

# Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of  
Christ Church Stone

40p



# December 2011

# 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 inside back page for details)

---

## THE PARISH TEAM

<b>Vicar</b>	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
<b>Curate</b>	Andy Cranston 1 Navigation Loop	818983
<b>Youth and Children's Worker</b>	Kieran McKnight 30 Oulton Road	600734 07731984755
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Irene Gassor	814871
<b>Parish Office</b>	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	811990
<b>Deaconess (Retired)</b>	Ann Butler	818160
<b>Readers</b>	Dave Bell John Butterworth David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 816713 813712 817987
<b>Music Co-ordinator</b>	Peter Mason	815854
<b>Wardens</b>	Andy Stone David Rowlands	816713
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>	Phil Tunstall, Arthur Foulkes, Tim Saxton	

## CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

<b>Booking Secretary</b>	Kate or Irene	(Office)	811990
--------------------------	---------------	----------	--------

---

## CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street.  
Head: Mrs Lynne Croxall B.Ed.(Hons) 354125

Christ Church Academy, Old Road  
Principal: C. Waghorn B.Ed(Hons),DPSE,ACP,FRSA 354047

## IN THIS ISSUE

Diary for December	2, 3
X-mas?	4
How content are you?	5
Christmas services	6
December sermon series: Messiah	7
News from Ben Hardee	7
Carol concert with Stone Choral Society	7
Advent Windows	8
The most precious unwanted gift	9
The Temperance Society in Christ Church	10
Christmas Wordsearch	11
PCC News	12
Jam and Craft sale	13
Church and Bankers work together	13
Twelve days of Christmas	14
Roads for Prayer	15
Adam Baker: A personal encounter	15
Rotas and From the Registers	16
Groups and Activities	17

## Christ Church



## and People

Please get your contributions for the January magazine to us by 15th December

### **Reminder**

The magazine costs 40p per month or £4 for a whole year

Cover:-  
Langtry's  
Corner

### Subscriptions

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

# December 2011

Thu	1	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	2		
Sat	3	8:30am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast
Sun	4	9:15am 4:00pm	Communion. Job 42 "Reversal in suffering" Confirmation service with Bishop Jonathan Gledhill
Mon	5	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8
Tue	6	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Lighthouse years 2-4 Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	7		
Thu	8	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	9		
Sat	10	6:00pm	Advent Evening with meal (organised by Diana Tunstall)
Sun	11	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. Isaiah 40:5 "And the glory" Communion. Malachi 3:3 "And he shall purify"
Mon	12	6:30pm	Breathe years 5-8
Tue	13	10:00am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:00pm	Nativity at Christ Church First School (Reception+yr1) Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Lighthouse years 2-4 Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	14	10:00am 7:00pm	Nativity at Christ Church First School (Reception+yr1) Nativity at Christ Church First School (yrs 2-4)
Thu	15	1:20pm 7:30pm	Christ Church Academy assembly Stone Choral Society Concert

# December 2011

Fri	16		
Sat	17	12:00am 4:00pm 8:00pm	Carols in the Market Square Craft and Christingle service Christmas at Home with the Rowlands, 52 Redwood Avenue
Sun	18	9:15am 5:00pm	Communion. Isaiah 4:6 "For unto us a child is born" Carol service Refreshments served afterwards
Mon	19	2:30pm	Service at Autumn House
Tue	20	10:00am 11:00am	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Christ Church Academy Christmas service in church
Wed	21		
Thu	22		
Fri	23		
Sat	24	11:00am 11:00pm	Advent Windows final opening at Christ Church Late night Carols and Communion Matthew 11:29 "My yoke is easy"
Sun	25	9:15am	Family Communion service John 1:29 "Behold the Lamb of God!"
Mon	26		
Tue	27	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30
Wed	28		
Thu	29		
Fri	30		
Sat	31		

## X-mas?

---

There has been a lot of hype and hot air in the last few months. Viewers of the television show called *'The X-Factor'* (the singing competition with its round by round elimination of singers), may be relieved that the end is in sight. Who will have the X-factor to impress the judges, woo the public vote and so be propelled into stardom? After a long and turbulent competition, with upsets, gossip and surprise comebacks, the contestant's emotions are ready to erupt as the winner of a record contract is identified.

It has been a fascinating and popular piece of media that continues to attract huge viewing figures. The line that runs, 'I'm a nobody and just I want to be a somebody' is a powerful sound-bite and leads to callers hoping to make 'the biggest dream of my life' come true. Yet this is media creation and it is plugging into the celebrity culture that continues to roll on and on. Today, being a media star and entering the list of the rich and famous is held in high esteem.

