

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



July

2017

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

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Booking Secretary	Church Office	811990

CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street. Mrs T. Sherratt	354125
Christ Church Academy, Old Road Principal: Mr C. Wright MAEd	354047

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Christ Church



and People

Please get your contributions for the August magazine to us by the 15th July

Cover Picture:-

Victor Street

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

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Subscriptions

If you would like this magazine delivered to you regularly, please contact:

Church Office 01785 811990

July 2017

Sat	1	8:30 am 9:30 am 6:00 pm	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast “Everybody welcome” coffee morning Bring and share supper with Kieran and Ashley
Sun	2	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Communion. Romans 8:28-39 “Our assurance” Kieran and Ashley visiting Christianity Explored (5) “Resurrection means life”
Mon	3	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Toddler Group Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	4	10:00 am 12:30 pm 7:00 pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club
Wed	5	9:25 am 6:00 pm 7:30 pm	Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4 PCC meeting
Thu	6	10:30 am 1:20 pm	Open prayer time in church Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	7	7:30 pm	Adam Baker concert
Sat	8		
Sun	9	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Morning Prayer; Acts 20:17-38 “A final word” Ralph and Dagmar Baron visiting Christianity Explored (6) “Amazing grace”
Mon	10	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Toddler Group Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	11	10:00 am 12:30 pm 3:00 pm 7:00 pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Autumn House service Youth Club
Wed	12	9:25 am 6:00 pm	Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	13	10:30 am 11:00 am 1:20 pm	Open prayer time in church St Mary’s Home communion Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	14	10:00 am	CE coffee morning
Sat	15		
Sun	16	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Communion; Acts 21:1-16 “A tough path” Christianity Explored (7) “Come and die!”

Mon	17	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Toddler Group (last before holidays) Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	18	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Youth Club
Wed	19	9:25 am 6:00 pm	Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	20	10:30 am 1:20 pm	Open prayer time in church Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	21	10:00 am 10:45 am	CE coffee morning Christ Church Academy Leavers' service
Sat	22		
Sun	23	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Family service; Acts 21:17-36 "One gospel, many clothes" Evening Prayer at Moddershall
Mon	24		
Tue	25	10:00 am	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30
Wed	26		
Thu	27	10:30 am	Open prayer time in church
Fri	28		
Sat	29		
Sun	30	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Morning Prayer; Acts 21:37-22:16 "Saul's encounter with the risen Lord" Communion service at Moddershall
Mon	31		

Fairtrade goods will be on sale after the service on July 23rd
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Why doesn't God intervene?

The tragic fire in a block of flats in London has left us deeply shocked. The speed and scale of the fire's progress astounded even the Fire Brigade. The devastation for families is immense. As I write just a couple of days after the disaster we've yet to discover the human loss, but waves of grief are spreading far and wide. In the midst of this tragedy the response from the emergency services has been courageous in view of the personal risk. The general public played a massive part to help alleviate suffering and distress. We weep for the victims and pray for their families and friends. Let's humbly pray: Lord, have mercy.

This tragedy makes us realize how fragile our life is. As a Londoner I've many personal links with the city. But it could have been any city. The world is so full of social unrest, religious strife, war, terrorism, violence and persecution that we may rightly long for God to intervene. Couldn't God put all wrongs in an instant?

Jesus' followers can take heart from God's commitment to wipe out evil. He promised that a child would be born to crush the serpent's head (Genesis 3v15). Why not now? Because to do so would involve wiping out humanity at a single stroke, and the chances of our being included in this are very high! The end is in the future. The Day has been set, but only God knows when, after which there will be a new creation with no more sadness, crying, pain or death. God has graciously given us time to have a change of heart: *'not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance'* (2 Peter 3v9). God sent His Son Jesus into the world to fulfill His promise of being the serpent crusher. It involved his suffering the agony of the cross to provide the way for our sin to be forgiven and signalled how he had triumphed over evil that he would one day wipe out for good.

