

30p

Christ Church and People



September Parish Magazine of Christ Church Stone 2007

PARISH DIRECTORY

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

Young people's activities take place in the Centre at 9.15 am

THE PARISH TEAM

Vicar	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
Curate	Tim Vasby-Burnie, 1 Navigation Loop	814244
Parish Office		811990
Electoral Roll Officer	Irene Gassor	814871
Parish Office	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	
Deaconess (Retired)	Ann Butler	818160
Readers	David Bell John Butterworth Margaret Massey David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 813403 816713 813712 817987
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	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



and People

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

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

Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website	www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc
Parish office email	christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com
Magazine contributions	christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

September 2007

Sat	1	8:30am 9:00am 12:00	Prayer meeting in church Breakfast in the Centre Wedding of David Harrison and Julie Wood
Sun	2	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion and Commissioning of Sunday School leaders. Matthew 13:1-23 "Four soil types" Evening Prayer at Oulton Church Genesis 45 "The truth is out"
Mon	3	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	4	10:30am 1:00pm 7:30pm	Midweek service Churches Together in Stone fraternal meeting Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	5	7:30pm	Standing Committee
Thu	6	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	7		
Sat	8		
Sun	9	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. Text Matthew 13:24-43 "Waiting for the harvest" Communion at Oulton. Genesis 49:8-12 "The Lion of Judah"
Mon	10	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	11	10:30am 7:30pm	Midweek service Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	12		
Thu	13	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	14		
Sat	15		
Sun	16	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. Matthew 13:44-58 "Looking for the best" Evening Prayer at Oulton Church Genesis 50 "The burying of differences"

September 2007

Mon	17	9:00am 6:30pm 7:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone Deanery Synod at Hilderstone
Tue	18	9:30am 10:30am 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Midweek service Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	19	12:00 7:30pm	Chapter meeting PCC meeting
Thu	20	1:20pm 2:00pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly Oulton Mother's Union planning fundraising event
Fri	21	8:00pm	Harvest service at Moddershall
Sat	22	5:00pm	Harvest Supper at Christ Church
Sun	23	9:15am 6:00pm	Harvest Family service. Matthew 14:13-21 "He fed 5000" Communion at Oulton Church John 1:35-51 "The harvester of souls"
Mon	24	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	25	10:30am 7:30pm	Midweek service Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	26		
Thu	27	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	28		
Sat	29		
Sun	30	9:15am 1:00pm 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. Matthew 14:22-36 "He walked on water" Lunch in the Centre celebrating Tim's ordination Communion at Oulton Church John 3:1-21 "Teacher of the teachers"

Young People's Activities take place in the Centre during the Sunday morning service except on the fourth Sunday in the month, which is the family service.

Climbers 3-7 years **Explorers** 7-11 years **Pathfinders** 11-14 years

The following activities take place every week week in the Centre during term time.

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

Give thanks to God for the harvest.

Each year we are reminded of our dependence on God by our harvest thanksgiving service. The harvest festival provides a formal opportunity to acknowledge the overruling power of God. When all is stripped away, it is only by the goodness of God that we have all that we need. This year we have either witnessed or experienced the uncertainty of this world. The British summer brought devastating floods, a wobble in the financial world markets and a threatened repeat of the widespread foot and mouth disease that ruined many farmers six years ago. The following message from the history books of America explains the reason for America's own annual 'Thanksgiving' celebrations:



"We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens" [Abraham Lincoln 3rd October 1863].

What a stirring message! In our churches we will be celebrating harvest in September (see service list in this magazine). Will you put the date in your diary? It is a good opportunity to make a fresh start with God and His people: to give thanks for God's goodness and reaffirm how we depend on Him. It's an opportunity to come back to church or to pay a first visit.

I very much look forward to seeing you.

Paul Kingman.



Off to Oxford!

Well Clare and I will soon be heading off to Oxford.

We would like to thank all of Christ Church (and St Johns) for your kindness and hospitality that you have shown us whether it has been having us over for food, looking after our house, helping us to move, lending us your lawn mower and jump leads in an emergency and much much more!

