

# New Horizons

FEBRUARY 2022



**JESUS,  
THE JOY OF LOVING HEARTS**

**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](http://www.thecornerstonesouthend.org.uk)

Email:

[cornerstonequestions@outlook.com](mailto:cornerstonequestions@outlook.com)

## 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.

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.

Mon 7.30 pm Digging Deeper  
(2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month)

Tues 10.00 am Tea and Coffee in the Foyer  
11.30 am The Tuesday Rendezvous  
(1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays or as announced)

Wed 9.30 am The Cornerstone Toddlers during Term Time

Thurs 6.00 pm Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts  
7.45-9.15 Scouts

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

Fridays 5.00 - 6.30pm Messy Church (1<sup>st</sup> Friday in the month)  
5.00 - 6.30pm Pilots (every other Friday)  
7.00 - 9.00pm Youth Club

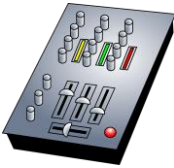
**We do offer Christian Marriage, Baptisms and Funerals so please talk to the Secretary or any Elder if you feel that we can help.**

*Little Turtles Pre-School* meets on Monday to Friday from 9.00 am during term time. Please contact the Church Secretary for details.

## A thought for Valentine's Day

No-one in this world  
is pure and perfect.  
If you avoid people  
for their mistakes,  
you will be alone  
in this world.

So, judge less and love more



**Data Protection Notice:** If you are in church for worship and do not wish to be seen on the Internet, please ask at the AV Desk to be directed to a seat not covered by the camera.

**Covid 19 Precautions:** we may no longer have legal restrictions but there is still a risk of contracting and spreading the virus. Therefore:

- The building will be kept well ventilated. You may wish to dress warmly and choose your seat carefully;
- please consider staying at home if you have any cold or flu-like symptoms; taking a lateral flow test before attending is encouraged;
- do sanitise your hands on entering the building;
- do deploy the “keep this seat vacant” signs if you wish to sit apart from others;
- you are no longer required by law to wear a face covering but it is advisable in an enclosed space where you are meeting people outside your household.

If you are not ready or able to return to in-person worship, our services continue to be streamed to our YouTube Channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmZ8TMU6-Grmmgl4p87\\_puQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmZ8TMU6-Grmmgl4p87_puQ)



## Letter to the Fellowship

### *Spiritual Health Check*

A couple of weeks ago, I had a phone call from my local Nissan dealership, reminding me that my yearly car servicing was due to make sure all is well.

Most people get a physical health check-up every year as well; even those who may be feeling generally healthy. Physical check-ups can confirm if something is not right, as well as confirm things that are right. For instance, a blood test may show that you've been doing a great job of keeping your cholesterol levels down through diet and exercise, but it can also reveal if there are issues with your immune system or organ functions.

Once we pass, we don't need to worry for a very long time. Health checks conjure up this kind of pass/fail mentality. Either our health is good enough to make us relax for another few months, or something is flagged up that means we need to take serious action.

If we are good about getting physical check-ups, maybe we should also be good about conducting spiritual health check-ups. There is such a huge correlation between what is going on with us spiritually that affects how we are doing physically.

A proper spiritual health check is a good model for the Christian life. We need to recognise that we are all sick. Despite our spiritual heart transplant, we constantly need to pitch up at God's follow-up clinic because we still need his help. So, acknowledging sin and seeking to grow in faith should be normal conversations over coffee in church, not ones that make us wish we'd picked someone else to talk to.

The best way to start a consultation with God is prayer, presenting and bringing our problems to him.

I believe the most significant thing that is lost in a church that does not have corporate prayer is faith. There is simply no expectation that God will do the miraculous. One of the main reasons most churches are stagnant and do not see God at work in miraculous ways in their midst

is that most churches and individuals do not know what it is to pray in faith anymore. But faith grows as we pray together.

Churches that do not pray together still minister in whatever ways they can, given their resources, abilities, and sacrifices. But churches that pray together begin to see the miraculous power of God at work in their midst. It goes beyond what they can and should do into what God wants to do through them.

Prayer works like an engine in a car or a heart in a human body. Without a heart and an engine, both are useless. So, in order to know what God wants from us individually and as a church, time spent in prayer would be the best way to find out.

