

New Horizons

DECEMBER 2023

JANUARY 2024



SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

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

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	3.30pm-5.00pm	Messy Church (1 st Monday in the month)
	3.45pm-5.00pm	Pilots (4-10 years old)
	(2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th Monday in the month)	
	5.00pm-6.30pm	Youth Club (11+)
	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.

Letter to the Fellowship



GOD OF IMPOSSIBLES AND SURPRISES

The definition of the word advent is the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event. Advent is a time for us to prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It is also a time when we are reminded that we should be looking forward to the second coming of Christ.

Thus, the season of advent is about the past, present, and the future. We remember the birth of Jesus that took place somewhere around the year 4 BC and we celebrate his birth that brought us salvation in the present. We look forward to the day when Christ will return to establish a new Earth and a new Heaven where those of us who call Christ Lord will spend eternity with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Advent is not the Christmas season, as much as it pains to say that. It seems that the secular world starts celebrating earlier and earlier. In the Philippines they begin to celebrate Christmas in September! I love everything about Christmas, and usually cannot wait to decorate my home, and start listening to Christmas music.

However, for some the Christmas season is only 12 days long. The first day of Christmas is Christmas day on December 25th, and the last day of Christmas in January 6th, the Epiphany. This is the day when we celebrate the visit of the Magi.

But the Christmas story begins with a couple, Zechariah and Elizabeth who was not able to have a child. Many couples go through this, but in the first century Jewish culture not being able to have a child often cast suspicion on the couple, usually more on the wife, that God was judging them or more like her because of a sin.

Not having children, particularly a son, also meant that Zechariah and Elizabeth would have no one to take care of them in the old age. As I said, this was often seen as God's judgement on a couple who could not have children. However, Luke tells us that this particular

couple, Zechariah and Elizabeth, were direct descendants of Aaron, and were righteous in the sight of God.

They were highly favoured in God's sight, because God chose them to start the chain of events that would lead to the birth of the messiah and eventually the death and resurrection of the messiah that would bring salvation to all who call Jesus, the one and only Son of God, Lord and Saviour.

Zechariah is the first one to hear about the beginning of God's plan to reconcile Himself to the world through His one and only Son Jesus who is the Christ.

So, the Christmas story begins with an elderly couple getting an impossible surprise. Their surprise was a baby boy. This was a wonderful surprise for them. God had finally answered their prayer for a child. But this wasn't just any child.



Listen to how the angel Gabriel described their son to be, *“He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth for he will be great in the sight of the Lord.”*

The name Zechariah means, “the Lord remembers”, and Elizabeth means, “the oath of God”. When you put their names together you get, “the Lord remembers his oath.” God had promised to redeem his people.

Zechariah and Elizabeth's story is not only a story of God being faithful, but it is also a story of God doing the impossible. After doing some research on Zechariah and Elizabeth, I am convinced that God used them to begin his redemption story because they were totally committed to God and each other.

So, what does this mean for us? Well, for one thing it is a reminder that God is the God of the impossible.

God is also the God of Surprises. Someone once said *“Surprise is a metaphor for God’s response to all Earth’s heartache”*. God sprung a surprise on the whole world that first Christmas morning. The Jews wanted a big, burly, handsome Messiah, ready to gather an army and defeat the hated Romans but God sent a baby from a poor carpenter’s family, Surprise!!!

The lesson is that you never know when God is going to answer a prayer, or bring some blessing to you. Therefore, no matter how hard things get, we must keep our faith in God. We must keep climbing the mountain in front of us, because there just might be a heavenly surprise around the corner.

The season of Advent is a season of hopeful waiting. We have hope because our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ was born in a manger over 2000 years ago, died on a cross as a ransom for our sin, rose again on the third day to grant us eternal life, ascended to heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father, and promises us that he will return to establish a new earth and new heaven. There will be no more sorrow, no more tears, no more fear, no more hurt, no more sickness and no more evil.



There will only be joy; pure joy, but, even though Advent is a season that reminds us that we should be eagerly waiting for the second coming of Christ, it also reminds us that God continues to give hope and joy here on this side of heaven for those of us who claim Christ as our Lord and Saviour. God wants us to have hope and joy as we walk this earth.

