

GoodNEWS

Lindfield URC's Village Magazine

September 2011

The Harvest is plentiful
but the workers are few.
Therefore, ask
the Lord of the Harvest
to send out
workers
into his Harvest Field.

- Harvesting Animals
- School Assemblies
- Book Reviews





Honour the Lord with your Harvest

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my House. Test me in this” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the Lord Almighty. “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 3 verses 10 - 12

Mother’s Day Sunflowers

On behalf of all those who received one, Anne Elvin would like to thank the children for the sunflower seeds they planted and gave out on Mothering Sunday. As you can see, hers has put on a wonderful show!



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A list of serving Officers can be found in Who's Who?

Editorial

It does seem a little weird writing about the beginning of the academic year, when I am, in fact at the beginning of the summer holidays!! But that is the way of magazines. So I hope you had a good summer, and are relaxed refreshed, and raring to go for the autumn session.

Ron writes about our Mid-Week Autumn Programme, giving us information which I hope will enthuse and encourage us to be part of this.

Three of our members write about their work in taking School assemblies. Please use this information to support them in prayer.

Martin puts a different spin on Harvest and tells us about insects which harvest! It is a wonderful reminder of God's Creativity and the beauty and complexity of his world that he has made and sustains.

We also have book reviews and the usual information about our regular activities.

Val

Dear Friends,



Dear Friends,

September! The very word has a poignant ring. Summer is over and although autumn can be a lovely time of the year, offering those of us who have never grown up the chance to kick piles of dead leaves into the air, it's only a step away from winter's chill. There are less than four months to go before – wait for it – Christmas!

Holidays are over and work begins again. The children have to go back to school. You can almost feel their reluctance as they trudge across the Common. For me, going back to school after the summer holidays always felt like getting into someone else's bath water which had been left to get cold! All the same, we can't spend all our time on holiday. Church life begins again with its regular round of meetings and before we know it we'll be busy preparing for Christmas and won't that be fun?!

Autumn is the time when we elect new Elders. In our Reformed tradition, Elders are ordained for life to serve as the church's spiritual leaders. They serve only for a limited time, but their ordination is a life-long privilege.

Elders are not "the Church Committee". They are spiritual leaders and being an Elder involves a demanding level of commitment both in terms of time and energy. You don't have to be a super-Christian, but you do need to feel God's call and the question I want to put to each member of our fellowship, is this: Is He calling you to offer yourself as an Elder?

It's easy to sit in church and enjoy the worship. It's great to know that if you're in trouble, your fellow Christians will care for you. It's wonderful to feel part of the great world-wide family of disciples of Jesus Christ, but unless there are men and women who are prepared to take the strain of leadership and service, very soon the church won't be there for any of us.

If you want to know more about serving as an Elder, talk to me or one of the other Elders. It is open only to Church Members of course, but if you are not a Church Member and you are a believing Christian, maybe you

should consider becoming one. You will hear more about the process of nominating and electing new Elders at Church Meeting this month, but I do earnestly ask you to consider it personally. We need to use the gifts the Holy Spirit gives to each of us and that includes yours.

With sincere good wishes,

Your Pastor and friend,

Charles S. Martin

Prayer Focus

We are at that point in the year when we look particularly at the leadership of the Church and the election of



Elders to which Charles refers in his minister's notes. This is very important as we seek to discern who the Lord is calling to this vital role. This needs to be a matter of prayer.

The autumn programme needs also to be covered in prayer as we consider together the marks of a growing church and how this might affect our life together.

As always there are many current concerns for prayer in the various notice boards in the concourse.

The Fellowship

We begin our new session in September, and give a very warm welcome to any new people who would like to join us. We meet every 4th Wednesday in the month, except December and August, at 2.30 pm in the church lounge. We usually have a speaker, otherwise members take part. We cover a wide variety of subjects, which we hope are informative, amusing and helpful. We open with prayer, and news of members, sometimes good, sometimes sad; after the talk there is a welcome cup of tea and biscuits. We also have a bring-and-buy stall.

The September meeting on Wednesday 28th September at 2.30pm is the AGM, and will be followed by a talk – “Our India Experience” by Ron and Janet Goodenough. We look forward to welcoming them, as well as old friends and new.

