

# Christ Church

## Green Lane

### Stamford PE9 1HE

Vicar of Christ Church	Rev. Nikki Bates	01780 766026
Church Wardens	Dawn Field	01780 753645
	Brian Stephens	01780 480000
Operations Manager	Martin Purnell	01780 766466
Lay Readers	Paul Darley	01780 759100
	Martin Purnell	07799763771
Authorised Lay Ministers	Jed Bates Julie Bates	01780 752290
PCC Secretary	Lisa Garwood	01780 757877
PCC Treasurer	Pamela Cook	01780 751713
Events Information & Publicity	Nigel Garwood	07921461683
Social & Events Ministry	Lesley Foulkes	07759166508
Prayer Network	Lisa Garwood	07540405181
Day Centre	Catrina Batey	07949605217
StartaFresh	Geraldine Crowley	07950464093
Teenzone	Ali Rigby	01780 766446 EX. 4
Transport Scheme	Ian Collis	01780 766446 EX. 5
Tots n Toast	Rev. Nikki Bates	01780 766026
CAP Job Club Manager	Linda DePellette	07774811793
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Magazine Editor	Linda DePellette	07715534731
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Visit our website or church Notice Boards for details of events and much more.

Ch [www.christchurchstamford.com](http://www.christchurchstamford.com)



@Christ Church-Stamford or



Twitter @christchurchpe9

## From the Vicars desk.....

October has been a great month!

Thank you so much for listening to God and responding with such generosity to our Giving Weekend, God has truly blessed us through the giving weekend and an unexpected financial gift from the sale of the former Arc Book Shop, who have also provided us with 60 new pew Bibles which are now in use Sunday by Sunday.

Our Vision Day with Revd's John Leech and Fran Jeffries from the Diocese Discipleship Team was also a great success with around 50 people staying for lunch and a good number precipitating in the Vision afternoon.

We have identified our values – what we are aiming to be as:

Christ centred, Biblical & prayerful, community focused, hospitable and welcoming, growing and learning...

You are very welcome to join us for a follow up evening in church on 10<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 to decide on the action plan to achieve these values – Our 5 year aim is to be known as the centre of our community, a beacon of hope where lives are changed as people encounter Jesus.

Exciting times ahead!



Rev. Nikki and Tony

## Bishops Letter

Dear friends,

It has been a productive year for some of Lincolnshire's farmers. I do not profess to be any kind of agricultural expert, but as Bishop of Lincoln I felt a real sense of pride when I heard recently of Tim Lamyman - one of our own, farming on the Wolds - and his new world record wheat and oilseed rape yields. That will make an awful lot of bread, biscuits and cake, for which the country, and I especially, am very grateful. In the south of the diocese, I see fields bursting with pumpkins, and I look with satisfaction at the Brussels sprouts, some of which will inevitably end up on our dining tables at Christmas.

But while some farmers are celebrating a fabulous harvest, and the rest of us gratefully look forward to our Christmas feasts, others continue to feel the pinch of the impact of national and international markets on our relatively small part of the world. Lincolnshire's dairy farmers might be wondering if their long hours will ever be profitable again. Cereal growers might wonder if costs will ever stop rising, while the value of their crops and hard work remains depressed.

The harvest festival was once a genuine thanksgiving to God for the success of a small scale crop, and food for the cold winter months. Now crops have been bred to be more reliable, techniques and land stewardship more scientifically advanced, and sales more predictable (even if prices are low), has God become less relevant? What is it that we're *really* celebrating at the harvest festival?

For me, the harvest festival should be a vital part of our calendar to remind us all that the world we have inherited is a wonderful place, that our land provides all the food we need, and that our work is done not only to feed our families, but also to the glory of the God who made us, and who made the land of which we're custodians for a fraction of a fraction of history. Please remember, and pray for, those who don't have enough to eat, those who are anxious about the future, and for your own stewardship of the gifts you have. And let's also celebrate how fabulous Lincolnshire and its farmers are at producing food.

+ Christopher Lincoln:

## **From the Parish Register**

Audrey Edith Kitson

Della Clarke



*Rest In Peace*

## **Baptism**

We welcomed Evie Michelle Davies  
into our church family at her Baptism on 1<sup>st</sup> November





# Devotional

## Ephesians 4:1-16 A healthy life

What are the characteristics of a healthy church?