Therefore, we must be like Zechariah and Elizabeth. We must be steadfast in our walk with God, and eagerly look for God’s impossible surprises that he gives us on a daily basis if we will only look for them.

There may be little things like an unexpected phone call or Christmas card from someone we thought we had lost contact with

or it might be a nugget of wisdom that a child speaks, without even knowing the full meaning of what he or she said.

More times than not, the heavenly surprises we get come in the form of answered prayer. We should not really be surprised that God answers our prayers, but it has been my experience anyway that the ways God answers my prayers often surprise me.

So, as we enter the season of advent, I invite you to renew your hope in God, your hope in Christ, and your hope in the Body of Christ, the Church.

And, then wait expectantly for all the impossible heavenly surprises that God has in store for us as we continue to walk together as a body of Christ's followers who still believe that God is the God of impossible surprises.

*We would like to wish you all
a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful, and prosperous New Year,
full of impossible surprises.*

God bless,
Sohail, Machrina, Shameer, Abneer, Shaleem and Asha

WITHOUT GOD
Our week would be

SINDAY
MOURNDAY
TEARSDAY
WASTEDAY
THIRSTDAY
FIGHTDAY
SHATTERDAY

7 days without God
makes
ONE WEAK

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 Israel/Palestine and 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.

Please remember the families and friends of those who will not be here this Christmas who are still grieving 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

Our prayers for All

God, why are people so negative, staid in their ways, mean, bitter, or hateful? Perhaps not always, but some of the time?

Jesus taught us that the one who is without fault can cast the first stone; so that rules us all out!

Let us not dismiss anything, but examine everything that will serve Your Kingdom. Let us be kind, considerate, not quick to judge, always looking forward and searching for new ways to spread The Gospel.

And please GOD, give us a sense of humour and a non-ending smile on our face!

Amen

SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK



First of all, my apologies for the lack of magazine articles recently, life has been and continues to be an endless round of medical appointments (Frank and myself) and other family matters which will continue well into next year. I do thank all those who have stepped up to help with some of my church duties and for everyone's understanding when I have not been quite 'on the ball'. We had planned to be away for Christmas this year but as most of you know Frank is due to have surgery just beforehand, so I will be around after all.

The autumn round of servicing to our plant and systems has taken place, and there have been a number of issues with the heating and hot water that are taking some time to resolve. Let's hope we can nurse it along for another season! As our building ages there are inevitably things to go wrong or get broken (or lost). If you notice something amiss, please do fill in a fault report (leaflet rack by the ladies' toilet or hall entrance) and leave it on the reception desk for me - if urgent telephone Vic or myself as well.

Messy Church in November was about the importance of "Remembering"

- The stones laid by the leaders of the tribes of Israel upon crossing the river into the promised land
- Jesus' command to remember him every time we eat bread and drink wine
- The servicemen who gave their lives in times of war so we can enjoy relative freedom.

On 17th November we gathered to give thanks for the life and witness of Peter Hunt and it was wonderful to hear testimony from those whose lives had been influenced by Peter and Zoy over many years. Peter lived by "The Grace of God" the title of his short autobiography which was distributed at the service. We shall miss his wisdom and biblical knowledge and pray God's blessing on Zoy and the family as they adapt to life without him.

Our Sunday services in November

- 5th Rev Celia Whitman spoke about dependence on the greatness and power of God; a story about a pastor who was in the habit of staying awake all night worrying about his flock, when God spoke and told him to sleep and trust Him.
- 12 November was Remembrance Sunday; we observed the traditional reading of the Roll of Honour and two minutes' silence and Sohail led our thoughts on the purpose of remembering - to inform our choices for the future - as Joshua challenged the Israelites to remember God's goodness, put away their idols and decide for the Lord.
- 19th November: Roger Brett began by posing the question whether people still believe in God and the afterlife; so many appear to call on him, "Oh my God" is a much heard phrase and many will speak of their deceased loved ones as "looking down on us". Is that carelessness or a God-shaped hole in the soul waiting to be filled? And if the latter, what are we to do about it? The Parable of the Talents is a reminder that we do not know when the Lord will come again so we must prepare as if it is today.
- 26th November: Sohail led our worship on Christ the King Sunday, reflecting on how we serve the King of Kings. He contrasted Cinderella, serving the step family out of duty but not from the heart due to their ill treatment of her, with Christian service from the heart because of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. Passages explored were 1 Peter 4 on the nature of service and the well known Parable of the Sheep and Goats.

