

April 2014

Dear Friends,

Great news! We have a new Vicar at Christ Church. Martyn Taylor explained at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting that Nikki Bates will be coming as soon as possible after July when her contract ends at her present employment near Boston. He went on to explain that the Diocese wants to buy a new Vicarage for her and her husband to move into. This may take some time however, as the Parish is rather short on four bedroom houses. Vicarages are also supposed to have a separate room as a study. Please pray that one may be found as quickly as possible. That is one piece of good news. The other is that Cliff Harris is our new Projects Manager. He lives locally and has had similar work in the USA. Mike Mills who has been Projects Manager for some years now is going to be around in the background, but is looking forward to being trained as a Lay Reader. He has done a great deal to keep the Projects in great condition.

Until the new Vicar arrives I hope you will try and support all those who are helping with leading worship and preaching. It can be quite disheartening to see an empty church when you may have spent a long time preparing a sermon. I, personally, have been asked to continue keeping an eye on all that goes on in the Church. During Lent we have been studying the Lent series which has been prepared for St Georges. I hope you have enjoyed the whole series. As we move into April we start looking for the end of Lent and celebrating Easter. Easter Day is on Sunday 20th April. It is late again this year.

As a regular attender at Christ Church you may have noticed that we are quite short of Organists or piano players. This is especially the case with evening services. Brian, our churchwarden, is very good with the "music box", but if anyone knows of an underemployed organist we would

be grateful for a volunteer. Otherwise we might try and see if we could get a small group to play for our worship. Worship of God is vital to the life of a parish. Worship can take many forms, singing, praying, silence, reading the Word of God and thanking God for all that he has given us. I love worship; I just wish I could sing better. Instead of an out of tune groan, I would love to produce a really lovely voice. Still as I have been told the Lord loves hearing from us whatever noise we make. Long may you worship at Christ Church.

Yours as always

Peter Hart

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## May Magazine

Please could all entries for the above edition of the magazine be e-mailed to **Jane Richardson** or put in her pigeon hole by Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Publication will be on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please be prompt.

**Jane Calderin.**

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### Parish Registers

#### Baptisms

|                 |                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Feb 2</b>    | Eli James Tilley<br>Mary Thompson |
| <b>March 23</b> | Kelly Atkins<br>Jack Styles       |

#### Funerals

|                 |                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>March 14</b> | Kathleen Popple                  |
| <b>March 21</b> | Kathleen Wilcox<br>Ilse Williams |
| <b>March 25</b> | Kenneth Ransom                   |

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### Collections

|                 | <b>Open Plate</b> | <b>DD Giving (Bank)</b> | <b>Env. Giving</b> |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>February</b> | £271.00           | £870.00                 | £337.00            |

**Nigel.**

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### 200 Club

|                  |    |    |               |    |    |
|------------------|----|----|---------------|----|----|
| <b>February:</b> | 87 | 53 | <b>March:</b> | 40 | 41 |
|------------------|----|----|---------------|----|----|

The draws for April will take place on Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> during the Day Centre meeting.

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## **Important Bits and Pieces**

### **The Passover Supper**

The Passover Supper, also called the Seder, has been celebrated by the Jews since the Exodus. It is the Hebrew Thanksgiving, giving thanks to God for deliverance and redemption.

It commemorates the protection of God as the Angel of Death passed over every Hebrew family in Egypt protected by the Blood of the Paschal Lamb. It is in this family setting that Jewish children are first introduced to the Book of Exodus as the adults tell the story year after year.

Jesus was celebrating the Passover Supper at the meal we now refer to as The Last Supper. This was the time Jesus chose to announce The New Covenant. And it was at this Seder that Jesus asked all of us to *do this in remembrance of Him*. We use many of the words from the Passover Supper at our Communion Service, but the entire ceremony will give a new meaning to all our services. This year we will again use the Passover Supper as our Maundy Thursday Communion Service and at 8pm there will be the stripping of the altar followed by a quiet time in the church for those who wish. There will be a charge of £5 to cover the cost of the food.

**Join us on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Sign up sheet on the Notice Board.**

### **Empingham Mission Band Concert**

The band will play at Christ Church on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7pm. Entrance is free but there will be a retiring collection in aid of Christ Church Day Centre. Enjoy an evening of well-known songs while supporting a worthwhile cause.