Jesus was asked about the tragedy of a tower in Siloam collapsing that killed eighteen people. When asked whether the people who died were more guilty than others living in the city of Jerusalem, he replied: *'I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish'* (Luke 13v5). Jesus warns us to respond before our own end. For one day there will be The End.

Paul Kingman



Could YOU be a Waterways Chaplain?

Waterways Chaplaincy is about serving Christ on the waterways. It is an ecumenical activity of Workplace Matters, working in partnership with the Canal & River Trust, providing a listening and supportive ministry to those who benefit from and use the inland waterways. There are many different and diverse communities on the waterways of England and Wales.

This is a voluntary role and the function of a voluntary Waterways Chaplain or Team Member focuses on providing a visible presence along specific stretches of the inland Waterways, providing friendship, support and a listening ear to ALL those who benefit from its economy.

Funding comes from various sources: mainstream churches, Christian funding organizations, grants from Trusts and Foundations and donations from individuals.

If you would like further information, please contact:

Senior Waterways Chaplain – text 07717 813682

waterways@workplacematters.org.uk

www.workplacematters.org.uk

Armchair viewing from Sherborne Estate

This estate is in the heart of the Gloucester countryside and is run by the National Trust. This year they hosted the BBC programme Springwatch 2017.

For nearly three weeks a cheery 'Good Morning' welcomed viewers to the BBC Red Button with its rolling news going out all day long. The birds for me were the stars of the show. Did you know that in early May there was an international Dawn Chorus Day, a celebration of the annual miracle. This has been recognised with an issue of 10 lovely stamps from the Royal Mail showing some of our finest singers including the cuckoo, skylark and wren.

Birdsong reached its peak in May. By this time, the migrants from Africa and southern Europe were all back so we could hear them in our own gardens.

Early in June we had a lot of wind and rain with the chicks needing the help of their parents to keep them warm and dry. To do this they spread their wings over the nest until the sun came out.. The Jay nest had started to tilt and a chick fell out but landed safely near to a parent who was on hand to steady the offspring.

(continued at bottom of page 6)

Christianity Explored

We all get one life to live and deep down we're all asking the same question – what's it all about?

'Christianity Explored' gives you time and space to consider the big questions of life and to explore the life of the person at the heart of the Christian faith - Jesus Christ.

- You don't need to know anything about the Bible
- You won't be asked to read aloud, pray or sing
- You can ask any question you want, or just listen

Everyone is welcome: from the most sympathetic dyed-in-the-wool churchgoer to the convinced atheist. We will respect your background, culture and beliefs, and you can tell us as little or as much about yourself as you feel comfortable.

Our aim is to help people investigate Christianity in a relaxed and accessible way, and we encourage guests to come with all of their questions. In just a few weeks we won't be able to cover everything, but many people have found the course to be a good introduction to the big issues. You will also get a chance to take away and read one of the eyewitness accounts of Jesus' life over the duration of a course, and there are options for further investigation afterwards if you find you are still interested. Who was Jesus? Why did he come? What does it mean to follow him?

When?	Sundays with bring and share supper at 6pm from 4 th June to 16 th July.
Where?	Christ Church Centre, Christchurch Way
Contact?	Speak to Revd Paul Kingman (01785 812669)
More information:	website http://www.christianityexplored.org

Armchair viewing *(cont)*

Living under the shadow of His wing we find security,
 Standing in His presence we will bring
 our worship, worship, worship
 to the King.

See Psalm 91 for more of God's goodness to His children.

Ann Butler

Let your light shine

Who am I? I am newly made, I am enthusiastic. I know that I have a lot to learn, and I am keen to get started. I could be a man or I could be a woman. People often think I am a priest but I am not. You can tell that when I am properly dressed in church, because I wear a stole over my left shoulder. I will be coming to a parish near you soon.

