

New Horizons

SEPTEMBER 2024



HARVEST

COME ON AND CELEBRATE

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:
CornerstoneReception@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 will be 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)
	3.15pm-4pm	- Welcome (2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th Monday in the month)
	4.00pm-5.15pm	- Pilots (4 -10 years old)
	5.15pm-6.45pm	- 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 - 11.30am	The Cornerstone Toddlers during Term Time only.
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 LETTER TO THE FELLOWSHIP

As our Minister Rev. Sohail Ejaz is on sick leave at the time of writing, we do not have our usual letter from him, but send our thoughts, prayers and good wishes as he recovers.

Whilst this is missing from its usual spot, we trust you will find somethings to focus on as you read the magazine.

Anne and Michael

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/Russia.



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 those in our fellowship who mourn the loss of a loved one. We especially keep in our thoughts Trixie Davis and family on the sad passing of Roy. Give them peace of spirit and the knowledge that God hears all of their prayers.

We also keep in our prayers the King and the Princess of Wales as they undergo cancer treatment.

Father, hear our prayers
Amen

Thoughts and Prayers for others all over the world.

“Love your neighbour” is a commandment in both the Old and New Testaments, first from God THE Father and then from God THE Son.

All over the world, nobody is listening to this message, and it is our task to proclaim the Good News that Christ brought to us so many years ago. It is certainly the most difficult thing that we are called to do as individuals and as members of the worldwide Church. We see and hear of hatred, violence, death and injury in all places and become immune to it because we feel so helpless.

So, love your neighbour, pray for all those who suffer and earnestly ask “How can I help?”

SOME HELPFUL TIPS FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

- 1 Love your neighbour - even if you don't like them.
- 2 Always remember that God is on your side, but the real question is:- “Are you on His?”
- 3 Whilst Christians should be happy and contented, they can never be satisfied that they have got it right and have done everything they could.
- 4 Remember this: The world around you is beautiful when the world within you is peaceful.
- 5 The Good Samaritan did not watch - he took action!
- 6 When individually, or as a Church, you are deciding to do something, ask whether it will further the work of Jesus today. If the answer is:-
 - (a) Yes - then do it!
 - (b) No - then don't do it!
 - (c) Not sure - then now is not the time



SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

It has been a strange couple of months weather-wise with consequences for the garden - after the very wet spring we have had a period of dry, heat and wind! I have a lovely lime green acer, which tends to look a bit shabby after a windy day -the leaves either shrivel up or think it's autumn and turn red. So out I go with the secateurs to trim it, and it immediately puts out new sappy growth and looks great (until the next windy day). That acer has been pruned 5 times so far this year. This reminds me of the many times God has had to 'prune' me, my thought processes and speech in order to keep me where he needs me to be; and makes some sense of why the parables of Jesus were often nature-focussed.

In July I attended the funeral of Rev. Sue Mills in Rochford. Sue had been assistant cub scout leader for some years before becoming ill with kidney disease; she underwent a transplant and took on a new lease of life training to become a vicar in the Church of England and was responsible for the Roach group of churches. She will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go to Chris and the family as they adjust to life without her.

We were sad to hear of the passing of our member Roy Davis. A 'gentle man' in the truest sense of the word. Roy's funeral took place on 23rd August.

On a happier note we, congratulate Shameer Ejaz on graduating from Loughborough University, and wish him well for his future career. It has been good to see him resume the seat at the AV desk. Speaking of which, you will have noticed the issues we have with the AV equipment following the necessity to replace the projector bulb - we are doing all we can to resolve these issues, with we hope minimal further expense.

July Services:

On 7th July Roger led our worship beginning with emphasising the importance of establishing a place for quiet contemplation - it was

outdoors that Ezekiel was urged by God to call out the Israelites for their rebellion.

Although humans are competitive by nature, Paul says we need to be weak, so as to experience the extent of God's power, not brag about visions and speaking in tongues. We all have responsibility for mission, to do it even though much of the world isn't listening - Jesus wasn't believed in his own town. When he sent out the disciples they were told if you're not welcomed leave.

And since this service was immediately after the General Election a reminder that politicians ought to be out in the open with their message so as to foster trust, and so should we.

As Sohail was away at General Assembly, the Parade Service on 14th July was led by Lorna Skippon (Cub Scout Leader and retiring Group Scout Leader). We witnessed Beavers' and Cubs' Renewal of Promise; heard prayers written and spoken by the young people and what attending the group means to them. We heard a little about the history of scouting (there are about 1 million groups worldwide), and a report of the 2023 Jamboree (with some memorabilia to look at afterwards), and finally what it is like to be a volunteer leader. We thank the Scouts for this informative session delivered in a worshipful manner.

