

# New Horizons

FEBRUARY 2020



## THE CORNERSTONE



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## WORSHIP AND ACTION

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

Tues 10.00 am **Time of prayer** together for, the Fellowship, those  
with special needs, our neighbours, and the world-  
wide Christian Family. All are welcome to join with us.

**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.

Tues 10.00 am Tea and Coffee in the Foyer  
11.30 am "Cornerstone Crafters"  
(1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays or as announced)  
2.30 pm Christian Forum (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays)  
4.00 pm Messy Church (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in the month)  
19.30-21.00pm Digging Deeper (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month)

Wed 9.30 am The Cornerstone Toddlers during Term Time  
5.45 pm Pilots. Ends at about 7.00 pm.  
6.00 pm Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts  
7.45-9.15 Scouts

Thurs 7.30 pm Elders' Meeting (1<sup>st</sup> Thursday)

Fri 7.00-9.00 Youth Club

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

*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

### *Let go, look up, get moving*

We often hear people talking about old days. How many of you can remember the “good old days”? Do you find yourself longing for what used to be and lamenting how things are today?

50 years ago, the top discipline problems in high school were talking, chewing gum, making noise, running in the hallways, getting out of turn in line, wearing improper clothes and littering. Today we have drugs, alcohol, robbery, assault, guns and knives in streets and schools.

Recently I was talking to someone in his 70s who was reminiscing about the glory days at their church forty years ago. The life he described back then was a lot different than life today. But he didn't just compare, he also went on a tirade about how terrible things are today, taking pot-shots at both people and places. He was so sour that he couldn't see anything to celebrate in the here and now.

Friends, it is very common to experience discouragement and even despondency after starting out strong with something. Many of us could give testimony to this as we try to remember what our New Year's resolutions even were. One minute we are on cloud nine, the next down in the pit. A good example of this is Elijah, who after experiencing an incredible power encounter on Mount Carmel, ended up running for his life and later wanted God to take his life.

Likewise, the loss of initial excitement and dealing with delays can discourage us as well. The first step in dealing with discouragement is to identify the causes. It's good to just get it out and face it head on. God knows exactly what we are thinking and feeling all the time, and he understands. God knows what you are thinking right now while reading this.

So nostalgically looking at the past with a view toward political, social or religious transformation might not turn us into a pillar of salt but may seriously deflect us from the real hope and task of transformation, the Gospel which points to the coming Kingdom and the coming King.

Let us not concentrate on the flaws or overstated issues in order to regain greatness of the past, because the “greatness” that’s worth claiming or regaining will come from looking UP, not back! Our calling is to make disciples, anticipating the coming Kingdom of our King and Lord, Jesus Christ.

I believe there are a few ways that would help us to put all these things in practice.

1. Let go. If you stay in the past, whether locked into the good or the bad, you will look down on the present and you’ll forget God’s promises for the future. It’s been said that if you’re still talking about what you did yesterday, you haven’t done much today.
2. Look up. Isaiah 43:19: “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That’s why we call it the present.
3. Get moving. You can’t bring history back, but you can bring God back. These days are the glory days! With Christ at the centre of your life, these can be the good “now” days. Someone has said that these are the “good old days” we’re going to miss in the days ahead. Take the next step. And then the next step. God will take care of the rest.

God bless,  
Sohail

**I am a Christian  
under construction.  
God’s not done  
With me yet**

## 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.



Please pray for all our church activities that take place during the month. There are many who come along to our premises, week by week who some of us may not know by name or even by sight but who are in need of our prayer. We may not be able to attend the clubs and organisations but our prayer is essential to support the leaders and attendees.

We especially remember in our prayers those of our fellowship who are mourning the loss of a loved one. In particular Ruth and the family of Peter Wonnacott and also the family of Peter Mead, who before retirement was a well-known dentist for many years in the Southend area. We pray for comfort Lord, in their sorrow.

There are many who find it difficult to get to Worship week by week and we think especially of Hilda Burgess, Jan Fox, Pat Goodhew, Margaret King and Hilda Prior. We pray for those who are ill, in constant pain, recovering and awaiting or receiving treatment:

**Hilda Cramond, Ann Crowhurst, Roy Davis, Olive Goodyear, Arthur Foster, Lisa McCrae, Ron Root and Mick Thorp.**

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 and in the Church Prayer Meeting.***



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.

