

Brightstar



June 2010

Dear Friends,

At last summer is here and it looks like being a scorcher! By the time you receive this newsletter a number of church and community events will be well into the planning stage for this year which I'm sure will be successful. The reason I'm confident about this is the impression I have gained since my arrival last September by the sense of community spirit that exists especially in Felixstowe and its surrounding area. Having read about some wonderful memories recorded in a booklet produced for the Millennium in conjunction with local organisations I noted comments such as "I've always lived in the Felixstowe area and wouldn't want to live anywhere else" and "people are so kind and friendly here." This warmth Elizabeth and I have come to feel and know for ourselves over the past nine months as we've met and shared happy as well as sad occasions with many folk.

Of course that doesn't mean we can be complacent, thinking that we live in a community where there is little or no need, where crime and violence, poverty and loneliness, hunger and hatred don't exist. I spent some time recently with an elderly person who had been



Given a nasty fright by an intruder in her garden! There is much work to be done among people of all ages, work that requires co-operation between all strands of society as we seek through practical and spiritual means to express our community care. We recently celebrated a very important festival within the life of the Christian Church, the coming of God's Holy Spirit at Pentecost, which reminded us of the transformation it brought to the community living in Jerusalem at that time. Especially how the spirit of that community took on a whole new meaning as they met together regularly for worship, to eat together, to talk over their cares and joys, to share their possessions with those in need and to pray with one another. Although the Day of Pentecost can be considered as something of a whirlwind experience for

The community of Jerusalem there is no doubt that during the following days, months and years it was through small but important acts of thoughtfulness and kindness that the message of community care was spread to their neighbours. Hopefully in this our own community we will see the fruits of this same spirit growing and ripening along with the summer fruits as we spend time enjoying and celebrating life together.

Let us as we feel the sun on our faces this summer, pray that we will also feel our hearts 'strangely warmed' (John Wesley's words) by God's Spirit and so grow in love and grace with one another.

May God bless you all richly

David

This is the monthly magazine for Seaton road Methodist Church

Further information available from

www.seatonroad.org.uk

Rev David Kemble 01394282023

Articles for next months magazine to Mrs Heather

Farthing (rdf@globalnet.com) before the end of June

Preachers for June

June 6th 9.45a.m

Disability Sunday

Rev. Bryan Nichols
Coffee will be served
in the church hall
following this service.

June 13th 9.45a.m

Mrs Alyson Ellis

June 20th 9.45a.m

Café Worship
Breakfast from 9.15a.m

June 27th 9.45a.m

Conference Sunday

Rev David Kemble
Service to include the
Sacrament of
Holy Communion

Thankyou to all those who provided flowers in May

Minutes of Church Council Meeting

24th February 2010

Revd. David Kemble opened with reading from Psalm 103, pointing out relevance to Fairtrade Fortnight currently running. All stood in silence in memory and in recognition of life and work of Joyce Mayes, and David concluded in prayer.

4. Apologies as in book

17 members and friends attended, with apologies as listed in book. Courtesies due – a card had been sent to Ian & Pam Cobb at Walton Church for their celebration of 50 years of Cobb family vergers. The meeting welcomed Elizabeth Kemble to her first official meeting as Family Worker.

5. Minutes of the last meeting

These had been circulated in Brightstar and were accepted and signed.

6. Matters arising.

Parish Nursing – Nicky Wright appointed as Parish Nurse for 6 months during Jane Pears' secondment.

7. AOB

One item was raised and discussed under item 12.

8. Finance – Malcolm Bentley

Malcolm presented the report. *Reserves policy* accepted. *Gift Day* -13th July 7.30pm
Connexional funds – agreed to give under usual formula, around £80, £40, and £64.
Family weekend fund – deficit of £47 from 2009 to be written off from general fund
Decided to keep EACH as *adopted charity*, with fundraising committee deciding on how much to give from each event.

9. Property. – Malcolm Bentley

Howard Fotherby has completed property report

Slates & Ladders Project. Still outstanding - painting of low level woodwork and small area of roofing over gents toilets.

Playschool scheme. Legal difficulties between Manchester and the Council, mean time on funding has run out. Malcolm was thanked for all the effort he has put in.

Had been an approach for hall hire for *out of school club*, every afternoon. Had been rejected as it would limit church's own use of hall for future ventures, a decision taken after a meeting of leadership team as reply was needed immediately. The church council ratified the decision.

Archie Mayes has been tending church grass and gardens since 1936! A huge thank you was extended to Archie.

Malcolm also felt *property committee* needs strengthening. David appealed for everyone to give it prayerful consideration.

10. Stewards report and joint stewards report.

Mary Pattinson reported a couple of meetings have taken place, but no matters need church council decisions.