Rev Celia Whitman visited us on 21st July; she mentioned some of the TV programmes about finding houses for people, and the reasons people reject those offered. As humans we tend to want to put down roots, but Jesus didn't own his own home on earth, he stayed with others wherever he went. His home was with the Father.

Can we live in this world in peace? Only if we come to Jesus. It was good to be able to invite Celia to celebrate Communion with us that day.

On 28th July Sohail preached about prayer - that we sometimes have to wait a long time for God's answer like the Psalmist (13) and can sometimes fall into the trap of trying to manipulate God by making our prayers conditional. Prayer is not making a bargain with God, nor a last resort. Ask, seek, knock. Sometimes we ask for the wrong things, look in the wrong places, knock on the wrong door. But, as with the

parable of the persistent widow, when we ask for the right things and keep asking, God will answer.

August services

We had a visit from John Amos on 4th August when he spoke about the Bread of Life - What must I do? Believe!

Sadly, our Minister has been unwell and we thank Roger Brett for stepping up on 11th August to continue the Bread theme with the passage from John 6 where Jesus declares 'I am the bread from heaven'

Roger led worship again on 18th and treated us to some 'newish' hymns. He spoke about the Israelite Kings that seemed to drive Israel further from God, as demonstrated by David's instructions to Solomon to kill those who upset him. After this Solomon does turn to God and asks for Wisdom. For us seeking wisdom includes knowing you need to ask and then waiting for the answer. Ephesians 5: 15-20 and Proverbs 9 remind us to live wisely, not foolishly; John 6: 51-58 contrasts the Manna in the desert, which the Israelites ate but still died, to Jesus the Living Bread, which we can eat and live for ever.

On 25th August, we had our Communion service alongside some of your favourite hymns. My thanks to those who spoke or wrote pieces for me to read.



Our next big event is the Harvest Festival weekend 21/22nd September. If you are not yet signed up for the fish and chip supper on 21st please do so asap and make payment to Roger Brett. On the Sunday (also Church Parade) we will be glad of donations of tinned and packet goods, toiletries and nappies which will be taken to the Shoebury Ark.

The annual election of Elders will take place at the November Church meeting and nominations are open throughout October. Elders standing down are Victor Crowhurst, Roger Brett and Ruth Dixon and in accordance with the decision of Church Meeting on 25th July 2024 Ruth Dixon is immediately eligible for re-election. The recommended minimum number of elders for 2025 is 7, so do please prayerfully

consider who you might wish to nominate, and whether you are able to serve the church in this way.

That's enough from me till next time, God Bless

Ruth Dixon

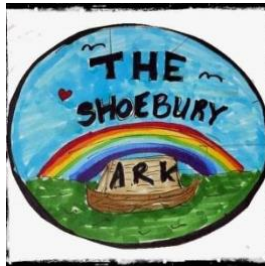
Our Congratulations to Shaleem Ejaz on his “A” level results, leaving secondary school and starting on the next stage of his life.

We wish him well and also success in all that he decides to do in his future and may all that he meets, assist him throughout his life.

FAITH IN ACTION --- SEE BELOW



Collection point - Grey trug at Reception Desk



Collection Point - Blue trug at Reception Desk

**There's a story behind every person.
There is a reason why they're the way they are.
Think about that before you judge someone.**



RONALD ALFRED RODERICK. 1930 - 2024

Ron was born in 1930 in Leyton London, the eldest son of Grace and Alfred Roderick and brother to Derek and sister Pat.

The family moved to Southend when Ron was six, due to his poor health, and later became a pupil at Southend High School for Boys. The school was evacuated when the Second World War broke out and he and his brother were sent to Derbyshire, and Grace and Patricia soon followed.

They lived in Central Avenue and attended the Sunday School at Bournemouth Park Congregational Church, as their mother felt they should remain close to their home if the area was hit during an air raid.

The children all joined the organisations, Ron in the Boys Brigade, Derek in the Lifeboys and Pat in the Girls Brigade.

Ron by then had left school and went to work in the city in Marine Insurance and passed the exam to be made a member of that Institution. He no longer attended church but then joined the choir as he had a fine voice and always loved music. Later he, and the whole family, became church members and took up various jobs in the church. Ron became an elder, Derek was a valued member of the choir as was his sister and then Ron became Treasurer for nine years.

When Sue Cox became our new Minister in 1991, she met Ron for the first time and there was an immediate attraction and they married in the church the following year. By this time Ron was sixty and then began the second phase of his life and happiness together with Sue.

They later moved together to various ministries. Sue as a minister and Ron, by then a Lay Preacher. Eventually they moved to Bridport where they remained until Ron's death in 2024.

