

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



October 2016

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

Vicar Paul Kingman 812669
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David Rowlands 261199
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Cecilia Wilding 817987

Music Co-ordinators Pete Mason 815854
Sue Kingman

Wardens Andy Stone 07749 766353
David Beauchamp 286526

Deputy Wardens Phil Tunstall, 817028

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Booking Secretary Church Office 811990

CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street.
Head: Mr N. Chesters 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 November magazine to us by the 15th October

Cover Picture:-

Oulton Road

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

October 2016

Sat	1	8:30 am 1:00 pm	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast Marriage of Matthew Vasey and Helen Lowe
Sun	2	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Communion. Isaiah 25:1-12 "The meaning of salvation" Discipleship Explored (2) Living in Christ
Mon	3	6:30 pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	4	10:00 am 12:30 pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club
Wed	5	9:25 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	Christ Church First School assembly Selwyn Lecture, Lichfield Cathedral "God and the moneylenders" KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	6	1:20 pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	7		
Sat	8	10:00 am	PCC Away Day training
Sun	9	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Morning Prayer Isaiah 26:1-21 "Waiting for salvation" Discipleship Explored (3) Standing together in Christ
Mon	10	6:30 pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	11	10:00 am 12:30 pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club
Wed	12	9:25 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Christ Church First School assembly KingZone yrs 2-4 "Life Explored" launch
Thu	13		
Fri	14	1:20 pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Sat	15	1:00 pm	Table-top sale in aid of Benefice Youth Fund Midlands Women's Convention (Nottingham)

Sun	16	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Communion Isaiah 28:1-19 “Solid ground, or sinking sand?” Discipleship Explored (4) Transformed by Christ
Mon	17	6:30 pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	18	10:00 am 12:30 pm	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club
Wed	19	9:25 am 1:10 pm 6:00 pm	Christ Church First School assembly Alleyne’s assembly Year 11 KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	20	1:10 pm 1:20 pm	Alleyne’s assembly Year 10 Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	21	1:10 pm	Alleyne’s assembly year 9
Sat	22		
Sun	23	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Family service Isaiah 29:13-21 “The God who sees” Discipleship Explored (5) Righteous in Christ
Mon	24		Midlands Women’s Convention (Solihull)
Tue	25	10:00 am	Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30
Wed	26		
Thu	27		
Fri	28		
Sat	29		
Sun	30	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Morning Prayer Isaiah 30:1-33 “The God who waits” Discipleship Explored (6) Knowing God
Mon	31	5:00 pm	Light Party

Fairtrade goods will be on sale after the service on October 30th

The key to contentment

We live in such rapidly changing times. Last month the first plastic note was introduced to our currency. The new five-pound note is said to be washing machine resistant. We're not yet so sure about how resistant it will be to life in a post-Brexit economy. Many are speculating over the impact that the vote to Brexit will have on what we have in our bank balances. For some the future looks to be a positive one, while for others it seems potentially negative. It is unsettling. It breeds discontent.

We may admit that it doesn't take much to become discontent. A child's electronic device soon seems very slow compared with the newly launched version. The nicely tailored suit makes ours look self-evidently off the peg, and time for an upgrade. A neighbour's new car makes our own look shabby. The friend who moves home, may remind us of the squeeze faced at Christmas (oops, sorry for mentioning that), when the outlaws visit. As changes in the workplace are announced, we might begin to get restless with our own terms and conditions.

Jesus said: *'do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?'* (Mt 6v25). The things we have are not the totality of life. The lack of means might make us long for more. But, Jesus continued: *'Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them'* (6v26). We have a Father in heaven that provides for us. This results in a change from anxiety and discontent to peace and contentment. It is no surprise to our Heavenly Father that we need these things. When we grasp this then we will learn not to hanker after more, but to be content with what he has given to us. In fact, nothing less than a total re-framing of life is needed in the light of knowing God as our Father. So, here's the punch line: *'But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own'* (Mt 6v33-34).