This Christmas we celebrate the arrival of the Son of God onto the world stage. The judges didn't warm to him, but the public recognised his sheer quality. His entire life showed that this one person had the true X-factor which would have an impact on the world. Jesus Christ stands out in history as the one who uniquely came from heaven to earth. In his earthly ministry his voice brought life and light. Listen to a summary of the importance of Christ: *'we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone'* (Hebrews 2v9). The wonder of Christmas is that Jesus didn't stand on the world stage for either fame or fortune, but for our forgiveness. The one who lived in heaven came to earth to suffer death in order to bring us the gift of life.

You may get caught up with X-mas, but why not come and join us celebrate Christmas – where Jesus is at the heart of the celebrations? When we discover why this is the case then we can celebrate all year-round. This is a glorious discovery!

I look forward to seeing you at a service and hope that you have a happy Christmas.

*Paul Kingman*



## How content are you?

---

I've just finished a 7 minute phone conversation with a chap insistent that he could massively benefit my life. He was trying to sell a house alarm system that would send a legion of guards running to our door in the event of a fire or burglary. £1500 worth of equipment, all for an installation price of just £200! With hindsight there were a number of responses I could have made but in the heat of the moment my reply was incomprehensible to him! I told him that he was working on the pretence that my possessions were the most important thing to me and that saving money was the 'be all and end all' of my life. But this simply isn't true. "There is more to life than possessions and discounts" I told him. Well, I might as well have been speaking Chinese! Such a perspective failed to even register. In the end he got so exasperated with me saying that I wasn't even up for a free trial that he hung up!

Now don't get me wrong, the Bible encourages us to be prudent. Insurance, alarms and precautions are not bad things but it's also important to keep life in perspective. The fact that my cold-caller could not relate to my ultimate indifference over my possessions is typical of our society. There is blatant disregard for the tenth commandment as companies and businesses encourage us to covet their latest products or deals – especially in the run up to Christmas. Few take heed of Jesus' words in Matthew 6:25-34, not to worry about food, clothes or possessions with the result that many are in debt because they've been unable to resist the 'buy now, pay later' spin. As Christians we should not be amongst that number.

Paul reminds Timothy in 1 Timothy 6 that *"godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it."*

These verses encourage us to be focusing on godliness and contentment rather than me and more. As Christians we're in a battle against wave after wave of advertising that effectively says "this life is all there is, so treat yourself – you deserve it!" Such a mindset is a lie. The truth is that for those following Jesus, the best is yet to come and we can't take anything with us! So to quote Mother Teresa we should "live simply so others can simply live."

As I've been writing this, the post has arrived bringing Tearfund's latest newsletter. The lead article is on former Nepalese slaves who are viewed as outcasts and have little in the way of job prospects or shelter. I think the cheque book may come out after all!

*Andy Cranston*

## **Christmas Services**

---

We invite all to join in our Christmas services as we celebrate the wonder of the birth of Jesus Christ who is called Immanuel – which means God with us. We have a range of services and hope that you will feel welcome to the church you attend, whether you are new or not, as we join in the song of the angels who sang: *glory to God in the highest!*

### **Christ Church (C of E) Radford St, Stone**

Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	4.00 pm Craft and Christingle service
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.15 am Holy Communion 5.00 pm Carol Service
Christmas Eve.	11.00 a.m. Advent windows – final window opened. 11.00 pm Late night Carols & Communion.
Christmas Day	9.15 am Family Communion.

### **All Saints Church (C of E) Moddershall**

Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	5.00 pm Carol Service
Christmas Eve	11.00 pm Late night Carols & Communion

### **St John's (C of E) Oulton**

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00 am Holy Communion 7.00 pm Carol Service
Christmas Day	11.00 am Family Communion.
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2012	11.00 am Holy Communion



During December our morning and evening services look at some of the texts used in Handel's '*Messiah*.' This will give us a different approach to Christmas as we dot about the Bible looking at some great Bible texts. You may have the piece on a CD or listen online as it continues to have great popularity.