### **Say One For Me**

There is a dedicated post box on the railings by the Bournemouth Park Road entrance inviting members of the neighbourhood to send us their prayer requests for our Tuesday Church Prayer Meeting.

We pray that this scheme will help The Cornerstone be and be known as a church that cares.

### **Prayers for peoples and matters outside of our fellowship**

During the coming months, the United Kingdom will be engaged in negotiations with countries in Europe and other continents that will affect us all. These will include trade, finance, safety, protection, our food, the environment and affect peoples across the whole of the world.

Please pray that the leaders of all nations behave with honesty and decency, in their search for outcomes that benefit all human beings wherever they live and whatever they do.

As for ourselves, put aside what we want and replace that with what You Lord desire.

## SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK



As I write these notes we are three weeks into 2020 and very little sign of winter yet. According to the forecast, that could well have changed by the time you are reading this magazine! Nevertheless, at the moment our garden is looking very untidy as there hasn't been a significant frost to send the slugs and snails into hibernation, and there are abundant weeds (it's been too wet to do anything about them) for them to hide in, coming out to forage on my winter veg. It's a bit like life, where we tend to compartmentalise the things we do, but sooner or later one thing encroaches on another. I have been reminded time and again not to put Jesus away at midday on Sunday because I need him 24/7, in every compartment.

Looking back at Advent and Christmas, we have had some wonderful services and thank all those who arranged these for us. On December 1<sup>st</sup> Roger Brett began the Advent season with the message that the light of Christ allows us to focus on what matters and it is our choice to live in the light or live in the darkness. Before they left for Junior Church, the children enjoyed a treasure hunt with clues about the nativity story.

Messy Church on 3<sup>rd</sup> December heard how God did not choose the rich and powerful to raise his Son, but people we might consider insignificant -a teenage girl and a carpenter; likewise, the first to hear about Jesus' birth were not great statesmen, but lowly shepherds; and what this means for us today.

For the 8<sup>th</sup> December Church Parade, we were blessed with a visit from Nicola Grieves, the Eastern Synod Children and Youth Development Officer. Nicola spoke about all we do during advent is Getting Ready for the coming of Jesus; this was illustrated by the accumulation of the things one would need for a baby, nappies, cream etc and we were each challenged to wear a nappy pin during the rest of Advent. I wonder how many of us did?



On the third Sunday of Advent, John Amos led our service beginning with an exercise asking us what gifts do we want to bring to Jesus at Christmas? The responses were displayed on the screen for everyone to see. Some expected and, some unexpected.

The same day we met together for tea and cake, followed by our Service of Lessons, Carols and Meditations arranged by Nigel and Clive, Sarah and myself.

Roger again led our worship and communion on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, showing a powerful Peanuts cartoon clip “Charlie Brown learns the real meaning of Christmas”.

Our Christmas Eve Christingle was well attended by many connected families and others from the community, as well as our church members. This year we had chosen a dramatic presentation that used the elements of the Christingle to speak the gospel, and I thank all those who contributed to the service and making the Christingles beforehand.



On Christmas morning Rev Derek Kingston took our service, encouraging us to expect the unexpected at Christmas; there were surprises all round for Mary, Joseph and the shepherds; we sang the infrequently used carol “God surprises earth with heaven” which fitted Derek’s theme wonderfully. The tune “Scarlett Ribbons” may be familiar to us ‘oldies’ but I was reminded that anyone under 45 is unlikely to have heard it!

We rounded off 2019 with Roger leading an all age service of poems and meditations. The game of reindeer antler hoopla was a great hit with the youngsters, I hope it comes out another year!

And so into 2020.

On Epiphany Sunday Peter Hunt took the service and his children’s talk focussed on the use of our senses, sight in particular (2020 vision).



The following Sunday we welcomed our Minister back from sabbatical to lead our worship. He began by reminding us that although it is human nature to be concerned for the future, our Lord has told us that we really should not worry about what we will eat drink or wear (Luke 12: 22-34).

