

New Horizons

MARCH 2020



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.uk

Email:

cornerstonequestions@outlook.com

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.

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"
(1st and 3rd Tuesdays or as announced)
2.30 pm Christian Forum (2nd and 4th Tuesdays)
4.00 pm Messy Church (1st Tuesday in the month)
19.30-21.00pm Digging Deeper (3rd 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 (1st 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

In His time, According to His Will

Talking to people about God has been a regular part of my life... well, most of my Christian life. Meeting people at different places and the opportunities, which open up in our daily lives, we find ourselves sharing with people from all walks of life - unbelievers, new believers, people who have come and gone from the faith and back again. There are many questions asked by different people.

It is so typical of the human nature to want all our questions answered before we decide to make any commitments, isn't it? We want proof that God is real and that the Bible is accurate. We want to know why sometimes those who call themselves Christians do awful things and how God could allow bad things to happen to good people. Sadly, as soon as we think all our questions are all answered to satisfaction, undoubtedly more appear. It happens to the best of us.

While there are numerous answers and proofs to these questions, we have come to realize that some things just cannot be answered with our minds - they have to be answered with our hearts. The deepest faith doesn't come by getting all our questions answered - it comes simply when we open our hearts to the Lord and invite him to search it through and through.

My dad did not always give me what I wanted when I first asked for it or when I wanted it. Like a wise parent, God knows when it is best to wait. You wouldn't allow your underage children to play with knives or fireworks unsupervised, I'm sure at the time your children don't feel the same way and might not even agree with you, but you know what is best for your children.

Being willing to wait is also a sign of maturity. The opposite is also true. The reason why God has not answered your prayer or question is, because maybe you aren't ready to handle the answer yet.

Zachariah and Elizabeth waited for a long time and suffered disgrace and discouragement, but it was their son who God used to point the

world to Jesus. In order for God to answer your prayer or a question, you need to be willing to let God answer in his own time, his own way, in his own power, and his own purpose.

Don't get me wrong, it's good to keep asking questions and be knowledgeable of our faith, but the fact of the matter is that there are some questions to which we won't find answers until we can see the Lord face to face and ask him ourselves.

Regardless of whether we're new believers, old believers or not yet believers at all, let all of us open our hearts to God and ask Him to do a work in us. May you be blessed as the Lord reveals new and wonderful treasures to your hearts.

**God bless,
Sohail**

**Open my eyes that I may see
glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.**

**Open my ears that I may hear
voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.**

**Open my mind, that I may read
more of Thy love in word and deed:
what shall I fear while yet Thou dost lead?
Only for light from Thee I plead.**

*Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!*

**Clara Scott - MP 544
(Used by permission, CCL Licence No. 7114)**

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.

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

As we see the spread of the coronavirus, give thanks for the healthcare workers who are working hard to treat those affected and to prevent its spread even further.

Pray for those affected and the most vulnerable; the elderly, the children and those who are sick and frail. In many countries the shortage of food and clean water has resulted in malnourishment and disease. Those countries are also the least able to afford to provide care and medicines to treat those who are already sick.

Lord, help us to turn prayer into action.



Dear God,

**Sometimes I don't have the words,
so I hope you can hear my heart**



There is no Secretary's Notebook this month as Ruth, our Church Secretary had some unintended few days added onto her holiday in Spain last month, courtesy of Storm Dennis.

Due to this and church work she had to prepare, she was unable to make the deadline of this issue of the Magazine, which the Editors fully understand.

Ruth, if you were going to be delayed anywhere, sunny Spain was probably a very good country to be in!

For Mothering Sunday, a tribute to Mums and all Women

WOMAN.....

When God created woman he was working late on the 6th day.

An angel came by and asked. "Why spend so much time on her?"

The Lord answered. "Have you seen all the specifications I have to meet to shape her?"



She must function in all kinds of situations.

She must be able to embrace several kids at the same time.

Have a hug that can heal anything from a bruised knee to a broken heart.