### **Foodbank**

This month the Foodbank requires:

Instant mash, sponge puddings/crumble mixes, cereals (no porridge please) shampoo and shower gel. Thank you for all your support.

### **Easter Flowers**

As Easter is fast approaching I need your help, if you would like to donate any money towards the cost of Easter flowers please put your donation in an envelope with the name of your loved one(s) to be remembered clearly written on the outside or on a slip of paper. A list of the names to be remembered will be displayed in the Church Foyer.

Donations can be given to either Churchwardens Brian or Dawn by Sunday 13th April.

The flower Ladies and Gentleman will be decorating the Church for Easter on Saturday 19th April at 9.30. If you would like to join us please come along, any help would be gratefully appreciated.

Thank you, **Dawn Field**

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Mothers Union

The next M.U. Holy Communion Service, followed by the meeting, will be held at Christ Church on Thursday, April 3rd at the usual time of 10.00am. All are welcome.

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## **Christian Aid**

Christian Aid Week is May 11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> which may seem a long way off yet but during Fridays in Lent lunches are held at the URC Hall on Broad Street and the money raised goes to Christian Aid. So why not meet up with some friends for lunch and help Christian Aid at the same time. Also during Christian Aid Week, on May 13<sup>th</sup> from 10 am onwards, Kay & Neil Bamford will again host a Coffee Morning with Bring and Buy and Raffle at their home in Rock Terrace in aid of Christian Aid. All are welcome.

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Toddlers

Hi Everyone!

We have made multi-coloured tissue flowers, Mother's Day Cards and lovely gooey shapes with Playdough. We were thrilled that some of our Mums and families were able to join us for our Mother's Day Family Service. We made Daff Bouquets on Saturday 29th March so all the children could give their Mums a gift of flowers. Rachel leads our singing sessions with her lovely voice. We also now have toast at our Thursday mornings; it is enjoyed by EVERYONE! Come – Join us!
God Bless, Luv to all!

The Toddlers Gang

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## Day Centre

Once again we said a sad 'Goodbye' to one of our long standing members, Kath Wilcox. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this sad time. March has been a great time for entertainment. We had Jane show slides and give a talk on her bird watching holiday in Africa; it was very interesting. We also had Jeremy sing to us; this is always a favourite with our members. We even managed some dancing! A good time was had by all.

On April 2<sup>nd</sup> we have Betty and Roger coming for a Sing-a-long and there will be communion at 11.15 am on the same day.

The Foot Health Practitioner will be at the Centre on April 9<sup>th</sup> in the morning and in the afternoon Alex Naylor will play the organ and sing.

The Day Centre will be closed on April 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Easter break.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> there will be Bingo or Games.

The Day Centre has spaces for more members. If anyone would like more information please contact Catrina Batey 07949605217

The Day Centre wish to thank Gill Stafford and her Tai Chi group for the very generous donation of £100 they have given to the Day Centre.

## Catrina and Barbara

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Start-a-Fresh / Befrienders

Hi Everyone,

We are now in the period of Lent. Has anyone seriously given up anything? Or promised God to do something extra?

We made Easter cards on March 21st and visited Gates Nursery on the 17th. On March 24th we visited Peterborough Cathedral; beautiful stained glass windows! Geraldine is busy trying to book a couple of 'visits' for during the holidays as well as her usual work and the chart for next term's activities! The group will still have lunches at Ruthie's during the holidays so they will not be too empty for the members.

God Bless. Luv to all,

Befrienders

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## **Bishop of Lincoln's Letter for April**

As I write, many of you will currently be attending Lent groups as part of the diocesan Lent course this year, entitled 'Faith at Work'.

'Faith at Work' is a clever title: it encapsulates our calling to live out our faith in whatever context we find ourselves – at work, home, school, church, etc. – and it also reminds us that faith itself is constantly 'at work' within us. As we go through life, each one of us is living out our calling to be a disciple of Jesus wherever God has set us. Thus our faith is informed by our life's journey. But the converse is also true: that journey as the people of God is informed by our faith, and so we can truly say that our faith is 'at work' within us.

