

Brightstar



September 2014

Brightstar is the newsletter of Seaton Road Methodist Church
Felixstowe, IP11 9BT

Contact our minister, Rev Diane Smith on 01394 282023
or email through our website at www.seatonroad.org.uk

Services for September:

- Sept 7th Rev Barry Middleton
9.45 a.m. Coffee will be served after this service
- Sept 14th Rev Diane Smith
9.45 a.m. Annual Covenant Service
- Sept 21st Havest Café Worship! (see back page)
Breakfast from 9.15 a.m.
Worship at 9.45 a.m.
- Sept 28th Mr Brian Loader
9.45 a.m.



A reminder that the welcome service for Diane takes place at Trinity on Sunday 7th September at 6 p.m. with singing from 5.40 p.m.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Cycle Ride Saturday 13th September

On Saturday 13th September we will once again be participating in the Historic Churches Cycle Ride. If you are planning to ride, see Malcolm for sponsor forms. Please be generous with your sponsorship of our riders.



Walton Parish Nursing Celebration Service

Date: Sunday 19th October 2014

Venue: Maidstone Road Baptist Church, Walton, Felixstowe

Time: 3.00pm

Speaker: Rev Dr Helen Wordsworth
(CEO of Parish Nursing Ministries UK)

The service will be followed by refreshments.



Short Letter of Introduction from Rev. Diane Smith....

Hello

My name is Diane Smith and I am very excited about coming to live and work in Felixstowe.

I am married to the long suffering Nigel and we have two daughters, one who is married and one who has just completed a degree at the London School of Economics.

I come to you from what was my first appointment with the Methodist Church in the Southend and Leigh Circuit. During this appointment I have been involved with the setting up of an ecumenical Night Shelter for the homeless, a Circuit Godly Play classroom and the running of a stall at the local market.

I love working alongside people of all ages and am a big fan of both Leyton Orient FC and Greenbelt.

My background prior to entering Ministry was in Psychiatric Nursing and various branches of Special Needs work. I worked for a short time for the Essex Association for Spina Bifida and hydrocephalus as a fieldworker and also for the Christian Organisation "Prospects" which run a whole variety of homes across the Country catering for individuals with learning difficulties.

I trained for Ministry at Wesley House Cambridge for a degree in "Theology for Ministry", and have since completed a post graduate certificate in pastoral studies.

I find ministry to be totally fulfilling and deeply challenging. It is the incarnation of God in Christ that spurs me on, Jesus gave up so much to live and die amongst us – to feel our deepest joys and sorrows, this is a love that impacts the whole of our life and all of our living.

Nigel and I are so looking forward to meeting you all.

Diane

Circuit Arts and Crafts Festival 2015

Next year's Circuit Arts and Crafts Festival will take place at Museum Street Methodist Church Ipswich on Saturday 14th March.

Please book the date now. Schedules will be out in a couple of month's time.

Holiday Club

This year's holiday club was called Razzamatazz Robots and for the first week of the school holidays Seaton Road's church hall was transformed with robots in every corner!



Every morning, Monday to Friday between 10am and 12.30pm, 35 – 40 primary school aged children and up to 20 adults had a great, fun packed time. We worked in six age groups – Nuts and Bolts, Rocking Robots, Terrific Technobots, Circuit Breakers, Cyber Set and Daring Droids. The bible stories were The Creation, Noah and God's Master Plan.

Each morning was carefully timed with singing, crafts, stories, drama from the Watt family, the usual visit of Ratty and Stinky the rat puppets, learning a memory verse, games, a quiet time to chat and refreshments.

On the Friday we tipped about 20 black sacks full of old boxes, tubes, cereal packets etc (thanks you to everyone who contributed their junk!) into the middle of the floor and the children had a whale of time transforming them into some very varied and fantastic robot junk models. At the end of the morning the children's families were invited in to see their models and the hall was full as the children each paraded down the middle of the hall proudly showing off their masterpieces.

The children were amazing all week - always enthusiastic, listening well and certainly incredible at picking up and remembering the memory verses so quickly.

Holiday Club Extra was held on the Sunday morning when we shared with the church family some of the week's events. We had the most children (and their families) joining us this year which was certainly encouraging.

Obviously this year we didn't have David and Elizabeth at the helm so we had planned it together with folk from Trinity, who do the same week

slightly later in the holidays. We, as a church couldn't manage to staff a week like this without help from other churches and once again we were indebted to friends from Trinity and Trimley Methodist churches, Walton Parish Church, Ranelagh Road Christian Fellowship as well as those from Seaton Road who helped in any way to make our 'Razzamatazz Robots' week such a great success.

The whole week was great fun, very tiring but a good form of outreach to children and families in our area, giving us the opportunity to share God's love for us all.

Robin and Mary Pattinson

Word Puzzle

E	S	V
R	H	R
E	T	A

No plurals please

4 letters or more (adults)

3 letters or more (children)

Send your list to Robin or Mary

Result of the June word puzzle.....

