

New Horizons

JUNE 2025



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 11.30 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 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

Tues	10.00 am	THE HUB Starting with Tea and Coffee in the Foyer
	11.30 am	Followed by Prayer Meeting with fellowship and activities on 1 st and 3 rd Tuesdays or as announced.
Wed	9.15am - 11.15am	The 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.

Reflections by an Elder

This month we welcome some thoughts from Ruth Dixon.



Come, Holy Spirit



Like Easter, Pentecost is about as late as it can be this year, and it seems like a long time coming. Do we long to feel anew the wind of God's power coursing through The Cornerstone? Or the fire of inspiration within us corporately and as individuals? Are we up for that kind of renewal?

In Scripture, the phrase 'In the fullness of time' has a special meaning - it is God's timing rather than ours. Thus, we hear that God sent his Son Jesus at the right moment to redeem humanity. (Galatians 4:4) Laws and prophecies had not brought God's people into the relationship God desired, so He came himself. And when He did everything changed.

John's Gospel tells how Jesus promises 'the Comforter' to come when He is gone. Nowadays we think of comfort as being ease - something nice and cosy; but the Greek word *paracletos* means something totally different - a helper, or advocate. I think this indicates that we are not to be sitting back being easy, but being active, undertaking tasks that do mean we require encouragement. If you will excuse the switch from Greek to Latin, there is a scene in the Bayeux Tapestry with the caption "Hic Odo Eps [Episcopus] Baculu [m] Tenens Confortat Pueros" which means: "Here, Bishop Odo, holding his club, comforts his boys." The good bishop is goading his men into battle with some

force - today we would say 'at gunpoint'. It is a powerful image (available to see on the Internet) of people on a mission, with their leader 'comforting' them with force.

So two questions:

- Is this Pentecost the 'fullness of time' for The Cornerstone?
- Are we, individually and collaboratively, willing to step out of our comfort zone (pun intended) and allow the wind and fire of the Spirit to 'comfort' us with zeal for The Kingdom?

As we approach Pentecost let us pray earnestly for the *paracletos* to guide us.

Ruth

You came to interpret and teach us effectively
all that the Saviour has spoken and done;
to glorify Jesus is all Your activity,
promise and gift of the Father and Son:

*Spirit of Holiness,
wisdom and faithfulness,
wind of the Lord,
blowing strongly and free;
strength of our serving
and joy of our worshipping,
Spirit of God,
bring your fullness to me!*

You came with Your gifts to supply all our poverty,
pouring Your love on the church in her need;
You came with Your fruit for our growth to maturity,
richly refreshing the souls that you feed.

Christopher Idle/Jubilate Hymns MP611
Used by permission, CCL Licence No.7114

Prayers for our Fellowship and those we know

Prayers can be for joy and sorrow, health and sickness, good news and bad in addition to those for our own needs and guidance.

Please pray for all our fellowship as we live in these worrying times of financial worries, natural disasters and war.



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. Give them peace of spirit and the knowledge that God hears all their prayers.

Father, hear our prayers
Amen

Our prayers for all people.

O God, our heavenly Father, we pray for all the people in your world on Earth.

At this time, there is so much strife, disagreement, fighting, poverty, hunger and hatred.

Please let all be

**Honest, straightforward, open in mind and deed, considerate,
helpful and caring.**

We, ourselves, confess that we have not always been able to act in these ways, so we ask for your forgiveness and promise to try harder. Amen



SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

We don't get a lot of time for the garden these days, with other more pressing appointments etc so it's no surprise that we are not growing vegetables this year, other than the perennial asparagus.

We do have our fruit bushes which are laden with berries - however the lack of rain is thwarting development, so there is no way of telling what the yield might be and whether there is enough for jam making. It's a waiting game, something I'm not so good at!

Church life has continued in the usual way, although since the interregnum began, you are seeing more of Roger and myself 'up front' on Sundays; and our Sunday morning Pilots/Junior Church is thriving. This does mean I am no longer in church to hear and comment on the weekly message, and we need someone else to do this for the magazine please.

We have planned a family event to follow the Pentecost Parade Service on 8th June with games and themed crafts. It is intended to provide a picnic lunch, and I would be grateful for offers to provide a loaf of sandwiches (e.g. cheese, ham, egg, tuna) to be brought to church on the morning. We can cover expenses if needed.

