

◆ Oasis service 29th Jan-
-see back page

◆ Lent at Christ Church
- see page 4

The Messenger

Christ Church

Methodist URC

Barnstaple

www.christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk

March 2017



◆ Toddler Praise parachute fun
– see role-play wedding and
baptism pictures page 12

◆ Singing in the rain at
Sound it Out - next on
Tuesday 14th 10 am-12



◆ Christ Church Quiz Night
Saturday 11th March 6.30

◆ Read about Ronald Ower a trainee at Kira
Farm Uganda we are sponsoring through
Amigos Charity- pages 8-9



Calendar

March 2017

Wed	1st	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Circuit Service here	see page 4
Thur	2nd	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Sylvia Jones
Fri	3rd	8.00am	- 10.30am Traidcraft Big Brew Breakfast at Fair's Fair	
		2.00pm	Women's World Day of Prayer at Barnstaple Baptist Church	see page 5
Sun	5th	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	Communion
		6.30pm	Rejoice!	
Mon	6th	7.15pm	Elders' meeting	
Thur	9th	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Mr Richard Moore
Fri	10th	7.00pm	'Sing for Your Supper'	see page 6
Sat	11th	8.30am	Men's Breakfast	- speaker Rev Andy Jarvis
		6.30pm	Quiz evening	
Sun	12th	10.30am	Jenny Newman & Eff Poole	
		4.30pm	Café Church	
		6.30pm	Circuit Service at Newport - Exeter Male Voice Praise Choir	
Mon	13th	7.30pm	Friendship Group	- Land of Ice & Fire, Sue & Ivan Godfrey
Tues	14th	10.00am	- 12noon 'Sound it Out'	
Thur	16th	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Mrs Mary Byham
Fri	17th		Last day for items for the April Messenger	
Sun	19th	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister - Family Service	
		6.30pm	Rev Don Macalister	Communion
Thur	23rd	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Winston Thorne
		7.00pm	Public meeting for 'Save Our Hospital Services'	see page 14
Fri	24th	7.30pm	Two Rivers Wind Ensemble concert	
Sat	25th	7.30pm	North Devon Choral Society Concert at Torrington	see page 14
Sun	26th	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	
		6.30pm	Rev Robert Hurley	
Mon	27th	2.30pm	'4th Monday House Group' - Lent Course	see page 5
		7.30pm	Friendship Group - Spring Planting with Nick Oliver, St John's Garden Centre	
Tues	28th	10.00am	- 12noon 'Sound it Out'	
Thur	30th	2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Mr Peter Edwards (bring & buy)
Fri	31st	7.00pm	Nigel Brooks concert	

The Lent Course will be taking place at four different times and places to offer the opportunity for as many people as possible to participate. Please see page 5 for full details.

Monday	2.30pm	at Port Mill Court
Thursday	1.00pm	at Sticklepath Methodist Church (light lunch at 1.00pm)
Thursday	7.30pm	at Christ Church Barnstaple - in place of Bible Study
Friday	10.30am	at Christ Church Barnstaple

Further ahead:-

Maunday Thursday service at 7.00pm

Good Friday service at 10.30am - CTiB witness 12noon in the High Street

'Experience Easter' - a collaborative, ecumenical project put together for local primary school children - will be here during Holy Week and is well worth looking at.

Spring Fair Saturday 6th May 9am-12.30pm - see page 7

Christian Aid Dates see page 12

Message

Dear Friends,

Numbers are surprisingly important in the Bible.

Jonah was in the fish for three days, Mary and Joseph found the young Jesus in the Temple after three days searching, Paul was blind for three days and of course Jesus rose on the third day.

In the stories of creation in Genesis God makes the world in six days and on the seventh day rests. In the story of the flood it rained for forty days, it was another forty days before Noah sent out the raven. Moses was on the mountain for forty days; after his baptism Jesus fasted in the wilderness for forty days and he appeared to his disciples for forty days after his resurrection.

In the church year there are forty days to the seasons of both Advent and Lent. On the 1st March we began the forty days to prepare ourselves to remember and celebrate the good news, the great news of Easter Day.

