

150 Years of Worship and Outreach

Central
United Reformed Church
Hove

And they
were filled
with the
Holy Spirit
Acts 2:4



June + July 2019

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday Youth Ministry

Mrs. A. Austen

Boys' Brigade
(Mondays)

Mr. C. Jukes

Tuesday Fellowship
(Alternate Tuesdays)

Mrs H Brown

Men's Fellowship
(Third Wednesday)

Mr. P. Gear

Bluebird Parent & under 3s Group

Mrs K. Hancox

Church Web Site

Mr John Brewster

Church Hall Tel: 01273 734162

Email: info@centralurchove.com

MISSED CHURCH?

You can listen to the Sunday Morning Service by going to our website:
www.centralurchove.com and hearing the recording.

Dear Friends,

I have just returned from Minister's Spring School at High Leigh, Hoddeston, Herts. This is our usual venue but it was an unusual school because the speaker, who was booked 2 years ago, was ill and is not able to attend. The original plan was to work with Roy Searle from the Northumbria Community, leading us in a retreat entitled, "Priorities and Practices – the things that really matter in life and ministry: taking care of our relationship with God, self and others." Instead, we will be ably led, by our own Alex Mabbs, under the title "Earthed, Embodied, Embraced ... in creation, in community, in yourself, in Christ.

The reflections on the Psalms that form the basis of the retreat have their origin in Alex's sabbatical in 2016. It was a wonderful event. There was a lot of time for reflection and listening to God.

This is one of my reflections. I hope it encourages you to get into the Psalms.

The journey to life is paved with good intentions. I will praise you more, pray more, study more, be more for you Gracious God. But I am distracted, disorientated, disillusioned with God, people and myself. I remember a time when my heart burned with holy fire! I was alive! God was alive and at the centre of everything. I have tried to capture and re-capture that immense feeling, that energy, God's presence but it is as illusive as a dandelion seed in the wind; blown in unexpected directions to create new life, different life in familiar places. If anyone, if I am in Jesus Christ I need to be re-born, revitalised, envisioned by Jesus' words. Today- God's promises are alive, waiting to be invited into this day – to dawn freshly on me and my ideas of God. Searching my potential and my depths. Taking me into the heart of God – Love, security of home, but still unfathomable. The question has to come, "Why?" "Why me?" "Why is there indescribable love in the heart of God?" "Why is God's love so relentless, but never forced upon me?" I can do no other that respond to such love, with body, mind and spirit; utterly myself, reacting to God's call to me. You are amazing, God and you are always revealing yourself to me – in everyday life, helping me to see the threads of your kingdom; sometimes muted, sometimes vibrant hues, weaving your life, love, hope into human endeavour. Help me to be open to your creative presence; allow me to listen, discern your directions, measuring your promises; weighing up ideas, sifting, balancing and sparking new ideas; revealing new life, new light with which to encourage people of the world

with your generous love. Raise up your people- make us all like you so that we honour creation, making all things new by your power. Amen.

I am refreshed by the whole input from Alex and the way we can each put our own interpretation on God's word. Why don't you try it? Take a favourite Psalm, or a random one and spend time just fathoming its depths, allowing God to reveal ideas to you. Why not write something down, for your own use. Please let me know if you do, I am eager to hear how God is engaging with you.

Thank you for allowing this precious time to take stock and new inspiration.

Your co-worker in Jesus,

Sue X

ANNUAL GIFT DAY

Sunday 2 June 2019

**This is a special opportunity to support
the church family and future events.**

**Please give prayerfully and as you are
able.**

**Envelopes will be available on
Sunday 26 May 2019**

**Thank you for your loving support, in
anticipation of your gift.**

The Finance Team

FAMILY NEWS FROM CENTRAL

What a time of celebration we had at Easter! Not only did we celebrate our Risen Lord but we also rejoiced in a time of quiet reflection by the beach; the Ordination and Induction of Elders; the fellowship of sharing a hearty Easter Breakfast, served by the Smith family; and our Easter morning service. All this was sandwiched in between our two octogenarians' birthday celebrations, neither of whom confined them to a single day.

