

The Messenger

Christchurch

Barnstaple

July 2017

www.christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk



July Calendar Dates

1st - Walk for Mercy Ships

2nd- Rejoice

8th - Men's Breakfast

9th - Café Church

23rd - Garden Open Day



Calendar

July 2017

Sun	2nd	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	Communion
		6.30pm	Rejoice!	
Mon	3rd	7.15pm	Elders' meeting	
Thur	6th	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
Sat	8th	8.30am	Men's Breakfast	- speaker Rev John Kendall
Sun	9th	10.30am	Mrs Sue Kendall	
		4.30pm	Café Church	
Mon	10th	7.30pm	Friendship Group at the home of Gill Greenland	
Tues	11th	10.00am	- 12noon 'Sound it Out'	
Thur	13th	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
Sun	16th	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister - Family Service	
		6.30pm	Rev Ruth Whitehead	Communion
Wed	19th	7.00pm	Church Meeting	
Thur	20th	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café - Check first as it's nearly the end of term	
Sun	23rd	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	
		2.30pm	- 5.00pm Garden Open - Ian Allen	see page 14
		6.30pm	Circuit Service - speaker Pastor Kenny	see page 5
Mon	24th	12.30pm	- 1.00pm Friendship Group lunch at Portmore Golf Park	
		2.30pm	4th Monday House Group - info Tricia Kent 324254	
			(No meeting in August)	
Tues	25th	10.00am	- 12noon 'Sound it Out'	
Wed	26th		Holiday Club	
Thur	27th		Holiday Club	
Sun	30th	10.30am	Deacon Joan Cole	
		6.30pm	Oasis	

Some dates for **August 2017**

Please check the weekly notices for information which was not available in time for this edition of the Messenger.

Sat	5th	10.00am	- 12.30pm Coffee Morning with Ronnie & David Wilson	see page 12
Sun	13th	3.00pm	- 5.30pm Church picnic	see page 11
Fri	18th		Last day for items for the September Messenger	
Sun	20th	3.00pm	Circuit Service in celebration of the ministry at Bishops Tawton, followed by a cream tea - look out for more details.	

The Ladies Fellowship and the Friendship Group are now on their summer programme - if you want details of any events please get in touch with the appropriate contact, listed on page 18.

No Two Bridges Café during the school holidays.

The Bible Study Groups may take a break over the summer - if you need details for the Thursday or Friday Groups get in touch with Shirley Baxter, contact listed on page 18, and for the Monday Group, information from Tricia Kent, 4th Monday House Group, as above.

Further ahead:-

Sept	Saturday 30th	6 for 6.30pm	'Harvest Teddies' (For the townies that's jacket potatoes)
Oct	Sunday 1st		Harvest Festival (<i>Please note harvest w/e was previously advertised as September 23rd/24th but has been moved on a week.</i>)
	Saturday 21st		Christ Church Variety Show - see page 9

Message

Dear Friends

It's amazing to think that other than some sketchy stories of Jesus' birth and childhood most of what we are told in the Bible about his life takes place over just a very few short years.

They are years crammed full of activity. Travelling from village to village spending much time preaching and teaching, in Synagogues, on hills and beside lakes, and in people's homes.

We know nothing about what Jesus did before beginning his ministry, perhaps he worked as a carpenter for all that time, perhaps he didn't. Whatever he'd been doing, learning must have been an important part of his life.

Learning from the Law and the Prophets and from the teachers, the Rabbis, of his faith. Learning about God the Father, no, more than that, learning to know God the Father and Mother, the one who loved him and, as he showed through his own life, loved everyone.

I don't know whether you will be travelling long distances in the next couple of months or whether you will be staying with the holiday makers around sunny (I hope) North Devon. Wherever we are I pray that, like Jesus, we will know God travelling with us, teaching us through the experiences we have and through the people we meet.

And I pray that alongside any travelling we may be doing we will find the space and time, as Jesus did, to simply be with God, enfolded in God's loving presence renewed, restored and revitalised.

May God be with us all wherever we are,



Prayers for July

2nd July

I am the stranger seeking a welcome. I am the welcome who greets the stranger. I am the one who recognises the prophet. I am the prophet who speaks a word of truth. I am the receiver of God's love and grace. I am the one through whom God's love shines; with God's grace, I am. Amen.

9th July

Jesus says, 'Come to me you who are weary' – God, grant me the strength to keep going. Jesus says, 'Come to me you who are carrying heavy burdens' – God, grant me the courage to let go of all my worries. Jesus says, 'Come to me and learn from me' – God, grant me the faith to trust in you. Amen.