Numbers are important in the Bible and in the church year, and they can be important to us in the rest of life too. One, four, eleven, thirteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, twenty-one, twenty-five, thirty, forty, fifty, sixty, sixty-five, seventy, eighty, ninety, one hundred, one hundred and eighty . . . sorry, I went into darts mode for the last one! All the rest are milestones of events over years in our lives. They may be important birthdays, or anniversaries, or ages at which we gain certain legal rights or responsibilities.

Numbers, or what they represent, are important.

So here we are sitting within the forty days of Lent, what relevance does that have for us in the business of everyday life? As we live through the coming weeks with the regular tasks, and with the unexpected crowding in, perhaps the last thing we need is the church telling us to spend this time preparing ourselves spiritually so that we will understand more deeply the meaning of what it is Jesus did for us.

And yet, if we can, somehow, make some time to remember and reflect on the journey that Jesus made from his baptism to his death on a cross I'm sure God will bless us.

God will bless us as we see in our minds and feel in our hearts Jesus struggling against temptation, being afraid but continuing on against rejection from religious leaders, even his own friends and neighbours. God will bless us as we remember the wisdom of his words, the compassion of his actions, his acceptance and love of those who not only considered themselves unworthy but who were considered unworthy by all around them.

Remembering all that and much more will shed an even brighter light on our being Easter People, living on the Good News side of the Cross, coming from darkness to light, from hopelessness to hope, from death to life.

May you know God's presence with you and his blessings upon you this Lent.

Grace and peace,



Prayers for March

5th March

Thank you, Jesus, that you are the Son of God;
that you did not shrink from who you were meant to be,
nor take a different path, following deceptive voices.
Help me to follow you as our redeemer, teacher,
and supreme example of what it means to be human. Amen.

12th March

Dear God, often I am puzzled and don't understand you.
Help me to get to know you better, to learn about who you are,
and who you want me to be.
Help me to let go of the things that keep me from spending time with you,
and let me be willing to go wherever you call me. Amen.

19th March

Merciful God, I come with all that is cold and dry within me.
Forgive me where my heart has become hard, when I am quick to judge or
dismiss others.
Cleanse and renew me, I pray. Quicken my heart again within me.
And may I be a vessel of refreshing, sharing your blessing with all.
Amen.

26th March

Lord, you are the restorer of our souls,
our provider in times of peace and of trial.
You nurture us, support and encourage us.
We thank you for your ever-abounding love.
Amen.

Lent at Christ Church

Special events to remember during Lent.

Wed. March 1st 7.30pm Ash Wednesday service here at Christ Church.

This reflective service includes Holy Communion and also, for those who wish, an ashing ceremony.

A lot of people from non-conformist backgrounds are not familiar with ashing – when the sign of the cross is marked in ash on the forehead of those who come forward. Perhaps this prayer, which comes from the Methodist Worship Book, may help explain:

Almighty God, you create us from the dust of the earth.
Let these ashes be for us a sign of our repentance
and a symbol of our mortality.
May we always remember that by your grace alone
we are given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The Lent Course 'At the Cross' (a six week course)

Two groups will be meeting at Christ Church:

Thursday evenings, 7.30pm, beginning 2 March;

Friday mornings, 10.30am, beginning 3 March

(Please note the change of Friday time).

Contact Shirley Baxter, Rev. Don or Rev. Marilyn for further details about either of these groups.

In addition two other groups will also follow the same course:

At **Port Mill Court** the 'Lent Every Monday Group', begins Monday 27 Feb. Details: Tricia Kent (Tel: 324254).

A **Sticklepath Group** meets on Thursdays (1.00pm for a light lunch), begins Thursday 2 March. Details: Joan Cole (Tel: 326348)

During **Holy Week** (following Palm Sunday, Sunday 9th April) there will be a number of special services. The 'Experience Easter' stations (normally set up for school visits) will be set out in the church for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday; do take advantage of the opportunity to come and see these – further details will be available later.

Rev Marilyn

Fourth Monday House Group,

During Lent the 'Fourth Monday House Group' becomes 'Lent Every Monday' and will follow the Church Lenten Course "At the Cross".

In order to cover the course by Easter it will meet at Port Mill Court at 2.30pm on 27th February, 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th March, and the 3rd April.

If you are interested to join in please contact Tricia on Barnstaple 324254.

Women's World Day of Prayer.

The service this year has been prepared by the Christian women of the Philippines, and was written in the context of an economy based on agriculture.

