

May Magazine

Phil. 3. ¹³ *Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

Dear Friends in Christ,

I can see this coming year being one of many firsts for me, what with the positive APCM just completed, and no doubt many other fresh experiences ahead. It was wonderful to reflect back at the APCM and see all that has been achieved this past year, and we now look ahead to where God is leading us for the year ahead, seeking where God is already at work by His Holy Spirit and joining in that work as fellow labourers for the harvest. We know some of the plans before us, but we continue to seek God for wisdom and direction for all that we hope to do for His name in the community where we worship, seeking to bring Honour and Glory to His name.

As we strive to serve God the best way we can, we know that we also need to be nourished, strengthened and encouraged. To this end I want to let you know about a free conference being hosted by St George's over the weekend of May 25-27th called 'The Body Prepared' please do look out for the flyers and posters and go along to be refreshed and inspired for the year ahead.

In our busyness and hectic lives may we always find time to rest in our Lord Jesus, time to explore His Word, and time to seek His face in prayer. If we long for God's Kingdom to grow where we are, then we must take seriously the need of prayer, Wesley put it well when he said "God does nothing on the earth save in answer to believing prayer." It would be wonderful in the coming months to establish a weekly prayer meeting to pray for the needs of our parish, and also some form of Bible Study group to explore God's Word together, please do consider these things and let me know your interest.

In God's Service. *Rev. David*

Parish Register

<i>Baptisms</i>	15 th April	Lawrence William John Buckingham Ellen Marie Hicks
<i>Wedding</i>	7 th April	Amy Jane Crisp & Leigh Conrad Parker
<i>Funerals</i>	10 th April	Edward George Beal
	12 th April	Audrey Daisy Holmes

Collections

	Open Plate	Env/Gift Aid	Env. (NTP)
March:	£202.78	£178	£1186.20
April:	£275.91	£161	£1035

Parish Share 2012

We have paid £5913 to date; this covers the first three months of 2012, leaving a balance of £17,000. This is a remarkable achievement compared to our past financial position. Please continue to pray for our financial position in 2012.

Envelope Giving / Bankers Order

We would like to promote envelope giving / bankers order. If anyone would like to give on a regular basis, please speak to me - *especially if you are a tax payer!*

If you would prefer to pay through the bank, I have the necessary paperwork to be completed, which I will action on your behalf.

All enquiries are handled in complete confidence.

01780 751780

Gail

June Magazine

Could all entries for the above edition of the magazine be given to Jane Richardson by **Sunday, May 20th**. Publication will be the following **Sunday, May 27th**. Email contributions to: janerichardson@talktalk.net

Fundraising

Important dates for future events:

Saturday 5th May Bag packing at Waitrose

Saturday 16th June Strawberry Teas

Friday 31st August Stall on the Stamford Friday market

Saturday 24th November Bazaar & Grand Draw

Bag Packing at Waitrose on Saturday 5th May 9am-5pm

Please can you help us raise funds for Church, if you can spare us an hour or two to bag pack at Waitrose, please sign up on the list in the entrance hall. If you are not able to help perhaps a family member or friend may be able to help.

Please speak to Dawn or Jane Harris if you are able to help or you require any further information.

T Towels

We need your help in selling our Anniversary T Towels, if you can suggest any way or any place where we could sell these, they are £3.75 each and we still have a large stock. Please speak to Dawn or Jane Harris if you can help. If you are able to take a small number to sell to your families or friends or perhaps your work colleagues please let us know.

200 Club

We still have spare numbers available so if you would like to be part of the 200 club please speak to Dawn, the cost is £1 a month, and the two winning numbers are drawn at the Day Centre on the third Wednesday of each month when you could be the lucky winner of one of the two £20 prizes.

April's Winning Numbers are: 136 and 22

Blessings

Fundraising Committee

Day Centre

We were all saddened to hear Ted Beal, one of our longstanding volunteers had passed away recently. Ted and Joyce had volunteered with us for many years until their well earned retirement. We send our love and prayers to Joyce and family at this sad time.

