

September Magazine

Dear Friends,

I'm not a 'word' person; I spent a large part of my life teaching Mathematics so writing this letter is quite a challenge. But then life is full of challenges and how we face up to them says much about us. Here at Christ Church we are currently facing a big challenge; how to continue to carry out our mission with all the changes that are taking place. We have a very meaningful mission statement, which many of you helped to create. Now more than ever we must ensure that we live up to it.

We have seen tremendous changes over the past few months and we will see still more in the coming ones. Jane has to leave us, she has no choice, the decision is not hers to make. We all knew when Jane came as our curate that she would be leaving after three or four years and amazingly that time has come. The Diocese of Lincoln, like many other dioceses in the country, is being forced to cut back on numbers of stipendiary clergy due to financial constraints. So when a priest leaves a parish he or she is unlikely to be replaced. Instead each priest is being required to minister in many more than one parish.

Some of you are feeling abandoned, and this is quite understandable. We are much like the disciples when Jesus left them to return to heaven. Jesus had guided his disciples through some very trying times. He had taught them for three years, preparing them for their own ministries. He had died for them and given them faith to believe in Him as the Messiah when He rose from the dead. But now it was time for them to carry on on their own. The only catch was, Jesus would no longer be visibly by their sides to hold them by the hand. When the truth finally sunk in, they were overwhelmed. How would they survive on their own? They couldn't!

In a similar way, many of us think that God has given us a task that is just too difficult for us to handle and we are thinking "We can't do this." Jesus says, "You can with heavenly help".

Jesus never pointed his disciples to an inner strength - He never wanted his disciples to rely on their own self potential. With God, He works in the exact opposite way, because He knows what we are like - and He wants us to be realistic about ourselves. God wants us to realize that we are weak - that we don't have the ability to do whatever we want to do on our own.

Instead of pointing the disciples to themselves, Jesus gave them a much greater strength. He promised to give them a power source that had an unlimited potential; the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus gave them confidence by showing them that the future of the church was not resting on their abilities, their eloquence, or their know-how. The future of the Christian church was in the hands of God - He would work through them. And God still works the same way. All of us who were baptized have been given the same Holy Spirit. If the Holy Spirit enabled the disciples to spread the Gospel back then, He can do the same today. Knowing this changes our attitude. With His power, we no longer will say, "I can't." As long as God is working through us, we will say, "I can," realizing that it isn't dependent on us. As long as we keep connected to the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, there is no reason for us to say, "I can't." As the angel told Elizabeth, "nothing is impossible with God."

What is important is that we share our concerns with each other and support each other during this challenging time of change.

With much love,

Jane C.



Collections

	Open Plate	Env/Gift Aid	Env. (NTP)
June	£200.08	£694.50	£155.70
HMRC Tax refund		£1740.18	
July	£150.70	£747.50	£248.70

Gail



October Magazine

Could all entries for the above magazine be given to Jane Richardson by Sunday, September 19th. Publication will be the following Sunday, 26th.

Parish Registers

Baptisms

4 July Joshua Edward Robert Walker
22 August Miles David Key

Funerals

9 July Beryl Harvey
20 July Dorothy Johnson
28 July Harry Bell

~~~~~

## *200 Club*

Draw result for July,

1<sup>st</sup>: No. 119, 2<sup>nd</sup>: No. 123,

The August and September draws will take place on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> respectively during Day Centre meetings.

~~~~~

Thankyou!

We would like to thank Christ Church PCC for allowing us to have our Golden Wedding celebrations at Christ Church on August 14th. Thanks also to Rev Jane Calderin for the lovely memorable service. It was wonderful to see so many of our family and friends come along to support us.

Thank you also to everyone who sent cards and good wishes. We had asked for no presents and are delighted to have raised £560 for Help 4 Heroes, so once again a big thank you to everyone who made our day so special.

