

New Horizons

OCTOBER 2023



THE CORNERSTONE



The
United
Reformed
Church

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:
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WORSHIP AND ACTION

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

Coffee and tea is served after Morning Worship

Please stay to talk with each other in an informal atmosphere.

Tuesdays at 10.00 am **Is a special Time of prayer** together for: the Fellowship, those with special needs, our neighbours, and our worldwide Christian Family. All are welcome to join with us.

Church Meetings are held on alternate months. It is the decision of the Church Meeting that they shall be held after Sunday Morning Worship during the winter on a trial basis, but revert to Thursdays at 7.30pm in the summer. This may change so the actual dates and times will be published in this magazine and announced in Church.

What's on in the week

Mon	5.00 - 6.30pm	Messy Church (1 st Monday in the month)
	5.00 - 6.30pm	Pilots (2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th Monday in the month)
	7.00 pm	Bible Study (2 nd and 4 th Monday of each month)
Tues	10.00 am	THE HUB
		Starting with Tea and Coffee in the Foyer
	11.30 am	Followed with fellowship and activities on 1 st and 3 rd Tuesdays or as announced.
Wed	9.15 am	Cornerstone Toddlers during Term Time.
Thurs	6.00 pm	Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts
	7.45 - 9.15pm	Scouts
Thurs	7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting (1 st Thursday)

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.



Our Minister, Sohail, and Machrina have been laid low with Covid these last few weeks and we send our get well wishes to them both for a speedy recovery.

Due to Sohail being unwell, he was unable to submit his "Letter to the Fellowship" this month.

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 as we live in these worrying times of financial worries and the war in Ukraine.



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.

We especially remember in your prayers families and friends who still mourn the loss of a loved one. Give them peace of spirit and the knowledge that God hears all of their prayers.

Father, hear our prayers. **Amen**

**Sometimes, the best thing
you can do for someone is to
pray for them and let God do
what you can't**

Just don't forget.

The clocks will go back one hour at 2.00am on Sunday 29th
October.

No real chance of you being late for church on that day!

Our prayers for others

Father God, there is so much violence in this world that we really need to ask for your help.

We pray for those suffering from war, conflict, slavery, abuse, shootings, stabbings, torture and domination. Also, for those who are harmed because of their beliefs, their views, their race or their wish for a democratic government.

We also need to pray for those who are carrying out the violence, but we find that really difficult, especially if we or our family have been affected in any way. Perhaps you need to always remind us that any sinner can repent and so receive your forgiveness. Amen

YOU NEVER WALK ALONE

You never walk alone, my friend,
though you may think you do.

For in your sorrow and despair
God always walks with you.

There is no hour, no passing day
He is not at your side;

and though unseen, He still is there
to be your friend and guide.

When e're you think you walk alone
reach out and you will find

the hand of God to lead the way
and bring you peace of mind.



SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

Apologies from our Church Secretary that it was not possible for her to provide a Secretary's Notebook this month. This was due to time restrictions because of hospital appointments. We wish Frank a speedy recovery and were delighted to see both of them in Church for Harvest.

We will be observing Commitment for Life Sunday on 8th October 2023.

The latest publicity pack (with sample merchandise) is available at the reception desk.



A volunteer to act as Commitment for Life correspondent would be appreciated



In order to continue, help would be appreciated at Messy Church (1st Monday of the month) specifically to come alongside families as they explore God's word, and help speed the clean up process after the session.

Also we desperately need another cook.

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.

HARVEST WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS

We recently celebrated Harvest at the Cornerstone, firstly on Saturday with a great evening of Fish and Chips followed by some musical entertainment - live and on the big screen. Many thanks to Roger who organised this event and our musicians who took part. Also, our thanks go to those who helped in any other way, behind the scenes, to make the evening a great success. It was a great evening and as we used to say at Bournemouth Park URC - "Good fun, good fellowship and good value for money!"



On Harvest Sunday (thanks again to Roger who stepped in at short notice to take the service) we brought along our gifts of food, tins etc to be distributed to The Ark, Shoebury. What a bountiful array of gifts there were, a big thank you to everyone for their generosity. The church looked very "Harvesty" and the flower displays added much colour and beauty.

Thanks are also due to Nigel and the Orchestra who made the service so uplifting. What a wonderful way to celebrate God's gift of Harvest and again, thank you Roger.

As our Minister was unable to write his usual monthly letter for this magazine, here is a piece to meditate on about God's giving and our response.
Anne (ED)

God Gives - We Respond (Romans 12:1-8)

Our great God gives; we are expected to respond to His gracious gifts. This response, according to Paul, is to be the offering of our lives, the placing of ourselves at God's disposal, for the accomplishment of His purposes in our world about us. It means

that we turn our hearts, minds and bodies over to God's ownership and dedicate our abilities to His service.

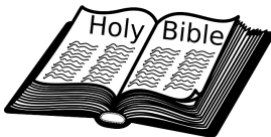
We have all received God's gifts for this very purpose. They are not given to us to enhance our beauty or assure our worldly security, or even to make us more desirable or respected among the people with whom we live and labour. They are committed to us in order to be committed back to God in and through and by way of service to our fellow beings for God's sake. This is precisely the way in which our God meets the needs of our neighbour - through us and through the gifts entrusted to us.