The work is seasonal and intense, often entails families having to wait in the market place hoping to be hired, one notable feature of this hiring is the inclusion of women and children. Sometimes the baby is also brought to the fields, with a minimum of shade and often little food.

Many of these women and their families live below the poverty line, and yet they are brave and resourceful, and often take on the role of breadwinner, going abroad to work as domestic helpers or skilful professionals in the medical field.

PTO

Just as our prayers encircle the world so God encircles us and the Christian women of the Philippines, so please do try to come to the service, and give these women your support.

The service will be held at Barnstaple Baptist Church, in Boutport St. on Friday 3rd. March 2017 at 2:00pm. Men, women and children are all most welcome.

Dot Jones



Sing for your Supper

Friday 10th March 7.00pm

It's Singing for your Supper time again! Do come along and join us for an evening of joyful singing and good company. As before we will have the opportunity to learn some new hymns and songs as well as to sing some of those we already know and love. Please bring your suggestions of what to include, particularly with the theme of Easter in mind. For those who would like to stay on afterwards to complete an enjoyable evening, supper will follow at 8.15pm. This will be a choice from the Silver Cod menu (fish, pies, sausages, chips etc – details of which can be provided if requested), or if preferred, vegetarian soup with bread or roll. Special diets catered for. In order to book your supper in good time, please let Anthea Coates know your choice of food by Tuesday 7th March (01237 471740). Many thanks. A reminder will be published in the weekly notices.



News from Romania

Pastor Daniel suffered a heart attack on Sunday 22nd of January. It was reported as serious at the time and he was rushed to the local hospital in Sebis and then to Arad (55 miles from home) before being moved on to the specialist heart unit in Timisoara, a further thirty plus miles from Carand. Three stents were fitted. Danny picked him up and he was home after eight days away. He has to diet to lose weight, is on medication and has been told to rest, taking things easy for a while. Please pray for Daniel in your quiet times. Pray also for his wife Vatuta as she cares for him. Some of you may know that Daniel had such a hard time under the Communist regime. He was regarded as a serious threat as a Christian pastor.

Mike Smith

EVENTS

Saturday 11th March starting at
6.30pm Quiz and Pasty Evening.

Our new Quizmaster, Mr Dave Stevens, will be gathering questions to probe those "little grey cells". Teams of 4-6 persons are invited at £5 per head, which includes refreshments and a cup of tea. Do not worry if you are only one or two in number, we will find a team for you to join in with. It would be appreciated if those entering could inform Andy or Joy (01271 376171) as this will help with catering arrangements.

Come and join us for this fun filled evening which might even have a Cornish flavour to it?

Christ Church

Quiz & Pasty Evening

**On Saturday
11th March
1st Question at
6.30pm sharp**

Please come in teams of 4-6

at £5.00 per head

To include refreshments.



Saturday May 6th is the date of our
Spring Fair.

This year this will run between
9am until 12.30pm.

Enter the date in your diary now so that you can start preparing! Gardeners can start planting and all the cooks can start thinking about what baking they can provide. You can also start looking out donations of good quality items for the Bric a Brac Stall. We will always accept those unused Christmas gifts.

As we did for the Winter Fair, we will be listing Sunday dates for items to be handed into church so look out for details of those dates in the Messenger and the Sunday Notices.

These dates are: -

- April 2nd Books
- April 9th Unwanted gifts, Bric a Brac.
- April 16th Toiletries and knitted goods.
- April 23rd Tins, jams, and kitchen items.
- April 30th Plants and gardening items.




CHRIST CHURCH BARNSTAPLE

SPRING FAIR

SATURDAY 6 MAY
9 A.M. – 12.30P.M.

STALLS & REFRESHMENTS






Ronald working in the
Kira Farm garden



Ronald Oweru



Trainees at Kira Farm

At the charity concert that Jo organised last year, sufficient money was raised for Amigos to sponsor a trainee for a year at Kira Farm. The following profile tells us about the young man who has been given this opportunity.

Name: Ronald Owera

Age: 22

Gender: Male

District: Lira

Education level: Senior 4 (Year 10)

Ronald is 6'6" tall and a gentle giant. He loves playing football and is great in defence.

Current situation: Ronald lives with his mother, brother and four sisters at home in Lira. Four of his siblings are still in school. Ronald has a good relationship with his family and, as is traditional, Ronald has built his own, small, mud hut where he sleeps on palm tree leaves.