Arthur and Janet Ingram.

~~~~~

## *Bits and Bobs*

### ***Update on Partnership***

Many of you will be wondering what is happening with regard to our proposed partnership with St George's Church.

Working toward partnership will take time and we continue to have dialogue with and work with St George's. To help with the workload in the interim period the Deanery have agreed to appoint a person to help manage the Social Projects of both churches. The recruitment process is underway and we will of course keep you updated as to developments. (A copy of the advertisement for the position is posted after Bits and Bobs).

You will have noticed folk from St George's participating in our worship and offering their help as volunteers in a number of ways. Peter Hart (retired Priest from St George's) has been worshipping with us for sometime and is now taking an active role in preaching and leading services. Dave Bearman has helped lead our music on a couple of occasions for Kings Praise. I have invited Martyn Taylor (Priest in Charge at St George's) to preach and to preside at the Eucharist on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September to cover while I am away on holiday. I know you will extend a warm Christ Church welcome and hospitality to all these folk.

You probably have many more questions you would like to ask. In order for you to have an opportunity to ask those questions, 'air your views', and express your hopes and fears we will be holding an **open meeting for all Christ Church members** with your Church Wardens, members of your PCC, Jane and I on:

|                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September at Christ Church 10am-12noon</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|

This will be an informal meeting and we hope it will be an opportunity for us all to share fellowship with one another and support one another in these changing and challenging times.

### ***Harvest 2010***

Forward notice.

Our Harvest Festival Service this year will be on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

*Jane H.*

# Christchurch and St George's Stamford Operations Manager

## **On behalf of Christchurch and St George's Stamford**

Christchurch and St George's churches in Stamford, Lincolnshire are seeking to appoint an Operations Manager to lead and develop our shared vision for social outreach projects in Stamford. Our projects are practical expressions of Christianity at work in the local community and include work with families, befriending and mentoring schemes, open youth work, a day centre for the elderly, a local car scheme and Christians Against Poverty. We also partner with other like minded groups in the town. The job will require initiative, enthusiasm and passion to drive the projects forwards and the ability to raise funds.

We are looking for a committed Christian with a heart to serve our local community who believes that the local church can make a difference to the lives of local people. You will be part of a team working across both churches and also help us integrate the two communities as we grow towards partnership with each other. You will have proven leadership gifts with experience in team building, managing staff and working with volunteers.

For details of the job and information about applying please visit [www.stgeorgeschurch.net](http://www.stgeorgeschurch.net). The deadline for applications is Friday 20 August and interviews will be held on Friday 10 September.

Salary will be equivalent to a half time stipendiary post.

~~~~~

Evergreen Trust Ambassador

The Evergreen Trust, which many of you will know all about, would like to have a representative in every congregation highlighting the work of churches and to help identify possible 'need' amongst their 'senior saints', and also to be a link person between congregations and the Evergreen ministry.

If you would be interested in this or would like more details please speak to Jane Calderin.

Fundraising

We hope that you have all had a good holiday and are looking forward to all the activities we have planned!

Quiz's and Sunshine Bags

The Adult and Children's Quiz need to be returned to Church by Sunday 5th September. Also, if the 'Sunshine bags' could be handed in to a Church Warden or Sidesperson from the 5th September we would be very grateful. Once counted we will announce the totals raised in church and in this magazine. Thanks for your support.

Gift Day and Lincolnshire Sponsored Ride & Stride. Saturday 11 September

If you are able to man the church for an hour between 10-6pm please sign the sheet in the entrance hall. This will ensure a warm welcome for the rider, striders and folk who will be contributing to our Gift Day.

Gift Day

Please pop in to Church between 10-5 to hand in your donations and stay to have a cuppa with your friends. If you are not able to call in that day please give your donation, in an envelope, to a Church Warden or Sidesperson.

The Bike & Ride

David Wise's colleague from work has agreed to ride on behalf of Christ Church; half of the money raised will come back to Christ Church so please support David Ettridge and sign the sponsor form in the Foyer. Don't forget if you are a tax payer tick the box.

Friday Market Stall 24th September

The stall will be from 7.00-4.00 so if you are able to offer an hour of your time to 'man the stall' please add your name to the list in the entrance hall. If anyone is able to make cakes, biscuits, preserves for the stall, or if anyone has any plants, good bric a brac or books these need to be brought to Church the night before on the 23rd September between 6-7pm.

If you are not able to bring your goods that evening please speak to a member of the fundraising group who will arrange collection.

Saturday 25th September Morrison's

We will be selling Raffle tickets at Morrison's between 9-5pm so again if you are able to spare an hour please put your name on the list!