There have been plenty of highlights during our two years in Stone, the greatest of which is seeing the Cornerstone group of young people grow in their knowledge and understanding of the gospel and all the fun that we have had with them whilst sharing our lives with them. We will truly miss them but hope to stay in good contact. We are looking forward to hearing about how God will grow and progress the youth club and bring young people into a relationship with Him. We have really enjoyed forming friendships with the young people there. We have also enjoyed plenty of trips getting to know the area, walking in the countryside and the peak district. Stone and the surrounding area will always have a place our hearts.

We are moving to Oxford so I can begin training for ordination at Wycliffe Hall. Whilst dramatically downsizing house and upsizing town we are excited about what God will be teaching us and has in store for us there.

Before we go we are off to our summer youth venture with two members of Cornerstone, so we are not saying goodbye to them just yet!

Please do stay in touch, we would value your prayers for my training and for God to provide the right job for Clare.

We will be praying for you too.

Thanks again,

Thomas and Clare

Foundations for Life

When Jesus wanted to explain who he was, or why he came, where did he turn? To the Old Testament! The Apostles followed his example, using the Old Testament again and again to prove that Jesus really was the Messiah (the Christ) who had come to fulfil all of God's promises.

The beginning of the story of salvation is found in the first five books of the Bible ("The Pentateuch") – and for those of us who are Christians, it is the beginning of our story as well. No story makes sense if you simply dip in and out, we must begin at the beginning. For our lives to make sense – and to see how they fit into God's story - we need to find our foundations in the Pentateuch.

This autumn there will be a short (6 week) series of evening meetings to help us explore the exciting (and sometimes strange!) world of Abraham, Jacob and Moses. [This will replace our growth groups for these weeks.] We will take a flight over the Pentateuch, touching down at some of the key events and promises that directly shape our lives today.

- Learn how your life fits into God's plan for the world;
- Discover the joys of the tabernacle (there will be a model to see!) and how it makes sense of Jesus' life;
- Gain confidence as we see God's determination to bless his people and give them true life.

Two builders were laying bricks on a swelteringly hot day. A passer-by asked what they were building. The first builder, who looked close to giving up, said, "A wall." The second, with determination and joy on his face, said, "A cathedral."

It is my hope that, by gaining a wider perspective on this foundational part of the Bible, that we will all find determination, encouragement and joy to keep living for Christ. It can be so exciting to see how the Bible fits together and how Jesus is at the centre of it all. Please put the dates in your diary now and come along!

Tim Vasby-Burnie
timvasbyburnie.blogspot.com

... *Discover the Gospel According to Moses*

This six-week course will help us find foundations by giving an overview of the first five books of the Bible, the books that were foundational for Jesus himself! You don't need to be a Bible expert, just someone who wants your life to line up with God's story of salvation.

The course will run on Wednesday evenings, 7.45-9.15pm, at Christ Church Centre.

- September 26th
 - October 3rd, 10th, 17th
 - *No meeting October 24th (Half Term)*
 - October 31st
 - November 7th
-

Why be a member of the PCC?

Why am I on the PCC? It's a question I ask myself from time to time!

Could it be:

- a calling?
- an ideal forum to have a say in the life of the church?
- being in the know?
- a meeting with like-minded folk?

YES, - it's all of these and probably more! It's an excellent opportunity to be more involved in the life of the Church.

Being a member of the PCC gives you the opportunity to have your say; so, don't 'sit on the fence' – join in the discussions for our Church and Church family – next year volunteer to become a member of this forward thinking group.

Jeanette Rowlands

Harvest Sunday this year is an occasion when we, as a church, have an opportunity to give financially to the work of Tearfund. 83% of the charity's income comes from churches and individuals in the UK and Ireland. Out of each £1 donated, 91p is spent on campaigning, emergency work, development work and humanitarian needs; 8p is invested for future income and only 1p on admin. costs. Last year's income grew by 5% to 49.5 million and together with appeal income generated in previous years, enabled a record spending level of 58 million.

