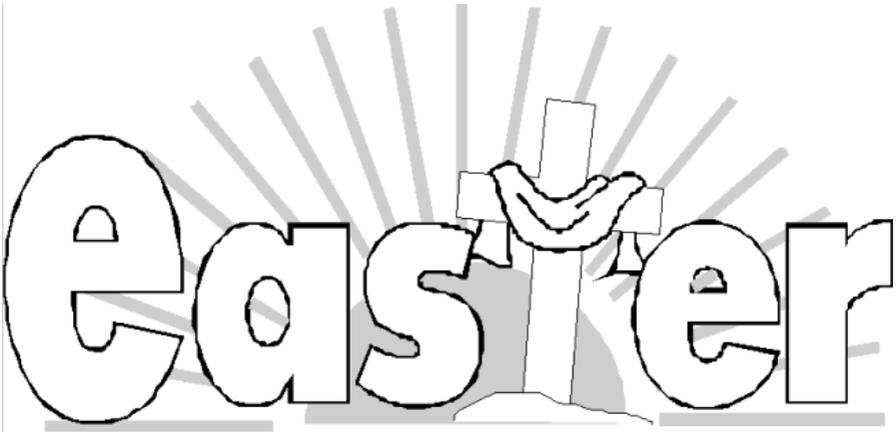


New Horizons

APRIL 2017



THE CORNERSTONE



Bournemouth Park Road,
Southend-on-Sea, SS2 5JL
(For car park on Central Ave, sat navs
use SS2 5HR no 59)

www.thecornerstonesouthend.org
Email: info@thecornerstonesouthend.org

Minister: Rev. SOHAIL EJAZ MA

WORSHIP AND ACTION

Sunday 10.30 am **Morning Worship** and Junior Church.
Holy Communion is celebrated during
Worship on the 4th Sunday

FAIRTRADE Coffee and tea is served after Morning Worship
Please stay to talk with each other in an informal atmosphere.

Sunday 6.30 pm **Evening Worship** will be held, and Holy
Communion celebrated, as set out in the
monthly magazine and as announced in Church.

Church Meetings are generally held in alternate months on the
third Thursday at 7.30 pm. The dates and times will be published in
this magazine and announced in Church.

Mon 5.30 pm Pilots. Ends at about 7.00 pm.

Tues 10.00 am 1 hour's Prayer for fellowship.
10.00 am Tea and Coffee in the Foyer
11.30 am "Cornerstone Crafters" with lunch
(1st and 3rd Tuesdays or as announced)
2.30 pm Christian Forum (2nd and 4th Tuesdays)
4.00 pm Messy Church First Tuesday in the month

Wed 10.00 am Parents and Toddlers during Term Time
5.45 pm Pilots. Ends at about 7.00 pm.

Thurs 6.00 pm Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts
7.45-9.15 Scouts
7.30 pm Elders' Meeting (1st Thursday)

Fri 7.45 pm Church Music Practice

House Groups are held each month at various venues - Contact
Mike Mead (House Group Co-ordinator), House Group Leaders or
the Church Secretary if you would like more information.

Little Turtles Pre-School meets on Monday to Friday from 9.00 am
during term time. Please see one of the Junior Church Leaders for
details.

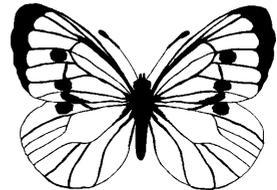
Letter to the fellowship



New Life in Risen Christ

Easter marks that we have made it through the cloudy days of winter. This wonderful occasion of life comes in early spring just when flowers in our area are bursting with rainbow colours. Spring reminds us that new life will come again. Bleak seasons of despair, doubt and loneliness will give way to new seasons of life. We can learn a lot from nature if we stop long enough to notice the lessons of creation.

Easter is all about new life. New life we receive in Christ. Just like when a Caterpillar changes to a beautiful butterfly. One by one, the grey cases begin to twist and turn violently and suddenly split open. A beautiful butterfly emerges. It stands for hours gently moving its wings, pumping fluids into them to extend them fully. Then the butterfly soars gracefully away on the breezes of summer, leaving nothing behind but a broken chrysalis to indicate its former bondage.



The chrysalis and butterfly suggest the empty grave clothes of our risen Lord. When Peter and John heard the news that the Lord's body was gone from the garden tomb, they ran all the way from their lodging. Peter entered the tomb and ***"he saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen"*** (John 20:6-7, NIV).