All those clues should help you work out who I am, but this suggestion from a schoolboy may not: 'I am placed on a hill and set on fire as a warning to people'. No, I am not a beacon; I am a deacon.

At the beginning of June I ordained twenty two women and men to the order of the diaconate. We often think of deacons as just trainee priests, obliged to wait for a year until they can 'do all the important stuff', like preside at the Eucharist, bless, absolve. But in reality being a deacon is an important ministry in its own right, reminding us of what the church is all about. And it is a ministry which is never lost: every priest, and every bishop, remains a deacon throughout their lives. And there is a growing number of 'permanent ' or 'distinctive ' deacons, men and women whose lifelong vocation is specifically to this office. Maybe this pattern will be coming to a diocese near you quite soon.

Deacons hold before us the mission of Jesus, who came not to be served but to serve. Their ministry is about showing the kindness, mercy and care of God in the life of the church and in the service of the world. This is the primary pattern of leadership in the Christian community: to put the needs of the other before our own, and to find our joy in the joy of our brothers and sisters.

But this is not the same as simply being amenable to everybody's whim. Deacons are not doormats; on the contrary, the word in the ancient world referred to servants entrusted with the authority of the master, to deliver as heralds the message of the one by whom they were sent. This is why one of the distinctive roles of the deacon is to proclaim the Holy Gospel: to a world obsessed with self-seeking and domination, they announce the good news of a God who comes to serve.

Being called to ordination as a deacon is a wonderful privilege. Pray for our newly ordained deacons, whether they in your church or in a church nearby; pray that they may be given grace and confidence to enter fully into this servant ministry. (*continued*)

Let your light shine *(cont)*

But their vocation is just a reminder of the life to which we are all called as followers of the servant King: pray that each one of us individually, and all of us together, may show in our lives what it means truly to love and serve our neighbours. *Bishop Michael*

PCC News

The PCC met on 24th May 2017 and the following matters were reported:

It was agreed to proceed with fitting the entire church with pew cushions in a red fabric to match the carpet.

The electronic notice board is up and running although investigations are underway to find a more prominent position. If you have a notice you would like included, please contact the office or Andy Stone

Adam Baker is staging a concert at Christ Church on Friday 7th July. Tickets are a minimum donation of £2.00. All proceeds to go to the Rainbow Project giving support to asylum seekers and refugees.

Kieran and Ashley McKnight will be visiting on Sunday 2nd July.

The Baron family will be visiting Christ Church on 9th July and will be talking about their current work.

On 16th September there will be a youth event Held at Shallowford House. More details will follow.

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 5th July 2017.

Historic Churches Cycle Ride

Ride and Stride is an annual event to raise funds for the Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust.

On Saturday 9th September, many Staffordshire churches will be open and the idea is to be sponsored for the number of churches visited on that day.

Our church will be open, needing welcomers. . .Sandra and Chris Morray, and Helen are regular cycling participants and Sheila and Dorothy have walked in and around Stafford.

Ask any of these people for more information. *Dorothy*

	Mission Prayer Diary
	<i>Kieran and Ashley McKnight are with Emmanuel Church in UAE. People in the Church come from many countries. Kieran of course was Youth Minister at Christ Church .</i>
1 st	Emmanuel Church has applied to register as an official organisation in the UAE. This would allow the church to have bank accounts and other useful rights
2 nd	We are really excited to be connected with the great church planting organisation “20 schemes” through the "Churches in the hard Places" project. Pray for them and the work they do in Scotlad and beyond.
3 rd	We value your prayers as we make preparations to share about the work that the Lord is doing in Fujairah and raising funds for the following year.
4 th	A women’s conference will be held in October
	<i>Dagmar and Ralph Baron help to run Murree Christian School, in North Pakistan. They will visit Christ Church on July 9th.</i>
5 th	For wisdom, strength and guidance for Dagmar as she takes on the role of High School Principal
6 th	For a rapid response to appeals for visas for new staff and the renewal of visas for existing school staff
7 th	For a school nurse and a Social Studies teacher to be appointed before the beginning of the next school year