Tearfund began in the 1960s when members of the Evangelical Alliance began to donate money for refugees, knowing the Alliance had contacts with missionaries working with refugees. In 1969 it became an official fund – the Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund – Tearfund.

Tearfund works through professional, accountable partners who work with, and through local churches. To quote Pastor Cuthbert Gondwe, who works for Tearfund partner Eagles in Malawi “You really have to go down to the ground to find the very poorest who have no voice. Local churches work with everyone. They know the poorest people in the village because they live there.”

A new campaign was launched in June: ‘Be part of a miracle’ - a ten-year vision to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty through a world wide network of 100,000 local churches. (Half of the world's population - 2.8 billion people live on \$2 a day; 600 million children live on \$1 a day.) The campaign will focus on five priority areas.

1 ***Defeating disease:*** the goal is to help stop the spread of HIV and reverse the impact of AIDS.

2 ***Improving basic services:*** guarantee clean water and good sanitation in areas they work in.

3 ***Tackling disasters:*** respond to disasters but also investing in churches in vulnerable areas so that they are better equipped to cope when disaster strikes.

4 ***Climate change:*** mobilise churches in the UK and Ireland to take personal action and to write to their governments to cut greenhouse gas emission; but also help people in poverty to adapt to the reality of climate change.

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Greetings from Botswana

Greetings from us all in Botswana. Hope you are all well and that the summer gave you lots of opportunities to enjoy. Thanks again for your love for us. We are OK by God's grace with a few challenges here and there. There are many things going on in our new office with lots of paperwork and material preparation. As we read and share we are encouraged to go on because many families that go through what we are doing will never be the same.

This month we had the first couple wedding that went through some of the material and I had the privilege to preach at their wedding. It was a Ugandan man wedding a Matawana lady. They are preparing to come for post marital counselling after their journey to the moon and back.

On the witnessing side in one sitting six ladies received Christ. As we did a few follow-up sessions we discovered they are commercial sex workers from Zimbabwe. One is married but says she was forced by the situation in their country. They all want to stop but need to be sure they get alternative means for survival. We would like to help but do not have the means.

We are also helping to oversee the youth work at our church which is proving to be interesting with the responsibility of introducing changes to make more discipleship oriented.

Keep praying for USD 8000 we need to buy a used car. We waste most of our time and money repairing the old horse that has served its purpose. We have to remove the battery daily if we have to take the children to school or pick them. Our backs have been hardened if not the reverse by pushing to start sometimes the two of us. We cannot make appointments with any certainty of keeping them. The worst time was when we had to push it at school with kids friend's offering to help. Pray.

Elijah is well finishing first year after a long break and seems to enjoy the course. Nicholas enjoys missionary work in Southern Africa. He is not sure what he will do next year not to mention university fees. The other children are learning to live each day as missionary kids who need to depend on God not their parents for provisions.

Talking about provision, we feared we would not go through June but have seen God bring in bread and other things. He is faithful.

On Sunday we were invited to talk to University and College students at the university of Botswana about Relationships, Friendships and Marriage. For the first time in eleven years of ministry in this country we got a group of people where over 90% wanted to get married. In the past the best it has been has been less than 20%.
(continued on next page)

This is evidence that the Lord is working and blessing this country and reversing the kind of "CURSE" we have feared could be on generations of our continent - throwing out God's design for humanity - marriage. We had a wonderful time sharing what we love to share and are looking forward to working with these students more.

This morning we had a meeting with Evangelical Lutheran Church of Botswana HIV/AIDS programme leaders to plan training of clergy, youth, support givers on issues of parenting, counselling, Marriage etc.

This Sunday we shall be with City Bible Ministries in Gaborone to talk about family Values on their family Sunday. Just Pray that the Holy Spirit will take over and Minister to His People. Your prayers are needed even for more openings.