The most important aspect of our spiritual health is our salvation. In whom or in what have we put our faith and trust? Salvation is a free gift from God, and we can't move forward spiritually with Jesus until we have been spiritually reborn. These aren't my words; they are Jesus' words. Jesus told Nicodemus, *"I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again. I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again'"* (John 3:3, 5-7).

Our attitude towards God and others is also important for our spiritual health. Loving God and surrendering to Jesus assures us of our salvation, but even the saved can stray from God. One good indicator of what our relationship with Jesus is like is to look at our attitude toward others.

A comment made years ago (or yesterday) can come back to bite us. In frustration, anger, sadness, or anxiety, we can speak words that perhaps if we had taken some time to process and think about, we might not say. So, attitudes need to be checked regularly.

Sometimes we have to wait for our health results. Some results come back the same day but for others we may have to wait for longer than we want. We get impatient and anxious in waiting and start doubting. Timing and patience are incredibly difficult for people, and yet, we are people who need to patiently wait on the Lord all the time.

In our bible study group, we have been studying the Old Testament prophecies about Jesus Christ, given by several prophets who answered the call from God to be His spokespeople to the broken nation of Israel. Most were not listened to, yet they patiently delivered message after message. They were given vague timelines by God. Many prophecies were not fulfilled, or only partially fulfilled, in their lifetimes. Then there was over 400 years silence before God answered their prayers, sent his Son Jesus Christ.

Our prayers might take longer to be answered, our attitudes may take longer to be changed or fixed, or God may take longer to reveal his plans for us. We need to wait patiently and once we do get our results back; we need to act upon what the prescription says from the DOCTOR, God.

Simply because a new year has started, does not mean new things will automatically take place. A new year brings hope, but today can also be filled with that same hope, and the day after. Don't wait until *someday*. If the Holy Spirit is prompting you to conduct an attitude check, fully participate. Like a physical check-up, it might be a little uncomfortable and come with a little pain, but it is the only way to know God's will for our lives.

**God bless,  
Sohail**

### **The Breath Prayer - written by Sheridan Voysey**

I receive your **love** and release my **insecurity**  
I receive your **joy** and release my **unhappiness**  
I receive your **peace** and release my **anxiety**  
I receive your **patience** and release my **impulsiveness**  
I receive your **kindness** and release my **indifference**  
I receive your **goodness** and release my **ungodliness**  
I receive your **faithfulness** and release my **disloyalty**  
I receive your **gentleness** and release my **severity**  
I receive your **self-control** and release my **self-indulgence**

## 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 of our fellowship in these worrying times. If you are unable to attend our worship on the church premises, you can follow our services or other URC churches online.

We keep in our thoughts any of our fellowship who are unwell, in hospital, undergoing surgery/treatment or having tests. We pray for their return to good health.

Please remember in your prayers the family of Rev Colin Garwood who passed away last month, especially his daughter Mary and her husband Clive Goodhew. Give them peace of spirit and the knowledge that God hears all of their prayers.

Father, hear our prayers  
**Amen**

## Some thoughts for prayer

FREEDOM?  
JUSTICE?  
PEACE?  
CLEAN WATER?  
ENOUGH FOOD?  
HEALTH CARE?  
SHELTER?

We all desire these things and willingly accept them without any real thought or genuine thankfulness.

What about those in our world who are not so fortunate?

How often do we go for the cheapest, not thinking of the cost to others in distant places?

RESPONSIBILITY? We must accept it and take action!

## SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK



A belated Happy New Year to everyone.

We were able to have many of our usual Advent and Christmas activities and services despite the advance of the Omicron variant of Covid-19 and I would like to thank everyone who participated in any way. Both the service of Lessons and Carols and the Christingle were well supported, and on Christmas Eve we raised £100.20 for The Children's Society. Thank You. Some of us succumbed to the virus over the last few months, but thanks to the vaccines most cases have not been very serious. We must continue to give thanks for the scientists whose hard work has brought us this blessing.

