

...remembering Advent!

November 2016 contains two very significant days. Firstly, on Sunday November 13th it will be Remembrance Sunday. We will as always mark this in church on that day and will of course observe the two minutes silence. Just two weeks later we will celebrate Advent Sunday, which we will mark with the lighting of the first candle on our Advent wreath.

Are these two days which are unconnected, or is there something which connects them? You may have guessed that I think there is, or this article ends here! I want to suggest to you that both of them contain elements of both looking back and looking forward.

On Remembrance Day we look back and remember those who have given their lives in service. This may be in one of the World Wars, but equally it might be in another conflict. We give thanks for them. We also though need to look forward to what is hopefully a time of freedom, won by their efforts. As we do that though, we would have to say that although their lives were not given in vain, peace, as in the absence of war, looks a long way off at the moment as we look at the things currently happening.

On Advent Sunday we also look back as we begin to prepare to remember the coming of the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, in our Christmas celebrations. This too though is a time to look forward when we can anticipate the true peace that He came to bring. Peace with God, peace within and also peace with one another. Advent mirrors Remembrance in that we bring to mind one who came to give His life to serve others, One who chose to take the cross in sacrifice for our sins. However, Advent differs in that the peace it offers is sure and certain. Jesus' own words were 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid' (John 14 v 27).

I look forward to sharing these two very special Sundays with you.

...THOUGHT
FOR THE
MONTH

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the word for today

'You are a letter from Christ.'

2 Corinthians 3:3 NIV
(2011 Edition)

Source:
The Word for Today
United Christian
Broadcasters,
Westport Road,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF

Free issues of the daily
devotional are available for
the UK & Republic of Ireland.

try to see people as God sees them...

When you consider some of the people Jesus called to be His disciples, the word 'dysfunctional' comes to mind. But Jesus wasn't put off. Like finding treasure in the trash, He was able to see their potential, draw it out and develop it. And that's your story too, isn't it? Paul writes, 'You are a letter from Christ...written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God.' Other people don't write your story. Even you don't. 'The Spirit of the living God' is writing it. That means your best days are still ahead!

An old Bible lay on a bargain table along with hundreds of tattered books. A lot of people had picked it up and thumbed through its pages. It wasn't in very good shape - certainly not worth two pounds - so it was cast aside. Then a man picked it up, stifled a shout, and rushing to the counter he paid the paltry asking price. Turns out it was an original Gutenberg estimated to be worth more than a million pounds! How many times did that old book change hands before it was redeemed? How many times did the world cast it aside, unaware of its value?

The truth is, we were all passed over until Jesus saw value in us. But rather than paying bargain price, He paid the highest price possible. 'While we were still sinners, Christ died for us' (Romans 5:8 NIV 2011 Edition). So when you're having a bad day, look in the mirror and remind yourself, 'God loves me Calvary-worth!' Then go out and try to see others as treasures God couldn't live without; sinners Christ died to redeem.



church offerings

SUNDAY 25th SEPTEMBER..... £340.70

SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER..... £323.90

SUNDAY 9th OCTOBER..... £259.50

In addition to this, the sum of £1000 is paid direct into the bank each month. If you would like to give in this way, please see Richard Weekley.

The Thank Offering currently stands at £2064.00

Many thanks for your generous giving to God's work at High Street



missionary report

Kevin Deighton

Missionary
Secretary

Hello everybody, as this issue of inTouch goes to press we understand that Karen Baxter and her colleagues are still awaiting their visas so we would ask that you please continue to pray for them to be able to return to their work in Nepal.

We recently had the visit from Les Wade from Heartlink. I think the deluge just before the morning service stopped quite a few of our members attending. However, as promised, Les was informative, enjoyable, challenging and finally entertaining as he performed an unplanned unaccompanied solo at the end of the service. This impressed no less than Richard Weekley immensely! A big thank you to Les for his visit but more so for his continued faithful work at Heartlink. We gave Les a £50 donation from our funds.

The Harvest Festival raised gifts of £108.40 and so we made a gift of £150 to Water Aid. I will also be sending £50 to Operation Mobilisation (Les's former employer) together with the stamps you collect.

And finally, anyone who has yet to hand in their Missionary Boxes please do so ASAP.

That's all, folks!



the minister's school assemblies

(for your prayers please)

- TUESDAY 9th** – Denfield Park Primary School
- TUESDAY 15th** – Whitefriars Junior School
- WEDNESDAY 23rd** – Tennyson Road Infant School
- WEDNESDAY 23rd** – Alfred Street Junior School
- WEDNESDAY 30th** – South End Infant School



Christmas at High Street *(keep the dates free!)*

- SUNDAY 4th DECEMBER** – 10.45am **School Choir Service**
- SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER** – 10.45am **Nativity Service**
- SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER** – 4.00pm **Lessons & Carols followed by tea**
- SATURDAY 24th DECEMBER** – 4.00pm **Christingle Service**
- SUNDAY 25th DECEMBER** – 10.30am **Christmas Day Celebration!**



november 2016

weekday diary dates

TUES	1st	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	2nd	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	3rd	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
SAT	5th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	8th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	9th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		2.00pm	Service at Kilburn Place
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	10th	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Rev. Peter Norton
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
SAT	11th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	15th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	16th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	17th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
SAT	19th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	22nd	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.00pm	Officers & Trustees Meeting in the vestry
WEDS	23rd	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	24th	3.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – AGM & Members Afternoon
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
SAT	26th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
			Town Christmas lights switch-on, hall open all day
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TUES	29th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	30th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road



**...lest
we
forget**

During this month we remember those who have heroically given their lives in war. However, Jesus calls us all to a radical heroism: 'You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.' (Matt 5:43-45).