Winifred Scopes

September Mission Focus – Prison Fellowship

We have supported **Prison Fellowship** through monthly mission giving on a number of occasions, for the last two years this has been specifically to support the local group, **Crawley Prison Fellowship**, with the **Angel Tree** programme at our local prison: **HMP Lewes**. Due to the kindness and generosity of churches across Central Sussex, including Lindfield URC, there is sufficient money to provide **Angel Tree** presents to the children of Lewes prisoners for this coming Christmas.

Our Mission Giving in September will therefore go to support **Prison Fellowship (England and Wales)** centrally, with a proportion going to local activities. As Chief Executive Officer, Natalie Cronin, says: “We are so excited about our work and we have great plans. We see God transform the lives of prisoners all the time, why wouldn’t we want everyone to have a chance to be part of that work, and bless it by giving?”

Prison Fellowship: its start, development, and what it does

‘I was in prison, and you came to me.’ [Matthew 25:35] It is not hard to find a scriptural basis for taking the message of God’s love to those who have been incarcerated. For much of the twentieth century, however, prison ministry was a low priority for churches in America, with the task of rehabilitation largely conceded to secular educational, training and therapeutic programmes. The situation only began to change in the 1970s. In 1975, following his religious conversion and seven months in a federal penitentiary for a crime committed during his service in the Nixon White House, Charles Colson founded a programme aimed at selecting and training inmates to work as chaplains in their own prisons. This programme was to develop into **Prison Fellowship**, now the largest prison ministry in the United States, the United Kingdom and around the world with a presence in 115 countries.

Prison Fellowship (England and Wales) was founded in 1979 and now has over 120 prayer groups, with around 1,400 volunteers. Beyond praying, many of these Prayer Groups are also involved in numerous activities within prisons including taking part in services, leading Bible studies and Alpha courses, prison visiting and implementing, locally, the

two major programmes: the **Sycamore Tree** victim awareness course and **Angel Tree**.

Crawley Prison Fellowship carries out all these activities and programmes at **HMP Lewes** and also takes services at **HMP Ford**.



More information and literature is available at the mission display area, also on the Prison Fellowship website: www.prisonfellowship.org.uk.

If you would like to give towards the work of Prison Fellowship please use the special mission giving envelopes and place your gift in the offertory at any of the Sunday services. Please complete a Gift Aid slip if appropriate. Cheques should be made payable to Lindfield URC.

The Central Sussex United Area

Lindfield URC is part of the Central Sussex United Area, a “family” of United Reformed and Methodist churches whose “earnest desire is to work more closely with one another and with all Christian people that together we may become one Church of Christ, united in faith, communion, pastoral care and mission”.

Area meetings happen twice a year. Charles Martin attends along with David Jones and Sue Waller, the LURC representatives. However all church members are welcome to attend. The next Area Meetings will be at 7.30pm on Wednesdays 14 September 2011, 14 March 2012 and Thursday 13 September 2012, all at Christ Church, Lewes. These meetings are a time of fellowship and information sharing with other members of CSUA churches.

If you would like to know more about the CSUA, its activities, function or have any queries or comments, please contact David Walters (Area Officer), our church representatives or Graham Campling.

Graham Campling.



(Image from www.antsforsale.com)

The Natural Harvesters

Harvest is a time to look around and thank God for the abundance of foodstuffs that we humans have produced in our well-managed fields, woodlands and glasshouses. But spare a thought for our animal neighbours who also have to prepare a harvest without the benefit of our fertilisers and farming machines. It is a common sight to see squirrels harvesting nuts and digging holes in our lawns in which to bury them – they don't find them all again, as the odd oak tree growing in the lawn will testify! However, it is the group of animals that are smallest in size but largest in diversity and abundance, the insects, which are the most extraordinary harvesters. Fungus ants in the tropics have been practising a form of agriculture for some 50 million years. They manage crops of fungus growing on cut leaves in their nests - it is the fungus which is harvested and used as a food source. At the heart of bringing in a harvest is setting some on one side to use through lean times ahead, be they winter or drought. Harvester ants collect seeds and keep them as a year-round food source in large granaries in their nests. Another group of ants, the honeypot ants, actually use some of their own workers as living storage pots, feeding them during the rainy season when food is plentiful so that they expand to the size of grapes. When food is scarce in the dry season they can literally tap into these living containers, which regurgitate the stored food for their relatives. These harvesting insects seem to live in the spirit of the words of God in Genesis (8 v 22): *"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease"*.

