

In This Issue...

Diary for January.....	2
“How shall we then live?”	4
Christ Church First School.....	5
Sudoku	5
Barry and Arthur	6
Noticeboard	7
Christian Unity	8
Who are . . . CMS?	9
Prayer Breakfast	9
Learning from Noah	10
Crossword	11
PCC News.....	12
A Year of Opportunity	13
Barn Dance	13
Cookery Corner.....	14
Streets of Prayer	15
From the Registers.....	16

Christ Church



and People

Please get your contributions for the February magazine to the editor by Friday 20th January.

Another year brings new hopes, new opportunities, new challenges, but the Gospel remains the same. May it be an inspiration to you in 2006.

Ed.

Cover Story

When we started this series with a picture of some of the elaborate frontages in Northesk Street, one reader remarked that “We don’t all live in big houses!” Well of course we don’t, so this month we’ve moved to the Stonefield area, the old centre of our parish with a view of Albert Street. It may not be as grand, but it’s just as important!

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

January

2006

Su 1 Circumcision of Christ

10.30 am Holy Communion

Note the time! Sermon text: Isaiah 10:20 - 34 "only a remnant"
This service is for the whole Benefice.

NO EVENING SERVICE

We 4 7.30 pm Standing Committee

Fr 9 7.30 pm Rock Café for young people in the Centre

Su 8 Baptism of Christ

9.15 am Morning Prayer

Sermon text: Isaiah 11:1 - 16 "branch and banner"

6.00 pm Parish Communion

Sermon text: Hebrews 11:1 - 6 "faith"

Mo 9 1.10 pm Assembly at Alleyne's School

Tu 10 9.30 am Assembly at Christ Church First School

10.30 am **Holy Communion in church** (note change of day)

12.30 pm Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School

We 11 8.00 pm Readers' Meeting

Th 12 1.20 pm Assembly at Christ Church Middle School

Fr 13 7.30 pm Rock Café for young people in the Centre

Sa 14 9.00 am Prayer Meeting at Christ Church

Su 15 Epiphany 2 - Covenant Sunday

9.15 am Parish Communion

Bishop of Stafford, Rt Rev Gordon Murcell

Sermon text: Isaiah 12 "praise the Lord"

6.30 pm United Service at St Michael's Church

Preacher: Rev John Marshall

Mo 16 1.10 pm Assembly at Alleyne's School

Tu 17 11.30 am Churches Together Fraternal

12.30 pm Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School

We 18 7.30 pm PCC Meeting

Fr 20 7.30 pm Rock Café for young people in the Centre

*Be exalted, O God, above the heavens:
and let your glory be over all the earth.*

Psalms 57:12

Su	22	Epiphany 3	
	9.15 am	Family Service	Sermon text: Mark 6:30 - 44 "feeding the 5000"
	6.00 pm	Parish Communion	Sermon text: Hebrews 11:8 - 10 "Abraham I"
Mo	23	1.10 pm	Assembly at Alleyne's School
Tu	24	10.30 am	Holy Communion in Church
		12.30 pm	Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School
We	25	7.45 pm	Lent Course Leader Training meeting
Fr	27	7.30 pm	Rock Café for young people in the Centre
Su	29	Epiphany 4	
	9.15 am	Morning Prayer	Sermon text: Mark 6:45 - 56 "Faith at sea"
	6.00 pm	Holy Communion	Sermon text: Hebrews 11:11 - 16 "Abraham II"
Mo	30	1.10 pm	Assembly at Alleyne's School
Tu	31	12.30 pm	Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School

‘Happy New Year
to all our readers

The following Activities take place every week in the centre during school term time:

Monday Toddlers

9.30 am

Friday Little Fishes

11.00 am

Activities for children and young people take place in the centre during the Sunday morning service each Sunday (except on the fourth Sunday of the month, which is family service):

Climbers 3-7 years

Explorers 7-11 years

Pathfinders 11-14 years

All children are welcome



4

How shall we then live?

So often an author tells you something important in their introduction. Then there are the throwaway lines. They're not intended to be the main point, but often help us to understand the storyline better.

