

***DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH AND
CROSS STREET CENTRE ST ALBANS***



Minister: Rev Simon J Carver, MA, BSc, - simoncarver@btinternet.com

Associate Minister: Rev. Jonny Fillis jonnyf87@aol.com

Church Secretary: Chris Penn

Finance Deacon: Trevor Oakley

Property: Ray Saunders

Site Manager and Caretaker: David Hobbs

Cross Street: 01727 846891

Bookings: booking@dsbc.org.uk/01727 568162

Charity Registration Number: 1127791

FEBRUARY SERVICES

	10.30 am	6.30 pm NB in Room 3 unless otherwise stated
February 3rd	<i>The Challenge to Love</i> I Corinthians 13:1-13 Communion	<i>Church in the Cafe</i> <i>BMS in Asia</i> Roger Pearce NB 4.00pm with tea and cake
February 10th	<i>A message received and passed on</i> I Corinthians 15:1-11	<i>What was that all about?!</i> Luke 5:17-26
February 17th	<i>If Christ is not raised, our faith is in vain</i> I Corinthians 15:12-20	<i>Choosing the Hard Road</i> Luke 6:17-26 Communion
February 24th	<i>New, immortal and imperishable</i> I Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50	<i>Testimony Evening</i>

Notes for all sermons are available online at www.dsbc.org.uk or from the minister in person

Dear Friends,

At the time of writing these notes, Christmas is only just over, but already the mince pies and Christmas puddings have been re[pl]aced on the supermarket shelves by hot cross buns and Easter eggs. But maybe the shopkeepers are right, as Christmas and Easter *can* fall at the same time.



Some Eastern Orthodox Church use a different calendar from the rest of the world. They still use the system of dates that was invented by Julius Caesar and so although they celebrate Christmas on December 25th, it's January 7th in our calendar.

Epiphany is traditionally the time when we remember the coming of the Wise Men to visit Jesus and in some Churches this is treated as an eight day festival which finishes on January 13th – that's January 26th if you're Russian Orthodox.

The date on which Lent starts is calculated by winding back 40 days from Easter Sunday which is calculated by a very complicated formula. The rule is that Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the 14th day of the lunar month that falls on or after the vernal equinox – 21st March. To save the bother of actually looking at the moon, the people who work out these things use an 'ecclesiastical' Moon – whatever that is!

The latest date on which the end of Epiphany – Ash Wednesday – can fall is March 10th – or March 23rd if you're Russian Orthodox. The earliest date that Easter can fall on is 22nd March, and so Easter and Christmas can happen at the same time.

The last date in the Church calendar that is measured from December 25th occurs on 2nd February – Candlemas – the day on which church candles were blessed. It also marks the Presenta

tion of Christ in the Temple as it is the day on which many Christians remember that Jesus was taken there by Mary and Joseph, where they thanked God for the birth of their child.

I like to think of this as the end of the Christmas story. The story suggests that both Simeon and Anna were elderly people. Simeon was a priest to whom God had promised that he would see God's Messiah before he died. Anna was 84, and had been a widow for many years. She was a prophetess and she now lived in the temple and worshipped day and night. They were there when Jesus was brought to the temple, and it was Simeon who made the sacrifice of thanksgiving as the law prescribed. He held Jesus – God's Messiah – in his arms and he thanked God that he had been chosen to for this honour. Anna was there at that same time and she too thanked God for her part in His plan.



So the story of the coming of Jesus is complete. The shepherds have returned to the hills,, but God still had something in store for these two elderly people. Simeon and Anna, coming to the end of their lives, were perhaps wondering if they would live to see God work in them again. But these two, so faithful to God, were chosen to be present when God's Son first came to the temple, this special place of worship.

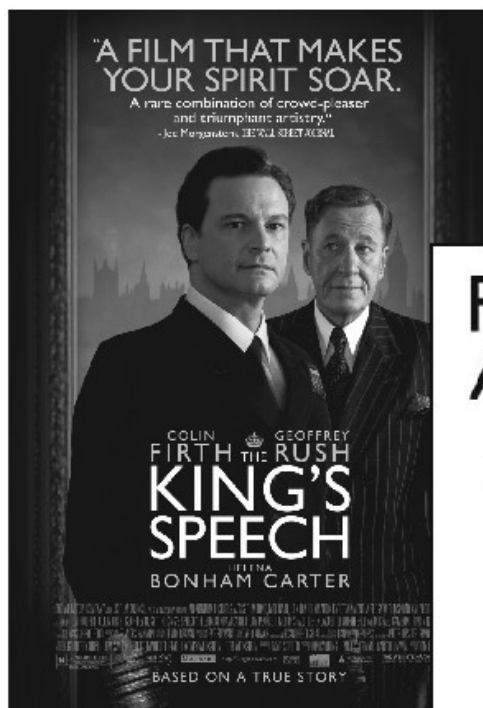
The God we worship is the God of surprises who calls some very strange people to be the people whom he wants to be his friends. And we should

never be surprised when Jesus asks us to follow in his foot-steps.

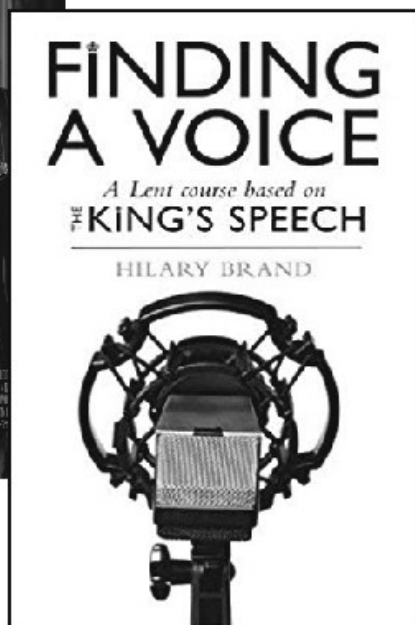
Best wishes,

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**Cross Street
Centre
Dagnall Street
Baptist Church**



Lent Course 2019

Tuesdays

12th March – 9th April

10.30am and 8.00pm

Pastor's News

A brief update on a number of items that might be of interest to the congregation and the wider readership of the magazine.

Bible Study

Our monthly Bible Study will take place on **Tuesday 12th February** at 10.30am in the Cross Street Centre.

We will be looking at one of the hard passages in Scripture! All are welcome.



Lent Study Groups

These will begin on **12th March** and will take place weekly at 10.30am and 8.00pm in the Cross Street Centre. This year's studies will be based on the book, *Finding a Voice: A Lent Course on the King's Speech*. We are expecting that at least one other St Albans church will be running the course and so if these times are not convenient there may be other opportunities to join in.

Church in the Café – 4th February 4.00pm



At this month's session we will be welcoming Roger Pearce, who is the BMS Regional Leader for Asia. Our two BMS missionary partners, the Dreads and Judy Cook, are both working in Asia and it will be good to get an overview of

BMS's work in this continent.