8 th	For Dagmar's mother, recovering after fracturing her pelvis, that suitable accommodation will be found for her when she leaves hospital.
	<i>Stephen and Tabita Bell are planting and supporting evangelical Churches in Croatia and The Balkans</i>
9 th	PRAY that the LORD would call out and bring His workers From especially UKRAINE and BRAZIL. 18 months ago 120 Brazilians went forward to volunteer for service here, however, none has been able to arrive here.
10 th	Tabita organizes the youth, whether it be from 7PM to midnight at our house, or with the Dubrava and Dugo Selo music groups. Pray for spiritual growth, conversions and a great sense of worship.
11 th	Brazilian missionary Emanuel has pioneered local Christian radio – on a secular radio station accumulating 40,000 regular Listeners
12 th	New work has started in the nearby town of Vrbovec. Please pray for new church members
	<i>Tim and Kate Lee helped to set up JigSaw Kids Ministries in Manila (Philippines). Now they live in the UK but still support and fund-raise for JigSaw. They are our CMS Link Missionaries</i>
13 th	Parts of Manila are very dangerous, with gangs and drug dealers controlling some districts
14 th	Jigsaw provides a meal for many children who otherwise would not get a proper meal
15 th	Providing a home for a child is expensive and difficult, but Jigsaw does what it can to help homeless children

16 th	Tim Lee has had some health problems, which have restricted his visits to Manila
	<i>Jonathan and Robinah Beesigomwe live in Gabarone, Botswana. Their organisation is “Bows and Arrows Ministry”, and they work with older schoolchildren and young adults</i>
17 th	Children and Youth Ministry training Programmes. We receive wonderful testimonies Evangelism and discipleship. All deserve to hear the good news.
18 th	Our Family Programme and parenting to help build families. May God save our families.
19 th	Foundation for Farming to help Churches and schools contribute to economic development of nations with a new mindset on farming. Africa will again be a food basket for Nations.
20 th	Development of a home to return to in Uganda and that we get the promised car.
	<i>Compassion runs child sponsorship in many countries. Several children are sponsored by members of Christ Church</i>
21 st	In Ethiopia, 101,600 children are helped in 436 child development centres
22 nd	Compassion supports schools, provide a meal and give birthday and Christmas presents to every child
23 rd	Work in Kenya began in 1980 and now helps to support 104,200 children in 370 centres. Teen camps during school holidays provide music, drama and computer skills

24 th	Compassion aim to find a sponsor for each child. Sponsors contribute a small amount of money each month and write letters to their sponsored child
	<i>Mission Aviation Fellowship run a small fleet of aircraft flying church workers, medical teams and missionaries into very remote areas in Africa, Papua New Guinea and Asia</i>
25 th	MAF recently flew Open Doors staff around East Democratic Republic of Congo to help persecuted Christians
26 th	A bi-weekly supply flight to the Christ Our Hope orphanage in Liberia keeps the orphanage running and takes visitors back and forward
27 th	Pray for engineers looking after a Cessna Grand Caravan in Nabire, Papua
28 th	The peace process in South Sudan is in a deadlock. Flying in a war zone is very dangerous and difficult
	<i>The Church Mission Society works in 49 countries</i>
29 th	Tracy Day, Chiang Mai, Thailand; “I have returned to prayer walking in the red light district with a team of people. I have been appalled at how squalid it has become. The sought-after age of children sold here is getting younger. Please pray for justice, repentance, renewal and hope.
30 th	Andy and Katiane Walsh, Florianoplois, Brazil; We work with ex-offenders, people recovering from drug and alcohol abuse, the homeless and victims of abuse.
31 st	Bishop Nick Drayton, Argentina; The Toba language Old Testament translation project is slowly gathering momentum. Pray that the Toba people will soon have the whole Bible.