We were on a holiday staying with a friend who has been involved with the Northumbria community for several years. I was interested to know what this Christian group was really about so I read through the introduction of a key book. The Celtic tradition has been a fashion in music, art and also in some churches: I'd heard a bit of the music, seen some of the art, and even been subjected to 'Celtic-style' church services. The community members don't skulk around cloisters in flowing robes. It's an informal group, which originated in the mid-1970's by a couple who moved to Lindisfarne (*aka* 'Holy Island'). They developed a regular discipline of prayer and Bible reading. Now please stick with me as we are just about to reach the point I want to make – up until now has been just the run in!

A growing number were asking the question: how shall we then live in view of the pressures of growing families, increasing financial pressures and a constant stream of visitors? Sounds familiar! Here's **the point** that struck me: 'they would take any work that came along (window cleaning, gardening, anything) to survive in the land they felt they had been called to pray for and live in' (from the foreword *Celtic Daily Prayer*). I have been chewing this over. The people who moved to be part of the community came with a commitment to spreading the gospel. So they took any work that came along to meet their needs. If you are a Christian then remember that God has called you to the Stone area. The financial side may already be sorted out in terms of work or pension. But have we given ourselves to God, His people and His mission? *'They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer...and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved'* (Acts 2v42, 47b).



We start the New Year with a covenant service: an opportunity to give ourselves to the Lord, to one another and to the area with the hope that God will be increasingly glorified. Do come and join in the service and give yourself to God and His mission.

I hope that you will know and delight in God's faithfulness in this New Year.

Paul Kingman

Christ Church First School News

At the time of writing, the end of term is fast approaching, and we still have many special events to look forward to in school.



Recently we took part in the 'Light up a Life' ceremony in support of the Douglas Macmillan Hospice. This was a very moving yet uplifting ceremony, as 1,200 people gathered to share memories of loved ones, and finally to witness the darkness infused with light as each person lit up a light stick in memory of a loved one.

Our Choir truly gave their best performance joining in with their own pieces and the community items. We have received many compliments for the way our school represents us in a very professional way – they are a credit to our school and their families.

Happy New Year.

Janet Booth
Music Co-ordinator

Su Doku

Fill in the grid so that each row, column and 3X3 square contains the digits 1 - 9

9			1		8			5
		3		2		8		
	8			9				1
	6		9		3			2
		1		4		5		
	9		7					3
	7			6				8
		8		5		1		
2			8		4			3

CHAIN GANG

Find a word to link each pair of words.

Sea - Biscuit
Shooting - Gazing
River - Account
Thunder - Nine
Cold - Up



An evening with
Barry and Arthur



Sat 4th March 2006
 7.00 pm
 Christ Church Centre

Come and join our famous Duo for
 one of their celebrated
 "Something for Everyone"
 evenings!

Tickets price £1 from Barry or Arthur

Take part in a
 light-hearted
 team quiz!



Sale of plants
 and pots of
 Spring bulbs!



Guessing games
 to play - 50p a go
 with **PRIZES**
 to win!



Refreshments!



Proceeds to Christ Church Special Appeal

Noticeboard

Thank you for all your prayers and cards during my illness. Special thanks to the Flower Guild for the lovely arrangement. I have spent much time in and out of hospital, but I am now feeling stronger.

Wendy Carroll

It's 2006 ...

... so that means if you pay an annual subscription for this magazine it's now due! Subscription price is £3, and we hope that you will enjoy reading the magazine for another 12 months.

Ed.

Mid-week Communion

As from January 2006 the midweek communion will be on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays** of the month. The first one being the 10th Jan 2006.



FAIRTRADE

There will be a sale of Fairtrade goods after the morning service on **January 22nd.**

Guarantees
a better deal
for Third World Producers

Churches Together in Stone

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 15th to 22nd January 2006

What better way to begin the new year than by celebrating with our fellow Christians in Stone our unity in Christ! We have a range of events running through the week, at which you will be very welcome, to give you plenty of opportunity.

