley.....	811646
Gift Aid		

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Climbers	Sandra Morray.....	286093
Explorers	Estella Woodhead.....	761659
Pathfinders	Enid Bell.....	815775
Banner Group	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
Church Missionary Boxes	Barbara Ewart.....	760352
Flower Guild	Marylyn Hillman.....	815936
Men's Fellowship	Mike Thompson.....	813712
Missions Secretary	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
Mothers' Union	Irene Gassor.....	814871
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
Uniformed Organisations	Janet Smith.....	815939
Rainbows	Mon 4.55pm	
Brownies	Mon 6.00pm	
Guides	Wed 7.00pm	

THE MAGAZINE TEAM

Editor	(Christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk)	
Mission News & Prayer Diary	Cecilia Wilding	817987

Contributions by post: The Editor, c/o Christ Church Parish Office, Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB

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