

150 Years of Worship and Outreach

Central United Reformed Church Hove



October + November 2020

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday Youth Ministry Mrs. A. Austen

Boys' Brigade Mr. C. Jukes
(Mondays)

Tuesday Fellowship Mr. S. Bates
(Alternate Tuesdays)

Men's Fellowship Mr. P. Gear
(Third Wednesday)

Bluebird Parent & under 3s Group Mrs K. Hancox

Church Web Site Mr John Brewster

Church Hall Tel: 01273 734162

Email: centralurchove@hotmail.co.uk



Dear Friends,

This edition of our Magazine encourages us to have faith, and not fear. We know what happens when we get anxious, worried or fearful, we lose our focus and clear thinking. Things seem out of shape and can feel overwhelming. It is a different story, when we are in a calmer state of mind. This is highlighted in the story from Matthew's Gospel 14 v 25 – 33 of Jesus walking on the water and the response of the distressed disciples.

The boat was in the water, some distance from land, buffeted and pushed around by waves and wind. Deep in the night, when Jesus had concluded His prayers, Jesus walked out on the water to His disciples in their boat. The disciples saw a figure moving toward them and were terrified. Disciple: It's a ghost! Another Disciple: A ghost? What will we do? Jesus: Be still. It is I. You have nothing to fear. Peter: Lord, if it is really You, then command me to meet You on the water. Jesus: Indeed, come. Peter stepped out of the boat onto the water and began walking toward Jesus. But when he remembered how strong the wind was, his courage caught in his throat and he began to sink. Peter: Master, save me! Immediately Jesus reached for Peter and caught him. Jesus: O you of little faith. Why did you doubt and dance back and forth between following Me and heeding fear? Then Jesus and Peter climbed in the boat together, and the wind became still. And the disciples worshiped Him. Truly You are the Son of God.

The disciples are shocked at Jesus' presence on the water. Their minds find it difficult to process what they see, Jesus on the water, but without a boat. Peter, spontaneous as usual, asks Jesus if he can try walking on the water himself. While he focuses on Jesus, Peter is able to achieve all that he wants to, just like Jesus is able to do. When he becomes distracted by the wind and waves his focus transfers to his fears and he asks Jesus to

save him, because he is sinking. Jesus immediately gives his hand to support Peter, and they get back into the boat. The other disciples breathe a sigh of relief and release as everyone is safe. The wind calms and everyone regains their composure. At this point, they acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God. This is the only response they can make to what has happened. Only God has power over creation. Everything has returned to normal, and the relationship between Jesus and his disciples has deepened. Jesus reminds them that their faith is required, in order for people to see the true example to follow.

In this time of lock-down and forced isolation, we have experienced fear or confusion about all manner of things that never bothered us before. We have also been surprised at the things that we have little patience for. Our connection to God has become increasingly important. Just as Peter puts his trust in Jesus, we have relied on our loving God to sustain and care for us. We have to take God at God's word, *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38 – 39.*

We have lived through unprecedented times, during the last 6 months. We have had to rely on the support of people; friends, family and even strangers for their compassion and care. We have also renewed our faith in God and have been surprised at the small things that have made us smile, and felt loved. Don't let fear flood your minds and hearts, as you, slowly, immerse into a new normal world, but trust in God and keep your focus on Jesus, who loves each of us unconditionally. It is with this reassurance, we can face an uncertain future, with confidence and grace.

May God bless you and your family,

Sue X

FAMILY NEWS FROM CENTRAL

At last, the number 13 ceased to be unlucky, when the church building reopened on Sunday 13th September, for a morning service. A lot of preparatory work had gone into insuring that all was as safe as possible and we are indebted to all those who socially distanced chairs, laid arrows, ordered hand wash, etc., and, of course prayed that it might take place.

We realised that not everyone felt able to come to the service but we knew they were holding us in their hearts and prayers as, indeed, they were in ours. It was not our usual service in that we were not permitted to sing, although everyone was wearing face masks, and we could not meet for coffee/tea afterwards. BUT it was just so good to be with friends, absorbing the peace of the sanctuary, uniting in prayer and praise in a way that no computer can quite replicate.

With the current state of uncertainty and tightening of the government's regulations, we can only hope that we may continue to meet and worship together relying on the promises, " I AM with you always," "I AM here. Do not be afraid."

The Boys' Brigade are still advised not to meet but are keeping in touch via Zoom Meetings and are also planning to hold Parade Services via Zoom on the following dates 28th September, 19th October and 23rd November at 7.00 p.m. All friends and parents will be invited to join them and we hope you will too, if you have access to a computer. Please use this way of showing your support to the Company during this difficult period.