*Paul Kingman*

---

## **News from Ben Hardee**

Do you remember a former colleague Ben Hardee? We've just heard that he has joined the staff of St. Luke's Evangelical Church in Wellington to work with their youth, to reach out to youth in the community and to lead their 8 am. Contemporary Worship Service. Benjamin is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute (MBI) in Chicago. Moody is a world-renowned school for training pastors and missionaries. Benjamin also studied at the University of Bonn this past year, with an internship in the United Benefice of Christ Church, Stone & Oulton with Moddershall in England. He completed his work on a Master of Arts in Ecumenical Theology in September of 2011. He was married to Sarah on July 29 at the Rock Creek Bible Church in Meriden, Kansas. Sarah graduated from Calvary Bible College in Kansas City. Benjamin was installed as youth pastor and contemporary worship leader on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November. We hope and pray for a good and fruitful ministry.

*Paul Kingman*

---

## **Carol Concert at Christ Church**

Stone Choral Society Carol Concert at Christ Church  
Thursday, 15th December at 7:30pm  
Tickets available on the door  
£7 incl. refreshments  
Accompanied children free

## Stone Advent Windows 2011

---

After the success of Advent Windows last year, the theme chosen for 2011 is Christmas Stories from Around the World. The first Christmas story from the Bible will be told in eight windows, beginning appropriately with the Annunciation from Luke 1:26-38 on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The other stories from 14 different countries will include Leo Tolstoy's Papa Panov and The Little Match Girl by Hans Christian Anderson. An unusual window will focus on the story of the Christmas Truce in World War I. Once again, schools, youth clubs and other organisations are partnering with some of the shops to create the windows.

We plan to have the stories actually told when windows open and we are hoping to have the windows opened by people from the different nations. At the time of going to press we have found some of them, but are still looking for reps from these nations: France / Germany / Belgium / Austria / Russia / Mexico / Denmark / Czech Republic / United States / Israel / Palestine / Turkey

On three Saturday mornings December 3, 10 & 17, we will be telling the stories and singing some carols at the Crown Hotel between 11:30 and 12:30. On Christmas Eve, there will be a carol singing and storytelling journey through the town, starting at 9:30 and finishing at Christ Church at 11am for the opening of the final window by the Bishop of Stafford.

Here are ways that you can get involved:

1. See if you can track down any representatives from those nations living in the area.
2. Encourage people to come to the opening of the windows which will be at 11am each day, except for 20<sup>th</sup> December which is 10am.
3. Especially encourage people to join the carolling and storytelling journey on Christmas Eve.
4. We had 200+ on Christmas Eve last year so we would welcome offers of help with making soup, biscuits etc.
5. Above all PRAY!

The Advent Windows project is a gift from local churches to Stone which we pray will in some way also “open the windows of heaven” to many in Stone at this Christmas season.

*David Pott*    [dlpott@gmail.com](mailto:dlpott@gmail.com)    07932 790525

## The most precious unwanted gift

---

What do you do with the Christmas gifts that you don't want? Those orange socks and the aftershave or perfume that would asphyxiate your parrot – if you had one! I find it really difficult because behind every gift, however unwanted, is a thought, a kindness. Just to reject those things outright and give them to a charity shop seems, well, ungrateful. Consequently, I have a drawer (I think Michael McIntyre calls it a “man drawer”). It's full of wonderful things – out of date foreign currencies, endless loose change, old receipts – as well as those unwanted presents, all for one day when those things might be useful.

Christmas speaks to us of God's gift to the world: the gift of His Son who entered our human mess to live amongst us with the hope that He might transform it. Regrettably, it is a gift that appears largely unwanted. We don't know what to do with it so we either reject it or feign polite acceptance. So we might attend Midnight Mass or remember to put our “penny in the old man's hat”. Yet every year it comes around and we are vaguely aware that our celebration of Christmas is about a bigger reality than our attempts to celebrate it. Somehow we are trapped into thinking that this year will be the best yet, but it never is. Celebrating Christmas without some thought for the best gift is an empty business. Maybe next year...

Behind every unwanted gift is a thought, a kindness. Behind God's Christmas gift, Jesus, the Bible tells us that there is certainly a thought. “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16) Like so many gifts, his comes with lots of love, in fact more than we can ever get our heads around.

Obviously there's no “man drawer” to put this gift in! But maybe we could start by just putting this truth about God's gift into the storage compartment of our minds, that one day soon, maybe the truth about God's gift will be something we need. For many, Christmas is a great time, but for many it's certainly not. Those who are bereaved, those who are sick, those whose relationships have broken or are in the process of breaking, those who have lost their paid employment and so on.

There may be a time when this Gift from God will start to make sense and when it does Christmas will take on a new meaning. So will the rest of your life.

Have a very blessed Christmas and a great new year.

