

Christ Church

New Southgate & Friern Barnet
(Baptist/United Reformed)

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NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

ISSUE 247

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HARVEST WEEKEND
16th / 17th SEPTEMBER

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

SEPT.

- Sun. 3rd Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 am. Morning Worship
 & Church Meeting (after worship)
- Wed. 6th 7.45 pm. Grapevine
 8.00 pm. Junior Church meeting at the Manse
- Thurs. 7th 2.00 pm. Women's Club – Games
- Sat. 9th 10.30 am. Coffee Morning led by the Rainbows leaders
- Sun. 10th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 am. Morning Worship & Communion
- Tues. 12th 2.00 pm. Friendship Club
 4.15 pm. Rainbows (every Tues. until break)
 5.15 pm. Brownies (“ “ “ “)
 7.15 pm. Guides (“ “ “ “)
 8.00 pm. Fabric & Finance Meeting at Lynda's house
- Wed. 13th 8.00 pm. Deacons Meeting in the Parlour
- Thurs. 14th 5.20 pm. Beavers (every Thurs. until break)
 6.15 pm. Cub Scouts (“ “ “ “)
 7.00 pm. Scouts (“ “ “ “)
- Fri. 15th 10.00 am. Parent & Toddlers (every Friday until break)
- HARVEST WEEKEND
- Sat. 16th 5.00pm. Harvest Supper in the Parlour
- Sun. 17th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 am. Morning Worship & Parade Service
- Wed. 20th 7.45 pm. Grapevine

Thurs. 21st 2.00 pm. Women's Club
Sun. 24th 11.00 am. Rev. Ruth Moriarty
Morning Worship & Junior Church

Tues. 26th 2.00 pm. Friendship Club

OCT.

Sun. 1st 11.00 am. Mrs Diana Bensted
Morning Worship

The next meeting of the Newsletter Committee
will be held at 39 The Ridgeway, London N11
at 8pm. on Monday 18th September 2017.

Please let us have your material for the
October Newsletter by Sunday 17th September.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our "Welcome Back" afternoon is on Tuesday 12th September at 2pm.

Please come and join with us for tea and a chat and to hear of what we did during the summer break. We will also plan the themes of what we will do at coming meetings.

The next meeting will then be on the 26th September.

Gladys Townsend

FINANCE FOR APRIL 2017 TO 20th AUGUST 2017

Cash	£1,706.54
Envelopes	<u>£2,860.00</u>
	£4,566.54

July Communion Collection of £38.04

August Communion Collection of £46.10
for the Compassionate Fund

PASTORAL LETTER

What does it mean to follow Jesus

We all seem to run our lives by following something or someone. Whether it is following in the footsteps of their family, a certain philosophy i.e. *“treat others the way that you wish to be treated”*. To follow their own intuition, drawing from religion, philosophy, friends and family and in my case *WWJD “What would Jesus do”*. So, what does it mean to really follow Jesus and how can we be sure?

The apostle John describes how we can know if we are genuine followers of Christ.

“God is light, in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus, his son purifies us from all sin.”
[John 5-7]

Jesus is in the light. Walking in the light means that we believe that Jesus’ blood was shed on the cross for our sins and that we have holiness before God. It also means that we have fellowship with God and with one another.

In the gospel of John, Jesus goes to the festival of tabernacles to publicly reveal his identity as the Messiah. In front of everyone he makes a radical statement.

“I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” [John 8:12]

The Pharisees in the temple refused to believe that Jesus was indeed the son of God and the light of the world as they followed the law of Moses. However, the other Jews who were listening did believe that he was who he claimed to be. To these believers Jesus said

“If you hold to my teaching you are really my disciples then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” [John 8/ 31-32]

So how do we actually follow Jesus and begin to walk in the light?
Here's how

1. Getting God's word regularly

As we read or listen to His word, we can ask God to reveal Himself to us, and to speak to us intimately.

2. Choose to actually do what His word says.

As we discover what His light says about relationships, work, recreation and our priorities then we should follow its' guidance.

3. Live your life the way Jesus lived His.

How did He do that? He would get up early, before dawn to be alone so that He could communicate with the Father. What was His purpose? He wanted to please the Father and intended to fulfil the Father's agenda.

This was Jesus' light and it should be ours as well.

God bless you all,

Tony Fensome

THE MISSION GROUP

As it is such a long time since our last meeting, due in large to my ups and downs over the past year, we hope to hold a meeting in September when the holiday period is over.

At Harvest this year we should have a collection for "Operation Agri" as last year we had it for "Refugees in Syria".

As usual we will collect tins and packets of food such as sugar or rice for HAB (Homeless Action in Barnet).

