

# The Messenger

**Christ Church Barnstaple**  
Methodist & United Reformed Church



“He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any more.”

*Isaiah 2:4*

## November 2021



**We will remember them**

**Remembrance Sunday - 14th November**



**Well done! Joy receives her QA Level 3 Award in Paediatric First Aid**



**COP26 Prayer Boats in the Church Sanctuary - Page 9**



**We are eagerly awaiting the removal of the scaffolding - Page 6**

# November 2021

Most activities are cancelled or postponed until further notice but look out for updates as things start to change.

As the church magazine is printed once a month you may find more up to date information on the church website. I strongly recommend that, if you are able to, you have a look there for updates.

## Our family matters

### Christ Church Family News

After a few weeks we're beginning to get used to singing with a mask on and not sitting too close to our neighbours. But we're looking forward to making sure the organist knows that they're not alone in the building!

While we are not all meeting together please look out for each other and let our Church Friends coordinator know of any concerns.

Three years on, and the scaffolding gone at last - some new members have never seen the church without it! It looks amazing now as well as being safe which was the primary purpose.

See page 6 and look out for Christ Church in the local press.



## Calendar

### November

Sun	7th	10:30am	Rev Don Macalister	Communion
Sun	14th	10:30am	Remembrance Sunday	
			Deacon Joan Cole	
Sun	21st	10:30am	Mrs Eff Poole	
Sun	28th	10:30am	Rev Don Macalister	

### December

Carol service - 6:30pm Sunday evening, date to follow

### January

Church AGM - including delayed election of elders

## Message

Dear friends,

Hopefully by the time you read this the scaffolding and hoarding will all be down and then Christ Church will once again be revealed in all its glory.

It has taken a lot of work and commitment from so many in planning, fund raising, giving time and effort as well as amazingly generous donations of money and prayers by members of Christ Church. I would also like to express all out thanks to David Wilson and his team and of course to the remarkable skill and professionalism of Orchard Stonemasons.

There are many reasons why it has been important to have done it. Thorne Memorial Chapel as it was originally called, is an important building historically. It was completed in 1876 and named in memory of James Thorne, founder of the Bible Christian movement here in North Devon who had died four years earlier. The Bible Christians were very much from the Methodist tradition but with some clear distinctions, such as having Pastors instead of Superintendents and Elders' Meetings instead of Leaders' Meetings. They were also far ahead of their time in recognising and being blessed by the ministry of women. In 1907 the Bible Christians merged with two other small branches of Methodism to form the United Methodist Church. It is an important heritage to remember and celebrate.

So too is the coming together in 1988 of what had become known as Bear Street Methodist Church with Cross Street United Reformed Church, whose foundations were laid even further back into the 17<sup>th</sup> century by the Dissenters of Barnstaple. Two congregations joining together to create Christ Church.

The reason I go into so much detail about the past is because it reminds me that all the work that has been done is not just to restore an old building. It is because it is from building on those foundations that growth and change has come. And as we come to Advent and move towards Christmas let's give thanks that our growth and continued development of our mission to and with the community began with the birth of a tiny child, Jesus Christ, our cornerstone.

Every blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Wilson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

## Prayers for November

### 7<sup>th</sup> November

We pray for those whose duty has led them to a battlefield where they have lost their life. God of the past, bless us with your peace.

We pray for those dying right now in conflicts provoked by greed and power. God of today, bless us with your peace.

We pray for those entrusted with the care of our environment and its fragile resources. God of tomorrow, bless us with your peace.

We pray for one another that we may live selflessly and generously for the good of all. God of eternity, bless us with your peace. Amen.

### 14<sup>th</sup> November

Surrounded by memories, near and far, I come to you, Lord.

In the middle of turmoil, you offer me peace.

In the middle of conflict, you offer me resolution.

I come to you in prayer knowing  
that my future is in your hands,  
and that your promises are true. Amen.

### 21<sup>st</sup> November

God of mystery and magnificence, we see you as our King. We read of visions of your throne, flaming and ethereal. You are beyond our imagining, beyond our dreams and visions and wildest hopes. You are in us and with us and among us. You are all we could imagine and wish for and more. You are our God, our King of all creation. Amen.