16th July

Let me hear your words afresh. Let me picture the lone sower scattering seeds. Let me listen to the message with my ears and my heart. Let me understand. Let me bear fruit. Let me be useful to you. Let me do your will. Amen.

23rd July

Lord, may your Spirit lead me into the field to harvest the crops you have sown, planted by those who believe in you, and which grow amid the weeds: a harvest of love and forgiveness, a harvest of hope over despair, a harvest of faithfulness and fruitfulness. Amen.

30th July

God, our God, nothing can separate us from your love, not things in our past, nor things to come. There is nowhere we can go to flee from you, nor can anyone come between us, for your love is with us in life, and through to our life's end. **Amen.**

Prayers for August

6th August

God says: 'Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Why do you spend money on that which is not bread, and labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen to me, eat what is good, and delight in me.' Amen.

13th August

Loving God, you whisper in my ear, when all I want to do is shout and scream. You draw me to yourself, when all I want to do is withdraw. You offer me eternal life, when all I want to do is survive. Take my life in your hands and bless me, for I know not always what I do. Amen.

20th August

We pray for those who will go to bed hungry this night,
aching for food and longing for a crumb of comfort...

We pray for those who steal the food of your children,
with overinflated prices and unjust trade...

We pray for those who have to content themselves
with the crumbs under the table of the rich and powerful...

We pray for those who share the bread they have:
wealth, knowledge, help, kindness and compassion...

We pray for those who cry out for bread for all,
and will not rest until the world is fed...

Amen.

27th August

O God, by the grace given to me, help me not to think more highly of
myself than I ought, but to value the God-given life I have within me.
I am one part of the body of your Church, as important as any other to
the work you have given us to do. Show me how to discern the gifts I
have, so that I may play my part. Amen.

You are warmly invited to a

Circuit Service
At Christ Church, Barnstaple
On Sunday 23rd July
At 6:30pm

The invited speaker is

Pastor Kenny

Pastor Kenny and his family are from Pakistan and have recently been
granted asylum here in the UK.

You will hear first hand how and why God has guided Kenny to come to
North Devon.

Marilyn Collins

Has also been invited to speak about the work done by Vision for Asia,
which is based in Braunton.

*An offering at the end of the service will be made for Pastor Kenny and
the family*



SATURDAY 1ST JULY



WALK for MERCY SHIPS along the TARKA TRAIL

Eight - Three or a Stroll by the Sea!

First Stage:

The Puffing Billy, Torrington to The Old Station, Bideford (5 miles)
(Puffing Billy Café opens at 9am. **WALK STARTS at 10am**)

Second Stage:

The Old Station, Bideford to All Saints Chapel and Community Centre, Instow (3 miles)

(The Royal Hotel Coffee Lounge open for drinks if desired)

WALK RESTARTS at 12.30pm from The Old Station

Join us for this part of the walk if you wish to

Instow:

Stroll by the Sea – Coffee, Cake and Chat
All Saints Chapel and Community Centre, Instow from 1.30pm

**The walk is for fun but the challenge is to raise as much as we can
for Rachel's work on the Africa Mercy
(sponsorship and/or donations welcome)**

Transport can be arranged to recover vehicles from starting points
(Also, buses run from Instow to Bideford & Torrington)

For further information contact:

Sally: 07876366619 portland191@yahoo.com

Michael: 07818690845 mchgyle@gmail.com

Gill & Roger: 01271 860768 gillgreenland@yahoo.co.uk

'Thy Kingdom Come' and Pentecost Festival – Thank you so much to everyone who signed up and went to the **House of Prayer** on Tuesday the 30th of May to pray for the **'Thy Kingdom Come Prayer'** initiative. I am certain that you will have found the experience uplifting and encouraging as you prayed for people to come to faith in God through Jesus.

I would like to thank David & Ronnie Wilson, who readily agreed to be stewards at the **Pentecost Festival Service** on the 4th June in the **Pannier Market** - Thank you both.

The **Pentecost** service in the **Pannier Market** was very well attended, several people made a commitment of faith, however, the music was far too loud for most people and the song/hymn choices could have been better.

There is a follow-up meeting soon at which I will express your views so that next year things will be better for all.

Thank you again – Love & blessings – Shirley B.



Christian Aid week. Thank-you for all the support in fund raising this year: the Church collection raised £177.55, the big breakfast £142, and the seven individuals who offered to do door to door collections raised £466.95. Thank you all for supporting Christian Aid's work.