Joint stewards have also met: – Trinity now have a website, also a projector and screen.

Lent courses are now running. So far been no-one from Seaton Rd interested in Sponsored walk on 17th April.

11. Pastoral matters.

David Kemble mentioned CRB and Safeguarding matters. May be sectional day for completion of forms.

Heather Bentley reported Alice Jacobs is in Bluebird Lodge.

Also Katherine was born to Lizzie & Matt Elsey, a first grandchild for Jane & Jonathan Reed.

12. Life and Mission of the Church

Elizabeth Kemble reported on her work as *Family Worker*. Relaunch of toddler group, with Kathy Fullick, as *Little Fishes* has attracted new members, some through website. Elizabeth also visited younger families on church roll.

Will also be a *Holiday Club* on a circus theme running from 26th – 30th July from 10.00am until 12.30pm, and Elizabeth appealed for help. Will be for primary school age children and service on following Sunday morning will be conclusion.

Brownies and *Playschool* have also been visited.

David Kemble reported on *Town Pastor* scheme, shortly to be up and running.

He also mentioned that circuit leadership team will visit on 17th April to ask about progress with At the Heart of the Community vision. Graeme Thompson will visit in May for same purpose. Mary pointed out that we should have a leadership meeting to check on our Mission Statement and progress before then.

Worship Audit. It was noted questionnaires will be circulated via Ray Wilson for completion in due course.

First two of the Journeys in Faith *lent meetings* have taken place, and will continue fortnightly.

Holy Week – Tuesday 30th 7.30pm Meditation service
Wednesday, Communion at Kirton, 7.00pm
Thursday, reflective service at Trinity, 7.00pm
Good Friday, churches together in Walton service, and

Triangle meeting at 11.30am in the morning. Meditation at Trimley at 4.00pm

Easter Sunday – 6.00am Sunrise on Prom
9.45am Communion at Seaton Rd
6.30pm leading worship at Seafarers Centre

Church weekend – for 2010 will be a day only event, on 17th July, details to follow.

2011 at Belsey Bridge, there are dates in May June and July, and Robin will take soundings on most appropriate. Prices have increased. Meeting agreed to proceed, and Robin to investigate funding options for young people attending and to bring proposal to next meeting.

Covenant Service – 5th September

Harvest – 26th September (Café on 19th)

Boxing Day falls on a Sunday and was proposed there is sectional Carol Service

Archie Mayes also asked that we note that 2012 – 150th anniversary of a church on this site, and should be marked by a celebration.

13. Matters referred to and from Circuit.

Sue Lambert & Frank Aichele will move in August - are two replacement ministers – Martin Dawes at Woodbridge and Andrew Sankey for rural

area. Peggy Heim moves in 2011, and Alan Taylor is open for re-invitation then as well. Mary nominated Heather Bentley to stand as section representative on re-election committee providing that is acceptable to other section churches.

1. Walton Churches Liaison.

Pudding evening was postponed in bad weather. Heather Bentley hoped things would get moving again soon after quiet period.

2. AOB

Robin Pattinson reported Catriona Bentley will be working in Uganda for 11 months, and wondered if we could support her in some way through that period - unanimously agreed.

3. Dates of next meetings

June 23rd combined with AGM and October 13th



**2010 Gift Day (with
strawberries)**

Tuesday 13th July from 7.30 pm

Please put this date in your diary and be prepared to come along for coffee or tea with strawberries and cream on Tuesday 13th July. Individual invitations will be going out nearer the time.

Christian Aid Week

Thanks to everyone who supported Christian Aid Week this year and especially Mary Pattinson, Heather Farthing and Jonathan Reed who all helped with the house-to-house collection during the week. The total collected will be published in due course.

Robin Pattinson.

Boost Barbecue

There will be a barbecue on Sunday 6th June between 12 noon and 6pm at 13 Picketts Road, Felixstowe to support the work of the Felixstowe Christian Youth Worker and the Boost Bus. You do not need to book in advance and can pay on the day. Adults £5, families £10.

Church Family Weekend at home 2010

We will be holding a church family weekend at home this year over the weekend of 17th and 18th of July. On the Saturday, various sessions will be planned throughout the day and on the Sunday we will have our usual monthly Café worship.

Further details will be available shortly but in the meantime please book the date. We look forward to seeing you there

Felixstowe Town Pastors

The Felixstowe Town Pastors have now been out for the last seven Saturday evenings / Sunday mornings between 10pm-4am

Police, restaurants, clubs and CCTV are all very supportive of the scheme, many young people have said 'thank you for caring' and several situations have been calmed.

