HADLEIGH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

WITH MONKS ELEIGH AND WHATFIELD







MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May 2010

The vision of Hadleigh URC is to challenge the community to respond to God's love as shown and taught by Jesus Christ.



www.hadleighurc.org.uk

2010 NEWSLETTER NO: 668

WORSHIP IN HADLEIGH

Services led by Revd. Jim Dalgleish unless otherwise noted)

Worship in April

Sun 2nd 10.30 Morning Worship with Ordination of Elder and Holy Communion

Sun 9th 10.30 Morning Worship led by Nigel Crisp

Sun 16th 10.30 Morning Worship

6.30pm Churches Together Christian Aid Service at St Mary's

Sun 23rd 10.30am Morning Worship for Pentecost led by Milly Dalgleish

3.30pm Worship at Friars Hall (ecumenical) Sun 30th 10.30am Morning Worship

WEEKDAY MEETINGS

Tuesday 10 - 11.30 Pause for Prayer - Come in for Coffee

Thursday 9.45 am Toddler Group) Term time

10.00 am Refreshments) only

Monks Eleigh URC

Sun 9th 3pm Mr R Howson

Tues 18th 7.30/8pm Prayer & Praise

Sun 25th 3pm Dr Richard Jurd

When despair for the world grows in me ... I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief. I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light. For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free. - Wendell Berry, from his poem "The Peace of Wild Things"

FROM THE MANSE

Pentecost

On the first Pentecost Sunday after Easter, God poured out the Holy Spirit and a few frightened followers of Jesus were transformed. The power of the Holy Spirit gave them the courage to speak out about the love Jesus had for them and how he had overcome death to bring a promise of new life.

It's an exciting message, but not one that might be well received, as it calls the followers of Jesus to die to self and live for love of their neighbour. Yet despite the challenging nature of the message, the followers of Jesus grew from a handful to the billions that there are today.

On that first Pentecost the Church was born and it has never stopped growing. This is not something that human beings could do, without the power of God behind them.

The Holy Spirit gave the disciples courage to speak out, wisdom about what to say and fortitude to persevere, even when persecuted; even when faced with death. The power of God working in frail human beings has been a witness that has brought many people to faith.

As we celebrate Pentecost and the birth of the Church on Sunday 23rd May, we need to ask God to continue to pour out the Holy Spirit on us, so that we can be effective witnesses to God's love among our friends and neighbours.

When Paul was struggling with his weakness, God encouraged him by saying, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Cor. 12.9)

It is the God of grace who poured out the Spirit on his Church on the first Pentecost and continues to pour out his Spirit on those who seek to serve him. Even in our human weakness we can bring glory to God, if we put our trust in the power of the Holy Spirit. Yours in Christ, **Jim**

<u>Churches Together in Hadleigh – Forum</u>

On the evening of Wednesday 14th April representatives of various churches came together for an historic event. At the first Churches Together in Hadleigh (CTiH) Forum we formally agreed a constitution that governs how we are to work together as churches based in and around Hadleigh.

The churches that have adopted the constitution are Hadleigh Salvation Army Corp, Hadleigh United Reformed Church, St Mary's Hadleigh, St Joseph's Hadleigh, St Andrew's Layham and All Saints Shelley. There are at least five other churches that are currently agreeing the CTiH constitution in their own governing bodies and who we hope will join CTiH at a later Forum.

Also on that evening we elected officers and trustees for CTiH. Those elected were:

Moderator: Revd Jim Dalgleish

Deputy Moderator vacant

Secretary Mr Graham Brook Treasurer Revd Eric Fisher

Trustees Mrs Marion Giles, Mr Jonas

Grist, Mr Brian Riley, Mr John Scanlon

CTiH is now a Voluntary Association and as soon as our income levels permit it, we will apply to the Charity Commission to become a registered charity.

You may be asking why we are going through all of these organisational hoops, rather than getting on with the work of being churches and working together. That is a very valid question and the answer is quite simple. As a registered charity we will be able to access funds and grants, which are not available to informal bodies. We will also be able to employ a Youthworker, which is one of the main projects of CTiH.

There are three main aspects of the work of CTiH at present:

- Worshipping Together at a variety of times throughout the year, Christians come together for worship. CTiH organises those times of joint worship.
- Praying Together Christians pray as individuals, as churches and in inter-denominational groups. "Encounter" is the name of a new working group in CTiH that is seeking to plan and encourage more opportunities and more diverse ways for Christians throughout the area to come together for prayer.

Hadleigh Youth Ministries – This is the CTiH project to provide a part-time Youthworker for the young people of Hadleigh. Already over £14,000 has been pledged towards this project. The working group are ensuring all of the many, essential policies and documents are in place. We will then advertise the post and aim to recruit someone to start in September.

With all this activity and opportunities for further work, I hope you can see why we felt that we needed to be more formally organised. I hope that you will also consider how you can support this exciting work with prayer, finance or time. The next Forum will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14th July at the Salvation Army. Please come along. If you would like to be involved in the activities of one of the three working groups, please get in touch and you will receive contact information.