On 19<sup>th</sup> January Roger took the service for us, and showed a film clip of St Paul's journey to Rome, and the storm and shipwreck on Malta. God had determined that Paul would go to Rome, to fulfil a purpose there, and that on the way he would have the opportunity to speak about Jesus and heal people in his name; but for the storm Malta may never have heard about Jesus.

Our Minister had Interim Moderator duties at Kings Road URC on the final Sunday of the month, and we do thank Robert Wiseman for stepping in to take the service and Clive Goodhew for presiding at Communion. Robert talked about being lost and about Christians who are being persecuted all over the world. Both can be helped by prayer and the scriptures!

Adrian Smith from the organisation Open Doors visited the Church Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, and told us about the current situation with persecuted Christians across the world; how in certain places they must keep their faith secret and access to scripture is forbidden; job discrimination and access to education and healthcare can be a huge problem - all things we take for granted.

When I was a teenager, I was introduced to Richard Wurmbrandt's book "Tortured for Christ" and first became aware that practising Christianity was an ordeal in some parts of the world, made possible only by the promise of heaven. Of course, at this time, the enemy was Communism but since the fall of the iron curtain and the removal of Russian domination and oppression in the former soviets, an equally voracious enemy has been unleashed across Eastern Europe, in the name of radical Islam which shocks us all and all peace-loving Muslims. And while Communist oppression continues in places like China and North Korea, radical Islam has gained a foothold in the Middle East and parts of Africa.

I believe we can and should support organisations which enable Christianity to be nurtured in these parts of the world. Our

Communion Offering the following Sunday raised £161.60 for this charity.

Looking ahead, we will be observing Poverty Sunday on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, using some of the material provided by Church Action on Poverty for our worship. Afterwards, I will provide an 'austerity lunch' of soup and rolls and hope as many as possible will participate; you are asked to donate the normal cost of your Sunday lunch, which will be combined with the Communion Offering and sent to Church Action on Poverty for their relief and campaigning work.



A cautionary tale:- some of our members were surprised to hear a third party observe that they had attended the Christmas Eve Christingle. Apparently, they appeared in the background of a photograph that had been posted on Facebook. As thrilled as I am that someone was so filled with joy by this event that they wanted all their friends to know, we all need to be careful to comply with the law of the land and to respect others' right not to be published. There is also a high probability that someone in the congregation simply cannot be publicly shown for legal reasons. The Elders do not wish to introduce an outright ban on photographs - we understand the need for personal mementos particularly of joyous occasions. However, publication is another matter, and in the event that you wish to post a photo on line, you should either obtain the consent of every other person in the picture, or pixelate/blank out/blur their images so they are not recognisable. Thank you for your co-operation.

Finally, Frank and I thank everyone who has expressed sympathy and prayers over the passing of my brother Peter. I believe I now qualify for the title 'matriarch'!

Ruth Dixon

**Jesus drank the cup of wrath  
without mercy so that we  
may drink the cup of mercy  
without wrath**

## NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP

### A Big Thank You

We would like to say a heartfelt 'Thank You' to everyone for their good wishes, gifts and cards as we celebrated our Ruby Wedding Anniversary at the end of October 2019.



We enjoyed a lovely time with our family and friends before the day, on the day and during the following time.

Thank you very much.  
**Mary & Clive**

### Christmas at 57 West

The video reached the target of 100 views, surprising all.

A friend of 57 and art, John Pullen, inspired people by the idea of a poster with a Christmas tree and a homeless man on the street. It was only eight large plain sheets of ordinary sizes and a team painted it and others installed it, with permission in Nelson Street. But after about only seven hours, due to a view of bad taste, it was torn down.

However, people shared their passion by delivering copies throughout the town. The Echo did a double spread on it on 31<sup>st</sup> December and a picture appeared on facebook57West.

A poem was written by me to thank fellow 57 team members in the homeless projects. New and old team members had added the individual skills, working well together in poster, knitting or music.

To God be the Glory

A very thankful..... **Paul Drage**

# ECO CHURCH

AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



2019 saw the warmest October, September and June on record globally, as well as the second hottest August and joint-warmest July, in Earth's recorded history.