The scheme is now recruiting for more volunteers in order for it to continue effectively and hopefully increase the work to cover Friday nights as well. Recruitment closes on 28th May but I'm sure if people were interested after that date your offers of help would not be turned down. Training is given to both Pastors and Base Prayers.

Who are needed?

Town Pastors (4 each night)– who go out onto the streets in pairs (one male, one female) meeting the last train in and out of Felixstowe, talking to those out at that time of night and morning, picking up empty bottles, helping people get home safely, distributing water and Freddo bars to those a bit the worse for drink etc.

Base Prayer-ers (a team of 3 each night) – who stay at the base (Trinity), keeping in touch with the pastors postponed from last month and has been rescheduled for later in June. We pray all of these friends will feel the love of God supporting them at this time and we give thanks for

by radio, providing drinks and toast during their breaks and holding them and the situations, as they arise, in prayer. The base team also keep the home pray-ers up to date with situations.

Home Pray-ers – who pray in their homes for an hour or two during the night. Individuals phone into the base to find out prayer needs.

A weekly rota is drawn up taking into account availability and all three of the above groups of people work together to form a Town Pastor team.

Please continue to remember this venture in your own prayers and consider if you could offer to help. If you would like to know more please speak to David Kemble or Robin or Mary Pattinson.

Robin and Mary Pattinson.

Coffee Morning

There will be a Coffee Morning on Saturday, 12th June from 10 a.m - 12 noon. This is our second event to raise funds to support Catriona Bentley in her work in Uganda. Catriona leaves in August to spend a year working in Uganda and any money we are able to give her will be used to buy training materials, text books and anaesthetic equipment which she will be able to leave in Uganda when she returns home. Come and enjoy coffee and a chat and at the same time show your support for Catriona.

Flower Festivals

Please see the church notice board for details of flower festivals at Museum Street, Ipswich and Woodbridge Methodist Churches during June.

Church Rota

As the summer approaches (hopefully!) and the holiday season begins may I remind everyone who has duties on the church rota to please remember to swop any they cannot do. It would also be really helpful if any swops known in advance could be added to the main rota on the church notice board in the foyer (obviously this is not always possible if it is a last minute swop!). Thanks to everyone who contributes to the smooth running of Sunday morning services by helping with the duties – please let me know if you are not on the rota but feel you could help with any of the jobs.

Liz

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported the recent beetle drive which raised £78-51 to help support Catriona Bentley's year of voluntary work in Uganda. This splendid amount was raised by those attending on the evening, Elizabeth Kemble selling gifts from Peru and some donations.

The evening provided some good laughs and entertainment and hopefully was enjoyed by all.

Just a Smile?..... or Three?

1. A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly: 'I know what the Bible means!'

His father smiled and replied: 'What do you mean; you *know* what the Bible means?'

The son replied: 'I do know!'

Ok said the father what does the Bible mean?

'That's easy Daddy. It stands for 'Basic Information before Leaving Earth!'

2. A four year old was learning to say the Lord's Prayer. She was reciting it all by her self without help, to her mother. As she approached the end she said:

'And lead us not into temptation but deliver us some emails'

3. Six year old Angie and her four year old brother Joel were sitting together in church.

Joel giggled, sang and talked loudly. Finally his big sister had had enough.

'You're not supposed to talk out loud in church!'

Why? Who's going to stop me? Joel asked.

Angie pointed to the back of the church and said:

'See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers!'

From *A Box of Delights*, J. John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books.

Roll up for the **CIRCUS**



* Seaton Road Holiday Club

- 26th-30th July

Preparations are underway for our Holiday Club in July. This is for children of Primary School age **5-11** years. It will run each day from 10am – 12.30pm.

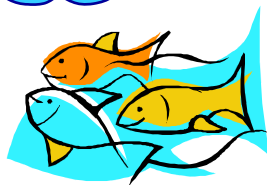
So look out your red noses and crazy wigs and please help if you are able! There is so much to do – setting up, helping with crafts, taking part in the drama, ‘minding’ the door, serving refreshments – something for everyone!

Even if you are only able to help on one or two days, please let me know so that we can ensure that we have enough adults for each session – it will be fun I promise!
Elizabeth Fx 282023

If you are unable to help at Seaton Rd, please remember that Trinity club will take place from 16th – 20th August – they badly need help there too!

Little Fishes

Baby and Toddler
Group



Little Fishes is going swimmingly well but we always have room for more tiddlers! If you know of friends and neighbours with children of pre-school age, please take a 'flyer' from the vestibule and pop it through their letter - box. You are welcome to come any Friday in school-time to see what we are up to - 1.30 - 3pm. Our crafts are displayed on the board (and the kettle goes on about 2pm!)