The Church meeting duly elected Ann Blackwell (Thorp) and Mary Goodhew to serve further terms as Elders.

On the 10th December we will once again have a Giving Tree in lieu of a toy service and money collected will help pay the school fees of children in Pakistan whose families are unable to meet this cost (which prevents them sitting exams). 21 children have been identified as having particular need for the coming school year. The cost of a year's education can be anything from £80-100 (yes, a year!) depending on age

We have our usual festive services coming up in December, please do take a leaflet and invite friends, family and neighbours to celebrate with us that “Jesus is the Reason for the Season”. Donations of mince pies are most welcome to be served after the evening Carol Service and the Christingle on Christmas Eve.

As mentioned last month the Christmas Post Box is available for you to send cards to church friends, and the treasurer welcomes a donation in lieu of postage. The last sort and distribution will be after morning service on 17th December. Please do keep it to those people you expect to ATTEND The Cornerstone - much as we would all like to deliver to everyone else it is just not practical for me to do so.

Frank and I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

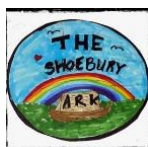
Ruth Dixon

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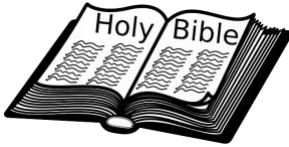
If you are in church for worship and do not wish to be seen on the internet, please ask at the AV Desk to be directed to a seat not covered by the camera.



Collection point - Grey tray at Reception Desk



Collection Point - Blue tray at Reception Desk



OUR FAITH as we open up The Bible

We did start again on Monday 13th November and we looked at “Creation” in the first chapter of Genesis and “Life and Life Eternal” on November 27th. Two very challenging subjects!

In December, we meet on Monday 11th to look at the birth of Jesus but also to look at all the other groups who were involved during that special time. Our next session would have been due on Christmas Day but quite surprisingly, all have said they have a prior engagement.

Please see The Diary for dates in January.

Sohail and Michael

YOUR GREETINGS THIS CHRISTMAS.

The good news is that our post box is here again this year!

You can do it the traditional way by card via Royal Mail.

Or see the personal greetings that follow.



As always, our treasurer will be pleased if you feel able to make a donation to church funds as the result of any savings you might make in postage and cards.

Your Christmas greetings.



Ruth and Frank Dixon send greetings and best wishes for Christmas and 2023/4

Pat and Eric Garrard send their greetings and good wishes to all.

Roy and Trixie Davis send you their greetings for Christmas and their best wishes for the New Year.

Stella Yates sends you her greetings and wishes for a peaceful Christmas.



Nigel and Val Mead send Christmas greetings to you all and wish you a very happy and healthy 2023.



Val & Geoff Hayman wish all our Fellowship Friends a very happy and healthy Christmas and many Blessings for 2024

Paul Drage sends you his good wishes for Christmas and 2024.

Alison Shannon sends good wishes to all at The Cornerstone at this very special time of Christmas, together with sincere hopes of peace and goodwill in 2024.



Glynis Conway sends Season's Greetings to you all and warm wishes for a good 2024.

David and Maureen Stone would like to wish all our friends at The Cornerstone a very and Happy, Healthy and Joyous Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

With love for a Happy Christmas, Pat Goodhew.

With love and best wishes, for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Mary & Clive.

Christmas blessings to you all, with love from Anne and Shawn Clarke.

Joan Harvey sends her greetings to you all and misses those who can't be with us.



Janet and Les Gooding send their love and greetings from Mistley. They do look forward to joining us for services on line every Sunday. They wish all of their friends in The Cornerstone a very blessed and peaceful Christmas and for the coming New Year.

They also add their grateful thanks for being able to receive New Horizons every month.

Monica and Vincent Aloï send their good wishes at this special time.

Roger and Wendy Brett would like to wish you all a Christ filled Christmas. We give thanks for all that we still have in our lives and what God has in store for us next.

Alan and Carole Cornwall send you all their Christmas greetings.



Brenda and Michael Wardle send good wishes and greetings to all.

Warmest greetings to all our friends at The Cornerstone. May you have a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with happiness and hope. Love from Mike and Linda Mead.