Peter Gear has endured several very painful weeks before finally being admitted to hospital. Happily he has been able to return to his home, and, although not free from pain, especially around his ear, is obeying orders and making a steady if slow recovery. He is now able to eat proper food and is hoping to regain some of the 30+ lbs he lost. Weight Watchers is a lot easier way to diet, Peter!

Charlie Steel has had a mini-stroke and is having an enforced rest (enforced and ensured by his daughters).

We pray that Peter G and Charlie, along with all our friends who are suffering ill health or pain, awaiting hospital appointments or results, may be strengthened and comforted with the knowledge that they remain in our hearts and prayers.

Congratulations and very best wishes to **Ann Austen**, who will celebrate her BIG 0 birthday on 5th October, when she reaches 70. We wish her a very Happy Birthday, along with Chris and Charlie Hill, who also have birthdays on that date. God bless all three of you.

STOP PRESS! We have just learned that **Sue and Raymond Tongue** have become grandparents again. Baby **Arti** was born on 20th September, weighing in at 8lbs 4ozs. Congratulations and heartfelt prayers that God will bless him, his big brother Rowan, his parents and all the family circle.

Fellowship of Prayer:

Wendy Blackburn, Betty Briggs, Charlie Steel, Mary Cochrane, Celia and Peter Elliott, Molly Fraser, Dorothy Gale, Pam Macaulay, Gladys Moore, Gift Mubanga, Willi and Agit Ghoshal, Reuben & Tebello Sibanda, June Whittle and Ruth Scott.

BIBLE QUIZ

Women in the Old Testament

1. What does "Eve" mean? (Genesis 3:20)
2. Looking for a wife for Isaac, Abraham's servant found ? (Genesis 24:67)
3. David's original wife was ? (1 Samuel 18:26)
4. This woman rumoured that Joseph tried to commit adultery with her? (Genesis 39:14)
5. This harlot housed spies sent by Joshua to take the city of Jericho? (Joshua 2:1)
6. This woman married Moses? (Exodus 2:21)
7. This brave Israelite woman became Queen of Persia and used her influence to protect her people, the Jews? (Esther 7:3)
8. This woman gave birth to Moses? (Exodus 6:20)
9. This Egyptian woman was Sarah's handmaiden and bore Ishmael through Abraham? (Genesis 16:15)
10. This wicked queen wanted to kill the prophet Elijah? (1 Kings 19:2)

PRAYER

changes everything.

Prayers Matter

14 Is anyone sick? He should call for the people of the church and they should pray over them and pour a little oil upon them, calling on the Lord to heal them. 15 And their prayer, if offered in faith, will heal them, for the Lord will make them well. James 5:14-15

There are a few people in our church family who, currently, have health issues, which need our prayers to help them to face what is troubling them. As this publication is put on our website, and is available widely, to people we do not know, a separate list of people will be given in addition to this magazine. This is to replace the list we had on the back of our order of service. If you get a service posted to you, you will get the list in the post. Please would you pray for them regularly, using the following prayer, if you find it helpful.

First, focus on the greatness of God and the ability to enter in all situations. Read or remember something about God's compassion. *God of healing we pray for our friend (name). We know that they are struggling with health issues and ask you to help. Surround them with your love and heal them in body, mind and spirit, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who had compassion and healed all those who came to him. Give them your strength to face every day. Amen.*

Also, if you know anyone who needs prayers, for any reason, please would you let Rev Sue 01273 381853, or Jinny 01273 509912 know. We also have a weekly prayer meeting, currently on Zoom, on Thursday's at 9 am if you would like an invitation, and your prayer requests will be prayed for there too.

Each of us can pray for people, and sometime that is all we can do. I am sure those who you pray for will be blessed.

Sue

CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB

This article was written for the last newsletter's book review page but, unfortunately, it got misdirected on the internet. Don't ask! Just enjoy this suggestion from peter Elliott.

For a good, light, holiday read or stopathon chill out, I can heartily recommend Bill Bryson's travelogues of Europe, NEITHER HERE NOR THERE.

Whether braving the homicidal motorists of Paris, trying to attract the attention of a surly waiter, being robbed by gypsies in Florence, attempting *not* to order tripe and eyeballs in Germany or window shopping in the Reepersbahn, Bryson takes in the sights, dissects the culture and illuminates each place with his hilariously caustic observations.

P.E



WE'RE BACK!