Martin Hall

Evelyn Lea asks: "Does anyone remember children in the 1950's collecting 'Ship Halfpennies' at Sunday School, to buy bibles that were taken by the London Missionary Society ship *John Williams IV* around the world"?

Book Review - “The Prodigal God” by Timothy Keller

There is no excuse not to read this book. It’s short, easy language, relatively large font, and the kind of book that can be taken anywhere – its light (literally).

So how can I persuade you more? It’s about one of the most spectacular and amazing stories ever told – it speaks about God’s character, and gives insight into his heart. It explains some of Jesus’ teachings. It’s not difficult, academic theology that requires you to look up every other word to understand what it’s going on about. Rather, it points us to think about how we live, what we believe, and how we live what we believe, and it reminds us of whom we believe in.

In this book Timothy Keller explains the parable of the prodigal son found in Luke 15. What has struck me most from reading it is that there is a whole half of the story that we so often overlook. We read the story of the prodigal son and we rejoice in the unconditional love that the younger son receives and his complete forgiveness no matter what he has done. But, as Keller points out, if we leave it there, we only have half the story and we are left with a limited view of God. If we include the story of the elder brother, we begin to complete the picture. Keller illustrates that the elder brother is just as lost as the younger, but is in perhaps a more desperate situation because he doesn’t realise he’s lost. The elder brother is moralistic and religious; his ‘lost-ness’ and sin comes from trying to be his own saviour and trying to manipulate God. He says that he’s been a good person, and that he’s slaved for his father, so he deserves reward.

Keller shows that we can be either a younger or an elder brother and we can easily fall into one or both ways of living and being. For me, this is striking. Whilst I have never really gone through a rebellious phase away from God, I can ever so easily become religious. As such, it is so helpful to be prompted to think about how I grow in my faith and about if I am truly living the gospel or living some man made poor image of it.

In short, I urge you to read this book. Buy many copies and give them to everyone you know who will take it – Christian or not. This book gives a simple and great explanation of the gospel. Buy it, read it, pass it on!

Katie Cookney

Lindfield United Reformed Church Autumn Programme A Growing Church?

They devoted themselves to the apostles' doctrine and to fellowship...to prayer. All the believers were together and had everything in common.... They broke bread together in their homes, praising God.... The Lord added to their number daily.

Acts 2: 42 - 47

- All meetings will start at 8.00pm and end by 9.30pm
- Coffee will be available from 7.45pm

September 15th

Speaker: Andrea Minichiello Williams

Subject: 'Legal and Political Issues Facing
the Church in the UK'

Andrea is a barrister, co-founder of Christian Concern For Our Nation and the Director of the Christian Legal Centre. Andrea focuses on policy matters and Christian Interest cases, specifically freedom for Christians to speak truth in the public sphere, and to live according to biblical standards.

The evening will conclude with Q & As

October 6th

Speaker: Nick McQuaker

Director of Training & Development
with Sussex Gospel Partnership

Subject: 'A Learning Church'

October 20th

Speaker: Stuart Barbour
Professional Guitarist & Singer,
Worship Pastor at The Point Burgess Hill

Subject: 'A Worshipping Church'

November 3rd

Speaker: James Clarke
Vicar of All Saints Church Lindfield

Subject: 'A Loving Church'

November 17th

Speaker: Jon Hobbs
Previously Curate at All Saints Lindfield
now Vicar at Nutley & Maresfield

Subject: 'A Praying Church'

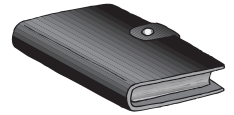
December 1st

Speaker: Jonty Frith
Associate Vicar & Director of Evangelism
at All Saints Church Crowborough

Subject: 'A Witnessing Church'

- All regular worshippers at Lindfield URC are encouraged to join us for these meetings
- Each evening, except September 15th, will include small group discussion and feedback
- If you need or are able to offer transport please speak to Janet Drayton (483621)