<https://soundcloud.com/cornerstonegod/>

During Advent, we began a new venture - podcasts, an occasional offering of a sound only message, and there is plenty of scope for expansion. Currently our contributors are focussing on special dates in the calendar, but we could include personal contributions, such as a time you had a special revelation from the Lord, an interesting life event, or an invitation and a two to three minute explanation of what goes on in your particular organisation/group. It is very easy to record your contribution with your smart phone or other device, and send it to Roger Brett (who is coordinating and uploading to the internet). I use the free version of WeTransfer to do this, but there are other programs out there too. It would be great to expand the pool of contributors, even different voices reading something provided, to have a better variety. If you think you can do this, please have a word with Roger. Meanwhile, do log in and listen often to increase our web presence.

January Messy Church, on the theme of the Lost Coin parable, was once again "In a Bag" delivered to homes by Vic Crowhurst, Scott and Sarah Shannon who we thank for their help. Hopefully it will not be long before everyone is fit and well and we can get back to full strength in the church hall.



January's Sunday services began with Roger Brett at Epiphany with a series of thought provoking readings and a fun rendition of Fay Rowland's "Twelve Thanks of Christmas"

(<https://reflectionary.org/2021/12/13/and-a-hat-with-a-bobble-on-top/>)

The following Sunday our Minister led our worship with a reminder that God's love is the reason Jesus came to earth. On 16<sup>th</sup> January we had another in the series of "Frontline Sundays" begun last August, focussing on how God can use you and your gifts "Whatever You Do"

Elders realised some months ago that our church would be very different post-pandemic, and it would be necessary to rethink our purpose and mission in the light of changing circumstances. To kick off this process we had a visit from Lindsey Brown, the Eastern Synod Mission and Training Officer, on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, to challenge us on what the passage known as the "Nazareth Manifesto" might mean for us. After lunch we had a lively discussion focussed around the believers' habits mentioned in Acts 2:42-47

*The fellowship of the believers*

*<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

Part of Lindsey's job is to work alongside churches across the synod and I'm sure we shall be calling on her again as we continue the discernment process.

We concluded our January services on World Leprosy Day, by looking at the leprosy stories in scripture. If you want to know more about how Leprosy is very treatable today visit

[www.leprosymission.org.uk](http://www.leprosymission.org.uk)

We were saddened to hear of the passing to higher service of Rev Colin Garwood on 22<sup>nd</sup> January and pray God will be especially close to Mary, Clive and all the family at this time. Colin was Minister at Cliff Town URC from 1961 until 1975 and was well known in the church councils of the time. He had been ordained for 70 years, earning the distinctive title of Jubilee Minister. Readers may remember his visit to The Cornerstone in 2012 as part of our new building celebrations, and I am told that he was still preaching as recently as New Year at the age of 94. The funeral service took place on 4<sup>th</sup> February at Wells-next-the-Sea.

Our Annual General Meeting takes place on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This is that important time when we review church life and receive accounts for the previous year, and make and renew appointments. As most church organisations resumed part way through 2021 I hope you are all in a position to make a report this year. I would appreciate written reports in electronic form by 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022, to allow time for collation and circulation. Thank You.

Although we have not been able to have a discussion in church meeting in order to respond to the URC Legacies of Slavery Consultation and draft apology, individuals may wish to do so on-line here <https://urc.org.uk/legacies-of-slavery-consultation-launched/>

By the time you read this we will be having our second Messy Church of the year, looking at some of the Proverbs that have found their way into everyday use. The trawl through Proverbs has been fascinating, such a wealth of wisdom for life. Highly recommend a verse or two every day!

**Ruth Dixon**

**The Scriptures are the  
lifeline God throws to us in  
order to ensure He and we  
stay Connected  
while the rescue  
is in process**

**J J Packer**

## Change of email address

After what seems a lifetime with Blueyonder (remember Telewest?) the Dixons are parting company with Virgin Media and all blueyonder/virgin media email addresses will no longer function. Please update your address books and group mailings:

[ruthdixon474@gmail.com](mailto:ruthdixon474@gmail.com)

[frankdixon56@gmail.com](mailto:frankdixon56@gmail.com)

Ruth Dixon

## A Big Thank You

As you may know, I no longer have the task of taking bookings for our party hirings but as my term comes to an end, I feel it is important to thank those who have assisted.

