

## 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

TIT	$\Box$	DIC	· 1 1 ·	TE A	
THE	PA	KIS	Н		M

Vicar Paul Kingman 812669

The Vicarage, Bromfield Court

Youth and Children's Minister

Sean Bradford sean.bradford@christchurchstone.org

"Charnwood", 23 Cross Street, Stone

Electoral Roll Officer Irene Gassor 814871

Parish Office Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB

Email office@christchurchstone.org 811990

**Deaconess (Retired)** Ann Butler 818160

Readers Dave Bell 815775 Helen Bowes 812317

David Rowlands 261199
Michael Thompson 813712

Music Co-ordinators Pete Mason 815854

Sue Kingman

Wardens Andy Stone 07749 766353

David Beauchamp 286526

**Deputy Warden** Phil Tunstall, 817028

**CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE** 

**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

### IN THIS ISSUE

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Christ & Church

#### Subscriptions

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

Church Office 01785 811990

# September 2017

Fri	1		
Sat	2	8:30 am 9:30 am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast "Everybody welcome" coffee morning
Sun	3	9:15 am 6:00 pm	,
Mon	4		
Tue	5	10:00 am	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30
Wed	6	7:30 pm	Standing committee
Thu	7	10:30 am 1:20 pm	1 1 2
Fri	8	10:00 am	CE coffee morning
Sat	9		
Sun	10	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Morning Prayer; Acts 28:17-31 "The gospel as public truth" "Praying to serve" (7) 1 Corinthians 14:1-25
Mon	11		Toddler group Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	12		,
Wed	13	9:25 am 6:00 pm	Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	14	10:30 am 11:00 am 1:20 pm	St Mary's Home Communion
Fri	15	10:00 am	CE coffee morning
Sat	16		Truth 2017 Youth Event at Shallowford House

Sun	17		Communion; Philemon "Coping with betrayal" "Seven great journeys" Bible overview
Mon	18		Toddler group Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	19	12:30 am	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club
Wed	20		Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	21	1:20 pm	Open prayer time in church Christ Church Academy assembly PCC meeting
Fri	22	10:00 am	CE coffee morning
Sat	23		Explained & Proclaimed (Keswick in The Potteries) St Andrew's Church, Westlands Harvest Supper at Christ Church
Sun	24		Harvest service with Tear Fund speaker Galatians 6:1-10 "Sowing and reaping" 1st of "Seven great journeys"; Noah's journey
Mon	25	9:30 am	Toddler group Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	26	12:30 am	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club
Wed	27		Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	28		Open prayer time in church Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	29	10:00 am	CE coffee morning
Sat	30		

Fairtrade goods will be on sale after the service on September 24th

### An anchor for the soul

Many people find that this month spells change. Change is something that can be welcomed or is found to be unsettling. Whichever of these experiences it is, we need an anchor!

After a time of flux in the housing market people move home and begin to settle. Others start new jobs after a summer break. Schools start a new term and sixth form colleges roar into action and encourage students to look to the horizon as to what comes next. Apprentices have to adjust to a mixture of work and study time. University students often move away from home for the first time with mixed emotions about the leaving the nest. Others join new study courses or evening classes or join clubs for a new term. Several find that their medical health care can soon dominate the week. These are all significant changes to navigate. Where do we find stability in what may well feel like riding through a storm? We need a secure line so that we don't go adrift.

One writer in the Bible uses a picture that is not used elsewhere: the picture of an anchor. But, instead of this going down to the ocean bed, this anchor reaches up into heaven: 'we have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek' (Heb 6v19). For all believers this speaks clearly of how Jesus has gone before us, to secure our salvation in heaven. It means that we are to put our full trust and confidence in him.

This 'anchor' of salvation in Christ, enables us to face the changes in life. For a school pupil or university student who is anxious about the new term, there is the assurance of Jesus the high priest who

is can sympathise with us and will provide us with help. For those who have a change of work or location they can be sure of a secure relationship with God. For those facing an uncertain path ahead, they know that Jesus has secured the future. For those feeling that their health is on the wobble, Jesus provides true hope.