Open for HIS business



CHURCH CALENDAR

OCTOBER

SUN 4	Family Service Roger French	10.30 am
	Evening Worship – THE JUNCTION Zoom Meeting	6.30 pm
SUN 11	Family Service Rev Peter Elliott	10.30 am
SUN 18	Family Service Led by the Elders	10.30 am
Mon 19	BB Zoom Church Parade Service (Please join us)	7.00 pm
SUN 25	Family Service - Holy Communion Rev Sue Chapman	10.30 am

PLEASE NOTE: All these are planned in accordance with the current rules and restrictions of the Covid 19 crisis and may change at short notice. Hopefully, Services may be seen on Zoom, as usual, and so can The Junction.

** In place of our usual Christmas Fair, it is hoped that we may be able to hold a Christmas Event on **Saturday 28th November**. A final decision on its feasibility will be made at the end of October. In the meantime, please note this date in your diaries – and hope!*



All dates and times given in the calendar 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.

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.

All contributions for the December – January edition of the magazine should be handed in no later than **SUNDAY 22nd November 2020**.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Well friends, it was good to finally see some of you face to face on the 13th although it's been fantastic to meet via zoom over the last couple of months.

As frustrating as Computers, phones and IT in general can be to use, I think we can all agree that Lockdown has brought out the best in IT for us. I can say from a work basis, I have been very fortunate that my company issued me with a laptop and phone to allow me to work from home since March.

From the start of lockdown back in March I felt I wanted to ensure that although we couldn't meet in person we still had a place to worship online. Thank Goodness for the medium of Facebook, where I was able to create a page for us to view readings, prayers and even music. The page took off better than I could have imagined. Although originally just for the pastorate, this quickly evolved into covering all the URC in Brighton and Hove. Friends from home and away quickly followed. Friends who come regularly, friends who come occasionally and some, who haven't been to church for while, all came together along with some who have been to our churches as visitors. So far 100 friends have joined the group to join us in worship

Through Facebook we have been able to post a daily prayer, readings, hymns and praise songs. Since Week 1, Sue has sent me a daily prayer to post and also each week an Order of Service which has been posted So far over 200 hymns and worship songs have been recorded from the comfort of my home, approximately 8 ½ hours of songs. All filmed crudely on my phone.

I've saved these all on to YouTube for future use. Please feel free to type CARL JUKES in the YouTube search box and view everything I have recorded so far.

We must also be grateful for Zoom! The website that allows multiple people to join in 1 location - this, the new normal for some to enjoy worship and to socialise with friends from each church. I know Zoom has helped others in other parts of church, Elders meetings, BB meetings and family chats have all helped us to keep in touch.

As difficult as Covid19 has been for us, personally, and as a church, I believe that with social media, YouTube and Zoom have allowed us to stay-one and allow us to continue praising God and these will only

continue to help us going forward.

Thank you for your likes and comments with all my recordings!!!

Carl

BLESSINGS ABOUND



Sue Tongue and Arti

Harvest Thanksgiving



GO FORTH IN FAITH NOT FEAR

Lord, when Peter walked on the water towards you, so long as he kept his eyes fixed on your presence, he was fine. But when he turned to look at the size of the waves, he began to sink.

As we look at the size of the problems and opportunities around us, help us to fix our eyes upon you. May your Holy Spirit penetrate our lives through and through, enter the hidden places of our souls, deal with our hidden weaknesses, heal the old wounds upon our emotions and fill us with new life.

Come Holy Spirit into our worship and meetings, shake us and remake us and fill us with such joy that folks may think we are drunk. May there be a revival in the whole life of our congregation; may there be signs and wonders in our midst.

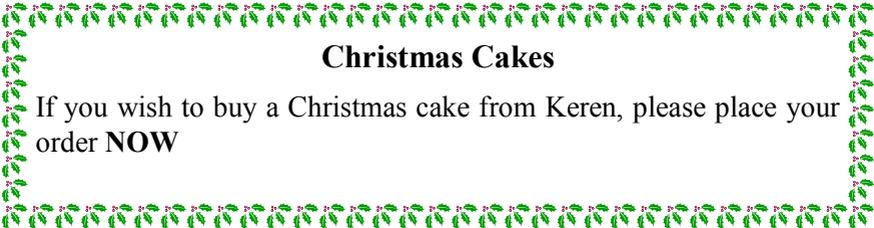
May our members be filled with new love and power.

May our organisations be filled with new love and fellowship.

And what we seek for ourselves we seek for every Christian congregation, as we all

Go forth in Faith not fear.