Every party needs someone to open and to close so my thanks to those of you;

- Who I could rely on to do the job, not forget and be busy somewhere else and so reduce my stress levels and remove the need to dash down myself.
- Who took telephone calls from me to say that the party people had rung me because they had arrived and were waiting for you to come even when they were really, really early.
- Who took my telephone calls to say that the people were leaving early and you needed to attend NOW.
- To those who spent time doing a proper clean up after some party goes who did not understand the phrase 'leave everything clean and tidy'
- To those who dealt with the Bouncy Castle firms who arrive early to set up or came late to take down after the party

people had left. Their business obviously being more important than your time.

My thanks also to the party bookers who came along to book, sign paperwork and pay a deposit when they said they would rather than ignoring this requirement.

And to those who turned up with the right money on the day to pay the remainder without having to head off to the nearest ATM in the middle of setting up.

Just really my thanks to you for making this whole thing work.

**Roger Brett**

**And another “Thank You”.**

As the result of our Tuesday Coffee Mornings resuming on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021, I was able to hand over £400 to our Treasurer at the end of December. As you know, we do not make a charge but are very grateful for your donations. Part of this money is given in recognition of the fruit and jams that a green-fingered lady leaves behind!

Thank you.  
**Michael Wardle**

Cowardice asks the question, “Is it safe?”  
Expediency asks the question, “Is it polite?”  
Vanity asks the question, “Is it popular?”  
But conscience asks the question, “Is it right?”  
And there comes a point when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor polite, nor popular, but one must take it because one’s conscience tells one that it is right.”

**Martin Luther King, Jr**

## Peter's Piece



*When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfilment in the kingdom of God."--- And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my*

*body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."*

*In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."*

I have been pondering for some time a few thoughts concerning Holy Communion and the words we frequently use. These have led me to a fresh consideration and understanding of Jesus' great sacrifice. As we hear them recited, we are probably so familiar with them that it is sometimes difficult for them to come afresh to us at Communion. But they are of the utmost importance for, they are based on the actual words that Jesus used in the upper room during the celebration of the Jewish Passover Meal with his disciples, on the very night he was betrayed, when he instituted the Feast, we now call Holy Communion, saying *do this in remembrance of me*.

They are recorded in the 3 synoptic gospel accounts of Matthew, [26:26-29] Mark, [14:22-26] and Luke, [22:19-20] Also, by special revelation to Paul, in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.

John does not record the actual Feast but in chapter 13 - Jesus 'washes the disciples' feet, almost certainly in the early part of the meal and presents, through the following 4 chapters, a beautiful, helpful and illuminating pen portrait of Jesus, his teaching, comfort and prayers given during and immediately after their meal together.

Frequently, in the various versions of these words of Jesus, we hear inserted the word 'broken' in reference to the body of Christ, and which a careful reading of the relevant Bible passages, is not included in scripture. Rather in the OT prophecy concerning the suffering of the Messiah quoted by John [19:36] he is careful to point out *These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken.*

The emphasis in the NT is on Jesus' 'giving' his body. Giving himself on our behalf. Jesus' death was no unhappy coincidence of events. Although it was the Jewish and Roman authorities who physically carried out the execution they couldn't have done so unless Jesus had given himself to be crucified. So, we are reminded at Communion that Jesus gave himself into the hands of wicked men. Not because he was 'broken' mentally and physically by their cruel treatment, but because he 'gave' himself, his body, freely, to suffer and die on our behalf.

As Luke records *This is my body 'given' for you.*

We see the out working of this when the arresting party arrived Jesus asks; *What is it you want? Jesus of Nazareth. They replied.* Then when Jesus replied *I am he.* They fell backwards. They did not fall over one another in their haste to take him, but rather they could not get to him to take him. [John 18:6] until he gave himself into their hands - *This is my body 'given' for you;*

So, as we take Communion let the words *This is my body 'given' for you;* come with powerful meaning, Jesus 'gave himself' for our salvation with all the suffering and death that that was to mean.

It wasn't just an unfortunate happening. As one of the criminals crucified with him intimates, at any point in the whole proceedings Jesus could have come down off the cross and walked away. After all there was 72,000 angels just waiting for the call to come to his rescue! [Matthew 26:53] No, Jesus freely gave himself for our salvation - cost what it may! Jesus is master of the whole situation as he is giving himself for our salvation.

I believe the words used are about our Lord's motivation, - my body given, not the result of his treatment, my body broken.

We need to appreciate this truth, that Jesus knowingly and freely 'gave himself' for our redemption.