An anchor for the soul is provided in Jesus. *Paul Kingman* 



#### Dear Friends,

I notice that charity law in the United Kingdom is changing in order to ensure that donors and recipients of charity are both protected. The Charity Commission is currently engaged in a consultation process on how to update the law. something we should all welcome. The consultation process has raised a number of issues for churches and other faith groups, as Frank Cranmer has commented: "The importance of all this for faith-groups cannot be underestimated. Whether their trusts are registered with the Commission or not, charity trustees are obliged to demonstrate that their charities provide public benefit." This 'demonstration of public benefit' is something you have heard from me from the outset. In my Enthronement sermon, referring to what Jesus said (in John 15) about our bearing fruit when we "abide in the vine", I asked: "So what is this 'fruit' that the Church should be producing? It's not easy to get at what Jesus is saying. Imagine walking around a garden asking guestions. What's that tree for? It's beautiful, there's a swing hanging from it and it gives good shade. What's that dahlia for? It's bright and cheerful and the bees love it. What's that weed for? A weed is a plant in the wrong place so I'll pull it up. What's that vine for? For grapes to eat or turn into wine. So when Jesus makes comments about bearing fruit, he's really forcing you to ask: 'What on earth is the Church for?' The simple answer lies in the two unconditional priorities for all three Abrahamic faiths: God and people - 'Love God, love your neighbour'. Unquestionably, the Church's priorities lie outside her walls. An introverted church is a sham, not a church at all, because it doesn't attempt to live up to God's priorities. A church that's bothered about itself about the needs of its congregation, about its buildings, about its petty squabbles, even about its own salvation – is preaching a badly distorted un-gospel."

I'm delighted that people outside the Church are asking the same question: 'What is the Church for?'

(continued)

### What is the Church for? (cont)

However, I'm sad to say from experience that some will answer the question like this:

- It's there for me and my soul's comfort.
- It's there because I have put money and effort into it.
- It's there because I need it to be there until I'm in the churchyard.
- It's there simply to grow bigger.
- It's there to raise money for the building.
- It's there to be serious or fun or relevant or musical or whatever I myself want it to be.

All those answers are all wrong because there is just one true answer in two parts:

- The Church is there for God, and
- The Church is there for other people.

God, worshipped through the Lord Jesus Christ and made present in the Holy Spirit always comes first. Then, without any break, comes love for the world which God created and redeemed through the life, death and resurrection of his Son. If those are not our priorities, the absolute standard of our life in the Church, then one day we will be judged and found wanting. Even the law will judge us if we fail in love for others, and it will serve us right if the law says any of our congregations have become introverted and self-contented. So what is your church for? – it's something worth discussing.

Your own in Christ, + Robert. (Bishop of Sodor and Man)

#### **Christian Aid collections 2017**

The amount of donations for this year collected by volunteers around Stone and the surrounding areas came to £8910.29 plus the money raised on the Christian Aid annual walk and afternoon teas, which brings the total to over £9000. The money was used to pay for latrines in South Sudan, helping to prevent the spread of disease.

At Christ Church only 10 streets were collected from this year, but the amount collected, including some envelopes given in to the office, was still significant, £469.10p.

Thank you to those who took part. Phil Tunstall

	Mission Prayer Diary
	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.
1 <sup>st</sup>	No response yet to the request for Emmanuel Church to be registered officially. Please continue to pray
2 <sup>nd</sup>	As Kieran and Ashley return to Arabia, pray that their work will progress, especially among young people in the church.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Many foreigners work in UAE, they outnumber the nationals considerably. Often these foreign workers are isolated and lonely, and start to look for meaning in life. Pray for these people, that they might get in touch with the church.
4 <sup>th</sup>	A women's conference will be held in October
	Dagmar and Ralph Baron help to run Murree Christian School, in North Pakistan.
5 <sup>th</sup>	For wisdom, strength and guidance for Dagmar as she takes on the role of High School Principal. As a new term starts, there are many responsibilities and problems to be solved.
6 <sup>th</sup>	Some of the pupils at Murree are children of missionaries working in difficult places, who can continue to do their work knowing their children are getting a proper education.
7 <sup>th</sup>	Several local people work at the school. Pray for good relationships with nearby people