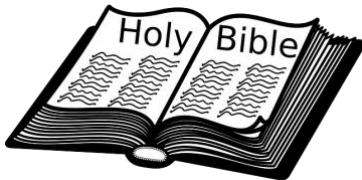
The married stage of Ron's life turned out to be the happiest as he lost his father when he was 16 and took on the role of man of the house, looking after his mother and the younger members of the family until their mother died and after his brother and sister had left home to be married.

He dedicated his life to them and so missed the chance to marry. But then, God gave him his late marriage and 32 years of wonderful happiness and joy with Sue.

Praise be to the Lord.

Pat Garrard (nee Roderick)

Those we love don't go away.
They walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard but always near,
still loved, still missed
and forever dear.



BIBLE STUDY

We are planning to meet again, in person and online on Monday 9th September at 7.00pm.

Before then I will email the regulars with details, but anyone else who is interested, please get in touch with me and I shall add you on the list.

Thank you **Michael**

Nobody is perfect.
We all make mistakes.
We say wrong things,
we do wrong things,
we fall, we get up,
we learn, we grow,
we move on, we live and we
thank God for always giving us another chance



Would you be so brave?

As I start to write this, the closing ceremony of the Olympic Games is about to get into full-flow and I am reminded that it is a hundred years since two events made their mark in our History.



In 1924 Paris last hosted the games and at there a record was broken in the 400 yard race, as it was then, by a man called Eric Lidell. Why does this bear special mention I hear you ask. It is because of the background to the outcome.

So who was Eric Lidell? He was born in 1902 in China where his parents were missionaries but was sent back to Scotland for a boarding school education. Whilst there his home church was Morningside Congregational Church in the centre of Edinburgh and he excelled at all form of sport, especially athletics and was the fastest runner in Scotland whilst still at school. His skill continued through his university career and in 1923 won the AA championship and was chosen to be in the British team for the Olympics the following year for the 100 and 200 yard races.

All went well until the date for the heats for the 100 yards were announced and Eric refused to take part because they were to be run on a Sunday so asked to be transferred to the 400 on the Monday. He was accepted and won his final convincingly.

The following year Eric trained as a missionary with the Congregational Church and went out to work in China. Eric married and had two daughters and they had a very settled life until the second world war shook their roots and when the Japanese were drawn into the conflict, Eric sent his family home for their safety, he remained with his church people and sadly didn't see his family again. He became a prisoner of the Japanese and died in a prisoner of war camp in February 1945, just months before the camp was liberated by the American forces.

He maintained his close relationship with his God and kept his faith to the end. He always kept Sunday special and there is the story of one week when there was a Girls versus Boys Hockey match arranged for

the Sunday. They asked Eric to referee but he refused, sticking to his own rules. No referee, so chaos ensued!

Eric prayed about the situation and after a lifetime of a principle so strictly held dear, he agreed to referee the next week. He reasoned that God had led him into the situation so could not want him to refuse the youngsters' request.

I began to wonder about our commitment to our own Sundays. Most who read this will remember the Keep Sunday Special Campaign when the government brought in shopping on Sundays, hitherto only done in very few outlets. We lived in South Harrow at the time and the first open Sunday coincided with our Parish Walk for Stations of the Cross. A volunteer carried a full-size heavy cross from stop to stop taking it in turn, and we had readings and a hymn at each stop. We had always stopped outside the local Sainsburys, big forecourt, central area, ideal. But on this Sunday there were prams and bikes and people in that space. What should we do?

We set up as we always had and were promptly asked to move on by a somewhat upset manager, new to working on Sunday. No, we didn't move on but gained a whole new group of people who watched and some joined in, some were curious, others heckled. This was a new experience for us. Mostly people had just ignored us or joined in before. I wonder how that would go down today?

What does Sunday mean to you? Is it part of your weekly routine? Is it easily made part of something else if an occasion arises or do you work the new thing around the original Sunday?

In other words, is Sunday Special? Should Sunday be Special?

I did not grow up in a church-going household and yet Sunday was special in its own way. We ate meals together, not possible with my father's work the rest of the week. We were to let him have quiet with his paper and strangely we were all sent to the nearest Sunday school!

We have witnessed ourselves over the last four years how a change in lifestyle can have a devastating effect after COVID, but if Sunday really meant giving our time to God, to worship, praise and

thanksgiving - should it not have recovered here in our church as it has in others?

I don't know the answer, I do know I have missed my normal Sunday over the past four months, but I also believe I will eventually see there has been a reason for the enforced change.

Though for the life of me I can't see it at the moment!

Alison

(For those of you with long memories of The Congregational Church, you may recall that its missionary work was channelled through the London Missionary Society. Remember the ship 'John Williams' and the 'mud hut' collecting boxes?)

Can this be true?