September Church Diary



NOTE: RETURN TO TWO MORNING SERVICES

3rd 8.45 — Prayer Meeting
Saturday 9.30am at All Saints
10.00am Ladies Away Day
at The Tiger

4th 9.30am The Pastor -
Sunday Communion
11.15am The Pastor
6.30pm The Pastor

8th 8.00pm Church Meeting
Thursday

10th 8.45 — Prayer Meeting
Saturday 9.30am at All Saints

11th 9.30am The Pastor
Sunday 11.15am The Pastor -
6.30pm The Pastor -
Communion

14th 12.30pm Lunch
Wednesday Fellowship

15th 7.45pm Coffee
Thursday 8.00pm Autumn Church
Group first meeting

16th 12.30pm Lunch
Friday Fellowship

17th 8.45 — Prayer Meeting
Saturday 9.30am at All Saints

18th 9.30am TBC - Jig Saw
Sunday
11.15am TBC - Communion
6.30pm Youth Service

22nd 8.00pm Prayer Meeting
Thursday

24th 8.45 — Prayer Meeting
Saturday 9.30am at All Saints
9.00am Church Decoration

25th 10.30am **Back to**
Sunday **Church/Harvest -**
The Pastor
(Coffee from 10.00am)
12.15pm Bring and Share
Lunch
6.30pm The Pastor

27th 7.45pm In Touch
Tuesday

28th 2.30pm The Fellowship -
Wednesday AGM
7.30pm Elders Meeting

Please note these dates are correct at time of printing, but watch the weekly notices in case of change.



Balcombe United Reformed Church

Bramble Hill, Balcombe RH17 6HR



Our services are held weekly at 10.30am.

Visitors are welcome to join us.

Speakers for September are as follows:

September 4th	Jenny Martin
September 11th	Philip Wren
September 18th	HARVEST THANKSGIVING – Charles Martin
September 25th	Philip Wren

FLOWER ROTA



Arranging

Distributing

September

4th Joan Durrant	Sue Tester
11th Wedding	Barbara Shepherd
18th Winifred Scopes	Jo Bloxham
25th Harvest Festival	Harvest Distribution

October

2nd Heather Swann	Iris Bingham
9th Janet Wade	Heather Swann
16th Jessie Green	Janet Sanderson
23rd Carol Walters	Sue Tester
30th Mies Campling	Barbara Shepherd

Distribution Rota

If anyone is able to offer help with distributing on Monday mornings please contact Heather Swann.

Sunday Services explained...

The **9.30am service** is an opportunity for all age groups to join in a relaxed informal time.

There is a crèche, and after about 20 minutes, children and young people up to age 14 go out to their own groups on most Sundays.

Coffee is served between the morning services.

The **11:15am service** is a traditional service.

(Exceptions to these times are shown in the Diary).

At **6:30pm** it is sometimes a celebration, sometimes a quieter ministry time and sometimes an open communion service or something quite different!

Personal prayer is available after every service. Prayer requests and brief statements of praise for answered prayer can be put in the red book on the concourse table. We can also offer personal prayer ministry at home or in hospital.

We do not take up an offering during the services, but those wishing to give are invited to place a gift in one of the bowls at the doors before or after the service. Thank you.

Recordings of services can be borrowed free from the church.

Lindfield URC's own Ironman

At 6:00 a.m. on Sunday 31st July, while most sensible people were enjoying the comfort of their beds, 1,112 hardy souls began the Ironman UK 2011 challenge in Bolton. Among them was our own Jonathan Hall. Over the next 11 hours 19 minutes and 23 seconds he swam 2.4 miles, biked 112 miles and ended with a marathon run of 26.2 miles! Jonathan rose at 3:15 a.m. to fuel his body with a breakfast of porridge and poached egg, topped up through the day with various energy drinks, gels and solids. His spiritual fuel was taken on the preceding evening at the Iron Prayer held in the John Smith Suite at the Reebok Stadium, home to Bolton Wanderers. The service was led by the Rev Paul Dever of St Elizabeth's Church in Horwich, just across from the Stadium. The message was about how the race is a good analogy for Christian life - it's not just a race, it can illustrate where we want to go in our lives. Inspiring testimonies from some of those about to meet the challenge made it a very special occasion. The service was packed out with extra seats having to be brought in and some still left standing - the guitarist was somewhat overawed as he had been told to expect "only a few"! "Ironman Jonny" is now in Jamaica, but not to relax as he is gaining work experience at a Kingston hospital. Who knows, he might bump into Usain Bolt and pick up some running tips! When he returns Jonathan will spend a year in London studying sports medicine and his prayers for accommodation have already been answered, with a flat in a converted church in Camden.