To say a big 'thank you' to everyone who has hugged, prayed and supported me with reassurance and advice over the last year and more, doesn't seem enough. But then words are never enough are they!

However, I can also say that although I have a large and loving family, coming through the doors into my Church family here each week and feeling the love and prayer support has kept me going through the really tough dark times of Peter's illness.

No more suffering Pete. Good and faithful Servant, Husband, Dad, Grandad and great Grandad. Rest in your Lord.

Zoy Hunt

On Saturday 9th December - 10.00 am - 1.00 pm, there will be a Christmas Bazaar organised by Twizzle Tops Day Nursery held in our Church Hall. Free entry for all.



A variety of festive stalls and entertainment including Tombola, Raffle, Body Shop and Scentsy.

A Festive Day for All raising money for the Partyman's Magic Makers.

We will be supplying tea, coffee and cakes at our own Tea Bar raising money for church funds.

CASA ESME AND HOUSE OF ROSES

Dear friends and supporters,

In early November I travelled with my good friend and fellow trustee John Raine to Barlad on our annual visit for 2023.

Owing to a number of factors we will not be producing our newsletter until after Christmas, which will cover our work with poor families and the Casa Esme and House of Roses projects.

At the end of November our friend Linda Barnes will be making her annual visit to the House of Roses and will be producing her usual individual reports and newsletter.

John and I had a fantastic week, and were amazed at how much we managed to cram into our schedule, and have to give Mihai (Director of Myosotis Romania) a huge vote of thanks for his assistance.

Which leaves me to thank you all once more for your continued love and support for this fantastic project and our wonderful family - Irma, Geta, George, Ionica and Ionut, and wish you a very happy Christmas time and a peaceful New year.

John Amos



Is Father Christmas real?

Simple answer: Do you think he is?

But actually - the story of Father Christmas begins with a real person, Saint Nicholas, in the fourth century. He had a reputation for being kind and performing miracles. The legend of him faded, apart from in Holland, where he was known as Sinterklaas.

When Dutch colonists settled in America, they took the Sinterklaas legend with them. Here he became known as "Santa Claus". He was originally pictured in a long brown robe with furs and a holly crown. The jolly Santa character in a red and white suit that we know was adopted by Coca Cola for an advertising campaign in the 1930's.



Why do we put up mistletoe and holly?

Simple answer: They make the house look and smell Christmassy!



But actually - Mistletoe and holly were part of the ancient Celtic celebration of the winter solstice on 21st December. Mistletoe represented life, while holly offered protection against evil spirits.



Why do we pull Christmas Crackers?

Simple answer: To get a party hat, mystery gift and funny joke.

But actually - The man who invented the cracker did it by accident! In the 19th century, Tom Smith, who made wrapped sweets for a living, decided to add a motto to them. He later experimented with adding a specially treated strip of paper, which “cracked” when the sweet was opened. Over time, his invention grew into the cracker we know today. The first Christmas cracker went on sale in 1847 in London.

Legend of the Christmas Spider

A long time ago in Germany, a mother was cleaning for Christmas. Spiders fled up to the attic to escape the broom. One quiet Christmas Eve, the spiders slowly came down for a peek. “Oh, what a beautiful tree!” they said. In excitement, they scurried up and out along each branch. They were filled with happiness as they climbed amongst the glittering beauty. But alas! By the time they were done, the tree was shrouded in their dusty grey web.



When Santa came with gifts for the children and saw the tree covered with spider webs, he smiled because he saw how happy the spiders were, but knew how heartbroken the mother would be if she saw it covered in dusty webs. So, he turned the webs to strands of silver and the tree was even more beautiful than before.

That’s the story of tinsel on trees and why every tree should have a Christmas Spider in its branches! (or not, if you suffer from arachnophobia!!)

Christmas Memories

I don't remember what I had for Christmas when I was one, two, six or eight but

- I do remember walking up a cold, frosty path and feeling warm inside
- I remember the smell of the real Christmas Tree and the presents around it
- I remember us squishing around a table and it feeling magical.
- I remember my Nanny's roast potatoes and my Mum's Yorkshire Puddings.
- I remember being served last, as I was the youngest.
- I remember the magic of the tin of chocolates being passed around.
- I remember playing games in the evening with family and everyone laughing.
- I remember feeling so happy
- I remember sleeping exhausted Christmas Night between my Nanny and my Mum in a big feather bed.