Paul tells us how the church can grow up healthy in God. (v 16 Msg)

### **1. Unity**

Unity is not simply the work of the Holy Spirit but the very instrument of which the Holy Spirit works. The Holy Spirit unites the church (v16). The church is one.

“There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” (v4-6).

Unity is relational. All Christians are sons and daughters of one God and father of all. Therefore we are all brothers and sisters. We all love one lord, Jesus. We all have the Holy Spirit living within us. Ultimately it's our relationship to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit that unites us.

And yet, unity is so hard in practise. It's easy to argue. It's easy to split. It's easy to start our own group with people who agree with us. Unity requires great effort. Paul urges us to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace (v3). We need to spare no effort to make the invisible unity of the church visible at every level – within local churches, between churches, and amongst all denominations.

Before he went to the cross, Jesus prayed that the church would be one in order that the world might believe (John 17:21-23). This unity is founded in God's unity, so it can never be at the expense of truth (v17). We must continue to speak the truth in love (Eph 4:15). As John Stott writes, *“Truth becomes hard if it's not softened by love. Love becomes soft if it's not strengthened by truth.”* However, the visible unity of the church should always be our aim.

Paul describes characteristics that help this unity: “Be completely humble and gentle. Be patient, bearing with one another in love. (verse 2).

## **2. Diversity**

Unity does not mean uniformity. The Holy Spirit brings both unity and diversity. Paul goes on to say, “To each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it (v7). Jesus has ascended higher than all the heavens (v10) but he also returned to the earth in the person of the Holy Spirit through whom different gifts are now given to each of us in the church” (10-12).

Every single person in the church is a minister. You are a minister. The word for service means ministry. We are all given different gifts.

## **3. Maturity**

The purpose of these gifts is that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith, and in the knowledge of the son of God, becoming mature as we attain the complete measure of the fullness of Christ. It is not enough to get older. We need to grow up in spiritual maturity through growing in our relationship with Jesus.

## **4. Growth**

Healthy children grow. Healthy churches grow in depth and in number. Church growth should be natural. This is a beautiful picture of how we each play our own part in the growth of the body of Christ. Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the head, and that is, Christ. From him the whole body joined and held together by every

supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. (v15-16)

## **Prayer**

Lord, help us to exercise the gifts that you have given us, to be released into the ministry you have called us.

Help us to grow into mature knowledge of Jesus in a healthy, united and growing church.

*Lesley Foulkes led this devotion to open our October PCC meeting, it is taken from The Bible in One Year...an online resource produced by Nicky Gumbel of Holy Trinity Brompton. Also known for producing The Alpha Course!*



## **StartaFresh and Befrienders**

We enjoyed our trip to Corby during the half term break, which as always was lots of fun.

Our autumn programme is up and running and we are all looking forward to the next big event which of course is Christmas.

Ruthie and all at Befrienders

Geraldine (StartaFresh Coordinator)



## **Christ Church Community Transport**

We are still short of drivers so if you can spare some time – it can be as much or as little as you like- please contact **Ian** on **01780 482380**.



## Day Centre

It is with sadness we said goodbye to Gwen Cole one of our Day Centre members, our prayers and thoughts go out to her family. Gwen's funeral is on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 9.30 at the Crematorium.

We have had lots going on this month. We would like to thank Nikki Downs – hand bell ringers and Wild Cats for entertaining us.

We also welcome two new members: John Terry and Win Mountain.

We raised £245.89 at the market tombola, and thank everyone who donated. We have another tombola stall on 27<sup>th</sup> November at Morrisons, we would like any donations you have (sorry the two tombola's are so close together.)

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> – Foot Man & Alex Naylor playing the organ

Nov 11<sup>th</sup> – Ann from F.M. selling smellies

Nov 18<sup>th</sup> – Gerald Hillard

Nov 25<sup>t</sup> - Nikki Downs

If there are any drivers who have a few hours to spare on a Wednesday – please contact Catrina.