Martin Hall



School Visits

It is the start of the Academic year, and we thought it would be good to have some news about the activities of a small group of folk from our church who go into our local schools to take the assemblies. Hopefully this information will enable us to pray more effectively and consistently for this team as they do prepare and talk with the children in schools.

There is then some information about a new project set up by the Barnabas Fund to provide support to those who teach Christianity in schools.

Jenny and Charles go back to school

When Jenny and I were in school, more years ago than I care to admit, school assemblies were much more formal than they are today. We sang hymns which sometimes seemed very inappropriate. I remember standing beside a big beefy thirteen year old who had scored three tries in a Rugby match the previous day and singing -

*“We are but little children weak
Nor born of any high estate*”

The Headmaster would stand behind a lectern, read a passage from the Bible and some prayers (usually made up by famous people who had done something incredible and come to a sad end) after which the whole school would be given a lecture on the moral imperative of cleaning the back of your shoes and not having your hands in your pockets when talking to a lady – something that I still faithfully adhere to today!

Now, thank goodness, it's different. I can take “Arnold”, my disreputable puppet, even into the hallowed halls of Great Walstead and use him to get across the simple facts of the Gospel. My left arm develops a life of its own and the things Arnold appears to whisper in my ear are sometimes unrepeatable, nevertheless I repeat them all the same, much to the delight of the children. For me, school assemblies are opportunities to introduce young people to the God of Whom they may hear very little at home (except as an expletive).

Jenny does not come with me, but accompanies other folk who take assembly, notably Harry McCleery, and provides piano music both before, as the children come into the hall and afterwards when they leave. Not all schools seem to have teachers who can play an instrument and must rely for their music on CDs. Someone who plays beautiful music live, is a welcome change and Jenny's playing helps to engender an atmosphere of calm attentiveness which

is a great help to the person taking the assembly.

Please pray for us. Both the chance to share the Gospel through a disreputable puppet and lovely music played skilfully, are ministries in their own way and it's a privilege to be able to bring them into children's lives.

Charles Martin

With a Song in my heart...

Since arriving in Lindfield last September, I have enjoyed devoting a fair bit of time to working within the village's two primary schools and also in Great Walstead school.

To begin with the idea of leading an assembly was fairly terrifying to be honest, it was not an area I had a huge wealth of experience in! Working within a school is obviously very different from working within a church, and you have to bear in mind that a lot of children have little or no church background.

A lot of what we have been doing can be described as story telling, we are given a specific Bible story and have to think of engaging ways of retelling this to a lot of children at a time. I have covered things such as the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednigo by getting them to repeat their names and the story of Abraham by getting them to stand up and pretend to have a walking stick (demonstrating Abraham's age when he and Sarah had a baby; perhaps this wasn't the best idea as they got rather excited but we live and learn!)

I have found the children to be incredibly responsive and open to what I am talking to them about, they particularly liked learning about the plagues of Egypt (I can't think why!)

It has helped me greatly that I play guitar; they seem to love singing, especially songs with lots of actions.

I really enjoy this area of my work and find both the schools and the children to be very open to me as a Christian.

Josh Thomas

Prior Prayer prevents wobbly knees!

The night before my first assembly I woke at 4.30am through fear at the prospect of speaking in front of 150 expectant children. As in all Christian work God gives us the strength and confidence to stand in places where our

knees naturally shake at the outset. As I watch those faces quietly filing in to sit at their places my heart flows with the hope that they will, one day, know the love of a living God.

Now for the fun bit. I tell jokes, recite limericks, and get children to wear funny hats with Bible verses written on them. There's the excitement of dressing up and telling interesting, fun stories from the Bible and other resources to explain how God lives and breathes through people like me. I can't believe it myself! I love singing songs I learnt as a child and watching the children imitating the actions. This is love that we love as God first loved us.