April also saw the retirement of volunteer, Amy Munton. We would all like to thank Amy for everything she did at the Day Centre and will miss her hugely. Hopefully, she will return to see us on a regular basis.

In May, we welcome back Barry Daff who will give a talk on the work of the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance. Barry has firsthand experience of this having had the need to use the Ambulance after a road traffic accident. This will be on the 9th, singer Nicky Downs entertains us on the 16th and a local PCSO will speak on May 23rd.

The Foot Health Practitioner will be with us on May 30th at 10am.

The next Day Centre Communion will be on May 2nd at 11.15am

Amy & Carolyn

Thank you

Daphne and Peter Wise would like to thank all their friends from Christ Church for all their good wishes, cards and presents on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Also thank you for the lovely prayers from Rev. David which were very much appreciated.

Fun & Fitness

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 1st of May at 2:30pm with our new instructor Deanna.

A big thank you to Gill for all her hard work over the last 9 years.

Unfortunately due to rent increase our sub's will now have to be £2.50 per session.

It is with much regret that, due to ill health, Pete and Daphne will have to retire. If there is anyone who could take on the running of the group, they would be very grateful. Please get in touch on 751789.

Peter & Daphne Wise. Group Coordinators

Toddlers

The new term begins without Aunty Barbara! We will miss her a lot. Plans are afoot to try to build for the future. Rachel McKintyre (St. George's) and Rachel Moncester (Children's Centre) will be joining us to help us with their expertise.

We hope our parents and carers will let us know if there is anything they would particularly like. We look to the future.

Nanny Ruth & Aunty Tina

Thank you, Toddlers

I would like to say a big thank you to Uncle Mike, Auntie Tina and Nanny Ruth for my beautiful flowers and presents. Oh! and yummy cake. I have had seven wonderful years at Toddlers and would like to thank all of the Mums and children that made it possible. However I feel now is time to step down.

Love and best wishes,

Auntie Barbara

Befrienders

We started our new term with delicious homemade cheeseburgers and fresh fruit salad! We look forward to trips to such places as Ferry Meadows, and to picnics, studying churches with Chris, and a variety of courses and our Skegness trip on August 14th. Once a month, Ruth Mawdsley will present a 'relaxation' session. Kitty will help us make decorations for a Jubilee party to be held on Monday 28th of May. All in all, an exciting summer term.

Ruthie

~~~~~

## *Gospel Choir*

Our debut performances on Good Friday at the March of Witness and Easter Evening at St. George's were a great success. Thoroughly enjoyed by us all! We have been stopped in the street by our audiences to congratulate us and to say how much it was enjoyed. We thank Christina for her patience and hard work. We now start practices ready for our next performance in June.

Many thanks to EVERYONE!