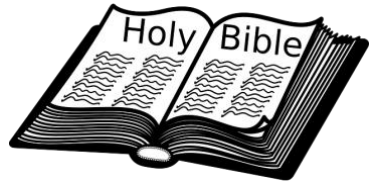
As I write, we are due to meet elders from all the churches in the proposed Mission Partnership, to consider the way forward. If space permits, I will write about that separately after the event. For now, I will just say that although there are uncertain times ahead, rather than in trepidation, let us look upon it as a challenge to build us up for Christ's mission, trusting God to lead us in the right direction.

Ruth Dixon

**Your journey is not the same
as mine and my journey is
not yours but if we meet on
a certain path,
may we encourage each other**

BIBLE STUDY

As we move into June, we seem to have ironed out the technical side of Microsoft Teams so that we are able to join online from home, or together at The Cornerstone.



Please note that there is a slight variation on our pattern and we shall meet on Mondays 16th and 30th June when Ann will continue to lead us through two more of The Fruits of The Spirit; Forbearance and Kindness.

July is then back to normal on 14th and 28th with Goodness and Faithfulness.

Michael

Too good not to share

- It's the start of a brand-new day and I'm off like a herd of turtles.
- I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.
- I finally got eight hours of sleep. It took me three days but whatever!
- I run like the winded.
- When you ask me what I am doing today, and I say "nothing" it does not mean I am free. It means I am doing nothing.
- The older I get, the earlier it gets late.
- Age 60 might be the new 40 but 8.00 p.m. is the new midnight.

**FRIDAY NIGHT IS MUSIC NIGHT
YOUR HARVEST FESTIVAL EVENING
AT
THE CORNERSTONE**

All will be welcome on
Friday 26th September 2025

The chippy has been spoken to and can cope with our fish and chips and their other orders.

The order form for this part of the evening will be available in August. And we take your Dinner Money (remember that?) money at the same time.

The free entertainment of music and song on the big screen along with joyous singing from yourselves and playing by our musicians will follow. I am told that, all of the songs that I have chosen this year are known. So that is a first.

On the screen we will have clips you remember and clips you have never seen.

Updated and re-imagined films with new singers and dancers. Black and White, Technicolour, CGI we will have it all.

You arrive at 5.30pm, eat at 6.00pm – Booking forms for food will appear in August
Or come just for the entertainment from 7.15pm

**REMEMBER
FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2025 FROM 5.30PM
ROGER**

The Cornerstone Toddlers



We are having some difficulty, due to sickness, in providing the appropriate care so discussions are ongoing as towards its future.

In the meantime, would you please contact Ann Thorp (07753 348856) for information.

On the 15th of this month we celebrate ALL Fathers.

- The experienced Fathers.
- The new Fathers.
- The Step Fathers.
- The women who play the role of Father.
- The soon to be Fathers.
- The single Fathers
- The carer or foster Fathers.
- The Fathers who have lost children.
- Those who have lost their Fathers.
- Those yearning to be Fathers.



We see you and appreciate you.

Some of the strongest dads are the ones
who've carried their sleeping little ones
from the car to bed, held their hands
through their first steps and
wrapped them in comfort through
every tear and triumph.

A father's love shapes a child's
world in ways that last forever.

The strongest dads know the greatest gift
they'll ever hold is their child.

MISSION PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

We had a productive meeting with Elders from the partnership churches and Rev. Naomi Young-Roddas from Christ Church Rayleigh/Bridgwater Drive/Kings Road. The meeting was chaired by Rev. Anne Sardeson, convenor of the Synod Pastoral Committee who led opening devotions with the example of Esther stepping into the unknown when she approached the king without invitation.

The premise of the MP is to support each other - there is no intention to interfere with the local church's mission. It was recognised that there is a degree of inevitability around the intended grouping, due to factors outside our control such as the number of available ministers and falling memberships. Thus it is for us to make it work for us all. We need to take some practical steps to move forward to a point at which Synod is able to declare a vacancy.

We spent some time sharing what each church 'brings to the party' and what each church needs by way of support; what do we hope for in a new Minister of Word and Sacrament; what happens next?

Smaller groups of people will meet to consider:

- Worship leading and pulpit supply
- Policies, lettings and buildings
- Finances

We were also encouraged to invite other churches to our social events to foster trust and friendship.

Other possibilities to work collaboratively include

- Safeguarding
- Training
- Employment of community worker(s)

The next full meeting is at the end of August so more news after that.

