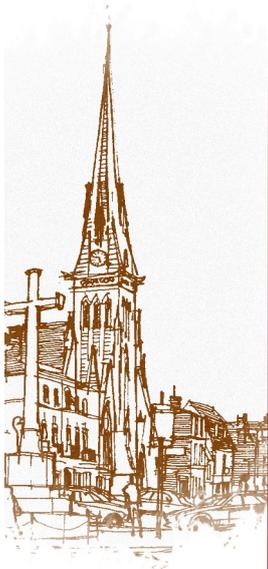


June 2018

inspire



THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE FREE CHURCH
(UNITED REFORMED)
SAINT IVES

View from the Manse



The royal wedding was an amazing event showing that the monarchy, at the heart of the British establishment, is changing. It was a wonderful tribute to inclusion, with an orthodox Coptic taking part, a mix of male and female leading the service and ethnic diversity and also to changes in styles of worship. As well as traditional format, the wedding included modern touches. The preacher, from America, was passionate and joyful as he spoke about 'the power of love' and the music included a gospel choir singing 'Stand by me'. I was impressed that the liturgy seemed to include words from the URC, asking the congregation as well as the family members to support the couple. And perhaps the most wonderful thing of all was that it blended together to be meaningful as a Christian service showing Christian beliefs and values still relevant today.

In a book about church in our contemporary society I read words that were a great challenge to me. It said,

Spirituality - in diverse shapes and forms – is back in vogue; but most churches are struggling to connect with this. The complaint within youth culture is no longer that the church is boring, but that it is not spiritual enough!

Stuart Murray, *Hope from the margins: new ways of being church* (Grove Books, 2000)

Cont'd over..

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Deadline for the next Inspire is Sunday 17th June.

Publication date is Sunday 1st July

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Copy preferably by email please to
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View from the Manse cont'd.....

We acknowledge that our society is changing and that our worship needs to keep up with people's changes in attitudes and expectations. At St Ives Free Church we seek to do so in different ways: using a digital projector with Powerpoint presentations and video clips because people are used to visual images with TV and computers. On the last Sunday of the month we have café style worship, using a less formal, more interactive style of worship, refreshments throughout and craft and discussion because many people feel more comfortable in a less formal setting. We use some modern, as well as traditional, music to appeal to different generations' preferences. On special services such as our Maundy Thursday evening service, we have alternative style worship where people can move to different parts of our buildings and read, pray, move and take part in symbolic actions so they may have opportunity to take part in worship personally.

But as well as doing new things, we find that we can also rediscover ancient practices that can be renewed for today. I believe that our service of Holy Communion, the special sharing of bread and wine in remembrance of Christ, is one such treasure of the church.

As we enjoy the warmth of the summer months let us be proud to be Christians with the heritage of our faith, going back 2,000 years plus, and be ready to live it out in an authentic way showing God's love, mercy and grace as needed and relevant today as in the past.

Catherine**Christian Aid Quiz**

At the start of Christian Aid week we enjoyed a Quiz evening run by Josh. We enjoyed fellowship, intellectual challenge and L.O.A.F. refreshments, all washed down by beverages of our choice. It was surprising how much some people knew about stations on the London Underground! The closely fought contest even ended in a tie-breaker!

The speaker in the interval was local Christian Aid employee Pamela Richardson. She spoke eloquently about the work of Christian Aid in Haiti in the aftermath of both earthquake and hurricanes.



**Local
Organic
Animal Friendly
Fairtrade**



A Fond Farewell to Josh Thomas and Family

It is always a joy and privilege to have an ordinand from Westminster with us as the final part of their training. This past nine months we have been especially blessed by having Josh with us, together with Hannah and Isla. His last service in St Ives was on 20th May at which he was presented with a gift plus some balloons which Isla immediately took charge of! We sincerely hope they will all be very happy in their new home in Petersfield.



***Josh, we wish you every blessing in your future ministry.
We will miss you all greatly and thank you for all you have
given us!***

An Idea for Summer from your Church Eco-Group.....

Can you do something wild every day throughout June? That's 30 simple, fun and exciting Random Acts of Wildness.

The Wildlife Trust is giving you a free pack of goodies to help you plan your wild month, plus lots of ideas from your Wildlife Trust to inspire you to stay wild all throughout June (and beyond!). You will also get inspiring emails from your Wildlife Trust, invitations to exclusive events and a chance to join in on social media.



To get your "30 Days Wild" pack, which includes a wallchart, an interactive booklet and some stickers to help you go wild, go to www.wildlifetrusts.org and sign up for "30 Days Wild".



Hazel writes, "The attached article is a reproduction of a basis for prayer and discussion used at an 'Away Day' I attended.

We so often allow our thoughts to glide over familiar scriptures like the Lord's Prayer and 23rd Psalm. To occasionally pause and give time and effort to consider deeper truths can be a great blessing.

We were directed to take time to consider each sentence, then create a personal response. To bring the text alive and relevant to our every day life and situation.

Time to think and pray as we meditated on the living Word".