I've been making my own family Christmas memories for many years now and I hope, in the future, my daughter and the grandchildren have wonderful memories to look back on. I cook the potatoes and the Yorkshire puddings now but some things never change - I still get served last as I am doing the serving!



It's the memories that make the magic last a lifetime not the gift!

Anne Clarke



Matthew Henson - A Life of Exploration

Personally, I enjoy watching programmes on the television based on real life, films or documentaries. Recently I have been looking at the series with Ben Fogle reliving the journeys to the South Pole of some of his heroes from the past including Shackleton, Scott and Amundsen.

I was fascinated by the person who accompanied him, Dwayne Fields, an African American, as he found it particularly hard adjusting to the extreme conditions. So much so was my interest that I decided to find out more about another name they mentioned, Matthew Henson also African American but from a much earlier time.

Matthew was born in Maryland USA on the 8th August 1866 to free parents. He lost his mother early in his life and after his father remarried, life was very hard. He made his way as best he could doing odd jobs until he signed on to serve on a merchant ship travelling all over the world. The captain took him under his wing and even taught the young boy to read and write. He enjoyed this life but when the captain died he once more became lost in his path and reverted to the odd job lifestyle. He worked in a cafe as a floor sweeper and came to the attention of a man called Robert Peary, a dedicated explorer and leader of expeditions and he asked Matthew if he would go along with him on a journey to Nicaragua. After this Peary got him a job in a naval yard and said he would keep him in mind for further travels.

Henson, when the chance came, jumped at it and so began an 18 year association with Peary, during which time they were trying to find the North Pole. On their early travels they found one of the largest meteors. They travelled further and further north meeting and living with the Innuite people, learning their language and their songs. Even today the Innuits have songs about Henson in their repertoire.

Peary was constantly having to raise funds and organise groups of men prepared to live the harsh life the polar region threw at them. Trying to find the North Pole had fascinated explorers for many years but the extreme conditions and ship-breaking ice floes had made it impossible for humans to survive. This dream to “stand on

top of the world“ went on and Peary was determined to be the first to find the Pole. The expeditions went into the unforgiving Arctic time and time again. Henson went on all but one, living in the far north of America and in Greenland with the Inuit people and he became noted for his skills at “mushing”, that is driving teams of dogs to take their equipment and supplies on the sleds across the terrain.

Peary lost several toes to frostbite and on one occasion, had it not been for his Inuit friend Ootah, Matthew would have lost his life when he fell through the ice into the freezing water.



Their final expedition was in 1909 and they got to within 134 miles of the Pole when their supplies got dangerously low and Peary made the decision to send all but four of his team of fifty back to the ship. He, together with Henson and three Inuits, went on towards the elusive North Pole. On April 6th 1909 Peary said “I have a feeling we are at the North Pole,” somewhat of an understatement after all he had endured over so many years. He took out a home made American flag, sewn by his wife and tying it to a pole he stuck it in the top of their Igloo. Next day they confirmed the coordinates with a sextant, buried the flag and a note in a tin under the ice and turned for home.

Henson later wrote “ Another world accomplishment was done and finished”.

The salutary thing about all this is that all the plaudits for the achievement went to Peary, the white man, and when Matthew returned to America he was almost ignored. He returned at the time of the Jim Crow uprisings and black Americans were still treated very badly, certainly a black American was not going to be accredited with bold deeds.

Matthew later wrote a book “A Negro Explorer at the North Pole” and Peary wrote a foreward to the book saying “race, colour, upbringing or environment count for nothing against a determined heart if it is backed and aided by intelligence”

Despite writing that, he still did not include Henson, the man who had supported him through so many years, when he received honours and praise for the success of the mission to find the North Pole.



Matthew's name faded out of memory until much later in his life. He was eventually given honours by both Presidents Harry S Truman and Dwight Eisenhower, but it was not until 1937 that he was seen in the list of members of the Explorers Club. He died in 1955 in New York and is buried in Arlington Cemetery. There is now a monument to him but it was only erected in 1988.

“Black men don't do cold” so said Matthew Henson on his first polar expedition, so well done that man, what a life and so sad that it was never given full honour in his lifetime.

