

March 2013

Wednesday	20	9-3 7.00 7.30 7.30	Day Centre Informal Prayer Meeting Gospel Choir PCC
Thursday	21	9.30 1-3 7.30	Toddlers Twinklets Prayer Meeting
Sunday	24	10.00 4.00 6.30	Holy Communion CC@4 Evensong
Monday	25	7:00 8.00	Compline Bible Study Home Group
Tuesday	26	6.30 7:00	Spanish Lesson Compline
Wednesday	27	9-3 11:15 7.00 7.30	Day Centre Holy Communion Compline Gospel Choir
Thursday	28	1-3 6:30	Twinklets Passover Supper
Friday	29	2.00	Good Friday Mediation
Sunday	31	10:00	Easter Family Praise

See weekly notice sheets for details of all events.

Girl Guiding UK have units meeting each week here at Christ Church throughout term time.

For more information contact 01780 784091.

Basement

Regular term time programme for the Basement

Monday	3-7 7-9.30	Teenzone Teenzone sports @ QE
Wednesday	3-7 7-8.30	Teenzone Teenzone
Thursday	1-3 3-4 4-7	Befrienders Teenzone (Careers Session) Teenzone

Dear Friends,

Lent often catches me unawares, before I know it we are in Lent and I've started the morning with my first cup of coffee, and have already munched my first croissant, both items I really enjoy and would willingly give up for Lent.... If I'd not already eaten them on the morning of Ash Wednesday before my brain has engaged. I'm somewhat forgetful at remembering those things I've decided to try and give up, or those things I've tried to take-on. A few years back I tried to memorize a Bible verse a day for Lent, but after five days I couldn't remember my first from day one, so gave up. I wonder: How's your Lent going, what are you doing to try and help you prepare for Easter?

This year I have taken to reading the Passion narrative in Matthew's Gospel as my discipline, and it has really inspired me. Reading this text afresh whilst in the season of Lent has given it so much more meaning and resonance, that I'd encourage us all to try and take on something like this, even if you are already part way through Lent, maybe each day read a chapter from Matthew Ch. 21 to 27, and cycle through until we get to Easter Sunday, and then read Ch. 28 (The Resurrection).

The Resurrection is the reason why we are a people with hope, joy and an assurance of eternal life; we have an amazing story to tell. Jesus has overcome Sin and Death, and we also through Him share in that new life, what a message!

I pray for us all this Lent, that the Holy Spirit would inspire us afresh with the amazing news of Jesus Christ, and we would be made ready through these 40 days, staying close to God, being transformed, ready for our Mission to share the good news and hope we have within us.

Every blessing this Lent.

Rev. David

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*April Magazine*

Please may I have your articles for the April magazine by Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>, so that it can be ready for Easter Day, March 31<sup>st</sup>. My e-mail address is janecalderin@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you.

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Parish Registers

Baptisms

3rd February Layton John Paul Dwyer

Funerals

8th February Gladys Birch

15th February Alfred Sendall

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*. Calendar*

*March*

|               |           |                                            |                                                                  |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>3</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>Evensong</b>          |
| Monday        | 4         | 1-3<br>8.00                                | Befrienders<br>Bible Study Home Group                            |
| Tuesday       | 5         | 6.30                                       | Spanish Lesson                                                   |
| Wednesday     | 6         | 9-3<br>7.00<br>7.30                        | Day Centre<br>Informal Prayer Meeting<br>Gospel Choir            |
| Thursday      | 7         | 9.30<br>1-3<br>7.30<br>7.30                | Toddlers<br>Twinklets<br>Prayer Meeting<br>Horticultural Society |
| Friday        | 8         | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                      |
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>10</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>Evensong</b>          |
| Monday        | 11        | 1-3<br>8.00                                | Befrienders<br>Bible Study Home Group                            |
| Tuesday       | 12        | 6.30                                       | Spanish Lesson                                                   |
| Wednesday     | 13        | 9-3<br>7.00<br>7.30                        | Day Centre<br>Informal Prayer Meeting<br>Gospel Choir            |
| Thursday      | 14        | 9.30<br>1-3<br>7.30                        | Toddlers<br>Twinklets<br>Prayer Meeting                          |
| Friday        | 15        | 1-3                                        | Befrienders                                                      |
| <b>Sunday</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>10.00</b><br><b>4.00</b><br><b>6.30</b> | <b>Morning Prayer</b><br><b>CC@4</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b>    |
| Monday        | 18        | 1-3<br>8.00                                | Befrienders<br>Bible Study Home Group                            |
| Tuesday       | 19        | 6.30                                       | Spanish Lesson                                                   |

that will only ever be part of the story. The complexity of human life is such that it can never be reduced to mere facts and figures.

