

# Christ Church

New Southgate & Friern Barnet  
(Baptist/United Reformed)

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## NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022

ISSUE 304

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

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**SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**10.45 am**

## DIARY FOR NOVEMBER 2022

- Tues. 1<sup>st</sup> 4.15 p.m. Rainbows (Tuesdays until break)  
5.45 p.m. Brownies ( “ “ “ )  
7.15 p.m. Guides ( “ “ “ )
- Thurs. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2.00 p.m. Women’s Club  
8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> 9.00 a.m. TOAST – Prayer Meeting in Parlour  
Rev. Edwin Quildan  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> 8.00 p.m. Premises Group Meeting
- Thurs. 10<sup>th</sup> 8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 13<sup>th</sup> **10.45 a.m. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**  
Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
Morning Worship & Parade – All Age Service
- Thurs. 17<sup>th</sup> 2.00 p.m. Women’s Club  
8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 20<sup>th</sup> Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church
- Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> 8.00 p.m. Deacons Meeting via Zoom
- Thurs. 24<sup>th</sup> 8.00 p.m. Prayer Meeting via Zoom
- Sun. 27<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent - Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
Preacher – To be confirmed  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church  
Followed By Church Meeting

**DECEMBER 2022 – Advance Information for your diary**  
(Please Note variation to usual Sunday plan)

Sun. 4<sup>th</sup>      9.00 a.m. TOAST – Prayer Meeting in Parlour  
                    TOY SERVICE  
                    Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
                    11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Parade - All Age Service  
                    4.00 p.m. BEREAVEMENT SERVICE  
(A quiet and reflective service to remember and thank God for all loved  
                    ones who have passed away.)

Sun. 11<sup>th</sup>                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
                    11.00 a.m. Morning Worship, Communion & Junior Church  
                    4.00 p.m. CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sat. 17<sup>th</sup>      10.00 a.m. ADVENT CRAFT CAFÉ  
                    -12.00 p.m. in Sanctuary

Sun. 18<sup>th</sup>                      Rev. Ruth Moriarty  
                    11.00 a.m. Morning Worship & Junior Church

Sat. 24<sup>th</sup>      4.00 p.m. CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Sun. 25<sup>th</sup>      11.00 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY  
                    Morning Worship & Communion

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).

Please search the Church website regularly for any updated information.

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

I had the privilege of leading the service on Sunday 30th October. The reading in the Lectionary was Luke 19: 1-10, Jesus and Zacchaeus. A story that you probably know of a short man climbing a sycamore tree to get a better view of Jesus coming to his town of Jericho. I always find it difficult when approaching a familiar story. We often have preconceptions of what the story means so I had a good dig about the internet to see what I could find!

Most articles talked about Zacchaeus being a sinner – a Jew who turned against his community by being a tax collector, who was saved and turned his life around after meeting Jesus. This strikes me as being a bit of an easy interpretation – but then why was it the last story in Luke before Jesus enters Jerusalem? Why so important?

There were others which took a different view, and talked about the original tense that this passage was written in, where Zacchaeus says to Jesus that he always gives half his wealth to the poor and if there is a discrepancy he repays fourfold.

Have we misjudged Zacchaeus? Was he a different kind of tax collector? Was it the crowd that was wrong, imagining that ALL tax collectors were the same? Did Jesus see the good man – and to emphasise that - invited himself to dinner?

Do we do the same? Do all Politicians lie, are all lawyers just in it for the money? Are all Grunge artists violent?

I watched the interview of Stormzy by Louis Theroux (on BBC iPlayer) - be warned there is some swearing. However, there is a part of the interview where Louis accompanies Stormzy to a monthly worship session with his sister and his mum. He talks about how during the pandemic when he was on his own. He was still, and he recognised ‘oh wow, this is what it is like to pray, this is what scripture means.’ And he also said ‘this is where I’m meant to be around people who don’t care about whatever it is that the world thinks I am, the man who I wanna be is this man.’ the Implication is the man of faith.

We finished on Sunday (after the livestream had ended) with the BBC Glastonbury coverage. Blinded by Your Grace Pt2. Where the whole of Glastonbury were singing along – and Stormzy was praying – such an example to us in our day to day lives – working, at school, with friends or family, when we are with people, do they even know we believe in God? Could you tell even one more person that you meet this month?

