

Christ Church

New Southgate & Friern Barnet
(Baptist/United Reformed)

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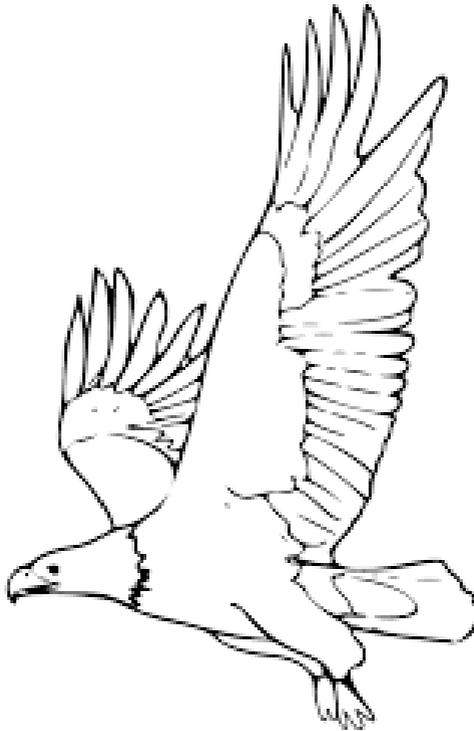
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NEWSLETTER

JULY / AUGUST 2022

ISSUE 301

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THEY THAT WAIT ON THE LORD...

Isaiah 40.31

DIARY FOR JULY 2022

- Sun. 3rd 9.00 a.m. TOAST – Prayer Meeting in Parlour
Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Tues. 5th 4.15 p.m. Rainbows (Tuesdays until break)
5.45 p.m. Brownies (“ “ “)
7.15 p.m. Guides (“ “ “)
- Wed. 6th 8.00 p.m. Premises Group Meeting
- Thurs. 7th 6.00 p.m. Beavers & Cub Scouts
At St. Paul’s Hall (Thursdays until break)
8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 10th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service
- Thurs. 14th 8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 17th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Thurs. 21st 8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 24th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service
Followed by Church Meeting
- Thurs. 28th 8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 31st Mr. Tony Alderman
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service

AUGUST 2022

- Wed. 3rd 8.00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 7th 9.00 a.m. TOAST – Prayer Meeting in Parlour
Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion
All Age Service
- Sun. 14th Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service
- Sun. 21st Rev. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion
All Age Service
- Sun. 28th Mrs. Pennie Bongomin
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service

SEPTEMBER 2022

- Thurs. 1st 8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 4th TOAST – Prayer Meeting in Parlour
Mr. David & Mrs. Nikki Hooke
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church

To join our Thursday Evening Prayer Meeting on Zoom go to -
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5408158881?pwd=ank5UmJGRGVMVXJWWFRSL1IPSVBnZz09>
Meeting ID: 540 815 8881
Passcode: ccnsfb

PASTORAL LETTER

They that wait on the Lord ...
Isaiah 40.31

Dear Christ Church

Today (01/07/22) was the internment of Jean Kearey at New Southgate Crematorium. As we gathered around her beautiful family grave, I was reminded of Jean's warmth, faith and kindness. Jean always used to arrive early at church with Roger and Val giving her a lift. Before the service began, she faithfully folded the newsheet while waiting for the service to start. She often used to say to me: 'might as well make myself useful!' Jean's faith showed a similar attitude, ready to wait on the Lord for his leading and exercising great patience in the meantime.

We likewise find ourselves in the meantime now, while we wait for the sale of Grove Road to complete. Over the summer we will host a couple of different times of prayer and fasting. We pray to God that he will sustain us as we wait and that he will grant success to the buyer with Enfield council planning department. We fast as a way of focusing our mind in prayer, fasting from food or some other activity to pray instead. We will also begin a period of preparation for building works to start on our main site. There are plenty of cupboards to sort and clean, to which you are all very welcome to help out!