Adrian Ball celebrated with family for four days with activities, which would have worn out many a younger man. Peter Elliott celebrated with his family, some of whom came over from France for the event and culminated with an extra celebration at the Spring lunch. It was a great pleasure to most of us there that his two daughters, Nikki and Sally, were able to join us.

Eventually a more sombre note creeps in and we become aware of a decline in the health of some friends. Please hold closely in your prayers **Alasdair Macaulay**, who was taken into hospital but is now back in his nursing home. He is in a weakened state and causing Pam great concern.

Celia Elliott, having enjoyed a lovely time with her family, was also rushed into hospital last week. Although she is now home, her breathing problems have flared up again.

John Gilson was visited by Rev Sue Chapman and Charlie Steel just before Easter in his nursing home and he too is very poorly.

We should also remember in our prayers those who care for their loved ones who are in poor health, so pray for **Pam Macaulay** and family, **Peter Elliott**, **Reuben Sibanda**, caring for Tebello, **Willi Ghoshal** looking after Ajit, and all who are carers. May God grant them the strength, patience and serenity.

It was a great joy to have Gift Mubanga's daughter, **Kandi**, visit us at the lunch, full of enthusiasm and happiness from her working trip to Nepal. She obviously is looking forward to going back and doing further work.

Pam Moody has moved into her new flat and we wish her every blessing and much happiness in her new home.

Our wonderful friend **Nancy** is visiting Nigeria. We pray for a safe and happy sojourn there and look forward to seeing her wonderful smile and greeting when she returns.

Central's Summer Season kicks off, not with Henley or Ascot, but with the Summer Fair on 8th June, followed by the Men's Fellowship Skittles Evening (Have you signed up yet?) 19th, a barbecue at Saltdean URC 18th (tell Keren if you plan to attend) and a Strawberry Tea 22nd to coincide with Wimbledon.

There is a further opportunity to socialise for a good cause, Christian Aid, on 13th July so please keep the date free.

There are many friends who would be so happy to join us both at some of these events and at church services but poor health prevents them from doing so. Please remember them in our -

Fellowship of Prayer:

Wendy Blackburn, Molly Fraser, Betty Briggs, Mary Cochrane, Gift Mubanga, Dorothy Gale, Ros Ayling.

EASTER AT CENTRAL



Early morning worship by the shore



The Smith Family - Masterchef Breakfast



Ordination & Induction of Elders
Keren Hancox, Church Secretary, Carol Gill (Ordained)
Jinny Smith & Clare Popley (Inducted)



Congregational Rejoicing. HE IS RISEN!



CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 8th june
10.00am - 1.00pm

New stalls: Men in Sheds,

**Say Asphasia & Blind Veterans
Assoc**

Various other stalls: Bric-a-brac

**Books Cakes Cards Jewellery
Toiletries**

Teas Coffee Bacon /Sausage rolls

CHURCH CALENDAR

JUNE

| | | |
|--------|---|-------------------------|
| SUN 2 | GIFT DAY Family Service Stella Goddard THE JUNCTION - Pentecost | 10.30 am 6.30 pm |
| Mon 3 | Bluebird Parents & Toddlers Boys' Brigade Christian Book Club Preparation for Book Club Service 234 New Church Road (Chip Dunn) | 8.00 pm |
| Fri 7 | Preparing for Summer Fair | 12 noon |
| Sat 8 | SUMMER FAIR | 10.00 am |
| SUN 9 | Family Service Rev Peter Elliott Evening Worship Peter Elliott | 10.30 am 6.30 pm |
| Tue 11 | Tuesday Fellowship – AGM | 2.30 pm |
| Thu 13 | Elders' Meeting - The Manse | 7.45 pm |
| SUN 16 | FATHERS' DAY Family Service Members of the Book Club Evening Service – Holy Communion Rev. Sue Chapman | 10.30 am 6.30 pm |
| Tue 18 | Soup, Sandwiches and Prayer – The Manse Brighton & Hove URCs' Barbecue Saltdean URC | 12 noon 6.00 pm |
| Wed 19 | Men's Fellowship – Skittles Evening Royal Oak Barcombe | 7.30 pm |