From members of congregations to those in leadership, churches across denominations are committing to practical, environmental actions in all aspects of church life, worship and ministry. To this end the Elders thought it would be a good idea to look again at the Eco Church scheme, run by A Rocha, which has three levels of awards - bronze, silver and gold. By completing an audit of various topics which include everything from worship to buildings, we should be able to see where we can reasonably rethink or be open to new ways of doing things. We will be working through the audit over the next few months with the aim of applying for the appropriate award status in 2020.

As a church we already do many things to save the environment. Our solar panels provide a good source of energy, we now use crockery instead of paper cups on a Sunday morning and we recycle too. If you have any other ideas of how we can improve our carbon footprint we would be happy to hear from you.

In February 2020 A Rocha UK, as a member of the Climate Coalition, will be encouraging congregations to make and share green hearts to "ShowTheLove" for all the things we want to protect from climate change. Photos of the homemade green hearts will be shared on social media with the hashtag #ShowTheLove on Valentine's Day 2020. Why not make a green heart? I can photograph them and get them up on social media if you don't know how to do this.

So if you see us wandering around with a clipboard you will know what we are doing. Whatever your views on climate change, as Christians we have a responsibility to care for God's earth and its resources. Let's see what we can achieve.

**Mike and Linda Mead**

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## **Christianity Explored**

What's the best news you have ever had?  
Discover it as together we explore  
**"Just what Christianity is all about?"**

At the Cornerstone, we are commencing a series on just that question, when we shall be using the course 'Christianity Explored'. We are running a series of eight considerations in three informal sessions when we will be investigating together, in a relaxed atmosphere, three questions that cut to the heart of Christianity -

- **Who is Jesus?**
- **Why did he come?**
- **What is involved in following him?**

All based on the Gospel of Mark. (You will receive a free copy of this Gospel plus a course Handbook.)

This series is for all who have, in any way, connection with the Cornerstone - members and regular adult attenders, (you think you already know? Well come along and find out if you do!); young people including Pilots and for parents whose toddlers/children/young people attend the various church activities, (an excellent opportunity to hear just what it is we teach your children); in other words these sessions are open to everyone who would like to learn more of what Christianity is about.

The sessions will be in 3 sections over a period of seven weeks, plus a Saturday (including lunch) and will commence in the week beginning Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020. It is hoped that the Sunday Morning Worship will also be related to the subject of the previous week.

Programme:-

On a Monday evening at 7.30pm for Adults. This will include tea and biscuits

For Pilots and Parents at their usual meeting times on Wednesday evenings and for 11 to 14-year olds.

For the Youth Group, at their usual meeting time on Friday evenings and is for 15+/young adults

All at the Cornerstone Church.

The topics to be covered are in the weeks beginning -

### **February**

17 Session 1 Good news - What are we doing here?  
24 Session 2 Identity - Who is Jesus?

### **March**

02 Session 3 Sin - Why did Jesus come?  
09 Session 4 The Cross - Why did Jesus die?  
16 Session 5 Resurrection - why did Jesus Rise?  
23 Session 6 Grace - How can God accept us?

### **April**

04 Saturday *At 10.00 am. - 3.30 pm. Refreshments and lunch provided.*  
The Sower - Listen Carefully  
James and John - Ask Humbly  
Herod - Choose Wisely

05 Session 7 **Come and die - What does it mean to follow Jesus?**

Watch out for more detailed information. Look forward to seeing you there.

## **News from the Forum**

This is just a short note this month to remind members that we are back meeting again after our break.

Our first meeting is on the second Tuesday afternoon, February 11<sup>th</sup>, in the Foyer, starting at 2.30 but gathering ahead of that time for a cup of tea and chat.

Val Hayman starts the new year for us with a musical programme.

Our second meeting is on the fourth Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, and John Warin is coming along to talk to us about his fascinating life. As always we welcome anyone who wishes to, to come along and see what we are all about,

A Belated Happy New Year to you all  
**Alison Shannon**

## **A few thoughts about candles**

I wonder how you use candles in your everyday lives? There was a time when we always had candles on the table if we were having friends in to dinner and we were given a triple stand by one of our people who thought we would make better use of it than she was doing. I am now the age she was then and it sits on a shelf rarely used. Electricity, preceded by gaslight, has largely made the use of candles for light obsolete, but there are candles in various places around the house just waiting for the power cut which I hope doesn't come, and yes, I do know where the matches are!