### 28<sup>th</sup> November

God of mystery, we have stepped into Advent and await your revelations, hoping that we and others will see and feel and know your message. You are a patient, persevering God, who offers your all for us; you offer to us the depth of your being, the essence of life, the gift of love beyond compare. And we wait to celebrate again the gift of Jesus born for us, given for us. We look to you, for you will show us true life bursting forth. Amen.

Anne's Christmas cards are available to buy/order, directly from Anne, like they were last year. Please get in touch with her to let her know what you would like and arrange how they can be delivered or collected.

*If you can't get in touch with Anne, I can pass on a message.*

*Kathy 01271 373555*





## **CHRISTIAN AID CORNER**

**A cow, Ethiopia: Adi's story** Adi Abuba, from Yabello in Ethiopia, was the poorest of the poor, and made to feel like a nobody. She was widowed, with eight children and just a single sheep to her name. She was ignored, sidelined and belittled.

Then Christian Aid's partner HUNDEE provided her with a cow (and two goats), which opened up a new world of possibilities and choices. From that cow, Adi turned milk into churned butter – which turned into a little extra money.

### **"I feel so happy"**

When Christian Aid followed up with Adi, she could barely contain her joy. "When I got my cow I felt like a conquering hero returning from war," she grinned. "It was the day I was given a chance."

Now Adi has ideas and plans. She has more than enough milk to keep her children healthy and sells any excess at market. She saved up to buy chickens and start selling eggs and had saved enough to build a small shop by her home. "I was identified as the poorest of the poor in this community... Imagine how far I have come up the ladder."

"When I think about my situation and some of my friends, how the livestock are giving birth and our lives are improving, I feel so happy, I feel like I could cry."

### **Sidelined and belittled no more**

Now, owning livestock has raised Adi's status, giving her a voice in her community. As part of a women's self-help group, Adi has learned to read and write, and also borrow and save money. "The same people who saw I was the poorest are the same people who now come to borrow money from me."

"Thanks to Christian Aid, my family, my children can eat well; they drink milk, they even have butter to put in their hair to make it shine; and I am sending them to school. Thanks to Christian Aid, things have changed."

### **About HUNDEE**

Among other things, the Oromo Grassroots Development Initiative (HUNDEE) give the poorest women in the community cows and goats, which gives them an income and brings them into the community. HUNDEE set up self-help groups for these women, who then hold weekly meetings to save and loan money – and also learn about their rights, maths and literacy.

**Could we at Christ Church raise £187 to gift a cow to someone like Adi this Christmas? Wouldn't that be "udderly fantastic"?**

*Janet Marshall*

## What's happening?

A brief report on some of the things under discussion at the last elders' meeting, on October 19th 2021.

- Pastoral matters were reported and prayers said for all those mentioned.
- There was further discussion on Church roles and responsibilities with some good news for church secretary, communion stewards, property steward & committee, IT and hopefully booking secretary. We hope that some, at least, of these roles will be filled at the AGM in January. There will undoubtedly be other positions to fill as we try to work out our 'new normal'.
- Several requests for events were discussed and the implications for cleaning/sanitising were considered. These included an evening carol service, Pathfield School using the church for a Christmas service and the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows carol service. A small group will continue to work on how these events can take place safely. More details of a hoped for carol service next month.
- Update on Community Links Project  
Stage 1: Final checking has been done and the scaffolding will come down once the Foundation Stone is back in place. Current estimate for this is the week beginning 25th October - *so, by the time you read this it should be done.*  
Stage 2: No update this month
- The annual accounts are complete but are still with our independent examiner.
- There are separate items in the Messenger regarding work with young people and Christian Aid.
- Next meeting Wednesday 24th November on Zoom

*Since the meeting, Pathfield School have regrettably had to make the decision not to go ahead with their Christmas service at Christ Church but hope to include Don in a video to send out to parents instead.*

*As you read on, can I point out to anyone who, like me, has no experience of scaffolding, that 'dropped' is a technical term meaning taken down - not slipped out of someone's hand accidentally!*

### **Press Release**

#### **Scaffold dropped from Christ Church Methodist/United Reformed Church Bear Street Barnstaple 29.10.2021**

145 years after it was constructed, the imposing tower and gable stonework to Christ Church in the middle of town have just emerged resplendent from behind hoardings after a comprehensive external repairs and repointing contract. Barnstaple Town Council Mayor, Councillor Mr Alan Rennles led a small ceremony to celebrate the conclusion of the conservation works to the elevation of the church facing Bear Street.