I end this letter with his chorus

Lord I've been broken  
Although I'm not worthy  
You fixed me  
I'm Blinded, By Your Grace  
You came and saved me

I said a prayer this morning  
I prayed I would find a way  
To another day, I was so afraid  
'Til you came and saved, you came and saved me  
And the rain was pouring, 'cause the sun faded away  
Now I'm in a better place, no longer afraid  
Blinded By Your Grace, you came and saved me, yeah

*Diana Bensted*

## **FAMILY NEWS**

Covid and Flu cases are on the increase again and we are aware of some of our Members and Friends who have been suffering of late. Along with others who are unwell we think of them all at this time.

We remember all who are bereaved and pray for them as they mourn.

With it being Remembrance Sunday on the 13<sup>th</sup> November we think of The Royal British Legion who provide lifelong support to serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. If you are able, you can make a donation via their web site <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk>

## MISSION GROUP

Dear Friends,

Just in case you did not know, our Harvest donations to HAB (Homeless Action in Barnet) were gratefully appreciated by them. They sent a message thanking everyone and 2 copies of that are on the notice boards in Church.

Secondly, Macmillan have added the donations received online via the QR Code to the cash gifts given at our very successful Coffee and Cake event, bringing the total to £342.80. Macmillan were delighted by this result and so were we likewise.

There will be a Toy Service on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Please bring toys, books or games that are new or in excellent condition. Here is a chance to buy or sort out unwanted toys your children have grown out of or not played with any more. These will go to the Family Resource Centre, close to the Church. They are run by Barnet Social Services and they know what gift is suitable for the many children they support. Gifts for babies, toddlers, all age groups would be wonderfully welcome.

With love and prayers,

*Anthea Denham*



## **CHURCH MEETING - 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022**

Opened in Prayer

Attendance: 11 members, plus 4 attendees. Apologies from Clare

Minutes of the last meeting(24/07/22) in the Sept newsletter. Accepted

Amendment to minutes April 21, donation in memory of B Gibbins £500 x2 which was used to part pay for the livestreaming equipment.

22<sup>nd</sup> November the application for Grove Road will be heard for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. Prayers that it is on the agenda, discussed and that it is positive so that we can start the development. Prayers were said.

Finance – Mary now has access to the bank account! Mary and Ruth are working on the accounts.

Application for membership by Patricia Balogun – a wonderful warm and welcoming person, upbringing in Nigeria, and living here with family, asked about her understanding of membership, her Christian upbringing. Diana and Sue recommend for membership. Unanimous vote to accept.

Coffee morning - £342.80 raised for Macmillan. Thanks to Anthea for organising. HAB – sent a certificate of thanks for harvest donations.

Christmas – tweaked the services plan – 4<sup>th</sup> December Parade and Toy service at 11am, additionally Bereavement Service at 4pm.,

11<sup>th</sup> Dec, morning communion, with carol service in evening at 4pm.

17<sup>th</sup> December Advent Craft Café, 10am.-12pm. 18<sup>th</sup> Normal Sunday,

24<sup>th</sup> Christingle at 4pm, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas day service at 11am.

Question asked whether we should remove red ribbons in church. Keep for now as with Winter cold/flu/Covid, NHS could be under strain, not as serious, but still an issue.

6<sup>th</sup> November Rev. Edwin Quildan preaching, please continue to attend.

Reminder of Remembrance Sunday on 13<sup>th</sup> November at 10.45am.

Meeting ended with Prayer said by Ruth.

## **WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT**

There are uncertainty and anxiety about things presently. We are still struggling with the trauma of Covid-19 which is on the rise once more. There is also the disappointment of shelving plans due to rising inflation, increasing mortgage and rental fees, as well as the forthcoming stealth taxes. We are anxious about how to pay for food, utility bills, and other essentials with limited funds.

It will therefore not be surprising that we struggle to focus on God's goodness or to thank Him for His love with the various uncertainties around us. Whatever pain, anxiety, or disappointment you are carrying, take it to our Lord God in prayer. Jesus Christ is our refuge and the present help for those who choose to trust Him. Remember to praise and thank Him always. We will yet rejoice and be glad in Him.

### **Psalm 5:11-12 (NLT)**

But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;  
let them sing joyful praises forever.  
Spread your protection over them,  
that all who love your name may be filled with joy.  
For you bless the godly, O LORD;  
you surround them with your shield of love.

*Ola Lawal*

It's good to hear that our monthly Newsletter has been passed on by some of our readers and reached other friends. As we have said before, it's always great to hear from anyone and receive all your news.

Remember that you can also view the monthly Newsletters 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.