(Points of interest, the Greek word used in Luke 22:19 is διδωμι [didomi] - to give and not ek-elaw - to break.)

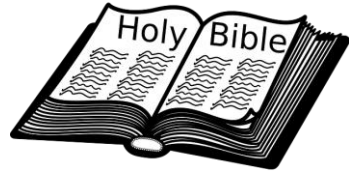
Don't hesitate to say if you disagree.

God bless

Peter

## Digging Deeper

I've now taken on the task of co-ordinating the group of people who regularly meet, currently on Zoom on Monday evenings, at 7pm, to finish at 8pm so one of our regulars can watch "Coronation Street".



We are currently looking at how Jesus' birth, life and death were foretold 600 years or more by the major Prophets. It was a difficult series, balanced between being either over-academic or sub spiritual, neither being very measurable.

Our aim is always seeing Jesus through the scriptures, and with this aim I hope to find a suitable Lent course which we could study up to Easter.

Details shortly.  
**Vic Crowhurst**

**Prayer is not a  
"spare wheel" that  
you pull out when  
in trouble but it is  
a "steering wheel"  
that directs the  
right path  
throughout life**

**Can I be a Good Samaritan from today please?**

"I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being; let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

Ascribed to Etienne de Grellet

**The tragedy of life is not death but what we let die inside us while we live.**

**Therefore:**

- ❖ Decide now to be happy
- ❖ Bless others with your happiness
- ❖ Proclaim your joy
- ❖ Love with passion your one beautiful, precious and miraculous life
- ❖ Do not listen to promises
- ❖ Do not wait for a better world
- ❖ Be grateful for every moment of life
- ❖ Switch on and keep on the positive buttons in yourself.  
Those marked optimism, serenity, quiet confidence and hope
- ❖ Pray and thank God every day
- ❖ Celebrate - smile, sing, whistle, laugh and dance
- ❖ Look with fascination at everything. Especially the ordinary, it has special wings
- ❖ Surrender your heart to freedom
- ❖ Be yourself
- ❖ Feel God in your body, mind and soul
- ❖ Be convinced of resurrection and eternal life. For at the dimming of time, we walk each other home, trusting our names are written in heaven.

**Anon**



## Steaming into the Future

Walking down to the beach with my mother meant crossing the railway line at Chalkwell station. Sometimes this meant we arrived at the same time as a steam train and we were covered in smoke and soot with the occasional piece of smut in our eyes and emerged the other side just a bit smelly.

Why then, given these experiences, do we take trips on the local heritage steam train when we go on holiday now? There is, it has to be said, something magical about these engines and carriages. They are not just lumps of metal they have a personality and seem to be alive with the fire and the coal and the smoke and steam.

Mostly they are operated by volunteers, all fully qualified and with years of training and experience behind them. All of whom seem to love this smoke and coal and oil and grease and steam. They go home tired, covered in the stuff but also full of joy. Mostly these trains are used by tourists but occasionally they run frequently enough for the daily commute or shopping trip.

The majority of these lines were shut as a result of a report by the then chairman of the British Railways Board Dr. Beeching in 1963. His report only concerned British Railways financial bottom line. 3000 miles of line were shut. Some of these were saved immediately by charities and the occasional rich person buying an engine or carriage whilst others had to wait years for this to happen, for money to be raised, volunteers to be found, engines restored and tracks relayed.

The most recent restoration is the line from Okehampton to Exeter. It was closed in 1972 not directly as a result of the report but because other lines around had been closed and Okehampton found itself adrift. Fifty years later the Dartmoor line is back. Operated by Network Rail, GWR and partners they now run a train every two hours each way.

Slowly people have realised that the financial bottom line is not the be-all and end-all of operating a train service. Tourists will now be able to walk from the station straight into Dartmoor without the use of a car, very eco-friendly, pressure will be eased on the A30 also eco-

friendly and good for essential traffic that needs the road, more tourists can be accommodated, more business will open up as more people come. More jobs and more opportunities. All in an eco-sound way.

The financial bottom line has been moved and account is now taken of the on-effects to the community and wider area of closing and, indeed re-opening, rail lines.

Churches, in the wider sense, also spend time looking at the financial bottom line. Are we, individually, locally, nationally in the red or in the black? And if in the red, will closing a building move us towards the black. Because that appears to be the decision taken so often.