The essence of Christian faith is to know God as our Heavenly Father. Come and join us to discover more about how this is possible and where it leads. *Paul Kingman*



DISCIPLESHIP EXPLORED

Sunday evenings from 6.00-7.30 p.m.

To be held in Christ Church Centre
(also midweek in home Bible study groups).

'*Discipleship Explored*' is a course designed to give you the time and space to think about what it really means to live the Christian life. This eight week journey through the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians, will help you to think through questions such as: How can I be sure I'm a Christian? What is life really about? How can I grow as a Christian? How can I enjoy being a Christian more? You may have been in church for years, or you may be only just beginning the Christian life. Whatever stage you are at, '*Discipleship Explored*' will help you understand what is involved in following Christ today, and encourage you to start walking confidently in his steps.

Sunday	No.	Session title
2 nd Oct	2	Living in Christ
9 th Oct	3	Standing together in Christ
16 th Oct	4	Transformed by Christ
23 rd Oct	5	Righteous in Christ
30 th Oct	6	Knowing Christ
6 th Nov	7	Rejoicing in Christ
13 th Nov	8	Content in Christ

Participant's manuals contain all the study materials (£3.00 each), but please bring a Bible and a pen. If you don't have a Bible we recommend the NIV and some may be found on the Christ Church bookstall or ordered through www.10ofthose.com either directly or through the church website under 'bookstall'.

Paul Kingman

We hold a once per month prayer meeting followed by breakfast. This is usually on the first Saturday of the month (when there is a farmers' market which makes it easier to remember) from 8.30-9.00 a.m. We invite you to make this a priority as we commit our plans to the Lord and ask him to make our ministry fruitful and glorifying to him. *Paul Kingman*

Notice from Tim Vasby-Burnie:

You have probably heard about my forthcoming move to Shrewsbury. I would be delighted to see Stone / Oulton / Moddershall friends at my licensing! This will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 2nd November at St George of Cappadocia, Frankwell, Shrewsbury.

There is no parking on the streets nearby. Seriously. Don't even try it. You could drop people off who have limited mobility, though that will probably cause a bit of a traffic jam. But there is a big car park only 5 minutes walk away. It is the Frankwell Quay pay-and-display car park, close to the Theatre Severn and near the Welsh Bridge. Postcode SY3 8HR. As you drive onto the car park turn left to park near the North West corner. After that, follow someone with Google Maps on their smartphone. Although I hear some people still use paper maps.

Tim Vasby-Burnie

Vicar of St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury

Formerly assistant curate in the United Benefice of Christ Church, Stone & Oulton with Moddershall.

September: Listen up! (Luke 6): as the new autumn term rolls into action, what will be our guiding principles? The teaching of Jesus packs a punch as he outlines what brings blessings in our relationship with God and with other people. It's an unsettling read: we're to love others without expecting a pay back; we are to learn before we can lead; our words reveal the state of our hearts; we're not simply to hear Jesus, but to obey his words.

October:

Mornings at Christ Church and Oulton: '*Human schemes and God's plans*' (Isaiah 25-35): we step into the history of ancient Israel during a crisis. The king followed the counsel of his advisers and almost destroyed the nation as a result of a deepening crisis. Would they put their trust in God's help, or man's? The same choice is before us today: as a church or as an individual will we turn to God, or seek counsel elsewhere?

Mornings at Moddershall and midweek at Christ Church: '*Jesus' signs*' (John's Gospel). Jesus did too many miraculous signs to all fit into the gospel account that John recorded for us. So, he included the seven most important ones as a structure for his account of the life of Jesus. His aim was that the readers of his gospel (you and me) might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we will have life in his name. Great stuff!

'*Songs that teach*' (Psalms 42-52): the Psalter as it is called provide a hymn and prayer book all in one. They are full of anguish and overflow with joy. Life has not changed much. The Lord has not changed and he invites us to learn from the Psalms how to continue in faith, hope and love. These are a spiritual feast for hungry souls.

