

# Christ Church

New Southgate & Friern Barnet  
(Baptist/United Reformed)

Friern Barnet Road  
N11 3EP  
020 8361 1818

Grove Road  
N11 1LX  
020 8361 2396

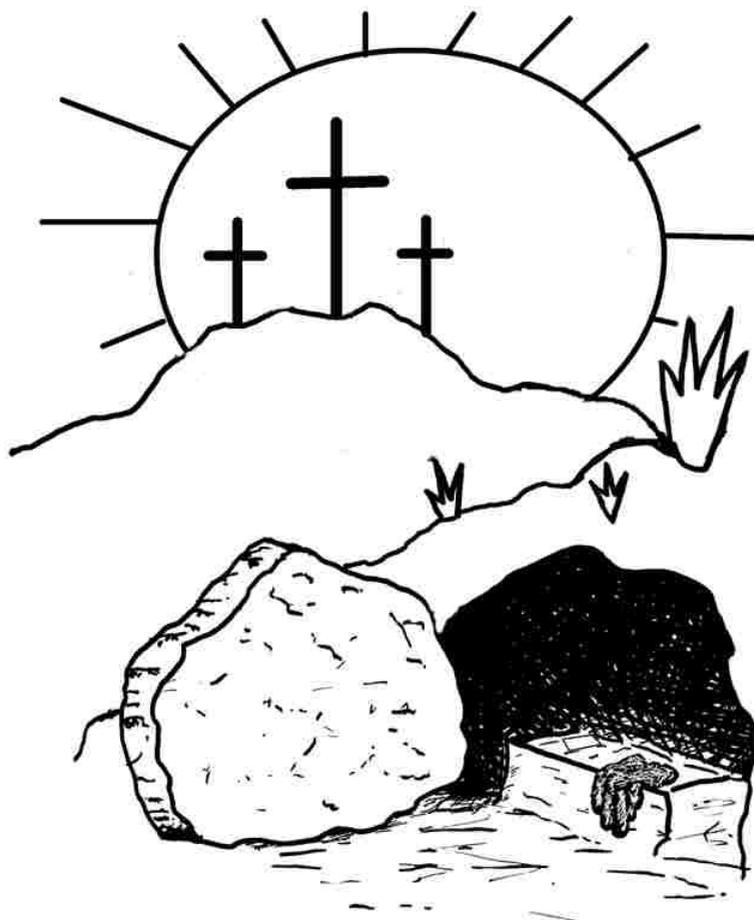
## NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019

ISSUE 265

[www.christchurchnsfb.org](http://www.christchurchnsfb.org)

---



## DIARY FOR APRIL 2019

- Tues. 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.00 a.m. School Visit by Holly Park School  
2.00 p.m. Friendship Club  
4.15 p.m. Rainbows  
5.15 p.m. Brownies  
7.15 p.m. Guides
- Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup> 8.00 p.m. Deacons Meeting
- Sun. 7<sup>th</sup> REV. RUTH MORIARTY  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church
- Thurs. 11<sup>th</sup> 2.00 p.m. Women's Club - Talk  
5.20 p.m. Beavers  
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts  
7.00 p.m. Scouts
- Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30 a.m. Coffee Morning – To be confirmed
- Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> REV. RUTH MORIARTY  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service
- Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> 7.45 p.m. Grapevine
- Thurs. 18<sup>th</sup> 8.00 p.m. MAUNDY THURSDAY  
Service here at Christ Church, N11
- Fri. 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30 a.m. GOOD FRIDAY  
Service at Christ Church, Whetstone N20
- Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> 10.30 a.m. Decorate Sanctuary for Easter
- Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> EASTER SUNDAY  
REV. RUTH MORIARTY  
9.00 a.m. Easter Breakfast with Communion  
11.00 a.m. All Age Service and Communion

Tues. 23<sup>rd</sup> 8.00 p.m. Fabric & Finance Meeting – in the Parlour

Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> 8.00 p.m. Deacons Meeting

Sun. 28<sup>th</sup> REV. RUTH MORIARTY  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church  
12.15 p.m. Church Meeting focussing on prayer

Tues. 30<sup>th</sup> Rainbows, Brownies & Guides restart

\*\*\*\*\*

The next meeting of the Newsletter Committee  
will be held at 39 The Ridgeway, London N11  
at 8pm. on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

Please let us have your material for the May Newsletter  
by Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FAMILY NEWS**

Whilst Ruth has been on Sabbatical we have been well served on Sundays by a number of our Church Members leading our services and we give our thanks to each of you for your time and guidance.

We are pleased that our folk who have been unwell recently are continuing to make progress but still need our prayers.

Please also remember all those people in other countries who have suffered in recent times.

May God be with you all.