And yet, and yet .. For every building that is shut there is also the loss of a community facility: the dance class, the WI, the Youth Work, the pre-school, the Men's Breakfast, the Bell Ringing Group. The list is almost endless as to the uses to which our buildings are put outside of the main purpose of Worshipping our Lord and telling people about Him.

And all of this community activity is destroyed when a building is shut leading to complaints about 'There is nothing to do' and 'Youngsters just gang up in the street' Well, of course, they do if no opportunities are provided for them to do something else.

Yes, finance is important. Buildings need maintenance and Ministry needs to be paid for. How we fund these and what we use paid Ministry for is a discussion for another day. But use by the community, building a community, giving people hope and friendship and fellowship, making our building their building is what we can and should be doing. A more diverse 7-day a week use of the building.

And if that happens, we have the opportunity to show them the God who loves them by the way we help, support and encourage each and every individual who comes through our door. And not just on a Sunday and not just with the paid Ministry but fully trained and qualified volunteers.

The network rail service with its paid staff is, of course, vital to the country, to both the business and leisure sectors. But the Heritage Railways provide much more than allowing for travel from A to B. They build the communities, taking people outside of the day job and train them in something new and different. Developing individual skills, friendship and support for all who volunteer. Rebuilding rundown and broken infrastructure and rolling stock.

Our own paid staff are vital to our own development in our faith and in increasing the numbers of those who come to love God. But this resource is in short supply when contrasted with the number of buildings and congregations. Maybe we should be ready to hand over some areas to our faithful volunteers. Having a secular day job but spending spare time in ministry in the wider sense of service to others. Developing their own skills, friendship and building communities where the paid ministry is unable to be provided full time. Developing ministry in many different ways. Rebuilding what has been allowed to deteriorate. Both secular and spiritual.

A recent article in Reform talked about Chorley Repair Café where broken items are taken for repair rather than being thrown away. One paragraph says 'The projects repair work isn't meant to be economical in a business sense; rather, it is about seeing value in things people can still use and reducing waste'. Surely, we have to see value in broken people who, with a little Christian repair at their 'Local' church can be shown their true worth.

Rationalisation of buildings? Well, maybe, but consideration of the wider losses is of real importance as we work towards a better future in God's world with God's people.

**Roger Brett**

**Some people wait their  
entire life for their ship  
to come, not realising  
that they are standing  
In an airport**

## Would you believe it?

- My dog ate a bunch of scrabble letters. The vet reckons he will be ok but there's been no word yet.
- The jumper I got for Christmas kept picking up static electricity so I took it back to the shop and exchanged it for another one free of charge.
- I have a friend who writes music about sewing machines. He's a singer songwriter. Or sew it seams!
- I accidentally drank a bottle of invisible ink last night. I'm in hospital now, waiting to be seen.
- My wife told me to take the spider out instead of killing him. Went out. Had a few drinks. Nice guy - he's a web designer.
- I nearly got knocked off my bike by a council salt lorry last night. "You idiot" I shouted through gritted teeth!

**There is no perfect life,  
no perfect job,  
no perfect childhood,  
no perfect marriage  
and no perfect set of people who will  
always do what we expect them to do.**

**What we have is a perfect God  
who is able to lead us  
through this imperfect life  
with unfailing strength,  
incomparable wisdom and  
infinite love.**

## SERVICES AND MEETINGS AT THE CORNERSTONE

### February

Thu	3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Elders' meeting	
Fri	4 <sup>th</sup>	5pm	Messy Church	
Sun	6 <sup>th</sup>		70 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Queen's reign	
Sun	6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>John Amos</b>
Sun	13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>Our Minister</b>
Mon	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Digging Deeper	
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>Roger Brett</b>
Wed	23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	A.P. Pastoral Committee meeting	
Sun	27 <sup>th</sup>	10,30am	Morning Worship (HC)	<b>Our Minister</b>
Mon	28 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Digging Deeper	

### March

Thu	3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	
Fri	4 <sup>th</sup>	5pm	Messy Church	
Sun	6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>Roger Brett</b>
Wed	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Area Partnership meet at Rayleigh	
Sat	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 to 1pm	Synod Meeting by Zoom	
Sun	13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship (Parade)	<b>Our Minister</b>
Mon	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Digging Deeper	
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship	<b>Ruth Dixon</b>

## Church Flowers

<u>Feb</u>	6 <sup>th</sup>	-
	13 <sup>th</sup>	-
	20 <sup>th</sup>	Roger and Wendy Brett
	27 <sup>th</sup>	-



<u>Mar</u>	6 <sup>th</sup>	-
	13 <sup>th</sup>	-

If you would like to supply flowers for any of the vacant dates above, please contact Val or Joan.