Grand Draw and Autumn Fair 20th November

Tickets are available in Church so please take some books to sell to your friends, families and work colleagues. If anyone has any raffle prizes that you are able to donate please speak to Dawn or if you know of any shop that may provide us with a prize please let Dawn know. The draw will take place during the afternoon of our Autumn Fair when we will have stalls, games, refreshments and much more so make sure you put this date into your diaries! More details nearer the time.

Thank you for your continued support. If you need any more information please speak to one of the Fund Raising Committee: Dawn, Colin Field, Margaret Barwell, Jane Richardson, Jane Harris or Helen Burney

Fundraising Committee

Love in a Box

Just a gentle reminder about the above!

Please save your empty shoe boxes (size 5 approx) so that we can cover them in Christmas paper and fill with lots of lovely gifts for children who would otherwise not receive anything at Christmas time.

Also, if you see any bargains in the summer sales (kids going back to school offers), please think of our Love in a Box appeal and consider donating the BOGOF / 2 for the price of 1 offers to us.

All donations are gratefully appreciated.

Thank you

Gail, Gill and Phil.

Day Centre

We had a lovely Summer Party just before we broke up for our holiday. Our thanks to Anne, Jane and the Ladies from Inner Wheel for the preparation and serving of the food, which was delicious. Due to Betty's illness the 'homemade' entertainment was not to our usual standard, but we had fun! Thanks also to all the volunteers not only for their contribution to the success of the party but also for all their hard work during the year. There would be no Day Centre without you!

We have been on holiday during the month of August and I know that it has been a long month for our members who are eager to return to our weekly meetings. Our first meeting will be on Sept 1st. We will not have Holy Communion on that day but the following week, Sept 8th at the usual time of 11:15 am. I am pleased to say that Betty is feeling much better and hopes to be with us for that service.

We have two very different forms of entertainment during the month. On Sept. 15th a person from Dogs for the Disabled will come to talk to us, and on Sept. 29th Barry Duff from the local Air Ambulance will tell us about his work.

The Foot Health Practitioner will be with us on Sept 8th, starting at 10 a.m.

I hope everyone had a good rest and time to relax. See you on the 1st!

Blessings, *Jane C.*

Urgent Appeal

The Day Centre is looking for volunteers both to work in the Centre serving and as drivers to take members to and from the Centre on Wednesdays. The drivers have a rota which means that they would be on duty once every three weeks. It takes about 45 minutes in the morning and another 45 minutes in the afternoon. Volunteers to work at the Centre usually arrive about 10am and leave at 3pm although any time given would be appreciated. Please ring Jane Calderin at 01780 754 290 if you could help, or if you know of anyone else who might be able to.



Mothers Union

The next M.U. meeting and Holy Communion Service will take place at All Saints Church on Thursday, September 2nd at 10.00am.

All are welcome.

StartaFresh

Time has just flown by; this September StartaFresh has been an integral part of the services Christ Church provides to the local community for four years! It has been wonderful to see such an increase in members to the group many of whom had become lonely and isolated through personal crisis or disability.

StartaFresh members have continued throughout the summer to come together for friendship; enjoying group sessions where we have shared a light lunch together and outings to local places of interest and the sea side.

Recently StartaFresh members were asked to 'feature' in an NHS video which highlighted the benefits of services such as StartaFresh; it was encouraging to hear individuals say they have met new friends and benefited from taking part in a range of opportunities and activities which have helped to raise their confidence and self belief. For many StartaFresh has opened new doors and provided a much needed place to belong.

If you would like to learn more about StartaFresh and the services it provides please call into the office at Christ Church Monday to Friday 9.30 – 3.00 or telephone Katie Blay 01780 766446.

Minibus

Hello Everyone,

Since I have come on board as Amy Crisp's replacement whilst she is recuperating, the Minibus has kept me more than busy. At present I am busy out and about in Stamford and surrounding areas promoting the Car scheme and primarily the Minibus.

Up to now the Minibus has been used on a regular basis by the Day Centre, Teen Zone, Start a Fresh and one or two other organisation. On my travels out and about, the feedback from the community is very positive and I am hoping we will have some new customers come September.

One of the main aims of the Minibus is to help frail and disabled people remain independent, the wheelchair and passenger lift in the Minibus helps our drivers to achieve this. In recent weeks we have seen how this has benefited our more severely disabled members as they have opted to book the Minibus because of its accessibility.

If you would like more information or would like to book the Minibus please phone **01780 482380** we will be happy to help.

