

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...

**Rachel** is leading, and **Julie** continues the Ecclesiastes series Chasing after meaning with Where can we find fulfilment 2:1-26

## Next Week...

**Simon** will be leading and **Alan** will be continuing our series with What is the value of work? Ecc 2: 17- 26

## Life Headlines...

### Digging Deeper TONIGHT - 7:30 to 9 pm

Kevin will be leading us through an exploration of Creation and Evolution for another Digging Deeper evening. These evening are when a topic is presented and there is plenty of opportunity for discussion and to ask questions. Please note this will be held at **Tim and Isabel Jackson's home** and not at Kevin's as previously stated.

### Life Ashburnham Easter Reflection and Retreat Saturday March 27th

We have a room booked there now with at 15 places reserved. This will be a day where a few thoughts on Cross, Resurrection and Ascension will be shared, then there will be space to reflect, time to pray alone or together in the beautiful grounds of Ashburnham. A good opportunity to set aside and make time to consider the real meaning of Easter and have a quiet day away as a church. Please could you let Anna know asap if you are planning to come. The cost will be £20 per person including coffee/teas and lunch

### Horsham Churches Together United Service St Mary's 24<sup>th</sup> January 6:30 pm

The Anglican churches are taking the service this year. Do try and come to worship with others in the town.

### 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*

### Gifts

Each year before we go on the Kenya trip there are those who feel they would like to give in general or specifically towards the work of the orphanages, bibles for the churches, the widows or something else God may lay on your heart. If you would like to give a gift please put in an envelope marked Kenya trip by Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> if possible please so we can plan our finances and where our giving should go. *Thank you so much.*

### Lifts to the airport

We will need another 2 cars to take 8 of us from Horsham to the airport on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February to be at Heathrow Terminal 4 by 4 pm and also to pick us up at 6 am on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February (a very antisocial hour!!). Would anyone be available, able and find it in their hearts to do this for us please? Please let Julie know. Thank you.

### HCT involvement in Justice for Peace

The Justice and Peace Movement within the Catholic Church work to promote peace and justice throughout the world, enlightened by the Gospel vision of God's Kingdom. It seeks a world in which:

- there is respect for the integrity of the whole of creation and for the dignity and freedom of every human being people live in peace, without nuclear weapons or trade in arms, seeking non-violent ways of resolving conflict
- all have access to food, clean water, shelter, health, education and a livelihood
- there is justice for those who at present have no land or no work, for those who are in debt or are enslaved by their work
- development and the use of resources are sustainable

There is a National Justice and Peace Network which connects J&P groups across the different dioceses and many dioceses, including our own, have a paid J&P worker who supports the work of parish J&P groups.

The Justice and Peace group at St John's Horsham is involved in a number of activities:

- Fair Trade stall once a month
- Hold regular liturgies on specific issues, such as peace, unemployment, refugees. The next one planned is an ecumenical service for Fair Trade on Friday Feb 26<sup>th</sup>
- Support CAFOD campaigns - most recently we encouraged parishioners to sign cards for their Climate Change campaign. We also support other campaigns such as Amnesty International's Christmas card campaigns, Fairtrade Fortnight etc.

We support a number of UK charities and a project in Ethiopia through our parish Covenant with the Poor (5% of parish income is donated to these causes)

- The group also has a youth section which meets once every 2 months. Many of the young people in this group go to Lourdes as helpers to the sick each summer
- We are very interested in working with like-minded groups in other churches, as we are already doing for Fairtrade Fortnight, and hope that learning about our work has been of interest to you.

Marie Allen 01403 242028 [mtjallen@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mtjallen@yahoo.co.uk)

Encountering God Growing in faith Making a difference

### 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.

### HORSHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT GROUPS 2010

LENTEN JOURNEY: A STIMULATING COURSE FOR LENT COMMENCING 21<sup>ST</sup> 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

### Introductory Pilates Course

There are still a few places available on my introductory Pilates course at 12:30 pm on Thursday lunchtimes.

Pilates is an exercise method that promotes improved posture, flexibility and balance; strong toned muscles; relief and recovery from injury.

If you would like to know more please speak to Frances (H 261735)

### 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.

**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.

## **Future Diary Dates...**

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>
Sunday 30th / Monday 31st May	<u>Big Church Day Out</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.flife.co.uk](mailto:break@thru.flife.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.