

CHURCH NEWS

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MAY 2018

Friends,

WHO IS THE GREATEST

Socrates and **Aristotle** each taught for 40 years, **Plato** for 50, Jesus for only 3.

YET: His influence surpasses the combined 130 years of teaching by these earlier men who are acknowledged as the greatest philosophers of all antiquity.

Jesus painted no pictures, yet the finest paintings of Raphael, Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci received their illumination from Him. He wrote no poetry, yet Dante, Milton and others of the world's greatest poets were inspired by Him. He composed no music, yet Haydn, Handel, Beethoven, Bach and others reached their highest perfection in hymns, symphonies and oratorios composed in His honour. Thus many spheres of human greatness have been enriched by the humble Carpenter of Nazareth.

His **unique** contribution to the humanity is in the salvation and saving of human souls.

Rev'd Eric Chambers (1909~2009)

NEWS AROUND THE FELLOWSHIP

Our thoughts are with those of our congregation who are suffering with ill health, those who have anxiety or depression and those who are mourning for lost friends or family members. We pray especially for Barbara & Tommy Danson. Good news is that David Williams is now **home** from hospital after weeks of waiting for suitable care.

Last month, Alan was able to lead our Easter service and, during the following weeks, we welcomed Hilary Jackson, Ed Strachan and Margaret Dexter-Brown. We are very grateful to these friends who give up their time to **lead** our worship.

We had another very enjoyable meeting of the **Fellowship Club** in April. Vera brought a card game that we could all play together. There were a few members missing but as usual there was a lot of laughter. Don't forget that everyone is welcome, male and female, and any new games are welcome also.

Is there anyone who could take over the bi-annual **Leprosy Mission** collecting? This is a very worthy cause and The Leprosy Mission sends plenty of current information as to what work is taking place in many parts of the world. A little money goes a long way in these deprived areas but it must keep coming. If you are able to do this small job, please ring Mavis Davies 486 1952.

As a prelude to Christian Aid week, we hosted a focus meeting of some 50 Church Christian Aid representatives from all over Cheshire. The country in question was **Haiti** and the speaker gave a very interesting talk about her experiences of the country.

A **FIRE DRILL** will be conducted during one of our Sunday morning services at Cheadle Hulme in May.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

13 – 19 MAY – CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - sponsored walk 12th; forms will be available +volunteers needed for the house collections

The News Team

THANK YOU

...all very much for the card and Easter egg you so kindly gave me.

**Lots of Love,
Ann (Hardie) xx**

LADIES CIRCLE

Last month's meeting was held on 12 APR at the home of Bernice Platt when Mrs Elva Towler was the speaker.

Unfortunately, due to a variety of circumstances, our numbers were slightly reduced and only 7 members were able to hear the excellent programme Elva put together for us. She talked of the life of Leonard Bernstein, the American musician, composer and conductor, known to many of us for his musical West Side Story, but Elva extended our knowledge by playing music from this show and others, including operatic and classical music.

It was such an enjoyable evening for which we give our thanks to Elva.

The next meeting will be on Thu 10 MAY - venue to be announced later.

Bernice Platt

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WED 9 MAY

SOUP, SWEET and MEET

12.00 pm ~ 2 pm

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JOINT WEEKEND AWAY THORNLEIGH 2019

A booking has been made in the name of the pastorate from **Friday 28~Sunday 30 June 2019**. The cost per person will be £145 which is excellent value considering the quality of accommodation and food provided. It's a chance to come and relax with friends. Letters with more information and a booking form will be available in due course.

Alison Stevens

CHURCHES TOGETHER

w/c 6 May **Churches Together.....**

Thy Kingdom Come – 10 ~ 20 May 2018

Churches and groups who are joining the global wave of prayer to pray The Kingdom of God will be made known to individuals and in the communities for whom they pray.

w/c 13 May **Churches Together**
13~19 May Christian Aid Week

The Christian Aid Collections – homes / street/shops – there will be a generous response in our area to support the worldwide projects supported by Christian Aid. We're doing God's work in this world.

w/c 20th May **Emmanuel Church**

New activities to reach out to the local community.. Blokes Toddler Group each 3rd Saturday led by Anthony, and Messy Church first Saturday of the month. Pray for new families to come along.

w/c 27 May **Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme**

Preparations for the Big Church Day Out- a Christian Festival at Capesthorpe Hall, for those performing on the stages, volunteers, team leaders and all ages attending will be encouraged in their Christian faith.

CTCH Business Meeting
on Monday **21 May**

hosted by Emmanuel Church starting at
7.00pm.