Birthday cakes were never complete without the appropriate number of candles on them and I look back with happy memories at the Womble candle holders that are in the kitchen drawer.

I see the arrays of candles in adverts showing that folk put them in their bathrooms, not something I have tried, and then there are the scented candles to create an ambience around the place. We also have one to burn in the garden to ward off the midges, does it work? I am not convinced.



Do you use candles in your prayer life? There is a lovely tradition that in lighting a candle when you have a seemingly insurmountable problem or worry, that when the flame burn upwards if you deliberately let those cares go they are taken to our Lord carried by the flames. Your load is taken away and everything seems better.

And so to Candles in the life of the church with as many variations of use as there are traditions of church worship. Just in our own locality you will see different ways in which candles impact on the worship, six candles on the main altar, side altars with two votive lights around statues of Mary and the saints. Then in our own style none week by week which makes the times we do use them all the more special.

I am going to start at the beginning of the chronological year when we still have the reminders in front of us of all the celebrations we have just had for Christmas. This is a feast celebrated by all traditions and the Advent ring or wreath is there for all to be reminded of the coming of Jesus into our world and the way in which God tried to prepare His people for the momentous event. As the weeks go by four supporting candles, often red, sometimes purple and pink are lit and then on Christmas morning the taller white candle is lit for the birth of our Lord. This remains lit and burning (or flickering!) until Epiphany on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January.



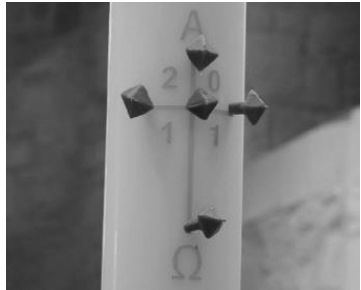
Another universal use of candles at this time is the Christingle service when we get together to give meaning to the oranges with their red ribbon and fruits on sticks hopefully to the children and their parents on Christmas Eve for us. It is a service started by the Church of England Children's Society and the collections at the service go directly to the Society, we sent £200 this year and the church was packed, what a joy, here's to next year!

The next time we see candles in use, and again not in our tradition, is for Candlemas at the beginning of February. This is the time that the Baptism of Jesus is celebrated and I think that in most, if not all



cases, when a baby or infant is baptised they are given a candle to signify their passing from darkness into light, linked back in origins to the Candlesmas celebrations.

On a few weeks and we are at Easter and here the candle, where used over the Easter period, is tall, has the marks of the passion and the year of our Lord marked on the shaft. The lighting of the Paschal, or Easter Candle is a wonderful time and if you have never been part of this ceremony I can only say give it a try, you really won't regret it. A fire is lit using wood, and from that new fire the Candle is lit and the marks of the passion are put in place in the form of an extended cross shape, marking the crown of thorns, the wounds in the hands and those in the feet of Jesus at the time of Crucifixion. The candle is then processed down a darkened church and at stopping points the refrain "The Light of Christ" is sung in plain chant. The procession meets the stand for the candle and it is ceremoniously placed there where it will be lit every day in some traditions, or weekly for the whole of the Easter period.



There are of course many times when candles can be used, sometimes at the head and foot of the coffin; every Sunday where there is a processional tradition of entry into church with the choir; as you see on Remembrance Sunday celebrations on the television on the Saturday evening at the Albert Hall; and when the Gospel is read the candle bearers, Acolytes, hold their lighted candles at the side of the reader.

At the beginning of November there is another very special time when we celebrate the lives of all who have gone before us, who have shown us the way, loved us and been loved by us, and who have often been the reason why our faith has been nurtured and allowed to develop. There is a celebration for those who are designated Saint, whose lives were a shining example to people. often in the background in their own time but later recognised for the influence they had on the world. So we have in the church calendar All Saints day and All Souls day.



In our church last November we had a beautiful afternoon where the church and Foyer were open to all comers, tea and cake was served in the hall and in church and foyer there were various stations which enabled people to stop, read, reflect, pray or just stop and let the business of life disappear for a short while. There were also sand trays with little tea lights laid out for a person to be able to light one or more, remembering their own loved ones and write the names on a card. This was so special.