The family own just half an acre of land as his father's family took the rest of their land from them after he died. Women have no rights to land and once the head of the family has gone there is no one to speak on behalf of the wife and children. Ronald rents half an acre of land in the wet season, paying £30 for six months. He grows cassava, beans, sim sim (sesame), g-nuts (peanuts), pineapples and rice. The family use the crops to both eat and sell. Any money raised will pay for clothes, school fees and basic needs. It costs £8.00 a term to send a child to a 'free' government school, this is to cover the cost of academic materials. The family own two cows, three goats and five chickens - they graze the cows by the side of the road.

Life at home isn't easy, rain comes through the grass roof and there isn't enough food to go around. The family eat one meal a day, sometimes two. Likewise, there isn't sufficient money to buy all the household essentials such as sugar, soap and kerosene.

Childhood: Ronald did well at school and enjoyed learning. If he had been able to stay on (the family couldn't afford the fees) he would've liked to become a lawyer. Ronald grew up during the 25 year war with the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) – a rebel group known for human rights atrocities which included abducting 40,000 children and forcing many of them to fight as child soldiers or live as sex slaves. The Ugandan government were unable to stop the LRA and the people of northern Uganda had to leave their villages and live in government-run camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs). These camps were created for the safety of the people, but they were rife with disease and violence and 1.7 million people were living in them at the height of the conflict. The conditions were squalid and there was no way to make a living.

As a small child Ronald remembers happy days and his father buying everyone cakes, the family owning land and plenty of cows, but then the LRA and the Karamoja (a tribal group) came and stole everything from them. When Ronald's father was killed by the LRA the family moved to a camp and lived there for three years until Ronald was 11 years old. He says it was a very bad time and he saw many children suffering.

Daily life: At 6.00am Ronald gets up and travels to the garden, one and a half miles away. He works on his crops until 11.00 am, then rests in the heat of the day before taking the goats and cows to graze. In January people set fires all over Uganda to burn the old grass and to catch wild animals. When it's the burning season Ronald has to walk long distances to graze the livestock.

Ronald's sisters are responsible for collecting water – the borehole is a mile away and three times a day they collect two jerry cans of water. His sisters are also responsible for collecting firewood, this is a four hour walk away and the girls go three times a week.

Previous income: When the prices are good Ronald has made £100 a year from rice, and £60 a year from cassava. Sometimes Ronald fetches water for people who make bricks. Over the course of a day he would carry 100 x 20 litre jerry cans and would be paid £10.00 for the day's work. All of the money he has earned is used to keep the family alive. He has no possessions of his own.

One time Ronald was selling sim sim in the market under a tree and it fell down, badly injuring the young man. Ronald spent a week in hospital and still has the scars.

Joining Kira Farm Development Centre: Ronald was keen to come to Kira Farm as he wanted to learn a skill in life. He believes God helped him get selected as he never expected to be chosen.

While Ronald is at Kira his mother will struggle to grow crops to keep the family going.

His first impressions of Kira are very good – he says the trainees received a wonderful welcome and the shower (a completely new experience!) is amazing. Ronald is also enjoying having a bed to sleep on, sheets to sleep under, and food three times a day. He says life is good and he is very comfortable.

This promising young man is looking forward to studying farming, building, carpentry and computers. In the future Ronald would like to get married and have three children. He dreams of being able to provide for his family, not lacking anything, and being comfortable.

**Fairtrade Fortnight 2017:
Monday 27th February to Sunday 12th March
It's Time to put Fairtrade in your break.**



Fairtrade Fortnight is a highlight of the Fairtrade year when we celebrate the support we already give to the Fairtrade movement and when we think about more that we could do.

Here are some of the facts we are already aware of...

Low prices paid to farmers can mean:

- They can only afford to feed their families one meal a day. This can lead to health problems for their children such as stunting.

- They can't afford medical care and put off treatment their families really need.
- They don't have enough money to send their children to school. Lack of money also means pressure for children to work.
- They can't afford to invest in better farming. That means they can't improve the quality of their crops and charge a higher price for them.

Fairtrade means farmers get a better deal for what they grow. This leads to a better and more stable income, and can help them break the cycle of poverty they are trapped in...

