

# Christ Church

New Southgate & Friern Barnet  
(Baptist/United Reformed)

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## NEWSLETTER

JULY / AUGUST 2023

ISSUE 312

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

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**Thursday evening Prayer Meetings will not be held over Summer.  
The Deacons are reassessing this meeting and will offer a new  
format for prayer and bible study in the Autumn.**

### **DIARY FOR JULY/AUGUST 2023**

- Sun. 2<sup>nd</sup>      9.00 a.m. TOAST – Prayer Meeting in Parlour  
                    Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
                    11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion  
                    All Age Service  
                    Followed by Church Picnic in Friern Village Park
- Tues. 4<sup>th</sup>      4.15 p.m. Rainbows (Tuesdays until 11<sup>th</sup> July)  
                    5.45 p.m. Brownies ( “ “ “ )  
                    7.15 p.m. Guides ( “ “ “ )
- Thurs. 6<sup>th</sup>      2.00 p.m. Women’s Club in Parlour
- Sun. 9<sup>th</sup>                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
                    11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church
- Wed. 12<sup>th</sup>      8.00 p.m. Premises Group Meeting
- Sun. 16<sup>th</sup>                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
                    11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Thurs. 20<sup>th</sup>      2.00 p.m. Women’s Club in Parlour
- Sun. 23<sup>rd</sup>                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
                    11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service
- Sun. 30<sup>th</sup>                      Mrs. Pennie Bongomin  
                    11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service

There will not be “TOAST” Prayer Meetings in August & September.

## AUGUST

- Sun. 6<sup>th</sup>                                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion  
All Age Service
- Sun. 13<sup>th</sup>                                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service
- Sun. 20<sup>th</sup>                                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion  
All Age Service
- Sun. 27<sup>th</sup>                                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship – All Age Service

## SEPTEMBER

- Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup>                                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Thur. 7<sup>th</sup>                                      2.00 p.m. Women's Club in Parlour

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](http://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](http://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.

It is always lovely to hear from you all and receive your news or articles for inclusion in the Newsletter.

## PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Friends,

Here we are at the end of June and what beautiful weather we have been able to enjoy. We went from being wrapped up well in Church to the last few weekends in the coolest possible clothing, frantically waving a fan to keep cool – even in the Parlour!

We have been looking after Mars, my daughter's dog, while they have been away touring Ireland from Dublin, Kilkenny and Cork in Southern Ireland, to Northern Ireland, where my son Mark lives.

Mars, knows us well as Nannie and Chris! He is very good and patiently lets me take out all the seeds he seems to gather in his floaty black ears – loads of them daily!

Seeds are very cleverly dispersed and spread away from the parent plants to allow them space to grow. This seed dispersal is done in a variety of ways, by wind, by birds, insects and they hang on animal's hairs and in our case, Mars' fluffy thick black coat!

This all made me think how the ancient stories of the Old Testament have been spread by word of mouth, and recordings in writing. We all have favourite ones – which are yours? There are so many known by generation after another, shared by millions of people. I love the bravery of Daniel in the lion's den and the story of Ruth and Naomi and their faith fullness and commitment to each other.

In the New Testament we share the story of the Life of Jesus, spread from generation after generation. We love to hear of Jesus' teaching, his miracles of healing and profound sayings.

It is so important to keep this seed of knowledge of the Bible which has grown into a mighty "bush", spreading across nations so that we nurture and keep growing in true faith and love of God, our Father. Tell our children and grandchildren of Jesus who is able to intercede for us when we pray. Jesus himself taught us how to pray saying "Our Father, who is in Heaven, hallowed be thy name....."

Finally, returning to the Irish theme where I began: this is the Irish Blessing which I love.

“May the road rise up to meet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen.

Happy holidays everyone,

*Anthea Denham*

## **FAMILY NEWS**

It's coming to the end of the School Summer Term once again and many are looking forward to a well-deserved holiday. Junior Church will finish on the 16<sup>th</sup> July and return on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September and all services through the summer will be “All-Age”. The uniformed groups will also break as usual and restart on the 12<sup>th</sup> September.

We think of the Minister and her family and all those who are able to get away during the coming weeks for what we trust will be a time of relaxation and enjoyment.

All who are recuperating from illness or injury remain in our prayers.

**CHURCH MEETING** - Held in Parlour after church on the 25<sup>th</sup> June

Present 14, Non-members 4

Previous Meeting notes were in last newsletter – agreed.

Work starting on Monday, behind Bellevue Hall, digging a hole and then council official should come and check. This was supposed to be last week and Barnet Council were not efficient about building control. These are enabling works to keep planning permission. All groups have been sent a map and will need to use back door rather than the front to access the hall during the work.

Meeting thanked Francis Mudford for helping sort this.

We have a problem with our bank account and this is why today's AGM has been postponed - Barclays still have not updated the address correctly. Other churches have had the same/similar issues.

This has encouraged us to think about changing our bank account. Lots of churches have switched from "main" banks as they are having similar account issues.

Diana and Ruth have looked at 7 - Including: NatWest, HSBC, Metro, Starling and Charities Aid Foundation.

Metro is best, offering free banking to a certain level - Others do not. To open an account, they have to have a copy of minuted decisions.

There was chat amongst the meeting to identify questions and Roger asked if Barclays cannot accelerate process.

Metro Bank offer a 3-year switching service. Offer free Charitable accounts – turnover ceiling is higher than our current turnover £1 million; up to 200 free transactions per month, free giant cheques.

Business accounts pay for every transaction in and out!

Is the church meeting happy to change from Barclays to Metro?  
- 14 in favour

Account in name of "Christ Church New Southgate and Friern Barnet"

Key officials – trustees – will be listed

Clare Jenkins, Diana Bensted, Ola Lawal, Rebecca Feo & Anthea Denham.

Signatories - 3 of Deacons or members.

Signing rules - 2 signatories both on cheque or online transaction.

For AGM - We have basic figures, need to check figures against accounts ready for September.

Meeting closed in prayer.



150<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary

St Paul's Church  
New Southgate  
Woodland Road N11 1PN

**Friday 21 & Saturday 22 July**

10am - 7pm Flower festival  
with a local history display in hall

**Saturday 22 July**

10am - 4pm Craft Fair and Cream teas

**Sunday 23 July**

10.30am Service of Thanksgiving  
conducted by The Bishop of London  
followed by lunch

4.30pm Songs of Praise  
followed by a cheese & wine reception

**All events are free**

## **WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT**

I was having a conversation with a friend not too long ago. I asked how she was coping with a problem that had bothered her for a while. Her usual response to my question was always a long monologue which was understandable. However, her response that day was different. She simply replied, 'I am contented.' I asked if things had improved. She replied 'No, but I have decided to trust God, thank Him for what is good in my life and to focus more on the good things. The decision had made an enormous difference to her state of mind, and she felt better for it. Wow! Praise be to God was my reply.

The conversation drew my mind to Habakkuk 3:17-18 below. A reminder to trust Jesus in all situations. Especially where it is taking too long for our situation to improve, to remind ourselves He is the all-powerful God and there will be a turnaround for the better soon even if not in the way we expect.

### **Habakkuk 3:17-18**

Though the fig tree does not bud  
and there are no grapes on the vines,  
though the olive crop fails  
and the fields produce no food,  
though there are no sheep in the pen  
and no cattle in the stalls,  
yet I will rejoice in the LORD,  
I will be joyful in God my Saviour.

*Ola Lawal*

**PLEASE NOTE: IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY  
THE CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL NOW  
TAKE PLACE AFTER THE SERVICE ON SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>**