My final thought I leave you with is this. If I were to die tomorrow, my final prayer would be that someone somewhere would come and tell my children that Jesus loves them and died for them and that their lives will never be complete until they have a relationship with him. "Whom shall I send"?

Harry McCleery

P.S. Please pray for the people leading school assemblies - to prevent wobbly knees!

Assisting Christianity Teaching in Schools

Operation Nehemiah (part of Barnabas Fund) has launched a new initiative to motivate and enable the Church and Christians to support British schools in the teaching of Christianity as part of Religious Education.

Many people have alerted Operation Nehemiah to the need for better materials for teaching Christianity in schools. Many churches and individual Christians are already working with schools in their local communities. By reaching out to schools and equipping them with material that will make a difference, the ACTS resource pack will fulfil this need and support these people.

ACTS (Assisting Christianity Teaching in Schools) is a resource pack, aimed at ages 7 to 11, now available for churches or individuals to sponsor and donate as a gift to local schools. A smaller bonus pack is available for ages 5 to 7. Aimed at the primary level, ACTS is an exciting opportunity for Christians to invest in material that will assist schools in their presentation of Christianity and introduce Christian reference and reading books into school libraries.

The main pack consists of four key areas: Basics of Christianity, Bible Reference, Character Development, and Life and Teachings of Jesus. Items include children's fiction and biographies, posters, maps, Bible guides, fact books, Bible story books, time-lines, animated DVDs, activity workbooks, presentation slides and more.

For more information go to: <http://barnabasfund.org>

Hello all, in our youth pages this month we look back at our summer holiday club and Geoffrey has some news from Boys Brigade.

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break!

Josh.

HOLIDAY FUN 2011

Between the 1st and the 5th August we had a very exciting holiday programme for our young people aged between 5 and 18.

On the Monday and Wednesday we ran activities for those aged 5-11 including crafts, music and games. We focused on Jesus calling his disciples on the Monday and in particular how he made fishers of men, we had lots of fun singing songs, making fishie fridge magnets and playing games with an under the sea feel!

On the Wednesday we looked at a part of the Sermon on the Mount and how God looks after the birds and the insects and how we mean far more to him than they do, we discussed how God would look after us no matter what. We made some insect wind chimes and had more fun and games. At the end of each session we had a time to reflect on what we had looked at and a chance to sing more fun praise songs.

Tuesday was the turn of our 11-18s and we were able to look at the exciting new media opportunity that is podcasting. We looked at various charities and made a podcast to promote our chosen charity. We were scheduled to have a mystery trip to play volleyball on Brighton beach with the older ones on Thursday, however due to torrential rain we were sadly unable to do this.

On the Friday we were able to all meet together with parents and family members for a picnic on Hickmans Lane Recreation Ground. This was a great afternoon and fortunately, unlike the day before, the rain stayed off and we enjoyed a nice sunny time!

It was a great fun week and I hope those who came enjoyed it as much as I did! A special thank you to David and Richard Walters, Cliff Griffiths, Hannah Durrant and Gina Balicki for all their hard work during the week.

BOYS' BRIGADE

During the summer, the Company Section took part in athletics and harriers (cross country) competitions, and undertook a strenuous Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze expedition along the South Downs. The Anchors and Juniors finished their summer activities with an excursion to Blackland Farm, to wriggle through tunnels, slide down a grass slope on sledges, and enjoy a picnic. We also hosted a visit by Steve Dickinson, the national Brigade Secretary, who shared a barbecue evening with us, and spoke to most of the boys and staff.

However, as always, it was the wonderful camp week at Glynde which set the seal on the session. Glynde camp is a remarkable exercise in male bonding, and exhausted all the superlatives this year, including wall to wall sunshine! We are always blessed by this camp week, at which, as the BB camp hymn puts it, "friendships grow stronger beneath the radiant sky". It could not have been a happier holiday for the boys who attended. It was also the last at the field we have used for several years close to Glynde village: next year, the landowner is moving us to a new site a mile or so farther away, to enable him to re-develop the existing one.