Leonidas Jiménez Chaparro, banana farmer. BANAFRUCOOP, Colombia

'Before Fairtrade we were losing money... now we are getting a better price when selling our boxes of bananas. If it weren't for Fairtrade we would have sold our land'.

Rozina Begum, a tea farmer in Bangladesh who for years lived with the bare minimum, often not able to feed the family. Then... *'I heard about Traidcraft. I received six training sessions (to grow tea in the garden, sustainable for many years to come). We are now able to see the face of happiness. Now we have electricity... We built a house and we built a kitchen...I have hens and ducks and five cows. The tea plant is a miracle in our life. Now we have beds to sleep in...now I can buy a Saree when I wish. My daughter is going to school. I had never played with any toys in my life, but now during Eid I bought toys for my children. Everything now seems like a sweet dream which is actually our reality.'*

Fairtrade exists to make this world of difference, to turn people's lives around, and we at Christ Church, being a Fairtrade Church, are already part of that movement. For example, the tea, coffee and sugar we serve at all our events are fairly traded. Sunday Club enjoy Fairtrade bananas (and sometimes chocolate!) every week. Some of the biscuits we enjoy are fairly traded and many individual members in the congregation make a point of including fairtrade ingredients in the contributions they make to our many social events. But perhaps there is something more we can do...

This Fairtrade Fortnight we can:

Invite our friends for coffee and tea and share some Fairtrade cookies and snacks with them.

Look out for some taster samples of these at our church events this Fortnight (there will definitely be some fairly traded chocolate and fruit at Sing for your Supper on the 10th March!)

Look out for and add an extra fairly traded item to our shopping list.

Come to Café Church on Sunday 12th March where there will be a small Fair trade stall with a display, home-made cakes AND Fairtrade Fruit Smoothie making!

AND FINALLY...

Join others at the Traidcraft Big Brew Breakfast up the road at

Fair's Fair, 17 Bear Street on Friday 3rd March between 8.00 and 10.30am. You are promised a delicious feast! See you there.

Anthea Coates

Young Families Work

Sunday Club are collecting raffle prizes for the BIG RAFFLE in March to raise money for Callum and Maisie's AMIGOS fundraiser (Kira Farm, Uganda) and for WORK (Widows and Orphans in Rural Kenya). Alan Schofield Photography in Bear Street have donated a voucher. There is also a voucher for piano lessons, a voucher for dog-walking and a voucher for basic gardening jobs. If you have anything for this raffle, please pass it to one of the Sunday Club leaders.

Mary Byham is collecting shoe boxes to be used at the next Cafe Church in March, as the children will be making 'Mary and Martha Mini Puppet Shows'. If you have a spare shoe box please pass it on to Mary, Jo or Anthea.

At Toddler Praise we have had a re-enactment of a wedding service. Jack (whose profession he told us was 'a ghostbuster'!) and Jessica ('a princess'!) both aged 4, pretended to get married. The younger children made confetti to be thrown over the newly-weds and arranged flowers for the service. At another Toddler Praise the children brought their baby dolls to church ready for our role-play Christening Service. Thank you to Joan Cole and to Mary



Ruhleman who are always an integral part of Toddler Praise.

Our new Parent Talk sessions for parents and carers of teenagers are going well. The Care for the Family resources we use for this are excellent. If you know anyone who may like to come to these sessions please see Anthea or me.

Love and Prayers,
Jo

christian
aid

Christian Aid: This year is the Diamond Jubilee of the charity so there will be a little more news of this in the May Messenger, but would you kindly make a note of these dates in your dairies:

14-20 May. **Christian Aid week:** In mid April a list will be put up with some roads, or you can choose your own road(s). Just a few houses in any street of your choice would be appreciated.

Tesco (Rose Lane) collection on Friday 7th April. Please would you spare an hour to collect during the day? List to go up in mid March.

Christian Aid Breakfast: Saturday 29th April. Please join us for savoury or sweet waffles or pancakes with tea or coffee. List to go up in mid April.

See you there!

Carolyn and Ronnie, on behalf of Christian Aid.



