

# Christ Church

New Southgate & Friern Barnet  
(Baptist/United Reformed)

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## NEWSLETTER

**FEBRUARY 2019**

**ISSUE 263**

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

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## DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2019

- Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup>                      REV. RUTH MORIARTY  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church
- Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> – Wed. 6<sup>th</sup>    LBA Ministers Conference
- Tues. 5<sup>th</sup>    2.00 pm. Friendship Club  
4.15 p.m. Rainbows (until break)  
5.15 p.m. Brownies ( “ “ )  
7.15 p.m. Guides ( “ “ )
- Wed. 6<sup>th</sup>    7.45 pm. Grapevine
- Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup>    5.20 pm. Beavers ( until break)  
6.15 pm. Cub Scouts ( “ “ )  
7.00 pm. Scouts ( “ “ )
- Sat. 9<sup>th</sup>    10.30 a.m. Coffee Morning – Mission Group
- Sun. 10<sup>th</sup>                      PASTOR CHRIS GALLIMOR  
11.00 am. Morning Worship – All Age Service  
12.30 pm. Mission Lunch
- Tues. 12<sup>th</sup>    1.30 pm. School visit from Our Lady of Lourdes
- Thurs. 14<sup>th</sup>    2.00 pm. Women’s Club – Sewing
- Sun. 17<sup>th</sup>                      PETER GRIFFITHS  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Mon. 18<sup>th</sup>                      Ministers Sabbatical until 30<sup>th</sup> March
- Wed. 20<sup>th</sup>    7.45 pm. Grapevine
- Sun. 24<sup>th</sup>                      DIANA BENSTED  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church
- Wed. 27<sup>th</sup>    8.00 p.m. Deacons Meeting – in the Parlour
- Thurs. 28<sup>th</sup>    2.00 p.m. Women’s Club – Jar decorating

The next meeting of the Newsletter Committee  
will be held at 39 The Ridgeway, London N11  
at 8pm. on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

Please let us have your material for the March Newsletter  
by Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February.

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### **FINANCE FROM APRIL 2018 to JANUARY 2019**

Cash	£3258.11
Envelopes	<u>£6281.20</u>
	£9539.31

January Communion collection of £22.95  
for the Compassionate Fund

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### **FAMILY NEWS**

We (as a Church) were very happy to welcome so many friends and families to our “Christingle” service on the 24<sup>th</sup> December. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed making their own “Christingle”, an orange, decorated with a ribbon, sweets and a candle, which we all took home.

Again, on Christmas morning, it was lovely to see so many visitors join with us, including some from local churches who were not having a service at their own place of worship.

A number of our own families were not with us as they were spending Christmas away from home, but it was a happy time for all who were there especially those with their families, some with now “grown up” children. We all shared this special time together, including Christmas Communion.

We thank God for being with us and continue to pray for all people who are unwell or lonely. With special prayers for Lynda Eade who had an accident over Christmas – get well soon Lynda.

All are welcome to join with us each Sunday morning at 11am.

## PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Christ Church,

As we step into a new month of the new year, I hope January treated you well be it spiritually through a personal relationship with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, financially with a new job or apprenticeship or physically through a new gym or outdoor regime to keep yourself fit and healthy. We are still feeling the hangover from 2018 as it was an interesting year for many reasons but I pray and hope that 2019 will be the year for many individuals within our congregation and the wider community. I am blessed and fortunate to be a deacon at Christ Church Friern Barnet, and when I hear about goals and aspirations from you all, I only hope and pray for bigger and better things to work out for everyone.

Scripture is the fuel for the soul and the wood that keeps the fire burning within us. As you know, the book of Proverbs is my favourite book in the Bible. The Bible in general is a fantastic instructional, motivational and spiritually uplifting guide to have at all times but the book of Proverbs covers a wide spectrum of everyday concerns from humility to loyalty, respect for the unfortunate to etiquette in relationships. The Bible commands us not to quit, even when we experience that defeated feeling. Scripture uses the word '*endure*' when describing how to deal with that feeling meaning to stand up courageously under suffering. As we gallop forward into 2019, I want to finish off my pastoral letter with a few words of encouragement to keep the fire burning within us if we feel like quitting or accepting defeat even if it is only February.

All proverbs are from the Good News Bible.

- 1) Worry can rob you of happiness, but kind words will cheer you up. Proverbs 12: 25
- 2) Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know. Remember the Lord in everything you do and he will show you the right way. Proverbs 3: 5-6
- 3) Get all the advice you can and you will succeed, without it you will fail. Proverbs 15: 22

## **PASTORAL LETTER cont'd**

- 4) If you refuse to learn, you are hurting yourself. If you accept correction, you will become wiser. Proverbs 15: 32
- 5) Ask the Lord to bless your plans and you will be successful in carrying them out. Proverbs 16:3
- 6) You may make your plans but God directs your actions. Proverbs 16: 9
- 7) Intelligent people are always eager and ready to learn. Proverbs 18: 15
- 8) Do yourself a favour and learn all you can; then remember what you learn and you will prosper. Proverbs 19: 8

Many blessings to you all and I pray that 2019 is a year of change and exciting experiences!

