



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 14

August 2011

From the Registers

Holy Baptism:

(24th June) Bailey White; (3rd July) Oliver Edwards; (17th) Archie White, Ella Turner, Charlie Turner; (24th) Poppy Brown.

Weddings:

(2nd July) Samuel Bradshaw and Kelly Smith; (3rd) James Morris and Anna Critchlow; (23rd) Robert Ainsworth and Emma Davidson.

Funerals:

(15th July) Mary Caul; (19th) John Cockney (25th) Reginald Busby.

Concerts in St Jude's

Following an excellent run of concerts in St Jude's during May, June and July, there is now a break.

The next concert will be a piano recital by Val Ward on Saturday 1st October at 4.00pm. Admission is free and you are invited to contribute towards the running costs of the Church.

Following this will be the Mosaic Choir directed by Karen Pepper on 5th November and Voices Anon directed by Guy Bunce on 10th December.

COFFEE MORNING

in aid of the
East Africa
Crisis Appeal

Saturday 6th August
10.00am-12 noon

Offers of jam, preserves,
cakes, biscuits etc and help
on the day
gratefully received

Trust in the Lord with all your heart

Four children in Year Four at St Jude's School put these words from the Bible as one of the heading verses on their poster designed for the Church Summer Fair competition last month. That poster gained a 'highly commended'. Many, many excellent entries were produced by the children for the 'Year of the Bible'. I hope that all the children who designed posters are beginning to discover, as was suggested in last month's 'Ship', that the Bible is an exciting book.

I am harping on about the Bible once again! I have used as headings, with permission, the five sentences that the children put with each letter of the word 'Bible'.

Believe in God

I recall from college days four 'arguments' for believing in the existence of God. There's the argument that mind or a Mind must come before the matter of the physical universe. Then we think about 'Being'. We are beings, finite and mortal, which presupposes ultimate, infinite being, whom we call God. There's the hot potato at the moment, that somewhere behind all the designs in nature, is a Designer.

What about knowing good and having good values? The argument is values cannot exist on their own; they come from a Being who is good, the moral argument.

But believing comes more often from meeting someone who has both a sense of the 'Otherness' of God and his closeness, as a Friend. Someone I know, brought up an atheist in China, met several people who spoke of God in a personal way, and said she has come to see there is another way of looking at the world besides the scientific. She is finding out what God is like in the Bible.

It doesn't matter if you're different

It is very hard for children in a class if they are 'different' in some way. We all have some inkling how it feels. It may be our appearance or our abilities, where we come from or how much money we've got, our age or our disabilities. I like it when I go into schools and churches, where 'You are Welcome' is written up in different colours and languages in the entrance but even more I like it when someone makes me feel welcome, with a greeting or a joke or even a briefing on the weather. You feel accepted.

The poster says it doesn't matter anyway! What's it got to do with the Bible? Well Jesus mixed with all sorts of people, rich and poor, Jewish, non-Jewish, religious, not religious, people in 'dirty' trades, those despised Samaritans (not present day Samaritans who you can ring up if you're in trouble). That was one reason why the authorities were against him: how could a man who claimed to be so close to God, even be his Son, mix with the people he got involved with? Difference didn't matter to Jesus, and it doesn't now.

Be part of God's big family.

The Bible is full of stories about families. There are several stories of much-wanted children and their struggles and how God used them, Joseph, Moses, Samuel, John the Baptist, and Jesus himself. But in John's Gospel (1:12) we discover that anyone who welcomes Jesus into their life becomes a child of God, so that they can call God, 'Abba', Father, our Father.

When you do this, you find you have brothers and sisters all over the world! Going on holiday is exciting! So on Sunday, or whenever you meet, you may meet in a building, but it's a family gathering you go to! That's what church is.

Love the Lord with all your heart

This is a tall order! Jesus says this is the first and greatest commandment, but you won't find it in Exodus 20, where you can read the Ten Commandments. Jesus is quoting Deuteronomy (no, not a character in 'Cats!') chapter six. I'm glad Year Four remembered this one. But how can you love someone you can't see or touch? When we realise that this wholly 'other' Being loves us, forgives us and has purposes for us, we talk about walking with him, learning to trust him, doing what he says, and deep in our hearts warming to him. Having a 'God-time' each day, when we read some of the Bible and see what he is saying to us is a good focus for loving him.