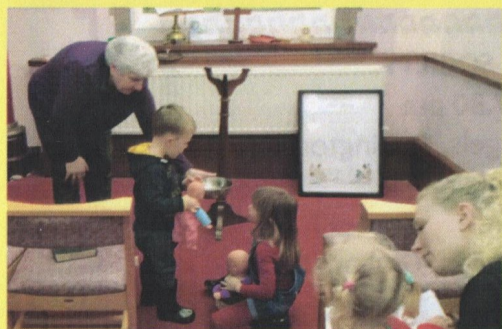
Writing prayers



Making scrolls

Toddler Praise

The themes on two days were Baptism and Wedding when the children role-played both ceremonies after Joan had talked with them to help them understand more about them





Save Our Hospital Services
(SOHS) Devon

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Tuesday 21 March, 7.00pm
*Grosvenor Church, Old Station Road,
Barnstaple, EX32 8PB*

Thursday 23 March, 7.00pm
*Christ Church, 8 Bear Street,
Barnstaple, EX32 7BU*

*See notice board for further
details of proposed relocation of
hospital services in North Devon.*

*Is this your Nativity Scene?
It has not yet been reclaimed
from the Christmas display.
Please see Eff if you know
who it belongs to.*



Greetings Cards

I would just like to say thank you to all who purchased Church Christmas cards and various others through the year, also for the wide assortment of cards people leave for me to use. Without them I would be out of a job!

Cards can be purchased from Faith at Friday morning Hobnob or contact me. Thanks again, AR.

NORTH DEVON CHORAL SOCIETY

Saturday 25 March at 7.30 pm

Church of St Michael and All Angels, Torrington

ELGAR: 'The Music Makers'

DURUFLE: 'Requiem'

Tickets £15 from Marilyn Tricker, Ian Allen, Graham Brown,
or at the door.

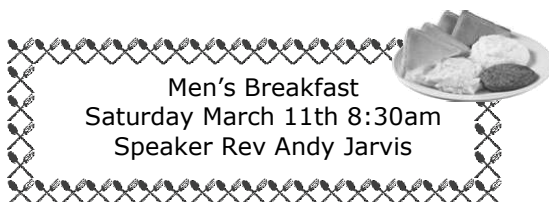


Tuesday coffee rota

Mar	7th	Joy & Andy	Apr	4th	Joy & Andy
Mar	14th	Sylvia, Pam & Gordon	Apr	11th	Ena, George & Rose
Mar	21st	Wendy, Anne & Gill	Apr	18th	Tony, Celia & Lorna
Mar	28th	Pam, Rose & Sylvia	Apr	25th	Sylvia, Pam & Gordon

I would like to thank everyone at Christ Church who has been supportive of my role with Children and Young Families at South Molton Methodist Church. My work there has seen an increase in the numbers attending the Girls and Boys Brigade as well as the recruitment of new leaders, the introduction of a holiday club and closer ties with families through involvement with Action for Children. Sadly, however, my contract has now expired but the successes achieved would not have been possible without the help of friends from our own church. A great big **thank-you** to you all.

Shirley P



Men's Breakfast
Saturday March 11th 8:30am
Speaker Rev Andy Jarvis

Our family matters





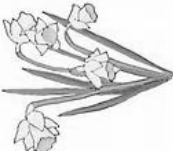


Christ Church Family News







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.

Sadly we report the death of Marcia Hopkins and Phyllis Harris (widow of the late Rev Herbert Harris) in February. Phyllis was a member of Newport Methodist Church but was well known here, in her younger days, as a Sunday school teacher and local preacher. Marcia, a more recent arrival at Christ Church, often managed to be part of a Sunday morning congregation with husband George, in spite of her poor health. They have been enthusiastic supporters of 'Shout it Out', which they both enjoyed. We hope George continues to enjoy all the opportunities to sing here.

Congratulations to Diana & Michael Snell who will be celebrating their golden wedding on Saturday 11th March and to Gill & Roger Greenland celebrating their golden wedding on Monday 27th March. Also congratulations to Sue & Brian Macbeth on the birth of a grandson, Jacob William Macbeth. A lot of good news to celebrate this month.