Geoffrey Cocksedge

FAMILY NEWS

SAD NEWS

Dennis Rowell died in Compton House recently. He was a much loved and respected member of our Church since the 1970s, and served His Lord faithfully in many areas of Church life, and also for 'CARE' in Haywards Heath. Dennis will be sadly missed by us all; we are so grateful that he has been part of our Church family. We send our sympathy to Jackie, Ian and Phillip, and to all who loved him.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Walter Plimmer has (for the time being, at least) moved back to his address in Oaklea.

The Art Group

On Saturday 1st October, the Art Group will be holding a coffee morning and art display in the church lounge, from 10.00 am to 12.00 midday. All our latest paintings and cross-stitch pictures will be on view. We look forward to your support.
Doreen Fowler.

Book Review - Personality and Prayer by Ruth Fowke

As a young Christian I remember going to various services and listening to people praying aloud. There were many amazing prayers but I remember thinking “I really can’t pray like that...” and feeling totally inadequate. It took many years before I found the courage to pray aloud and then only in my prayer triplet. I used to feel that there was a right and wrong way to pray.

If you have felt like that – and I still do at times – then “Personality and Prayer” will really encourage and inspire you. I read this book whilst I was on the “Retreat” in April this year and it has certainly helped me.

The author explains that since we are all different personalities, we differ in the actual way we pray and we need to find the prayer pattern suited to us, which will nurture our relationship with God: “Pray as you can, don’t try to pray as you can’t”. Each of us responds to different aspects of God according to our personality, which affects our patterns of prayer. The book explains that our personality is basically either extrovert or introvert but within these two groups are four different types of people and I found it fascinating to discover a little more about myself within these pages.

There are “sensing” people for whom tangible contact with the physical world is very important, so their prayers are practical, simple and direct. For these people too their place of prayer and visual symbols are important. They often have a simple, direct and predictable pattern to their prayers.

People who are “intuitive” can be more imaginative and spontaneous in their prayers, needing change and variety. They can flit from one topic to another and love to share their ideas and dreams.

The third “personality” is those who love God with their mind and intellect. For them “to live is to understand”, so they are always seeking and analysing answers to questions. Their prayers can be objective, logical and sometimes argumentative, wrestling with God over key issues. They continually need to understand, so studying the Scriptures and theology is a key element of their prayer pattern.

Do you recognise yourself yet? Well, one more to go!

The last group are those who love God with their heart, for whom the most important aspect of their prayer life is to have a personal experience of God. Their prayers are people-centred and relationships are very important to them – a relationship of heart rather than intellect. They prefer to have an experience of God more than learning about him. They also have a strong desire for harmony between people and peace within themselves.

Having read this book, I am sure that I can see different aspects of each personality within myself! I thoroughly recommend this book – it is very helpful, easy to read

(and small enough to fit in a handbag!) – and it has encouraged me in my own prayer life knowing – and understanding - that our prayers do not need to fall into any particular pattern.

Thank you Jenny for lending it to me.

Carol Merrett

Seen on a Church billboard: 'Honk if you love Jesus. Text while driving if you want to meet him.'
(Daily Mail 27/07/11)

Date for your diaries

**Saturday October 8th
7.30pm**

An informal evening with John & Gwen Hall from Romans One-Eleven Trust

John has recently visited Samuel in Uganda and will be able to bring up-to-date information from his time there. He will also share about the work of The Romans One-Eleven Trust in Uganda and neighbouring countries.

John will also be staying over and preaching at our Sunday morning services

Refreshments will be light buffet and dessert.
Please obtain free tickets from the Missions Group:
Ron & Janet Goodenough, John Barling,
Val Cookney or Jean Gardiner.

EVENTS IN THE NEWS

The Palm Cross Van Driver

Many of you will remember Colin Atkinson, the Christian van driver who was asked to remove the palm cross displayed on the dashboard of his company vehicle.

Eventually, with help from Christian Concern, he was granted permission to carry on displaying the cross.

Unfortunately, this was not the end of the issue as his employers - Wakefield & District Housing, have relocated him sixteen miles away from his original post and taken away his van, due to "financial cutbacks"!

Mr. Atkinson filed a grievance procedure and has been suspended from working pending further investigations. He feels that his employers have broken their promises to him and are trying to humiliate him. He continues to fight.