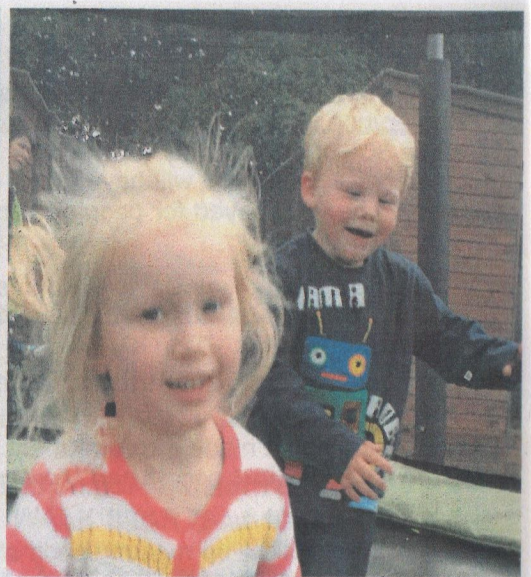
As soon as local churches in Barnstaple & some villages have all sent in their collections to Carolyn, Treasurer, we will let you know the grand total, but know that North Devon will have been generous again this year.

Next year we will be looking at new ways of raising money for this worthwhile charity.

Carolyn and Ronnie.



**Exmoor
Zoo**



Toddlers Praise

**A busy and varied time
for all at the Holiday
Club.**

**It looks like they brought
a lion home with them!**



Café Church

Young Families Work

Families from our Parents and Toddlers group had a wonderful time at Exmoor Zoo. The children were fascinated by the animals and birds and had lots of fun in the playground, particularly enjoying bouncing together on the trampoline! Thank you to Joy and Andy for organising this trip. Lots of special memories will be stored from this day.

Our Pentecost Holiday Club was superb, thanks to all the adult and teen-aged volunteers. The children were keen to talk and pray about those affected by the recent hideous terrorist acts. Children showed much empathy and a strong desire for peace. Please book your children and grandchildren in for our July Holiday Clubs on Wednesday and Thursday 26th and 27th July, which will be themed on 'Jesus Calms the Storm'.

Children from Yeo Valley School will soon be coming to Two Bridges Café (run by Pathfield School) to perform on their flutes and enjoy a snack and drink. The Headteacher will be coming too. We also look forward to a Yeo Valley class of 5 and 6 year olds coming to church for a mock-wedding led by Don on a Wednesday in July. The Open the Book team will be meeting with the 11 year old children to discuss their transition to secondary school and present them with 'It's Your Move' booklets at the end of term. Open the Book assemblies continue to flourish. The team is brilliant – Mike, Maureen, Rosemary, Louise, Pauline, Colin and Anthea.

Christ Church has a reputation for being friendly and welcoming. It is a real pleasure as Young Families Worker to receive ongoing compliments for this on behalf of you all. Thank you so much!

Love and Prayers,

Jo

Events

Variety Show -

The Spice of Life. Saturday 21st October 2017.



Please speak to either Jack Neville or myself by August 1st at the latest, when a decision will be made as to whether the show is viable. Remember, if you do not come forward - then no show.

Andy Morley
(Events Committee Secretary)



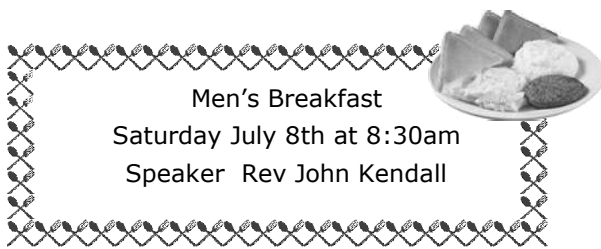


Widows & Orphans
In Rural Kenya

A sincere **Thank You** to All those who came to the Fundraising Meal on 26th May. The amount raised for WORK was £300. Thank You too, to Richard and Pat for the talk

and the pictures, we hope that, at a later date, more people in the Church will have the opportunity to see and hear of all the work taking place in Kenya. Thank You All once again for making this such a successful event.

Elaine & Eff



SAVE THE DATE

It's Picnic Time!

Sunday August 13th 3.00-5.30pm

For all ages

Bring your own picnic

Drinks provided

Good company

Fresh air

Games

Closing prayers

Lifts if required



At Barnstaple Rugby Club

- look out for details



We both wish to say a **big thank you** to all our church friends for the cards, gifts and good wishes given to us on our Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Also a big thank you to Sylvia and the Ladies Fellowship for the surprise tea party at the Park Hotel. Thank you one and all. Pam and Gordon

HOW

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

WORKS



A big **THANK YOU** to **everyone** who played a part in making such a success of Saturday's Step Out for Children and lunch.