SUNDAY ROTAS		5th March	12th March	19th March	26th March
Coffee		Sally Blackmore	Diana Snell	Muriel Symons	Pauline Dawson
Flowers		Gill Greenland	Dianna Snell	Gill Greenland	-
Projector		Kathy Jeacock	Andy Morley	David Wilson	Gordon Pearce
Preparing Communion Morning 1st Sunday Evening 3rd Sunday		Gordon & Pam Pearce		Ronnie Wilson	
Serving Communion		Elaine Stevens Jenny Newman Rosemary Cole Reg Symons			
Vestry Steward Morning Evening		Elaine Stevens Anthea Coates	Liz Seymour Shirley Baxter	Jack Neville Eff Poole	Gill Greenland Sylvia Jones

SUNDAY ROTAS	2nd April	9th April	16th April Easter Sunday	23rd April	30th April
Coffee 	Gill Tucker	Joy Morley	Pam Topham	Nicola Wilkins	Elaine Stevens
Flowers 	Wendy Blackmore	Muriel Symons	Pauline Dawson	Elaine Stevens	Joy & Andy Morley
Projector 	Jack Neville	Kathy Jeacock	Andy Morley	David Wilson	Gordon Pearce
Preparing Communion Morning 2nd & 4th Evening 3rd Sunday	Gordon & Pam Pearce		Eff Poole		
Serving Communion 	Ronnie Wilson David Wilson Celia Huxtable Kathy Jeacock				
Vestry Steward Morning Evening 	Ronnie Wilson Shirley Baxter	Elaine Stevens Eff Poole	Ian Allen Anthea Coates	Jack Neville Sylvia Jones	Gill Greenland Shirley Baxter

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
Saturday		2nd Saturday of each month - circuit event
8.30am	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 January 2017

		Cash	Envelopes
January	1st	£	£
	8th	£	£
	15th	£	£
	22nd	£	£
	29th	£	£

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)

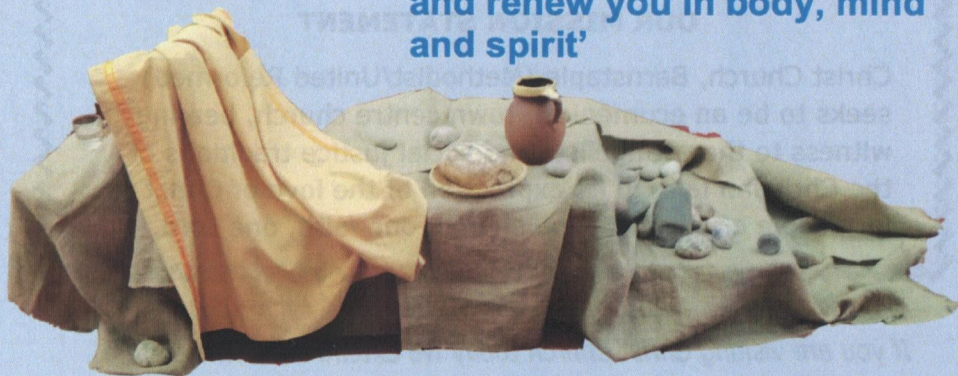
Church Secretary	as per the Church Directory
Church Treasurer	373555
Room Bookings	343218
Circuit Administrators	379116

Editors:

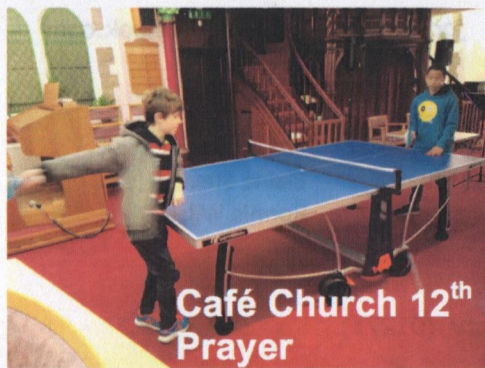
David Wilson	374020	david.devon@mac.com
Kathy Jeacock	373555	kjeacock@hotmail.com
Website		www.christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk
Circuit website		www.ilfracombe-barnstaplecircuit.org.uk
Email contact to site		webmaster@christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk

Oasis

**'May the living Lord refresh
and renew you in body, mind
and spirit'**



At 'Oasis', our service of healing and wholeness on Sunday evening 29 January, we thought about Elijah. A loaf of bread and a jar of water gave him strength for a journey, after which he experienced the wind, earthquake and fire, and then heard a 'still small voice' encouraging him. We looked and reflected on the display and listened to the still small voice of God within us.



**Café Church 12th February:
Prayer**



**Blowing out
Birthday
candles at
Parents &
Toddlers**

