

PARISH DIRECTORY

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

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

(see page 17 for details)

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Vicar Paul Kingman 812669

The Vicarage, Bromfield Court

Youth and Children's Kieran McKnight 600734 Worker 07731984755 Electoral Roll Officer Irene Gassor 814871 Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Parish Office Email office@christchurchstone.org 811990 Deaconess (Retired) Ann Butler 818160 Readers Dave Bell 815775 Helen Bowes 812317 David Rowlands 816713 Michael Thompson 813712 Cecilia Wilding 817987 **Music Co-ordinators** Pete Mason 815854 Sue Kingman Andy Stone Wardens David Beauchamp 286526 **Deputy Warden** Phil Tunstall, 817028

CHURCH SCHOOLS

Booking Secretary

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

Kate or Irene

Head: Mr N. Chesters 354125

(Office)

811990

Christ Church Academy, Old Road

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Principal: Mr C. Wright MAEd 354047

IN THIS ISSUE

Diary for June	2
On rights and responsibilities	4
Morning sermon series	5
Where is my neighbour?	6
40 years seem a good stint	7
Stafford's new deputy Mayor	8
Out of the mouths of babes	8
Tearfund evening	9
Latest news from Jigsaw	10
Tearfund in Nepal	11
What does the PCC do?	12
Christ Church 10 and 130 years ago	15
Registers, Rotas, Roads for Prayer	16
Groups and Activities	17
Christ Church welcomes you!	18



Please get your

contributions for the July magazine to us by the 15th June

Cover Picture:-

Joules Court

The magazine costs 40p per issue or £4 for a full year.

Subscriptions

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

June 2015

Mon	1	6:00pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	2	10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers club Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	3	9:25am 6:00pm 8:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4 Advent Windows meeting, 11 Saxifrage
Thu	4	1:20pm 6:30pm	Christ Church Academy assembly Christ Church First School governors' meeting
Fri	5		
Sat	6	8:30am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast
Sun	7	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. Acts 5:17-42 "Prince and Saviour" Bible study course
Mon	8	6:30pm 8:00pm	Breathe yrs 5-8 Consultation for Appointment, Bishop of Lichfield; Lichfield Cathedral
Tue	9	10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers club Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	10	9:25am 6:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	11	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	12		
Sat	13		
Sun	14	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer Acts 7:44-53 "Righteous One" Bible study course
Mon	15	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	16	10:00am 12:30pm 1:00pm 3:00pm 7:00pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers club Fraternal Autumn House Youth Club yrs 9-13

Wed	17	9:25am 6:00pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4 Standing Committee
Thu	18	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	19	7:00pm	Wedding rehearsal
Sat	20	2:00pm	Marriage of Kieran McKnight and Ashley Eastwood
Sun	21	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion (Fathers' Day) Acts 13:26-41 "The Son of God" Bible study course
Mon	22	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	23	10:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Christ Church Academy governors' meeting Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	24	6:00pm	KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	25	1:20pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Christ Church Academy assembly Bring and share supper Tearfund talk by Karen Downard
Fri	26		
Sat	27		
Sun	28	9:15am 6:00pm	Family service Genesis 45 "Forgiveness as an act of faith" Bible study course
Mon	29	6:30pm 7:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8 Deanery Synod
Tue	30	10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club yrs 9-13

Fairtrade goods will be on sale after the service on June 28th

Which is more important: our human rights or our human responsibilities? It's a tricky call, for if we press too hard for our rights then cave into selfish desires or simply do not care for others. Jesus' example and teaching enable us to do both.

Many are familiar with the Human Rights act. It supports the right to life, right not to be tortured or subjected to inhumane treatment, right not to be held as a slave, right to liberty and security of the person, right to a fair trial, right not be retrospectively convicted for a crime, right to a private and family life, right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, right to freedom of expression, right to freedom of assembly and association, right to marriage, right to an effective remedy, right not to be discriminated against, the right to the peaceful enjoyment of one's property, and the right to an education.