~~~~~

Week of 24-7 Prayer May 18th - 25th

As with previous weeks of prayer in St George's, and by way of preparation for the Pentecost weekend of ministry 'The Body Prepared', we will be setting up a Prayer Room in George's Place for the week of 18-24 May. Individuals/small groups may sign up to undertake hourly sessions of prayer around the clock for a week; the aim being to fill the week with continuous prayer. The vision of the week comes from Acts 1:14 where the disciples 'all joined together constantly in prayer' prior to the Day of Pentecost. The theme of the week will be Freedom/Moving into Freedom. To book online visit <http://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/1eeb74>. or via the St. Georges Home Page at www.stgeorgeschurch.net

~~~~~

## *Teenzone*

Dear All, We have a group of young people on Stamford Youth Panel, who have really excelled since September, and I want to let you all know of the positive things that they are doing in the community.

The youth panel have been working throughout the Easter Holidays. This started through a whole youth panel day, having guest speakers including Jenny Wright (former Teenzone coordinator) and former Endowed Schools students, to talk about equality and prejudice. All of the youth panel really enjoyed their day and they feel that they benefitted from this. The second part of this day was to plan an activity day at Teenzone. With most of the youth panel being Junior Leaders at sessions, they all took a leadership role to benefit their personal development. The day they ran went so well, and all the young people that went said how much they enjoyed it. Special mention must go to George Dewson and Katie Burke for their great leadership skills. It's very clear how much of a difference their being involved in these two groups is making. Finally, we did our first 'Junior Leader Awards'. Trophies and Shields were given out to young people for awards such as 'The Christ Church Award' for motivation, enthusiasm and being proactive, 'The Youth Panel Award' for being a role model, Merit Award for always trying their best, Leader of the Year Award, Activities Leader, Young Person of the Year, and finally we awarded a Teenzone Ambassador for the young person who has gone the extra mile. This person will be a big part in the history of Teenzone. The winners of these awards were:

- Christ Church Award (motivation, enthusiasm and proactive)
- George Dewson
- Activities Leader of the Year - Joe Corby (QE)
- Youth Panel Award - Matt Kew (SES)
- Young Person of the Year - Katie Burke (QE)
- Merit Award - Victoria Porter, Alex Jeffries (QE)

- Leader of the Year - George Dewson (QE) and Katie Warren (Bluecoat)

- Teenzone Ambassador - Makayla Taplin. (QE)

Some of you may have seen the article in the Mercury about this.

Additionally, the youth panel have also caused a stir at the Town Council Offices. After organising a litter pick at the Recreation Ground and the Meadows, our Youth Panel wrote to the town mayor to tell them what they had done, and what they had found (i.e. the large amount of litter). They also gave suggestions that the council look at getting more bins. Their reason for doing this was so that older people didn't always associate young people with negative images. The mayor personally replied to Makayla's home address, and she was very proud of what she had achieved, causing both her and Katie Burke to be interviewed by the Stamford Mercury.

This year the panel are also hoping to join the membership of the British Youth Council, which Teenzone and Christ Church will pay for, but will benefit all members greatly. They will get the opportunity to join campaigns, get tips from debaters, and even visit the House of Commons.

Needless to say, the youth panel have really excelled this term. Our newest member, Lucy Gardner has grown in confidence to take part in activities, after helping to organise the Activity Day this Easter.

This next term we will be looking at equality and the way that young people are perceived in the press. They are very much hoping to get involved in the community further, and one member (Matt Kew) has a meeting with the Stamford Mercury next Tuesday about their interest in getting a 'Stamford Youth Panel' column in the weekly paper. There was great enthusiasm from their side.

If you have any questions about anything that the panel are doing, or would like to come down to a meeting or an activity they organise, please don't hesitate to ask.

Many Thanks

*Ali*

~~~~~

The Bishop of Lincoln's Letter

Dear Friends,

The Feast of Pentecost falls at the end of May.

The idea of the Holy Spirit coming upon us as it came upon and overwhelmed the apostles in the upper room at the first Pentecost, is a powerful image for a Christian. However, the Holy Spirit's impact might also be rather less dramatic. The Spirit of God – who brooded over the waters of creation, who inspired the prophets, who entered the womb of Mary and descended upon Jesus at his baptism – is active in God's world and can come to us in simpler and more mundane ways.

Having discerned the presence of the Spirit, we need to nurture that presence. God gives human beings a part in the creation, redemption and sanctification of the world – not the primary part, that's for him; but we are called to co-operate in discerning and nurturing that which speaks of him to our world. We can do this in a variety of ways: for example by seeking to protect the integrity of creation, or by working to bring reconciliation and harmony between ethnic and religious groups and always by blowing on the embers of the spirit of God in our own life. These embers are there in every human being and are always ready gently to be fanned into a bigger flame.

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire!

+Christopher Lincoln

Love in a Box

I know the weather at the moment is not encouraging us to change out of our winter shoes, but when the sun does shine and you go looking for those summer shoes, please ask for the shoe box and donate it to us for Love in a Box, later in the year. Thank you for your continuing support with this very worthwhile project.