'We had to act,' explained Minister Reverend Don Macalister, 'as there had been a fall of some eroded stone and mortar onto the public pavement below.' It had been many years since the elevation to the street had been scaffolded and when

closer inspection was possible, architect David Wilson said 'The erosion in some areas was quite bad and some whole stones had to be cut out and replaced. Luckily our contractor Orchard Stonemasons was able to source Devonian red sandstone and Bath stone, for the details, that were a very good match to the original materials. The quality of their workmanship and re-pointing has been excellent.' He added that the works also involved dealing with a collapsed arch at one end of the frontage by building a new stone buttress to give support to the corner. 'I think it matched in well, and the overall appearance is a real credit to the mason's skills.'

Church Treasurer, Kathy Jeacock, commented that the project was 'A huge expense for the church, over £200,000, but one we could not put off as custodians of the building that dates from 1868.' She added 'We were fortunate to be able to add to local church fundraising, grants from: Allchurches Trust Limited, Barnstaple Town Council, Congregational & General Charitable Trust, Devon Historical Churches Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Ilfracombe and Barnstaple Methodist Circuit, the Listed Places of Worship VAT Grant scheme, The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes and the URC South Western Synod, for which we are extremely grateful. Obtaining planning permission for a listed building, and fundraising, has been a lengthy and sometimes complicated business – my thanks to all involved with this aspect of the project.'

Reverend Don expressed his thanks to Mike Orchard and his team for all the hard work on the repairs and to David Wilson and his team for managing the project so well. Mike commented 'It has been a pleasure to work on such a well-loved building at the heart of the town. We hope that the repairs will see the church well for the next 100 years.' Reverend Don also said 'We know that this work and the hoarding has been a nuisance to our neighbours in Bear Street and we are very grateful for their patience. We hope that Barnstaple can see this as the church's investment into the town centre, at a point when it is recovering from extraordinary times.'

The church is now open again for worship on Sundays and a number of community activities are starting back in the week, following pandemic guidelines.

The Mayor remarked, "It's wonderful to see that the scaffolding has come down and to see the amazing work that Mike and his team at Orchard Stonemasons have done to this beautiful Church. We have such rich history in our town, and the town's architecture, and we really must preserve the very foundations and walls it is built from so this is brilliant to see.

I must say a big thank you and a huge well done to all involved and I'm delighted to be here today to 'cut the ribbon'."

Architect, Stonemason, Mayor and Minister enjoying coffee and a chat in front of the new buttress, after the ribbon cutting, (pictures of that next month).





**Young Families**



Chatting over a snack



Recent activities include 'God's Wonderful World', beautifully demonstrated by this jigsaw and making the paper prayer boats which are displayed on a windowsill in the church—see front cover.

## Eco Church

In just a couple of weeks time, the UK hosts one of the most important international conferences ever held. COP26 has been described as the last chance to avoid global climate catastrophe. With scientists now saying that the world needs to cut its carbon emissions by 45% by 2030 to have a fighting chance of avoiding runaway climate change, is there anything churches can do to increase the chances of a good result?

Participating in the Eco Church programme is one way our church acts to reduce carbon emissions and we have already gained our Bronze award. With over 4,000 churches now registered, cumulatively we can have a significant impact.

Eco Church have just launched a fantastic range of resource leaflets, linked to the questions in the award survey. These new resources can help us find simple ways to take action in each of the five sections of the survey: Worship and Teaching, Buildings, Land, Community and Global Engagement, and Lifestyle. Each leaflet explains 'why' think about the topic and 'how' to take action. In the 'Longer Reads and Other Resources' section are recommended websites or books to help you take your thinking further, with links to churches who have already taken action in this area.

