



June 2022

Minister: Rev. Joe Adams

NEWS FROM THE VESTRY

Following the excitement and joy of Easter we are once again launched into planning mode with so much in the pipeline for the coming months all of which enables us to work with, support and engage the local community.

We are so pleased that the **Toddler Group** has been able to restart and we thank Sarah Topples for her hard work in getting this back up and running, along with her vision for changes to both the time of this on a **Monday (now 9 – 11 a.m.)** during term times and a slightly different format. We are so grateful also for all the people who have felt able to come back onto the rota along with our new people.

It is wonderful that once again we will be joining with St. Stephen's for the **Open Air Service** to celebrate **Pentecost** on **Sunday 5 June at 11 a.m.** We are so blessed that Rev. Paul Howes has agreed to lead this jointly with Rev. Lorraine Badger-Watts.

Just a week later, we have been asked and agreed to open up the church as part of the **New Town Open Gardens** afternoon (**12 June between 1 and 6 p.m.**) when we will be offering refreshments, a craft stall and live music during the afternoon. Even for those of us who aren't gardeners, this is a wonderful community afternoon and a chance to amble round the area meeting with people and for the gardeners seeking inspiration and new ideas! Please see the poster later for more detail; there will be much more than just gardens to view.

We are also delighted that **Christian's Against Poverty (CAP)** has asked to use Wimpole Road to run a 6 to 8 week course called 'Life Skills'. As well as enabling CAP to use the premises, we also want to extend a warm welcome to the CAP leaders and those attending the course and we will be serving refreshments during the evening. The course starts on **Thursday 6 June** and if you are able to assist with the refreshments please speak to Christine Firmin. Likewise, if you or somebody you know would find the course useful, please see the advert contained within the Newround / and or pick up a leaflet from church.

At a somewhat earlier stage in planning, but potentially to follow on from the CAP course above, we are exploring the opportunities to set up a '**Slow Cooker Club**' and we hope to be able to share an update and more information about this with you in the coming weeks. Based upon what we know, this will be another great project to enable us to work with and support those from the local community.

After two years of 'COVID Enforced' break **Holiday Club** is back! It will run along similar lines to the past. This will run from **22 – 26 August** and more information will follow shortly, but in the meantime, if you feel able to help in anyway, please speak to me.

The **Community Day** will be taking place on **Saturday 17 September**. We already have a good number of stalls booked to come and a range of entertainment for the afternoon. This is always a hugely popular event. Everybody is invited to come along and join us for the afternoon and if you feel able to get involved with the planning and / or running of the events, please speak to Juliet or me. The date of the next planning meeting is **Wednesday 13 July 7.30 p.m.** in the church parlour or vestibule.

Please can you be sure to have the **Church Vision Planning Meeting** **scheduled for 23 August in your diary**. This will be an important meeting where we can reflect on the work that we currently doing and that which we have in plan alongside thinking about what else we could or should be doing locally and also jointly with St. Stephen's to really make a difference in the New Town area and beyond. As you will be aware Rev. Dan Cant, the Curate at St. Stephen's has been and is working on a Community Survey and we are hoping that in part the output from this will help to inform some of these discussions. Again, more details will be following over the coming weeks.

I also hope that by the time we meet, we will have a much clearer understanding of what we might be able to use the Manse for, following Alan and Janet's departure and how this might also impact our plans. This is a really important meeting and we really hope that as many people as possible will feel able to attend.

I know this all feels like a huge 'To Do' list and at times it can all feel quite overwhelming and this is on top of all the other work that we are already doing in so many ways. But, I hope that like me, you can feel excited and blessed that God is giving us so many opportunities as we seek to do his will and serve our community and through this share the good news with those around us. As we move forward we ask that, as you are able, you join with us in this work and also hold it in your prayers.

In closing, please can I ask that you continue to hold Rev. Joe and Dave in our prayers as Joe continues on his time of sabbatical and even more so given his recent ill health.

Andrew Topple

A PRAYER FOR THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

Gracious Father,

in Christ you have granted your people every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places

and have anointed us with your Holy Spirit to bear fruit in love and joy and peace.

We give you thanks for the strengthening power of your Spirit seen in the dedicated service of Elizabeth our Queen.

Grant that the same Spirit may inspire us to proclaim the faith which she cherishes,

to look with her in hope for the outworking of your gracious purposes and to serve your people in love.

This we ask in the name of your beloved Son who now lives and reigns in glory for ever.

Amen.

THURSDAY CIRCLE

May began with a presentation on 'Lost Skills and Crafts' by Peter Mockford. The following Thursday a Quiz Afternoon for Christian Aid raised £110 for the charity – thanks to all who participated or donated to this cause.

19 May Brian and Carole Willis from Great Oakley gave a challenging presentation on 'Wateraid', which made us think about how blessed we are to have running water and sanitation. Thanks to Andrew for the last minute help with the technology!

The final Thursday in the month was an opportunity to watch a youthful Margaret Clubb and her company putting on one of her shows. They were all very talented but we particularly enjoyed seeing Margaret in her fishnet tights singing 'Burlington Bertie from Bow' and kicking her legs about! One poor gentleman from the audience was picked on to sit on the stage and join in with one of Margaret's songs, at one stage even encouraged to put his hand on her leg!

Thanks to Andrew and Edward for helping with the technology so that it all ran smoothly. Margaret has some more material, albeit of a different nature, which I hope to schedule for November.

Looking ahead:

9 June Rebecca Taylor will introduce us to the work of 'Christians Against Poverty', which helps those who are in debt.

16 June Jean Quinn, a good friend to Thursday Circle, will talk Mors Bags. I'm not quite sure what these are or even if I've spelt it correctly! Jean answered my enquiry about these by saying that I would know what they were by the end of the talk! Do come and find out!