We have had a donation of £231.20 in memory of Thomas William Fitchett. We would like to thank the family.

with love and God bless,

*Catrina and Barbara*





## Stamford Food Bank

The Food Bank is still in need of various items. Please consider buying one or two extra items when you do your weekly shopping and drop them into the box at church. Some of the items currently needed are:

Tinned meats, sugar, long-life milk and shampoo.

Please look out for leaflets with updates of most needed foods which will be in the 'food box' at church.

*Thank you*

**Andrew**

**Woodhouse**

Independent Family Funeral Directors

Sandon Barns Casterton Road, Stamford, Lincs PE9 4BP

01780 751719

email: [woodhouse.andrew@sky.com](mailto:woodhouse.andrew@sky.com)

[www.stamfordfunerals.com](http://www.stamfordfunerals.com)



## Teenzone

Mondays	5pm – 7pm	Activities in the basement
	6.30pm – 7.30pm	Sports at Welland Academy
Wednesdays	5pm – 7pm	Activities in the basement
Thursdays	5pm – 7pm	Activities in the basement

## Tots and Toast



Hi Family!

Been having lots of fun and Tony's Toast to keep us going. We have welcomed some new Tots and of course their mums during October, and also lots of story's about Father Abraham and his many sons from Rev Nikki. We have also been learning some new action songs.

You can see some of the pictures we have made at the back of the Church.

The Tots Gang.



Dear Church Family

Would anyone like to help with the cost of my medication, I need this to keep me in good health from worms and fleas. Please speak to Ruthie if you are able to help, the cost per year is £96.

I know that I am loved by many of you adults and children.

God Bless you all

Take care of yourselves

Love  M.D

## CAP Job Club



'Onward Christian Soldiers'

No we have not gone crazy but interviews are happening left, right and centre at the moment for our wonderful group, and this hymn always springs to mind. They are not going off to war of course, but then again it is a constant battle to find work in this day and age and our members are certainly up for this fight. Fingers crossed and God willing we will have jobs to announce soon.

As well as Ruthie helping, Tony also helps and sorts the food for us, soup as its getting chilly. And we also have Paul Darley helping out when he can, and his input is brilliant, thank you Paul.

We are looking forward to having our area manager Jo Hall, visit us on the 17<sup>th</sup> November.

*Linda and Lisa*

## Coffee Mornings

7th November with Alternatives Clothes sale

5<sup>th</sup> December making table decorations and  
Save the Children Christmas cards on sale

10 – 12. With lovely cakes, coffee or tea,  
why not bring someone with you!



Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November

10am Baptism Service

11.45 Sunday Crunch

6.30pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

11.15 Day Centre Communion

Sunday 8th November

10am Remembrance Day Holy Communion

11.45 Sunday Crunch

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 15th November

10am Café style with doughnuts and coffee before the service

No Crunch Today

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

10am Baptism Service

11.45 Sunday Crunch

6.30pm Holy Communion

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November

10am Advent Family Communion  
with bring and share lunch for all

No evening Service

Children's work takes place every Sunday morning  
with crafts, activities and fun!

## Weekly Activities through November

Mondays	1.00pm - 3.00pm	StartaFresh & Befrienders
	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Teenzone
	7.45pm	Home Group at Ruthie's
Tuesdays	11.30am - 2.30pm	Alpha Course at The Vicarage
	10.00am - 2.00pm	CAP Job Club
Wednesdays	10.00am - 2.30pm	Day Centre
	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Teenzone
	8.00pm - 10.00pm	The Garwoods Home group
	8.00pm - 10.00pm	The Nicholls Home group
Thursdays	1.00pm - 3.00pm	StartaFresh & Befrienders
	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Teenzone
Fridays	1.00pm - 3.00pm	StartaFresh & Befrienders

*R. J. Scholes*



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## **Cathy's Corner**

Have you heard his voice today

As you prepared to pray?

Did the answer come,

as you read his word

From the omnipotent God

Who knows your heart,

Your joy,

Your pain.

His word will the truth of our

Motive prove,

That we have not prayed in vain.

So feed your soul daily

On his word.

Hear what he says

An obey,

And go in faith, assured

By his word of truth,

He has spoken to you

Each day,

*Cathy Wootton*

## Love in a Box 2015



Love in a Box.