There are about 30 leaflets, subjects include: boilers, water usage, printing, engaging with your MP, Fairtrade, sustainable fashion, you and your money, church communications, and auditing your lifestyle. You can access them at [ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/resources](http://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/resources)

If you are unable to access the internet, please call me and I can print one for you.

*Liz Seymour*

## Young Families News

We have continued to keep in touch with our young families as much as possible with mailings and picnics, and occasional phone calls and texts (always welcome) – as well as sometimes meeting by chance whilst out shopping! And of course it has been a joy to welcome some of the children back into Sunday Club.

**The mailing** that went out in October introduced our families to the challenge of making Paper Prayer boats to help form a prayer focus in church for the COP 26 Summit (as explained in last month's Messenger). As we write we are hoping for some boats to come back to us to add to the fleet of boats on the window sills in the church. As well as colourful resources to make the boats, there were also one or two other additions in the packages to help celebrate Harvest – a harvest word search (always popular!), quiz and activity booklet for the younger ones. We do try to cater for the different ages of the children and young people in the families.

**Sunday Club** continues to be a much-looked forward to, happy and active time for the children. We love to see their smiling faces as they arrive, and how quickly they make themselves at home – even to the extent of taking their

shoes off! One unforgettable moment this month was the unexpected meeting of two four year olds who had not seen one another for months because there was no Parents and Toddlers group due to the Covid crisis. At the first sight of one another in Sunday Club they just rushed into each other's arms with cries of delight – so moving, and such a joy to see – a heart-warming memory to keep.

After the summer of just enjoying being back together with games and activities, the children once again settled down to a Bible story each week followed by a prayer – which they all now want to take part in reading aloud! We have had chats about creation and God's Wonderful World and how we need to look after it (prompted by the chat about the Climate Summit!), the stories of the Stilling of the Storm and the Amazing Catch of Fish (boat stories following after the introduction to the paper boats) – all with accompanying creative activities. Games and puzzles are always available – and at the moment Lego is popular - a great way to illustrate a story! Refreshment time (still no toast) is a good opportunity just to chat and to look after one another! On October 31<sup>st</sup> we are, as we write, looking forward to 'Celebrating Light', an alternative to the dark and scary side of Hallowe'en. **On Remembrance Sunday we will be keeping up our tradition of 'being' at the cenotaph for the two minutes silence. We always used to hear the ceremony on the radio but now we can be blessed with the sight of it on screen rather than just the sound.**

Like so many of you, we too are very much looking forward to Parents and Toddlers and Café Church starting up again. We are working on it, and will update you as soon as we can.

With love and blessings from the Young Families Work Team.



### **A Prayer of thanks at Harvest Time**

Thank you God for our beautiful world.  
Thank you for this wonderful time of the year  
Thank you for fruits and vegetables  
Thank you for the farmers who grow our food  
Help us always to remember those at home and in other countries  
who don't have enough to eat  
and to be willing to share what we have  
Thank you for our family and friends  
And thank you for always loving us. Amen.



## SAINT CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

Saint Catherine was supposedly born in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, although the cult of St Catherine did not begin until the 9<sup>th</sup> century. The general view is that Catherine was martyred by the Emperor Maxentius around 310 for her Christian faith. Having rejected marriage to the Emperor, instead describing herself as a Bride of Christ, she was imprisoned and tortured.

According to legend, Catherine was of noble birth and possibly a princess.

From a young age she devoted herself to study. A vision of the virgin Mary and the child Jesus persuaded her to become a Christian. When the persecutions began she went to the Emperor Maxentius and rebuked him for his cruelty.

Catherine was imprisoned and, whilst incarcerated, fifty pagan philosophers and orators were brought in to reason with her. Catherine did not back down even under torture and several of her inquisitors were converted to Christianity, including the wife of Maxentius, they were later all martyred for their faith. Whilst incarcerated, it is said she was visited by Christ and fed by a dove. Twelve days later when the dungeon was opened a bright light and fragrant perfume filled it and Catherine emerged more radiant than ever.