Sat 14 th	9.00am	Ecumenical Prayer Meeting	Christ Church
Sun 15 th	6.30pm	United Service for Christian Unity <i>Preacher: John Marshall Pastor, Church Lane</i> <i>Evangelical Church</i>	St Michael's Church
Mon 16 th	9.00am	Prayer Meeting	Christ Church
Wed 18 th	7.30pm	Taize Worship	St Dominic's Church
Thu 19 th	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Michael's Church
Fri 20 th	7.30pm	Rock Cafe	Christ Church
Sun 22 nd	8.00pm	Late Night Worship	St John's Church Stone

Who are . . . CMS?

CMS is a pioneering mission community with roots dating to 1799. We long to see the transforming fullness of Christ unfolding in every culture and we are committed to serious and sustained cross-cultural engagement.

We strive to share the love of God with people of all races and to gather them into the fellowship of Christ's Church.

Christ Church has supported the Church Mission Society (CMS) for many years. Our present CMS Link Mission Partners are Tim and Kate Lee, who, with their three children, Rebekah, James and baby Grace, are in Manila in the Philippines, working amongst street children.'

That means that all members of CMS try to participate actively in Christian mission wherever they are, in their home country or overseas.

Founded in 1799, CMS has attracted upwards of nine thousand men and women to serve as mission partners during its 200-year history.



Today there are about 150 mission partners in 26 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. A budget of £7.02 million a year is needed to maintain and expand this work.

Come and Join Us!

On the first Saturday of each month (that's **Jan 7th** this month) a small number of us meet at 8.30 am in the Church Centre to pray for half an hour. We then have breakfast together until 9.30-ish.

We would love you to join with us.

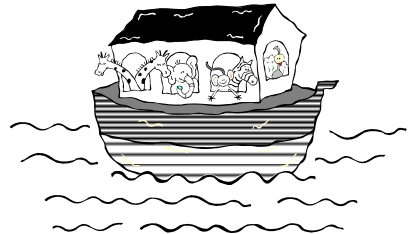
Sue Cooper

10

Learning From Noah

- 1 Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark!
- 2 Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone might ask you to do something REALLY big.
- 3 Don't listen to critics - do what has to be done.
- 4 Build on high ground.
- 5 For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- 6 Speed isn't always an advantage. The cheetahs were on board, but so were the snails.
- 7 Don't forget that we're all in the same boat.
- 8 Stay below deck during the storm.
- 9 Remember that the ark was built by amateurs and the Titanic was built by professionals.
- 10 Remember that the woodpeckers **inside** are often a bigger threat than the storm outside.
- 11 Don't miss the boat.
- 12 No matter how bleak it looks, there's always a rainbow on the other side.

The writer of Hebrews would add one more thing to that list - the importance of having a faith in God strong enough to lead us to obey his commands. For having that trait, Noah was included in God's "Hall of Faith" in Hebrews 11:



By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. *Heb 11:7 (NIV)*

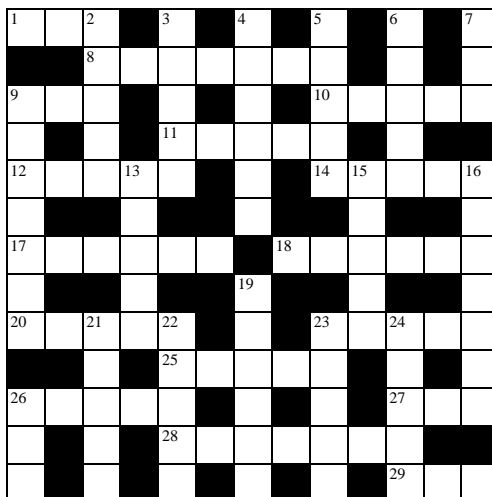
What is **your** faith leading you to do in response to God?

Crossword by 'Oddjob'

Solution on Page 15

Clues Across

- 1 Low noise heard in the byre. (3)
- 8 Go ahead for electoral division. (7)
- 9 Troops sent abroad, back early in the year. (3)
- 10 Spread the letters in the river mouth. (5)
- 11 Pro-Anglican power? (5)
- 12 Traps turned out to contain just a little one. (5)
- 14 Record in the ministry for an army base. (5)
- 17 Release has bearing on this incomplete answer. (6)
- 18 To establish holy site gloss over resistance. (6)
- 20 Become weary, up to a point, of island. (5)
- 23 Will 'e be taken in, by the hairs on my chinny chin chin? (5)
- 25 Lord of a city? (5)
- 26 Girl, upper class, with note of assessment. (5)
- 27 Flower unknown amongst orientals. (3)
- 28 Deception about the defeat could land in the soup. (7)
- 29 We hear they could nail you for this! (3)