You may like to support Churches Together in Bramhall & Woodford who are part of the Pentecost Praise event - **Sunday 13th May 4~6pm**- on the croquet Lawn in Bramhall Park...
AND Fri 11 May Cheadle Deanery Prayer Walk.
-10am St George's Church Poynton (about 6miles walk and stops for prayer)

F I L M
N I G H T

Sat 26 MAY 7pm

33 YEARS AGO

Christian Aid week 1985

Charity Begins with the Homeless

'This Week's' theme links us up with Christian Aid's origins in the 1950's when as a very small organisation it started out as an attempt to help post-war refugees in Europe.

How better can we start Christian Aid Week 1985 than with thanksgiving for that small beginning for needy people on the move and all that was done by the early pioneers to re-house the homeless, provide food and clothes for the hungry and a new start for those whose former life-patterns had been destroyed.

Breakfast Before on 13 MAY 2018

[& every 2nd Sunday]

Typical menu:

**Cereal, toast, fruit
tea, coffee, fresh orange,
bacon baps, pancakes or croissant**

Christian Aid is still committed to the needs of people on the move, like the millions of refugees - many parts of Africa and the dispossessed wanderers of South and Central America and the Philippines.

Christian Aid itself has caught the pilgrim spirit, always moving on, reaching out in joyful partnership with Christians across the world. 'This Week' renews the challenge and the opportunity - the homeless of the world are crying out to us to use this prayer...

"Lord, during this week

Many people will be knocking on strange front doors hoping for a generous response:

Many will be busy with special events, in their churches and schools, on the streets:

*Some will be speaking while others listen,
Some will be writing what others read,
And some will be holding the rest up with their prayers.*

Lord, take all this into your hands, for your glory.

Beryl Weedon

SUK JAI ORPHANAGE



THE CHILDREN

In the last year, 2 children left the orphanage, the 2 that left are twins and were studying in the 9th grade. The reason for leaving was because they had violated the rules of the orphanage many times, and in those times Ruth and I and the house parents have rebuked them but at the same time have given them many chances to better themselves as well. In the end both of them decided that they could not abide by the rules of the orphanage and both of them decided to leave. Before leaving we encouraged them to continue studying since they were so close to finishing the 9th grade. They are now both currently staying with their older sister and are both continuing to study at the school.

Also in the last year, we thank God our oldest at the orphanage named Na Dong now a young lady has completed her Bible college and university education. Na Dong was studying a dual degree program and so in completing her education she now has a Bachelor's (BA) **and** Bachelor's of Theology (B.TH) degree. After she graduated we have given her the freedom to choose what she wanted to do next. Two weeks ago she told Ruth and I that she wanted to come back and help at the orphanage, Ruth and I were very delighted to hear that she wanted to come back and help look after the children. This is the fruit of our partnership and we thank you and thank God for this.

In 2018 this year we will have 3 teenagers who will be finishing high school, 1 boy and 2 girls. The boy's name is Pi Ya and he will be continuing his education at a physical education college. His

program is a 4 year program and after 4 years he will have a Bachelor's degree. The two girls are Ma Seh and A Mee saw both of them will be going to a nurse aid school and their course is a 6 month course which after 6 months they will be eligible to work in hospitals as a nurse's helper. Please continue to pray for these teenagers as they move on into their next step in life and that they will have the support needed to complete their education.

We still have 3 teenagers that are studying in Bible College, 1 young man named Su Ra Chai, who has just finished his 1st year and will be moving on to the 2nd year and 2 young ladies A Ru Nee and Na She who have completed their 2nd year and moving on to the 3rd year. As a result of your support of the children through both your prayers and finances the children of Suk Jai have an opportunity for a better life, an education as well as a chance to know about the love of Jesus Christ. Please continue to keep all the children in your prayers

Also in this year we will have 4 new children coming to the orphanage 2 boys and 2 girls. We will give you the details of these new children when they come to the orphanage and whoever is interested in sponsoring any one of them please let us know.



House parent's residence

As we have already mentioned and notified you in the past we are currently in the process of building a new residence for the house parents at the orphanage. This family has been with us

since we opened the orphanage, they have been living in a single bedroom and sharing this single bedroom with 3 of their children, as their children grow this single room will become ever more crowded and difficult for the 3 of them to share and live in. We believe that it is now the appropriate time to build a new residence for them and their children. The new house we are building for them will be located beside the orphanage building and is a 1 story building with 2 bedrooms, 1 living room and 1 bathroom. We have already completed around 85% of the building. We have prayed and planned to dedicate this new house parent's residence on the 19th of March. Brothers and Sisters please pray with us that we can finish with the construction of this building as planned without any difficulties or delays.