The information and results are:-

13 people and 3 dogs walked the long walk.

7 people walked the shorter walk, and 5 people joined us later.

26 people had lunch including the 3 stalwart "kitchen maids"

There were 2 people from the Torridge Circuit, but regrettably no children joined us this year.

The money raised so far is:-

Sponsorship £787.00 but with the gift aid pledged and perhaps a few more donations it can reach £850 !?! Please do pass on the thanks of the Support Group to your sponsors. Lunch, after expenses, and the raffle means that we can put £86.50 in the "local pot".

Again many thanks, and see you next year!

from Meg on behalf of the Circuit A4C Support Group



Events

Coffee Morning on Saturday 5th August at The Haven, Littabourne, Pilton, home of Ronnie & David.
10am-12.30pm. Come and have a coffee and a relaxing chat.

Andy Morley (Events Committee Secretary)





Congratulations.

**Pam and Gordon
celebrated their
Diamond Wedding
Anniversary.**

**Step out for
Children.**

**13 people and 3
dogs venture
forth ...**

**all returned
home safely.**



Variety Show - Oct

**A didgeridoo gets an
airing at the Holiday
Club.**

**If you can play it, why
not show us—we still
need acts to enable the
show to go ahead.**

Tuesday coffee rota

July	4th	Ena, George & Rose	Sept	5th	Wendy, Anne & Gill
July	11th	Tony, Celia & Lorna	Sept	12th	Pam, Rose & Sylvia
July	18th	Sylvia, Pam & Gordon	Sept	19th	Joy & Andy
July	25th	Wendy, Anne & Gill	Sept	26th	Ena, George & Rose
	Aug	1st	Pam, Rose & Sylvia		
	Aug	8th	Joy & Andy		
	Aug	15th	Ena, George & Rose		
	Aug	22nd	Tony, Celia & Lorna		
	Aug	29th	Sylvia, Pam & Gordon		



***Ian Allen plans to open his garden again this summer,
in support of the North Devon Hospice and WORK,
our church charity.***



Garden Open

Sunday 23rd July 2:30pm - 5:00pm

20 Old Bideford Road, Sticklepath



Barnstaple EX31 2DE

Entry £3, under 16s free.



Plants
for
sale









Offers of cakes would be very gratefully received
- please contact Ian




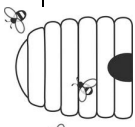
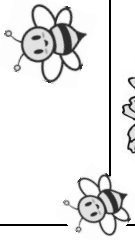



Our family matters




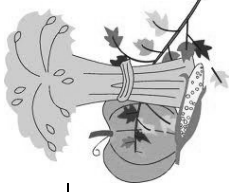

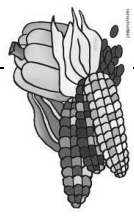

Christ Church Family News

There are many of our church family on the sick list and some house-bound. They are named in the Prayer Book, which is kept in the vestry and used in Sunday services and at prayer meetings.

If you would like your name to be added to the list in the Prayer Book please speak to the duty elder on a Sunday. If you know of someone who is unable to come on a Sunday, but would like their name added, please check with them first as the names in the book may be read out in church.

SUNDAY ROTAS	2nd July	9th July	16th July	23rd July	30th July
Coffee 	Elaine Stevens	Sally Blackmore	Diana Snell	Muriel Symons	Pauline Dawson
Flowers 	-	Gill & Norman Tucker	Pauline Dawson	Chris Punt	-
Projector 	Andy Morley	Gordon Pearce	Jack Neville	Kathy Jeacock	Andy Morley
Preparing Communion Morning 1st Sunday Evening 3rd Sunday	Gordon & Pam Pearce		Liz Seymour		
Serving Communion 	Elaine Stevens Ian Allen Tricia Kent Kathy Jeacock				
Vestry Steward Morning Evening 	Elaine Stevens Eff Poole	Ian Allen Shirley Baxter	Gill Greenland Sylvia Jones	Jack Neville Anthea Coates	Liz Seymour Eff Poole