*Robert Mapara*

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## **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**

We met in Church on Christmas Eve afternoon. There were a lot of families and quite a few visitors - either friends of people known to the Church or new visitors drawn in by the posters outside.

Ruth led us in singing and then introduced a Christingle to all. The resources had been prepared in advance by Ruth, Sara and Anne. We all went to the front to prepare our orange - I got mine made with help from a visiting child who had already made his which was helpful!

Everyone returned to their seats for the lighting of the candles during the singing of the last hymn. All candles were blown out before anyone moved after the end of the service to keep everyone safe.

Overall a very uplifting and evangelistic service.

*Clare Jenkins*

## CHRISTMAS DAY (A retrospect)

Christmas morning  
Folk are singing  
Praise to God,  
Carols tell the joyful story  
A new born babe reveals God's glory.

Children colour wooden figures  
Showing the nativity.  
Congregation sing together  
First Nowell  
And, 'From the squalor....'

Reading from Luke chapter two  
Telling of the baby's birth  
In a stable cold and bare.  
Angels send the news to earth  
Around a great and shining star!

Sermon tells another story  
Of how they gave a baby king  
A bed within a humble manger.  
Shepherds came their gifts to bring  
Worshipping the little stranger.

Hosts then felt a great regret  
That they hadn't offered him  
A sweeter place to lay his head,  
Now they've met the Son of God  
Their lives are changed their spirit's fed

Bread and wine, was then shared out  
Reminding all of God's great love.  
Sending us his son to save us  
Giving joy beyond description  
This the greatest gift at Christmas!

*Joan Gray*

## **WOMEN'S CLUB**

We were a healthy 13 in number for January and started the new year with a game of UNO while catching up with the news. Our thought for the day was women through the centuries who have persevered and made a difference. We read of Malala Yousafzai a campaigner for girl's education, as they were being banned from attending school. She won Pakistan's first National Youth Peace Prize but quickly came to be a target and in 2011 a Taliban gunman shot her in the head on her school bus, amazingly she survived. Malala won the Nobel Peace Prize, the youngest person ever to do so. Now aged 21 she's studying PPE (Politics Philosophy and Economics) at Lady Margaret Hall at Oxford.

Our session on the 31<sup>st</sup> January is Art for everyone and we continue with a programme of sewing on the 14<sup>th</sup> February then craft and finally a talk on the 11<sup>th</sup> April before we close for two weeks to open again on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

*Jane Gibbins*

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## **FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

The Friendship Club hope to meet at 2pm. on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February when we will catch up with all the Christmas and New Year news whilst enjoying tea and biscuits in the warmth of the Parlour.

Please join with us if you can, you will be most welcome.

We are also due to host the Coffee Morning on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March between 10.30am. and 12 noon so please make a note in your diaries. We'd love to see you.

*Gladys Townsend*

## **MISSION GROUP**

We held a Mission Group meeting after the service on Sunday 13th January. Unfortunately, Philip and Tony were very unwell and Pennie had been asked to preach in Winchmore Hill. So, Ruth, Diana and myself met to discuss our plans for the near future and a quick reflection on our efforts to support the Family Resource Centre at Christmas time.

Pennie, Diana, Chris and I did the food shopping for the parcels for needy families in our area on the 18th December. As we had a further collection at the Candlelight Service on the 16th December, we added this to the Food Parcel Appeal Envelopes and decided to really push the boat out and try to buy enough for 15 families. We were able to spend £303.60 at Asda. Usually we manage 10 or at most 12 parcels, so we were very happy to be able to prepare 15 food parcels of basic and luxury items for Christmas. This was a record for us.

Thank you to all who gave to this worthy cause. A wonderful response indeed!

Diana loaded all the food into her van - it looked like a travelling shop inside! Then we delivered the food to the Family Resource Centre and they were quite overwhelmed!

Diana led an extra Coffee Morning on Saturday 12th January with help from Clare and it was a very good chance to catch up with each other after all the Christmas activities. We had a collection of donations for the latest tsunami in Indonesia at Christmas time just as their people were still struggling with the consequences of the first tsunami. Diana raised £52.18p for this cause, which was excellent.

On Saturday 9th February we are having a Mission Coffee Morning in the Parlour from 10.30am. to 12 o'clock. We hope to have cakes etc to buy. Please come and support us and bring a friend or relative if you are able.

On Sunday 10th February we are having a Church Lunch. Diana and Clare are organizing it and planning the menu. This will be in support of Home Mission.

Envelopes for this have been ordered and will be out the week before. Home Mission is run by B.M.S. and helps people in the UK with Church planting and does its utmost to bring people in this country closer to God. Personally, I think this country's people are largely ignoring God and know nothing of the Bible and of Jesus Christ.