The Lord's Prayer Matthew Ch 6 v 9-13

Our Father in heaven

Thank you for the relationship I have with you

Hallowed be your name

You are always to be honoured and respected

Your kingdom come

Show me your perspective on things

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Not my will but yours, Lord

Give us today our daily bread

Provide for my needs rather than my wants

Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors

Help me to forgive so that I can receive forgiveness

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one

Protect me Lord

For yours is the Kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever

You are my all in all, always.

Amen

From the Church Secretary

I like to spend time in the garden in the summer. With each new day, I am aware of new growth and buds. It seems to make the graft of tending and maintaining worthwhile. As you walk around our church you may become aware of new changes there also.

From 8th May the 'Tuesday Meditations' led by John Williams have reappeared at 2.30pm. All are welcome, and they are held at Fenstanton church. These offer time for refreshment and contemplation. 10th June also is our joint evening service at 6pm with Fenstanton.



We welcome Helen Yates to the vacant Tookey's caterer/cook post. The May snack bars were popular this year as usual, and there has been a high demand for our cooked foods during the year. We welcome the new appointment.

Mindful of health and safety, an evacuation chair has been installed in the church and 11 people have been trained so far in its use. The chair can glide down the stairs with the help of one person, and has been bought as part of our church fire safety self-assessment.

Our new caretaker has been diligently rationalising the internal keys in the building and to improve on security will be changing the lock of the main side door in the church. We will be issuing new keys to those who need a side door key before the end of July 2018.

Our ordinand has been helping a small team to work through our computing needs and how we communicate. Last month saw a tremendous response to our GDPR letter, which means we can update how we communicate with members, adherents and volunteers. We chose an 'opt in' process and will communicate as allowed by post, email, phone and mobile phone.

Our thanks to Helen Ackroyd who continues to prepare the preaching plans, which are complete for this year, and to Irene McCormick who works tirelessly to help us with Sunday morning duty rosters and supervision of our office staff. Sindy Surtees and Mavis Williams continue as our contacts for the staff in Tookeys, as they are available.

Our minister, through the Cambridgeshire Area Partnership, has organised training on safeguarding. This will be on 11th June at 7.15pm for 7.45pm at Sawston Free Church. Please let Catherine or me know if you can attend.

On 30th June there is the induction of Josh Thomas at Petersfield United Reformed Church in Hampshire. If there are sufficient numbers wanting to attend we can organise a bus to take us there and back for the service and tea that will be from 2pm to 5.30pm in Petersfield. Please let us know if you want to be on the bus, by letting the church office know.

We will soon be contacted to begin the LMMR (Local Mission & Ministry Review) of our church, when we will be asked to review our aspirations for our church community. Watch this space. New growth is expected.

Christine Macleod

Up-date from Sandy Nunn

Hello everyone from Amsterdam!

This will likely be my last update from The Netherlands as my time here is not far from over. With just over a month left of volunteering, things are beginning to wind down. The projects will all continue after I'm gone, save for one which will finish on the 12th June. Unfortunately the project in the Red Light District is being stopped as the demand for the food we make and sell has gone down and isn't cost effective for the organisation to run. Their presence within the area will diminish slightly but won't end completely and the bulk of their work getting trafficked and abused women out of prostitution, with the help of the police, will continue!

Naturally there will be things I'll miss about Amsterdam: the liberal and progressive attitude, bike lanes and more. However I certainly won't miss the health insurance aspect and I've never fully realised how much of a treasure the NHS is! I'll gladly give up the bike lanes for a system that isn't always looking for a reason not to pay out. But I'll miss the work I do and the people I work with; clients, volunteers and paid workers. One of the things I've admired and taken on board is that in many of the homeless projects the line between volunteer, client and employee is blurred. If someone has something to offer then the organisation can find a way to use that and make it work. I love that it actively enables clients to have a feeling of being useful and support the project that supports them in a situation where they can feel helpless. It changes the atmosphere from a sombre mood into a place where things happen and good times are had without forgetting about the fact that a good number of people there are sleeping rough.

So what's next? I'm unsure at this stage, unfortunately I missed the boat on getting to training college this September as being out of the country has delayed the process. I've applied for a few jobs in the Warwickshire area in the hopes of being nearer my girlfriend in Rugby as she saves for a Master's course in Music Therapy. As of now nothing is certain and I'll be going back to the Isle of Wight in early July for a little bit but I'm hoping to have something sorted soon. I'm a little apprehensive but confident in The Lord!

Hope you're all doing well in St Ives! Till we meet again.

Sandy

Who is the Mystery Writer?

Whilst sorting out some old papers recently, David Viles came across a copy of "Cambridgeshire Life" from October 1980, the month after the church re-opened after its transformation to the multi-use space we now occupy.

But, who was "J.B."?

If you have any ideas please do let David Viles or Stewart Denham know!

And does anyone feel able to put pen to paper and write a poem about the church now?