Kieran and Ashley's

Last two weeks before the big journey

30th August Not long now!!!

Time Really Flies...

Sorry for the delay! It has been a hectic few days.

Lots of you have been asking about the driving test! We both failed. But it is ok, we serve a sovereign God. A God who is in complete control. He has given us a real peace about this. We will do a driving test in Fujairah. In the mean time we will use taxis, which are very cheap in Fujairah due to the very low cost of fuel. We trust that the Lord has a reason for this.

Sunday was our last day in Stone. The churches put on a lovely leaving service and meal for us. It was a real celebration but also it was quite difficult as we have been there a long time. We are really going to miss all of our church family. Do pray for them that the Lord would be at work and a replacement youth minister would be found.

We are really thankful to the Benefice in Stone. They gave us the so many opportunities and invested in training us. It is because of them that we are able to go and serve the Lord in Fujairah, for that we will be forever grateful.

We are now up in Glasgow until Saturday, we will then head to Ireland to visit Ashley's family and we will be attending the wedding of 2 of our friends, before returning to Glasgow for a few days before flying out on the 13th! As you can imagine everything is in chaos! And we are trying to get everything in order before we head off.

Prayer Points

- Pray for us as we try to fit an entire house into two suitcases each.
- Pray for us as we say good bye to family and friends.
- Pray for us as we go to visit Ashley's family,
- Pray for the remaining funds to come in.
- Pray for all the logistics to work out.

(continued)

The last two weeks *(cont)*

TUESDAY 6th September

I week to go

An invitation to our party...

Hi Everyone,

We are currently on a train from Wexford to Dublin to go to a friend's wedding. We have had a lovely 2 days of relaxation at Ash's parents house which is in the middle of nowhere. This has been great for us as the past few months have been a bit of a blur in preparation for heading out. Believe it or not its one week exactly until we get on a plane bound for Fujairah.

We have a lot to be thankful for, the Lord has truly been at work as we move towards this new chapter. We have been amazed over and over again by his provision, kindness and faithfulness. The cases are nearly packed, the documents are all sorted, the funds are almost there and we are beginning to say our goodbyes.

OUR LEAVING PARTY

(The leaving party was at Harper Church in Glasgow on Saturday the 10th September - too late to ask about it now!)

Thank you so much for your prayers, support and encouragement this has been a real blessing. We appreciate it more than you know.

A few things that you can be praying for:

- Pray for us as we say goodbye to everyone as this will be quite hard.
- Pray for that we will settle in really fast in Fujairah and get to grips with what's going on..
- Pray that all the paperwork that needs to be done when we arrive will be handled quickly and effectively.
- Pray that the remaining funds would come in that are needed for the work.
- Pray that God would be at work in us preparing us for the work the he has called us to do.

(continued)

The last two weeks *(cont)*

The last two weeks *(cont)*

TUESDAY 13th Sept

One hour till we head to the airport!!!

THE TIME HAS COME.

In one hour's time we head to the airport! We will be flying to Dubai via Heathrow. We will then travel to Fujairah. The cases are packed (and slightly over weight :(), the goodbyes have nearly all been said, and a final scotch pie and Irn Bru have been consumed.

We want to thank you all for your prayers, encouragement and support. We really value it. Its because of your generosity and prayers, that we are able to head to Fujairah. For that we will be forever grateful.

We look forward to sharing our life in Fujairah with you, through these emails and our Facebook group "the arabian McKnights" (email us to be included)

Pray for us as we fly and as we settle in over the next few days.

Why not share with us a verse of encouragement that we can read at the airport?

Here is one that Craig Dyer shared with us on Sunday at our last service in the UK.

"as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favour granted us in answer to the prayers of many." 2 Corinthians 1:11

Lord bless, Kieran and Ash

THURS 15th Finally here!

We are in Fujairah!

After months of talking to anyone who would listen about a little place called Fujairah, we are finally here!