See list on Notice Board for other available dates during 2022

## Sunday Coffee/Tea Rota

<b><u>Feb</u></b>	6 <sup>th</sup>	Linda and Mike Mead
	13 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	20 <sup>th</sup>	Stella Duboux and Val Hayman
	27 <sup>th</sup>	Machrina Ejaz and Sandra Russ
<b><u>Mar</u></b>	6 <sup>th</sup>	Carole and Alan Cornwall
	13 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Clarke and Val Mead



**Can you help please?** From the end of March, we shall only have four teams to prepare our refreshments after worship each Sunday. They have very kindly agreed to be on duty once every month, but it would ease the load if more could come forward to help. Also, four times a year there is a fifth Sunday in the month. Just doing those would make sure we have a drink, a biscuit and a chat.

**Michael Wardle can give further information.**

## Tuesday mornings “Drop in”

<b><u>Feb</u></b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Stella Duboux
	8 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy Brett and Val Mead
	15 <sup>th</sup>	Carole and Alan Cornwall
	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Carol Smith and Pat Pates
<b><u>Mar</u></b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Stella Duboux
	8 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy Brett and Val Mead



## Some Quotes Inspired by Winnie the Poo

- ❖ A little consideration and a little thought for others can make all the difference
- ❖ Please don't be upset, I didn't forget, I just wasn't remembering
- ❖ A day without a friend is like a pot without a single drop of honey left inside
- ❖ A hug is always the right size
- ❖ The things that make me different are the things that make me, me
- ❖ Some people care too much, I think it's called love

## Thinking Beyond Sunday and Beyond the Building A Church Calendar for 2022 - March to June.

9<sup>th</sup> March - Area Partnership Meeting @ Christ Church Rayleigh

14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> March - Power of Prayer via Synod Office

19<sup>th</sup> March - Synod Meeting @ Lion Walk Colchester

24<sup>th</sup> March - Retired Ministers and Widows Luncheon

24<sup>th</sup> March - Church Meeting

14<sup>th</sup> April - Maundy Thursday Evening Worship

15<sup>th</sup> April - Good Friday morning Service

17<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Sunday Service

26<sup>th</sup> May - Church Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June - Jubilee holiday

Synod events can be booked at - [training@urceastern.org.uk](mailto:training@urceastern.org.uk)

Sometime, we will also be holding a working party to get the cleaning and mending up to speed and, possibly on another date, the full annual clean of the main kitchen will take place.

All sorts of goodies to look forward to.

### The Next Issue of New Horizons for March 2022



We always welcome contributions from our readers, whether they are from The Cornerstone or anywhere around the world. Please let us have your personal stories, recollections, inspiring thoughts from biblical or other sources, acts of kindness both given and received, encouragement to mission; really anything that you have found interesting.

The next issue will be published on Sunday **6<sup>th</sup> March** and we shall be pleased to receive any contributions for this issue by **9 a.m. on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February.**

Thank you  
**Anne and Michael**

## 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>	Elizabeth Helm 07973 199759
<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
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<b>Pilots</b>	Derek Goodyear 07863 208914
<b>Prayer Fellowship</b>	Peter & Zoy Hunt (01702) 864814
<b>Digging Deeper</b>	Vic Crowhurst (01702) 588409
<b>C'Stone Toddlers</b>	Mary Goodhew (01702) 467512
<b>Scout Group</b>	Lorna Skippon (01702) 477309
<b>Use of Premises</b>	Roger Brett (01702) 479874
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<b>Editorial Team</b>	Anne Clarke (01702) 293102 <a href="mailto:af.clarke52@gmail.com">af.clarke52@gmail.com</a> Michael Wardle (01702) 613840 <a href="mailto:mjb23wardle@btinternet.com">mjb23wardle@btinternet.com</a>

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