Hospital Visiting at UHNM

Following on from joining in Carol singing around the wards at Royal Stoke University Hospital (RSUH) in December 2015 and 2016 I was moved to become a volunteer with University Hospital of North Midlands (UHNM) NH Trust which includes RSUH and County Hospital Stafford.

I wanted to visit, at the bedside, patients who were lonely or had few, if any visitors. Since the beginning of this year I have been doing just that working within the chaplaincy team.

I find it extremely rewarding although it is not always easy. I spend an afternoon each week at both RSUH and County. I will normally be given some specific patients (identified by the chaplaincy) to visit after which I am free to seek others by asking ward staff who are always most helpful and appreciative as they don't have enough time to sit and chat with patients.

As RSUH is so large I am allocated to a particular area - West Building - which has a number of wards for elderly patients. At County I have free rein to go to all wards. Patients, generally, are very happy to receive a visit (unless they are too unwell, tired or fast asleep) and may talk about their past, their family or issues which are troubling them. Sometimes it might be a one off visit as people pass through hospital, other times visits can continue to the same person for a number of weeks and a relationship is gradually built up. It is very encouraging that about 4 out of 5 welcome prayer - including those who are not churchgoers. One gentleman, not a churchgoer, reminded me recently that I had prayed for him the previous week and asked if I would do so again!

In early May a commissioning service was held at Stoke Minster for new nursing staff at which students representing various disciplines received the blessing of hands. In this each palm is marked with the sign of the cross with the prayer... "May God bless you in your calling. May you be strengthened working with others to support them and care for them". It was a moving occasion at which prayer was said for all healthcare professionals that "the might find joy and blessing in their calling and vocation"

The volunteer coordinator and chaplaincy are currently trying to recruit more volunteers for both RSUH and County. There are opportunities to offer help in a wide variety of different areas and if you would be interested in this necessary and rewarding work have a word with me in the first instance. *Dave Rowlands*

The Rt Rev'd Keith Norman Sutton

On 10th May I attended a thanksgiving Eucharist for the life of Bishop Keith who died on 24th March 2017. I knew him quite well and he had a large influence on my own Christian journey.

He was the 97th Bishop of Lichfield from 1984 until 2003 and was deeply loved by the people of this diocese.

It was a wonderful celebration of his life and ministry.

His children write...

"Keith and his wife, Jeanie, bore hardship well. Their life was their ministry and it was a combined ministry. Losing three siblings at a young age, losing our sister in Uganda, being ambushed at gunpoint and then both living with prolonged dementia, they lived through life's tribulations as witnesses to all, never complaining and jointly modelling their faith during their time in this world. Growing up we had little in the way of material wealth but could not have been richer in the abundance of love they provided us..."

Keith was known as both the 'the people's Bishop' and 'the Archbishop of the West Midlands'. In the Lords he was called 'the saint in the House of Bishops'.

The Most Rev'd & Right Honourable Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York, delivered a wonderful sermon on Romans 8. 31-end, about dealing with suffering. He recalled Keith's words when his daughter died leaving Jeanie in a mental hospital - "who shall separate us from the love of Christ. A star," he said "at its brightest as it burns up, reminds him of Keith and Jeanie as they suffered and died".



Dave Rowlands

Fountains

In March I was invited to the 20th Anniversary celebration of a voluntary Christian organisation called "Fountains Counselling Service".

This was formed originally under the name "Christian Support Services" in 1996 following the end of a one year counselling training course at Shallowford House entitled "Counselling in the Christian Context" which was largely based on person centred counselling techniques.

This course was the brain child of Rev'd David Gardener (a Baptist minister who sadly died suddenly in February 1999) who had a strong desire to equip Christians to assist clergy with Pastoral care in their parishes. It followed on from shorter courses of the same name. Twelve people followed the programme which consisted of weekly training and worship and also two residential weekends. It was led by David Gardener, his wife Rosemary, Jane Witney and me. In addition to the training the participants were split into groups of three for personal counselling and different groups for personal growth. The results were amazing - at the end of the year a number of participants said that it had been "a life changing experience". Wow!