Obviously, a lot of thought and preparation goes into an event like that and we are so grateful for this background work which enables the rest of us to enjoy the time and relax into the atmosphere created.

One of the points of activity was to plant a sprig of Rosemary, the herb of Remembrance, in a pot and take it away with you afterwards. Mine is on the kitchen windowsill, growing I hope (it is still green and looks as though it is surviving!) as a reminder of a really uplifting afternoon and a focus for prayer for loved ones gone but not forgotten.

If you didn't come last year, please think about coming next year when it is made known that it is happening. It would be fantastic to run out of space in the sand trays and have to get more ready to put out. It was said this last time afterwards by someone who is always busy that it was lovely to just be surrounded by an overwhelming feeling of calm and peace (I paraphrase) and let the business of life pass by without thinking of what must be done next. Over the years I have been party to getting the day ready, being part of making sure it went well etc, and I can honestly say I have never felt such quiet in my being as I felt last November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

I can't reiterate enough "Do come along!" I shall be reminding you in October's Magazine, so come, even if only to shut me up !!

**Alison Shannon**

## Peter's Piece



### The Lord's Prayer 8

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we (similarly as we) forgive those who trespass against us.**

This Prayer should strictly be called the Disciples Prayer because, at their request, Jesus gave them this prayer; *When you pray, say:* Luke 11:2. It is a prayer for the disciples of Jesus, those who have put their faith and trust in Him and know their sinful condition, inherited by all people from Adam and Eve, completely forgiven. [John 17 is - The Lord's Prayer - in which He prays for himself and US!! Read it!]

Why then does the prayer ask for our sins to be forgiven?

Although we are by faith in Jesus made right with God, our Sin forgiven completely, we still live in this body in this life and therefore are still open to temptation and sins; to doing, thinking, and saying that which comes from our old self tempting us, to please ourselves and not yield to God's working in us.

*For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They war with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. Galatians 5:17.*

You might be somewhat comforted to know that the great Apostle Paul also anguished over this difficulty: *I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Romans 7:21-24.*

Paul is using as a picture of this problem, which we all share, a method of torture of his day, strapping a corpse to a victim so that they had to carry it around with them all the time.

It's the sins that are the result of not doing what God, through his Holy Spirit, wants of us and pleasing ourselves instead, that need

forgiveness; so that communion with God is not broken by unconfessed sins. *If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.* Psalm 66:18 NLT

Who will rescue us?

*Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!*  
Romans 7:25.

## **Revised Common Lectionary for February 2020 and March 2020**

### **Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany - February 2, 2020**

Micah 6:1-8, Psalm 15, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-12.

Or

### **Presentation of the Lord - February 2, 2020**

Malachi 3:1-4, Psalm 84, Hebrews 2:14-18, Luke 2:22-40

### **Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany - February 9, 2020**

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12), Psalm 112:1-9 (10), 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16),

Matthew 5:13-20

### **Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany - February 16, 2020**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37

### **Transfiguration Sunday - February 23, 2020 - Poverty Sunday (Last Sunday before Lent)**

Christianity Explored Session 1

'Good News - What are we doing here?' Mark 1:1-20

### **First Sunday in Lent - March 1, 2020**

Christianity Explored Session 2

'Identity - Who is Jesus?' Mark 4:35-41, Psalm 107:23-31

**“Life, after life after death.”**

[With acknowledgements to N T Wright for that phrase.]

**Some words of encouragement.** Based on Job 19:25-26 and Revelation 21

There is no doubt, the moment the Christian passes from this life, they, their soul, enter our Lord's presence and safe keeping in Paradise. *Jesus*, to one of the two criminals crucified with him, *“Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”* Luke 23:43. In Philippians 1:23. Paul says *I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far.* It would seem, that, it is a conscious state, because Paul is able to describe it, here to the church at Philippi, as *‘better by far’* than this life!

The departed Christian is at rest in Paradise with Jesus until the great and glorious Day of Resurrection, when Jesus returns to Earth, when on that Day --- *God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.* 1 Thessalonians 4:14 and the incredible miracle occurs that, our present bodies - whether buried or cremated - will be resurrected v.16 and we, our spirit/soul will be re-united with our now *changed* 1 Corinthians 15:51-52/*transformed* Philippians 3:21 bodies. How is this to be? Especially in the light of modern scientific knowledge, I don't know, except that it's by *the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.* Philippians 3:21.

