

# IN touch

MAR  
2015

the monthly newsletter for Rushden High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

## ...fountain pens

...FROM  
THE  
MINISTER

When I was in working in business I was given a gift of an engraved fountain pen. Just before I moved here I lost it – I thought that I would probably find it during the move but, alas, it's still missing. A couple of years ago I was reading of the resurgence of the number of fountain pens sold so I asked for one for my birthday. I discovered that a 'Fountain Pen Appreciation Society' had been set up – however I haven't joined!

Although I don't go round all the time looking for illustrations – the fountain pen did give me a simple picture of what it means to be a Christian – let me share these things with you.

It has to be in the right hands. It is clear that you would not give it to a toddler – there was a time I read about when children took an 'ink test' – if they could write two paragraphs without smudging they were allowed to go on to ink – how quaint! Clearly, we need to be in a skilful hand – the hand of God speaks to us of certainty and security. Listen to what Jesus said 'My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no-one can snatch them out of my hand' (*John 10 v 27, 28*). We might lose pens – but God won't lose us!

It has to be continually filled. What a messy job that can be. But as Christians, we too need a constant filling – 'Be filled with the Spirit' (*Ephesians 5 v 18*). The Holy Spirit fills us to enable us to live as God would have us live – He comes alongside to give us strength for the journey; He's the Comforter, Encourager, Enabler. He also helps us to understand the Bible.

It has to be put to use. Many fountain pens, sadly, just remain in the box, never being used. As Christians, we need to be put to use. All of us have something we can do – you might not think it's very big – but it needs doing. The word to someone who needs encouragement, the helping hand, to telling someone about Jesus – all are important.

**Make sure you're in the right hands – God's**

**Make sure that if you are – you're being filled**

**Make sure you're being used!**

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## the word for today

'We are...  
the aroma  
of Christ'

2 Corinthians 2:15 (NIV)

## ...the scent of Christ

**'We are the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved, and those who are perishing. To one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life...'** (vv. 15-16 NIV). **When the Roman army won in battle, they paraded their defeated foes through the streets in chains. And as part of the celebration they burned incense on a series of altars throughout the city. That way those who couldn't see the procession knew the army had triumphed because they could smell the incense. The aroma was symbolic of their victory—and there's a lesson here for you. As followers of Christ we've been called to carry with us "... the aroma of the knowledge of Him..."** (v. 14 NIV).

Forget Estee Lauder and Chanel No. 5; your life should be so permeated with God's presence that people around you sense it. After all, you are the most compelling evidence that Jesus is alive and well in His children. In the great cathedrals of Europe you'll see beautiful stained glass windows portraying important events in the life of Christ. And while it's good to appreciate such craftsmanship, God doesn't need church windows to tell His story. He uses born-again, tuned-in, turned-on believers to do that. Have you ever noticed that the longer some husbands and wives live together, the more they begin to talk and act alike? It's the same with us: the more time we spend with Jesus, talking to Him, meditating on His Word and basking in His presence, the more people are going to ask, 'What's that scent you're wearing?'

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.



## church offerings

<b>SUNDAY 25th</b>	<b>JANUARY</b> .....	<b>£226.30</b>
<b>SUNDAY 1st</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b> .....	<b>£367.57</b>
<b>SUNDAY 8th</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b> .....	<b>£330.90</b>
<b>SUNDAY 15th</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b> .....	<b>£213.56</b>
<b>SUNDAY 22nd</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b> .....	<b>£325.50</b>

The figure paid direct to the bank currently stands at £895.00 per month. If you would like to give in this way, please see Richard Weekley. Many thanks.



## Easter activities

### WEDNESDAY 1st April

7.30pm Informal Communion at the Manse.  
This is for everyone –  
please join us if you can.

### GOOD FRIDAY 3rd April

10.30am Open-Air Service in the High Street  
2.00pm Family Craft Afternoon in the Hall

### EASTER DAY 5th April

8.30am Communion Service  
9.00am Breakfast (*approx. time*)  
10.45am Easter Morning Praise  
6.00pm Easter Day Reflections

### EASTER MONDAY 6th April

A walk in the afternoon – *details to follow*



## the minister's school assemblies

(for your prayers please)

WEDNESDAY 11th Alfred Street Junior School  
MONDAY 23rd South End Junior School  
WEDNESDAY 25th Tennyson Road Infant School

2  
ND  
SUNDAY

Don't miss this month's 2nd Sunday – 8th march

It's for people of all ages –  
from the youngest children to the more senior ones!

*With crafts, chat, sketches, videos, refreshments,  
a short talk and more. Please do think about giving it a try  
and invite others to come along too!*