8 <sup>th</sup>	New pupils arrive at the school at the end of the summer. For some, it will seem a strange life and they may feel homesick
	The Bible Society has a "Bible a month club" which provides Bibles to a different country each month. Serbia in September
9 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for the success of the literacy programme in helping more children finish their school grade and engage with the Bible
10 <sup>th</sup>	Pray that the Bible message would have a great effect on Romani children
11 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for the translation work on the New Testament in the Roma language, that all Roma people would have the word of God in their own language
12 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for Misa Bakic and pray for his work with Romani youth
	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
13 <sup>th</sup>	Parts of Manila are very dangerous, with gangs and drug dealers controlling some districts
14 <sup>th</sup>	Jigsaw provides a meal for many children who otherwise would not get a proper meal
15 <sup>th</sup>	Providing a home for a child is expensive and difficult, but Jigsaw does what it can to help homeless children
16 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Lee has had some health problems, which have restricted his visits to Manila

Jonathan and Robinah Beesigomwe live in Gabarone, Botswana. Their organisation is "Bows and Arrows Ministry", and they work with older schoolchildren and young adults. Please pray about—
Marriage Fitness Adventure and premarital counselling. God loves strong marriages
Foundation for Farming to help churches and schools contribute to economic development
Our Family Programme and parenting to help build families.  May God save our families
International Leadership Academy and Lead Today- Everything rises or falls on leadership
Tear Fund prayer requests
Every day between 5,000-7,000 thousand people are falling ill from cholera in Yemen.  Tearfund partners are distributing cholera kits, water filters, medicines to treat the disease, promoting hygiene, and providing clean water.
Our hearts cry out for the people of Yemen. Please comfort all those who are suffering, strengthen those who are mourning and let your peace and provision reign.
We pray for a total end to the cholera outbreak. We ask that the aid effort won't be impeded in any way and that supplies will reach people where they're needed most. Please give wisdom and safety to those doing this work.
Make the nations turn their attention to Yemen, so that they respond immediately and generously — don't let this be another headline that goes unheeded. Lord of all, we lift up the people of Yemen to you.

	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
25 <sup>th</sup>	Every four minutes one of our planes has taken off or landed in countries around the world. Mountains. Jungles. Swamps. Unrest. No roads. We overcome these barriers to help overcome poverty
26 <sup>th</sup>	MAF flew a consignment of measles vaccines to Aweil in the north of South Sudan, enabling our partner Medair to vaccinate an astounding 49,483 babies and children and halt the spread of a large-scale measles outbreak that was tragically claiming many young lives. Pray this will be effective
27 <sup>th</sup>	MAF flew Bibles in a new Logo language translation to the Todro airstrip in Democratic Republic of Congo. 3,000 people were waiting to meet the aircraft as it landed. Pray for them as they read their new Bibles
28 <sup>th</sup>	MAF flew in professors to lecture in the remote village of Kikongo in DRC, so that students can study at the university without leaving their village. Pray for them as they study theology, agriculture and education
	The Church Mission Society works in 49 countries
29 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Paul is a chaplain at Christian Medical College and Hospital in Tamil Nadu, India. His ministry of pastoral care to terminally ill patients also extends to their family members who suffer with them. Please pray for Jim in this vital work which requires
30 <sup>th</sup>	For the past four years, Daniel and Ellelein Kirk have been involved in planting a church in Valparaiso, the largest port city in Chile. The Church is called Iglesia Pablo Apostol (IPA). IPA has experienced much growth and the team are now planning to establish a social outreach arm called Hope for Valparaiso. Please pray for continued growth in IPA, both in numbers and in discipleship.



Horrible Histories meets Monty Python in this hilarious new historical comedy from the award-winning co-writer of Miranda, Bluestone 42, Another Case of Milton Jones and Edinburgh Fringe 2013 hit The God Particle.

A Monk's Tale.
A new play by James Cary.
With original music and lyrics by James Sherwood.
On Tour from the Edinburgh Fringe 2017.