## PASTORAL LETTER



Have you given up anything for Lent? Perhaps you have decided to follow a new diet, turned off social media, or even given up beer? Guardian columnist Zoe Williams recently said: Lent is all showy, wholesome abstinence. In part Williams explains how Lent can be misunderstood.

Lent is a reminder of the time that Jesus spent in the desert being tempted before entering into ministry. By giving up something that tempts us, the time or money or both that is saved is a help to ourselves and others. By giving up certain foods for example, we start to understand what it might have been like for Jesus to be tempted by Satan to turn stones into bread. Fasting in this way, denying ourselves helps us to start to understand how Jesus felt tempted to act in power.

The practice of Lent is to encourage us to echo the life of our Saviour who suffered for us, who gave up all riches and power that we might be free.

‘Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn’t think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became *human*! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn’t claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.

Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honoured him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honour of God the Father.’  
Philippians 2.5-11

However you choose to prepare for Easter this year, whether you choose to fast from something, take something up, may each of us set aside time to walk closer to Jesus, that we might be changed and so transform those who we know and love with his beautiful grace.

*Ruth Moriarty*

## **MISSION GROUP**

Already we are heading forward to Spring (or was that it in February? – I hope not!)

Prior to Easter and all its preparations, as it is actually the most important Christian Festival, we will be putting out Easter Appeal Donation envelopes for a large bag of Easter supplies, basic with a few luxury items, for families who desperately need help in our local area.

These bags will be delivered to the Family Resource Centre, close to our Church. They are always much appreciated and with a sense of relief to the receivers.

We will put out the envelopes for Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup> March, Mother’s Day. We will collect for the next 2 weeks, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April and hope to shop on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April prior to Easter.

Thank you to all those who are able to help and if you want to give a donation.

We hope you all have a glorious Easter!

*Anthea Denham*

## **FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

Once again, we were fortunate to get good weather for our afternoon together on the 5<sup>th</sup> March.

We spent some time just chatting. It was the beginning of Lent and as it happened to be “Shrove Tuesday” we indulged in eating a pancake with our cup of tea, much enjoyed!

We listened to a story of a lady who instead of giving something up for Lent decided to do one good thing each day and how by so doing she not only helped someone but made many new friends and brought many people together.

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March we hosted the coffee morning and we thank all who came along to support us, the money raised will go towards our “Church Birthday Gift”.

The next meeting will be on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2 o’clock in the Parlour. Please join with us if you can.

*Gladys Townsend*

## **WOMEN’S CLUB**

We had a Dream Catcher craft on 14<sup>th</sup> March which looked quite easy but turned out a bit tricky. Spring started on 20<sup>th</sup> March and with the sight of daffodils and crocuses we will be enjoying the parks and preparing our gardens/balconies. On the 28<sup>th</sup> March we will be producing a bird feeder from cup and saucers. Filled with bird food these will be sat in a safe place in the garden or the cup hung from the branch of a tree. Then we can watch the birds who come to feast.

On 11<sup>th</sup> April we will be entertained by a talk from Roger and Susan Day and then we will have a three week break over Easter. We recommence on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019. Do check the Diary page.

*Jane Gibbins*

## MY SPIRITUAL JERICHO WALL CRUMBLES

Last month I dashed to Uganda, to represent my best friend of over 58 years, who lives in Sweden, in the opening ceremony and dedication of the church (Kelsia) as catholic in Uganda call it, she had built for her village. It was a great honour, privilege and an incredible “journey of faith” for me! I call it that, because Pepsi is a catholic and I was brought up a Protestant, with what I call “Spiritual Wall of Jericho” separating the two main Christian faiths in Uganda at that time. We never discussed our religion at all, and the Wall never affected our friendship! But Pepsi and I have one thing in common, our strong faith in God, which we often shared whenever I go over, or on the phone, among many other things.

The opening ceremony was fantastic, the sun was shining bright and warm, (I topped my tan). The church that holds over 300 people, was packed and others were standing at the sides!

The voices of the choir accompanied by local traditional musical instruments, and the congregation, filled the church with joy! Indeed, it was a happy occasion as we celebrated the opening of God’s House. The beautiful church was decorated inside and out, with fresh “Nandi Flame Flowers”. The flowers get the name from their rich and bright yellow and red like colours like flames. It was indeed a colourful occasion, with the ladies in our unique traditional dresses (Gomasi)and men did quite well too.

There were 10 Priests in attendance. I gave a little speech on Pepsi’s behalf as she instructed me. And told them the reason why she decided to build the church. It was to thank God for answering her prayers through (St. Jude Thaddeus), “Patron of the Desperate and Difficult Cases”. One never stops learning. It seems the catholic use him in that sort of prayers. And the church is to be named after him.