SUNDAY ROTAS		6th August	13th August	20th August	27th August
Coffee		Gill Tucker	Joy Morley	Pam Topham	Nicola Wilkins
Flowers		Chris & Shirley Punt	Tricia Kent	Anne Roberts	George Hopkins
Projector		David Wilson	Gordon Pearce	Jack Neville	Kathy Jeacock
Preparing Communion Morning 1st Sunday Evening 3rd Sunday		Gordon & Pam Pearce		Ian Allen	
Serving Communion		Ronnie Wilson Liz Seymour Mike Smith Andy Morley			
Vestry Steward Morning Evening		Ronnie Wilson Shirley Baxter	Elaine Stevens Sylvia Jones	Ian Allen Anthea Coates	Gill Greenlan Eff Poole

SUNDAY ROTAS	3rd September	10th September	17th September	24th September
Coffee 	Elaine Stevens	Diana Snell	Sally Blackmore	Muriel Symons
Flowers 	Pauline Dawson	-	Elaine Stevens	Hilary Iley
Projector 	Andy Morley	David Wilson	Gordon Pearce	Jack Neville
Preparing Communion Morning 1st Sunday Evening 3rd Sunday	Gordon & Pam Pearce		Kathy Jeacock	
Serving Communion 	Jack Neville Gill Greenland Celia Huxtable Reg Symons			
Vestry Steward Morning Evening 	Jack Neville Shirley Baxter	Liz Seymour Sylvia Jones	Ronnie Wilson Eff Poole	Elaine Stevens Anthea Coates

Weekly Meetings

Monday		Short Mat Bowling ... contact Mary Biederman tel 373416
10.00am - 12.00 noon		morning session
2.30pm - 4.30pm		afternoon session
7.00pm - 9.00pm		evening session
7.30pm	Friendship group	(2nd & 4th Mondays of each month) contact Rose de la Cour tel 830824
Tuesday		
9.30am - 12.00 noon	Coffee morning	
9.30am	Prayer meeting ...	(except the last Tuesday of each month)
10.30am	Holy Communion ...	(last Tuesday of each month)
5.30pm 6.30pm	Rainbows ...	contact Nicola Wilkins tel 377154
5.30pm - 7.00pm	Brownies ...	contact Nicola Wilkins tel 377154
7.00pm - 8.30pm	Guides ...	contact Eff Poole tel 373543
Wednesday		
1.30pm - 3.00pm	Parents & Toddlers	contact Jo Grant 07450582414
Thursday		
2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship ...	contact Sylvia Jones tel 346607
7.30pm	Bible Study...	contact Shirley Baxter tel 375560
Friday		
10.00am - 12.00 noon	Hobnob coffee morning	
10.30am	Bible Study...	
Saturday		
8.30am	2nd Saturday of each month - circuit event	
	Men's Breakfast	contact Mike Smith tel 345019

All at Christ Church Barnstaple are committed to the following Safeguarding Principles:

- * the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.
- * the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults.
- * the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse. (Methodist Church Safeguarding Handbook 2010)

Sunday Offertory for May 2017

		Cash	Envelopes
May	7th	£	£
	14th	£	£
	21st	£	£
	28th	£	£

An increasing number of people are donating money direct to the Church account by standing order. Currently this offertory is £ per month. Not forgetting, of course, that if you are a tax payer, you can gift aid your offering however it is given.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Christ Church, Barnstaple (Methodist/United Reformed) seeks to be an ecumenical, town centre church, bearing witness to the evangelical and social justice traditions of the Christian faith in its expression of the love of Christ for people of all ages. One church, one faith, one Lord.

*If you are visiting Christ Church today we extend a warm welcome.
Please take a Messenger home with our good wishes.*

Christ Church Minister
Rev Don Macalister
8 Kestrel Way,
Westacott
Barnstaple EX32 8QN

tel. 01271 345313
dasmacalister@icloud.com

Young families worker
Jo Grant

jogrant-christchurch@outlook.com
tel 07450 582414

Elders

Ian Allen	Kathy Jeacock (treas)	Liz Seymour
Shirley Baxter	Sylvia Jones	Elaine Stevens (sec)
Anthea Coates	Jack Neville	Ronnie Wilson
Gill Greenland	Eff Poole	

Telephone Directory (01271)

Church Secretary	as per the Church Directory
Church Treasurer	373555
Room Bookings	343218
Circuit Administrators	379116

Editors:

David Wilson	374020	david.devon@mac.com
Kathy Jeacock	373555	kjeacock@hotmail.com
Website		www.christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk
Circuit website		www.ilfracombe-barnstaplecircuit.org.uk
Email contact to site		webmaster@christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk



Holiday Club Games-Gosh!

Shove Halfpenny was never like that in my day.

Lots of fun was had by all.

Jo commands an audience ...



August Calendar Dates

5th - Coffee Morning

13th- Church Picnic

* No Café Church this month