**Rev Abel & Ruth Sairattanyu
Chiang Mai,
Northern Thailand**

EXTRA-ORDINARY CHURCH MEETING SUNDAY 27 MAY - 11.45 am

The only item on the Agenda, which was referred to at our recent Church meeting on 8 April, will be the Synod Manse Scheme, which was revised by the N W Synod in March.

The revisions affect every local church in the Synod which has a manse, or a share or manse funds, held in Trust in its name.

Elders and Church meetings are now being asked to consider the benefits of transferring a manse into the Synod Manse Scheme, the new terms of which were distributed at the Church meeting in April - more copies are available. A copy of the these, some questions and answers and the resolution which we are required to consider, are displayed in church.

It is important that our decision is notified to the Synod in writing no later than 30 September 2018 otherwise the church will not be eligible to receive its share of the grant of 35% of the value of the manse.

Please do everything you can to attend this important meeting.

Alison Stevens

DAY OF PENTECOST – WHIT SUNDAY, 20 MAY

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of First Fruits, observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover and the crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. **For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.**

Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples, but He knew they could not do the work themselves – they would need some help.

And so they waited many days. in Jerusalem, praying together with his followers. Then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3 000 people responded, were converted, and baptised. How's that for church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. Now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, He could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of his Holy Spirit.

Parish Pump

REMEMBRANCE100

This year, we all have the chance to mark the centenary of the **end** of World War 1. On Sunday, 11th November 2018, people around the country will observe Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day. As well as reflecting on loss, this year also gives us the chance to look forward as we mark the end of World War 1 and pray for peace.

'Remembrance100' has been set up by HOPE, in partnership with a cross section of Christian denominations and ministries, to help churches bring communities together to mark the centenary of the end of World War 1. There are many ways in which communities, churches or schools can get involved. Here are a few key dates for your diary...

4 August: On 4th August 1918 King George V met to pray with members of the Houses of Parliament. One hundred days later, the war ended. This year, 4 August 2018 will be the first day of 100 days of prayer across the country, running until Armistice Day in November. Every day there will be prayers and each weekend will include ideas for peace-makers.

21/22 September: There will be an event for peace in London's Trafalgar Square linked to the United Nations International Day of Peace.

5-9 November: schools will mark a week of peace before the Remembrance weekend.

11 November: there will be Remembrance Services around the country. Many will be followed by Peace Parties.

December: Peace Awards will be presented.

As details become available, the resources will be here: www.remembrance100.co.uk. There will be...

- A pocket-sized booklet to give to all those attending Remembrance events, including a special prayer written by the Archbishop of Canterbury
- A book and social media campaign with 100 prayers for peace and actions for peace-makers
- A guide on how to hold a peace party for your community
- Ideas on holding a local Peace Awards ceremony linked with the Peace Alliance, which



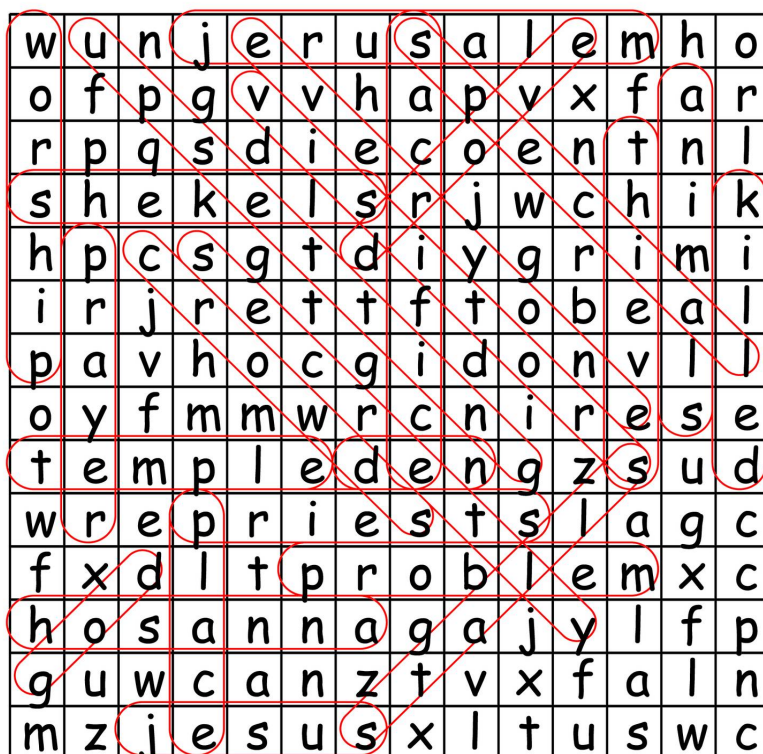
is run by Rev Nims Bunge MBE, Deputy Lieutenant for Greater London.