Geraldine Crowley.

~~~~~

## *Working with Families*

### *Toddlers*

What a great 'Teddy Bears Picnic' we had on our last day and we have some great photos too thanks to Chris who joined us with his own teddy bear! We had the parachute and bubble machines out with the toddlers having great fun.

We said "goodbye" to three of our toddlers who are going to pre-school; the twins, James and Annabel, have been with us a long time and loved the Craft table.

Our trip to Wickstead Park was a great success, as usual, with everyone having a really good time and the sing-a-long on the bus coming home had us all laughing as 'Old MacDonald' had almost every animal you could think of on his farm!

We hope everyone is having a lovely summer break because it will soon be time to return (Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>)! We look forward to seeing everyone then.

*Granny Gill.*

## *Twinklets*

Twinklets continue to meet throughout August whilst many of our other groups are taking a break. On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August the group held a party as sadly they are saying goodbye to a number of pairs of twins who will be moving on to school in September. We played games, enjoyed party food and generally 'had a ball'! We wish the children well as they move on to a new phase in their lives.

With some moving on the Twinklet Group have space for new members and so if you know of any families with young twins who would benefit from the friendship and support Twinklets can offer please pass on the good news.



Twinklets meet every Thursday at Christ Church 1-3pm where like-minded parents can share their experiences. Mums enjoy a cup of tea and fellowship whilst the children have a safe place to play.

Contact Lydia 07826879368 or speak to me (Jane H) for more information.

## *Kings Café*

The end of term in July saw us partying at King's Café. God was good and the weather just PERFECT so we enjoyed a barbeque, very lively games and even livelier worship songs! All held on the car park at church.

My grateful thanks to all involved – especially to Ian (Burnham) for his perfect sausages and burgers – perfectly timed. Also to Ian (Pybus) for sorting out our technology; perfectly. To Gail for all her hard work and perfect preparations. Thanks also to Zoe, the Olivers, Jean, Dave Bearman – and everybody else including those I have forgotten!

A good time – no a PERFECT time - was had by all.

Kings Café begins again after the summer break on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 11.30am (in the basement – not the car park!)

## *Teenzone*

Teenzone have been very busy with their Holiday Programme which is ongoing at this time and they will bring you up-to-date next month.

*Jane H.*

~~~~~

Garden Update

Before I went on holiday at the beginning of August all the gardens were blooming and the overall situation does not seem to have changed though different plants are now showing their true colours like the Hibiscus sponsored by Ruth Ashton, another plant thriving is the Phyllostachys or Bamboo at the end of the ramp.



The grass at the north side of the church has grown and will need tackling soon but the grass in the Garden of Dreams has not grown to the same extent, probably due to the leafy canopy of the lime and sycamore trees stopping the rain, which would explain why the perennials and shrubs I planted in late July now look a little stressed! I am keeping a watchful eye on the Garden of Dreams and have some ideas but I need to be patient as it will take time to achieve the desired result.

The Wild Life Garden continues to attract a variety of insect visitors including hover flies, honey and bumble bees, hoverflies, butterflies and even a cricket. Next to the Leaf Pile is a newly constructed Compost Bin that will not only generate some organic compost but should also attract more wild life.

One late July morning I was astounded to find a large black and white mammal sunning itself in the Wild Life Garden, no it wasn't the church cat-though he can often be found in the garden when the two Jane's are not around! This animal had large ears and a short tail. Yes it was a domestic rabbit that must have escaped from one of the gardens in Christ Church Close!

Chris.

Bishop's Letter for September

Giving for a Change

Until recently, it had never occurred to me that for some people giving is just another form of purchasing. For example, some people are only persuaded to give to charity because they see long-term benefits for themselves in return. Perhaps this is what lies behind the claim that “Charity begins at home”.

Then there are folk in our congregations for whom giving to the Church is simply a way of purchasing ministry for themselves rather than seeing it as a way of providing ministry where it is needed more, and funding is less easy to find. Sadly, people do sometimes write to tell me that they will stop giving to the Church because they no longer have a full-time Priest in their Parish. Clearly for them giving to God is simply a way of purchasing something for themselves.

But surely giving generously to God is our right and proper response to God's generosity to us. It is not subject to strict cost-benefit analysis. And the same goes for our giving to good causes. We give because we can – and because we can make a difference.