The grave clothes once wrapped continuously around the body now lay collapsed, mute testimony that the corpse they had once shrouded had now emerged in life.

The bondage of death is broken. Christ is risen! Hallelujah! We can face tomorrow with the assurance that Jesus is in fact alive to help us, to guide us, to give us hope for the future. And since He is living, our problems are not insolvable. The broken chrysalis of His grave

clothes proclaims that Christ is Victor even over death. Because He lives, nothing is impossible.

Jesus has defeated the forces of death and in his great love; he calls each of us by name and invites us to new life here now and forever.

Happy Easter
Sohail Ejaz

Prayers for our Fellowship and those we know

Prayers can be for joy and sorrow, health and sickness, good news and bad in addition to those for our own needs and guidance.

We keep in our prayers all those who are mourning the loss of a loved one, give them your peace Lord and the knowledge that family and friends are there for them to lean on when life is difficult.



There are many who find it difficult to get to Worship week by week and we think especially of Hilda Burgess, Ann Cassells and Hilda Prior. We pray for those who are ill, in constant pain, recovering, and awaiting treatment:

Ann Crowhurst, Roy Davis, Pat Goodhew, Olive Goodyear, Peter Hunt and Margaret King.

We also pray for those of our fellowship who are finding life difficult at the present time either with health, job or family worries. Give them peace of spirit and the knowledge that God knows of all their difficulties and hears all of their prayers.

Father, hear our prayers
Amen

Please feel free to use the Prayer Book placed on the Prayer Table, in the Foyer, to write down any names or events you want to be prayed for during the Service.



Do make use of our prayer cards, whether to give thanks or to request prayers in specific need. You may remain anonymous if you wish. There is a collection box on the prayer table in the foyer.

Requests will be prayed over at the Tuesday prayer group and other appropriate times.

For prayers during Sunday Service, please continue to use the prayer book on the table.

Prayers for people and matters outside of our fellowship

Please pray for:-

All nations where there is hunger and thirst

All places where there is violence and little mercy

All people who have no place to shelter

Leaders of all nations that they may seek peace.

The Glory of Life

The Glory of Life is to love,
not to be loved.

To give,
not to get.

To serve
not to be served.

To be a strong hand in the dark to another in the time of need.

To be a cup of strength to any soul in a crisis of weakness;

This is to know the Glory of Life



SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

Well here we are, a quarter of the way through the year already! Here at home the forsythia is in full bloom, a sure sign of spring and I have cleaned the greenhouse, and sown seeds for this year's produce. Now to be patient (not my greatest virtue as most of you know!) and see what germinates. We already have some overwintered salad leaves and greens, and the asparagus is beginning to peep through. I do love wandering down the garden around 3pm to gather what we shall eat that day - beats shopping at the supermarket!

I spent the earlier part of the month collating the organisations' reports, and printing the report book in readiness for the Annual General Meeting on 23rd March. I thank all those who have indicated their willingness to undertake various tasks for another year. The Annual General Meeting is not just a time of looking back on the past year, but setting aims for the future, this year in relation to projects outside our walls. Thus it was that we were able to take up the challenge to raise funds for the expansion of Lekkerwater Secondary School in Zimbabwe as a contribution to the Eastern Synod partnership with the Presbytery and a Quiz Night will be arranged shortly. We also discussed ways to support a local project, the bus to be turned into a night shelter for the homeless, of which I am sure there will be more news later.

At March Messy Church we looked at the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal, and saw how one man's utter faith in God to do something miraculous at the right time, turned the tide for a whole nation. We had a visit from Martyn Payne of the Bible Reading Fellowship (Messy Church's parent organisation) and it was good to have some tips from him too!

Our service on 5th March was conducted by Roger Brett, in his usual lively manner, and on 12th the Church Parade was led by Sohail talking about God's love in our lives. We welcomed Rev Trevor Williams to speak to us on 19th - and what a coincidence (?) that one of the readings and part of his message concerned Moses leading the Israelites in the desert, the very same subject as is being covered in Pilots and the older Junior Church. Our service on

Mothering Sunday was conducted by Robert Wiseman who spoke about three women; the Gentile whose daughter was healed, his own mother and Mary, the mother of Jesus. Clive Goodhew presided for the monthly Communion. It also being Mothering Sunday, gifts were presented to all the ladies of the congregation.