Life is not clear cut and simple, and neither are the choices we all have to make as we live it. Those choices are affected by many things – where we are, who we are with, our circumstances and those of the people around us, and so on.

Many of us still struggle with this; it's tempting to think that it would be easier to be told what to think, to take refuge in absolutes. In reality, we know that life isn't like that. That's part of the challenge and the joy and the pain of being human. That means we have to take the time to ask questions, to form our own opinions and views, and then to exercise choice and judgement in the way we live our lives. When we think about truth as it relates to how we are with each other, how we interact with each other, there will always be more than one way to look at things.

As we make our way through the season of Lent, we are brought face to face with many truths: the truth of our own lives, if we are honest enough to examine them and hold them up to the light of God's love; the truth of our broken world, longing for the hope of divine healing and reconciliation; the truth of the depth of God's love for us, shown in the death of Jesus on the cross; the truth that out of despair, God's gift of new life is offered to us all in the promise and the joy of Easter Day. These are the truths to which Jesus came to testify. They are the same truths that you and I are called to proclaim as his disciples.

*+Christopher Lincoln.*

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### *Cat's Tails*

Hi Family,  
That horrible 'white stuff' is back! Although I still take my daily constitutionals it's awfully chilly on the paws! Those 'house' cats have it so easy. Take it easy when travelling folks! Be safe!

Luv's you all!

*MD xxxx*

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## *Collections*

|      | Open Plate | DD TP    | DD NTP | Env/Gift Aid | Env. (NTP) |
|------|------------|----------|--------|--------------|------------|
| Jan: | £297.94    | £1097.50 | £60    | £ 278        | £130       |

DD TP = Direct Debit Tax Payer

DD NTP = Direct Debit Non Tax Payer

*Gail.*

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### *100 Club*

Draw result for January: 1<sup>st</sup>: No.53, 2<sup>nd</sup>: No.63

The next draws will take place on Feb 27<sup>th</sup> & March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Day Centre.

As mentioned in last month's magazine we are in desperate need of new members to join the club.

As I have no new members coming forward it is with regret that we are going to have to reduce the monthly prize money to a total of £35 per month. Two prizes winners will be drawn 1st prize £20 & 2nd prize £15 starting with the April draw.

Please encourage family & friends to join, speak to Dawn Field if you are interested, you pay just £1 per month and receive a number which will be entered in the draw that takes place at the Day Centre generally on the third Wednesday each month.

Thanks, *Dawn*

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## *Bits and Pieces*

### *Pancake Party*

A pancake party was held at Christ Church on Shrove Tuesday. Many thanks to Christina, Geraldine, Rev. David and Mike for arranging it and providing a fun afternoon for the 'young' of our community.

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Electoral Roll

Christ Church is renewing the Electoral Roll. This means that all people currently on the roll are required to reapply to go onto the roll again. Also this is the time for any new members must apply to go onto the roll. You must have attended Christ Church for the last six months and be over the age of sixteen.

Please see me today, February 24th, to fill out a form as today is the last day for applications. Thank you.

Peter Wise,

Christ Church Electoral Officer.
4, Sutherland Way, Stamford, PE9 2TA
Tel: Stamford 751789

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## *Mothers Union*

The next M.U. Holy Communion Service, followed by the meeting, will be held at St. George's on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at the usual time of 10.00am. All are welcome.

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Women's World Day of Prayer

A service to celebrate Women's World Day of Prayer will be held in St. Augustine's Church on Friday March 1st at 2:30 pm. All are welcome.

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### *Toddlers*

Hello All,  
We have been making Valentine's cards with all sorts of heart shapes and glitter. There will be some very happy Mummies and Daddies! They were made with love and joy! Different crafts are planned for the rest of the month. Our "babies" are growing lovely, all such adorable little ones. Hopefully they will grow up happy and healthily. God bless them all. XXX

### *The Toddlers Gang.*

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Bishop of Lincoln's Letter.....

These three words - 'what is truth?' – are famously uttered by Pontius Pilate when Jesus stands before him after being arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. Pilate questions Jesus, and by the end of the conversation Jesus' fate of being condemned to death on the cross is more or less sealed.