Global news raises our awareness of our responsibilities. When we read of tragic events in the world our insistence on rights is seen in a new light. The recent news of Nepal's second major earthquake in just over two weeks has aggravated an already desperate situation which killed over 8,000 and left millions in need of aid and assistance. Our own rights suddenly take back stage. We are aware of our responsibilities towards others.

Jesus' life, death, resurrection and ascension proclaim his true sovereignty. We are to live under Jesus' kingly rule, within a new framework, a moral order. Jesus gave up his rights for you and me. Likewise, the Apostle Paul said that he gave up many rights as he followed his Lord's example – he considered his own welfare to take second place. This holds true in terms of showing mercy to relieve poverty, illness and injustice. It also holds true in the greater matter of

bringing salvation to others, the good news that Jesus offers forgiveness, a fresh start and a future hope. It led Paul to not insist on material support for his work: 'But we did not use this right. On the contrary, we put up with anything rather than hinder the gospel of Christ' (I Corinthians 9v12b). As we fulfill our responsibilities to Jesus he will teach us and enable us to fulfill our responsibilities to others. Paul Kingman



Morning series: The Titles for Jesus in Acts

As we read the exciting story of the growth of the early church it is far from dull! There are a number of sermons and speeches from the apostles. The titles that they use for Jesus are significant – full of meaning and value for us. We will take these in as we look at some passages tracking the progress of the gospel message from Jerusalem to Judea and ultimately to the ends of the earth. Jesus reigns and here is why!

Questions for personal and group study on 'Titles for Jesus in Acts.'

June 7th	Acts 5v17- 42: Prince & Saviour.	Despite the persecutions and warnings of 4v17-21 the apostles continued to bear witness. 1. What part was played by the angel (v19), the Holy Spirit (v20,32) and Gamaliel (v34-40) to make this possible? 2. Do you feel an impulse to speak about Christ? Explain why? What reactions by the religious opposition were faced (v17, 24, 26, 33 cf I Pet 2v20-21)? What sort of opposition do you fear most?
June 14th	Acts 7v44- 53: The Right- eous One.	1. What does Stephen say was inadequate about the house that Solomon built (7v44-53)? 2. What is his case against his listeners? What are the positive lessons he brings? 3. In what ways was Stephen like the Lord Jesus, in his life and death? What were the consequences of Stephen's life and death: (a) in suffering (8v1,3); (b) in the church's expansion (8v4-5 cf 11v19-20)?
June 21st	Acts 13v26-41: The Son of God.	 What leads Paul to say in 13v16-25 that Jesus' coming was the climax of the Old Testament? What significance does Jesus as 'the Son of God' have? What does Paul say in v30-39 about the reasons for and consequences of the resurrection? Paul makes a contrast between two methods of justification in v39. Which fails and why? Compare with Philippians 3v6-9.

The Bishop of Wolverhampton has been knocking on doors....

I recently needed to pick my daughter up from a friend's, but was not quite sure which house I was aiming for having only been there once before. Seeing a man washing his car in his drive, I enquired whether he knew where the family concerned lived. He had no idea. Trusting my memory, I duly knocked on a nearby door and struck lucky.

What surprised me was that the car washer had no idea who lived three doors away from him, especially as the houses were close together. But then I realised that our knowledge of our neighbours only extended two doors in either direction! And that gave me pause for thought

We live in a world where people connect with one another in very different ways from just a generation ago. I was brought up in a road where my mother, admittedly a gregarious person, knew the inhabitants of numerous houses up, down and across from where we lived. Our neighbours felt a little like an extended family. That is much rarer now as many people make much closer connections with geographically distant people with whom they converse online than with their neighbours. Online communities based on shared interests are taking the place of communities based on physical proximity.

Christians should, at least in theory, be adaptable to this new reality due to the idea, rooted in Scripture, that our primary human kinship is with our brothers and sisters in Christ wherever they may be. We are all branches connected to the one vine, nourished from the same source. One Lord, one faith, one baptism. What more could we possibly have in common?