| | | |
|--------|---|------------------------|
| Sat 22 | STRAWBERRY TEA 145 Nevill Road | 3.00 pm |
| SUN 23 | VISION DAY- Holy Communion Rev Sue Chapman Evening Worship Rev Peter Elliott | 10.30 am 6.30 pm |
| Mon 24 | Christian Book Club (Keren Hancox) | 8.00 pm |
| Tue 25 | Three Churches Outing | dep.Hounsom 9.30 am |
| SUN 30 | Family Service Peter Gear Evening Worship Rev Lynda Hulcoop | 10.30 am 6.30 pm |

JULY

| | | |
|--------|---|---------------------|
| Tue 2 | Soup, Sandwiches & Prayer – The Manse | 12 noon |
| SUN 7 | Family Service Rev Peter Elliott THE JUNCTION | 10.30 am 6.30 pm |
| Sat 13 | Christian Aid Social Afternoon Flat 8 336 Kingsway BN3 4LW | 2.30 pm |

| | | |
|--------|---|----------|
| SUN 14 | Family Service Rev Simon Franklin | 10.30 am |
| | Evening Worship Rev Lynda Hulcoop | 6.30 pm |
| Mon 15 | BB closing evening for summer | |
| SUN 21 | Joint Pastorate Service at Hounsom | 10.30 am |
| | Evening Worship – Holy Communion Rev Sue Chapman | 6.30 pm |
| Mon 22 | Blue Bird last day before summer holiday | |
| Tue 23 | Blue Bird last day before summer holiday | |
| SUN 28 | Family Service – Holy Communion Rev Sue Chapman | 10.30 am |
| | CHURCH MEETING | 12 noon |
| | Evening Worship Rev Peter Elliott | 6.30 pm |
| Mon 29 | Christian Book Club Venue - T.B.A. | 8.00 pm |

AUGUST

| | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|----------|
| SUN 4 | Family Service Bob Jackson | 10.30 am |
| | No evening service* | |

* Please note there will be no evening services at Central during August

All dates and times given here are correct at the time of going to print. Any changes or additional meetings will be given in Orders of Service in the preceding week.

All contributions for the **AUGUST+SEPTEMBER** edition of the magazine should be handed in no later than **SUNDAY 21st JULY**. Please inform Mr. Bill Maclean by Wednesday of the preceding week of any calendar changes so that the calendar on the Order of Service may be altered.

SPRING LUNCH & BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Birthday Boys: Adrian & Peter—80 years young.



The Cake



The Elliotts about to dine - Peter ,Sally, Nikki with Adrian Ball



Everyone in good spirits

SATURDAY AFTERNOON 13TH JULY 2019

I hope you noted this date in your diaries when you read the last church magazine. Here are further details for you to add.

You are invited

To

Flat 8
336 Kingsway
Hove BN3 4 LW

For

Tea, coffee or cold drinks, together with nibbles and cakes

Come any time, for as long or as short a time, as you like between 2.30 pm and 5.00 pm

Our aim is that you will spend a happy afternoon relaxing and chatting, and, if you wish, taking part, or watching, a few gentle activities.

We hope you will enjoy yourselves enough to put a contribution to the work of Christian Aid in the receptacles provided!

P.S.

1. Some idea of who is coming would be helpful but COME whether you let us know or not.

Pam Moody: 01273 417792

Mob: 07761599925

Chip Dunn : 01273 414615 Mob: 07751021982

2. If you have light, easily carried folding chairs, you might like to bring them – some will be available but there's room for lots on the decking.
3. If you do not have a car, a No.700 bus will stop nearby.



CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB

We knew that our choice of Jon Sopel's book, "If Only They Didn't Speak English" would be a challenge but undertook it as a means of stretching ourselves mentally, intellectually and linguistically. It certainly was no easy read. A worthwhile one? It certainly gave us plenty to think about and caused us great concern for the future – one thing it is not is optimistic.