It was a wonderful celebration and the original trainers were present along with a number of those who completed the course. We had a time of worship, a brief history of the 20 year journey, reminiscences and an inspirational address by Rev'd Jeff Leonardi (he was the Bishops Advisor in Pastoral Care and Counselling) who was involved in a supervisory role with the service since 1998. This was followed by a lovely lunch.

"Fountains" continues to flourish and offers help to people (Christian or not) in various venues in Stafford, Cannock, Stoke-on-Trent and Market Drayton. For more information speak to me. What a fantastic time we had!

Dave Rowlands

News from Kieran and Ashley

Hi everyone, we hope that you are all well.

As you are all aware, we have been having some issues with regard to our sending church no longer being able to handle our finances. This has been quite difficult as we have been trying to explore alternative options.

It was beginning to look unlikely that we were going to be able to find an appropriate way to do this in such a short time but the Lord made a way. We know many of you have been praying for a solution to this problem. We want to thank you for your ongoing prayers and support. It has been a great encouragement to us.

We have happy to announce that we are connecting with 20 Schemes through their 'Churches in the Hard Places' project. They have set up an account for us, which is a great relief. They have also sent up a way for people to give quickly and conveniently online. It is also good because we will be able to get gift aid on this as well.

In the coming weeks we will be back in the UK and Ireland. We will be spending some time visiting family and friends, but most of the time will involve visiting churches and trying to raise much-needed funds for the year ahead. Due to the issues we have had with the lack of an account, we are significantly underfunded for the year ahead. We have seen the Lord's hand at work, and we trust that He will continue to provide.

If you would like to know more about our work, come and speak to us when we visit.

So far we are going to be visiting:

Christ Church, Wyre Forrest
Emanuel Leamington Spa
Christ Church, Stone
St John's, Oulton
St Andrews in the Westlands
Drumpelliar Christian Fellowship
Denistoun Baptist
Airdrie Baptist
Benhar Evangelical Church

Oulton with Christ Church Mothers Union

In April we had our meeting in the Church room, and our Archdeaconry Leader, Debra Tudor, came to lead our meeting and talk to us about the Overseas Work of the Mothers Union. Membership of the Mothers Union is worldwide and it was very interesting to hear about the achievements and help given in many ways in other countries, most notably in Africa. Healthcare, education and family support, as well as help with food and nutrition are some of the areas in which the Mothers Union is involved. We are a small group and rather elderly here in Oulton, and it was heartening to know that we do help to make a difference, even if in only a small way.

In May we had our Annual Service of Music and Meditation, arranged for us by Deaconess Ann Butler. Ann has a great love of music and takes a great deal of trouble to choose lovely pieces of music which this year were linked to readings from the Book of Esther, in the Old Testament. Afterwards we enjoyed cream teas and each other's company. A very happy afternoon for us all and our grateful thanks go to Ann.

This month, we hold our Annual Coffee Morning, which is our main fund raising effort for the year. This year it will be held at the home of Marcia Bailey, at 48 Church Lane on Thursday, June 15th from 10 to 12 noon. All are welcome and we will be grateful for your support.

Prue Fairbairn

"Everybody Welcome"

The "Everybody Welcome" coffee mornings are running again during the summer months (1 July, 5 August, 2 September). As well as free coffee/tea and cakes, there have been many who have enjoyed the live music in church which we plan to repeat on each Saturday. The aim is to welcome people into our church building — for the first time, or if they have been away for a long time. We will be leafleting people at the Farmers' Market and having free refreshments and an open church, with church members around to welcome all those who come. Please put these dates in your diary/calendar and pray for those who come to them. Also, if you are a church member, please be prepared to think "Free Coffee Morning" and perhaps invite a neighbour to come with you; or, if you go to the Farmer's Market and meet someone you know invite them. If you are reading this article and do not come to church we would love to meet you. *Shirley Hallam*

Christ Church 10 years ago

A Step Closer to Stone [written 10th June 2007]

The song "One more step along the world I go" comes to mind, dredged up from memories of my primary school in North Wales. In three days we leave our home in Oxford for the last time. Times of change mean plenty of activity, although most of the preparations have now been done – thanks primarily to Caroline!

