

Christ Church

New Southgate & Friern Barnet
(Baptist/United Reformed)

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NEWSLETTER

JULY / AUGUST 2024

ISSUE 323

www.christchurchnsfb.org



Church Picnic

Sunday 14th July

DIARY FOR JULY/AUGUST 2024

JULY

- Tues. 2nd 5.45 p.m. Brownies (Tuesdays until 16th July)
7.15 p.m. Guides (“ “ “ “)
- Thurs. 4th 2.00 p.m. Women’s Club in the Parlour
- Sun. 7th Rev. Dr. Ruth Moriarty
9.00 a.m. TOAST – Prayer Meeting
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Sun. 14th Rev. Dr. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship - All Age Service
Followed by Church Picnic in Friern Park opposite
- Sun. 21st Rev. Dr. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Sun. 28th Rev. Dr. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church
Followed by Church Meeting
- Wed. 31st 8.00 p.m Premises Group Meeting

AUGUST

- Sun. 4th Rev. Dr. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion
All Age Service
- Sun. 11th Mrs. Ola Lawal
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship - All Age Service
- Sun. 18th Rev. Dr. Ruth Moriarty
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion
All Age Service

Sun. 25th

Mr. Femi Onanuga
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship - All Age Service

SEPTEMBER

Sun. 1st

Rev. Dr. Ruth Moriarty
9.00 a.m. TOAST – Prayer Meeting
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church

Junior Church will not be meeting during August and there will also not be a “TOAST” Prayer Meeting nor Church Meeting in August.

The Women’s Club are taking a summer break and meetings will restart on Thursday 5th September’24.

The Brownies and Guides intend to restart on the 10th September’24.

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).

PASTORAL LETTER

As I am now the church treasurer, I have gone through a couple of phases – the first, last year was assisting Ruth in the preparation of accounts. Then once I had access to the banks - which took quite a while, I was then able to start working properly on reconciling the money coming in and out of our account, and finding out about automatic payments, and trying to find out where the bills were going. This year I have felt much more able to get a feel for the accounts, and in the future, I should be able to analyse more about what we spend and where. We will also be able to compare year on year much easier (also because I use a bookkeeping software which will help!)

I was very pleased this year that overall our offertory increased last year by £1440, we collected 25% by cash and 75% through the bank.

We are able to claim Gift Aid, and this makes a big difference to us - it is 25p per £1 donated so for every £1000 we receive £250!

If you currently pay tax, please can you check if you have completed a gift aid form for us. And do consider using Direct debits for your offering as this can give us a stable monthly income.

Our outgoings are currently more than our Income from all sources, we are very fortunate as a church that we have cash assets in the form of funds held by both the London Baptist Property Board and the URC which we are using to cover that deficit.

We also have the physical asset of Pembroke Road. We are in the process of preparing the site for rental, and it is moving forward well.

We have been so blessed by God, both in the waiting for the sale of Grove Road, and the assets that we have.

You may have heard someone say, cynically, “The church just wants your money”? Churches regularly handle money and some have come under scrutiny for mishandling finances or putting too much emphasis on making money. As we represent Jesus to the world, it’s *so* important for churches and other Christian organizations to be trustworthy and transparent when it comes to their finances.

There are surprisingly numerous Bible verses about money. What does the Bible teach about money? Biblical teachings on money emphasize our need to steward it wisely and never let it become more important than it is. We are encouraged to love God and people, never money. Money should be used as a tool to help the less fortunate and to spread the message of Jesus to people who haven’t heard.

As we move forward, I pray that we be good stewards of the money that we receive, and that we may be a blessing to our community, and exalt Gods name in all we do.

Amen

Diana Bensted

Our monthly Newsletters can also be viewed on our website (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.

FAMILY NEWS

It is with much sadness that we report the passing of Lily Dawton. Lily, aged 98, died on the 3rd June'24, approaching her 99th birthday. She was an active and long-standing member of New Southgate Baptist Church but recently has spent much of her time at home.

We offer our sincere condolences to her sons, Brian and Philip and pray for them, their families and all friends at this time of grieving.

Her funeral was held on 26th June at Christ Church with a short cremation service at New Southgate Cemetery & Crematorium. At the service we heard well known readings and pieces of music, which Lily loved and a tribute by Philip Dawton covering her long life and many family memories.

The family thank everyone for their cards and messages and kind words of support. Donations in Lily's memory can be made to North London Hospice, Finchley and Christian Aid.

We pray for all who are bereaved and mourn the loss of a loved one.

Whilst we think of any members and friends who are unwell at this time, we also wish all who are able to spend some time away relaxing on holiday in the coming weeks an enjoyable summer break.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

It is the general election season again when we choose which of the parties will rule us for the next five years or so. Each party is promising us loads, to entice us to vote for them. This is because they know many people have lost the hope anything will change for the better, after years of broken promises and worsening living standards. People are especially anxious about the country's worsening healthcare, dentalcare and safety from random violence especially. I suppose one could only hope the winning party will try to fulfil some of the promises written in their manifesto to help reduce these issues.

As Christians our hope and trust is in the Lord and not on any ruling party. We should not be anxious about the future but to remember the Lord had been our Sustainer, Healer, Protector and Helper in the past. He will continue to do so. Keep faith. Jesus is always with us. When worried, do as reminded and advised by Apostle below for the peace of God that transcends all understanding.

Philippians 4:5b -7 (NIV)

The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus.

Ola Lawal