Throughout the month many of us have been putting aside small change for the Water Aid Jars of Change Lent Appeal, and we thank everyone who has contributed. The closing date is 23rd April, and I would also like to thank Ann and Mick who always have extra work to do when we have special collections. Towards the end of March we were also invited to support the East Africa Emergency Famine Appeal; although our April Communion Offerings are already designated for Christian Aid, in view of the urgency of the situation emergency envelopes were made available and we thank all those who felt able to make an extra donation.

On 25th March a group of us gathered to get to grips with iChurch, the new website platform developed by the URC, and were glad to have Rebecca Gudgeon from iChurch to put us through our paces and assist with setting up our church's new website. More information will follow when it 'goes live'.

Easter is nearly upon us, the time of the year when we observe and consider the events of Jesus' last week in human form. We look forward to welcoming everyone to our special services at this important time of the Christian calendar.

Ruth Dixon

A strong person is
not the one who doesn't cry,
a strong person is
the one who cries and sheds tears
for a moment,
then gets up and fight's again

News from the Forum (2nd & 4th Tuesday each month)

We have met twice since the last magazine came out and we have one more meeting to look forward to in March.



In our second meeting in February we had Mike Mead along to talk to us about his life and work. Mike gave us a very interesting insight to his earlier life working in the world of finance and then instead of taking a life of leisure when early retirement seemed on the cards he trained as a driving instructor, and this year celebrated twenty years in that profession. We were shown a fascinating film of the very early years of the driving test and it caused much amusement among the members especially the drivers! We then had a short tick box style quiz as to how we would react to certain situations we might meet on the road. Some left us a bit perplexed and seemed to be the lesser of two evils to get the 'right 'answer'. Thank you Mike, and to Linda too, who came along to help with the projector.

Our meeting on the 14th of March was a change from our normal 'sit and listen' style afternoons. We had all been asked to bring along a memento from our past which meant a lot to us or brought back memories for us. From photographs of grandchildren to certificates for long service to the voluntary sector we had a wide-ranging set of artefacts to look at and hear about. A tablecloth, the first piece of embroidery learned at Grandma's knee, the photos of the opening of the Ferndale Baptist Church by Mrs Prior senior, a Bible with a cover of cedar wood and a medal from the Cyprus campaign took us back to the service in the forces. And mementoes from holidays or training days all added to the afternoon's interest. Some took us into the world of family history, others gave even the owner a surprise as they shared the information with us. Personally I found the afternoon very worthwhile and maybe one to repeat perhaps with a different theme.

Finally we hope to enjoy a learning curve on the 28th of March as we are shown some Origami techniques by John Wootton.

As you can see life is never dull at the Forum and we invite anyone along to our meetings should you wish to try something new. Just

come along to the Foyer on the second or fourth Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm. See you then.

Alison Shannon

NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP

I just want to say a big thank you to you all for your prayers, love and fellowship which I have enjoyed during my stay in hospital and through this time of recuperation. I'm not the one of the best patients, lacking patience I am very frustrated at what I am not allowed to do and subsequently give Zoy a rough ride despite all her love and patience with me; therefore I would value your continued praying during this limiting time of recovery.

Thank you again for your concern and prayers, they are very much appreciated.

Peter Hunt

Ponder on this

Those who enter my house should never mention the faults of others.

Those who gossip and do not speak the truth about others should stay out of my house.

Everybody has their faults and should not, therefore, talk about those of others, but consider their own and let others be as they are. If we are full of love, we shall not pay any attention to the faults and trespasses of our neighbour.

If you want to please God and all others, help to carry their burden.

If you want to avoid sin, mind what you say.

If you want real peace, look for silence and unity and first try to find out about yourself in solitude.

If ever you get to know bad news, ask God to spare you.

Accept your life without questioning the ultimate purpose of God.

De Wijnguard te Brugge (Found in a church in Brugge, Belgium)



Peter's Piece - Day of the Resurrection

For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, 'in the same way' [so also - in the Greek] God will with Jesus, bring those who have fallen asleep in him. 1 Thessalonians 4:14

Having the joyful expectation of looking forward to some extremely enjoyable future event that we have planned, for example a holiday, is something that, no doubt, all of us have experienced. As believing Christians, Easter Day both looks back to Jesus' powerful, victorious resurrection and forward to the fact that by it, we too do indeed, have the assurance of just such a hope, which should preoccupy all our thinking about the future including our death.