*Mike Hill (Bishop of Bristol)*

## Church of England Temperance Society

*From our Parish magazine, Dec 1885. Does anybody know whether the Temperance Movement took hold in Stone?*

In a former number, we spoke of the importance of the Temperance question, and the great desirability of forming a Branch Society for the parish.

The subject was brought prominently to the front at the men's tea party by Mr. Pearman and Dr. Fernie, the latter stating as his deliberate opinion from professional experience, that temperance was not only *most desirable but really beneficial*.

On Monday, Nov. 9th, a meeting was held in the Upper Schoolroom, of those members of the congregation interested in the work of Temperance. There was a good attendance, representing all classes. The chair was taken by the Vicar, who in his opening remarks dwelt upon the dual basis of the C. E. T. S., and its superiority over all others in the fact that its work was inseparably bound up with religion. The following resolutions were unanimously carried :—

(1) "That a Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society be now formed for our parish." Proposed by the Rev. A. Pearman, seconded by Mr. H. Ravenscroft.

(2) " That the management of the Society be in the hands of a President, Vice-Presidents, Committee of ten, with Secretaries and Treasurer." Proposed by Mr. W. Taylor, seconded by Mr. T. Harris.

(3) " That in connection with the above there be monthly meetings for Lectures, Debates, and Recreation." Proposed by Dr. E. Fernie, seconded by Mr. W. H. Bishop.

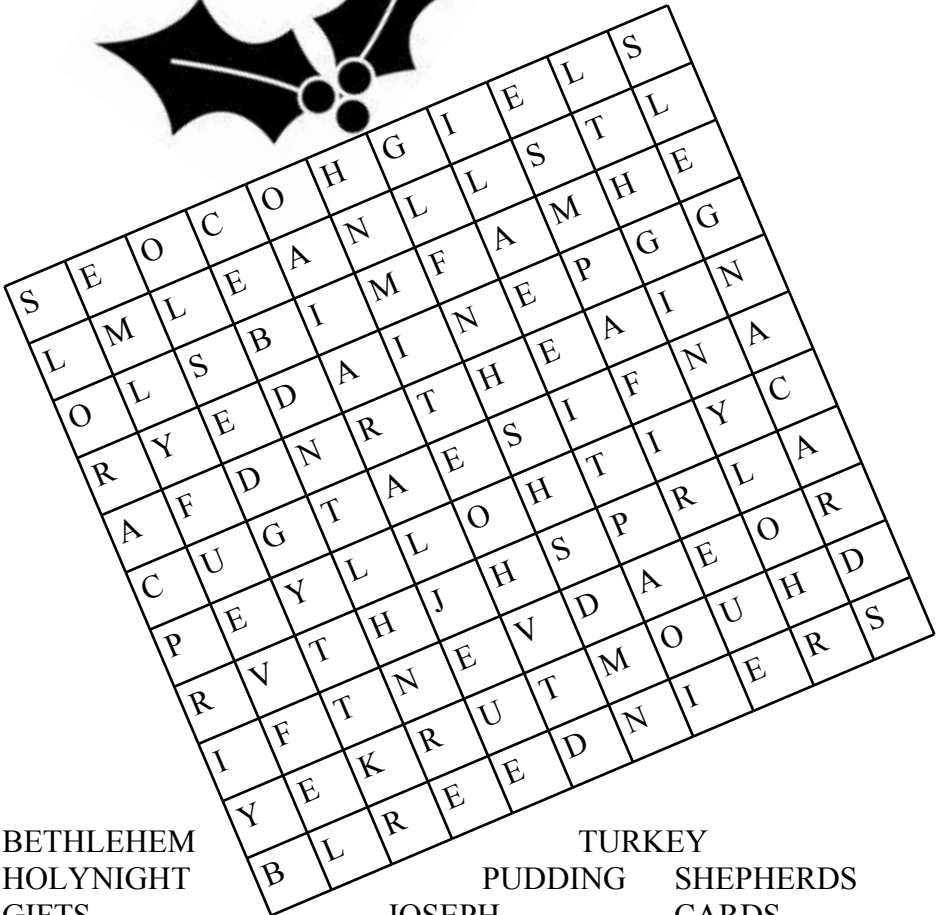
(4) "That a Reading Room for men be opened on Saturday evenings, from 7 to 10 p.m., with papers, games, etc., to be supplied with temperance refreshments." Proposed by Mr. J. Lamont, seconded by Mr. H. Millan.