While this holds true throughout our lives, Easter brings it into sharp relief. The desolation of Good Friday and the absolute finality that it suggests are so enormous that they can leave us feeling cut off and adrift. A fissure is created, a gap opened up between what we *thought* we knew to be true and the place in which we now find ourselves.

It is when that kind of disjuncture happens that our faith really gets to work within us as we ask the questions about where the journey of faith is taking us, and what it is asking of each one of us.

No other event in the Christian story asks this of us in the demanding way that we encounter in the raw power of the Easter story – and no other event shows the extent of God's love for us as the gift of the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter.

May God bless you and all those you love this Eastertide.

**+Christopher Lincoln**

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GARDEN MATTERS for the Parish Magazine

I can report that my heart by-pass operation has been successful after a slight complication and that I hope to make a full recovery in time but that it will probably be several months down the line before I can return to gardening duties. I have nothing but the highest praise for the NHS and the hospitals at Peterborough, Papworth & Addenbrooke's near Cambridge.



I am extremely grateful to Mike Mills for organising the team of volunteers from Cummins Technology to tidy up the garden in my absence and to Mike and Brian Stephens for arranging the erection of the wooden fencing at the Southern and Northern boundaries.

I hope that the new fencing to the North in front of the substation can be extended in due course to the east fence creating an enclosed area for a Wild flower Meadow complete with a mixed native hedge and native Wild Flowers. This may take some time but I have drawn up provisional

Eventually the area in front of the new fencing will be planted up with shrubs and flowers that attract a wide variety of wildlife viz. insects and birds mainly. This will complete the wild life corridor around the church and improve the environment. Not only will it attract and support insects like butterflies, bees, hover flies, lace wings, mammals like the tiny hedgehog I discovered last June, amphibians like frogs and toads, as well as providing habitat and food for birds but it will hopefully create an environment that

can be used to educate and teach groups like Toddlers, Teenzone, Befrienders and others to look after the environment in the future.

The Garden of Dreams at the end of the car park past the garage is an ideal place for groups and individuals to sit and rest and has also been designed to attract and support wildlife. So please do use this space which is open to all, just remember to shut the gates!

Chris

My apologies to Chris that this article did not appear in the March issue of the magazine. My mistake entirely!

Temporary Editor Jane Calderin

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## **The PCC members for 2014 are**

Martyn Taylor (Chair)

Lisa Garwood (Secretary)

Nigel Harvey (Treasurer, co-opted)

Dawn Field (Church Warden)

Brian Stephens (Church Warden)

Jane Richardson

Ruth Lock

David Wise

Barbara Morley

Catrina Batey

Gail Burham

Nigel Garwood (Deanery and Diocesan Synod)

Paul Darley (Deanery Synod)

Ron Macey (Ex-Officio)

## Puzzles

Here are the anagrams of 14 of the books of the Old Testament. Can you solve them?

Burns me, Chair haze, Eds jug, Evil is cut, Hail Mac, Hurt, I jam here,

On gloom of sons, Our needy Tom, Rich clones, See sign,

Select as ices, Threes, Tom anneals it, Used ox

Answers next month.

Can you find these sixteen New Testament books in the star below?

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

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MATTHEW
ROMANS
COLOSSIANS
HEBREWS
MARK
CORINTHIANS
THESSALONIANS
JAMES
LUKE
GALATIANS
EPHESIANS
TITUS
JUDE
ACTS
PHILEMON
REVELATION