And where our shared spiritual DNA does bind us together with cords of genuine love, the result is a powerful and moving witness to how faith can build extraordinarily diverse communities, bringing people together (as Jesus did) irrespective of gender, culture or education. There is ample evidence of this in the church congregations of our Diocese, even more so when we take into account the ties which bind us increasingly closely to our linked Dioceses.

On September 5th we have a rare opportunity to come together as a Diocese in all our wondrous diversity, to give thanks for the gracious ministry of +Jonathan and to celebrate the Goodness of God. It is a chance to celebrate our unity in Christ and to demonstrate the commitment we have to one another. To remind ourselves that 'we are family'.

I very much hope to see you there, who knows, we might even discover that we are neighbours......

Clive Gregory, Bishop of Wolverhampton

"40 years seem a good stint"

Bishop Jonathan, 66, formally announced his retirement at a meeting of the College of Canons at Lichfield Cathedral. He will leave office in September 2015.

In a video message, Bishop Jonathan said: "Forty years of ministry seem a good stint to Jane and me."

"It is with great mixed feelings that I make this announcement. But Jane and I know that, much as we will find it difficult to leave your love and prayers, it would not be right to continue much longer."

The Right Reverend Jonathan Gledhill was installed as Bishop of Lichfield in 2003. He is the 98th Bishop of Lichfield in a line going back to St Chad in 669 AD. Educated at Keele University, he enjoyed twenty years of ministry in Kent before becoming Bishop of Southampton in 1996. The Diocese of Lichfield covers an area serving two million people across Staffordshire, Shropshire and the Black Country.



The Right Reverend Clive Gregory, Bishop of Wolverhampton, said: "It has been a privilege to serve under Bishop Jonathan's wise and godly leadership. He and Jane will be greatly missed, not least by the many who have profoundly appreciated their care and encouragement. Bishop Jonathan will leave a Diocese in very good heart and well equipped to face the challenges of the future."

"40 years seems a good stint" (cont)

The Right Reverend Geoff Annas, Bishop of Stafford, said: "Bishop Jonathan is a man of great spirituality, humility and integrity who cares passionately for the Gospel and for all the communities that he serves. I have really valued his wisdom and guidance and sense of humour."

The Right Reverend Mark Rylands, Bishop of Shrewsbury, said: "Bishop Jonathan has led Lichfield Diocese with both care for the people and passion for the good news of Jesus Christ. Growing a bigger Church to make a bigger difference in Society has been an inspirational vision - one which many others are now following. Jonathan was the first bishop to help a Diocese be so explicit in this. The sense of us all pulling together and that we are friends, despite our differences, are part of the ethos which he has established."

Bishop Jonathan will bid farewell to the Diocese on September 5th, at The Goodness of God celebration - a gathering of thousands from communities across the region, at the Bethel Convention Centre in West Bromwich. His final formal engagement as Bishop of Lichfield will take place at the cathedral on September 26th, when he hands over his pastoral staff for safekeeping.

Stafford's new deputy Mayor

Congratulations to Lynn Bakker-Collier who has been elected to be the deputy Mayor for Stafford. This was formalised at the meeting held on Saturday16th May and a civic service that followed in St Mary's Church, Stafford. Lynn has been part of our Benefice of churches for many years. We pray for her as she plays a part in the life of the borough.

"Out of the mouths of babes..."

A few weeks ago I was very moved when my six and a half year old granddaughter, Jessica, came and sat on my knee, looked at me seriously, and said -

"Pappy, I love you more than I love myself"

What better expression of the love our Lord Jesus Christ has for us could there be!

Dave Rowlands

On Thursday 25th June, Karen Downard from Tearfund will be visiting us. After a Brings&Share supper (6:30 pm), she will tell us something of the work of Tearfund, and how we can be more involved. More about Tearfund below

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We aim to help the people in the world who are in the greatest need, regardless of race, religion, gender or nationality. If you support our work, that's what your money will be going towards. We do this by:

- •identifying the places of greatest poverty
- •working through local churches, church-based and Christian partners to seek out and help the most marginalised and vulnerable groups in those places.

