

The wave—for 10-16 year olds on Sunday morning held in the tower for Bible study and life application

Children's Church—for 4-10 year olds on Sunday morning held in the welcome centre for adventure and exploring the Bible

Crèche - for 0-4 year olds on Sunday morning in the lounge for play. Parents are welcome to use this space and the space at the back of church for their children if needed.



There are still a few Burmese craft items at the back of church. Thank you so much to everyone who has bought some or donated money. We will be sending off a nice sum to Mary Bolster who is on leave at the moment in this country. She will then take the money back with her when she returns to Burma to use to meet some of enormous social needs she deals with.

This week

Monday Rosebank 2p.m. and Jasmine Court 3.15 nursing homes

Wednesday Prayer and Praise @ the Vicarage 7.30p.m.

7p.m. Alpha 5 at church, Alpha away day next Saturday 3rd Nov.

Thursday There is no Communion or lunch club this week

looking ahead.....

11th Nov is Remembrance Sunday when there will be a united service at 10.30

Last year a good number of us enjoyed the discipline during Advent (Advent Sunday is December 2nd) of coming to church regularly each evening for a service of Compline. The short 20—30 minute service consists of prayers, readings and reflections in a quiet prayerful atmosphere. Huw Thomas is compiling a rota to see if there is sufficient interest this year. Particularly important are key-holders. Offers to Huw.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically each week please email Philip on Ireson61@gmail.com or alternatively download it from christchurchpitsmoor.com



Christ Church Pitsmoor

Sunday
28th October

Christian community for all nations

Welcome to Christ Church

Vicar: Rev. Philip Ireson **Tel:** 2727756 or 07882027473

Curate: Rev Hannah Jackson **Youth worker :** Anthony Stevens

Website: christchurchpitsmoor.com

Facebook: Christ Church Pitsmoor **Twitter:** @ccpitsmoor

Office: 2757240 Administrator: Maureen Fischer Mon, Wed, Thurs, (AM)



The **ASSIST AGM** took place on Thursday evening at the Church Army College. We partner with ASSIST to run the Night Shelter for destitute asylum seekers who would otherwise have nowhere to sleep. It is amongst the most important pieces of work which the church does. The photo shows Souleymane speaking at the AGM. He has been co-ordinator at the night shelter and has made sure that everything runs smoothly. He told a packed room about his extraordinary story which illustrates the vital nature of the work. Originally brought up in Guinea in West Africa he had to flee to neighbouring Mali to find safety with relatives. Forced to flee again he ended up at Heathrow on his way to the USA. He was refused permission to

Continued overleaf

Please pass this newsletter on when you have read it

UPDATE

Kate Thomas has continued to pick olives through the past week, but with a let up this weekend as everyone celebrated Eid. They have had a relatively peaceful time, though aware of the tensions around and how challenging life is for their hosts. Eid involved a trip to the Roman ruins of Sebastia and a party. The days are long, picking through from 7.30 with a half hour at lunch time.

Deacon Dave has flown out to Hebron to spend two months with Arwa's family.

Hannah and I had quite an adventure on Thursday accompanying 31 Y4 children down to a performance of the Secret Garden at Montgomery Hall. Passengers on the 47 bus had their peaceful journey disturbed as the children piled upstairs. It was a great opportunity to chat with the children, many of whom had been involved in the anti-bullying drama groups last term. We all thoroughly enjoyed a performance geared to young people. At the end when Colin finally walked into his father's arms the children cheered! After a Question and answer session with the Cast, we had our sandwiches in the Winter Gardens before crowding onto a

We are now Church Partners with CLC bookshop. This means that if you order any books through church we will receive commission that we can put towards church resources. Look out for information about CLC services and publications on the church notice boards. Also for new items on the bookstall which we shall be able to set up on a sale or return basis. There are also a number of second hand books on the bookstall. Please see Charlie McQuaid, Frances, Maureen or one of the church leaders if you would like to read one. If you could donate (e.g £1) to the bookstall that would also help us to raise funds for resources. Even better, return it to be 're-sold' and help us save even more!

A POLITE NOTICE! The kitchen and office have been tidied! Now Maureen and the cleaning team are set to start clearing out items left in the cleaning cupboard and vestry. There is also a lost property box on the welcome table. Any unclaimed items (including those that were left in kitchen) will be taken to Rainbows End or binned in the next two weeks. So please collect anything you think you have left in the past few months or years!)

Volunteers needed

We need some more people to help with Refreshments — are you able to help?? If so please talk to Frances Ireson or email Maureen at office @ christchurchpitsmoor.com

continue his journey and he found himself destitute with no English in a country where he had no relatives or contacts. He was moved around by various agencies whilst he attempted to apply for asylum. Eventually he came to Sheffield where he turned to ASSIST for help. He came and stayed at the night shelter and eventually was housed. He began to learn English. Seven years on he has just been granted UK citizenship, speaks perfect English, has the most amazing smile and welcoming personality and is a central figure in the work of ASSIST.

As a church our fellowship with destitute asylum seekers has been a huge gift. It reminds us that we are a world-wide church. At the AGM the panel consisted of Peter, a Christian from Uganda, it was chaired by Robert from Eritrea, next to Sulemane sat a Christian lady from Zimbabwe and next to her a Christian journalist from Iran. In Psalm 107, which we are studying, it says "Let the redeemed of the Lord give thanks for he has gathered them from the east, west, north and south".

ASSIST is a mainly volunteer run organisation with just 1 1/2 paid workers. They work out of the Central Methodist church. Last year it helped 188 destitute asylum seekers. The impression has been that with new asylum rules the need for help for those who have had their appeals turned down would diminish. This has not proved the case. However the grants available to ASSIST are drying up and their finances are under pressure. Sadly they have had to cut the weekly grants they pay to their clients from £20 to £15, this is to people who receive no government help. ASSIST are appealing for more supporters. If you felt able to become a supporter then please pick up a leaflet from the back of church. **PS Many thanks to a brilliant donation of food from Ecclesall parish church for the night shelter.**

Alpha: continues well. Great to see so many, but it costs quite a bit to feed the 30-35 people who are now coming (inc leaders). So we have put out a green plastic box so that those who can afford to may help us cover the costs of food and course booklets. It would be lovely if church members feel they could support the course with an offer of food, drinks or money. Thank you!

Many thanks to the Foundation parents and children from Pye Bank for the donation of harvest gifts of food. We value this very much as we have a regular number of needy callers at the Vicarage