We collected £69.03 from BMS Mission Boxes and £22.43 from the CWM boxes on Mission Sunday in July and boxes are being returned to everyone. Thank you all once again. They will be collected in again on the 2nd Sunday in January.

Anthea Denham

FAMILY NEWS

How pleased we were to welcome four generations of the Dawton family to the infant dedication of Ruby on the 13th August. It was especially lovely that Lily (Great Grandma) was able to be there. It was a very happy occasion with family and friends, including those here from Poland. Our good wishes and God's blessing to you all.

This was the first dedication here at Christ Church for our new minister, Reverend Ruth Moriarty and hopefully it will be the first of many.

We send our congratulations and good wishes to all our young people who have just received their exam results. Whilst we remember them in our prayers, we also remember all those who have been away or are still on holiday and trust you all return suitably refreshed.

We also think of all those who have been unwell, including Anthea Denham, Tony Fensome, Brian Gibbins, Doreen Gray, Jean Kearey and Stephanie Wheatley, and others still recovering.

The victims of the terrorist attacks (now covering many countries) are also in our thoughts.

Dear Lord please bring peace to the World.

INDUCTION SERVICE FOR REVEREND RUTH MORIARTY

On Saturday 8th July we gathered together to witness Ruth Moriarty's induction into Christ Church. Outside the sun shone but inside there was an air of excitement as the church pews filled up. It was testament indeed to Ruth's popularity and esteem that there was a large party of people from Cheshire's Poynton Baptist Church, where Ruth had been previously, and other people from Woolwich Baptist Church, Ruth's first post, as well as many friends and family. There was a lot of obvious warmth and support for Ruth, John and their two little boys.

Bob Allaway led the service and we began with the resounding "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven", sung lustily.

Ruth and Roger Oram then told the story of how we had called Ruth to be our new minister. Ruth had been the first person we interviewed for the position back in September 2016. She was always our most favoured contender and was called to lead another service at the end of January.

Julian Templeton representing the United Reformed Church led us through the statement concerning the nature, faith and order of this part of the church. This was followed by the Covenant of Church and Minister in which we as a congregation and Ruth for her part, made our promises. We pray that we as a congregation support and encourage Ruth in every way.

The roof was raised as we sang “The splendour of the King” and “All my days I will sing this song of gladness”.

Prayers were led by Phil Barnard on behalf of the Baptist Church (the Baptist Union) and by Julian Templeton and Stephanie Longson on behalf of Poynton Baptist Church. Stephanie also gave the reading from Revelations. Before our final hymn and blessing Phil Barnard declared that Ruth had been inducted into the pastorate of our church and congregation.

We had a lively and interesting sermon from Israel Olofinjana from the Woolwich Central Baptist Church. He began by playing a catchy and lively song about London. He knew that Ruth loved London. He said that despite the doom and gloom of national and international news we must look to God and pray for unity. He reminded us of the power of the Trinity and that we must celebrate our union in the church.

After the service we went into the hall which was set out for a lovely tea party, all prepared by the wonderful FACC committee. We filled the hall and chatted with our visitors. It was a really happy afternoon and splendid service.

We welcome Ruth and John and their beautiful boys into our church and pray that God will support and rain down his blessings upon them.

Anthea Denham

HOLLY PARK SCHOOL CHURCH VISIT

One of many missions we have set ourselves at Christ Church is to be a thriving, family-oriented Church with the needs of the community as our priority. A simple and effective way of reaching out to the community is forming a relationship that is built on trust, love, compassion, humility, encouragement and faith. We as a Church should be a foundation of hope, trust and discipleship for individuals in the community who do not have the support system to help them through troubled times. A church should be seen as a 'beacon of hope, a lighthouse' for oneself, whose faith is weak and is at a crossroad deciding where to go with their belief.

School visits to a place of worship is another way of bridging the gap between the community and the Church and with the recent visit we had, it was a chance for us to change the children's perception of what a Church is and how it is important in any community.

On the 14th July 2017, Holly Park Primary School organised a morning visit to the Church for Year One children around 10:30am. Earlier this year we had 90 children from the same primary school so we were prepared for the task at hand.

Just shy of 10:45am, Roger Oram's voice was heard introducing himself to the teachers and teaching assistants at the back of the Church. Following a teacher into the church was a human chain of young children holding hands and filling up the front pews of the Church. As the children snaked their way through the front pews and sat down, the noise got louder and louder and within the mix of noise, voices of excitement, happiness and confusion were picked up. Five minutes went by with the teachers and teaching assistants sorting out the sitting arrangements and a quick head count followed and in total, we had 60 pupils and 10 teachers/teaching assistants sitting in the pews.

At the last school visit Anthea Denham gave a presentation to 90 children about Easter and why it is an important date in the Christian calendar. Unfortunately, Anthea was not available to give a presentation so Roger Oram, Sue Rogers and I stepped up to the task.