Next month, in our Church in the Café slot on **4th March**, we are expecting a visit from Brian Kurton of **Tools With a Mission** (TWAM).

Testimony Evening – 24th February 6.30pm

On the last Sunday in February, our evening service will be an opportunity for us to share our experience of God in the past,

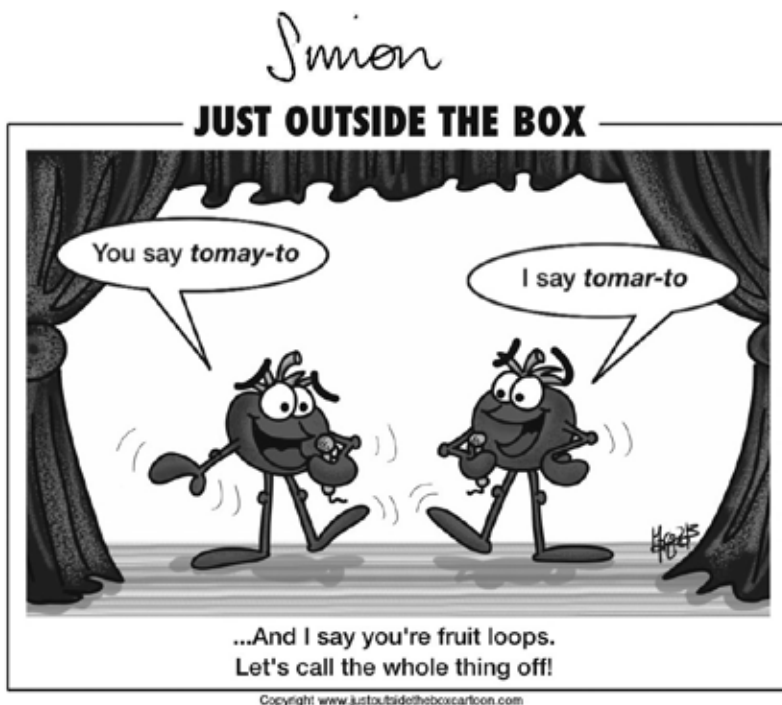
but especially in the here and now. If anyone would like to share a testimony and/or a song suggestion please speak to me as soon as possible.

2019 Church Directory

Members of the church will be receiving or have already received the 2019 directory. The new GDPR legislation means that personal data needs to be handled carefully. With this in mind we suggest that your old directories are **not** put out with your paper recycling. If you would like to dispose of your old directory, please return it to your deacon.

Room Bookings

Our church rooms are being used more than ever by community groups. This is a good thing, but it means that if we need to book rooms for our church activities we need to do so in good time to ensure that there is availability. If you need to book a room, please ask Danny Smith at least two weeks ahead.



A service of Prayers for healing

I wonder what comes to mind when you hear the phrase 'faith-healing'? If you are anything like me, you are picturing a white American man shouting something about the Name of Jesus whilst laying hands on an individual in a wheelchair... with perhaps a phone number in the bottom of the screen which you can ring to donate and support the 'ministry.' You might be tempted to laugh at the scene if it didn't seem borderline abusive. It is easy to write the whole idea of healing off as dangerous fringe nonsense belonging to another time.



And yet, when I pick up my Bible and read the stories of Jesus' they are full of examples of Jesus healing the sick and the troubled. And I don't have to read too much further before I find commands for Jesus' followers to do the same. On top of the rather straightforward command, my faith means that I believe two basic truths; that God is love and that God is involved in creation. How could this God not want to heal our wounds? This God wants us whole and fully alive.

So, as a follower of Jesus what am I to do? As a minister in the church of Jesus Christ how do I respond to this command? It must be our goal to make the church a place of healing. This can undoubtedly be done in a variety of ways, but surely one of those should be to create a spacious, peaceful, prayerful environment where people can share their hurts and their anxieties. If such a space of prayer is created, I trust that we might experience God's presence to tend to our wounds.

So that is exactly what we will be doing on Sunday 10th February from 6:30pm as we hold a reflective service of Prayers for Healing. If you would like the opportunity to be prayed for please do come along.

Jonny

I'll Keep You In My Prayers

*When you were a baby;
I held you all so close.
I kissed your little cheeks;
I kissed your little nose.*

*I taught you how to sing.
I held you on the swing.
I taught you how to pray.
I taught you many things.*

*When you were a toddler;
As cute as you could be.
I taught you the bible;
You sang Jesus loves me.*

*On your first day of school;
I hugged you, oh so tight.
A tear ran down my cheek;
I prayed you'd be alright.*

*When it was time to sleep;
I'd lay beside of you.
I'd talk about Jesus;
Until our time was through.*

*When you became a tween;
Sometimes I felt afraid.
I'd lay in bed at night;
I prayed and prayed and prayed.*

*"Lord please protect my child;
Help her make the right choice.
The Lord heard my prayers;
I would sing and rejoice.*

*Then there were your teen years;
You made some choices then;
That were not very wise;
But soon you turned from them.*

*I never ceased to pray;
That the Lord would shield you.
I prayed from day to day;
That He would strengthen you.*

*Now you are a woman;
You're living for the Lord.
You are heavens blessing;
I pray you'll touch the World.*

*With God's love and kindness;
With gentle hands that give.
But yet standing strong;
And willing to forgive.*

*Thank-you for the blessings;
Throughout these many years.
You are full of sunshine;
I'll keep you in my prayers.*

Susan V Nikitenko
copyright
February 15th, 2012



Dagnall Street Gets Even Messier...

One of the highlights of 2018 for me was standing in our church car park as the rain came down on a cold December Saturday morning. I know that doesn't sound too promising but, on this particular Saturday we had transformed our carpark into a Living Nativity. So alongside me in the wet and the cold was a donkey, some goats, a few chickens and a dog and lots of visitors. It was our Christmas Messy Church and a great time was had by all.

But I was left with one burning question... How can we get even messier? I knew we couldn't keep bringing animals along, not if we wanted those in the charge of our buildings to keep talking to us, so there was only one answer... We would have to do more Messy Churches.

It is now 2019 and I am up to my eyeballs in mess as we plan for Messy Church events on the 19th January, 16th Feb and the 16th March. In January we will be looking at this Messy creation, in February we will be hearing about a Messy Ark, and in March we will think about a Shepherd who looks after the mess. All events will kick off in the lower hall at 10:30am with a



mix of crafts and games before moving up to the church to tell our story (with a parachute) and then finishing off with a light lunch together, hopefully, all done by 12:30pm.

2019 is looking like a very messy year indeed and we hope you and your children, grandchildren, neighbours and friends will join us for, at least, some of it!

Jonny



February 2019

PASTORAL TEAM

The Ministers, Simon and Jonny, and members of the Pastoral Team are always happy to make appointments to visit, talk or pray with you. This can take place in your home, at Cross Street or at our homes at your convenience and at mutually convenient times.