Pilate's question has echoed down the centuries: 'what is truth?' Pilate recognised that 'truth' is not only a relative term, it's also ambiguous. Science and mathematics can seem to pin it down in an objective way, but

The Christ Church Community Transport Scheme is extremely grateful for the grant allocation from Lincolnshire County Council and for this vote of confidence in the long term viability of the Transport Scheme. We would also like to thank Nina Lightfoot, Senior Accessibility Project Officer for the support received in developing our bid.

Ian Collis



Easter Flowers

Every year we ask everyone to be as generous as possible with their donations towards the Church Flowers for Easter, Harvest & Christmas. Our thanks to each one of you, without your generosity we would struggle to raise the funds.

Donations for the Easter flowers can be given to either Churchwardens Dawn or Brian by Sunday 24th March. 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 to remember these will be displayed in the Church Foyer.

The flower ladies & gentleman will be arranging the flowers for Easter. If you would like to join us, any help would be gratefully appreciated. Please check the notice board for the date and time.

Thank you,

Dawn Field



The Passover Supper

Again this year we will be celebrating the Passover Supper on Maundy Thursday.

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 Pascal 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*. This year we will use the Passover Supper as our Communion Service and at 8pm there will be a Quiet Hour in the church.

Join us on March 28th at 6:30 pm. Sign-up sheet on the Notice Board. If anyone would like to help with the cooking or preparation please let me know.

Deacon Jane



Befrienders

Hi Everyone,

Our enjoyable gatherings continue. We have talks and slide shows on Stoke Rochford church, also a visit on 4th March. We thank Chris (Thorley) in advance for all his hard work. The Rutland Adult Education course continues, Jayne and Linda always make it very interesting. We have another film on Friday March 8th and a natural history talk with Phil Rudkin on March 15th. Also we have two Fun Fridays with Ruth Mawdsley. We are looking forward to a visit to Waterside Garden Centre 18th March. We then break for Easter.

Happy Easter everyone! God Bless.

Befrienders

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## *Day Centre*

The return of the snow in the middle of February came as rather an unwelcome surprise but it very helpfully disappeared before our weekly Meetings.

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Alex Naylor returns, singing, telling jokes and playing the organ and on the 24<sup>th</sup> Cummins Technology will be joining us for a talk.

The Foot Health Professional will not be visiting this month.

The next Day Centre Communion will be on March 27<sup>th</sup> commencing at 11.15am.

We will be closed, for two weeks on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> for the Easter break.

We would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter.

*Amy and Carolyn.*

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The Community Transport Scheme

Good News – a New Minibus for Christ Church

The Community Transport Programme Minibus scheme originally started with a year-long pilot project to assess the need for a community minibus, organized in April 2010 by the Lincoln County Council (LCC) and Christ Church. The LCC loaned Christ Church a 10 seater, wheelchair accessible

minibus. This enabled the scheme to accommodate groups, disabled passengers and people with wheelchairs. In September 2011 the pilot was deemed a success. Christ Church was donated a 16 seater accessible minibus by the Rotary and Inner Wheel Club of Burghley and Stamford. This allowed Christ Church to return the loaned minibus to LCC and to continue to provide and extend the service established by the pilot. It is available to hire to members of the Transport Scheme and non-profit making organisations. The minibus has a number of regular contracts including weekly and fortnightly trips to Stamford Market by residents of Swayfield and Stamford, the Christ Church Day Centre, lunch clubs, Christ Church weekly services, the Startafresh Project, Age UK, Mother's Union and local primary schools.

The existing minibus is 11 years old, has done 90,000 miles and repair costs are steadily increasing. The repair costs to then get it through its most recent MOT were over £1000. There is serious corrosion under the minibus. In addition, routine maintenance during the year will be about £1,000. The scheme cannot afford this level of overhead which will increase over the coming year due to corrosion and the list of warnings issued with the new MOT.

Lincolnshire County Council have always supported the development of our community transport scheme by offering officer and Community Transport Association assistance to help us identify ways to grow and become sustainable for the future.

As a result of this support a report from the Community Transport Association highlighted our biggest risk would be the age of our current minibus and suggests the best solution to this issue would be to replace the old minibus with a new vehicle.

We are delighted to be able to announce that a bid to Lincolnshire County Council for a grant from the Rural Sustainable Community Transport Fund was successful and a cheque for £50,000 has been received by the Transport Scheme. A brand new wheel chair accessible Ford Transit minibus has been ordered with delivery expected around Easter, the grant also includes an element of the first year running costs to give us a good start on our way to a sustainable community transport scheme.