When the children settled down and the music faded away, I nervously walked up to the front and gave a welcome to the visitors from the school. I introduced myself, my role at the Church and what I do outside of the Church. Following a quick introduction of myself, I introduced Roger and Sue to the visitors and gave a small snippet into what the speakers will talk about to the children. Before Roger gave a brief history lesson of the Church, I played a 4-mins animated clip of the 'Life of Jesus Christ' showing significant moments in the life of Jesus including his place of birth, his many miracles he did, the parables he told, the crucifixion, his death and resurrection.

Giving a thumb up to Roger to cue in his part, Roger gave a quick introduction of himself and his role at the Church. Roger being the enthusiastic character he is, he got the children involved in his talk by proposing questions first and seeing if the children would give the right answer. His brief history lesson of the church included the year in which the Church was built, important members who have plaques scattered in and around the Church and what their roles were back in the day, to the reason why we have the baptistry and how and when it is used.

As the children peered over the pews hoping to see the baptistry, I walked to the front for the second time to give a small talk on how we, at Christ Church, are keeping with the 21st century with the equipment we use to deliver a Sunday service or other events that we hold at any given time of the year.

I first asked the children if any of the Churches they attended had the same equipment to our Church to which a few hands slowly rose into the air. I demonstrated the use of the stage lights with a rainbow of colours beaming down to the children which took them all by surprise including the teachers. Following the showering of colours to the amazement of the children and teachers, I gave a small talk about the projector, projector screen and the display television hanging on the balcony, and how all 3 pieces of equipment are connected to the laptop which I use for the service and other events held at the Church. The sound desk and the 4 speakers were given a small part in my talk to the children.

Excitedly jumping off from the pew, Sue Rogers went forward to give her first talk to a group of children. She started off by giving a demonstration of the hymnal aka 'Hettie the sound box' and the different instrument sounds that are used in partnership with the laptop for the words on the big screen. Following this, Sue gave a brief explanation of the Last Supper with the cup and bread to give a visual representation of what we do for communion.

Sue got the children involved again by asking "*How many crosses were scattered in the church?*" As we all know, there are 7 crosses varying in size that are scattered in the Church but a very eagle-eyed youngster spotted another cross on the lectern which took all of us by surprise.

After a brief moment between Roger and one of the teachers, the children were invited to look at the Baptistry which was open for viewing and the Pulpit. At first, it was row-by-row to gauge the flow of children seeing the Baptistry but after a minute, all the children were let loose to view both centrepieces. Unbeknown to the children, I turned on the Pulpit microphone to catch a few of them off-guard to hear themselves through the speakers. Very excited to hear themselves through the speakers, the children huddled together on the Pulpit and blurted out whatever came to their mind which was mostly football chants and lines from their favourite song.

Through all the chaos and noise from the front of the Church, Val Oram and Anne Petts managed to get the attention of the children and serve refreshments which were squash and biscuits. A queue was formed and the children walked towards Val and Anne and hurried off back to the front of the church with a cup of squash in one hand and a few biscuits in the other to continue topping up their fascination over the Baptistry and the Pulpit.

Slowly the children returned back to the pews but were still very excited from the refreshments and seeing the Baptistry. Once all the children were sat and the teachers trying to take control of the situation, the excited voices were reduced to silence once the video of 'Mary Did You Know' by Pentatonix began playing on the big screen. Following the

video, questions were asked from the children and the teachers to Roger including ‘*how we filled and emptied the Baptistry*’, ‘*if we had any hymn books*’ to ‘*how loud is the organ*’ to which Roger showed off his Beethoven skills through the keys of the organ. One question was asked from one of the children about the fish on the screen to which Sue explained the meaning of the symbol and how it came about to be used by early Christians and used **till** this day. Once the last question was answered, Roger concluded the talk and thanked the children and teachers for the visit. The children thanked everyone who contributed to their day-out and formed a human chain and left the church with some teachers in-front, in-between and behind the chain.

Robert Mapara

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

The reasons why we become stagnant or refuse to take a leap of faith into the unknown include fear of failure, fear of rejection or fear of losing face. How can we fully use our God given gifts unless we take a leap of faith at times?

If Jesus Christ had put an idea or thought in your heart that refuses to go away, He wants you to do something about it. Cast all your anxieties on Lord Jesus. Even if you falter along the way, He’s always there to lift you up and help you. Trust Him and move forward in faith.

Psalm 37:23-24

²³The LORD guides us in the way we should go
and protects those who please him.

²⁴If they fall, they will not stay down,
because the LORD will help them up.

1Peter 5:7

Cast all your anxieties on him because he cares for you.

Ola Lawal