Everyone is important

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Continued from front

Everyone is important

Yes, YOU are! Jesus called those twelve ordinary guys to be his disciples, and the women followers were equally significant. He made the blind beggar near Jericho know he was important when the crowd told him to shut up, and Jesus stopped, went over to him and healed him. I suggest that he made Pilate feel valued, though very uncomfortable, when Jesus said he was a King but not of this world. Even in agony, Jesus gave attention to the thief crucified next to him, who cried out for help. 'Today,' Jesus said, 'you will be with me in Paradise.'

The Bible is all about people who learned to trust the Lord. This brings us back to the heading at the beginning. The overall caption of the poster is, 'READ THE BIBLE'

Parts are an easy read, parts are not, but best to start with the Gospels in the New Testament (Mark is the shortest) If you read to find out how the people in the stories were learning to trust God or not, you can measure your own learning alongside theirs, in your everyday story with God.

Rita Berry

St Jude's School

St Jude's Junior School has come to the end of another exciting year. Recent events include sports day, the swimming gala, inter-house netball and football tournaments and grandparents' day, which was so well attended that we had 79 grandparents queuing outside the front door, waiting to be taken on a tour of the school by their grandchildren. Year 4 had a sleepover in their classrooms to prepare them for their Autumn residential visit to a PGL centre on the Isle of Wight. It was very successful and, although a lot of popcorn was eaten, they did actually get some sleep!

We have said goodbye to Year 6 and wished them luck for the next part of their journey through life. Most are going on to the The Magna Carta School, with a handful to Charters School and Sir William Perkins's School. This time of the year sees some changes on the staff too; we are wishing Mrs Digby well as she begins her retirement after eleven years as our literacy support teacher, we have two teachers getting married and one who is expecting her first baby.

After a well deserved rest for us all, we are looking forward to starting the new term with gusto.

Vicki Chiverton



Other Churches

The picture shows a Church dedicated to St Simon and St Jude, Rudno which is in Poland.

Village Centre

The Village Centre and Rendezvous Community Café situated in Victoria Street is open Mon–Fri 9am–4pm and on Saturdays from 10.00am–2.00pm.

Serving hot and cold drinks, home made cakes and light snacks, Rendezvous is already living up to its name as being a great place to meet with friends.



Rendezvous

A new computer room is now available at The Centre. Tuition is available for all levels from toddlers to Silver Surfers on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9am–12 noon. Other times may be possible –please contact the Manager on 01784 462396.

The next Community Big Breakfast is on Saturday 20th August from 9–11am.

www.villagecentre.org.uk

The Summer Fair

Our Summer Fair was on Saturday 9th July on the grass around the church and in spite of a rather heavy shower just before we opened, it was a lovely afternoon. We were very pleased to see so many people who bought things from the stalls, listened to the accordions and the children from St Jude's School playing brass instruments, and enjoyed a relaxing time with a cup of tea.

The winners in the Grand Draw were as follows: Nicky Johncock (£100), Simon Ebdon (hamper), J. Dickenson (whisky), John Fowles (meat voucher), Pat Craik (flowers), Jacqueline Codling (Savill Garden tickets), B. Bryan (toiletries), Pat Summers (bubbly), Eleanor Ward (workout voucher), Beatrice Wilford (Baylis product), Pat Summers (port), Lorna Smith (tea), James McKee (chocolates), Grahame Lock (wine), Mike Brooking (wine), Sally Dennis (bubbly), Andrew Sheer (oil and vinegar), Joyce Apps (beauty products), Pippa Powell-Harper (tea towels), James McKee (pen), Diane Lewis (tent), Roy Gouriet (crystal glass), Margaret Taylor (teddy) and Margaret Stone (book and unwind kit).

We are very grateful to all who gave us prizes for the Grand Draw, all the organisations and businesses which advertised in the programme and to all of you who came along on the day.

All this enabled us to raise around £2200.

Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper will be in the Church Hall on Saturday 24th September – tickets will be available nearer the time.

August Diary

- 3 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 6 Saturday 10.00am–12 noon COFFEE MORNING in aid of the Crisis in East Africa Appeal
- 7 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30pm Family Communion 6.30pm Taizé service
- 10 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 14 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Communion (sung) 6.30pm Evensong and Sermon
- 17 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 21 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Communion (sung) *Traidcraft goods after 9.30am service*
- 24 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 25 Thursday Bright Hour outing to the Dorney Walled Garden Centre for tea If any one would like to join us, phone Rita on 01784 433560 and leave a message. Extra transport would be welcome
- 28 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Family Communion (sung)

All events take place at St Jude's Church unless otherwise marked

The Church is open every Saturday 2-4pm for tea and a chat and to discuss weddings and baptisms