Ruth Dixon



**Be the
SUNSHINE
in comeone's
cloudy day**

Can you believe it?

- A lorry loaded with Vics Vaporub overturned on the motorway. Amazingly, there was no congestion for eight hours.
- I've started a business building yachts in my attic. Sails are going through the roof.
- Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything down and cleaned thoroughly. Today, I'm putting the cockroach in the bathroom.
- Someone just called my phone, sneezed and then hung up. I'm getting sick and tired of these cold calls.

A good apology
has 3 parts:

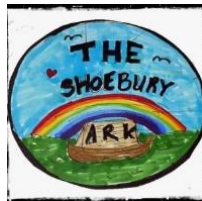
1. I'm sorry.
2. It's my fault.
3. What can I do to get it right.

Most people forget the third part.

Faith in Action – See below



Collection point - Grey trug at Reception Desk



Collection Point - Blue trug at Reception Desk

Holding on to anger
is like grasping a hot coal
with the intent of throwing it
at someone else:
you are the one who gets burned.

DIARY OF WORSHIP AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AT THE CORNERSTONE

June

Sun	1 st	10.30am	Morning Worship	John Amos
Thu	5 th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	
Sun	8 th	10.30am	Worship & Parade - Pentecost	Neil Keeble
			Followed by Family Picnic (this will be provided), Games and themed Craft event	
Sun	15 th	10.30am	Trinity Worship (Fathers' Day)	Ruth Dixon
Mon	16 th	7.00pm	Bible Study	
Sun	22 nd	10.30am	Worship (Church Anniversary)	Roger Brett
Sun	29 th	10.30am	Morning Worship (HC)	Rev Celia Whitman
Mon	30 th	7.00pm	Bible Study	

July

Thu	3 rd	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	
Fri	4 th		General Assembly (to 7 th July)	
Sun	6 th	10.30am	Morning Worship	Roger Brett
Sun	13 th	10.30am	Worship & Parade	Scouts/Leaders
Mon	14 th	7.00pm	Bible Study	

**The next Issue of New Horizons will be for
July/August 2025**



Publication for this two month edition will be on Sunday July 6th and we please ask for your contributions by 9.00am on Thursday 26th June.

We always welcome news, views, ideas and anything else that you feel would help others to live a Christian life of love that they seek to share with all.

**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

The 2025 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.

June

8th
29th

Pat and Eric Garrard
Zoy Hunt



I've seen better days
but I've also seen worse.
I don't have everything
that I want but I do have
all I need.
I woke up with some aches and pains
but I woke up.
My life may not be perfect
but I AM BLESSED.

Sunday Coffee/Tea Rota

<u>June</u>	1 st	Anne Clarke and Val Mead
	8 th	Sandra Russ
	15 th	Sandra Russ
	22 nd	Stella Duboux
	29 th	Joan Harvey and Brenda Kemp
<u>July</u>	6 th	Stella Duboux
	13 th	Sandra Russ



We are very appreciative of those who serve us after morning worship,
but if anyone is available to help even on the occasional day, that
would ease the load on our regulars
Please have a word with Michael if you can help. Thank you

Tuesday mornings "Drop in"

<u>June</u>	3 rd	Stella Duboux
	10 th	Wendy Brett and Val Mead
	17 th	See below
	24 th	Carol Smith and Pat Pates
<u>July</u>	1 st	Stella Duboux
	8 th	Wendy Brett and Val Mead
	15 th	See below
	22 nd	Carol Smith and Pat Pates
	29 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.

WHO TO CONTACT

CHURCH OFFICERS

Minister and Pastor	Vacancy	
Secretary	Ruth Dixon	(01702) 464186
Treasurer	Elizabeth Helm	07973 199759

<u>Envelopes</u>	Ann Thorp	07753 348856
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<u>C'Stone Toddlers</u> (Interim contact)	Ann Thorp	07753 348856
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<u>Scout Group</u>	Lorna Skippon	(01702) 477309
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<u>Use of Premises</u>	Roger Brett	(01702) 479874
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<u>Flower arranging</u>	Val Mead	(01702) 296189
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<u>Editorial Team</u>	Anne Clarke	(01702) 293102
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af.clarke52@gmail.com

Michael Wardle	(01702) 613840
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mjb23wardle@btinternet.com

**Please remember that your Elders are ordained
to give pastoral care to members, friends and anyone in need.**

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