Marjorie and Leslie Jones (01727 841845)), Jill Potter (07779 797928), Liz Blight (07884 431051) and Sue Owen (01727 867784) are also active members of the Pastoral Team.

Simon, Jonny and the team hope you will notify them of anybody who you think may be ill, lonely or who needs help.





PASTORAL PRAYERS

The following people are in need of our prayers:

Elsbeth (who has been very poorly) and Simon and Catriona and all the family.

Eileen Wills who has been in hospital for sometime but had hoped to come home in the middle of this month, but has now had yet another setback.

Brian and Judy Pendle.

Quite a few of our congregation have suffered. or are still suffering the various nasty bugs floating around, and several are waiting for treatment, or enduring it. We think of them and hope they will feel God's loving presence. Many of us have been so thankful to be aware of the prayers of the church fellowship and others.

In the words of a favourite hymn

***"Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken***

***Bind us together,
Lord, bind us together O bind us together with
love.***

***There is only one God. there is only one
King, there is only one body,
That is why we sing.***

***You are the family of God. you are the promise di-
vine,
You are God's chosen desire,
You are the glorious new wine.***

Leslie and Marjorie Jones





WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (A WOMEN-LED, GLOBAL MOVEMENT)

Friday 1st March 2019

‘Come – Everything is Ready’

Everything is ready and the invitation is for everyone to join in this Day of Prayer. Women of Slovenia have prepared this year’s service. They encourage us to reflect on the challenges they have faced when their country was part of Yugoslavia and their hopes since 1991 when modern Slovenia became independent.

Slovenia is a small country, roughly the size of Wales, with a population of just under 2 million people. But it is a land of great beauty with a variety of scenery. The churches of Slovenia held their first Day of Prayer in 2000.

Do join us this year at one of our local services:

Friday 1st March

10 am St Leonard’s, Sandridge (Note change of time)

2.30 pm St Stephen’s Church

Christine Boot





Invitation to the Feast

The invitation is given, COME:

Children

Older folk

Middle-aged

Everyone.

However, excuses are made with
precision.

Exclusion is chosen instead of
inclusion.

But the invitation is extended with
power and grace,
Through God's spirit to every heart.
May there be no foolish excuses.

Father God, shake us out of
complacency to do our part,
To share your heart, your love, and
tell of your forgiveness.

May we sense the urgency to share
your invitation,
With family, friends and neighbours,
And invite them to our community
and to the feast.

The invitation is given, COME:

Children, Older folk, Middle-aged,

Everyone.

No matter where you have been
Or what you have done,
The Lord invites YOU, he says COME.

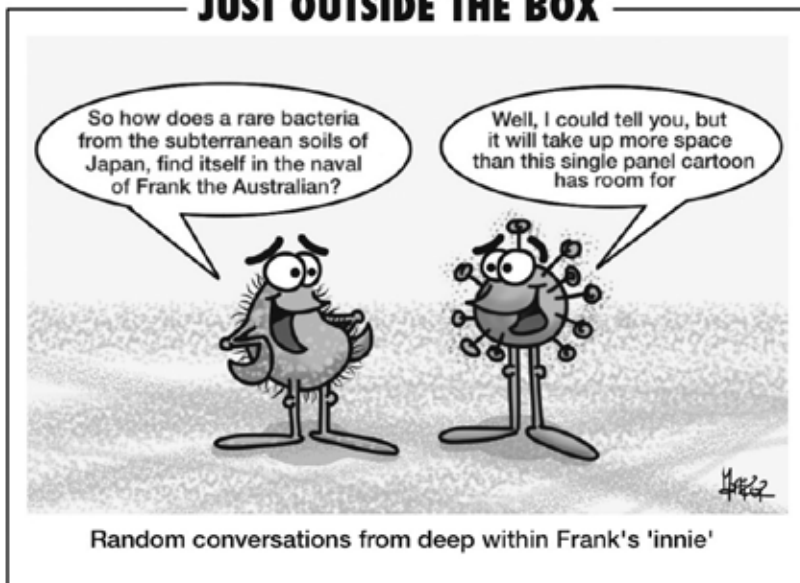
Louise Bowes

Parking Permits 2019

New permits will be available from Sunday
3rd February.



JUST OUTSIDE THE BOX





**THANK YOU
FROM CAROLINE**

A heartfelt thank you to all at Cross Street Centre. I've had a lot of fun and laughs during the last ten years with all the staff/volunteers/customers.

Anything from like the time when Sue had a huge hairy spider run all the way up her trouser leg, that was hilarious! Don't worry it was released unharmed. I wasn't very helpful though as all I could do was laugh. One Christmas, Hulse very kindly gave us a big tub of quality street to share. So both John Mills and myself proceeded to eat the entire contents in one afternoon and that takes some doing. Each year I would seasonally insist that Carole and myself dress appropriately for Christmas and Easter. That meant us dressing up as Easter Bunnies, Christmas Princesses or Rudolph the Reindeer.

Laura our friend from America taught Carole and myself to speak fluent Texan, with the correct twang. Once the accent was perfected by reading from the translation book and speaking Texan all day long we were then taught how to pronounce Jalapeño properly before very slowly learning a few more words in Mexican. You never know when you need such life skills, so thank you Laura. Laura also very kindly brought me back a double bobble hat from the States because I had bobble hat envy after seeing someone looking like Mickey Mouse in their bobble hat.

The cafe is a very special place and means different things for different people. I always thought it was like working in a pub, not that I ever have, but some of the regulars could line up their coffees and orders before they came in and that's really nice. I

love the way the customers ask for either an espresso, Americana, flat white, , mocha, cappuccino, cafe latte, macchiato whatever and I've tried my best to keep a straight face by telling them they can have a dark Colombian cup or mug with or without milk. That's all we do.

I shall not miss the 'Arkwhite Till'. All the till operators are heroes in my opinion. The customers have been lovely, I've even had a rescue hedgehog named after me. My guinea pigs, Cinnamon and Cardamon will miss all the salad trimmings. With myself being surrounded by food all day it has played havoc with my waistline, especially when the volunteers also bring in delicacies on a regular basis for the staff to eat. That has also been lovely, pumpkin pie, apple pie, pecan pie, chocolate brownies, cookies, ginger cake, raspberry cake, you get the idea, pies and cake! I guess my self claimed shelf won't be the same now. For ten years I've put my lunch up there. Jonny says it looks like my own 'Harvest Festival' and he's right.

I have to say thank you to Simon, especially for coming to my rescue When Richard fell down the stairs and broke a rib. Simon very reassuringly drove Richard home when he had finished at the hospital, no fuss he just did it.

A huge thank you to all of you for the company and friendship. Thank you for the beautiful send off at Zizzi, and thank you for the good wishes and gifts. I have been blessed.

God Bless.