The meeting throughout was of a most encouraging nature. It must now be our earnest aim to give effect to the resolutions. Ours must not be a society in name, but a real thing, whose power and work must be felt.

### THE SATURDAY EVENING READING ROOM.

The room for reading and recreation was opened on Saturday evening, Nov. 21st, and the attendance was highly encouraging. It is in connection with the Men's Bible Class, and managed by twelve stewards, three of whom are responsible for its arrangement and control week by week. A table and set of drafts was presented by the Rev. D. W. Jenkinson, and a similar one by the Vicar., A friend, per the Rev. A. Pearman, gave a nice set of chess and leather board, and others lent magazines and papers. It is open from 7 to 10 p.m., and light refreshments are provided, and all men are welcomed.

# Christmas Wordsearch



BETHLEHEM  
 HOLYNIGHT  
 GIFTS  
 MARY  
 ANGELS  
 ADVENT  
 NOEL

JOSEPH  
 SLEIGH  
 SANTA  
 IVY  
 INN

TURKEY  
 PUDDING  
 CAROLS  
 STABLE  
 MANGER

SHEPHERDS  
 CARDS  
 REINDEER  
 HOLLY  
 TRIFLE

The 22 words have all been hidden in the grid. They can be backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. Letters can be used more than once. The unused letters reading from left to right will spell out the first few words of a carol. Which carol?

*Arthur*

The P.C.C. met on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011 and the following matters were reported:

- It was agreed to go ahead with plans to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee on the first Sunday in June(3<sup>rd</sup>) 2012. Arrangements will be discussed at a later date
- Plans are being made to replace the boiler in the centre with a more up to date and efficient one and at the same time for much needed repairs to be carried out to the cooker
- There has been a positive response to out reach proposals at Alleynes School, ideas include: talks and lunchtime concerts. This includes the visit from Adam Baker, a Christian singer/songwriter who is visiting the week commencing 7/11/11. His visit culminating in a concert at Christchurch on Friday evening 11/11/11
- Mr Reynolds attended a fund raising event run by the Ronald McDonald Organisation in a popular local pub in Eccleshall. He suggested that we could run a similar event at a local Stone pub. H.S.B.C would match any money raised and the suggested recipient would be Christians against Poverty.  
After some discussion the suggested date for the event was Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November with the possible venue being Royal Exchange. Mr Reynolds to look into the matter further.
- A big thank you was express to everyone who organised a social event during the summer.
- Christchurch Middle School has now become an Academy

The next P.C.C meeting is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.

## **Jam and Craft Sale**

---

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, the Jam and Craft Sale went ahead at the Vicarage. I thought I would provide you with an update on how things went and what was achieved. Imagine that it provides a behind-the-scenes look at the making of a film. In a film you have the actors but to create that wonderful impact, you need one special ingredient. In the case of a film it's music; for preserves it's fruit, and for crafts, skill.

For sale there were jams, jellies, chutneys and crafts. Sue made the preserves, Mary and Jeanette made jewellery, Estella made some knitted hats and scarves, Jacqueline made cards. There was much preparation behind the scenes.

So then, as the morning started, lots of people came, coffee and Sue's homemade cakes were served by Irene, Dorothy and myself. This freed up Sue and Paul our hosts to meet and greet the guests. It was stunning to see our hosts making people feel at home, catching up with friends, sharing memories. Furthermore, it seems to me that Paul has the priceless gift of being able to get on with anybody no matter who they are – significantly important if you want to tell people the truth about God.

The morning was a terrific success, and thanks to all the many generous people that came, we raised £434.30 for the Youth and Children's Work in our Benefice.

*Catrina*

---

## **Church and Bankers work together against Poverty**

Kevin organised a fund-raising activity of the most leisurely sort (all we had to do was visit a pub for a drink) at Langtry's on November 12th. Carol Dycke from Christians against Poverty (CAP) said a few words about their work, and there was a collection of money. The DJ there played requests at a cost of £1.50. We had Nelly the Elephant and the Windmill in Amsterdam. How did the bankers help? HSBC agreed to match the first £500 raised, and since a total of £600 was raised when donations received later were added, the grand sum raised was £1100. This will be used to help people in debt in the Stone area.

Thanks to all who came, and to all who contributed.