Please come to the lunch if you are able and try to bring a friend, neighbour or relative if possible.

Hopefully a DVD will be shown at the service to show the work of B.M.S. Home Mission.

Thank you, Diana, in advance, for preparing the lunch after the service.

I hope you can all join us.

*Anthea Denham*

We plan another meeting in March. Praise God!

## **SING TO COMMEMORATE D-DAY 75**

**Adoramus**, the Christian Choir and Orchestra based in North London will be commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day in association with the Royal British Legion and Imperial War Museum's D-Day partnerships scheme with a concert at the Alban Arena, St.Albans, Herts on Sat 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019. If you would like to find out more details about participating in this 4- part enlarged Adoramus Choir for this event please send your enquiry to [md@adoramus.com](mailto:md@adoramus.com) .

Music will include John Williams' "Hymn to the Fallen" from Saving Private Ryan, the theme from "Band of Brothers", Vaughan Williams' Dirge for Two Veterans, the Agincourt Song arranged by William Walton, a section from Haydn's Nelson Mass finishing with "All men must be free" to Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March No.4. RAF Chaplain, Rev Ian Brown will be introducing the concert. More details available soon at <http://adoramus.com/join/>

## **CHURCH MEETING NOTES**

Sunday, 27 January 2019, meeting held in Church Parlour after service

Present 16 members and 2 non-members

Meeting opened in prayer

The notes of the last meeting (28/10/18) were circulated, agreed and signed.

Ruth Moriarty informed the meeting of her plan for a sabbatical in 2 halves - from mid Feb to end of March and then mid-June - July, 2019. She will be writing her doctoral thesis during this time and so be available for important events only. The family will attend church on some Sundays. Peter Griffiths is organising the preaching schedule in her absence.

The treasurer, Susan Rogers, presented the third quarter accounts which are available from her on request. The general point was made that our income from offerings has increased slightly but we are still very dependent on rent receipts to operate. All church members and attendees are encouraged to consider their offerings to the church. Questions were asked about specific details. The issue of multiple collections on the same day was raised. There is also a possibility that we might lose the mast rent as Barnet have required specific planning permission which has not been needed from other churches for similar development.

Ruth presented Francis' report on the building project. In the next few months we intend to apply to Enfield for planning permission for the Grove Road site, once this is received we will market the site. The development group is working towards approaching Barnet Council for outline permission to alter the Bellevue Road site. They are currently meeting monthly.

Clare Jenkins reported on historic documents that the church holds. We have minute books from 1864 for New Southgate Baptist church in Grove Road and from 1889 for Christchurch Congregational Church. Some of the documents at Christchurch were found to be damaged by water leakage. These books have now been conserved by a professional

conservation company to prevent further damage. We now need to identify a warm, dry place to store these documents.

Ruth reported that a group have been writing a fire policy. There will be regular evacuation drills as required by law. Volunteers were asked to be fire marshals - two will be required for each service. There are also some cupboards that have been moved and others that will need moving to clear access to fire exits.

Leaflet / postcard for local area have been printed with the dates of major services. If you would like to deliver some of these to people in the local roads then let Ruth know which roads you can do so that we do not double deliver.

Clare (taking these notes) asked the meeting what is the appropriate way to circulate the notes of these meetings. They are to be on the website and published in the newsletter.

Anthea publicised the events for Home Mission week on 9/10 Feb. Coffee morning on Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Feb and then a Church lunch after the service on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. Everyone is encouraged to attend and bring a friend to both events.

*Clare Jenkins*

## **CHRISTIAN AID**

On Saturday 2nd February at 7pm. the Christian Aid Quiz was held at St. John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet Road. For once I had sold the 8 tickets for a table. The quiz followed dinner which was enjoyed by over 80 guests and importantly valuable funds were raised for Christian Aid.

Christian Aid week is from Sunday 12th May to Saturday 18th May with a Christian Aid service for Churches Together. More information in due course.

*Anthea Denham*

## WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Brexit stalemate, knife violence, terrorising youth gangs, attacks on the older and vulnerable people in their homes or while walking in broad daylight, inadequate public resources and job losses due to closures of shops or factories. These are a few of the things we have read in the newspapers or heard recently on the news. Yet the year had only just begun.

One would be forgiven for pondering over what lies ahead for this 2019. Our safety, peace and adequate provision are some of the issues that would have crossed some of your minds including mine. Worry could have been one of the results of your pondering. In my opinion it is perfectly normal to ponder about these issues, but try not to worry.

I read Isaiah 43 recently and felt really calm because of our eternal, faithful God's promises. I thought I'd share God's promise of being with you no matter what the year ahead holds. I pray it calms you too.

### **Isaiah 43:1-3**

The LORD who created you says,  
“Do not be afraid—I will save you.  
I have called you by name—you are mine.  
When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you;  
your troubles will not overwhelm you.  
When you pass through fire, you will not be burned;  
the hard trials that come will not hurt you.  
For I am the LORD your God”...

*Ola Lawal*