Written to mark the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, A Monk's Tale is a fast-paced hour-long gallop through the circumstances and causes which led to one of Europe's greatest social and political upheavals. Using sketches and songs, the talented three-person cast lead us through a heady mix of corruption and crusades, popes and purgatory, sacraments and (burning at the) stakes, indulgences and indignation, and much much more – fuelled by the unstoppable social media of its day, the all-new Printing Press.

Witty and entertaining, with plenty of laugh out loud moments, this is Reformation history as you have never seen it before – suitable for all ages from 8 to 108 and for those of any faith or none at all.

#### Friday 13th October 2017 at 7:30 pm



Tickets available from Christ Church Office: 01785 811990

Cost £8.00 (£6.00 concessions)

### **Historic Churches Cycle Ride**

**Ride and Stride** is an annual event to raise funds for the Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust. On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 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

#### **Truth 2017**

I met with Philip Sowerbutts, vicar of Castle Church Stafford and their youth worker several months ago to discuss and plan a Youth event for the 16th of September at Shallowford House. As we were brain-storming ideas of what the event would seek to communicate we knew we wanted talks and messages for the youth that would be relevant to them. We wanted to be able to address questions about the truth of the Bible and also topics such as sexual purity in a pornography saturated culture. We wanted something simply catchy and memorable. Young people don't read posters that are very wordy. The poster was to rather be a calling card to a website where youth and parents could read more about the event.

Names were either too long or uninteresting. We settled for Truth 2017. The truth is what we really want to communicate. The "Truth" about the Bible, The "Truth" about sexuality etc.

What keeps Christianity relevant is not a trend or the ability to be within the cultural mainstream. What keeps Christianity relevant is the reality is that it is TRUE. The truth will always be relevant.

The goal is to have 100 young people attend and to see this project grow as the years progress. A website is still under construction and more information will be made public later.

(continued)

What can be confirmed is that there will be Bible teaching and plenty of outdoor activities such as archery, climbing, shooting, zip wire and tractor rides. Also a BBQ!

So make sure to save the date the 16th of September and spread the word. Will have more information soon!

Sean Bradford
Child & Youth Minister
Christ Church Stone And Oulton With Moddershall
07756 148792

### Roger ponders "FPV" technology

I very much doubt if many of you have even heard of "FPV" - unless, that is, you happen to fly expensive drones or specially equipped model aircraft. Quite simply a video camera allows the pilot to see what is directly in front of the unmanned aircraft system.

This is transmitted by an RF link to a computer or to special goggles worn by the pilot. In the latter case, the pilot feels that they are flying from an onboard perspective. FPV simply stands for **First Person View.** 

The system has enormous potential. For example, in 2015, staff at Salisbury Cathedral used an FPV equipped drone to inspect the roof space and magnificent spire of the building. However, misuse of the system can raise problems, like near misses of full size commercial aircraft which have been in the news recently.

I encounter problems when FPV flyers come to our model flying club. Model flyers keep an eye open for other models in the air. Often, the first notion that a FPV flyer has of another model flying nearby is when he sees it in his headset...and by then its usually too late!

This set me thinking. How often do I live my life in "FPV mode"? *(continued)* 

Self absorbed, I am often unaware of the people around me. In the church context, do I notice the new comer? Do I see the young mum, with a pram and toddler struggling to open the hall door, and with a smile push the door open for her?

On the flying field I don't tell my friends how to prepare or fly their models. However as a responsible club member I am aware of the other models in the air at the same time. In much the same way I do not want to intrude on other peoples lives, but simply be ready to respond to them should they need it.

Maybe, in our personal lives, we should try to make one simple alteration to the FPV acronym. Instead of FPV standing for First Person View, can we, with God's help, change it to **Friendly Person View?!** 

Roger Vaughan

### **Everybody Welcome**

The "Everybody Welcome" coffee mornings are running again during the summer months (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

### More than a Refugee

Although the news headlines may have largely moved on from the refugee crisis, the reality is that the situation is more desperate than ever.

This is **a second** portrait of a refugee from the prayer section of the Tearfund website.