Not all of us have the gifts that would enable us to administer or preach or finance important projects. But we all have specific gifts and abilities - love, energy, persistence, patience, sincerity, concern, creativity. We are to exercise these things upon one another and on behalf of one another. We are to care for each other even as much as we care for ourselves. We are to allow our God to reach and touch others, even our very enemies, with His care and concern for them through us.

"We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works," wrote Paul to the church of Ephesus (2:10). The sacrifice we are to make to God as our response to His saving grace is ourselves. The altar upon which our sacrifice is to be made is the altar of our neighbour's need. Let us celebrate and serve!

Leslie F Brandt

OUR FAITH as we open up The Bible



Unfortunately, due to illness, we had to cancel our sessions in September but we will start again on 9th October at 7.00pm, both in church and online with zoom. Please join us or ask for more information.

Our aim is to continue exploring the life and message of Jesus to find out what it says to us in the present time so that we might be better equipped to pass on that message by word and by example.

Sohail and Michael

An Update about The Shoebury Ark

When you read this, we will have taken the gifts from the Harvest Service to The Ark.

Three of us went the previous week to see the organisers and to deliver what we hope was the first of our knitting efforts. We took 37 jumpers along of various sizes and designs produced by the craft section of the newly named Hub.

We also took all the baby goods so kindly donated by all of you. The mother and daughter team who do the bulk of the organising were thrilled and the distribution will take place as and when they decide.

The money they raise from the sale of the knitting will go towards the £200 they spend providing the meals they give out each week and the baby goods will join their 'Free' baby table where needy Mums can have some of their needs met.

They recently had a School Uniform sale to help equip youngsters going into High School this September and like all their clothing sales, virtually nothing would have been left at the end of the sale.

Can you imagine the tower room we use as a chapel stacked from floor to ceiling with boxes of clothing? That's what we saw when we went the first time, and the organiser told us it would all go at the next clothing sale.

I do want to emphasise that we are not talking about Shoebury in general when I said last time that they are helping in 'an area in Shoebury' and said it was in the same list of poor areas in the country as Jaywick. IT IS the area concerned around the church, which are mostly houses with supported families, those often right on the bread line and they really are in need.

The current cost of living increase has hit us all but I still do not have to think whether I can buy a large bottle of milk, whether I can put a meal on the table or have meals in the freezer when Scott comes round. These families do have to measure every penny spent. All towns in the country have areas like this, you will just have to browse the net and see parts of Nottingham and Manchester are there too.

We are not unique, but we can help this one project if we so desire. It's up to you, at the Hub we are doing our bit.

Anybody who has concerns, or wants more information please ask Val Mead, Wendy Brett or myself and we will be able to tell you more. Furthermore, they are very welcoming if you want to visit them, best time is around 11.30 to 12.30 on a Tuesday morning when they are all set up and having a breather before they welcome their customers at 2pm. The more support they get, the more they appreciate it.

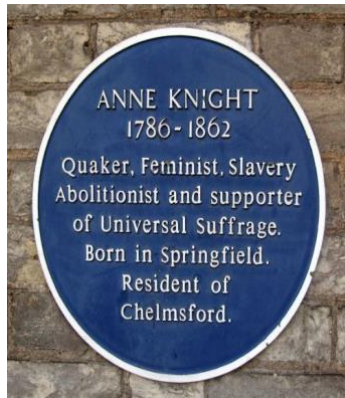
Please join us by continuing to bring anything you can in the way of baby supplies for us to pass on. Thank you to all who have done so ...keep it up.

Alison Shannon

Whether the weather!

- With all this wind, I'm worried about the caravan in our garden! We didn't have one yesterday!!
- Apparently, this week it will be constant rane, hele, thunder, litnin and frizzing colde. It's a really bad spell of weather!
- Bread is like the sun. It rises in the yeast and sets in the waist.
- I tried to catch some fog. I mist.
- If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely.
- Count your rainbows, not your thunderstorms.

This time a piece about an Essex lady Anne Knight



I wonder how many of you have heard the name or know anything about this remarkable Essex lady who lived through the early part of the nineteenth century having been born in Chelmsford in 1786.

Her father was a general grocer William Knight and her mother Priscilla. She was the third child of eight and had a very good education, unusually for that time and she was fluent in French and German. The use of these languages came into their own when in 1824 she and some companions did the European Tour. Anne made friends at this time who were to stay with her for her lifetime.

The family were a Quaker family and were related to some of the leading Quakers of the day and they were very involved with the social movements of the time especially the Temperance and Anti Slavery movements.

By 1830 Anne had become involved in her own right and she spent much of her time organising meetings and producing pamphlets for distribution. She also put together several petitions to gain public support. Anne's problem was that she wanted an end to slavery immediately and found it hard to accept the more sedate time scale of the powers that be. She was an extremist and was vehemently against the thinking of the time that slave owners should be compensated for the loss of labour if they freed their workers. In 1840 there was a World Anti Slavery Convention held in London with delegates attending from various countries including America.