Yesterday I cleared the last of my belongings from my Wycliffe study room, my brain gymnasium of the last three years. There in my room I wrote about Matthew's vision of Jesus, Isaiah's call to be a prophet, and why Irenaeus rocks as a theologian. In 13 Old Lodge Luther convinced me that it is okay to wear robes, and Tim Keller changed my understanding of preaching. You might hear these names several times over the next few years!

Two days ago was the Commissioning service for those of us leaving. It was a thrill to see so many people being sent back into the world to build God's Kingdom. Nine and a half years ago I first sensed a desire to be involved in church leadership, proclaiming the glory of Jesus to His people and His world, and now it is coming real, which feels unreal. We are delighted in where God has called us, and very much looking forward to serving the Lord alongside you in Moddershall, Oulton and Stone.

Yet change also means leaving behind. Caroline has said goodbye to a wonderful Bible study group and a friendly group of mums who all had their first children just over two years ago. Hannah was born after our first term at Wycliffe, so this is her first big move. I will be missing fellow students who became dear friends, and with whom every lunchtime we solved the Church's problems!

"And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you." Are you humming it yet?! For Christians change is always relative – because God is always with us. As we look back we see ample evidence that God has been kind and gracious to us, and for the future we have Jesus' promise of His presence (Matthew 28:20). So Staffordshire here we come!

Tim Vasby-Burnie

OUR MEAFORD CORNER.

We are glad to announce that Lady Forrester has made an appointment to the Meaford Day School; and while our sympathy will follow the ex-mistress, Miss Porter, in her weak state of health, we also trust that her successor, Miss Dukes, will find a warm welcome in her new home and work.

We trust the parents will strengthen her hands in every possible way. The weather is now very bright and beautiful, and so there can be no excuse on this ground for keeping children at home. With a little effort and a little self-sacrifice many difficulties will be overcome.

The present seems a fitting opportunity for a few words on the subject of a child's education, as it is laid down in the Code of Education.

Many parents seem to think that if a child is sent to school there is an end of the whole matter, and all responsibility is discharged. There are three things laid down which would be well if parents would bear them in mind. They are (a) Attendance, (b) Demeanour, (c) Progress. Now just to take these one by one-

(a) *Attendance.* This should be *regular* and *punctual*. An irregular child is a hindrance to a school. Yet how many children are kept away half days for the most trivial reasons. Then they should be *in time*. A late mark is a *lost* mark and a *lost* lesson. Parents can do much in this way to help forward the teacher's work.

(b) *Demeanour.* Good behaviour and tidiness, neatness in dress and appearance, all very necessary habits, and are amongst the best lessons a child can be taught.

(c) *Progress.* If the first two are attended to, then you may leave this to the teacher. It is sure to follow.



Meaford School

THE BINDING OF THE MAGAZINE.