CAC

Upon the opening of the
FREE CHURCH CENTRE, ST. IVES

The outward shell, listed to be preserved
as monument built in a bygone age
has been renewed within to modern plan,
to make contemporary our Christian heritage.

In many forms God grants resurrection-
an inner transformation each age demands,
lest Truth is bound and powerless to serve
the changing needs of men, as He commands.

The witness of three centuries is hid
in walls, on history's page, in hearts enshrined,
the offering of God's gifts in Christian love -
witness by Gospel loyalty defined.

This new design for twentieth century needs
links us with God's first century plan,
when Christ the holy made folk whole again -
new sight, good news, and liberty for man.

In communal venture, Christ's mission stands.
The living Word inspires with promised power,
for care and compassion, where Time is touched
by th' Eternal to redeem the hour.

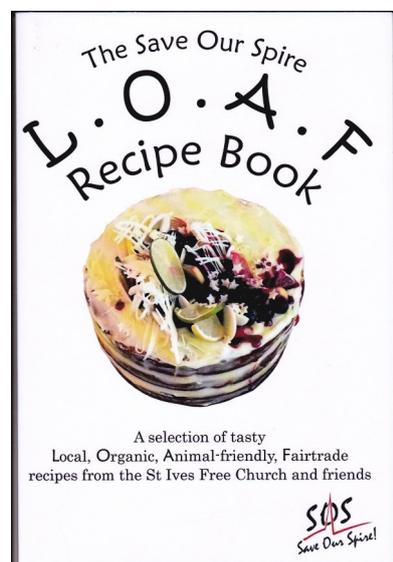
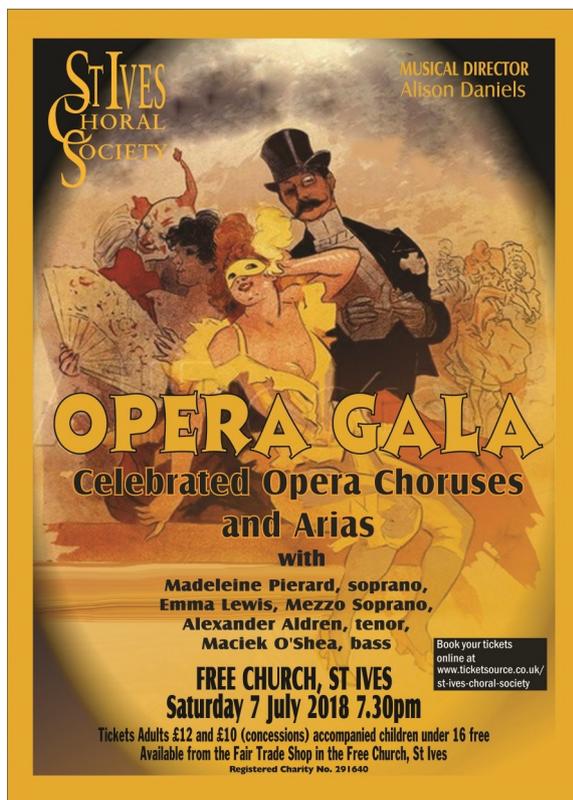
"J.B."

Church Activities

Wednes- days	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers Term time only
Tues 12th June	14:30	Meditation at Fenstanton
Wed 27th Jun	19:45	Poetry Group
Thu 28th Jun	13:00	SoS lunchtime concert - Phoenix Players

Community Activities

Mondays	10:00	CRUSE
Wednesdays	14:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thursdays	09:45	Sunny Steps
Sat 2nd Jun	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Wed 6th Jun	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 7th Jun	19:30	WI
Sun 10th Jun	14:00	Hemingford Ladies' Choir concert
Sat 16th Jun	19:30	Celebration concert: with the RAF Wyton Area Voluntary Band - presented by Hilton and Fenstanton Royal British Legion
Tue 19th Jun	10:00	Alzheimer's Support Drop-In Cafe
Wed 20th Jun	11:00	U3A Current Affairs



Originally produced as part of the Save Our Spire Appeal, this L.O.A.F. recipe book soon sold out.

Is there enough demand for a reprint?

If you would buy one will you please let Mavis Williams know on 463117 or sign the list on the landing table.

Closing date—31st July.

Contacts

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Open 9am - 1pm Monday to Friday

Room Bookings should be made through the Church Office

The Free Church is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Free Church Worship

Chapel Prayers

10am daily
Monday—Saturday



Sun 3rd Jun	11:00	Revd Roy Muttram Holy Communion
Sun 10th Jun	11:00	Christine Macleod
	18:00	Joint Service at Fenstanton URC Hilary Mottram
Sun 17th Jun	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sun 24th Jun	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Café Style Service
Sun 1st Jul	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Holy Communion

Fenstanton Worship

Sun 3rd Jun	09:30	Revd Derek Newton
Sun 10th Jun	09:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Holy Communion
Sun 10th Jun	18:00	Hilary Mottram Joint Service
Sun 17th Jun	09:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sun 24th Jun	09:30	Keith Cakebread
Sun 1st Jul	09:30	Revd Derek Newton