Caroline



2019 DSBC Church List

After a lot of effort, the 2019 Church List has been produced to comply with our Data Protection Policy which was adopted on 17th May 2018.

I would like to especially thank Bill Tromans and Danny Smith for their efforts in ensuring our database meets the requirements of these new regulations. Although the 2019 Church List looks remarkably similar to recent versions, albeit updated, the reality is that it's more like the graceful swan gliding effortlessly above the glistening water whilst a lot of furious paddling has been going on beneath the surface, unseen!

The deacons will be distributing copies, and I would politely remind everyone that the data held in the list is confidential, should be treated appropriately, and details not passed on to third parties.

If you notice any detail that is incorrect please advise Bill Tromans, and if you have any concerns or queries regarding the information we hold on you, and how we use it, please speak to our Church Secretary, Chris Penn.

Frank and Ernest



Name: _____

Let's Compare!

Count the snowman and snowballs.



How many
snowmen?

How many
snowballs?

ActivityVillage.co.uk

Now complete these sentences using the words in the box.

one eight fewer nine more

There are _____ snowmen and _____ snowballs.

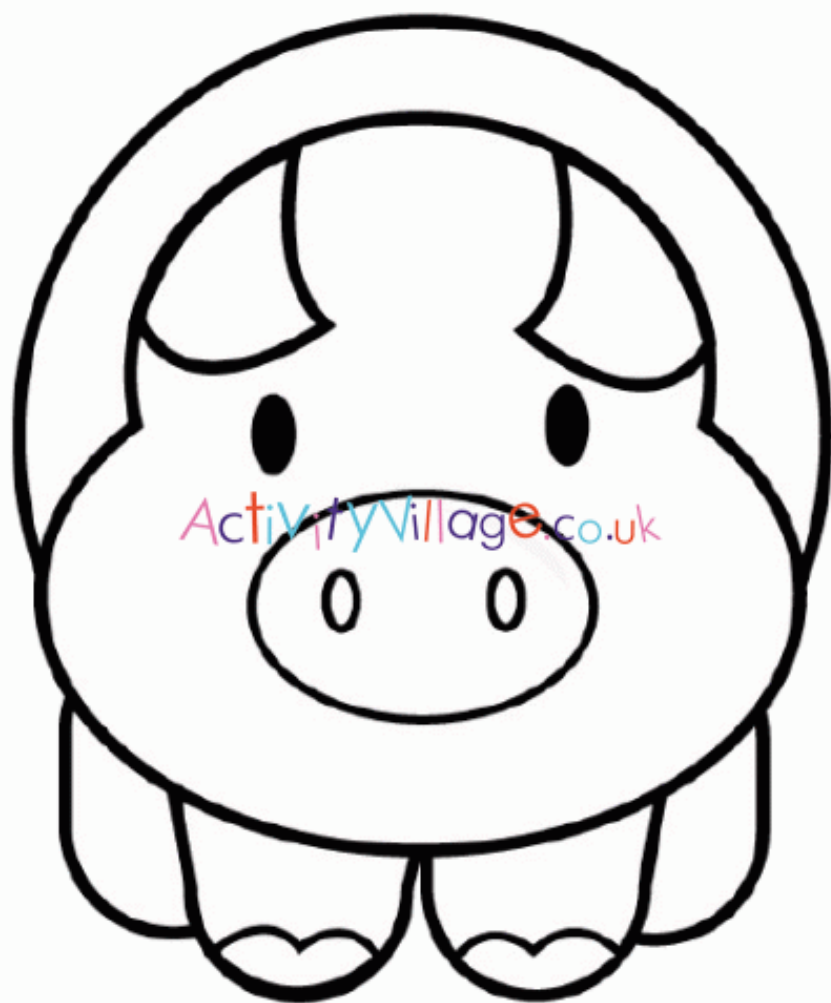
There are _____ snowmen than snowballs.

There are _____ snowballs than snowmen.

How many more? There is _____ snowball.



If there was one more snowball, how
many snowballs would there be?



MISSION NEWS

BMS Day of Prayer – Sunday 27th January 2019

Every year BMS staff in the UK together with mission personnel around the world dedicate a day of prayer - in all its forms. BMS have been really encouraged in previous years by the number of churches and individuals who have joined with them in praying. They hope that many of us will be able to share with them in this special time of prayer again this year, whether on the day itself or at any other convenient time.

We are invited to consider the prayer points below:

1. *“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” (Romans 12: 12)* Pray for wisdom, safety and resilience for our mission workers serving around the world.
2. *“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” (Mark 11: 24)* Pray for encouragement for our partners around the world. Pray that lives would be transformed through their work.
3. *“The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” (Psalm 34: 18)* Pray for those affected by disaster and conflict today. Pray that God will bring peace and stability to their lives.
4. *“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.” (Matthew 5: 14)* Pray for those who offer and receive training at BMS’ training facility. Pray that the growth of the kingdom is served through our work there.
5. *“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” (Colossians 4: 2)* Give thanks for the prayers and generosity of our faithful supporters. Pray that the Lord will continue to bless them.

6. *"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."* (John 10: 10) Pray for opportunities to share faith and for disciples to be made in places where Jesus is not yet known.

2018 Christmas Gift Service

We have received a thank you letter from St Albans and Hertsmere Women's Refuge following the collection of over 85 individual gifts which you so generously gave at the Christmas Family Nativity and Gift Service last December. They write:

"On behalf of the Management Committee, staff and residents, we are writing to express our immense thanks for the very generous donation of Christmas gifts, recently received by us from the Church. Please pass on our gratitude and great appreciation to everyone involved. All Christmas gifts have been distributed to the residents, thank you so much for thinking of us, and for your support of our project."

I think we were all impressed by the visit of Gabrielle and Denise on Sunday 9th December, when Gabrielle spoke to us about her work with the Refuge. (Gabrielle is a Child Support Worker for SAHWR.) It was quite clear from what she said that an immense amount of work is involved in running the refuge and supporting the families, and I was grateful that she agreed to allow some of what she said to be reproduced here for the benefit of us all:

- Over 70% of the refuge population in UK are children under 14.
- Many of these children come into refuge as a result of domestic abuse and as a consequence they are victims of abuse.
- Domestic abuse can affect children through anxiety, restlessness, obsessive and risky behavior, becoming withdrawn or aggressive, self-harming and substance misuse.

Gabrielle's role is to create a support plan for each child and to build rapport with them, getting to know them as individuals and to

- be a “safe” person for them.
- When appropriate she carries out protective behavior sessions allowing the children to explore their feelings, emotions, worries, and to enable them to feel safe.
- Funding has been cut for children living in refuge, but Gabrielle is currently funded by BBC Children in Need.
- In order to provide essential and necessary equipment and days out for the children, she set up a fundraising page on Just-Giving and was overwhelmed with the generosity received. There are many difficult and hard to handle aspects of building relationships with these abused children, but to quote Gabrielle, “If all I do in a day’s work is to give a child a cuddle that they need or making them belly laugh then it’s a day’s work well done.”