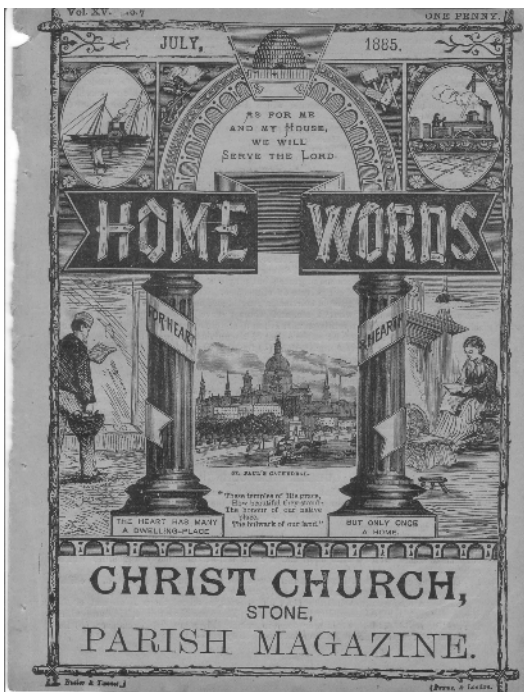
Now that we are well advanced into the year, and have reached the second half of our number, we desire to remind our readers that each part of the Magazine should be carefully and neatly kept, so as to be bound up into a volume at the end of the year. It is very important that the outside covers should be preserved and not soiled, as these should be bound together at the beginning of the book. They will then form a short and interesting history of our parish during the year, and will serve to remind us all in days to come of many happy associations in worship and work.

The number of Home Words sold each month is about 290. It should be more ; and if each subscriber would kindly be a year's agent, and recommend it to neighbours and friends, we feel sure the circulation would be quickly increased.

We append this month a list of those friends who have become subscribers to the Magazine, and the editor would take this opportunity of expressing to them his sense of indebtedness

and thanks:-Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Fernie, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Farmer, Miss Toon, Miss Travis, Miss Masfield, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Goldthorp, Mr. Slater, Mrs. Hugh Shaw, Mrs. Stubbs, Mrs. Brandon, Mrs. Fodew, Mrs. Timmis, Mrs. F. Adie, Mrs. Green, Miss Hodgkinson.

As it is impossible to sell the Magazines at 1d. without these 2s. 6d. subscriptions, Mr. Pearman will be glad to receive any other members of the congregation who would like to become subscribers.



REGISTERS AND ROTAS

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

2 nd July	D. Shemilt L. Fforde	K. Woodward A. Smith
9 th July	P. Roberts D. Pickles	D. Wilson P. Kelly
16 th July	J. Bowes J. Kelt	J. Abrahams G. Latos
23 rd July	E. Kingman K. Rein	G. Leithead C. Reeve
30 th July	D. Shemilt L. Fforde	K. Woodward A. Smith



FLOWER ROTA

2 nd July	Mrs J. Rowlands	9 th July	Mrs L. Mason
16 th July	Mrs S. Hawley	23 rd July	Mrs D. Pickles
30 th July	Mrs S. Morray		

ROADS FOR PRAYER

2nd July

Alma Street
Bromfield Court
Dominic Court
Granville Terrace
King's Avenue

9th July

Longton Road
Margaret Street
Newcastle Road
Newcastle Street

23rd July

The Avenue
Trent Road
Tunley Street
Trinity Drive

16th July

Northesk Street
Radford Close
Radford Street
Station Road

30th July

Airdale Grove
Airdale Road
Airdale Spinney
Cross Street



Deanery Synod Reps	Helen Bowes
P.C.C. Members	Kate Latham, Irene Gassor, Pete Kelly, Sue Fox Pete Mason, Estella Woodhead Peter Rein, G. Leithead, Angela Burton Rab Shields, Louise Kelly, Debbie Hazlehurst
Secretary	Shelagh Sanders
Treasurer	
Envelopes, Gift Aid	Richard Latos

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Climbers 3-7 years

Explorers 7-11 years Estella Woodhead.....761659

Banner Group Jeanette Rowlands.....261199

Church Missionary Boxes Church Office.....811990

Flower Guild Marylyn Hillman.....815936

Prayer Group Jeanette Rowlands.....261199

Parents & Toddlers Sandra Morray.....286093

(Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)

3rd Stone Brownies Janet Smith..... 815939

(Mon 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 **Junior Church** 7-13 years

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

Monday Toddlers 9.30 am **Breathe** (years 5-8) Monday 6:30 pm
Kingzone (years 2-4) Wednesday 6:00 pm

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