23 June Stewart Seymour from Braintree will give a presentation on 'The Civil War in Suffolk and Essex'.

30 June Roy Waters will talk about 'Growing Up in the Dutch Quarter in the 1940's and 50's'.

Our meetings at **2.30 p.m. on Thursdays** are open to all – male or female, young or old, churchgoers or non-attendees. Come and join us!

Joan Gomer – Secretary

ST. STEPHENS PENSIONERS LUNCH CLUB RE-OPENS

This monthly luncheon club, which has run for over 20 years, re-opened last month and twenty four people sat down (together) to eat lunch including one centenarian!

A proper two course cooked meal is provided followed by tea/coffee and a raffle all for the sum of £5.

Wimpole Road members have joined the cooking team and as a result St. Stephen's would like to invite you to come and enjoy this friendly lunch group. It meets at St. Stephens, in Canterbury Road at **12.15 on the second Monday of each month.**

The next lunch date is **Monday 13th June**, when a roast dinner will be served followed by a fruit crumble. A vegetarian alternative can be provided upon request.

If you would like to attend please register with the organiser Jill Livermore by 10th June who can be contacted on 07756 873893. Prior registration is necessary so that appropriate catering arrangements can be made or ask Peter Studd (the tall bloke with the white beard in church) for details.

The July lunch will be fish and chips and lunches will restart in September.

Peter Studd

JEAN BAKER

Dear Friends,

I am sorry to report that Jean Baker a former Local Preacher is in Mersea Ward, Colchester General Hospital, where she is receiving only palliative care. She is quiet and sleeping most of the time. Today 28 May is her 94th birthday. Please ask her Wimpole Road friends to pray for her painless and peaceful delivery into the arms of her maker.

For a long time now Mother has wondered why she is still on this earth in constant pain and essentially housebound with dementia slowly erasing her essence. On Wednesday she begged to go to hospital - she would normally fight tooth and nail to avoid hospitals.

Many thanks, God bless

Glyn Baker

GOD LOVES AND UNDERSTANDS

It's amazing and incredible,
But it's as true as it can be,

God loves and understands us all
And that means you and me

His grace is all sufficient
For both the young and old,

For the lonely and the timid,
For the brash and for the bold

His love knows no exceptions,
So never feel excluded,

No matter what your past has been,
Trust God to understand,

And no matter what your problem is
Just place it in His Hand

For in all of our unloveliness
This great God loves us still,

He loved us since the world began,
And what's more, He always will!

Helen Steiner Rice

THE OCEAN OF LOVE

We can only see a little of the ocean
Just a few miles distant from the rocky shore
But out there - far beyond our eyes' horizon
There's more - immeasurably more.

We can only see a little of God's loving
A few rich treasures from His mighty store
But out there - far beyond our eyes' horizon
There's more - immeasurably more....

{from 'Springs in the Valley'}

CHURCH FAMILY BBQ.
Advance notice - Thursday 28th July from 3.30 p.m.

After 2 years, during which circumstances prevented us from all getting together, we are hoping to resurrect the annual BBQ. Please make a note in your diaries.

It is an open invitation to anybody connected to the Church, particularly those who for various reasons have not been able to worship with us recently. As usual there will be no charge.

It will be held at the home of Peter Broom, 'Somerville', The Folley, Layer de la Haye. Some limited parking in the driveway, but parking is freely available in the road.

Please come along if you are able and renew friendships, which perhaps have drifted over the last two years. Those reading this that have moved away from the circuit are particularly welcome to join us.

Peter Broom

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

'There are far better things ahead than ones we leave behind.'

C.S. Lewis

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

Jean Baker, Michael Goodey, Rachel Allen, Edith Plane and all those who are in poor health.

Any ministerial concerns during Joe's sabbatical please contact Rev. Alan Jenkins or a Steward.

Heavenly Father, hear our prayers for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

Lord we ask for peace for those who need peace, reconciliation for those who need reconciliation and comfort for all who don't know what tomorrow will bring. Lord may your Kingdom come, and Your will be done.

Amen

WIMPOLE ROAD CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE

Sunday mornings at 11.00 a.m.

5 June	Pentecost Open Air Joint Service with St. Stephen's, led by Rev. Paul Howes and Rev. Lorraine Badger-Watts.
12 June	Michael Topple
19 June	Rev. Paul Howes Holy Communion
26 June	Joanne Eckersley

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS

Join us after the service for coffee/tea and biscuits in the church parlour for a time of refreshments and fellowship.

KEEP UP TO DATE ON OUR WEBSITE:

www.wimpoleroadchurch.org.uk

BABY CONGRATULATIONS

Peter and Joan Studd were pleased to welcome their fifth grandchild into the world at the start of May. Ethan was 9lb 9oz at birth.

Mother, baby and dad all doing well and picking up practical parenting rapidly.



WORKING TOGETHER



PRAYER MEETING Tuesday 10.00 - 10.30 a.m.

Meeting number: 195 594 506 password 011904

BIBLE STUDY Thursday 7.30 - 8.30 p.m.

Meeting number: 780 700 295 password 011904

Join online via Zoom or Dial in from your phone on:

0203 051 2874, 0203 481 5237, 0203 481 5240 or 0131 460 1196

**‘THREE TOGETHER’
ONLINE FACEBOOK SERVICE
EVERY SUNDAY
at 6.30 p.m.**

Ecumenical worship led by and shared with all three churches, Wimpole Road, St. Stephen's and St. Margaret's.

FUTURE NEWSROUNDS

Please don't forget, if you have stories, items or prayer requests that you would like to contribute to a future monthly Newsround please contact me by telephone, e-mail or post.

Tel: (01206) 869505 or e-mail: alison.ablewhite@btinternet.com
