

Christ Church

New Southgate & Friern Barnet
(Baptist/United Reformed)

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NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

ISSUE 314

www.christchurchnsfb.org



Give thanks

DIARY FOR OCTOBER 2023

- Sun. 1st 9.00 a.m. TOAST – Prayer Meeting in Parlour
Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Tues. 3rd 4.15 p.m. Rainbows (Tuesdays until break)
5.45 p.m. Brownies (“ “ “)
7.15 p.m. Guides (“ “ “)
- Thurs. 5th 2.00 p.m Women’s Club in Parlour
- Sun. 8th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
HARVEST THANKSGIVING
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service
Followed by “Bring and Share” Lunch
- Wed. 11th 8.00 p.m. Premises Group Meeting
- Sun. 15th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Thurs. 19th 2.00 p.m. Women’s Club in Parlour
- Sun. 22nd Mrs. Pennie Bongomin
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church
Followed by Church Meeting
- PLEASE REMEMBER THAT CLOCKS GO BACK ONE HOUR
OVERNIGHT SATURDAY 28th INTO SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER**
- Sun. 29th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service
4.00 p.m. Bereavement Service

NOVEMBER

- Sun. 5th 9.00 a.m.TOAST – Prayer Meeting in Parlour
 Rev. Ruth Moriarty
 11.00 a.m.Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Thurs. 9th 2.00 p.m.Women’s Club in the Parlour
- Sun. 12th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
 10.45 a.m.REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
M Morning Worship - All Age Service

Sunday Church Services usually take place in person at 11am. and are also available online and on our YouTube Channel – see our web site for further info. (www.christchurchnsfb.org). A paper copy of the service is available to download or can be sent by post (please contact the Minister or Church Secretary).

Our monthly Newsletters can also be viewed on our website (www.christchurchnsfb.org). Just Click on NEWS in the menu bar along the top. To go direct to the Pastoral Letter hover over NEWS and then click on the dropdown.

HARVEST SUNDAY – 8th October 2023

We will be collecting food and other items for Homeless Action in Barnet during the service once again this year. As HAB have very little space for storage they suggest the following items as useful:

Tins of meat and fish, microwaveable pouches of rice, pot noodles, tea, coffee and sugar. For the winter – thick socks and warm coats, sleeping bags and rucksacks are often required. Also, period products, deodorants, razors and shaving cream.

Following the service there will be a “Bring and Share” Lunch. Everyone welcome – come along for a bite to eat and a chat.

PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Christ Church

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Psalms 27.14

Waiting is a spiritual discipline that Christ Church is now very good at indeed. We have been waiting for decades to redevelop our main site and are still waiting now for the Grove Road sale to complete. At a recent conference in Durham, I learnt of the Pentecostal tradition of tarrying at the altar. Tarrying means to wait, linger or delay. *Wolfgang Vondey from the University of Birmingham said: "Tarrying together at the altar opens room for listening and speaking with God and with one another, a way to see the other in light of the encounter with God".*

In this sense, waiting for God to act helps us to hear God more clearly, and to join together as a church watching for a move of God's power. All of this waiting is helping us as a church to be expectant in hope, to be looking forward to God's leading.

While it is undoubtedly stressful and annoying to be waiting again, let us linger in this spiritual state. What can God teach us now? How has this experience altered our plans? Too often Christians want God to lead but act from their own power. In our case, there is nothing we can do, but wait for the Lord. It is always better to wait on him as Habbukkuk 2.3 says: ³For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry (forever).

May we delight in tarrying in God's presence together. When we tarry, the result is: 'a shared turning of hearts and minds toward God so that the faithful can walk together on the way and in the same direction' (Vondey, 2023). Wait for the Lord, be strong and take heart, and wait for the Lord together.

Blessings Ruth

FAMILY NEWS

We pray for all who mourn the loss of family members or friends, Lord. (Please see the diary for details of the Bereavement Service at 4pm.on Sunday 29th October).

There are Members and friends who are/or have been unwell, Lord and we think of them and pray for their speedy recovery. We also think of all who are finding things so difficult in so many ways at present.

Many of us are due to have an annual flu jab and others will also receive another Covid Booster vaccination in the coming weeks. We trust they will prove effective during the winter months ahead.

CHURCH MEETING NOTES

Meeting in the Parlour after the service on Sunday 24th September'23.

12 members and friends met.

Ruth reported there had been some progress on the planning permission saga at the Grove Road Christian Centre. The response from the Secretary of State has been sent to Enfield Council. We now wait for Enfield's response.

A question was also asked about the Pembroke Road property and apparently this will be due up in the spring next year.

The meeting then spent time in prayer for the future of our church community and our development specifically.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

It is alarming to learn of the number of people who had lost life or livelihoods in due to the various disasters occurring around the world. It is shocking, as we had barely finished praying for the affected victims in one country when another disaster which was worse, would be reported by the media. Natural disasters which are unprecedented, as claimed by those affected, are blamed on Climate change and the damage we had done to our world over time. No wonder there is fear and more urgent calls for the world leaders and each one of us to do all possible to reverse the effects of Climate change.

As children of God, we could be the voices clamouring for urgent change in the way our world works, travels, eats and uses energy to help reduce the carbon emissions, the main cause of the climate change. However, we should not be fearful, but trust Jesus to protect and to sustain us. Secondly, death is not the end for us, but a new beginning. We have hope and assurance of eternal life. We will see God's face and reign with Him in His Kingdom, where there be no suffering, sickness, death, or darkness of any kind as written below.

Revelations 22: 2a -5

On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

Ola Lawal

BROADWAY AND BEYOND!

Saturday 21st October 2023

7pm

Ewen Hall, Wood Street, Barnet, EN5 4BW

The Life and Mission Choir present a wonderful evening of Songs from the Shows and more!

Featuring a wealth of talent, the choir will perform songs from a wide range of musical theatre as well as classic songs and choir favourites. Don't miss out on what promises to be an entertaining and heartwarming evening.

Come and hear songs from:
Oklahoma, Joseph, Crazy for You,
My Fair Lady, Rent, West Side Story, Waitress,
Everyone's Talking About Jamie and many, many more.

**Tickets: Adults £8, Children free.
(Includes a light supper.)**

BOX OFFICE: 07770 187948

lifeandmissionchoir.com