Planned Mission Giving & BMS Partners

Mission Grants to the following organisations were sent out at the end of last year:

Manipur Trust; Bible Society; Regent’s Park Baptist College; Central Baptist Association; Step; Centre 33; Open Door; Fund for the Future; UNLOCK; TWAM; Knit for Peace; Living Room; FEED, Herts Syrian Families; Saltmine; Release International.

We also sent a gift to our BMS Partners the Drew family:

*“Warm greetings from the Drews! Hope you are doing well and have had a good Christmas. We wanted to thank you for the generous Amazon voucher from friends at Dagnall Street. Please will you pass on our thanks? As we prepare to move back to the UK in the summer, there are bound to be lots of things we need to start gathering, so it will soon be put to good use.
With our love,
Debbie, Chris, Rebekah, Sam, Tabea and Josh”*

They have also recently sent a newsletter:

“Dear Friends, Happy New Year!

Chris's News:

Losing his father at a young age, being separated from his brothers and raised by extended family cannot have been easy for Krishna, a new INF leader that Chris is working closely with. In his teens, Krishna was able to re-join his brothers in the city and, through contact with staff at a Christian school, all three of them started to follow Jesus. These struggles with poverty, family breakdown and yet finding hope in Jesus have given Krishna a longing to see his country impacted and the lives of its people changed. He feels called by God to the work of INF which aims to bring life in all its fullness to Nepal and its people. It's exciting for Chris to be able to focus his efforts on supporting and encouraging Krishna and the rest of the leadership team. Please be praying for him as he faces many challenges each day - finding the right people, building a team, funding the work, dealing with the Government of Nepal... It has been a real encouragement to us that another expat has been appointed to take over Chris' role supporting INF leaders. Thank you for your prayers for that; we hope you are encouraged too. Chris is now able to focus on getting everything in order before we head to the UK at the end of June.

Family News:

We decided at short notice to make a trip to the UK after Christmas as, sadly, Debbie's nephew Freddie who has been battling cancer since 2015 has had a serious relapse. We would appreciate your prayers for the family as the coming months look very challenging for our wider family. 2019 will be a big year for the Drews as we finish our work in Nepal and relocate to the UK. We will need much wisdom as we prepare for all the changes ahead. Many thanks for your continuing support and prayers.

with love from Chris, Debbie, Rebekah, Sam, Tabea and Joshua

We also received a recent, (December), news letter from our other BMS Partner, Judy Cook in Thailand:

Dear all

May I take this opportunity on behalf of myself, CAM staff and Hope Home staff and children to wish you a very happy Christmas and wonderful times of sharing the Good News of His birth with friends and family. I am not quite sure where the time last month and this month went, but it did. CAM work has been busy as ever and especially all around the World AIDS Day(s) since many events took place over several days. It is good to unite with other organisations as well as church-based groups to continue to raise the awareness about HIV and AIDS. Unfortunately, I missed most of the events this year since Joy was back in hospital with lung problems again.

The Action Team left us to go to Uttradit with other BMS colleagues but we enjoyed their company until nearly mid-November. They are a wonderful team full of love for the Lord, fun, energy and enthusiasm and I am sure they are being a huge blessing to all they meet there too in the same way as they were here with us at Hope Home. They are passing through Chiang Mai towards the end of the month so it will be good to see them again.

Hope Home remains in the same limbo stage with regard to registration and to the adoptions – harsh lessons in patience taking place. Meanwhile the children remain active and happy and involved in their schools activities and home care activities. All have been well besides Joy who just finished a 12 day stint in hospital again – but we are happy to have her home in time for all the Christmas celebrations. Yesterday we all joined with the government university physiotherapy department for their Christmas day out – this year we went to a dinosaur park and the children loved it. There are life size dinosaur models which roar when you move past them, and real live sheep, horses and pigs all eager to be fed. We all had a lot of fun and the staff get to have a little rest to take photos etc. since the physio students take on a child each!!! Saturday we sadly say farewell to Helen, our visiting Physiotherapist who has dedicated a year working with us. She will be missed heaps but has helped us immensely to improve our physio methods with the children and

leaves us much to work with. We wish her well in whatever next entails! Then before Christmas day itself we also have a staff training day for all the staff to help them adjust to loss and transition, a network group of non-government organisations using Hope Home as a host for their meeting, a school concert for Gai, Bow and Amos to attend, community church Christmas play involving Phil and Bow and our own community Christmas party too. (Add into this mix two events at CCT and CAM for Christmas and a trip to Bangkok for Union Language School Board). In the midst of such busyness pray that we remember the reason for Christmas and keep our focus on Jesus and His saving grace.

Also in November we had the retreat for CCT mission workers as well as an earlier retreat for TBMF workers – they were both lovely times of teaching and fellowship and a welcome break.

Wishing you and your family a very happy Christmas. Thank you for the greetings received already.

Much love and prayers

Judy

Church in the Café - First Sunday 4pm – February, March & April

Each of these events will have a mission theme as well as tea and cake!

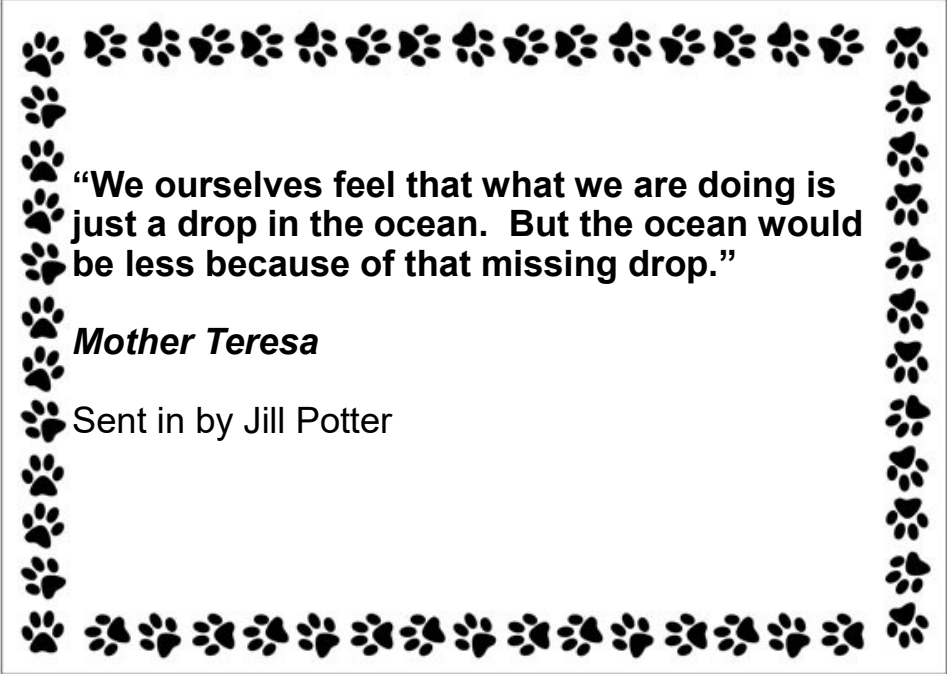
Sunday 3rd February at 4pm, Roger Pearce will be our speaker. He comes as BMS Regional Leader for Asia, a post he has held for the past 15 months prior to which he was a director of the GDQ school in Tirana, Albania, where our previous BMS partners the Anderson's taught.