Standing in front of a catholic Altar and over 300 catholic congregation, who warmly welcomed me with so much joy and love, knowing very well my religious background, was just wonderful and overwhelming for me; a special moment in my “journey of faith”. As I stood there, the remnants of my “Spiritual Wall of Jericho”

completely “crumbled” around me. With God all things are possible. It was a moving experience, which I cannot fully explain. Suddenly the words of prophet Isaiah came to mind, (Here I am, send me). Through the power of the Holy Spirit, I added to that;(Wherever you send me to serve you, as you deserve, I will go). In a matter of minutes, all this was happening to me!

What an incredible “journey of faith” from my childhood. I felt one with them and them with me in Christ. My brothers and sisters in faith and not “catholic” The ceremony ended with Holy Communion. It took about three hours, the whole service, but it did not feel that long at all! That is how wonderful it was! The celebrating went on for quite a long while with sharing of plenty of food and dancing, my “old bones” got plenty of exercise! It was a wonderful celebration as God received His gift. Place to worship Him. AMEN.

Ps: I am sure you are curious why my friend is called Pepsi like a drink, it’s a nickname that stuck with her, as a young girl she had a waist like “a Pepsi Cola” bottle - and she still has!!!

An amazing “journey of faith”. Watch the space.

Your Sister in Christ.  
Pennie Bongomin.

## **CHRISTIAN AID**

Christian Aid Week will be from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May when there will be local street collections. There will be a Christian Aid service for our local Churches Together group on the evening of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>. I’m not sure of the venue yet but there will be a poster going up to let us all know the date, time and place.

Robert Wright, our Christian Aid, Churches Together, Committee Secretary, has sent me details and there are a few changes this year. Christian Aid organizers are recognizing the increasing difficulties of collecting, as many people may not have any cash as they use credit/ debit cards to pay for everything and use an Oyster card for travel.

They are also aware that it is very time consuming to call on houses twice in the week, once to deliver an envelope and again to collect it the following day. Up to now, we have been doing that for many, many years, correctly. However, we have less people to help and those that do, with work commitments, it is too difficult.

Sara Skinner has been organizing collections and deliveries of envelopes for some years now. She has asked to have time off so she's available three evenings in that week but we do not have confirmation yet if she will be available.

In the meantime, I am ordering the envelopes and posters for Christian Aid. I'm proposing to just do collections and not deliveries of envelopes and fall in line with new advice. It makes more sense for us in the circumstances. This is all an advanced plan for May but time races on and we all have busy lives.

Christian Aid is the only street collection in the UK now and has been for 62 years!

I quote from Dr. Rowan Williams, "We are committed to this remarkable annual event across the UK, where thousands of Churches and communities and individuals stand in solidarity with the world's poorest and most in need". "We can be a part of making a positive change in the world". Please bear the dates in mind.

*Anthea Denham*

\*\*\*\*\*

**FINANCE FROM APRIL 2018 to 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019**

Cash	£3826.19
Envelopes	<u>£7487.30</u>
	£11313.49

March Communion collection of £29.80  
for the Compassionate Fund  
Church Meeting collection of £16.50  
for the Compassionate Fund

## **CHURCH MEETING 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019**

Meeting commenced 1.30pm

Present 15 people

Apologies received: five

Opened with Reading: Romans 12 v1+2

Followed by a prayer from the Chair: Clare Jenkins

Minutes of last meeting signed after amendment of a couple of dates.

The meeting was asked if they preferred to gather in the sanctuary or the parlour for the church meetings.

1. Mixed opinions were voiced: if we do meet in the parlour, chairs in rows and not a circle would be preferred.
2. Meeting in the church sanctuary may produce a better attendance.

The matter will require further consideration.

Minutes from Sep. 2018 had not been signed so this was quickly corrected.

Church Treasurer had no report to present to the meeting.

Clare Jenkins together with Paul Townsend attended the erroneously named Treasurer's Meeting held by URC North Thames Synod. The meeting was actually open to administrators and anyone interested in learning to manage the accounts etc for their church.

The key point of the meeting was the requirement for all churches, as from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 to be registered with the Charity Commission. Before we can apply to register Christ Church as a charity, work is needed to put into place nine policies; these cover matters such as Health & Safety, Finance etc.

Hall Development: Francis has provided a copy of his report to be found attached.

Church Tower: The Church Secretary was able to confirm plans submitted by Net Solutions were accepted by LB Barnet December 18 with small caveats such as maintaining the original appearance of the shutters. Work may commence within a month or two. O2 to sign off contract. Thanks go to Roger and Francis for their contributions to progress the commencement of installation to the church tower.

Pre-Blessed Day: Is expected to take place 15<sup>th</sup> June 19. The items in Bellevue Hall will be joined with items taken from Grove Road Christian Centre. Volunteers for the clear out day in April 19, are needed to assist with consideration GRCC is used Saturday mornings. Lists will be prepared of all the items available for the sale at Bellevue Hall. Further information will be obtained from our Pastor Ruth Moriarty.