She must do all this with only two hands.

She cures herself when sick and can work 18 hours a day"

The Angel was impressed "Just two hands impossible!

And this is the standard model?"

The Angel came closer and touched the woman.

"But you have made her so soft, Lord".

"She is soft", said the Lord,

“But I have made her strong. You can’t imagine what she can endure and overcome”.

“Can she think?” The Angel asked

The Lord answered. “Not only can she think, she can reason and negotiate”

The Angel touched her cheeks.....

“Lord, it seems this creation is leaking! You have put too many burdens on her”.

“She is not leaking..... it is a tear” the Lord corrected the Angel.

“What’s it for?” asked the Angel.

The Lord said, “Tears are her way of expressing her grief, her doubts, her love, her loneliness, her suffering and her pride”

This made a big impression on the Angel,

“Lord, you are a genius. You thought of everything.

A woman is indeed marvellous”.

The Lord said “Indeed she is,

She has strength that amazes a man.

She can handle trouble and carry heavy burdens.

She holds happiness, love and opinions.

She smiles when she feels like screaming.

She sings when she feels like crying, cries when happy and laughs when afraid.

She fights for what she believes in.

Her love is unconditional.

Her heart is broken when a next-of-kin dies but she finds strength to get on with life”.

The Angel asked: “So she is a perfect being?”

The Lord replied: “No. She has just one drawback,

She often forgets what she is worth”.

Anon



In a mother's womb were two babies. One asked the other. "Do you believe in life after delivery?" The other replied, "Why, of course. There has to be something after delivery. Maybe we are here to prepare ourselves for what we will be later."

"Nonsense" said the first, "There is no life after delivery. What kind of life would that be?" The second said, "I don't know, but there will be more light than here. Maybe we will walk with our legs and eat from our mouths. Maybe we will have other senses that we can't understand now". The first replied, "That is absurd. Walking is impossible. And eating with our mouths? Ridiculous! The umbilical cord supplies nutrition and everything we need. But the umbilical cord is so short. Life after delivery is to be logically excluded."

The second insisted, "Well I think there is something and maybe it's different than it is here. Maybe we won't need this physical cord anymore." The first replied, "Nonsense. And moreover, if there is life, then why has no one ever come back from there? Delivery is the end of life, and in the after-delivery there is nothing but darkness and silence and oblivion. It takes us nowhere."

"Well, I don't know," said the second, "but certainly we will meet Mother and she will take care of us." The first replied "Mother? You actually believe in Mother? That's laughable. If Mother exists then where is She now?"

The second said, "She is all around us. We are surrounded by Her. We are of Her. It is in Her that we live. Without Her this world would not and could not exist." Said the first: "Well I don't see Her, so it is only logical that She doesn't exist." To which the second replied, "Sometimes, when you're in silence and you focus and listen, you can perceive her presence, and you can hear Her loving voice, calling down from above."

May be this is one of the best explanations to the concept of GOD.

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 commenced in the week beginning Monday 17th 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 -

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

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

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

The Perfect Plan

When people saw a barren woman in Sarah,
God saw the mother of all nations.

When people saw a poor young shepherd in David,
God saw a mighty King of Israel.

When people saw a poor prisoner in Joseph,
God saw a powerful Minister of Egypt.

So never mind what people see in you.
God has a perfect plan for you.

News from the Forum

Only one of our meetings will be in this news as yet again we have to get the article in to the magazine before our second of the month.



We had a very good afternoon with Val Hayman taking us on a trip along the River Thames in music. Starting at the Tower we heard a piece from Yeoman of the Guard, and some of the members went back in their memories to the time they had sung in the operetta.

Singing again as we visited Covent Garden in the days when it still was a market, Eric Coates brought to life the market shouts of “Cherry Ripe“, and it was from his London Suite that we went to Westminster next.

Handel featured twice, once with his Water Music and then with the piece composed to celebrate an occasion for George 11, the Royal Fireworks.