Chilean Miners

It is now a year since 33 Chilean miners were first trapped 700 metres below ground and an ecumenical mass took place in Chile on August 5th to mark this. The commemorative events will culminate in a celebration on October 13th, the day that the first miner was freed.

Churches were filled when Jose Henriquez, known as "the Pastor" of the group, toured the UK earlier this year. He told of how hope emerged from the despair as a result of praying each day and holding group Bible studies.

John Stott - 1921-2011

John Stott, one of the world's foremost evangelical leaders has died at the age of ninety. He was born in London, became a Christian as a teenager and was Curate and Rector of All Souls Langham Place from 1945-1975.

He inspired generations in the Church of England with his evangelical faith and worked alongside Billy Graham in the UK from the 1950's onwards. He wrote over fifty books including "Basic Christianity" which remains a classic introduction to the Christian faith.

After retiring from his position at All Souls, he was very much involved in many aspects of global Christianity, including the training of church leaders in developing countries around the world. He was not afraid of controversy and often clashed with others over his strongly held views. He lived modestly all his life and poured back the royalties from his book sales into helping Christian leaders in the Third World. He died on July 27th 2011, surrounded by friends, praying, reciting Scripture and listening to Handel's Messiah.

Carol Marsh

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

- 9.30am Service for all the family, including crèche and Lighthouse (Junior church) (Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities).
Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
- 11.15am Traditional Worship
Holy Communion (4th Sunday)
- 6.30pm Evening Service
Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)

Healing services as announced

PRAYER MEETINGS:

- Mon 9.30am An Hour of Prayer
- Wed 9.45am Short Service of Intercession
- Thur 8.00pm Church Prayer Evening
(As announced)
- Sat 8.45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting.
– 9.30am Venue rotates between the three churches.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Mon 10.00am Art Group
- 5.45pm Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys (5–7 years)
- 6.15pm Boys' Brigade - Junior Section (8–11 years)
- 7.15pm Boys' Brigade – Company Section (11+ years)
- Tue 10.00am Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers - term time)
- 7.45pm In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
- Wed 2.30pm The Fellowship (4th Wed) for mature ladies and gentlemen
- Thur 10.00am Pop-In (for coffee and a chat)
- 8.00pm Church Meeting (2nd Thur)
- Fri 7.15pm Zest (Years 6–9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)
- Sun 8.00pm Youth Fellowship

During the Autumn, House Groups will not meet - see the Thursday joint Programme (Pages 8 - 9).

The church is open most mornings from 10.00am to 12.30pm

Church (payphone): 01444 484620

Charles Martin (Pastor)

Mobile No: 07821 904785

Josh Thomas (Youth Pastor)

Youth Office: 01444 487607

Mobile No: 07598 779553

Boys' Brigade:

Geoffrey Cocksedge 01444 474007

Cradle Roll:

Sue Tester 01444 482810

Flowers:

Betty Billins 01444 484494

Hall Booking Secretary:

Carol Walters 01444 457938

In Touch:

Sue Waller 01444 455047

Lunch Fellowship:

Wednesday:

Sue Waller 01444 455047

Friday:

Anne Parker 01444 473519

Magazine Editor:

Val Cookney 01444 440029

The Fellowship:

Chris Comber 01444 482641

Stepping Stones:

Janet Goodenough 01444 417002

Transport (Car Czar):

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

Zest Co-ordinator:

Josh Thomas 07598 779553

Lighthouse (Junior church)

Co-ordinator:

Dawn Walters 01444 441601



What else is happening in the village?

Saturday 3 September 2 to 5pm

Lindfield Horticultural Autumn Show of Flowers and Produce in the King Edward Hall.

Wednesday 14 September 12.15 to 2pm

Tiger Arts Light Lunch and Concert in the the Tiger and then in All Saints Church.

This month: Harpsichord Recital

Wednesday 14 September 8pm

Preservation Society : "Tidal Thames" in the King Edward Hall.

HAYWARDS HEATH MUSIC SOCIETY

Saturday 24 September

70th Season Celebration Concert

Russell Gilbert (violin) and Fiona Fawssett (piano)



7.45 pm at St Wilfrid's Church