- A short video from Bible Society based on Revelation 21:3-4 and verses about peace, to show at your Remembrance Day event.
- Ways in which young people can get involved.

Lots of organisations and denominations are working together to provide resources for local churches and communities. These include HOPE, the Church of England, the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church, Christian Vision for Men, the Bible Society, Scripture Union, SGM Lifewords, Tearfund, World Prayer Centre, the Armed Forces Christian Union, the Armed Forces Chaplains, and others.

Parish Pump website

APRIL WORDSEARCH SOLUTION



A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five- and six-year-olds. After explaining the commandment to "honour thy father and thy mother," she asked "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy answered, "Thou shall not kill

SERVICE DETAILS & DUTIES

Readers: Please double-check your bible references upon arrival at church.

Elders and Readers: If you cannot do a duty, please arrange your own swap, notify Glyn Elsdon and mark it up on the **master copy** on the foyer notice board. **On arrival**, always check notice board for last minute changes.

	6 MAY	13 MAY	20 MAY	27 MAY
Service	Morning Worship	Family Service	JOINT Morning Worship	Morning Communion
Time	10.30 am	10.30 am	9.30 & 10.30 am	10.30 am
Leaders	Heather Frankish	Bernie Stevens	Rev Alan Poolton	Rev Alan Poolton
Reader	J Hodson	V Lees	M Smith	T Clarkson
Elder Duty	C Davies	S Smith	CHEADLE HULME CLOSED	C Davies/ B Stevens
Door Duty	B Danson	D Green		A Manley
Flowers	Fellowship Club	Ladies Circle		L Denton
Coffee	H Elsdon / M Morton	V Elliott / M Hardie		A & S Altree
Notes		BREAKFAST BEFORE	PENTECOST JOINT SERVICE AT BRAMHALL	HOLY COMMUNION + EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

CHURCH REGISTERS - NONE

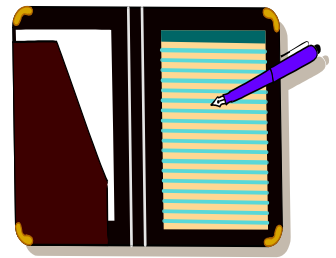
Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays
Today the church draws breath at last and sings
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.
This is the feast of fire, air, and water
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.
The earth herself awakens to her maker
And is translated out of death to birth.
The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release
Today the gospel crosses every border
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace
Today the lost are found in His translation.
Whose mother-tongue is Love, in every nation

Malcolm Guite

CALENDAR

.....to the best of the editor's knowledge, unless you know better.....



MAY

Tues01	9.30 am	Gardening group ~ Church	
Wed 02			
Thu 03	7.00 am - 10 pm	LOCAL ELECTIONS IN FOYER	
Fri 04	10.00 am	Toddlers	7.45 pm Choir Rehearsal
Sat05	10.00 am	Coffee Morning in aid of Church charities	
Mon 07			8.00 pm Scottish Country Dancing
Tues08	9.30 am	Gardening group ~ Church	7.30 pm Bible Study ~ Bramhall URC
Wed 09	12 ~2 pm	Soup, Sweet and Meet followed by ' Fellowship Club ' till 3.30 pm	
			7.30 pm Elders' meeting ~ Church
Thu 10			8.00 pm Ladies Circle ~ venue tba
Fri 11	10.00 am	Toddlers	7.45 pm Choir Rehearsal
Sat 12		CHRISTIAN AID WALKS ~ 3, 6 or 8 miles	
Sun 13		CHRISTIAN AID WEEK BEGINS	
Mon 14			8.00 pm Scottish Country Dancing
Tues15	9.30 am	Gardening group ~ Church	
Wed 16			
Thu 17			
Fri 18	10.00 am	Toddlers	7.45 pm Choir Rehearsal
Mon 21			8.00 pm Scottish Country Dancing
Tues22	9.30 am	Gardening group ~ Church	7.30 pm Bible Study ~ Bramhall URC
Wed 23			
Thu 24			
Fri 25	10.00 am	Toddlers	7.45 pm Choir Rehearsal
Sat 26			7.00 pm Film Night
Sun27		EXTRA-ORDINARY CHURCH MEETING	
Mon 28			8.00 pm Scottish Country Dancing
Tues29	9.30 am	Gardening group ~ Church	
Wed 30			
Thu 31			

JUNE

Fri 01	10.00 am	Toddlers	7.45 pm Choir Rehearsal
Sat 02	10.00 am	Coffee Morning in aid of Mary's Meals	

Copy for **JUNE 2018** **CHURCH NEWS** should be in the editors' hands by **20 MAY 2018**

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