In the previous verse Paul says *you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope*. When we lay to rest those who have died trusting in Jesus the Messiah although we are sad because our earthly experience with them has ended, that natural grief is eased because we know that God, just as he raised Jesus, will '*in the same way*', one day, resurrect and bring all those who have died believing in Jesus, God's Messiah. c.p. v 16. [v. 14 *fallen asleep in him*. is the Bible term.]

As we contemplate and rejoice in Our Lord's glorious resurrection this Easter, may the Holy Spirit bring us the joy of being assured that one day we and all who have died believing in Jesus will, '*in the same way*', also share in just such a marvellous, wonderful resurrection and that He *will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body*. Philippians 3:20-21. 1 John 3:2. [*when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.*] 1 Corinthians 15:52. [*the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.*] This really is something to look forward to, to greatly rejoice in and to *encourage one another with these words*. v. 1

Peter Hunt



Watch and Pray

Mark 14:38

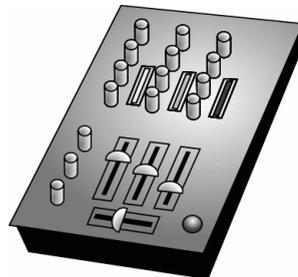
Some suggested readings, which follow the final week of our Lord's earthly life, for personal study and meditation during

Holy Week

Day	Event	Reading
Friday [07/04/2017]	Arrival at Bethany ' <i>Why this waste?</i> '	John 12:1-11 Psalm 23:5-6
Saturday Jewish Sabbath	Day of rest [None mentioned in the NT]	Isaiah 56:1-8
Sunday Palm Sunday	The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem. ' <i>Behold your King –.</i> '	John 12:12-19 Psalm 118:15-26
Monday	Clearing the Temple ' <i>House of prayer or den of robbers?</i> '	Mark 11:12-19 Isaiah 56:7 Psalm 69:6-12
Tuesday	Day of controversy and parables ' <i>She – put in everything,</i> '	Mark 11:20-13:37
Wednesday	Day of rest. [None mentioned in the NT] – ' <i>a grain of wheat.</i> '	John 12:20-36 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-44
Thursday <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	Passover – Lord's Supper ' <i>The night he was betrayed –.</i> ' ' <i>drink it new in the Kingdom of God.</i> '	Mark 14:12-26 [John 13:1-30] Revelation 19:9 Matthew 8:11
Friday <i>Good Friday</i>	Crucifixion Ecce homo - ' <i>Behold the man.</i> '	Mark 15:1-47 John 19:5
Saturday <i>Holy Saturday</i>	In the tomb ' <i>today you will be with me in paradise.</i> '	Luke 23:39-43 1 Peter 3:18-22
Easter Day	Resurrection. ' <i>The Lord is risen! Alleluia!</i> '	1 Corinthians 15:4, 51-52. Psalm 16:8-11

Recording of services

We are now sound recording every Sunday service, so please let Vic Crowhurst know if you would like a copy for yourself, someone who could not be with us that day or perhaps to give to someone to listen to how well we sing!



For special and festival services we may make video recordings and if you would not wish to appear in these, then please speak to anyone at the sound and vision desk before the service starts. There should be a prior warning of the services involved.



The next edition of New Horizons!

The next magazine will be published on 7th May and we are grateful for items at any time **but** the latest time for submission is **9.00 a.m. on Thursday April 27th please.**

A large print version of this magazine is available.

Please ask an editor if you would like one.

**Alternatively you can view it on line.
See the website address on the front cover**

Thought for Easter Day

Easter is not a time for groping through dusty tomes or musty tombs to quell the godless claims of those who scoff or even to prove life eternal.

It is a day to fan the ashes of dead hope, a day to banish doubts and seek the slopes where the Sun of Justice is rising, to revel in our Christian faith which transports us out of ourselves and the dead past into God's vast and inviting unknown.