Sunday 3rd March at 4pm, we will be hearing from Brian Kurton of Tools With A Mission. TWAM is a Christian charity sending tools

across the world. Started over 30 years ago they have recently begun to support local charities here in the UK. We have supported them through tool collections and giving for many years.

Sunday 7th April at 4pm, we will be welcoming David Aston from Release International, an interdenominational Christian Ministry working through local church partners in more than 25 countries, who help persecuted Christians prayerfully, pastorally and practically, and whose ministry is based on Hebrews 13 v 3: 'Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.'

Chris Penn



"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."

Mother Teresa

Sent in by Jill Potter



Patent Pothole Patcher

Do you need a special gift
A good but handy size
For you or for a loved one
Well here's what I'd advise

We're told that Christmas is a time
To make the highways straight
To level mounds and valleys
Before it is too late

But this is such a daunting task
There's something you can do
Invest in our new product
And mend the roads near you

The patent pothole patcher
Is simply what you need
All your expectations
It really will exceed

It's time to make a difference
Restore some civic pride
Our starter pack can fill a hole
That's half a metre wide

It comes with everything you need
Our special filling mix
A trowel, a jug for water
And a couple of long sticks

Safety is important
Your pack includes a kit
Hard hat, some gloves and goggles
With a universal fit

A bagful of loose chippings
Will finish off your task
Then all of your equipment
Stows neatly in a cask

Next admire your handiwork
After all your pains
Knowing that its perfect
At least until it rains

But in inclement weather
I'm afraid you'll find
All your efforts washed away
The basis undermined

And so it often is in life
We work and think we've won
Only to discover that
The ground we gained has gone

We need a firm foundation
A rock on which to build
And someone there to help us
So that the hole stays filled

There's only one can do this
A child but yet a king
Emmanuel God with us
His wholeness He will bring

And if we will accept Him
We'll have a brand new start
His love will fix the potholes
In the valleys of the heart

The wilderness and desert
Shall spring with life again
The rough shall be made level
And the rugged places plain

As light breaks through the darkness
We'll see our hope restored
And we will live forever
In the Kingdom of our Lord



Megan Thompson 2018



I would like to thank everyone for their love, concern and prayers over the last three months

It is still uncertain when I will be able to walk again but with intense physiotherapy I hope it won't be too long before I'm back at Dagnall Street.

Wishing you all a very happy and blessed new year

Eileen



Herts Baptist Prayer Link

Firstly may I wish you all a joyful New Year with many blessings as the weeks unfold and fulfilment in ministry that you are undertaking in your churches and communities.

Many churches are looking at the "fruitfulness indicators" to help them in their ministry and mission, and it would be good to pray for them, and Colin Pye and I who are helping them in that.

As I go round the churches, particularly preaching, I would #appreciate your prayers for God's word to be heard and for me as I chair the Association Council that I would guide discussions and thoughts about our future work and purpose with wisdom and integrity.

***God bless you all.
Rev. Carol Murray – Moderator***

***6th January: Abbots Langley Baptist Church, -
Lay Pastor Paul Brooks.***

We give thanks for the blessings of the previous year. Connecting with the community with collections for the local food bank, the homeless and other projects. We now have a Kiddywinks Cafe and soft-play during the week. Sadly many of our older members have found the last year a difficult one, with falls or illnesses. We should not forget those who sit frailly amongst us, that they too when in their prime, served God and fellowships in so many ways. They have greeted and kept the doors of all our respective churches open over the past decades, faithful to Gods kingdom. May they now enjoy the fruits of rest in their favourite seats on Sundays and our respect for their faithful service unto our Lord. Please keep us all in your prayers.

13th January: *Chipperfield Baptist Church, - Vacant.*

We thank God for the hope and encouragement that we have received in our interregnum from visiting preachers and friends. We pray that God will give the leadership team, of more mature years, health and strength to carry on with making plans for the future of God's church, here in Chipperfield. That our congregation will continue to grow in spirit and number. That we should pray for people working for charities which are helping those less fortunate than ourselves and to remember to put others' needs before our own.

20th January: *Tilehouse Street Baptist Church, - Rev, Jane Robson.*

We give thanks for the baptism of a young man and the reception into membership of four friends on December 2nd. We look forward to celebrating our 350th anniversary in mid – March.

We praise God for His faithfulness over the years and trust Him for His continuing guidance in the future. Please pray with us as we seek to find ways to make contact and build relationships with our neighbours, especially those who will be moving into newly built accommodation for the elderly.

27th January: *Walsworth Road Baptist Church, - Rev. Andrew Henton Pusey.*

We give thanks for:

- 150 years of faithful and creative life that our church family has shared;
- two years of youth worker Helen's enriching and creative contribution (including a faith-based youth group in double figures again);
- the recent appointment of Janet as short-term church worker, to assist with pastoral care and outreach;

- opportunities to learn and to explore in faith, including the Bible Course run during the autumn with over 20 people attending each week, and our newest small group O2Q (Open to Questions);
- our twinning relationship with Tur'an Baptist Church, Israel - three of us visited for a long weekend in October - and our support for Good News Church in Lezhe, Albania (which has included sending finances to help with the construction of their new church building, and personnel to assist with their summer holiday clubs).

We seek God's blessing upon:

- Helen and husband James who are expecting their first child in May;
- Janet as she joins our team, but as she seeks God's guiding for her future;
- the multiple features of our 150th anniversary celebrations in terms of programme, projects and preachers, and their lasting value as an ongoing witness to the gospel of Jesus in our neighbourhood.

3rd February: Marshalswick Baptist Free Church, - Rev. Graham Clark.

We praise and thank God for the continuing success of our Thursday Afternoon 'Community Link' which has around 40 visitors every session. It has been great to see some visitors become regular worshippers or attending other midweek Activities. We would value your prayers for the rebuilding of our children's work which has been in decline recently and for the continued fund raising for Project 50. We praise God for the £100,000 raised so far and pray for the £119, 000 still required.