All of these things will occupy us while we wait, but the real test of our spirituality is faith itself. I pray that we each have the gift of faith, faith to believe God is leading us and will accomplish all we have felt his guidance in.

They that wait on the Lord says the prophet Isaiah, will renew their strength and soar like eagles, they will run and not grow faint (40.31). May our faith as God's people be confident in this waiting time, for it will strengthen our faith in the Lord who calls us to renewal in him.

Ruth Moriarty

FRIENDSHIP

Dorothy Maud Brown (nee Simpson) was born in Glenthorne Road, Friern Barnet in June 1923 and went to St. John's Primary School, then attending Woodhouse before leaving at 16. As her son Peter continued when speaking about his Mum at the Service of Celebration for her Life, at Lindfield URC, as a 4 year-old, she attended the Sunday School here at Christ Church. Like so many others living locally in the roads surrounding our Church, this started a long allegiance and she subsequently became a Sunday School teacher for more than 20 years.

Dorothy had her Faith and gave much valued Service to our Church and elsewhere. A favourite verse of Dorothy's was "Luke 12 v 32". ³² Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Having been able to join with her daughter Avril and sons Peter and Colin and their families for this service of celebration it was also lovely to see Jenie and Linda, two other Christ Church friends from years past, who have remained in contact with Dorothy since they all moved to other areas of the country.

Whilst, as mentioned in last month's Newsletter, Dorothy was a member of the Friendship Club for over 50 years, out of which many long-standing friendships developed, as through the Church as a whole and from other groups within.

It's good to know that there are still many who grew up at Christ Church, some going back to when it was a Congregational Church, pre United Reformed days, who remain in touch with each other.

There are past members of the 3C's Youth Club who keep in contact and also some of the Bellevue Players drama group, as well as a few of the old scouts who met here previously when in the days the 94th North London Troop existed.

No doubt, like in many churches, similar friendships grew up between those attending Grove Road Baptist Church and the various groups within the Church, like the Women's Club.

Friendships grow from being together and thriving churches develop around a good local community with people regularly attending and meeting up in all sorts of groups.

You may have many good friends, life-long friends, old school friends or previous work colleagues perhaps, whom you keep in contact with.

Like me, you may remember the following quote –

“Make new friends, but keep the old, one is silver, the other is gold”.

These are the first few lines of a traditional song, often sung by scouts.

Having left school Dorothy started working at Simms Motor Unit, where she met her future husband Arthur and they lived in Finchley until moving to Lindfield in 2003. Throughout her life Dorothy would always re-use things, keeping bits of card and writing on the back to save waste etc. and could perhaps be referred to as “an early recycler”!

Some of her writings were her poems, with two read by her Grandsons at the service celebrating her life (see the one contained in the order of service herein). Peter ended his tribute to his Mum, as he did when speaking about his dad back in 2009, saying “it was a life well lived”.

Indeed, a long life, a lovely person and a very good friend.

Gladys Townsend

FAMILY NEWS

We remember all youngsters as they finish the current school term and look forward to their summer break and think of families and others who will be off on a well-earned holiday.

Regrettably, we are aware of some members and friends who are unwell, with some in hospital and others still going down with Covid. We pray for their speedy recovery and return to full health.

We think of all who are bereaved at this time and remember them in our prayers.

If I should die, for die I must
As human beings do,
I'd like to think these words I leave
Might mean a lot to you

It's hard to part with those we love
Perhaps they feel it too,
But life goes on and must be lived
As they would want you to

You won't forget, but time will heal
And memories stay strong,
To help you through the darkest days
As you, now travel on