Disappointment at losing the Community/Fete Day was voiced. The possibility of placing a few stalls and a Barbeque in the car park should be considered. Also, to consider timing of event to avoid clashing with school half term.

FACCS committee: After thirty years of service by the most of the committee made up of four people; the committee has decided to step down. The members of the committee wished it to be known as individuals they are willing to assist in future events.

A note of thanks was expressed by the Chair on behalf of Christ Church to the members of the FACCS committee in recognition of the excellent planning of so many activities resulting in successful outcomes.

Any other business

The timing of services for the Easter period are shown on the back page of the Sunday news sheet. To accommodate the communion preceding Easter breakfast, starting at 9am would be preferable.

Date of next meeting 28<sup>th</sup> April 19 - (Apologies from Pennie Bongomin who will be leading a service at Islington.

(Necessary amendments to be made prior to agreement and signing).

**CHRIST CHURCH**  
**NEW SOUTHGATE & FRIERN BARNET**  
(Baptist / United Reformed)

**HALL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**  
**Notes for Church Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

It was at the September meeting that we gave an update on the Hall Development Project and so is about time we gave an update.

You will recall we submitted and received responses to our Pre Planning Applications for both Grove Road (Enfield) and Christ Church (Barnet)

Following the positive response that Enfield gave, a scheme has been prepared for submission of a Planning Application for the Grove Road site for a 5 storey building with 19 flats (a mix of 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms) with disabled parking spaces only, as the site is well connected by public transport. Because of the loss of community space Enfield required a confirmation from Barnet that the main scheme for Christ Church was likely to proceed. As there are issues on the Church site scheme that need to be resolved we have not so far made a formal submission to Enfield for Grove Road

The initial response from Barnet – was non-committal – they raised various concerns about the design and required more design details and information from our architects CPL who are continuing to develop the scheme and prepared further elevations and CGI presentations. As was mentioned in September we were concerned that the layout which did not give as much usable space as we would like – spaces that could be used for a variety of activities and provide income for us. The more recent designs from CPL have addressed this to an extent but there are still aspects of the design and appearance of the building that we feel need addressing.

Meetings of the Development Group took place in November and February and extensive discussions took place on all aspects of the scheme

- the strategy for the project
- Grove Road design & layout
- Christ Church design and layout

The Church authority's (URC & Baptist) Valuation Surveyors – Rapleys joined us for the February meeting to discuss strategy of marketing the Grove Road site and in view of the LEP have embarked on a valuation of the Grove Road and Christ Church sites.

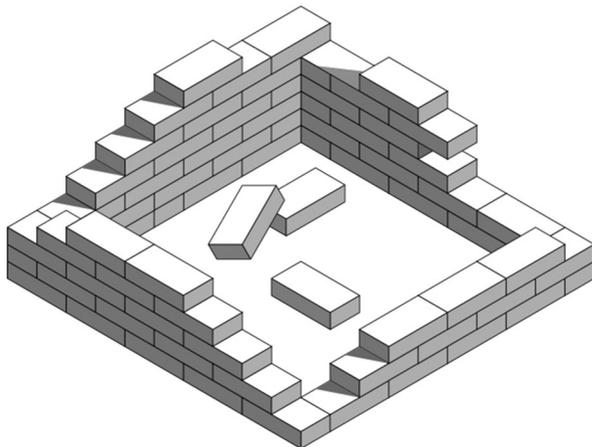
We will be meeting Barnet Planners along with our Architects in April to resolve outstanding issues and there will be a further meeting with the Architects and the Development Group in May.

The strategy for the project remains as mentioned in September:-

- A full Planning Application will be sent to LB Enfield for the Grove Road site
- On approval the site with approval is sold
- We then have a definitive amount of money available for the Christ Church development
- The Christ Church scheme is developed, Planning is sought and obtained
- The Christ Church development can be progressed

There will however be a time during the work when there are no hall facilities at Christ Church (for about a year) and of course by then there will be no Grove Road Hall – so alternative facilities will be needed for church groups that currently use these facilities and for any storage requirements

Francis W Mudford  
22/3/19



## WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

The media tends to feed us with all that is wrong with our world. It rarely mentions the good deeds of the many who help the poor, the weak, the down-trodden, the jobless, the homeless, the frail older person and the sick. Neither does it take notice of the hospital nor the school staff who work tirelessly. Or those who risk their lives daily to save others.

It is only when we try to see the good things that Lord Jesus is doing for us daily, that we can fully appreciate He is risen and lives. Let us rejoice that we have a living Saviour who cares for us and His world. Sing or say the last verse of 'I serve a living Saviour' below to lift your spirit as you enjoy Easter.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!  
The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find,  
None other is so loving, so good and kind.

*He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, Salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.*

*Happy, Blessed, Peaceful Easter.*

*Ola Lawal*

