

This week at Christ Church

Sunday 27th

6.30pm Evening Service at Christ Church

Wednesday

9.30am Toddler Group @ The Welcome Centre

7.30pm Prayer and Praise at the Vicarage

Thursday

9.45am Holy Communion followed by Lunch Club

Sunday June 3rd

9.30a.m. Holy Communion

11a.m. All Age service

6.30pm Evening Service at St. Peters

A Good News story: Emmaus Messy Church has been growing steadily since it was launched in October 2009. It meets in a local school on the Wybourn Estate and features crafts, games, worship and a full cooked meal. Church Army Evangelist Clynt French and his wife Joy lead the Messy Church team and have been pleased to see it flourish as parents, grandparents and children from the area join the church community. Emmaus Messy Church meets once a month on a Thursday afternoon and, as the community has grown from 40 to around 70 regular attenders, they have also started a monthly Sunday service for those who want to explore discipleship more deeply. "Church @ Emmaus" was launched in October last year and has seen around 30 people regularly come along. The service also uses a mixture of crafts and creativity to explore faith together, but there is also a greater emphasis on sung worship and teaching. A number of the families attending have also attended nurture courses such as Alpha and Start. Joy commented: 'We have been excited to see Messy Church families baptising their children, asking lots of questions as they explore faith, and seeing prayers answered.'

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



Christ Church Pitsmoor

Sunday 27th
May
2012

Christian community for all nations

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Welcome to our united Pentecost service. The service is also special today as we are having the baptism of Ali Mohamedi. Ali comes from Afghanistan and it has been a real joy to get to know him through Rainbow's End where he is a volunteer. Recently Ali has joined the youth Alpha course.

Pentecost has sometimes been described as the birthday of the Church when the Holy Spirit fell with great power on the first disciples. Just a few weeks before Pentecost they had run away when Jesus was arrested but now they stood with great boldness in front of an audience of thousands in Jerusalem. People from every nation heard them speaking about Jesus in their own language, a foretaste of how the Good News would spread throughout the world. Today, as we meet in peace in Pitsmoor we remember the suffering church particularly in Syria and South Sudan.

Please pass this newsletter on when you have read it

Maureen is working in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday this week 10—2p.m.

Abbeyfield Park Festival nearly didn't happen this year but the Rock Christian Fellowship have stepped in massively to underpin the event. It is going to be on Sunday July 8th 2–6p.m. It would be great if we could offer some volunteer help. RCF are mobilising 80 volunteers! Jobs include the usual setting up, stewarding, clearing up.

I wrote a while ago about a little initiative I am doing at Pye Bank School with 15 Y3 pupils. Together we have written three short **anti-bullying plays**. One is about a new boy who is bullied, another about some friends who fall out over a misunderstanding, the third is about bullying by text message. The children have worked very hard and we will be presenting the plays over the next few weeks. Bishop Peter is coming on June 25th and David Blunkett MP in July. I'll give you advanced warning and it would be great to have a few Christ Church folk at the performances.

We attended an excellent day called "Beyond the lunch Club". Many thanks for June and the team for running lunch club in church while we were on the course. We were reminded of how the population is ageing and how many people live alone. I was challenged to think how we can respond better as a church to working and valuing older people. We heard stories from older Christians who talked about how their faith deepened as they got older, it made humbling listening. We also thought about how we can develop our work with Care Homes in the parish.

Yesterday we met up at the Vicarage for the first part of our **youth worker interviews**. Two candidates firstly took a small group of young people for an observed activity. In the afternoon they were interviewed formally. In between here was a chance to chat informally and to take a walk around the parish and see the house on Rising Street. Many thanks to Richard, Morgan, Hannah, Frances and Jane for giving up their Saturday and to Lionel for showing the candidates around the house. Also a big 'thank you to our young people, Robert, Jess, Rhona, and Roxanna for giving up their time to meet and work with the candidates. We have a further meeting with a third candidate on Tuesday. Please continue in prayer for this process as we make a decision on Tuesday evening.

John Hayes and Philip were out at Stocksbridge Christian Centre for Deanery Synod. The main item was a visit from two members of Rotherham Deanery who came to talk about clustering. Set against the backdrop of reducing clergy numbers (they are reducing from 20 posts to 15.5) they set out four years ago to see how parishes could share resources and still be a strong presence. Peter Rainford from Kimberworth Park said that it had been a process which had drawn parishes together and had had a positive impact on parish life and mission. Similar clustering is happening informally in this deanery. Today our preacher is Reverend Ally Dorey who is working with the North Sheffield Estate churches to develop working together in mission.

Hannah's pre-ordination training has been based at St. Mellitus College in London. From the past three years she has been travelling down each week in term-time to study. She has had a her third year placement with us prior to ordination on July 1st. This non-residential training is very different from the residential training at St. John's Nottingham which I went through in the 80s. On Monday I am going to London to see St. Mellitus in action. (Quiz question where in the Bible will you find Mellitus?)

We are rapidly approaching the Diamond Jubilee garden party on 4th June 2–4p.m. We need more offers of help, so there will be a clip-board coming round. Even if you are not able to be there you can donate raffle prizes or make a cake, or donate plants for the plant stall. Please contribute in some way. We are raising money for Angela's trip to Venezuela next year and also for start up money for Welcome Centre refurbishment plans. There is also publicity to distribute

Just to report that Parent and Toddler group is thriving and growing in numbers, a big 'thank you' to Frances and her team of helpers.