Dorothy Brown

WOMEN'S CLUB

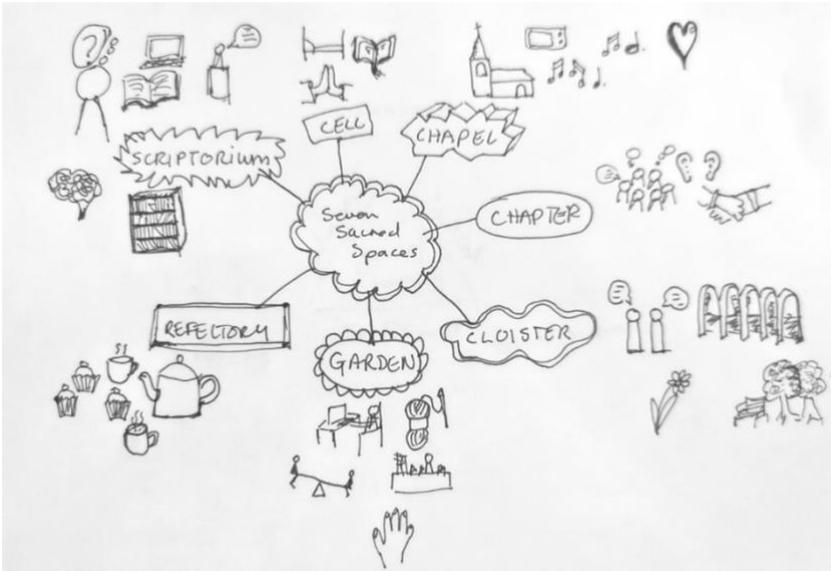
Well, that's it for the Women's Club until Thursday 8th September.

At our last meeting we enjoyed a happy afternoon making an attractive cover for a tissue square box to take it from the mundane to something prettier.

Our sessions this year have included art, craft, sewing, games and so on. If you are looking to join a chatty, friendly group in pleasant surroundings please contact me on 07703 483791. Enjoy the Summer.

Jane Gibbins

CHURCH RETREAT – SATURDAY 25th JUNE 2022



A lovely day at St Margaret's with our church family, we started with an introduction to Rev. Eddie Boon and the theme which was Seven Sacred Spaces, based on a book of the same name by George Lings.

It was explained that this reflects the practice of Christian communities (monks or nuns), but that we can recognise similar concepts in our own churches and Christian practices.

As Eddie talked us through each of the principles we thought of a word or sentence that went with it for ourselves individually. The spaces are as follows:

- **cell** (being alone with God),
- **chapel** (corporate public worship),
- **chapter** (making decisions),
- **cloister** (planned and surprising meetings),
- **garden** (the place of work),
- **refectory** (food and hospitality) and
- **scriptorium** (study and passing on knowledge).

Just before the bring and share lunch, we were able to vote on the areas that we wanted to discuss more.

Lunch was a wonderful chatty affair, with some delicious homemade dishes! There was also a Junior Church element – they had a wonderful time exploring the church, and playing some games!

The afternoon was spent thinking about how to apply the spaces to our church, and also with the mention of two other spaces for consideration for those not within a more closed Christian community. That of **leisure** and **family** both important areas in all our lives.

We completed the second session with a short service led by Ruth, with a focus on Mark 8:1-10 one of Jesus' miracles feeding 4000, and communion.

A big thank you to St Margaret's for letting us use the whole of their building, to Ruth and Clare for organising and reminding! and to everyone who attended, it was great to see so many.

It was a fabulous day (just 10am-2pm) and so interesting to be in a church that has recently been redeveloped. It helped us to think about where we are going – both with the building and with how we will be using our building in the future – and how to make spaces for God in our whole lives.

Diana Bensted

AGM Notes 01/04/21 to 31/03/22 - Held Sunday 26th June 2022

Following the opening formalities which included Apologies from Gladys, Clare gave her Secretaries Report for the year, as follows:-

SECRETARY'S REPORT - April 2021 to March 2022

Worship post lockdown

This report starts when we restarted meeting in church after the Christmas/New Year COVID lockdown. Our first service was Easter Sunday 4th April, 2021. This was a simple, ticketed communion service but it felt so good to be back in person.