When we become believers, we are 'born' into God's family John 3:5-7; then at the resurrection - *our 'adoption' to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved.* Romans 8:23-24a occurs. Both born and adopted into God's family! How incredible! What a hope! 2 Corinthians 5:8 *We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.* It would seem that, 'away from the body' i.e. physically dead, for the Christian means that our soul is, we are, with our Lord in his safekeeping in Paradise until that great and glorious Day of Resurrection, when --- *the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.* John says *we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.* 1 John 3:2.

Job, in one of the oldest parts of the OT, says -

*I know that my redeemer lives,  
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.  
And after my skin has been destroyed,  
yet in my flesh I will see God;  
I myself will see him  
with my own eyes I, and not another.  
How my heart yearns within me!*

Job 19:25-27

Heaven on earth! Hallelujah! Praise God what a glorious hope. Let's rejoice in the *better by far*, as we wait that Day! What a glorious 'hope' we share with Job

*So, we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.* 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. Does your heart yearn within you?

If you don't enjoy this hope, then why not trust and thank the Lord Jesus, now? He died for you, be born again and enjoy this hope of future adoption.

**Peter Hunt**

### **The Bible Says So**

A new pastor was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a business card and wrote 'Revelation 3:20' on the back of it and stuck it in the door.

When the offering was processed at the next worship service, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, 'Genesis 3:10'. Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter.

*Revelation 3:20 begins 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock.'*  
*Genesis 3:10 reads, 'I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked.'*

*'A cheerful heart is good medicine' (Prov. 17:22)*

## And here is the good medicine - Fun Facts

1. You can't see your ears without a mirror.
  2. You can't count your hair.
  3. You can't breathe through your nose, with your tongue out.
  4. You just tried No. 3.
  6. When you did No. 3 you realised that it is possible, only you look like a dog.
  7. You are smiling right now, because you were fooled.
  8. You skipped No. 5.
  9. You just checked to see if there is a No. 5.
- 
- I just bought a thesaurus at the store and brought it home to find out the pages are all blank. I have no words to describe how angry I am.
  - I need your advice. I have been offered 8 legs of venison for £40. Is that two dear?
  - I got run over by a forklift truck yesterday. I was a bit up and down for a while but I think I'm OK now.
  - I can't believe someone broke into my garage and stole the limbo stick. Seriously, how low can you go?
  - I just tried to use my store discount card to scrape the ice from my car windscreen. But I only got 20% off.



### The next edition of New Horizons!

The next magazine will be published on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

Would our contributors remember to send the Editors their items **by the usual time of 9.00 a.m. on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of February please.**

Any interesting tales from over Christmas? Perhaps details of an unexpected or unusual gift? What about New Year's Resolutions; did you keep them?

We always welcome contributions from any of our readers, wherever they are. Reports, stories, thought provoking articles and even funny stories are all very welcome.

**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**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Would organisations and delegates please let the Secretary have written reports (electronically please) for inclusion in the Book of Reports, by 12 noon Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Thank you.

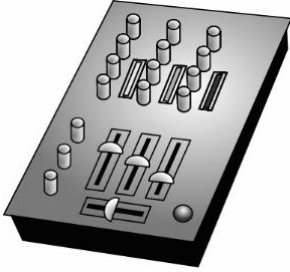
### **Save the Date**

**Eastern Synod Big Day Out  
Trinity Park, Ipswich  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Admission: £6 per adult, children free.

There is free car parking, but we have booked a coach to travel together - details of timing and cost to follow.





## **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.

## **Flower Donations**

### **Feb**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Terry and Barbara Dillon
- 9<sup>th</sup> Sandra Russ (in memory of David and Michael)
- 16<sup>th</sup> Christian Forum Anniversary
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Michael and Linda Mead

### **March**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Rob Milbourn
- 8<sup>th</sup> Brenda Kemp
- 15<sup>th</sup> Hilda Cramond and Pam Wanstall
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Alan and Carole Cornwall
- 29<sup>th</sup> David and Beverley Osborn



If you don't already donate and would like to fill a Sunday, please speak to Val or Joan.