In September which with our help was declared the National Month of Prayer and Christian Mobilization against HIV/AIDS we have planned a number of clinics to talk about the following topics:

1. How to maintain fire in marriage
2. Qualities of a worthy wife and husband.
3. Choice of a marriage partner.
4. Common Sense in Parenting.
5. Communication in Marriage.
6. How to finance and make the best of Family Holidays.
7. Resolving conflicts in marriage.
8. Responsibilities of husbands and wives.
9. The purposes of sex.
10. The price tag of divorce.
11. Twenty seven reasons to wait for sex until marriage.
12. Dating, Courtship, True Love and False Love.
13. The making of empowered and godly families
14. Family Finances: a blessing or a curse?

We are trusting the Lord to raise enough facilitators for cover over twenty churches in the country. Any contribution is welcome in any form.

May the God Lord bless you as you continue to serve him in this part of the world.

Jonathan and Robinah Beesigomwe

(People at Christ Church support the work of Jonathan and Robinah in Botswana as they work to promote family values and teach about Jesus)

Jigsaw Kids Ministry Railway Fund-raiser

On the *one* sunny Sunday in June, strange sounds were heard from a little corner of Stone; a hiss of steam, clickety-clack of wheels on rail, the occasional toot of a whistle and the slow chug of a Lister engine, all to the background of excited cries of children – both in age and at heart. Once again friends of Christ Church were treated to the excellent hospitality of Liz and Pete Mason, who opened their home and garden for a fund-raising open afternoon in aid of Jigsaw Kids Ministry.

Jigsaw is a Christian Development Organisation that seeks to bring opportunities for change and development in urban poor communities and for individuals and families living on the streets of the Philippines. Christchurch supports the Lee family in the Philippines working for Jigsaw. There was an urgent need for extra money as the prospect of urban development in the town of Batasan, in the shape of a new road, has earmarked the current Jigsaw centre, as well as the homes of three workers, for bulldozing to open-up the route.

For the first-timers to the Mason's, there were more than a few amazed looks as they passed through the garage, into the garden, to see the rails and rolling stock of the Stone Light Railway laid out in the suburban-semi's grounds. No ordinary train-set, the 7¼-inch railway loops around the garden, with full signalling, turntable, buildings and sidings.

Throughout the afternoon a variety of coaches were pulled by one of several locomotives, driven by Pete and friends. King David, a superbly manufactured steam engine, complete with tender, was fired-up and steaming all afternoon, pulling an open carriage and guard's van; smaller trucks were towed by Rebecca, powered by a reclaimed petrol lawnmower engine, or the as-yet nameless new addition, powered by a mighty Lister Diesel pumping engine. All brought great joy to the faces of children from 2 to 82!

Home made cakes and refreshments were served from the station buffet, as tickets were clipped to record the number of circuits the kids traversed. For those who attended, young and old alike, the evocative smells of smoke, the steam and the sounds are unforgettable; a wonderfully enjoyable afternoon.

Thank you to those who helped, but especially to Pete and Liz for their perfect welcome. The day was a great success!

Andy Stone.

The Friends of Shallowford House
invite you to a
Quiet Day
on
Wednesday 12th September 2007

10 a.m – 3.30 p.m

To be led by

Rev. Peter Ashby

Cost £15 coffee and lunch provided

Please book with the Warden, Shallowford House

Tel.01785 760233

E-mail warden@shallowfordhouse.freeserve.co.uk



**Thank you from Mim and
Jay**

Thank-you to all those who came to our wedding, helped with preparations and the running of it, and prayed for us. We had an awesome day - and are very grateful for all the help we received!

The Birmingham!

A Broken Spirit

There is a monastery in Greece perched high on a cliff, several hundred feet in the air. The only way to reach the monastery is to be suspended in a basket which is pulled to the top by several monks who pull and tug with all their strength.

Obviously the ride up the steep cliff in that basket is terrifying.

One tourist got exceedingly nervous about half-way up as he noticed that the rope by which he was suspended was old and frayed. With a trembling voice he asked the monk who was riding with him in the basket how often they changed the rope. The monk thought for a moment and answered serenely: "Whenever it breaks."