Clues Down

- 2 Bid averse to ruler. (5)
- 3 Vessel displaying skill? (5)
- 4 & 19 PM:AM? He had it! Go for mixer as an antidote. (4,2,3,3)
- 5 To become increased, include pressman. (5)
- 6 A change of heart makes the fool a winner. (5)
- 7 Perform with less than diplomacy. (3)
- 9 I, cubist turn out unglazed pottery. (7)
- 13 A singleton by oneself. (5)
- 15 Unknown dropped into the lake, from a lofty retreat?
- 16 Fifth moves on one in sticky stuff to work machine. (7)
- 19 See 4D
- 21 King's supporter makes a comeback. (5)
- 22 The Spanish shock treatment for the chosen ones. (5)
- 23 Note consumes what are found in a bar. (5)
- 24 A swell representative? (5)
- 26 Container, for 26A 5 29? (3)

- The PCC gave its consent to the removal of old Parish registers to the Staffordshire Record Office and has received a receipt for those moved.
- Nobody has come forward as yet to take up the role of **PCC Secretary** when the present Secretary steps down after the 2006 Annual Parochial Church Council meeting in April. We are all asked to pray about this.
- The **Men's Breakfast** on **Saturday 19th November 2005**, preceded by a **Ladies' Evening** on **Friday 18th November 2005**, had been a success.
- The PCC approved a suggestion that an assessment should be undertaken of how to develop suitable **lettings of the Centre** and so optimise its potential.
- The PCC continued discussing its **Mission Action Plan** – this time analysing why people come to some events rather than others, and what we might learn from this. We are to return to this discussion at the next meeting.
- Despite the **appeal** commenced in October, only about a third of the money needed to make up our £7,000 shortfall had come in by the time of the meeting. It was decided to launch a scheme by means of which people could give money to the appeal in lieu of Christmas presents. Church members are to be asked to review their **regular giving** in view of rising costs of utilities etc.
- The **Rock Café** continues to attract around 40 young people on a Friday evening and some of these meet on a Wednesday to look at what Jesus said and did. A group of church young people meet fortnightly. The Vicar continues taking assemblies at Christ Church First and Middle Schools and has just started assemblies at Alleyne's High School.

The PCC met on Wednesday 23rd November 2005 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided.

**The next PCC meeting is on
Wednesday 18th January 2006.**



2006 - A Year of Opportunity!

What does it take to run a church like ours? We have a Vicar, of course, a Youth Worker, Deaconess, Readers, a Parish Administrator . . . and a whole host of other people besides. Some do jobs that you see every Sunday, while others do things you may not even be aware of - but we'd all suddenly realise if they stopped!

We are very grateful to everyone who gives their time and energy to help make our church function, but to keep the church going over time we need a constant supply of 'new blood' to take on the work.

So could 2006 be the year that **you** get involved? it could be anything from doing a bit of cleaning or helping with the admin to taking part in the services. As a first step, speak to **Sue** or **Jeremy Cooper** (tel **816590**), or give your name to Irene in the Parish office and we will contact you. Please think and pray about it - your church needs you!

Christ Church - Oulton - Moddershall

The United Benefice invites you all to a



Barn Dance



at

St Michael's First School

28th January

6.30 pm

Food available

Tickets £5, available from **Sue Cooper**



All proceeds will go to support our youth work.

Cookery Corner



“Thai green chicken with cous cous” serves 2

As a change after all the Christmas nosh, try this quick and easy recipe using off-the-supermarket-shelf ingredients. You could buy plain cous cous and flavour it yourself, and make your own curry sauce. But if you're that good, you don't need this recipe! It will take about 30 minutes.