Noel Coward rarely sang his own songs but London pride is one of them and we enjoyed listening to his dulcet tones, and in contrast the Eton College Boys choir gave us a song which just had to be included in such a list, The Eton Boating Song. This is still sung at the school at all their events and it made me wonder how many of us still hear our School Song ringing in our ears every now and again.

We finished with Old Father Thames, and little did we think that but for a very much improved flood relief system it could have been this river flooding in the past days as we have seen on the Severn and the Wye.

Thank you, Val for a lovely relaxing afternoon and we look forward to hearing John Warin speak to us next.

The March meetings are on March 10th - a return visit from Joan Sparks.

I would like to make a special mention of a visit on the 24th March from one of the fund-raising committee of HARP. Lisa is coming along to tell us where and how all our contributions are used. Week by week there is a very generous collection here in church from you all which Ruth delivered for us, and we would welcome anyone who would like to hear more about the work to come along and listen to the real work going on in that organisation.

See you there.
Alison Shannon

I am new to the congregation of the Cornerstone but have found a warm welcome and friendly people.



For 15 years I have conducted a small ladies' choir and we meet in the Steele Suite of St Peter's Church in Eastbourne Grove near to the hospital on Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. until noon.

We sing in two-part harmony and in unison, songs from films and shows, together with popular songs suitable to our members. There is no need to read music. We are planning a concert in late May and part of the programme will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the end of the second World War.

The choir is looking for new members and would be so pleased if any lady from the Cornerstone could join us. We would warmly welcome you and singing is known to be so good for our mental and physical health.

We do have to make a small charge of £3.50 to cover the hire of the hall and our accompanist. Should you want any more information, please do give me a call on 01702 346175.

Many thanks and I look forward to meeting you.

Marjorie Sale

Peter's Piece



The Lord's Prayer 9

***And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil***

We come this month to the closing two of the seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer which, in the common English translation we use¹, may have presented, for those who say the prayer with thought and meaning with a perplexity. -

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, may appear to be at conflict with the words of James 1:13-14. *When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone.*

The prayer our Lord gave his disciples does not say, - 'do not tempt us', that a Holy God cannot do, but 'lead us not into temptation'. There is a world of difference in the two phrases, for the path he is leading us along through this life will have temptations along it. *Jesus full of the Spirit --- was led by the Spirit* into the wilderness where he was tempted by the devil. Matthew 4:1 from which he returned victorious *in the power of the Spirit*. Luke 4:14.

The Christian life is not a cruise on a luxury liner but a warship, a battle ground, where the world, the flesh and the devil are ever tempting us with situations and opportunities for us to go our own way and do our own thing instead of following our Leader, Lord and Saviour and obeying what he wants of us, which may lead us through treacherously tempting paths in this battleground of faith, where we too, if we will let him, can experience the power of the Spirit.

In this community of the Christian faith which we have the privilege to belong, in this country many of us, not all, free from persecution, oppression and poverty and enjoying freedoms and means denied many others, can easily relax and not be aware of evil from which we need to experience delivery, that we may know the power of the Spirit.. Thinking and feeling that all is all right in our own world, we

¹ See the back inside cover of our hymn book Rejoice and Sing and the most widely known version in the English-speaking world.

are not trusting God, happily doing our own thing and going our own way.

We need to keep close to our Lord and leader and being led into temptation be delivered from evil or the evil one. May God help us, writer and hearers alike, to know His deliverance from temptation and so live in the power of the Spirit.

Sunday Readings for March and April 2020

Over the period of Lent, as a church, we are following the Christianity Explored Course. It was felt by the Elders that it could be of benefit to have the Course Readings as the Sunday Lessons so that the whole Fellowship would be hearing the same passages of God's Word all together, as one Body.

The speakers for the appropriate Sundays have been asked to refer, where possible in their respective messages, to that which we have been studying in the previous week.

First Sunday in Lent - March 1, 2020

Identity. Who is Jesus?

