

A very warm welcome to our service today.

If you're visiting us for the first time, you are invited to fill in a visitors card, which you'll find in the reception area. If you have children under 3, you're invited to take them to our parent & baby room when the other children leave. Please ask someone from the welcome team to show you where this room is. After the service, please feel free to stay behind and join us for a coffee.

This Week...

Maureen is leading and **Julie** is continuing the 'Chasing after meaning' series with 'Where can we find fulfilment? Ecc 1:12-2:26

Next Week...

Rachel will be leading and **Alan** will be continuing the 'Chasing after meaning' series with 'What is the value of work? Ecc 2:17-26

Life Headlines...

Christmas Special Offering

We raised £300 - half of which has been given to Queen Elizabeth 2 School and the other half to Ingfield Manor School for children with cerebral palsy. Thank you for donating towards these causes.


Day of Prayer for Melissa

We will be setting aside this **Wednesday - 13th January** - as a day of prayer especially for Melissa, as she has been so unwell recently. We can of course remember Jasmine, Maureen and John. There is a **rota at the Welcome Desk** - if you would please sign your name for an hour during which you can pray (at least a few times - you don't have to sit and pray for the whole hour!) More than one can pray within the hour, but if we can fill the times from 0700 to 2300 that would be great. Many thanks. *Hilary*

Fellowship Fund Offering

There are special envelopes available today for members and regular attendees to give towards the Life Fellowship Fund. This is so we can give gifts from the church to people within our own fellowship at special times. It has now run out as we have not had an offering for this for some time. We are unable to use money from the General Fund for our own members because of the tax relief we receive. Please help top up this fund if you can so we can be generous to one another when the occasions arise.

Kenya 2010 Trip

 A reminder that there is a team who will be returning to Kenya between 1st - 11th February. Those going will be Julie Shimizu, Hilary Smith, Ray White, John Milborrow, Alan George and Anna Pisani from Life; Pauline Jepps from Brighton Road Baptist Church; Scott Carr and Stuart Parkins from Toddington Baptist Church and Masayuki Shimizu, Julie's son. We will appreciate your prayers as we prepare for the trip.

Those of you who sponsor one of the children at the Osare Orphanage should have received a letter template for you to pen a few words or draw a picture so we can take it to the orphanage when we go. It will be very much appreciated if you are able to return this to me as soon as possible. There will be a basket placed at the front of the congregation each week until 31st January. Please place your letter in there, in the event that you are not able to catch me during the service. Thanks. *Anna Pisani*

Praise God for his faithfulness!

The water borehole that we were able to get outside funding for, for the Home of Hope orphanage, Kenya is now at last complete, the water has been tested, the pump is working and the children are drinking. There has been a real struggle to get through the rock, find the water, negotiate with the water company and various other difficulties with communication but it is finished! It is already making a tremendous difference to the orphans. We will be dedicating it in February and I will be baptising many people with water from it, who have become Christians through the mobile phone teaching over the past year.

HORSHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT GROUPS 2010

LENTEN JOURNEY: A STIMULATING COURSE FOR LENT COMMENCING 21ST FEBRUARY 2010 BY CLARE AND HUBERT RICHARDS
There are five chapters in this book because it has become an established custom for Lent discussion groups to meet during the five weeks of Lent, but not during Holy Week. Bert and Clare Richards have written this book together hoping it will provide helpful material for individuals, groups and parishes. They offer us background notes with reference to their family and experience overseas. Questions for discussion, suggestions for action and prayers follow each week.

Week One: *A Time of Testing*

Week Two: *Easter is Ahead*

Week Three: *God is Patient*

Week Four: *Nothing is Unforgivable*

Week Five: *Go and Sin no More*

Lent has always been a time of reflection, a time to check out if we are really living as followers of Jesus. The course is based on the lectionary reading for the Sundays in Lent from the Gospel of Luke around the theme of 'journeys'

Christian Life is a journey and Easter takes us on a journey that's heading for Jerusalem and the cross. It's not going to be a comfortable ride. Sign up forms are available from the welcome area.

Please return completed forms to 37 Rusper Road Horsham RH12 4BA

Any questions to Sheila Rudofsky 01403 258679

Do you have a spare computer or laptop?

Ray's laptop is on its last legs and needs a new motherboard. A computer is absolutely vital for Ray and he is unable to buy a new one. Has anyone updated theirs and has now a spare please? Or do you know of anyone else who has? Please email Ray directly if you do or speak to me. Thank you. *Julie*

Encountering God Growing in faith Making a difference

Fellowship Fund Envelopes

These will always be available at the Welcome Desk and an opportunity and reminder given at each communion service so that we continue to support one another at Life as and when the need arises.