Catherine was sentenced to death by being strapped to a spiked wheel which would then be rolled along. When Catherine touched the wheel it shattered, injuring some of the bystanders, she was then killed by beheading.

Legend has it that her body was carried by angels to Mount Sinai. There is no real evidence that Catherine ever existed and the popular belief is that she is an amalgam of several martyrs around at that time.

Whether she was a reality or not, Catherine was one of the most important saints of the late middle ages. Her power as an intercessor was renowned. The cult was further spurred by the rediscovery of her body at Mount Sinai supposedly with hair still growing and a stream of healing oil issuing from her body.

Her principal symbol is the spiked wheel, which has become known as the Catherine wheel. Her feast day is celebrated on 25<sup>th</sup> November. Catherine must be a very busy saint, she is patron of lace makers, spinners, rope makers, wheel-rights, milliners, knife sharpeners and the protector of young unmarried women. The round windows in churches are known as Catherine windows.

Many centuries later on Saint Catherine's feast day, Catherine of Aragon, whilst imprisoned at Ampthill, came to hear that the Lacemakers were starving. Apparently, to help them Catherine ordered that all her lace be burned so that new had to be bought.

Candles were expensive and only used in the real dark of winter to illuminate work. Traditionally on the eve of Saint Catherine the candle block and glass globes were washed in readiness for them being used the first day following the feast. The candles and globes were then used until Candlemass 'the return of the light' on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

It was quite a festive occasion and celebrated with *Cattern Cakes* a kind of pinwheel scone-like cake resembling a wheel.

## **CATTERN CAKES**

### Ingredients

9 ounces (250gms) self raising flour  
½ tsp ground cinnamon  
1 ounce (25gms) currants  
2 ounces (50gms) ground almonds  
2 tsp caraway seeds  
2 ounces (50gms) caster sugar  
4 ounces (100gms) melted butter  
2 large eggs – beaten  
Extra caster sugar and cinnamon for sprinkling

### Method

- 1 Sieve flour and cinnamon into a bowl
- 2 Stir in caraway seeds, currants, ground almonds and caster sugar, mixing well
- 3 Add the cooled butter and eggs. Mix to a soft dough with a knife
- 4 Roll out to approximately 12" (30cms) square
- 5 Brush with water and sprinkle over the extra caster sugar and cinnamon
- 6 Roll up like a Swiss roll and cut into ¾" (2cm slices)
- 7 Place on a lined baking tray, leaving room for expansion
- 8 Bake for 10 – 15 minutes at 200C, Gas Mark 6.
- 9 Carefully transfer to a cooling tray, sprinkle with a little extra caster sugar and caraway seeds if desired

Music to listen to : Music for the Royal Fireworks - G F Handel  
Music for St Catherine – Andrew Kirkman

*See photo opposite*

Jennifer

## **The Latest News from Amigos and Kira Farm Development Centre**

*'I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus'  
Phil 3:14*

The latest news from Kira Farm Development Centre has not only brought a huge thank you of appreciation from Amigos to all those who have sponsored and supported the trainees, but also a mixture of good news along with some news tinged with a little sadness...

The sadness comes from the fact that we won't be hearing again from Scovia, our sponsored student and the happiness from the fact that she and all the trainees will be returning home very soon, where they will receive a much awaited Covid vaccination before they start out on the next stage of their life's journey.



Sponsored children



Amigos

*".....students have been excellently trained and prepared, ready to go back and do transforming work in their communities."*



Leisure time at Kira Farm



## Cattern Cakes Recipe

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Saint Catherine,  
by Lorenzo Lotto - 1522

The following extract from a letter received from Phil Pugsley and Tim Monger (the new CEO of Amigos) outlines the very understandable reasons why...