We arrived yesterday morning. And spent some time with Steve (the pastor) Katie, and the family. In the evening we went out for dinner. We went to bed at 9 o'clock because we couldn't keep our eyes open. (we couldn't sleep on the flight)

(continued)

The last two weeks *(cont)*

Today we have been about the city with Steve getting ready for church tomorrow (yes, churches meet on Friday in the Middle east).

This evening we are heading to the home of some church members for some fellowship and food.

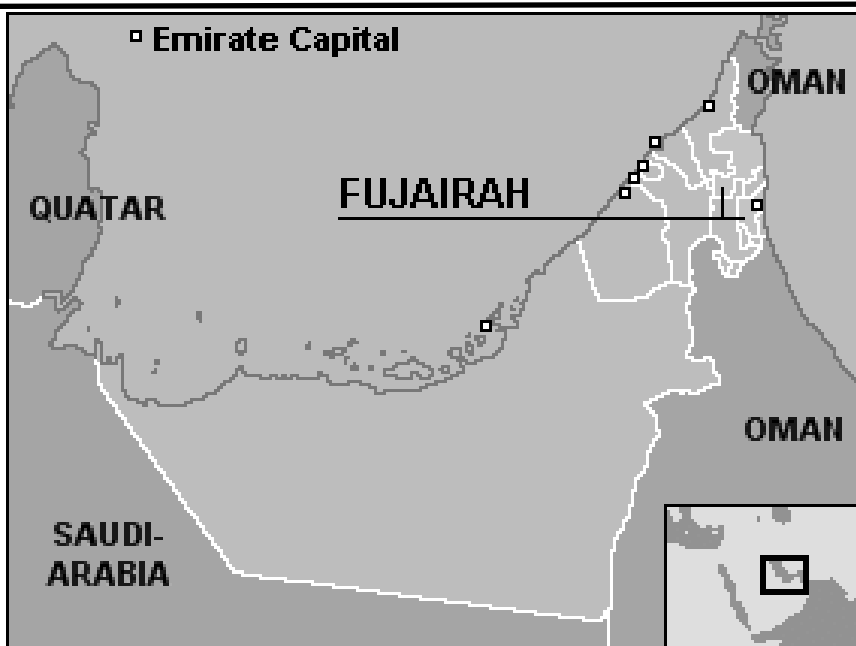
The next few weeks are going to involve sorting out paperwork for permits, setting up bank accounts, finding a flat to live in. As well as this we are going to be meeting up with loads of people from church, getting to know them and encouraging them.

Thank you so much for all the encouraging emails and messages, all the bible verses you have sent us and for your prayers. We value your support and prayers so much.

Grace and Truth, *Kieran and Ash*

PS. Yes, it's hot.

(If you would like to contribute to Kieran and Ashley's work, contact the Church office for details)



Christ Church 10 years ago

From our American Correspondent

Dear Friends,

It's great to receive the Parish Mag by email every month while we're away. We feel so close to all of you.

It has been an exciting time these last few days – Tropical Storm Ernesto arrived, travelling north from Florida where it had picked up a great deal of water which it proceeded to dump all over us, the *Phyllis May*, and the boatyard indiscriminately, for 18 hours. The waters rose until they covered our pontoon and spread into the Carpenters Shop, the Machine Shed and almost everywhere else.

The approach road to the yard was under water and passable only by 4-wheel drives. Terry had to have a hernia operation two weeks ago so I had to carry Jim through six inches of water to a small dry area three times a day. Jim weighs 30lbs!

At times like these I find that the Psalmist David feels everything that I am feeling, and says it much better.

"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help".

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death".

I was concerned that I would not be able to get to church but by Sunday morning the floods had started to recede and we could get the car out again. Our first hymn was "lead us heavenly Father, lead us, o'er the world's tempestuous sea"!! And during the announcements a lady explained that she hadn't been able to contact people as planned about some church function because her house had been struck by lightning and all the electrics were burnt out.

I will write again soon. Please keep us in your prayers.