- Fact of the day: The Flat Earth Society claim to have members all over the globe!
- Laughing at your mistakes can lengthen your life. Laughing at your wife's mistakes can shorten it!
- If we're not meant to have midnight snacks, why is there a light in the fridge?
- Good advice: Do not sit on the floor without a solid plan on how to get up again.
- To the person who stole my camouflage jacket and my flip-flops ----- You can hide, but you can't run!
- A man who took an airline company to court after his luggage went missing has lost his case!

Harvest Supper

21st September 2024

Fish and Chips

Order Fish and Chips Now
Suggested **£9.00** Per Portion
Order form on Foyer Notice Board
Pay Roger or Wendy

By Sunday 15th September 2024 at 11.45
No booking/paying = No Meal
You arrive at 5.30pm, eat at 6.00pm

Or just come for the
Big Screen Entertainment
And Community Singing
Which are
FREE

Starts around 7.15pm

REMEMBER
21ST SEPTEMBER 2024 FROM 5.30PM
ROGER

For all of us who get caught out with the odd spelling mistake



I have a spelling chequer.
it came with my pee sea.
It plainly marques four my revue
miss steaks eye cannot sea.

Eye strike a quay and right a word
and weight for it two say
weather eye am wrong oar wright,
it shows me strait away.

As soon as a mist ache is maid,
it nose bee fore two late
and eye can put the error rite
Its rarely, rarely grate.

I've run this poem threw it,
I'm shore your pleased to no
Its letter perfect in it's weigh,
my chequer tolled me sew!

(Sauce unknown)

MEETINGS AT THE CORNERSTONE

September

Sun	1 st	10.30am	Morning Worship	Rev Celia Whitman
Thu	5 th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	
Sun	8 th	10.30am	Morning Worship (HC)	To be arranged
Mon	9 th	3.15pm	First meeting of Pilots	
Mon	9 th	7.00pm	Bible Study	
Sun	15 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Roger Brett
Sat	21 st	5.30pm	Harvest Supper & Entertainment	
Sun	22 nd	10.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving and Parade Service	To be arranged
Mon	23 rd	7.00pm	Bible Study	
Thu	26 th	7.30pm	Church Meeting	
Sun	29 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Marcus (Fire & Iron)

October

Thu	3 rd	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	
Sun	6 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Roger Brett
Mon	7 th	4.00pm	Messy Church	
Tue	8 th	7.00pm	Area Partnership Meet at The Cornerstone	
Sat	12 th	10 00am	Synod Meeting at Witham URC	

The Next Issue of New Horizons will be for September.



Publication will be on Sunday October 6th and we ask for your contributions by 9.00am on Thursday September 26th please.

Any or all contributions are welcome, especially those that look forward and also where we can learn from past happenings. Thank you, Alison.

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

The 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. She will be very happy to buy the flowers on your behalf and arrange them or alternatively, you are very welcome to do your own arrangement.



Sept

8 th	Pat & Eric Garrard
15 th	Brenda Kemp
22 nd	HARVEST
29 th	Brenda & Michael Wardle

Oct

13 th	Zoy Hunt
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If you can lie down at
night knowing in your heart
that you made someone's
day just a little bit better,
you know you had a
good day

Volunteers are always welcome

Sunday Coffee/Tea Rota

<u>Sept</u>	1 st	Sandra Russ
	8 th	Anne Clarke and Brenda Kemp
	15 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	22 nd	Joan Harvey and Brenda Kemp
	29 th	Sandra Russ
<u>Oct</u>	6 th	Help please
	13 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	20 th	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	27 th	Sandra Russ

Tuesday mornings “Drop in”

<u>Sept</u>	3 rd	Stella Duboux
	10 th	Wendy Brett and Val Mead
	27 th	See below
	24 th	Carol Smith and Pat Pates
<u>Oct</u>	1 st	Stella Duboux
	8 th	Wendy Brett and Val Mead
	15 th	See below



On the Tuesdays 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.

Every day may not
be good
but there is something
good in every day

Age Sensitive

3 stages of life!

Teen age:

Have Time + Energy but No Money

Working age:

Have Money + Energy but No Time

Old age:

Have Time + Money but No Energy



A scammer called my grandma and said he had all her passwords.

She got a pen and paper and said ‘thank goodness for that, what are they’

I got myself a Senior’s GPS, not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there!



This morning I accidentally changed the GPS voice to “Male”. Now it just says “It’s around here somewhere. Keep driving”

Not everyone gets the chance
to grow old and not everyone
will see tomorrow.

We never know when our time is up,
so make sure you thank God
for every new day you are given
and hug those you love.

WHO TO CONTACT

Minister and Pastor

Rev Sohail Ejaz MA

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Treasurer	Elizabeth Helm	07973 199759
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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	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 give pastoral care to members, friends and anyone in need.**