We operate through local churches wherever we can, training and equipping them to end poverty and rebuild their communities. They're on the ground and they stay there. They can identify the greatest need in a place. We also believe:

- •churches are the most powerful local and global network for God's love to reach people in poverty
- •churches care for the whole person, inside and out. This makes lasting, sustainable change for an individual and a community possible.

We try to stay invisible. Most of what we do is about communities taking themselves through a facilitated process to name their own needs, recognise their own strengths, and find their own solutions to poverty. We model this all over the world. It's effective, long-lasting, far-reaching and transformative. Support us regularly and you can follow communities as they go through this process here or read more about it here.

We respond to disasters. In the most vulnerable places we're experts in helping people prepare for, withstand and recover from disasters.

Tearfund is a Christian organisation. We're passionate about living out God's kingdom values of love, hope and transformation. It's what inspires and drives us.

Integral mission is the church living out its faith in Jesus in every aspect of life. It's recognising that people are more than their hunger or despair. Integral mission is answering God's call to love one another, in every way you can.

Dear Friends at Christ Church, Thank you for your continued love and prayers for Jigsaw, it is changing children's lives. - *Prayer and Praise*

Mothers sewing project:

All of us in Jigsaw praise God for the three sewing machines given to Jigsaw and the money gifts of over £1000 for the 'Mothers sewing project.' Please pray;

- That Tim may be able to collect the sewing machines being given.
- That the shipment of toys including the three sewing machine that is leaving the UK in June will arrive 'quickly' and without problems to the Philippines.
- For Karen a friend in the Philippines who is being asked to source 7 more sewing machines in Asia, that God may move that she can get cost price or better from the supplier and that they can arrive quickly and efficiently to Jigsaw too.

Please pray for the Mothers sewing project team that as they identify the most needy mums and seek to create the 'mothers group' (they are planning to start meeting even before the sewing machines arrive to get to know one another and to begin to make plans for the project together with the mums as a team) that God may draw those who He wants to be in the group. Some of the mums in most need don't have the self esteem to come so pray God may call and gather them into his arms.

<u>Praise God that Enna</u> has been able to have initial doctors tests on her eyes and pray that the treatment she needs will be available (She is a new street girl who arrived in Jigsaw. She can't see out of both eyes as both have cataracts.)

<u>Praise God for Janine</u> who is 18 months old with hydrocephalus as she is now home and doing very well (Her mother and father send their full heart of thanks to Jigsaw and friends of Jigsaw for their prayers, love and action to save their daughters life.)

<u>Please pray for energy and sleep for Tim</u> who is exhausted but so happy that the ministries in the Philippines and the UK are going well, especially the beginning of the mothers project. He is still facing many breathing problems (which cannot yet be diagnosed) he has a referral appointment to a respiratory specialist doctor on May 21st; please pray some understanding of what the problem is may come through this.

<u>Please pray for Jogie</u>, Jigsaw's admin coordinator who after coughing up blood has been diagnosed with serious TB; she will not be at work for at least a month as she begins treatment. Please also pray for Erikson who is stepping in to the very demanding role of cashier and book keeper as Jogie is away, for clarity, wisdom and peace as he learns the new role.

<u>Please pray for Jigsaw's yearly Bible week</u> that will be carried out in 8 communities in the last week of May. The theme is building for God (about trucks and diggers and building etc.) The Bible week will share Jesus with over 1500 children and families in 8 of the worlds poorest slum and street communities. Please pray that God will use this time to transform lives and grow his kingdom in these places.

<u>Please continue to praise God for Jigsaw's 18 kids' clubs</u> which minister with over 1000 children each week; Places for children and young people to belong and play; to develop in well being and to grow in Love, Faith and Hope.