Gail

Calendar

May

Tuesday	1	10:00	Kitchen Review
		12:30	No Evergreen Lunch
		2-3:30	Fun & Fitness
Wednesday	2	9-3.00	Day Centre
		7:00	Informal Prayer Meeting
		7:30	Gospel Choir
Thursday	3	9.30	Toddler Group
		1-3	Twinkllets
		1-3	Befrienders
		7:30	Horticultural Society
Friday	4	10:30	Jean Black's Funeral
		1-3	Befrienders
Saturday	5	7:30 – 11	Stamford Brothers
		9-4	Bag Packing at Waitrose
Sunday 5th of Easter	6	10.00	Holy Communion
		4:00	CC@4
		6.30	Celtic Service at URC
Monday	7	9-1	Car Scheme Closed
		1-3	Befrienders
Tuesday	8	2:30-4:30	Fun & Fitness
Wednesday	9	10-3:30	Day Centre
		7.00	Informal Prayer meeting
		7.30	Gospel Choir
Thursday	10	9-11:30	Toddlers
		1-3	Twinkllets
		1-3	Befrienders
Friday	11	1-3	Befrienders
Sunday 6th of Easter	13	10.00	Holy Communion
		2:00	Baptism
		4:00	CC@4
		6.30	Evensong
Monday	14	1-3	Befrienders
Tuesday	15	9-12:30	CAP Training
		2:30-4:30	Fun & Fitness
		7:00	Lads' Club
		7:30	PCC Meeting
Wednesday	16	10-3:30	Day Centre
		7.00	Informal Prayer meeting
		7:30	Gospel Choir
Thursday	17	9-11:30	Toddlers
		1-3	Twinkllets
		1-3	Befrienders

Friday	18	1-3	Befrienders
Sunday 7th of Easter	20	10.00 4.00 6.30	King's Praise CC@4 Holy Communion
Monday	21	1-3	Befrienders
Tuesday	22	2:30-4:30	Fun & Fitness
Wednesday	23	10-3:30 7.00 7.30	Day Centre Informal Prayer meeting Gospel Choir
Thursday	24	9-11:30 1-3 1-3	Toddlers Twinklets Befrienders
Friday	25	1-3	Befrienders
Saturday	26	10-1	Stamford Community Orchard Group
Sunday Pentecost	27	10.00 4:00 6.30	Holy Communion CC@4 Holy Communion
Monday	28	1-3	Befrienders
Tuesday	29		
Wednesday	30	9-3 7.00 7:30	Day Centre Informal Prayer meeting Gospel Choir
Thursday	31	9.30 1-3	Toddlers Twinklets
June			
Friday	1	1-3	Befrienders
Trinity Sunday	3	10.00 4:00 6.30	Holy Communion CC@4 Evensong

Regular term time Programme for the Basement

Monday	3-7 7-9.3	Teenzone Teenzone sports @ QE
Wednesday	3-7 7-8.30	Teenzone Teenzone
Thursday	1-3 3-4 4-7	Befrienders Teenzone (Careers Session) Teenzone

- See weekly notices for details of all events
- Girl Guiding UK (Guides, Brownies, & Rainbows) have units meeting each week here at Christ Church. For more information contact 01780 784091.

~~~~~

## *Cat's Tails*

*Hi Family!*

Mummy Ruth and I 'lost' each other one Wednesday evening! She was calling me to my 'des res' and I was calling her at the front door! Found each other half way! Been a bit quiet during the hols, but back to normal now. Hope you all enjoyed your Easter hols!

Love to all, **MD**

~~~~~



**...Are you free to drive our
minibus on Sundays?**

Would you be interested in driving people who need a little support when travelling or have no other means of transport and who would like to come to the 10 o'clock service at Christ Church on Sundays?

We are looking for people to help us by collecting these people in the Christ Church minibus.

Full training will be given

Your help would be very much appreciated

If you would like any further information or would be interested in helping please call Geraldine on **07950464093**