PE



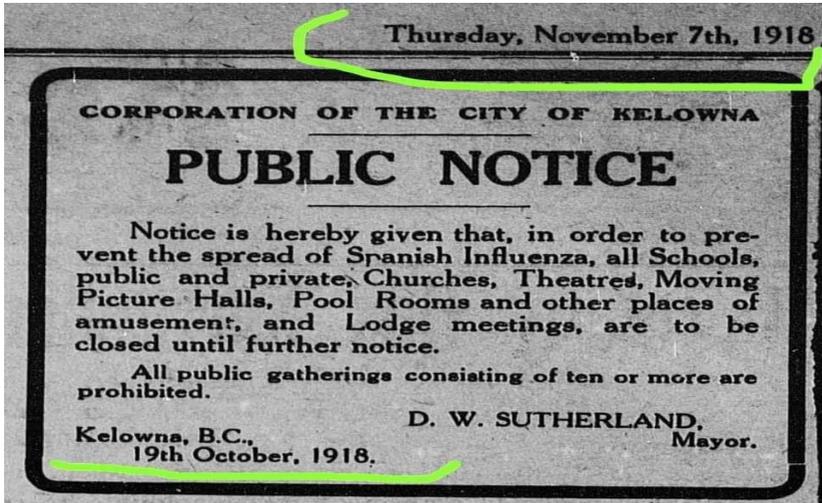
Christmas Cakes

If you wish to buy a Christmas cake from Keren, please place your order **NOW**

Women in the Old Testament Quiz Answers

1 mother of all living, 2 Rebekah, 3 Michal, 4 Potiphar's wife, 5 Rahab, 6 Zipporah, 7 Esther, 8 Zochebed, 9 Hagar, 10 Jezebel

ECCLESIASTES 3 v 1.



There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the sun.

This prayer was sent to the Newsletter of my church in Belfast by Elizabeth McAlister , who learned it by heart over 60 years ago/

The prayer hung on the wall of the Nursing Administration Office in Royal Victoria Hospital.

THE NURSE'S PRAYER

Because the day that stretches out for me,
Is full of busy hours, I come to thee
To ask thee Lord that thou wilt see me through
The many things that I may have to do.

Help me to make the beds the smoothest way,
Help me to make more tempting every tray,
Help me to sense when pain must have relief ,
Help me to deal with those borne down by grief.

Help me to bring to every patient's room
The light of life to brighten up the gloom.
Help me to bring to every soul in fear
The sure and steadfast thought that You are near.

Help me to give to every soul in fear
The true any steadfast thought that You are near.
Help me to live throughout this livelong day
As one who loves Thee well dear Lord I pray.

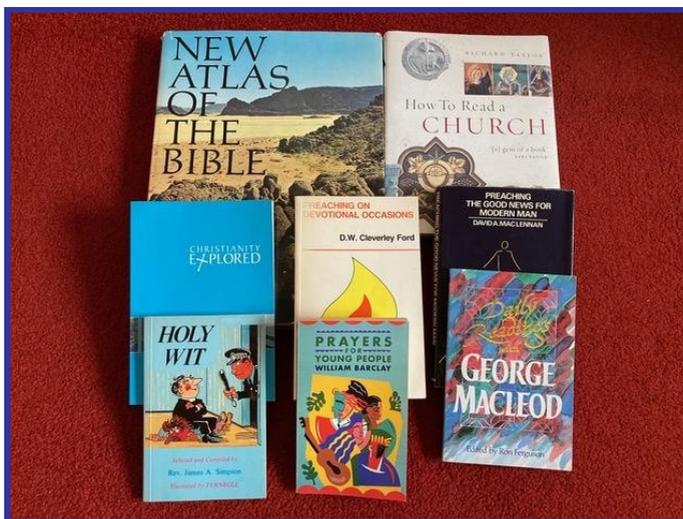
And when the day is o'er and evening stars
Shine through the dark above the sunset bars
When weary quite I come to seek my rest
Lord may I truly know I've done my best.



My father, Alasdair Macaulay, never liked to throw anything away, particularly books. Whilst sorting through his bookcase recently we found many books on The Bible, Prayers, Preaching & Readings. If anyone would like these books or to have a browse of what is there, please let me know. There is also a selection of Scottish Books (as you might expect) so again if you are interested just let me know on 07941 169303.

Thank you

Fiona Beacham



Revelation 3 Verse 10. "Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on earth."

CENTRAL'S COPYRIGHT LICENCES

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:

Author, © year ©owner, CCL licence number 12011

... 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:

Photocopied by permission. MRL Licence No. 806540

No further action required for photocopying

CALENDARS & DIARIES

Calendars and Diaries for 2021 are now available for purchase from Keren Hancox. (tel: 01273 881348)

Calendar + pen £2.00

Diary + pen £2.50

All profit goes to church funds

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

ORGANIST & CHOIR MASTER

Vacant

BUILDING HALL(S) HIRE

Mr . C. Hill

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.