(Quentin de Sautwort)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Also see weekly Notice Sheet)

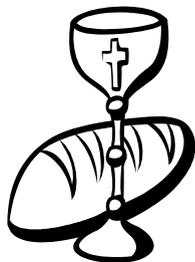
April

Sun	2 nd	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship	John Amos
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion	Our Minister
Tues	4 th	4.00 p.m.	Messy Church	
Thurs	6 th	7.30 p.m.	Elders' Meeting	
Sat	8 th	9.00 a.m.	Big Breakfast	
Sun	9 th	10.30 a.m.	Palm Sunday - Family Parade	Our Minister
		6.30 p.m.	URC Youth meet	
Weds	12 th	10.00 - 3.00	Easter Holiday's Family Day (Please bring your own packed lunch)	
Thurs	13 th	8.00 p.m.	Holy Communion	
			Maundy Thursday Service	Our Minister
Fri	14 th	10.30 a.m.	Good Friday Service	Our Minister
Sun	16 th	10.30 a.m.	Coffee & Hot Cross Buns	
		10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion	
			Easter Sunday celebration	Our Minister
Sun	23 rd	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	Our Minister
		6.30 p.m.	URC Youth meet	
Tues	25 th	7.00 for 7.30	S.E. Area Partnership meet at Wickford	
Sun	30 th	10.30 a.m.	TRIO: Time, Talents, 'Thank You'	Roger Brett

May

Tues	2 nd	4.00 p.m.	Messy Church	
Thurs	4 th	7.30 p.m.	Elders' Meeting	
Sun	7 th	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship	Rev Clive Pegler
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion	Our Minister
Thurs	11 th	7.30 p.m.	P.M.G. Meeting	
Sat	13 th	9.00 a.m.	Big Breakfast	
Sun	14 th	10.30 a.m.	Family Church Parade	Our Minister
		6.30 p.m.	URC Youth meet	

Communion Offerings



These collections are taken at the two Sunday Communion Services during the last hymn and are for charitable organisations outside of The Cornerstone.

Thank you for your generosity in March for donating £73.05 to the Rumania Crestin Trust

April Christian Aid
May The Leprosy Mission

Flower Donations

April

2nd Jacqui Wilson
9th David and Beverley Osborn
16th **EASTER**
23rd Vacant
30th Vincent and Monica Aloj
 Les and Janet Gooding



May

7th Robert Wiseman in memory of Joan
14th Stella Yates
21st Alan Barnes (in memory of Jenny) on what
 would have been their Ruby Wedding Anniversary
28th Vic and Ann Crowhurst

There are a few vacant dates on the flower list:

April 23rd
December 17th

If you would like to supply flowers on any of these dates, please contact Joan Harvey or Val Mead, as soon as possible.

Coffee/Tea Rotas

Sunday mornings after Worship

Apr	2 nd	Linda and Mike Mead
	9 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	16 th	Val Hayman and Stella Yates
	23 rd	Stella Duboux and Jan Fox
	30 th	Sandra Milbourn and Leng Kingston
May	7 th	Carole and Alan Cornwall
	14 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead



Tuesday mornings "Drop in"

Apr	4 th	Stella Duboux and Barbara Dillon
	11 th	Joan Harvey and Maureen Stone
	18 th	Carole and Alan Cornwall
	25 th	Alison Shannon and Sandra Milbourn
May	2 nd	Stella Duboux and Barbara Dillon
	9 th	Joan Harvey and Maureen Stone

Save the Date



This will be on the Suffolk Showground from 9.30 a.m. until 4.00 p.m. and if there is sufficient interest we may be able to organise a coach, perhaps shared with another church.

WHO'S WHO?

Minister	Rev Sohail Ejaz MA (01702) 580879 tcsscp@yahoo.co.uk
Secretary	Ruth Dixon (01702) 464186
Treasurer	Ann Thorp (07753 348856)
Envelopes	Mick Thorp (01702) 300768
Gift Aid	David Osborn (01702) 611337
Preachers List	Mary Goodhew (01702) 467512
Junior Church	Ruth Dixon (01702) 464186
Joint Leaders	Mary Goodhew (01702) 467512
Pilots	Derek Goodyear 07863 208914 Jacqui Wilson (01702) 302879
Parents & Toddlers	Jacqui Wilson (01702) 302879
Scout Group	Lorna Skippon (01702) 477309
Christian Forum	Allan Prior (01702) 465617
House Groups	Mike Mead (01702) 465443
Use of Premises	Roger Brett (01702) 479874
Flower arranging	Joan Harvey (01702) 331023 Val Mead (01702) 296189
Editorial Team	Anne Clarke (01702) 293102 af.clarke52@gmail.com Michael Wardle (01702) 613840 mjb23wardle@btinternet.com

Please remember that your Elders are ordained to serve our members and friends who have pastoral concerns.

We do offer Christian Marriage, Baptisms and Funerals so please talk to the Secretary or any Elder if you feel that we can help.