2010 - A new decade - a new opportunity to partner God

To encourage one another in prayer at the start of a New Year, we will once again send, via e-mail, topics for prayer each day in January. These will cover our Church, local community, nation and world. If you do not wish to receive these, please let me know. Paper versions will be available. Many thanks. *Hilary*

Thank you!

Thank you to those who gave towards a Christmas gift for me. It was very much appreciated. *Julie*

Thank You

Just a note to thank you so much for the stunning bouquet of flowers and the Hillier vouchers. I shall enjoy tending to my little garden when the warmer weather comes!! Thank you too, for your love and support whilst I have been on the leadership team, it has been much appreciated. Every blessing as you journey with God in 2010. With love from Hilary.

MEN'S MEETING. After a very challenging meeting last Friday we will be holding a special Men's breakfast on the 23rd of January. Details to follow but mark the date in your diary.

The Centre Page—Winter 2009/2010

Time for reflection

For many, Christmas and the New Year are times for reflection. As the busiest time of the year at THE CENTRE draws to an end it will be a time for counting the cost; many of our hitherto regular customers have abandoned the idea of supporting their local Christian bookshop in favour of seeking a better deal on the internet. As Amazon goes from strength, lining the pockets of corporation investors, Christian bookshops all over the country struggle to survive and, in too many cases, the struggle is lost and they are forced to close.

Does it matter? Should we accept the inevitable and find new ways to serve Our Lord here in Horsham?

I sincerely believe it does matter and that the very visible witness of the unity of the church in Horsham is crucial as we fight against the secularisation of society. I believe it matters because of the lost and hurt people who come into THE CENTRE seeking hope in the wake of bereavement or other difficulties. I believe it matters because churches and Christians need resources as they meet the challenges of the 21st Century; the bookshop offers the opportunity to browse and to seek the advice of the experienced sales team.

The final SPCK shop closed recently amidst controversy about the way it was run in its final days. The surrounding publicity did nothing to enhance the image of the Christian retail trade, but it did alert us to the risks we are all involved in. Britain's largest distributor of Christian resources, IBS-STL (Biblica) is struggling to meet its financial commitments - the response from the trade, including their competitors was a Day of Prayer for the whole Christian retail trade. Next time you go on line to buy a book, please consider - is the price of the saving of a few pounds worth the sacrifice of your local Christian bookshop and all it stands for. *Doug Fletcher*

Church Family Life... for prayer requests, house moves, phone number changes and other general information and news.

Journeys Course

7 new people who were on the Journeys course would like to continue fortnightly until Easter on a Thursday evening. Please pray that these people will learn more of the truths of Christianity, meet Jesus and find faith.

Please, please pray for Melissa. Maureen emailed me (Julie) saying:

'Melissa is still very poorly. The multiple partial seizures continue to dog her. She has been very brave and tries her hardest to make them stop. But she is unable to do it herself. Heather House are endeavouring to keep her comfortable, but some times she is in such pain! They have had to resort to a lot of pain killers and a combination of emergency medication which eventually knocks her out.

Anyhow, we continue to pray for an abatement and for wisdom for the doctor and nurses who are caring for her.

Igor (the pastor from Malcoci who fell off the church roof) is still in hospital with various injuries and will be having an operation (at last) on 5th January. Please pray that this will be successful and Igor will make a full recovery.

Future Diary Dates...

Sunday 10th January	<u>Teachers and Worship Leaders Review and Prayer meeting 7:30 pm</u>
Sunday 17th January	<u>Digging Deeper (Creation and Evolution led through by Kevin Tuck)</u>
Sunday 24th January	<u>Horsham Churches Together United Service led by the Anglican churches 6:30 pm at St Mary's</u>
Saturday 30th January	<u>Space to Pray 8.30 - 9.30 am at BRBC</u>
Sunday 31st January	<u>All Age and lunch</u>
Sunday 21st February	<u>Trustees and Coordinators Meeting 7:30 pm</u>
Wednesday 24th February	<u>Church Members Meeting</u>
Sunday 7th March	<u>Digging Deeper Understanding Islam</u>
Saturday 27th March	<u>Life Easter Retreat and Reflection Day at Ashburnham</u>
Wednesday 26th May	<u>Church Members Meeting</u>

The Life Leadership Team

Rev. Julie Shimizu Tel. (01403) 218842
Wally Fahrner Tel. (01403) 276040
Ray White Tel. (01273) 930484

Breakthrough

If you have an item that you wish to include in Breakthrough, please contact Matt, either by post (29 Lambs Farm Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4DB), e-mail (break@thru.fslife.co.uk), telephone (01403 262660), or find him in church.

The deadline is Thursday noon. Items received after the deadline will be published the following week.