Thank you

## Sunday Coffee/Tea Rota

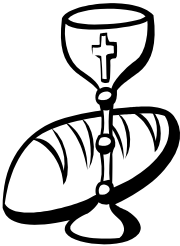
<b>Feb</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Machrina Ejaz and Sandra Russ
	9 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	16 <sup>th</sup>	Brenda Kemp and Leng Kingston
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Carole and Alan Cornwall
<b>Mar</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Suzanne and Paul Dyer
	8 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Clarke and Val Mead



## Tuesday mornings "Drop in"

<b>Feb</b>	4 <sup>th</sup>	Stella Duboux and Brenda Melling
	11 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Harvey and Maureen Stone
	18 <sup>th</sup>	Carole and Alan Cornwall
	25 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Smith and Pat Pates
<b>Mar</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Stella Duboux and Brenda Melling
	10 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Harvey and Maureen Stone

## 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.

The collection in December for Christian Aid raised £58 and in January for Open Doors £161.60

We thank you for your continuing generosity in giving to all of our charities.

**February  
March**

**Church Action on Poverty  
RNLI**

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

(Also see weekly Notice Sheet)

### **February**

Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Morning worship	<b>Roger Brett</b>
Tue	4 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Messy Church	
Wed	5 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Meeting for Christianity Explored leaders	
Thu	6 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Elders' meeting	
Thu	6 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 to 4.30pm	at The Bridgwater Church, Nicola Grieves will be taking a session on 'Leading All Age Worship'. Names to the church secretary, please.	
Sat	8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Big Breakfast	
Sun	9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Family Parade Service	<b>Our Minister</b>
Sun	16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Christian Forum Anniversary	<b>John Amos</b>
Mon	17 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Christianity Explored Session 1	
Sun	23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	(HC) Poverty Sunday (followed by Austerity Lunch) Proceeds to 'Church Action on Poverty'	<b>Ruth Dixon</b>
Mon	24 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Christianity Explored Session 2	
Thu	27 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	P.M.G. meeting	

### **March**

Sun	1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>Roger Brett</b>
Mon	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Christianity Explored Session 3	
Tue	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4.00pm	Messy Church	
Thu	5 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	
Sun	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Family Parade Service	<b>Our Minister</b>
Mon	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Christianity Explored Session 4	
Sat	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Big Breakfast	
Sun	15 <sup>th</sup>	10,30am	Morning Worship	<b>Peter Hunt</b>
Mon	16 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Christianity Explored Session 5	
Thu	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Church A.G.M	
Sat	21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Eastern Synod Meeting at Colchester	
Sun	22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Mothering Sunday (HC)	<b>Our Minister</b>
Mon	23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Christianity Explored Session 6	
Thu	26 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Area Partnership meet, Hutton & Shenfield	
Sun	29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>John Amos</b>

## WHO'S WHO?

<b>Minister</b>	Rev Sohail Ejaz MA (01702) 580879 <a href="mailto:tcsscp@yahoo.co.uk">tcsscp@yahoo.co.uk</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Ruth Dixon (01702) 464186
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ann Blackwell 07753 348856
<b>Envelopes</b>	Mike Mead 07802 749912
<b>Gift Aid</b>	David Osborn (01702) 611337
<b>Preachers List</b>	Mary Goodhew (01702) 467512
<b>Junior Church</b>	Ruth Dixon (01702) 464186
<b>Joint Leaders</b>	Mary Goodhew (01702) 467512
<b>Pilots</b>	Derek Goodyear 07863 208914
<b>Prayer Fellowship</b>	Peter & Zoy Hunt (01702) 864814
<b>Digging Deeper</b>	Peter Hunt (01702) 864814
<b>C'Stone Toddlers</b>	Mary Goodhew (01702) 467512
<b>Scout Group</b>	Lorna Skippon (01702) 477309
<b>Christian Forum</b>	Alison Shannon (01702) 464737
<b>Use of Premises</b>	Roger Brett (01702) 479874
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**Please remember that your Elders are ordained  
to serve our members and friends  
who have pastoral concerns.**