Shirl Stockley came up with a list of 42 words. (4 letters or more) and Harry Hitchen came up with 45 (3 letters or more). The 9 letter word was CHRISTIAN.

Contributions for the October edition of *Brightstar* should be with Robin & Mary (email robin.pattinson@btinternet.com) by 28th September please.

Norma Ostler

It was with great sadness we had to announce that Norma lost her three month battle against cancer on 23rd August. Norma and the family were looked after so well for the last two weeks of her earthly life by the staff at St Elizabeth Hospice.

We will miss her as a sister, sister-in-law and auntie so much but know she is in a better place now and free from pain.

We would like to thank all of our Seaton Road Church family for their prayers over the past three months and in more recent days and for the cards, messages, flowers and visits received. Your love and support have helped us, and are helping us through, a difficult time.

Robin, Mary and Oliver.

Stewards Corner

Strawberry Tea

In June we had a Strawberry Tea at the home of Jo and Tony Jacobs. Our thanks to everyone who helped out and came to support it with a wonderful total of £156 raised for church funds.

Carnival Float

Saturday 26th July was Carnival day and Dawn (our Outreach Worker) arranged for a Mission Area float dressed as "Noah's Ark". We thank Dawn for all her enthusiasm and hard work to get us working together. The float looked fantastic as it moved through the town with David & Elizabeth as Mr & Mrs Noah!

(We came third for dressed float and have the cup to prove it!)

Farewell

The next day David led worship at SRMC for a final time as Minister & presented us with a lovely wall hanging & praying hands. Later in the

day we met at Trinity for a formal farewell, presentation of gifts & a celebration service where Robin gave David a can of “Kemble’s Soup”. Thank you for your contributions to the tea.

Holiday Club

The following week was Holiday Club on a theme of Robots. We thank Steve Wyatt for the overall coordination and Robin and Mary who organised Holiday Club on behalf of SRMC & did a superb job. The Watt family returned for hairy adventures with out-of-control robots and, of course, Ratty and Stinky made appearances. The children had a thoroughly enjoyable week thanks to the efforts of so many people.

Retiring Stewards

At the end of August three of our long-serving church stewards retired – Howard Fotherby, Heather Bentley and Liz Benyon - and we give heartfelt thanks to them for their many years of service to Seaton Road in this leadership role.

This means that we now have two remaining church stewards – Shirl Stockley and Sue Hockenhull – to perform these duties.

Vestry Stewards

To help them out we have created a new role of “vestry steward” whereby former church stewards are able to take on the responsibility of the Sunday Service and we’re grateful that Daryl Read, Rose Cross and Jane Reed have been prepared to help us out by being “on duty” for some Sundays in the quarter. Please support them as they take on this role.

Welcome

The beginning of September we welcome our new Minister, Rev. Diane Smith and husband Nigel who come to us from a ministry in Southend. We look forward to working with Diane and developing the ministry in Felixstowe.

Vision Meeting

As Seaton Road enters a new chapter now is a good time for reflection, to look back at what we’ve achieved, where we are now and where we want to be. How does a small church sustain all its initiatives without

becoming tired and
(spiritually) and be s



With this in mind we have arranged a “Vision Meeting” Tuesday 4th November 7.30 - 9.00pm at SRMC to which we encourage all to come along, have their say, to suggest (and be open to suggestions) how Seaton Road moves forward as a church to accommodate everyone’s needs.

(If you feel you would like to put your thoughts in writing or in a conversation, please contact our Minister or church stewards).

Please pray for & support those involved in leading your church in this coming year as we adapt to these changes.

Shirl Stockley and Sue Hockenhull

Dear Friends

Thanks you so much for our wonderful farewell weekend, the tea and service, and for all the hard work that went into making it so perfect for us.

We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Mission Area and could not have wished for lovelier gifts.

We have so many special memories of our five years with you - all condensed into one large tin of soup seasoned with God’s love. We are missing you very much already!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts,

With our love,

David and Elizabeth x



Harvest

Our chosen charity for this year's harvest on 21st September is B.A.S.I.C. Life Charity based in Felixstowe. Therefore we are asking for the following items to be brought along to that service:

Tinned goods:

Soup, meat, fish, beans, pasta shapes, fruit, custard, rice pudding and vegetables.

Dried goods:

Instant mashed potatoes
Pasta, soup and pasta in sauce packets
Sterilised or UHT milk
Teabags and instant coffee
UHT cheese triangles
Peanut butter and jam
Biscuits, cakes, crackers and crisps
Baby rusks, baby food
Breakfast cereals

Toiletries: Shampoo, deodorant, nappies, babywipes, baby lotion, razors, shaving foam.

Small and large sizes

All goods intact in package and in date please.

Messy Church

The Mission Area Messy Church continues to meet at Trinity every couple of months. The next one is on Saturday September 27th and if anyone is available to help please let one of our stewards know.