In order to be able to re-open we had done risk assessments, cleaning and also bought equipment to enable us to livestream our services, although this was not actually installed for the first couple of weeks. We started using the livestream camera system on 9 May 2021.

During the year 2021-2022 we have made use of people who are members or have attended our church to assist in the preaching. We thank Rev Roz Lyle, Rev Desmond Gordon, Diana Bensted, Pennie Bongomin, Peter Griffiths and Ola Lawal for their assistance in this. We have learnt much from their preaching.

We have also joined online Baptist (16 May 2021) and URC National Assemblies during our services, enabling us to link more clearly to our two parent denominations.

We moved from producing videos for YouTube (last year) to livestreaming our services on You Tube. Average viewings for our channel in this year were 30 and we know 3 people who regularly join us online – Thelma, Chinaka and Tony – that are unable to join as regularly in person. This is an unexpected blessing to all.

Important events

Births – Mariam has a daughter with our minister leading her naming ceremony on 29 June 2021.

It is lovely to welcome Madeline, Jacob and baby Joseph and grandad Richard who have been attending services regularly.

Baptisms – we celebrated the baptism of Julian O’Brien and Allen Mukasa on Sunday 3rd Oct 2021

New Members – Julian O’Brien, Allen Mukasa and Esther Saludes and Rebecca Feo were welcomed into membership at communion on 17 October 2021.

Marriages – Julian O’Brien and Sherry Natali married here on Saturday 26 June 2021 in a lovely ceremony with much joyful singing and dancing.

Farewells – Joan Gray moved to Oxford, Julie and Allister Duncan moved to near Bristol, Peter Griffiths moved to Tenby, Wales.

Deaths – Jean Kearey passed away after a short illness on 23rd June 2021. We stand in her memory

Whole Church life

We have welcomed three new families who now regularly join us in church for worship, overall attendance is nearly at pre-pandemic levels with a regular congregation of 40-50 plus online attendance.

We have hosted 2 church picnic/lunches – 27 June was intended to be a picnic but it was wet so we met in the hall and a Carnival bring and share lunch on 27th Feb (pre-lent) was very successful.

Regular monthly Church meetings restarted on 27th June 2021 and we held 2 AGMs on 25th July 2021 to catch up on meetings we could not hold earlier due to lockdowns and social distancing limitations.

Christ Church Party 4 Sept 2021: We held a special cream tea party at the Manse to formally thank Roger Oram and Sue Rogers for their decades of service as secretary and treasurer at Christ Church. We also said farewell to Peter as current treasurer and deacon.

Bereavement service 5th Dec

We were happy to host another bereavement service this year which was a meaningful event to all who attended and provided a good opportunity to reconnect with families who had held funerals at our church in the year.

Christingle

Delighted to return our Christingle service on Christmas Eve 2021 which was very well attended and enjoyed by all who came along.

Counter - Terrorism training 12 January 2022

Following a security incident in our church service in the summer, we created an incident policy and sought training from the police. It was good to host this event with members from four other churches attending. The training helped develop our policy and we are now more confident with these matters, particularly in the 'power of hello'.

Mission

We continued to support mission activities wherever possible with special attention to Christian Aid on 9th May and HAB at Harvest on 10th October which had significant contributions from our Girlguiding groups. Easter and Christmas hampers were in voucher form this year and greatly appreciated by the Family Resource Centre.

Church groups

Junior Church

Junior church re-started 6th June 2021. We have 3 teams working one Sunday a month each. The attendance is from 3- 10 each week with some being very consistent and others less so. We have followed the Journey Together program from Foundation Stones. We started this program during lock down as it has at home as well as in church activity suggestions.

TOAST

We have also re-started TOAST – meeting before church at 9am on the first Sunday of the month for bible study, prayer and toast.

Christ Church Prayer

We began a weekly prayer and bible study meeting in September 2021 via Zoom with a consistent attendance.