Mark 4: 35-41; Psalm 107 23-31, Mark 3: 7-5:43

Second Sunday in Lent - March 8, 2020

Sin. Why did Jesus come?

Mark 2: 1-12; 6:1-8:29

Third Sunday in Lent - March 15, 2020

The Cross: Why did Jesus die?

Mark 8: 22-33; 10:45

Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 22, 2020

Resurrection: Why did Jesus Rise?

Mark 14: 27-31; 16:6-7; 11: 1-33

Fifth Sunday in Lent - March 29, 2020

Grace. How can God accept us?

Mark 10:13-167; 14: 1-72; 15:1-16:8

Palm Sunday - April 5, 2020

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16;Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54



The next edition of New Horizons!

The next magazine will be published on 5th April.

Would our contributors remember to send the Editors their items **by the usual time of 9.00 a.m. on Thursday 26th of March please.**

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

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**FRIDAY 6th MARCH at 10.30 a.m. in St. Helen's Church,
27 Milton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea. SSO 7JP**

Everyone welcome and will be followed by refreshments.

Praying with Zimbabwe

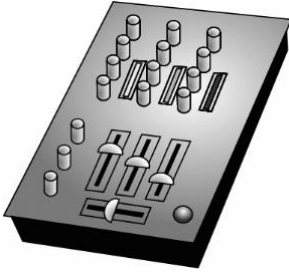
RISE! TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK

SAVE THE DATE

**Eastern Synod Big Day Out
Trinity Park, Ipswich
Saturday 13th 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

March

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

April

- 5th Eve Wright
- 12th **EASTER**



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

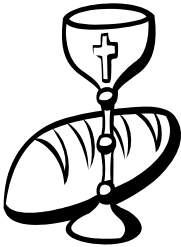
Mar	1 st	Suzanne and Paul Dyer
	8 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	15 th	Gwen McMillan and Val Hayman
	22 nd	Linda and Mike Mead
	29 th	Val Hayman and Stella Yates
Apr	5 th	Stella Duboux and Joan Harvey
	12 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead



Tuesday mornings "Drop in"

Mar	3 rd	Stella Duboux and Brenda Melling
	10 th	Joan Harvey and Maureen Stone
	17 th	Carole and Alan Cornwall
	24 th	Carol Smith and Pat Pates
	31 st	Carole and Alan Cornwall
Apr	7 th	Stella Duboux and Brenda Melling
	14 th	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 February for Church Action on Poverty raised a great £300.00! Thank you.

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

March	RNLI
April	HARP

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Also see weekly Notice Sheet)

March

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

April

Thu	2 nd	7.30pm	Elders'/M&M meeting	
Sat	4 th	10.00am - 3.30pm	Christianity Explored The Sower - Listen Carefully James and John - Ask Humbly Herod - Choose Wisely <i>Refreshments and lunch provided</i>	
Sun	5 th	10.30am	Palm Sunday	Rev Celia Whitman
Mon	6 th	7.30pm	Christianity Explored Session 7	
Tue	7 th	2.00pm	Easter Fun Day / Messy Church	
Thu	9 th	7.30pm	Maundy Thurs Service (HC)	Our Minister
Fri	10 th	10.30am	Good Friday Service	Our Minister
Sun	12 th	10.30am	Easter Celebration (HC)	Our Minister
Sun	19 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Roger Brett

WHO'S WHO?

Minister	Rev Sohail Ejaz MA (01702) 580879 tcsscp@yahoo.co.uk
Secretary	Ruth Dixon (01702) 464186
Treasurer	Ann Blackwell 07753 348856
Envelopes	Mike Mead 07802 749912
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
Prayer Fellowship	Peter & Zoy Hunt (01702) 864814
Digging Deeper	Peter Hunt (01702) 864814
C'Stone Toddlers	Mary Goodhew (01702) 467512
Scout Group	Lorna Skippon (01702) 477309
Christian Forum	Alison Shannon (01702) 464737
Use of Premises	Roger Brett (01702) 479874
Flower arranging	Joan Harvey 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.**