Thank you all so very much for your prayers and love, *Tim, Lendehl, Jolly, Jenalyn and everyone in Jigsaw.*



Tearfund in Nepal

Nepal has been struck by a second major earthquake - the second in just over two weeks. The initial quake killed over 8,000 and left millions in need of aid and assistance.

Tearfund staff and partners trained in emergency response are already in Nepal following the first quake. More funding is urgently needed to enable the work as Tearfund 'follow Jesus where need is greatest'. The focus is on shelter, food and sanitation. Teams have been trekking over landslides and mountains to some of the remotest unreached communities.

We urgently need your prayer and donations.



Following the recent APCM, we have some new PCC members (see inside the back cover for a list).

Here are some of the Diocesan guidelines for PCC members.

The PCC is a team made up of members of clergy and lay members of the church. Together they are responsible for the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of

their church, the church members, and the church buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the church within the wider community. Some of the responsibilities are devolved to the Minister and Churchwardens but to quote from the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 section 2 'It shall be the duty of the minister and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish'.

Being a PCC member

Members of the PCC have the right to be consulted, to know what is proposed, and to have the opportunity to express an opinion on it. The Minister is Chairman of the PCC though he may on occasion ask another member to chair a particular meeting. A treasurer, a secretary and vice-chairman will usually be elected to office at its first meeting after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Prayer and worship

Prayer and Worship are at the heart of the work of the PCC. The PCC should ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place for public worship and provide an opportunity for people of all ages to meet for prayer and worship. In practice this might mean agreeing on the format and timings of services that will meet the needs of the church members, providing facilities for younger members and families, setting up Bible study or Prayer groups etc....

Mission and outreach

The PCC has an important part to play in promoting the mission of their church, amongst the congregation and in the wider community, and members of the PCC should demonstrate their commitment to the Christian ethos, through leadership, by example and by witness, in the parish. The PCC is encouraged to develop, and maintain, a Mission Action Plan (MAP), to review the life of the church and identify mission opportunities.

Pastoral care

The PCC and its members have a duty to support their clergy, prayerfully and personally. They have a duty to support the members of the congregation and to extend a welcome to all who visit the church, to members of the church community and to those visiting the church at other times. The church has a duty of pastoral care to all who live in our communities, whether members of the church or not, and PCC members are expected to take the lead in demonstrating that care.

The PCC meeting

The PCC is required by law to meet at least four times a year (one meeting may follow on from the APCM) though some PCCs may decide to meet more frequently. There is a strong argument for holding more frequent, but shorter, meetings and in any event good practice suggests a maximum two hours for each meeting as a general rule. The PCC should take time at these meetings to consider and discuss, and if appropriate vote upon, matters concerning the Church of England arising at a higher synod or referred down to the PCC by the Bishop or by the deanery, diocesan or General Synod. The PCC may also on occasion decide to send information, an opinion or a motion up to the deanery synod. The PCC meeting should be a forum for open discussion with every member feeling able to ask a question or voice an opinion.

Who can be a member of the PCC?

If you are 16 years old or over, have been on the electoral roll of your parish for at least 6 months and are an actual communicant, **YOU** can stand for election to your PCC.

Membership of the PCC

Members of the PCC are drawn from two sources, those elected at the Annual Parish Church Meeting [APCM], and those who are ex officio members.

The following are ex officio members

- · All Priests and Deacons licensed to the parish
- · Deaconesses and Licensed Lay Workers licensed to the parish
- · The churchwardens
- · Any person on the electoral roll who is a member of deanery, diocesan or general synod Additional members may be co-opted onto the council by the PCC during the course of the year.

Some golden rules of PCC membership Do

- · Attend meetings (and on time)
- · Read the papers before the meeting, be prepared
- · Ask if in doubt (especially important for new members)
- · Try not to fall out with your fellow members
- · Listen to all the arguments being put forward before making up your mind
- · Enjoy being a member of the PCC!