So I ask you to support as generously as you can my Harvest Appeal this year. Proceeds will go to support our on-going commitment to our friends caring for people affected by leprosy in our Link Diocese of Tirunelveli in South India. We will also channel proceeds through Christian Aid to help some of the poorest people in the world affected by drought in Burkino Faso.

These are practical projects designed to provide long-term solutions and not just short-term relief. Perhaps collections at Harvest Services this year could be channelled into this Appeal – and of course, personal donations will also be very welcome.

Please make cheques payable to “LDTBF – Harvest Appeal” and send to Accounts Department, Church House, Minster Yard, Lincoln LN2 1PU.

Thank you!

With every Blessing and all good wishes,

+ *John Lincoln*

Calendar

September

Wednesday	1	10-3	Day Centre
Thursday	2	7.30	Horticultural Society
Friday	3	1-3	Befrienders
Saturday	4	10-12	Parish Meeting
Sunday Trinity 14	5	10.0 1.30 2.30 6.30	Holy Communion Baptism Baptism Evensong
Monday	6	1-3 7.00	Befrienders Teenzone Committee Meeting
Tuesday	7	7.30	Kings Café Planning Meeting
Wednesday	8	10-3 11.15 7.30	Day Centre Holy Communion PCC Meeting
Thursday	9	9.30 1-3	Toddler Group Twinklets
Friday	10	9-5 1-3 6-8	Interviews Befrienders (in the Basement) Brownies
Saturday	11	9-6	Old Churches Cycle Ride + Church Gift Day
Sunday Trinity 15	12	10.0 11.30 6.30	Holy Communion King's Cafe Evensong
Monday	13	1-3 5.30 7-9	Befrienders Teenzone Drama Guides
Wednesday	15	8-3 6-8.3	Day Centre Teenzone Dance
Thursday	16	9.30 1-3	Toddlers Twinklets
Friday	17	1-3 6-8	Befrienders Brownies
Sunday Trinity 16	19	10.0 6.30	Holy Communion Evensong

Monday	20	1-3	Befrienders
		5.30	Teenzone Drama
		7-9	Guides
Tuesday	21	2.30	Fun & Fitness
Wednesday	22	8-3	Day Centre
		6-8.3	Teenzone Dance
		7.30	Kings Praise Planning Meeting
Thursday	23	9.30	Toddlers
		1-3	Twinklets
		6-7	Donations for Market Stall tomorrow
Friday	24	All day	Stall on Market
		1-3	Befrienders
		6-8	Brownies
		8.00	Working with Families Committee
Saturday	25	All Day	Morrison's - Selling Raffle Tickets
Sunday	26	10.0	King's Praise with Holy Communion
Trinity 17		6.30	Celtic Worship at the Free Church
Monday	27	1-3	Befrienders
		5.30	Teenzone Drama
		7-9	Guides
Tuesday	28	2.30	Fun & Fitness
		7.30	King's Café Planning Meeting
Wednesday	29	8-3	Day Centre
		6-8.3	Teenzone Dance
Thursday	30	9.30	Toddlers
		1-3	Twinklets

Basement

Regular term time Programme for the Basement

Monday	12.3-3.3	Stroke Association (every other week)
	5-7	Teenzone
	7-9.3	Teenzone sports at QE
Wednesday	4-5	Teenzone table tennis
	5-7	Teenzone
Thursday	1-3	Befrienders
Friday	5-7	Rainbows
	7.3-10	Teenzone

- See weekly notices for details of all events

A quiz to make you Cross!

Answers will be in next month's magazine!

1. Name the husband of the queen commemorated by the cross in the Sheep market in Stamford?
2. Where did this queen actually die?
3. Where was her body taken after she died?
4. She herself requested a Tri Partite burial – what were the 3 parts?
5. What is present in the cathedral of the city mentioned in question 3 that reminds us of this tri partite burial of the queen?
6. Where in this city did the queen's body lie between 2nd & 4th December 1290?
7. To which city was the queen's body conveyed in royal procession?
8. How long did this journey take?
9. Her husband erected a monumental pillar on a hexagonal staircase containing figures of the queen and saints at every place the funeral cortege rested for the night:
 - a. These pillars became known as Eleanor's crosses why?
 - b. How many of these monuments were erected?
 - c. How many of the original monuments survive?

Chris.