Anne went to the convention and met several of the Americans there like Wendell Phillips and Lucretia Mott. Organisers decided that the women from America should not be allocated seats unlike the men. Anne was outraged and so began her involvement with another cause of the time, the suffrage of women. In the Charter so proudly upheld by the Chartists 'suffrage was for all' but only if you were a man!

Anne was in the forefront of the movements in England and became a prime mover in the Sheffield Reform Association in 1851.

She is on the 'Clever Essex' list, which is compiled by the Southend Arts group Metal to promote men and women who throughout history have made Essex great. Essex University have one of their accommodation blocks named after her and in Jamaica there is a village called Knightsville, in memory of the part she played in the ending of slavery.

Photos of Anne are few but this one shows her holding a placard which reads:

By tortured millions
By the Divine Redeemer
Enfranchise Humanity
Bid the Outraged World
BE FREE





It is so easy to be negative in this time of continual bad news.

How about including some of these positive attitudes in your day to day life:

- Enjoying the unexpected, even when it's not what you wanted originally.
- Motivating those around you with a positive word.
- Using the power of a smile to reverse the tone of a situation.
- Being friendly to those you don't know.
- Being a source of energy that lifts those around you.
- Understanding that relationships are more important than material things.
- Being happy for someone else's success.
- Smiling.
- Paying a compliment, even to a total stranger.
- Tell someone you know that they did a great job (and mean it)
- Not letting other people's negativity bring you down.
- Being true to yourself - always

Courtney E Ackerman
"What is Positive Mindset"

SERVICES AND MEETINGS AT THE CORNERSTONE

October

Sun	1 st	10.30am	Morning Worship	John Amos
Thu	5 th	7.30pm	Elders' / M&M meeting	
Sun	8 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Our Minister
			Commitment for Life Sunday	
Mon	9 th	7.00pm	Bible Study	
Sat	14 th	10.30am	Synod meeting, Ipswich	
Sun	15 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Roger Brett
Wed	18 th	9.15am	Toddlers' 10 th Birthday	
Wed	18 th	7.30pm	Area Partnership meeting, Wickford	
Sun	22 nd	10.30am	Morning Worship (HC)	Our Minister
Mon	23 rd	7.00pm	Bible Study	
Wed	25 th		Toddlers 10 th Birthday staff party	
Sun	29 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Ruth Dixon

November

Thu	2 nd	7.30pm	Elders' meeting	
Sun	5 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Rev Celia Whitman

The Next Issue of New Horizons will be for November 2023.



We always welcome contributions from our readers, whether they are from The Cornerstone or anywhere around the world.

Your next issue will be published on **Sunday November 5th** and we will be pleased to receive any contributions for this issue by **9 a.m. on Thursday October 26th**.

Just a reminder! Might we have the important dates to put into the diary for the special services and events for Advent and Christmas please?

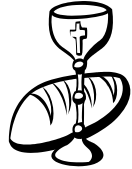
Thank you.
Anne and Michael



We are now having a weekly collection of items needed by HARP (see list on notice boards) The secretary will arrange periodical delivery (next day if perishable items)

Communion Offerings

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



Church Flowers

<u>Oct</u>	1 st	Maureen and David Stone
	8 th	Zoy and Peter Hunt
	15 th	-
	21 st	Wendy and Roger Brett
	29 th	-
<u>Nov</u>	5 th	-



The future Flower List is on the noticeboard in the Foyer and if you would like to supply flowers for any Sunday in the future, please place your name on the list or contact Val or Joan. They would be very happy to buy the flowers on your behalf and arrange them or alternatively, you are very welcome to do your own arrangement.

Volunteers will always be very welcome to help our existing teams on a regular or an occasional basis.

Sunday Coffee/Tea Rota

<u>Oct</u>	1 st	Help please!!
	8 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	15 th	Machrina Ejaz and Sandra Russ
	22 nd	Val Hayman and helpers
	29 th	Joan Harvey and Brenda Kemp
<u>Nov</u>	5 th	Val Hayman and helpers
	12 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead



Tuesday mornings “Drop in”

<u>Oct</u>	3 rd	Stella Duboux
	10 th	Wendy Brett and Val Mead
	17 th	See below
	24 th	Carol Smith and Pat Pates
	31 st	See below
<u>Nov</u>	7 th	Stella Duboux
	14 th	Wendy Brett and Val Mead



The Tuesdays of the months that are in red type, someone will set up in the servery and we shall then rely on you to help yourself and perhaps assist others if you feel able.

Thank you.

The seven wonders of
the world.
To see, to hear,
to touch, to taste, to feel, to
laugh and to love.

WHO'S WHO?

Minister	Rev Sohail Ejaz MA (01702) 580879 tcsscp@yahoo.co.uk
Secretary	Ruth Dixon (01702) 464186
Treasurer	Elizabeth Helm 07973 199759
Envelopes	Ann Blackwell 07753 348856
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	Vic Crowhurst (01702) 588409
C'Stone Toddlers	Mary Goodhew (01702) 467512
Scout Group	Lorna Skippon (01702) 477309
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.**