It's shocking that someone would wait that long before changing the rope. It only makes sense that the rope ought to be changed long before reaching that point. But thinking about it, does not God operate the same way in our lives. If we were to ask God when He will change our lives? His answer might well be, "Whenever you break!"

Our lives can only change once we have what the Bible refers to as a "broken spirit". As long as we remain arrogant and determined to do things our way, God can't shape us and mould us. Like a wild horse, we remain useless until we are "broken".

"The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit." (Psa. 34:18)

Prayer.

Father, I so often want to stubbornly do things my way. Help me as I strive to have a broken spirit, recognizing my shortcomings, humbly willing to listen to your instructions.

In Jesus' name Amen.

From Mike Thompson

How to behave in church

Coming home from North Wales through Bala one day, we stopped for a snack and saw a Christian bookshop. There I found the book “How to behave in church”, by Peter Jeffery and published by Evangelical Press. I bought it partly because the lady in the shop was so friendly, and partly because I had never seen a book devoted to this subject.

The book opens with the question “If every member was just like me, what kind of church would my church be?” We can so easily expect higher standards of others at church than we apply to ourselves. The book is based on Paul’s first letter to Timothy and includes chapters on “How to listen to preaching”, “The members of the church”, “The leaders of the church”, “The problems of the church” and “The money of the church”.

In “How to listen to preaching”, the author does not mention any of those items normally considered useful - Polo mints, cushions, notebooks etc. He quotes D.M. Lloyd-Jones - “The most urgent need in the Christian church today is true preaching”, and says that we all have a part to play by praying for the preacher - “Your prayer will be of immense value to the preacher but it will also be of value to you as you listen. Prayer for preaching often encourages expectancy and an eagerness to listen. Christians often say, ‘I got nothing out of that sermon.’ Perhaps it would be more profitable if they asked, ‘What did I put into it?’ The more prayer you put into your pastor’s sermons, the more likely you are to be blessed by them.”

In “The money of the church”, the author addresses ‘Christians who are rich’ and ‘Christians who want to be rich’. Interestingly, he is more critical of the latter than of the former, saying that it is the love of money that is a root of all kinds of evil. Christians should give very generously without requiring persuasion or pleading, then “the church would not ask whether it could afford to start or continue a particular work, but whether it could afford *not* to do so”.

Well, the book wasn’t quite what I had expected - some of the interpretations of bible passages are even stricter than I had anticipated - but there were parts of the book that made me realise that my attitudes to church are not as good as perhaps I had thought.

Dave Bell

FROM THE REGISTERS

WEDDING

4th August Jay Alan Birmingham and Miriam Grace Bell

FUNERALS

26th July Annie Gould Aged 87 years
2nd August Kathie Gimbert Aged 43 years

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

2nd Sept I.Gassor, V.Ledward, D.Davies, A.West
9th Sept D.Wilson, G.Holden, A.Greer, J.Abrahams
16th Sept J.Rowlands, S.Hallam, D.Pickles, T.MacFarlane
23rd Sept P.Hipkiss, P.Tunstall, M.Hutchinson, B.Hutchinson
30th Sept I. Gassor, C. Wilding, D. Davies, A. West

FLOWER ROTA

2nd Sept Mr & Mrs I. Hawley
9th Sept Mrs E. Cook
16th Sept Mrs S. Hallam
23rd Sept Mrs E. Woodhead
30th Sept Mrs S. Vaughan



ROADS FOR PRAYER

2nd Sept
The Avenue
Trent Road
Tunley Street
Trinity Drive
York Street

9th Sept
Airdale Grove
Airdale Road
Airdale Spinney
Cross Sreet
Lotus Court



16th Sept
Nicholls Lane
Old Road
Old Road Close
Anderton View/Way

23rd Sept
Oulton Road
Oulton Mews
Princes Street
Queens Square

30th Sept
Navigation Loop
Rangeley View
Barnton Edge
Oulton Cross

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 S. Morray, Mrs J. Abrahams, Mr K. Reynolds Mr A. Stone, Mr G. Holden, Mrs A. Greer
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

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