Name: David

<u>Country of origin:</u> South Sudan (Yei) <u>Current location:</u> South Sudan (Juba)

<u>Stat:</u> Of the estimated 65.3 million displaced people in the world, 38.2 million are Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). IDPs are people who have been forced from their homes, but either from choice or circumstances have stayed in their own country. David, aged 19, from Yei in South Sudan is an IDP. Yei was a vibrant town. David had an excellent start in life; his parents were successful farmers. They had enough to feed their family and sell for profit. David had big plans for his future. He said 'I want to be a mechanical engineer and repair things'. His plans had to be put on hold when armed men came to Yei and started killing indiscriminately.

The family gathered for an emergency prayer meeting and decided to flee to the capital, Juba .They travelled in a crowded open truck, taking 4 days for a day's journey in normal times. It was a dangerous trip and the children were very frightened. 'We were in God's hands' said David.

They arrived in Juba safely, but David's father now struggles to pay the rent and feed his family. Tearfund are helping - providing food vouchers and cash for the family, as well as seeds, tools and training.

In spite of his experiences, David's faith remains strong: 'As a young man, you are not supposed to go through experiences like this, but with God's help you can make it through'.

\*His name has been changed for security reasons.

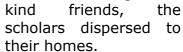
**Please pray:** Lord Jesus, give us more of your compassion for the plight of refugees, soften our hearts to their situation and help us to follow your lead in seeking justice on their behalf.

Pray for an end to all wars, poverty and human rights abuses that drive desperate people to become refugees in the first place. Amen

#### THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

By the kind and ready permission of the Earl of Harrowby, our Sunday Schools again went to Sandon Park for their annual excursion. On the morning of Saturday, August 15th-a beautifully fine day-the Christ Church and Stonefield Schools assembled at 11 o'clock in the churchyard, and marched in high spirits and with flags flying to the station; there the little contingent from Meaford School met us with their pretty little banner. The waiting time passed, and cheering greeted the arrival of the long-wished-for train. We were soon in and off. At Sandon we re-formed and marched to the allotted ground in the park. After a few words of caution and congratulation they dispersed to enter with their usual zest into the several games and amusements provided. The teachers became the centres of attraction to groups of happy faces. Luncheon was at 1 o'clock. The children, arranged in parallel lines, were quickly served, and ate as only children can.

During the afternoon we were glad to welcome many members of the congregation; most of the elder scholars also joined us at this time, and Mr. Woods' capital Brass Band. Tea was at five o'clock, when the hungry and thirsty were again satisfied. At 7.40 we returned to Stone, and, headed by the band, marched to our church, where, after a few words expressing thankfulness to the Giver of all good gifts for the very happy day, the National Anthem was sung, and, amid cheering for all



"We would here thank our subscribers and those who collected, as well as those who lent things necessary for tea, etc.

### REGISTERS AND ROTAS

### **BAPTISM**

23<sup>rd</sup> July Greta Knottnerus

WEDDING

5<sup>th</sup> August Amy O'Connor and Christopher Morris

FUNERAL

25<sup>th</sup> July Ken Renshaw Aged 92

### SIDESPERSONS ROTA

#### AM

3<sup>rd</sup> September G. Holden J. Kelt

L. Fforde D. Pickles

10<sup>th</sup> September P. Kelly J. Abrahams

A. Smith J. Bowes

17<sup>th</sup> September E. Kingman G. Leithead

K. Rein C. Reeve

24<sup>th</sup> September rota in September



3<sup>rd</sup> Sept Flower Guild 10<sup>th</sup> Sept Mrs E. Cook 17<sup>th</sup> Sept Mrs S. Hallam 24<sup>th</sup> Sept Harvest

### ROADS FOR PRAYER

3rd September10th SeptemberCressey CloseSaltersford RiseJoules DriveRolt CloseCauldon WayMillenium WayHarecastle BankCameron Wharf



17th September24th SeptemberThe CrescentAlbert StreetEnd Granville TerrAlexandra StreetMillers GateArthur StreetHartley DriveBerkeley 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
<b>Church Missionary Boxes</b>	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..... (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.

Junior Church 7-13 years *Climbers* 3-7 years

The following activities take place every week week in the Centre during term time. 9.30 am *Breathe* (years 5-8) Monday Monday Toddlers

Kingzone (years 2-4) Wednesday 6:00 pm

815939

### 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