The date has been booked ...are you free on Saturday 14th November to come to church and lend a hand filling the boxes? It is a time of fellowship and reflection on what we take for granted and what we are giving to these children. The boxes this year are going to Syrian refugee children.

We still desperately need empty shoe boxes, preferably covered in wrapping paper (which can be supplied) as well as toothpaste (Morrisons is probably the cheapest), toothbrushes (Poundland), tennis balls, yoyo's, soft toys, plain note books, jigsaws etc and £3 per box to cover transport costs.

All donations, whether material or money is very gratefully received.

Thank you for your continuing support of this world wide project.

*Gail* 01780 751780

## Grace 2015

### Christian Conference for Women

“...With God all things are possible”

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November Greetham Community Centre

10am -4.30pm

Inspiring speakers, uplifting worship, good food and time to chill with friends.

£10 to include lunch and light refreshments.

Tickets and or information available from

Laura Purnell

# A Choral Celebration of Christmas



Glebe Singers, a community based choir  
from Mark Deeping

Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> at 4pm

Christ Church,  
Green Lane,  
Stamford PE9 1HE

Ticket prices: All Adults £5, Children under 14 £1

Programme details: Yet to be defined but it will  
include some audience participation pieces



Details can be found using the following links :-

Website : [www.glebesingers.co.uk](http://www.glebesingers.co.uk)

Email : [glebesingers@gmail.com](mailto:glebesingers@gmail.com)

: [www.facebook.com/GlebeSingers](http://www.facebook.com/GlebeSingers)      : @Glebe Singers

Tickets available from Ian Collis, Community Car Scheme Office



## **Autumn Bazaar**

Our Autumn Bazaar takes place on **Saturday 21st November**, from 11-2pm. We will be having the following stalls:-

Cakes & preserves, Books, Tombola, Wine and Water, White Elephant Gifts & Toiletries, Toys and Games & Refreshments.

Please support this event by donating any items for the stalls. We need items for the tombola i.e. tins, toiletries, unwanted gifts, bottles of wine for the Wine and Water stall, toys, puzzles, anything really which we can sell to raise funds. Please let Dawn have any items you may have.

If you can make any cakes or preserves these can be delivered to Church on the Saturday morning. We will be setting up the church on Friday evening from 8pm, if you are able to help please pop along. If you do want anything picking up please speak to Dawn and she will arrange to pick any items up.

The Grand Draw will take place at the Bazaar. Thank you to those people who have already taken tickets to sell. If you have not already got yours there are more available in the entrance hall so please take these to sell to your family, friends and neighbours.

We have started contacting the local shops and businesses for Raffle prizes, if you are able to donate a prize that would be appreciated please speak to Dawn.

Finally we look forward to seeing you there please invite your family, friends and neighbours to come along. If you are able to display a poster please speak to Dawn.

Raffle tickets are now available for you to sell to your families and friends, please sign up on the sheet in the entrance hall. The raffle will be drawn at the Autumn Bazaar on Saturday 21st November. If you have any suitable items for Raffle prizes, again, please speak to Dawn.

Dawn

## **Church Family Christmas Card**

PLEASE NOTE, we will be doing a Church Family Christmas Card this year, envelopes for messages and donations will be available from the Church lobby and could you please return them to Dawn Field by November the 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **From your Magazine Editor**

Hello everyone,

Ooo it's getting colder, but the bonus is the extra hour in bed! How many of you forgot to alter the clocks? For once I didn't, which makes a change.

Of course, this time of year means people start to worry about the "C" that is just around the corner, you all know the one I mean, (no I am not putting the full name as it's too soon).

With all the gadgets and gizmos around these days, it seems to get more and more expensive each year, and if you have children, they always want the latest up to date item available. And it seems the older they get the worse it gets! I think that instilling the simple things in life and teaching children to appreciate and take pleasure in, for example, reading a book, rather than using a Kindle, will go a long way in keeping them level headed, I hope.

**This is the day the Lord has made, Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24**

Could I ask that all information for the **December magazine**, be with me **no later** than **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November** please, to allow us time to edit before printing. Don't forget you can email me at [ldepellette@gmail.com](mailto:ldepellette@gmail.com).

#### **Please note:**

The weekly Sunday service notice sheet has the most up to date details, and there is usually a spare copy available in the lobby at church.

*Linda.*