Jon Sopel is the BBC North American Editor and has been since 2014. Therefore he has covered the 2016 election and subsequent presidency of Donald Trump. In this book he shatters many of our preconceptions about America, the American dream, the "special relationship" and the idea that "They are just like us" or are they? Or are we becoming just like them? Or are "they" an alien species/culture who just apparently speaks the same language?

The book covers quite clearly defined topics, "Guns", "God", "Anger", "Patriotism", "Truth" etc., with each topic being assigned a chapter of 45-50 pages approximately, so each is almost complete in itself for understanding. They are linked by his making constant references to the original constitution, its words, its intention and then showing how it has been amended, re-worded or re-interpreted. Quite fascinating reading.

An American will say for example that the freedom to bear arms is enshrined in the constitution and can't be changed, which its gun laws and the citizen's right to own guns is inviolable. BUT the original law has been changed or amended several times already. We are told that in America the Government, the Courts and the Church are all separate and cannot impinge, over-ride each other. The reality is somewhat different, especially when big business, money or political power struggles are involved.

The chapter on Anger, which was an underlying factor in the success of Donald Trump's presidential candidacy should perhaps have been read (and heeded) by the political parties here in the light of recent elections' results. It resonates, as do parts of other chapters.

We were fascinated and horrified at what, to us, was the extravagance of moving a President from A to B. It takes over 1,000 people to ensure that everything goes smoothly and that's not counting those who stay at home, behind the scenes. An armoured car that has to be taken apart flown to wherever and then reassembled plus the personnel involved, plus the

security, plus.... , contrasts somewhat with the Queen taking a train to Balmoral!

Mostly Jon Sopel manages to maintain a fairly factual tone and approach, with an occasional personal touch; however, there are moments when BBC political correctness/bias/agenda comes into play and grates somewhat.

A thought-provoking book, it is the final chapter, “Truth”, which is the most frightening and ominous, with warnings resounding from both sides of the Atlantic. George Orwell’s predictions in “1984” were not wrong!

CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

STRAWBERRY TEA

Saturday 22nd June

3.00 pm—5.00 pm

Tickets £4

145 Nevill Road

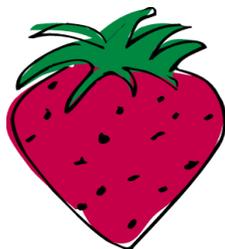
Wimbledon coverage available

ALL welcome

Bring your friends

Call Keren Tel: 01273 881348

or sign up on the board



FLOWER ROTA for JUNE

- 2nd Church Flowers
9th Hilary Houston & Andrea Irvine – in memory of their father
16th Available
23rd Reuben Sibanda
30th Available



FLOWER ROTA for JULY

- 7th Peter Gear – in memory of his mother
14th Joyce Magill – in memory of Joan Skitrall
21st Celia & Peter Elliott – in memory of Thierry & Kevin
28th Ann Austen

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This is key standard information, like telephone numbers - don't forget what you have to do if you are:

- (a) ...reproducing (by typing) song words (eg in notices, separate song sheets or for the overhead projector) you need to include at the foot of each song the following details:

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... and inform Chris Hill for the records. If you don't have some of the information, try Chris - he may be able to help!

- (b) ...photocopying words out of a book then you have to acknowledge at the foot of the photocopy the following details:

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CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HOVE

Corner of Ventnor Villas and Blatchington Road, Hove

Church Hall Telephone: 01273 734162

www.centralurchove.com

MINISTER

Rev. Sue Chapman

CHURCH SECRETARY

Mrs K. Hancox

TREASURER

Mr. C. Hill

COVENANT & FREEWILL OFFERING SECRETARY

Refer: Secretary/Treasurer

BUILDING HALL(S) HIRE

Mr Carl Jukes

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Mrs. R. Brice

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30 a.m.

MORNING WORSHIP

with Youth and Children's Ministry

6.30 p.m.

EVENING WORSHIP

HOLY COMMUNION

First Sunday of the month at 10.30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of the month at 6.30 p.m.