*'As you know, it has been a difficult task trying to navigate the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, attempting to ensure everyone on Kira Farm stays safe while at the same time receiving the tuition they need to enable them to break free of poverty and become a transforming influence in their communities. This group of trainees began in January 2020 only to be sent back to their villages in March due to the national lockdown. Thankfully, they returned in January 2021 to resume their training.*

*Throughout this year there have been further restrictions and a second national lockdown during which thankfully Kira Farm was allowed to remain open as it is an 'agricultural establishment'. Our staff in Uganda have worked tirelessly to give the trainees the best possible experience. They have had unexpected additional requirements placed on them that have in turn meant the communication with sponsors has not been as good as normal, and for this we apologise.*

*With the national lockdown continuing to ease, higher education institutions will reopen in November at which point all open educational establishments, including Kira Farm, will be required to have all staff and trainees vaccinated against COVID-19. Logistically, this would prove extremely difficult for us as vaccinations need to be received in their local communities, which would mean trainees travelling hundreds of miles home and then returning back to Kira Farm just to conclude their training for a few days.*

*Our staff in Uganda have decided that the most sensible thing to do would be to conclude training on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021, instead of the usual 30<sup>th</sup> November. The trainees are currently on an accelerated programme to make sure they finish all that is necessary.*

*We do hope you understand...'*

It has been a difficult time for Kira Farm and the students with lots of ups and downs. Both staff and students have coped amazingly through it all. Despite everything the students have been excellently trained and prepared, ready to go back and do transforming work in their communities. It has been a real joy to sponsor Scovia, always touchingly grateful for everything that Kira Farm has introduced her to and offered her, and so eager to learn more and ever more ('I can't wait to learn even more things in my life'). She has grown in confidence and, we know, is looking forward to taking her newly acquired knowledge and skills back home and out into the community, wanting to help those she lives and works with to break free from their cycle of poverty. We know she will do well and pray that she will be much blessed.

## **Amigos Live Zoom Evenings.**

### **The first three – Kira Farm Development Centre**

The invitation to go to one of these evenings was included in last month's Messenger. They were a great success and it was truly a privilege to be there...

**Live from** Kira Farm were Joshua – who runs Kira Farm – along with three of the trainees – Jordan, Winnie and Nancy. It was amazing to hear at first hand their stories of transformation and hope and the difference that Kira Farm has made to their lives in so many different ways. Others joined too – staff from Uganda and here in Barnstaple, including Phil and Tim – the first chance to meet

the new CEO – and also other sponsors. It was a very moving and joyful evening. We had the chance to see the video of Kira Farm – What makes Kira Farm so Special - well worth a watch!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGSCiXCLCGU>

**And now for the next three... The Child Sponsorship Programme**

(Do try and log on to one. They are brilliant!)

<https://www.amigos.org.uk/amigos-live-events>

Amigos is excited to announce that they will be holding their second live event this Autumn, sharing their unique **Child Sponsorship Programme**.

*'Whether you're new to Amigos or have been a supporter for many years, we would love to invite you to come along and hear about the impact Child Sponsorship is having on children and families across Uganda. Listen to the powerful stories of transformation as these precious Ugandans are equipped with an education and the practical skills to lift themselves out of poverty, thanks to the help of our wonderful sponsors.'*

**Come and join us live at 7:30pm on 8th, 9th and 10th November and spend an evening in Uganda - it's free! )...**

<https://www.amigos.org.uk/amigos-live-events>

**Please remember Amigos in your prayers** – especially Kira Farm at this time – the staff and the trainees, giving thanks for the amazing work they have done and are doing to complete their programme.

Please pray for the trainees as they return home, missing all the friends they have made and all the present support they have been given, but looking forward with their new confidence to what the future holds for them. May they be greatly blessed.

**And of course we pray especially for Scovia at this time:**

Dear Lord, we thank you for the privilege given us to sponsor Scovia during her time at Kira Farm. Now as our ways part, we pray that you will be with her and bless her. We thank you for her dreams and vision for the future, and pray that you will give her the strength and determination to achieve them. Bless her in all her endeavours in the next chapter of her life.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Anthea

**Offertory on lieu of Gifts of 'produce' at Harvest-time**

Normally we would send gifts of food at Harvest-time but this year we had a request from the Freedom Centre for donations of money instead, if that was possible. I will be sending them a cheque for £283.70 as a result of our retiring collections.