2  
ND  
SUNDAY



# march 2015

## weekday diary dates

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<b>TUES</b>	<b>3rd</b>	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
<b>WEDS</b>	<b>4th</b>	9.15am	Jelly babes Toddler Group
		12.00 noon	Lent Lunch at St Mary's Church
		7.30pm	Home Group at the Manse
<b>THURS</b>	<b>5th</b>	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-not Youth Club
<b>SAT</b>	<b>7th</b>	10.00am	Coffee Morning
		10.00am	Circuit Prayer Morning at the Mission Church
<b>TUES</b>	<b>10th</b>	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
<b>WEDS</b>	<b>11th</b>	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		12.00 noon	Lent Lunch at St Mary's Church
		2.00pm	Service at Kilburn Place – All welcome
		7.30pm	Home Group at the Manse
<b>THURS</b>	<b>12th</b>	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Easter Craft
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
<b>SAT</b>	<b>14th</b>	9.00am	Leaders Morning at the Mission Church
		10.00am	Coffee Morning
<b>TUES</b>	<b>17th</b>	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 11 Kilburn Place
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.30pm	Church Members Meeting
<b>WEDS</b>	<b>18th</b>	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		12.00 noon	Lent Lunch at St Mary's Church
		7.30pm	Home Group at the Manse
<b>THURS</b>	<b>19th</b>	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
<b>SAT</b>	<b>21st</b>	10.00am	Coffee Morning
<b>TUES</b>	<b>24th</b>	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
<b>WEDS</b>	<b>25th</b>	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		12.00 noon	Lent Lunch at St Mary's Church
		7.30pm	Home Group at the Manse
<b>THURS</b>	<b>26th</b>	2.30pm	Women's Auxiliary Annual Rally – Mrs. Hilary Buckingham
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
<b>SAT</b>	<b>28th</b>	10.00am	Coffee Morning
<b>TUES</b>	<b>31st</b>	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls



# march 2015

## sunday diary dates

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**SUNDAY** **1st** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson  
(incl. Communion)  
6.00pm Rev. Phil Hearson

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**SUNDAY** **8th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson  
4.00pm **2nd Sunday!**

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**SUNDAY** **15th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson  
6.00pm Rev. Phil Hearson  
(incl. Communion)

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**SUNDAY** **22nd** 10.45am Mrs. Sandra Fall  
6.00pm Mr. Richard Crane

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**SUNDAY** **29th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson  
6.00pm Rev. Phil Hearson

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### A reminder

Should you ever find it difficult to join us for any service you wish to attend please don't hesitate to speak to either the minister or a church leader about arranging a lift, we are always happy to sort something out - don't miss out!



## lent lunches

**These are held through Lent at St Mary's Church Hall, starting at 12.00 noon on Wednesdays.**

Soup / bread / cheese and tea or coffee is provided. There is no charge although voluntary donations are given to Christian Aid. At 1.00pm there is a short time of prayer in the church if you would like to join in, although this is optional.



## church facebook page

If you're a user of Facebook, we now have our own Facebook Page. Search for 'Wesleyan Church', then like it and you're done!



## ...a Psalm for the month Psalm 34 verses 1-8

1. I will praise the LORD at all times;  
my mouth will continually praise him.
2. I will boast in the LORD;  
let the oppressed hear and rejoice!
3. Magnify the LORD with me!  
Let's praise his name together!
4. I sought the LORD's help and he answered me;  
he delivered me from all my fears.
5. Those who look to him for help are happy;  
their faces are not ashamed.
6. This oppressed man cried out and the LORD heard;  
he saved him from all his troubles.
7. The LORD's angel camps around  
the LORD's loyal followers and delivers them.
8. Taste and see that the LORD is good!  
How blessed is the one who takes shelter in him!



## 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.

- 9th - **KIRA JAMES**      18th - **WENDY NEWMAN**  
 10th - **AMELIA PORTER**  
 16th - **DEBBIE REEVE**



## flowers this month

Thank you to the following who have offered to supply flowers, and also of course to Madge and Jill for arranging the rota and distributing the flowers during the following week.

- |      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1st  | Ann Bryant<br><i>(Wedding Anniversary)</i> | 22nd | Brian Lack<br><i>(for Beryl)</i>                 |
| 8th  | Anthea Holdaway                            | 29th | Margaret Randall<br><i>(Wedding Anniversary)</i> |
| 15th | Wendy Newman                               |      |  |



## passion for life

**During the week beginning Sunday 5th July, the Council of Churches are arranging a week of mission activities, under the name 'Passion for Life'.**

There will be a number of things happening across the town with all the churches (including High Street) being involved. Plans are not complete yet as to the actual activities, but please would you pray for this time. Thank you.



## dates for your diary - april 2015

- TUESDAY 14th** – Leaders Meeting at the Manse  
– 7.30pm
- FRIDAY 24th** – Preachers Meeting at Isham  
– 7.15pm



## puzzle page

It's an anagram puzzle this month, but with a twist! In the following, two books of the Bible have become jumbled together (ignoring any numbers) – can you work them out? Hand your answers in before 28th March and you may win a small prize.

1. JIGS SEES AMEN
2. ALSO PUSH JAMS
3. RESUBMIT NUTS
4. CART HUTS
5. HIGHER AGATES
6. CITE JOBLESS CASE
7. WEB HEADLINERS
8. RATE POEMS
9. JOVIAL LONE TREE
10. HUMAN MELON HIP
11. HIKING HAZE PANS
12. ARCHIVERS APLOMB
13. EERIE SHIP SHAM JEAN
14. ONTO STYLISH MOSAIC
15. COLA CHOIR BANISHED

### Answers to last time:

*(apologies for the errors!)*

1. Daventry; 2. Oringbury; 3. Kettering; 4. Rushden; 5. Desborough; 6. Rothwell;  
7. Thrapston; 8. Kelmarsh; 9. Maidwell; 10. Barton Seagrave; 11. Weston Favell;  
12. Long Buckby; 13. Sywell; 14. Raunds; 15. Finedon; 16. Syresham;  
17. Silverstone; 18. Harrington; 19. Northampton; 20. Castle Ashby.

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High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