Do not

· Volunteer for a task unless you are sure that you have the time to complete it

The PCC needs thinkers and doers, questioners and listeners

but YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE

- · A SAINT
- · A THEOLOGIAN
- · AN EXPERT

THOUGH NOBODY WILL MIND IF YOU ARE!

The **Youth Worker** Steering Committee reported that interviews for the Youth Worker post are to take place over the week-end 14th -15th May 2005. Church Members across the Benefice are to be invited to meet the candidates on the Saturday evening.

Liz Mason's birthday party raised £220 for Tearfund, which was donated to the Rwanda appeal.

Jack Sutcliffe's plant sale raised £500, half of which was given to the Clifford Project and the other half to the Youth ministry fund at Christ Church

Christ Church 130 years ago

The Band of Hope Entertainment

Friday, the 15th, will be a day of happy memories for our young Temperance people, as marking their first appearance in the Town Hall. "Christie's Old Organ "was the name of the Service of Song which constituted the entertainment. The connective readings were given by the Vicar, and the story was illustrated with beautiful lime-light views by Mr. Hammond, of Hanley. The various pieces and songs were heartily rendered by the children, and the evening was altogether a very pleasant one. The profits amounted to £1 11s., of which £1 goes to the new font and the balance to the Band of Hope.

We sincerely thank all our friends who came to show their sympathy with our work and give encouragement to the children. We trust that this little Society may in every way verify its name—a band of boys and girls from whose future life we may hope all that is noble and good—that they may avoid that which is the curse of our country, and the cause of so much crime, poverty and degradation—drink.

The Annual Tea

Our Annual Gathering of parishioners took place in the Town Hall on Thursday, May 28th. About 220 sat down to tea, which was presided over by various ladies of the congregation. Each table was adorned with a choice collection of beautiful flowers, and did much to add to the brightness and happiness of the more substantial accompaniments. We shall have a balance of £10 to hand over to the Restoration Fund

REGISTERS AND ROTAS

FUNERALS

16th March Elisabeth Freakley Age 91 27th April Eric Stansfield Age 79

BAPTISM

3rd May Adam Christopher Higgins

SIDESPERSONS ROTA

AM

7th June **D** Davies K Woodward P. Kelly M. Hillman 14th June D Shemilt J Abrahams G Leithead G. Latos 21st June D Pickles P Roberts D. Garrington-Miller R. Brandon 28th June JD Wilson K. Thompson

C. Reeve K. FLOWER ROTA

7th June Mrs I. Gassor 14th June Mrs L. Mason 21st June Mrs S. Morray 28th June Miss B. Freakley

K. Rein

ROADS FOR PRAYER

7th June
Mount Road
Mount Street
Old Road
Stonefield Square
Victor Street
Victoria Street
Stonefield Court
Whitebridge Lane

21st June Alma Street Bromfield Court Dominic Court Granville Terrace King's Avenue

28th June Longton Road Margaret Street Newcastle Road Newcastle Street



Groups and Activities

Deanery Synod Reps Helen Bowes, Helen Kennedy

P.C.C. Members Kate Latham, Irene Gassor, Phil Tunstall

Shelagh Sanders, Pete Mason, George Holden Angela Burton, Marylyn Hillman, Pam Shields Kevin Reynolds, Estella Woodhead, Rob Shields

Secretary Shelagh Sanders

Treasurer Kevin Reynolds 850135

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
Missions Secretary	Cecilia Wilding	817987
Prayer Group	Jeanette Rowlands	816713
Parents & Toddlers	Sandra Morray	286093
(Mon 9.30 - 11.15am)		
3rd Stone Brownies	Janet Smith	815939
(Mon 6:00-7:30pm, First Sch	ool)	

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 *Breathe** (years 5-8) Monday** 6:30 pm

*Youth Club** (years 9-13) Tuesday 7:00 pm *Kingzone** (years 2-4) Wednesday 6:00 pm

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 on the Internet

Parish website www.christchurchstone.org
Parish office email office@christchurchstone.org
Magazine contributions 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.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 and website).