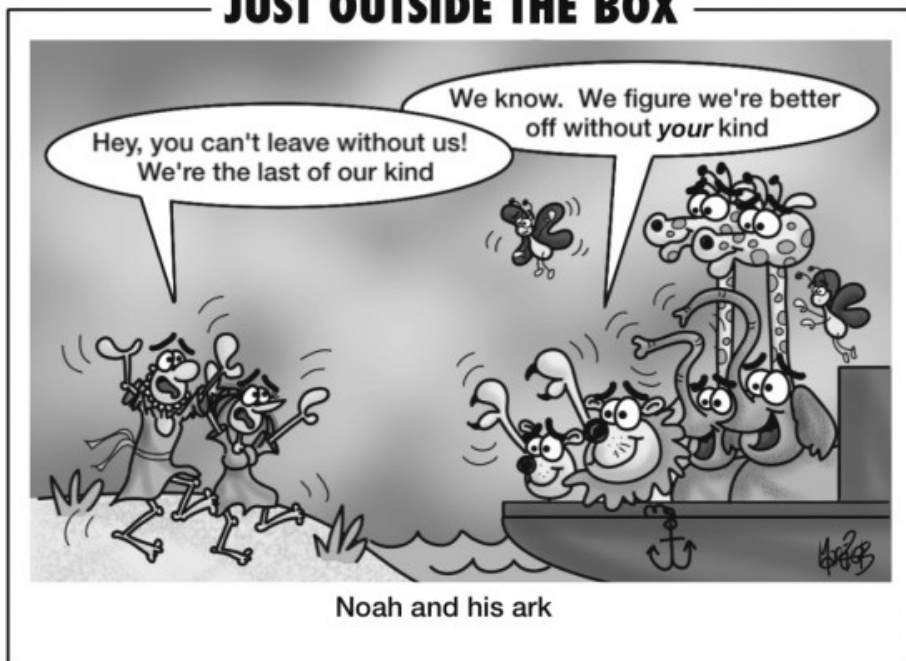
10th February: Life Church, Cuffley & Potters Bar, - Vacant.

The leadership team consists of 2 elders and a deacon all of whom are volunteers, regrettably we are not in a position to do so for the next issue.

17th February: Great Ashby Community Church. - Rev. Laura Gimeno.

We're starting to further develop our community engaging. Thank God for the opportunities we had last year. Pray that we'll know God's leading as we take this move forward and for the encouragement and willing volunteers to get involved more in 2019. Getting helpers & leaders for our church's Sunday School groups is still a very big challenge. Pray for more helpers to come forward. Pray for our 'Life Explored' course and that more folk will discover the happiness that God has for them.

JUST OUTSIDE THE BOX



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February 2019



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

19th—Chris Penn

Dear Lord

Renew our hearts and minds daily, so that we may speak word of compassion, goodness and kindness. Let our words be a true reflection of our hearts that are based on your love and mercy.

Amen

This is a prayer from “Fresh from the Word” (IBRA notes) May 2018 reflecting on Mark 7:1-23

Happy Birthday Chris and to all those who have a birthday in February.

Linda Williams

PS Don't forget to put your Christmas stamps in the box in the vestibule.



The Big House Heist

The clock struck in the distance
They knew the hour was nigh
They moved to their positions
Dark shapes against the sky

A mansion loomed before them
Swirling in the mist
The leader flashed a signal
From the watch upon his wrist

Then from every bearing
There came an answering gleam
And soon he could determine
The position of his team

They waited in the shadows
Until his light appeared
Then very circumspectly
Towards him they all steered

They had to be effective
And stop a daring plan
Some artwork would be stolen
And hidden in a van

Everyone wore coats and hats
And these were oversize
They had their police equipment
And plenty of supplies

They crawled past an outbuilding
They used a torch to see
And carried out surveillance
Whilst hidden by a tree

They saw a gravel pathway
And followed where it led
A gateway and walled courtyard
Were also up ahead

They waited to approach it
As night time slipped away
The pale moonlight faded
With the coming day

They surged up to the mansion
The light was still quite poor
A man in his pyjamas
Met them at the door

He wrapped his robe around him
As though he felt ashamed
For he was fairly certain
That he would now be blamed

For all the priceless treasures
Had vanished in thin air
The paintings on the walls had
gone
And no one quite knew where!
He wrapped his robe around him
As though he felt ashamed
For he was fairly certain
That he would now be blamed

For all the priceless treasures
Had vanished in thin air
The paintings on the walls had
gone
And no one quite knew where!

It seems that Snaffles – the well-known crook and her gang have struck again. Inspector Print and his colleagues have arrived too late to prevent her from getting a good haul. However, the thieves haven't been as smart as they think in making a clean get-away. They have eaten some meals and traces of evidence have been left behind in the discarded packaging. Can you help the inspector to follow the trail of food and drink through the poem before it gets cold? There are 12 words (types of food and drink normally in a supermarket) to find in the verses. The search is on!

If you have time: To cause further confusion the thieves have also let out the animals from the wildlife park. How many can you find hiding in these lines?



Answers on page 50



HOSPITAL AND CLINIC APPOINTMENTS

Sometimes members of our fellowship need help with transport to get to hospital or clinic appointments.

If anyone is able to assist with transport, on occasions, please contact:

Jill Potter
01727 872206
07779 797928
jillcpotter@hotmail.com

Not Lost, But Gone Before

How mournful seems, in broken dreams.
The memory of the day,
When icy Death has sealed the breath
Of some dear form of clay.

When pale, unmoved, the face we loved,
The face we thought so fair,
And the hand lies cold, whose fervent hold
Once charmed away despair.

Oh, what could heal the grief we feel
For hopes that come no more,
Had we ne'er heard the Scripture word,
"Not lost, but gone before"!

Oh, sadly, yet with vain regret,
The widowed heart must yearn,
And mothers weep their babes asleep
In the sunlight's vain return.

The brother's heart shall rue to part
From the one through childhood known;
And the orphan's tears lament for years
A friend and father gone.

For death and life, with ceaseless strife,
Beat wild on this world's shore;
And all our calm is in that balm, -
"Not lost, but gone before."

Oh, world wherein nor death, nor sin,
Nor weary warfare dwells:
Their blessed home we parted from
With sobs and sad farewells:

Where eyes awake, for whose dear sake
Our own with tears grow dim,
And faint accords of dying words
Aye change for heaven's sweet hymn;

Oh, there at last, life's trials past,
We'll meet our loved once more,
Whose feet have trod the path to God-
"Not lost, but gone before."

Hon. Mrs Norton



February 2019

BIBLE STUDY

Every FRIDAY

2pm to 3pm

**In Room 5
Cross Street Centre**

All are welcome

**Further details from Ewen Gilhespy
01707 267682**



When I am afraid,
I will trust in you.
In God, whose word
I praise,
in God I trust; I
will not be afraid.
What can mortal man
do to me?

Psalms 56:3-4



Winter Sudoku



Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters W I N T E R. Don't guess - use logic



I	W			T	N
		R	I		
		N	T		
N	T			E	R






CHURCH & CENTRE ROOM BOOKINGS

To contact Danny Smith regarding Church and Centre room booking enquiries:

Tel: 01727 844348 (new number)
email: bookings@dsbc.org.uk

Monday Table Tennis/ Games Club



We meet every Monday from 10.30am to 1pm in the main hall.