125 g mushrooms	1 stick celery	- <i>all coarsely</i>
1 medium onion	1 small red pepper	<i>chopped</i>
110 g 'spicy' cous cous (<i>supermarket own brand is fine</i>)		
200 ml boiling water		

Optional, for added 'zing' 1 chilli pepper - *de-seeded and finely chopped*
 1 clove of garlic - *chopped*

2 chicken breasts, skinned and boned - *each cut into 6 - 8 pieces*
 415g jar Thai green curry sauce (*I use Sh... you know who's!*)

To garnish: thin cucumber slices, cashew nuts, coriander leaves

Utensils: wok, frying pan, small saucepan

Prepare all the ingredients at the start - there are three parts of the cooking that run at the same time.

- ☐ Heat a little oil in the wok, add the celery and onion and stir fry for about 2 minutes. Add the mushrooms, chilli pepper and garlic and cook for another 3 - 4 minutes. Finally add the red pepper and cook for 2 minutes.
- ☒ Put the cous cous in a saucepan on low heat, add the boiling water, stir and bring to the boil. Remove from the heat, cover and leave to stand for 5 minutes. Add to the wok and mix with the vegetables.
- ☐ Lightly fry the chicken pieces until they are sealed all over. Add the sauce, and simmer for about 10 minutes.

Arrange the cous cous mix on a serving dish, add the chicken and sauce. Titivate with the garnish. Serve. Enjoy!

Streets of Prayer

*Please pray this
month for all the
people living in
these streets in our
Parish.*



1st January
Northesk Street
Radford Close
Radford Street
Station Road

8th January
The Avenue
Trent Road
Tunley Street
Trinity Drive

15th January
Airdale Grove
Airdale Road
Airdale Spinney
Cross Street
Lotus Court

22nd January
Nicholls Lane
Old Road
Old Road Close
Oulton Cross

29th January
Oulton Road Oulton Mews
Princes Street Queens Square
York Street

Epiphany

Where the Wise led,
Let us follow.
Where they brought gifts,
Let us bring the offering of our lives.
Where they rejoiced to find a king,
Let us rejoice that we have found a Saviour.
Immanuel has come into the world.
Through him we shall live forever.

Puzzle Solutions

Su Doku

9	2	7	1	3	8	4	6	5
1	5	3	4	2	6	8	9	7
6	8	4	5	9	7	3	1	2
8	6	5	9	4	3	7	2	1
7	3	1	6	8	2	5	4	9
4	9	2	7	1	5	6	3	8
5	7	9	3	6	1	2	8	4
3	4	8	2	5	9	1	7	6
2	1	6	8	7	4	9	5	3

Crossword

Across: 1 Moo, 8 Forward, 9 BEF, 10 Dealt, 11 Force, 12 Sprat
14 Depot, 17 Undone, 18 Shrine, 20 Tiree, 23 Beard, 25 Liege
26 Value, 27 Exe, 28 Crouton, 29 Tax

Down: 2 Offer, 3 Craft, 4 & 19 Hair of the dog, 5 Added, 6
Champ, 7 Act, 9 Biscuit, 13 Alone, 15 Eyrie, 16 Treadle, 19 See
4D, 21 Rally, 22 Elect, 23 Beats, 24 Agent, 26 Vat

Chain Gang: Sea/**Water**/Biscuit, Shooting/**Star**/Gazing, River/**Bank**/Account,
Thunder/**Cloud**/Nine, Cold/**Frame**/Up

From the Registers



Funerals

Stafford Crematorium

21st November	Joan Steele	Aged 76 yrs
15th December	Irving Spode	Aged 71 yrs

Sidespersons for January

	9.15 am	6.00 pm
1 st	J. Cooper, T. Lockett B. Hutchinson, M. Hutchinson	No Service
8 th	T. MacFarlane, V. Ledward S. Gerrard, D. Pickles	P. Tunstall
15 th	P. Tunstall, S. Hallam C. Wilding, J. Cooper	D. Shemilt
22 nd	P. Hipkiss, T. Lockett J. Rowlands, D. Wilson	J. Cooper
29 th	M. Holden, G. Holden B. Hutchinson, M. Hutchinson	J. Cooper

Flower Rota for January

1 st	Flower Guild
8 th	Flower Guild
15 th	Mrs C. Jaques
22 nd	Mrs M. Hillman
29 th	Mrs Buckley