Women's Club

Have been meeting regularly in the parlour led by Jane Gibbins.

Hirers

Our clubs, societies and building hirers all restarted during the summer 2021 after an exchange of risk assessments and discussions.

Our Hall is let to: North London Ballet, Badminton group, Girlguiding groups from Grove Road and the church to AA on a Monday.

Committees

Diaconate

On 24th Oct 2021 Susan Rogers stood down as deacon after many years of service. Robert Mapara also stood down due to the pressures of his work commitments. Peter Griffiths stood down both in role as treasurer as well as a deacon as he has moved to Tenby.

We had a retreat day in January 2021 led by Rev Adrian Ward (South Woodham Ferrers Baptist) at Pleshey Retreat centre in Essex. It was a wonderful time of listening to God and being encouraged.

Premises group

Has now been running for two years and has a membership of four. We have tried to keep on top of the routine maintenance of our buildings – here, Grove Road and the manse. This committee also supervises Community Payback.

Community Payback

Every Thursday we are delighted to host a community payback scheme where low risk offenders give back to the community by tending our gardens, cleaning and clearing up rubbish. They keep our grounds looking neat and tidy and for which we are thankful.

Development Group

Are working specifically on our hall development program

We applied to the URC for funding at Thames North synod on 16th Oct 2021 and were granted £1.3 M. We praise God for this grant. We now await our buyer gaining planning permission at Grove Road which will enable the sale to be completed.

Clare Jenkins

Ruth introduced the Financial Figures that had been presented to the meeting and after much discussion a number of questions were raised and answers will be obtained for further discussion at the next Church Meeting.

Finance summary- 01/04/21 to 31/03/22

	Total
Income	139,990
Expenditure	162,890
	22899 minus

This means that our general running costs are currently running at a £23,000 loss for the year. Some of this is accountable to loss of rental income due to closing Grove Road and to loss of rental income due to the pandemic. We are in the process of making an insurance claim for loss of income due to the pandemic but this does not appear in this year's accounts.

We all need to consider our giving to the church.

The meeting was concluded, to be followed by our monthly meeting.

CHURCH MEETING NOTES

Church meeting held after the AGM on Sunday 26th June.

Minutes printed in the newsletter for the previous meeting were agreed.

Development application from the developers for Grove Road will go to Enfield planning department for a 2nd time next week. Therefore, we hope and pray for an answer in Sept.

Yesterday we had a good retreat. The aim to encourage us all and for us to draw closer to God. 22 people attended.

We are in a season of waiting and preparing.

There will be special times of prayer and fasting in the next few months, in addition to a practical decluttering project.

There will be lot of work spiritually and actively for development.

Patricia Balogun would like to become a member

Two people were asked to volunteer to visit her - Susan Rogers and Diana Bensted volunteered.

Meeting closed with prayer.



WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

It is so lovely to have some sunshine to lift our moods in the last few days and I thank God for it. I guess those who suffer from hay fever dread the increased pollen flying around during the warm weather. The warm weather may in fact, dampen their spirit as the hay fever makes it difficult for them to genuinely enjoy the open-air warmth. It is also difficult to enjoy pleasant weather where one is suffering from ill-health and cannot really move around much. Neither can one really enjoy any pleasant weather where one is sad, anxious, or worried.

Brothers and Sisters, no matter our situation, try to find something to praise God for. The air we breathe and the fresh water that is readily available to us for example. It will help to lift our spirit. Remember, our Lord God loves us. He hears our pleas for help. He sees our tears. Trust Him to deliver you from whatever is bothering you, that you are asking Him in prayer to resolve. He will do it in His appointed time. Use the Psalm below to strengthen yourself when doubt tries to creep in.

Psalm 18: 1-3a & 6 (NIV)

I love you, LORD, my strength.
The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise,
In my distress I called to the LORD;
I cried to my God for help.
From his temple he heard my voice;
my cry came before him, into his ears.

Ola Lawal