Thank you, Kathy



# Christmas Fayre



at Ebberly Lodge  
Methodist Church  
Nr Torrington

on

Saturday 13th November  
from 2.30 pm

**This will sadly be our final Christmas Fayre**  
There will be various stalls and free  
refreshments as a thank you to everyone for  
their support over the years

Proceeds for Church Funds  
and Action for Children

A very warm welcome to all



**Please wear a face mask**

*A message from Sue - pictured with Joy (two of our 'hospital connections') on the back cover:-*

## **Over and Above Hospital Charity**

We need your help? We are looking for some resources for our Dementia patients, so we are launching a small shoe box appeal. The items we are looking for are listed below: Please note, that they will be for adults, so nothing too childlike.

- \*Playing cards - both normal size and large print ones.
- \*Dominoes
- \*Pens
- \*Colouring pencils
- \*Colouring book
- \*Puzzle book
- \*Picture Books - various ones, gardening, farming, etc.
- \*Cuddly toys - NEW only
- \*Fidget spinners
- \*Squashy stress balls
- \*Connect 4
- \*Draughts
- \*Similar board games - NOT small size ones.

If you are looking to donate one, please contact us to arrange delivery first. We do still have restrictions in place in the Hospital so would like to limit visits where we can. No need to decorate the boxes, they won't be used to present to patients, they will be organised into resource boxes for the wards. Thank you for your help, if you have any questions, let us know.



## Weekly Meetings

<b>Monday</b>	7.30pm	<b>Friendship group</b>	(2nd & 4th Mondays of each month) contact Rose de la Cour tel 830824
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am - 12.00 noon	<b>Coffee morning</b>	
	9.30am	<b>Prayer meeting</b>	(except the last Tuesday of each month)
	10.30am	<b>Holy Communion ...</b>	(last Tuesday of each month)
	5.30pm - 6.30pm	<b>Rainbows</b>	
	5.30pm - 7.00pm	<b>Brownies</b>	contact Nicola Wilkins
	7.00pm - 8.30pm	<b>Guides ...</b>	tel 07813620615 or 01271377154
<b>Wednesday</b>	1.30pm - 3.00pm	<b>Parents &amp; Toddlers</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	2.30pm	<b>Ladies Fellowship ...</b>	
	7.30pm	<b>Bible Study...</b>	contact Shirley Baxter tel 375560
<b>Friday</b>	10.00am - 12.00 noon	<b>Hobnob coffee morning</b>	
	10.30am	<b>Bible Study...</b>	contact Shirley Baxter tel 375560
<b>Saturday</b>		<b>2nd Saturday of each month</b>	- circuit event
	8.30am	<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	contact Chris Punt tel 343716 or Staveley Dawson tel 373213

### 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 all adults.
- \* the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
- \* the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse. (Methodist Safeguarding Guidelines, online: [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk))

### Weekly Offertory for 2021

		Cash and Envelopes	Gift Aid
<b>September</b>	5th	£61.00	£0.00
	12th	£143.00	£0.00
	19th	£161.00	£110.00
	26th	£141.50	£245.00

An increasing number of people are donating money direct to the Church account by standing order. Currently this offertory is £1925.00 per month. Many thanks to all of you. If you have given me an envelope number your gift will be included in the offertory in the accounts, otherwise it has been recorded as a donation. *If you are a tax payer* and would like the church to claim back the tax on your giving or if you change your address or other details, please contact Janet Marshall or speak to a serving elder - Thank you.



*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

tel. 01271 345313  
dasmacalister@icloud.com

Young families worker

Elders

Shirley Baxter	Kathy Jeacock (treas)	Jenny Newman
Alison Cairns	Chris Marshall	Eff Poole
Anthea Coates	Janet Marshall	Liz Seymour
Staveley Dawson	Jack Neville (sec)	Elaine Stevens

Telephone Directory (01271)

Church Secretary	
Church Treasurer	373555
Room Bookings	
Circuit Administrators	379116

Editors:

Bruce Seymour  
Kathy Jeacock  
Website

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Sue and Joy, both regular hospital volunteers, collecting for Over and Above outside Tesco - page 17



Memorial plaques on the wall in the gallery