Refreshments available in the Cross St Centre
Cafe

All are welcomed for a time of fun and fellowship



Trevor Oakley

DAYCARE

Daycare meets every Tuesday during school term time, at the Age Concern Centre, St Peters Street. If you know of anyone who would like to come along for lunch and companionship please contact: ***Noreen Gilhespy on email noreen.gilhespy@gmail.com or phone: 07947 029556.***

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

The Fellowship Lunch this month will be held on Thursday, 21st February at 12.30pm in the Cross Street Café.

Everyone is welcome.

Diane Graham



WHO LET THE DAD'S OUT!!



The meeting will take place on Saturday, 9th February in the Lower Hall from 10am to 12pm



KNITTING GROUP

The knitting group will meet on Tuesday, 19th February in Cross Street from 11am—12.30pm and welcomes anyone who would like to join with us. Some bring their own knitting or crochet projects whilst other knit and crochet for the charity 'Knit for Peace'.

Judy Pandal



SCRABBLE CLUB



Scrabble Club will be held on Tuesday 12th and 26th February at 2.30pm in the Cross Street Centre.

***COPY DATE FOR THE MARCH
MAGAZINE
THURSDAY, 14th FEBRUARY 2019***

Where did that time go. Here we are looking at February, January has passed by in a flash.

I am a granny again. Charlie George born in Sydney on 27th December. Everyone doing well.

We had Caroline's leaving do at Zizi last week and it was very nice. A lot of people attended and everyone enjoyed the occasion.

We had our first Messy Church of the year and it was very well attended. It looked like everyone had a good time and enjoyed the lunch after the activities. There is another Messy Church on the 16th February, hope we have a similar attendance.

Thank you all for your interesting pieces that you send in. Haven't yet had any photographs so look through your phone photo albums for anything suitable to go on the front cover.

Glynis

glynis.griffiths1@gmail.com

01462 733665

07709 618571

GO FORWARD!

“Make these two trumpets of silver, for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps.” (Num 10:2)

The year is advancing, and we are carried along with it into the second month. Our church life, through the various organisations, can be likened to companies journeying forward, like the Israelites of old, full of interest, adventure and discipline and going on together. The ‘silver trumpet’ calls repeatedly to worship, to prayer, to advance in the through the ‘place set apart’ on the day particularly set apart—“a port protected from storms that round us rise”. The Nation that heeds not this insistent call, as well as the individual and the individual as well as the Nation, does so at its peril. The call today in our Church life is not because of, or through alarm, but, to continue the theme of the New Year message, to advance into oneness in Christ, making a prepared way in our hearts for Him, and the new Ministry which will commence in God’s appointed time, so that the Word through His messenger may find prepared ground for the enrichment of the spiritual life of our Camp—the Church—corporate and individual and a way into the hearts of those who perhaps only hear the call of the trumpet in times of stress.

The call to advance is—“Come thou with us, and we will do thee good, for the Lord hath spoken”. It may be through response to this call, there will arise in our midst those who in their turn will do us good, and prove a tower of strength in the months and years to come.

The year advances, and we are carried along with it, and it surely is our privilege by earnest prayer, and consecrated endeavour, to seek to further the Kingdom of God in our church and beyond its borders. ‘Forward!’ still our watchword.

REP

Taken from the Church Magazine February 1948

Poem quiz answers

Yam, gin, tea, pear, beef, oats, pasta, soup, ale, jam, ham, rice

Animals - if you have time

Ape, Newt both v 1, Ling v2, Steer v4, Lice v6 line 3. Roach v9,
Hen (lots of these are scattered), Ass and Ram (line 2-3 v10),
Bear (line 1 v 3&11),

1) The clock struck in the distance
They knew the hour was nigh
They moved to their positions
Dark shapes against the sky

2) A mansion loomed before them
Swirling in the mist
The leader flashed a signal
From the watch upon his wrist

3) Then from every bearing
There came an answering gleam
And soon he could determine
The position of his team

4) They waited in the shadows
Until his light appeared
Then very circumspectly
Towards him they all steered

5) They had to be effective
And stop a daring plan
Some artwork would be stolen
And hidden in a van

6) Everyone wore coats and hats
And these were oversize
They had their police equipment
And plenty of supplies

7) They crawled past an outbuilding

They used a torch to see

And carried out surveillance
Whilst hidden by a tree

8) They saw a gravel pathway
And followed where it led
A gateway and walled courtyard
Were also up ahead

9) They waited to approach it
As night time slipped away
The pale moonlight faded
With the coming day

10) They surged up to the mansion
The light was still quite poor
A man in his pyjamas
Met them at the door

11) He wrapped his robe around him
As though he felt ashamed
For he was fairly certain
That he would now be blamed

12) For all the priceless treasures
Had vanished in thin air
The paintings on the walls had gone
And no one quite knew where!

All About Me Alphabet Challenge

Can you come up with a word for each letter of the alphabet that says something about you?



A	_____	N	_____
B	_____	O	_____
C	_____	P	_____
D	_____	Q	_____
E	_____	R	_____
F	_____	S	_____
G	_____	T	_____
H	_____	U	_____
I	_____	V	_____
J	_____	W	_____
K	_____	X	_____
L	_____	Y	_____
M	_____	Z	_____

What, When and Where February 2019

- Saturday 2 Prayer Hour**
10.00am Cross Street Room 5
- Wednesday 6 Free Church Service in the Abbey**
11.00am Doral Hayes, Ecumenical Facilitator, Churches Together in Hertfordshire
- Saturday 9 Who Let the Dads Out?**
10.00am – 12.00pm Lower Hall
- Tuesday 12 Bible Study**
10.30am Cross Street Centre, 8.00pm at the Manse
- Tuesday 12 Scrabble Club**
2.30pm Cross Street Centre
- Saturday 16 Messy Church**
10.30am – 12.30pm Lower Hall
- Tuesday 19 Knitting Group**
11.00am – 12.30pm Cross Street Centre
- Thursday 21 Baptist Fellowship Lunch**
12.30pm Cross Street Centre
- Tuesday 26 Scrabble Club**
2.30pm Cross Street Centre

Regular Events

- Mondays: Table tennis & Games Club** 10.30am – 1.30pm Lower Hall
Tuesdays: (term time) Daycare 10am – 2pm Age Concern St Peters Street
Wednesdays: (term time) Toddlers 9.45am – 11.15am Lower Hall
Fridays: Bible Study 2pm – 3pm Cross Street Centre room 5

Sunday Services

10.30am, with groups for children, every Sunday
4.00pm Church in the Café, 1st Sunday each month
6.30pm remaining Sundays, unless otherwise advertised
(6.30pm services in January and February will be held in Cross Street Centre)
Sunday Communion usually first morning and third evening each month