Love Your Enemies:

Our 'enemies' are not always life-threatening; they can simply be impatient, judgmental, self-righteous or just plain disagreeable! Whether the conflict is with a family or church member, work colleague or spiteful neighbour, our attitude toward them must be one of love. We will naturally want to retaliate, but Jesus commands us to love!

Pray for Your Persecutors:

It's only when we are ready to pray for someone we don't get on with, that God can soften our attitude towards them. Like us, they are those in need of God's forgiveness and grace. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German pastor executed by the Nazis at the end of World War 2, wrote:

'This is the supreme demand. Through the medium of prayer we go to our enemy, stand by his side, and plead for him to God. For if we pray for them, we are taking their distress and poverty, their guilt and perdition upon ourselves and pleading to God for them.'

In this season of Remembrance when we recognise that we all need heroes, what is the call to radical heroism in our own life?



**service
of light**

SUNDAY 6th NOVEMBER AT 4.00pm

Have you lost someone dear to you? It may have been fairly recently, it may have a while ago. Then this service is for you! Maybe you haven't but wonder how you will cope when it happens to you – then it's for you too!

There will be music and reflection, and the opportunity to light a candle in memory of someone. Followed by tea and cakes. Please do come and invite others too.

**services
at Kilburn
Place**

Usually on the second Wednesday of each month we hold a short service at Kilburn Place. We sing some well-known hymns, listen to a Bible reading and have a short thought based upon it. Sometimes others might read a poem or other inspirational article. Please would you have a think as to whether you might join us. All are welcome.

**Rushden
Food Bank**

Don't forget that we are still collecting tinned and packet goods for the Food Bank. Toiletries are also welcomed. Please leave them on the table at the back any Sunday morning. Thank you.



church birthdays this month

If you would like to be included please let Jeanette know and we'll endeavour to get a card to you on the Sunday nearest the date, it would be nice for us all to have the chance to wish one another all the best on our birthdays.

4th - **DICK WEEKLEY**
6th - **ELSIE KEECH**
8th - **JOYCE MOISEY**
17th - **LILY BLAKE**
17th - **MIA GIBBS**

17th - **KATH MOISEY**
23rd - **LIZZIE WEBB**
23rd - **EVA GIBBS**
24th - **CAROLINE FINDLAY-LINE**



flowers this month

The following people have offered to provide flowers. Many thanks to them and as always to Madge and Jill who arrange the rota and distribution of the flowers during the week

6th - Sheila Dunkley
13th - Vera Timpson *(for Betty Wilson)*
20th - Jill Waller *(for Dad)*
27th - Margaret O'Dell *(for Mum)*



Wes Quiz at Christmas

Last December, our PTC men's group organized a quiz in our hall; this was won by a team calling themselves "Shiny Shoes". It was decided to make this an annual event each Christmas-time and the second one will be held on Friday Dec 9th starting at 7.30pm.

So why not get a team (of up to six) together for this special evening? Hopefully there will be several teams from our church, plus maybe some from other local churches and the circuit. It would be great if one of our own teams gave "Shiny Shoes" a run for their money! However, be warned – they are very knowledgeable and will almost certainly be favourites to win again.

There will be individual trophies for the winners and their team name will be engraved on the Wes Quiz Champions' shield – which is on display in our hall kitchen.

Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available at half-time, and there is no admission charge so come and enjoy the fun!



Family Cinema Night organised by 'PTC'

will be on **Friday 2nd December**

when we will be showing **'The Polar Express'**

All are welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult.

Doors open at 6.00pm, film starts at 6.15pm.

Free drinks, sweets and popcorn!



puzzle page

A wordsearch with a local theme this month. Hidden are the names of 15 places to live in Rushden. To give you a clue, there are 3 avenues, 2 places, 4 roads, 1 street, 1 rise, 1 drive, 1 close, 1 way and 1 gardens. Hand your answers in before 26th November and you may win a small prize.



Answers to last time:

1. Moose; 2. Stingray; 3. Chicken; 4. Koi carp; 5. Swift; 6. Crane; 7. Crow;
8. Antelope; 9. Octopus; 10. Cheetah; 11. Tuna; 12. Hyena; 13. Mayfly;
14. Toucan; 15. Beetle; 16. Shark; 17. Kingfisher; 18. Donkey; 19. Koala; 20. Duck

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