Monica Darlington

Christ Church 130 years ago

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES.

Our Annual Harvest Festival was held at Christ Church, on Friday, October 8th, and on Sunday, October 10th. The church was again tastefully decorated with flowers and corn, and our thanks are due to those ladies who worked so hard for their outward expression of harvest joy. On Friday, your vicar preached from the words—"Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days."—Eccles. xi., 1. He pointed out that, as the harvest depends upon the sowing, and the sowing is a portion reserved from the in-gathering—so the continuance of our mercies is largely dependent upon the use we are making of those already granted, that some portion of our money, our time, and our energy, should be reserved from daily need and daily labour, to be used as seed to the glory of God and the good of our fellow men. The offertory for the Stone Nursing Institute, amounted to £5 3s.

On Sunday we were glad to meet a goodly number at early communion. At the morning and evening services the Rev. Prebendary Allen, Vicar of Eccleshall, preached two very able sermons. That in the morning dealt with the necessity of including religion in all schemes of education for the young, the preacher showing its far-reaching importance as affecting the future of our country. In the evening Mr. Allen spoke of the true idea of relationship between God and His creatures as parental government, and not as some would say—a reign of law, to which God himself is subject. All laws are subject to God ; He ordains them for His wise purposes, and works through them as his servants. The collections for the day were for our Day Schools, and reached the satisfactory sum of £15.

The Workhouse Thanksgiving Service was held on Tuesday, the 12th, at 7-30, when our choir very kindly gave their help in the service. The inmates greatly appreciated the special service.

The Meaford service was held on Sunday, October 17th, and the little school perhaps never appeared so beautiful as on that day. The Vicar preached upon the thankful acceptance of all God's mercies, and the effect they should have on our love and service to him.—Ps. cxvi., 12—13.

The collection amounted to £1 1s. 3d.

(continued)

THE SUNDAY- SCHOOLS in 1886

The Teachers spent a very pleasant evening on Friday, October 15th, at Radford House. It was the desire of our valued superintendent, Mr. W. H. Bishop, by this means to increase the feeling of union and sympathy among the teachers, and also to deepen the sense of individual responsibility. After tea, mutual counsel was taken upon several points of discipline, and the Vicar delivered an address on the qualifications of a successful teacher, viz:—prayerfulness, painstaking, practising the lessons taught, and perseverance. We believe the evening was a help and an enjoyment to all present, and trust our Sunday Schools may become increasingly efficient in carrying on this most important work.

CONFIRMATION, 1886.

The Confirmation was held this year at St. Michael's Church, on Friday, October 29th. There were 31 candidates from Christ Church, and of these eight were men. All seemed to realise the solemnity as well as the blessedness of thus openly dedicating themselves to God, and confirming their baptismal vows. Earnestly do we pray that they may daily increase in God's Holy Spirit more and more. The Bishop in his address, gave the men a special word 'of encouragement not to be ashamed of Christ, and to all the candidates, the very suitable motto : —"We love Him because He first loved us", remarking that the essence of all true religion is love.

In the evening there was a large gathering of communicants and the newly-confirmed in the school-room, under the auspices of our Communicants' Bible and Prayer Union. After prayer and a portion of scripture with a short exposition, by the vicar; Mr. W. Taylor, Hon. Sec., explained the object of the Union, and testified to the benefit he had found in observing its rules. He stated that the total number of members now reached 180. Addresses of counsel and encouragement followed from Mr. W. H. Bishop, the Rev. A. Pearman, and the Vicar. At the close of a very happy meeting many additional members were enrolled. In response to the Vicar's invitation, 75 members met at Holy Communion the following Sunday, at eight o'clock. We humbly thank God for these signs of spiritual work amongst us.

Churches Cycle Ride Sept 10th

A big thank you to everyone who sponsored me to take part in the Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride 2016. The money raised gets split between the Trust and the church of your choosing.