Alison

And the last laugh

- Just cost me £1. Yes, one English Pound, to put air in my tyres. Used to be 20p. Suppose that's inflation for you!
- My friend said he didn't understand cloning. I said that makes two of us!
- Respect people who wear glasses. They paid money to see you.
- I used to have lots of clockwork toys and gave them terrible names; I was just winding them up.
- I ordered a chicken and an egg from Amazon. I'll let you know...
- When I found out my toaster wasn't waterproof - I was shocked!

SERVICES AND MEETINGS AT THE CORNERSTONE

December 2023

Sun	3 rd	10.30am	Morning Worship (1 st Advent)	Roger Brett
Mon	4 th	5.00pm to 6.30pm	Messy Church	
Thurs	7 th	7.30pm	Elders' meeting	
Sat	9 th	10.00am - 1.00pm	Twizzle Tops' Christmas Bazaar in our Church Hall - see more info in magazine	
Sun	10 th	10.30am	Morning Worship, 'The Light'	
			Children and Youth Organisations and Our Minister	
Mon	11 th	7.00pm	Bible Study	
Sun	17 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	John Amos
Sun	17 th	5.00pm	Service of Lessons, Reflections & Carols	
Fri	22 nd	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Family Fun for Christmas	
Sun	24 th	10.30am	Morning Worship (HC)	Our Minister
Sun	24 th	3.30pm	Christingle Service	Mary & Derek
Mon	25 th	10.30am	Christmas Day Service	Our Minister
Sun	31 st	10.30am	Morning Worship	Ruth Dixon

January 2024

Thu	4 th	7.30pm	Elders' / M&M meeting	
Sun	7 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Roger Brett
Mon	8 th	3.30pm to 5.00pm	Pilots; 5.00pm to 6.30pm	Youth Club
Mon	8 th	7.00pm	Bible Study	
Sun	14 th	10.30am	Morning worship	Our Minister
Mon	15 th	3.30pm to 5.00pm	Pilots; 5.00pm to 6.30pm	Youth Club
Sun	21 st	10.30am	Morning worship	Rev Celia Whitman
Mon	22 nd	3.30pm to 5.00pm	Pilots; 5.00pm to 6.30pm	Youth Club
Mon	22 nd	7.00pm	Bible Study	
Sun	28 th	10.30am	Morning worship (HC) & Church Mtg Induction of Elders	Our Minister
Mon	29 th	3.30pm to 5.00pm	Pilots; 5.00pm to 6.30pm	Youth Club

February

Thu	1 st	7.30pm	Elders' meeting	
Sun	4 th	10.30am	Morning worship	John Amos
Mon	5 th	3.45pm to 5.00pm.	Messy Church	

The Next Issue of New Horizons will be for February 2024



Your next issue will be published on **Sunday February 4th** and we will be pleased to receive any contributions for this issue by **9 a.m. on Thursday January 25th**.

We hope to hear of some of your Christmas joys and blessings in our February issue. Also, perhaps how many New Year Resolutions you have already broken.

Please remember the families and friends of those who will not be here this Christmas.

**We wish you a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year
Thank you.**

Anne and Michael

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



Dec 10th Brenda Kemp

The 2014 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 are always welcome and thanks to Sarah Wilson will help when military duties permit.

Sunday Coffee/Tea Rota

Dec 3rd Anne Clarke and Val Mead
 10th Sandra Russ
 17th Val Hayman and helpers
 24th Sandra Russ
 31st Joan Harvey and Brenda Kemp

2024
Jan

 7th Sandra Russ
 14th Anne Clarke and Val Mead
 21st Val Hayman
 28th Sarah Wilson

Feb

 4th Sandra Russ
 11th Anne Clarke and Val Mead



Tuesday mornings “Drop in”

Dec

 5th Stella Duboux
 12th Wendy Brett and Val Mead
 19th Carol Smith and Pat Pates
 26th Boxing Day Coffee AT HOME!

2024
Jan

 2nd Stella Duboux
 9th Wendy Brett and Val Mead
 16th **See below**
 23rd Carol Smith and Pat Pates
 30th **See below**

Feb

 6th Stella Duboux
 13th 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.

WHO TO CONTACT

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
Pilots	Derek Goodyear 07863 208914
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.**