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## Calendar

### April

|                        |           |                                               |                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday                | 1         | 12<br>7.30<br>8.00                            | Evergreen Lunch<br>Momentum<br>Bible Study Group                                                                                           |
| Wednesday              | 2         | 9.30-4<br>9-3<br>11.15<br>5.30                | Start-a-Fresh Strategy Day (B)<br>Day Centre<br>Holy Communion<br>Dance                                                                    |
| Thursday               | 3         | 9.30<br>10-11<br>1-3<br>5.30-7<br>7-9<br>7.30 | Toddlers<br>Children's Centre Talk<br>Start-a-Fresh Course (B & U)<br>Dance (Teenzone)<br>Empingham Mission Band Concert<br>Prayer Meeting |
| Friday                 | 4         | 1-3                                           | Befrienders                                                                                                                                |
| Saturday               | 5         | 2-4.30<br>2-9                                 | Down's Support Group<br>CAP Client Event                                                                                                   |
| <b>Sunday</b>          | <b>6</b>  | <b>10.00<br/>4.00<br/>6.30</b>                | <b>Service of the Word<br/>CC@4<br/>Holy Communion</b>                                                                                     |
| Monday                 | 7         | 9.30<br>8.00                                  | Team Meeting<br>Bible Study Group                                                                                                          |
| Tuesday                | 8         | 7.30                                          | Momentum                                                                                                                                   |
| Wednesday              | 9         | 9-3                                           | Day Centre                                                                                                                                 |
| Thursday               | 10        | 9.30<br>7.30                                  | Toddlers<br>Prayer Meeting                                                                                                                 |
| Saturday               | 12        | 3-5                                           | Wedding Kelly Atkins & Mark Styles                                                                                                         |
| <b>Sunday</b>          | <b>13</b> | <b>10.00<br/>4.00<br/>6.30</b>                | <b>Holy Communion<br/>CC@4<br/>Evening Service</b>                                                                                         |
| Monday                 | 14        | 9.30<br>8.00                                  | Team Meeting<br>Bible Study Home Group                                                                                                     |
| Tuesday                | 15        | 7.30                                          | Momentum                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Maundy Thursday</b> | <b>17</b> | 9.30<br><b>6.30</b>                           | Toddlers<br><b>Passover Supper</b>                                                                                                         |

|                    |           |                                            |                                                                              |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Good Friday</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>10</b>                                  | <b>Families at the Cross</b>                                                 |
| Saturday           | 19        | 9-2                                        | Decorating Church for Easter                                                 |
| <b>Easter Day</b>  | <b>20</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>4.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>CC@4</b><br><b>Evening Service</b>               |
| Monday             | 21        | 9.30<br>8.00                               | Team Meeting<br>Bible Study Group                                            |
| Tuesday            | 22        | 7.30                                       | Momentum                                                                     |
| Wednesday          | 23        | 9-3<br>5.30-7                              | Day Centre<br>Dance (Teenzone)                                               |
| Thursday           | 24        | 9.30<br>1-3<br>5.30-7<br>7.30              | Toddlers<br>Start-a-Fresh Course (B&U)<br>Dance (Teenzone)<br>Prayer Meeting |
| Friday             | 25        | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                                  |
| <b>Sunday</b>      | <b>27</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>4.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><b>CC@4</b><br><b>Evening Service</b>               |
| Monday             | 28        | 9.30<br>1-3                                | Team Meeting<br>Befrienders                                                  |
| Tuesday            | 29        | 7.30                                       | Momentum                                                                     |
| Wednesday          | 30        | 9-3<br>5.30-7                              | Day Centre<br>Dance (Teenzone)                                               |
| <b>MAY</b>         |           |                                            |                                                                              |
| Thursday           | 1         | 9.30<br>1-3<br>5.30-7<br>7.30              | Toddlers<br>Start-a-Fresh Course (B&U)<br>Dance (Teenzone)<br>Prayer Meeting |
| Friday             | 2         | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                                  |
| <b>Sunday</b>      | <b>4</b>  | <b>10.00</b><br><b>4.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Service of the Word</b><br><b>CC@4</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b>           |

See weekly notice sheets for details of all events.

## **Basement**

### **Regular term time Programme for the Basement**

|           |        |                      |
|-----------|--------|----------------------|
| Monday    | 3-7    | Teenzone             |
|           | 7-9.30 | Teenzone sports @ QE |
| Wednesday | 3-7    | Teenzone             |
|           | 7-8.30 | Teenzone             |
| Thursday  | 1-3    | Befrienders          |
|           | 3-4    | Teenzone             |
|           | 4-7    | Teenzone             |

Girl Guiding UK have units meeting each week here at Christ Church throughout term-time. For more information contact 01780 784091.

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Cat's Tails

Hi Family!

Still enjoying the sunshine! I had a disruption to my siesta the other day; a tabby – uninvited guest. I just ignored him. After all one must behave in the proper manner! I hope you all have a lovely Mother's Day. I am very lucky; I have Mummy Jane and Mummy Ruthie. Mummy Ruthie gave me some lovely chicken the other day! I hope you all enjoy Easter and come to our services! There is a calendar in this magazine that tells you when they are. Luvs you all. MD

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