(see <http://staffordshirehistoricchurchestrust.org/ride-stride/>)

This is an event I always enjoy doing - I have taken part for many years in Shropshire and now this was the third year I have cycled here in Staffordshire. This year I promised to ride for Oulton Church having twice before ridden for Christ Church, so on the 10th of September I set off for the day's adventure.

It is great to be able to design my own ride and choose which churches to visit - this year I decided to focus on the Eccleshall Deanery - navigating the route, locating the churches and being able to look in these wonderful buildings and meeting with lots of friendly people giving you refreshments makes for an excellent day out. Seeing the churches in their very rural settings with very small congregations makes you appreciate the need for the Historic Churches Trust and the work it does.

The route and 19 churches visited were:-

Home to Aston, Norton Bridge, Chebsey, Eccleshall Methodist and Eccleshall Holy Trinity, Slindon, Ashley, Broughton, Croxton, Bishop's Offley, High Offley, Norbury, Woodseaves, Knightley, Gnosall Methodist and Gnosall St. Lawrence, Derrington, Doxey, St Bertelein's in Stafford then home - a total of 54 miles! (Distance logged on MapMyRide app)

The day was made rather more interesting by the mishap of a broken gear cable between Slindon and Ashley - fortunately John was home so he could bring his bike in the car so we could swap, him taking the broken bike home with him and me carrying on using his! I heard that another rider had a broken seat as well so back up parties are very useful!

Now just to collect the money.....

Helen

The Isle of Man's alternative TT

What possesses someone to drive around the Isle of Man for hours, with a toilet perched on their car roof? Toilet Twinning champion Rosemary Clarke and our CEO Lorraine Kingsley come clean...

Manx residents were caught unawares by the scene that greeted them that sunny spring morning.

A van topped with a toilet and decorated with loo brushes, balloons and bunting wound its merry way through towns and villages across the island for a full seven hours, before coming to a halt outside the Tynwald.

Twenty-eight times over the course of the day, the Toilet Tour-ists parked up, dived out and rushed to the loo.

It was not a case of overactive bladders. Rather they were marking a world first: the Isle of Man becoming our first-ever Toilet Twinned Island.

'It's not often you get invited into people's homes to look at their loos or drive around in a toilet-topped van!' says Rosemary. 'But it was marvellous to see the enthusiasm of all the twidders and to be able to celebrate our new status as the world's first Toilet Twinned Island.'

Over the past five years, more than 130 toilets have been twinned across the Island, in schools, businesses, churches and offices. Our Toilet Twinned awards are given to special communities which go above and beyond to twin toilets and work together to make a difference.



The earliest recorded toilet twins on the Island go right back to January 2011. Then, Manx twinning was given fresh impetus by Rosemary Clarke and colleagues at the One World Centre in St John's when they launched a 'Twin your toilet' campaign with Churches Alive in Man during One World Week in 2014.

www.toilettwinning.org

REGISTERS AND ROTAS

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

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



FLOWER ROTA

2 nd October	Flower Guild
9 th October	Mrs A. West
16 th October	Mrs D. Wilson
23 rd October	Mrs D. Tunstall
30 th October	Flower Guild

ROADS FOR PRAYER

2nd October
Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court

9th October
Kent Grove
Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent

16th October
Mount Road
Mount Street
Old Road
Stonefield Court

23rd October
Stonefield Square
Victor Street
Victoria Street
Whitebridge Lane

30th October
Albert Street
Alexandra Street
Arthur Street
Berkeley Street



Deanery Synod Reps	Helen Bowes
P.C.C. Members	Kate Latham, Irene Gassor, Phil Tunstall Shelagh Sanders, Pete Mason, George Holden Peter Rein, G. Leithead, Pam Shields Kevin Reynolds, Estella Woodhead, Rob Shields
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.....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 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

THE MAGAZINE TEAM

Mission News & Prayer Diary Cecilia Wilding 817987

Please send material for the magazine to

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Staffs ST15 8ZB or by email to christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

Christ Church on the Internet

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