# The Twelve Days of Christmas

---

## *What does it all mean?*

Well, I didn't think it meant anything much, but Paul Mitchell researched it via Google and found the following

1. True Love refers to God
2. Turtle Doves refers to the Old and New Testaments
3. French Hens refers to Faith, Hope and Charity, the theological virtues
4. Calling Birds refers to the Four Evangelists
5. Golden Rings refers to the first five books of the Old Testament, which gives the history of man's fall from grace
6. Geese A-laying refers to the six days of creation
7. Swans A-swimming refers to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the sacraments
8. Maids A-milking refers to the eight beatitudes
9. Ladies Dancing refers to the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
10. Lords A-leaping refers to the Ten Commandments
11. Pipers Playing refers to the eleven faithful apostles
12. Drummers Drumming refers to the points of doctrine in the Apostles Creed



A child told his teacher that he knew the name of one of the shepherds who went to the manger at Bethlehem on the first Christmas night. When the teacher said that no-one knew the name of any of the shepherds, the child persisted. "But we do, because we sing about him, he's called Ted." The teacher was even more puzzled until the child said "While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all see Ted on the ground....."

*from Dave Rowlands*



**4th December**

Bentley Close  
 Rendel Grove  
 Brindley Close  
 Rudyard Close

**18th December**

Saltersford Rise  
 Rolt Close  
 Millenium Way  
 Cameron Wharf

**11th December**

Cressey Close  
 Joules Drive  
 Cauldon Way  
 Harecastle Bank

**25th December**

The Crescent  
 End of Granville Terrace  
 Millers Gate  
 Hartley Drive




---

## Adam Baker: A Personal Encounter

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November, I sat in Costa scanning the room; it was like any other day. The same people as normal were there, in the same pattern, doing the same thing as they always do. Then suddenly, a stranger in our midst, but it was okay because Kieran was in deep conversation with him. Little did I know that our paths would cross the next day. As I sat there, I started to wonder what their conversation could be, maybe they were swapping life stories since they last met.

As my eyes opened on Tuesday morning, as always I looked forward to the service at Christ Church. I found myself watching the time, only because I'm always content at the service. At 09.45 I left the apartment and made my way up the hill seeing Christ Church in the distance. Next I found myself in my usual place in the church. After initial hellos and a cup of tea the service began. We were introduced to Adam Baker, singer-songwriter, who played the guitar for us at the service. It was amazing, full of passion for what God has done for us. Christ Church meetings and services might have the answer that you are looking for in life. Perhaps you might like to go and see if it's for you too.

*Catrina*

# FROM THE REGISTERS

---

## BAPTISM

18th Sept Hana Rose Abi Rachad

## SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

4th Dec	C. Wilding A. West	D. Davies K. Thompson
11th Dec	D. Wilson G. Holden	J. Abrahams J. Rowlands
18th Dec	D. Pickles D. Davies	C. Wilding J. Abrahams
25th Dec	P. Hipkiss V. Ledward	K. Thompson T. MacFarlane

## FLOWER ROTA

4th Dec	Mrs S. Vaughan
11th Dec	Christmas
18th Dec	Christmas
25th Dec	Christmas



**PRAYER REQUESTS** A prayer circle of individuals (in touch by telephone) is ready to respond to requests for prayer, in confidence, at any time; please ask or ring Ann Butler 818160 or Jeanette Rowlands 816713.

---

### Christ Church on the Internet

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

**Deanery Synod Reps** Mrs S Hallam, Mr D. Rowlands, Mr R. Brandon  
**P.C.C. Members** Mrs I. Gassor, Mr D. Beauchamp, Mr G. Donaldson  
 Mrs S. Sanders, Mrs D. Wilson, Mrs J. Abrahams  
 Mrs K. Latham, Mr P. Mason, Mrs D. Hazlehurst  
 Mrs A. Burton, Mrs M. Hillman, Mrs C. Snaith  
 Mrs L. Kelly, Mr K. Reynolds, Mrs E. Woodhead

**Secretary** Shelagh Sanders  
**Treasurer** Kevin Reynolds.....851595  
**Envelopes, Gift Aid** Richard Latos

## 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 Requests** Jeanette Rowlands.....816713  
**Parents & Toddlers** Sandra Morray.....286093  
 (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)  
**3rd Stone Brownies** Janet Smith.....815939  
 (Mo 6:00-7:30pm, First School)

**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

## 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](http://www.biblegateway.com) - 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 and ordinal, though we unite in Christ irrespective of denomination. We are an Evangelical church, as we see that the Bible is God's word and so is to inspire all that we do. This church was established with the help of the renowned Charles Simeon and the patronage is the gift of the Simeon's Trust.

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.org](http://www.christianityexplored.org)). 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 Academy 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).

---

### Subscriptions

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