Yours in Christ, Jim Dalgleish (Moderator, CTiH)

The Lord waits to be gracious to you; therefore the Lord will rise up to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of Justice; blessed are all those who wait for the Lord.

- Isaiah 30:18

A Day of Prayer Workshops



with **Jesus** and each other

As part of the Vision4Life Year of Prayer, GEAR (Group for Evangelism and Renewal) in the URC Eastern Synod has organised a day of prayer workshops:

Saturday 22nd May, 10.30 – 4.00 Plume Avenue URC, Colchester, CO3 4PQ.

There will be a variety of workshops on different prayer techniques and you can choose those that interest you. There will also be times of worship and fellowship.

You can simply turn up. Refreshments will be served from 10am; bring a packed lunch. If you want to know more or to share transport arrangements, please have a word with me.

Jim (01473 827895).

SCRABBLERS

Well done everyone on solving Easter Eggs. So many told me they solved it very quickly so obviously Easter was well on your minds. Sorry I have no Easter eggs for prizes! Lets see if you can solve this one.

UJLHAELHAL

Don't forget, you can come and play any Saturday afternoon from 2 - 4 pm.

If a friend is staying with you bring them along to meet us. Barbara Dixon.

Your dead shall live, their corpses shall rise. O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a radiant dew, and the earth will give birth to those long dead.

- Isaiah 26:19

Christianity Explored

Why do we go to church?
What does it really mean to be a Christian?
Who was Jesus?

What questions would you like to ask God?
What is life all about?

If you would like to ask questions like these, there is an opportunity coming soon, within a small group of people asking similar questions. It is hoped to start soon a **Christianity Explored** group. This will meet in people's homes at times to suit the group.

Interested? Want to know more? Contact Milly & Jim (827895).

Open House at the Manse – 2-4pm Tuesday 15th June

Drop into the Manse and enjoy tea and cake. You will also be able to meet with and hear from someone who works for Christian Aid with our Commitment for Life Partner the Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh.

Enjoy an afternoon of food and friendship and hear how the money we raise for Commitment for Life is used to improve the lives of the poor of Bangladesh.

More details next month. Jim.

A-Z in May looks at J for Joshua

Famous for the Battle of Jericho - and much more.

Come and discover what, at 16 Weavers Close

When? - 7.30pm -Mon.17 or 24 May (to be decided, depending on date of Elders meeting.)

See weekly notices or contact Milly for exact date.

THE LEPROSY MISSION.

A big thank you to everyone who hands me their used postage stamps. I thought you might like to know that last year a grand total of ?72,373 was generated through sales of stamps and collectables for The Leprosy Mission.



I enjoy sending on any old postcards, sets of cigarette cards (which are now quite a rarity) and, of course, your stamps. Don't cut them too near the edge but allow a small margin all round.

Barbara Dixon.

Stowmarket United Reformed Church

For many months members of Stowmarket URC have been in discussion with Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC) who last summer issued a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) which includes their Church premises. The CPO would allow a developer to provide additional retail capacity in the main street of Stowmarket.

As you might expect the URC has formally objected to the CPO but despite our best efforts negotiations aimed at agreeing a new location for a replacement church have currently stalled and thus its seems certain that the Public Enquiry will now go ahead on 26th April.

The current Church was built in the early fifties to replace the previous Church on that site which was destroyed in the second World War. It serves the town of Stowmarket in many ways and these have been laid out in the formal objection.

Please pray for the members of Stowmarket at this difficult time as their future currently seems so uncertain.

Mick Barnes, Eastern Synod Field Property Officer

What do you think ... about waste ...

... over a drink?

We are part of a society that loves to consume and seems to think that the earth is an infinite source of resources for our enjoyment. We are told we need to recycle more, stop throwing mountains of food away, get by with less packaging on our goods and drive smaller cars more carefully. Is this just the nanny state, or are we in danger of running out of resources.

This is an informal discussion group for men, who want to talk about important issues. Come and enjoy a drink and air your 'Pints of View'! We don't expect to have all the answers, but we do enjoy learning from the different insights that we each bring.

Simply turn up to see what is going on.

Next meeting:

8.00pm Wednesday 26th May The George Public House (back room)

All welcome!

For more information, contact Jim (827895).

Thursday Group

Group will be meeting on 6th May (Thursday) @ 7pm in the Community Room.

Speaker will be Mrs Kathleen Churchyard and her subject is teaching and care of handicapped children.

Time for questions plus refreshments. All welcome.

Any questions please phone Phil 827370

New Words to an old Tune!

We used to throw and scatter
Our rubbish on the land,
And it was then collected
By someone else's hand.
But the Council can recycle
And the message now is plain,
If we collected old bottles
They can be used again.

Chorus

All good litter round us
Can surely make the grade,
Then save the tins. Oh save the tins
For they can be remade.

We only are the culprits
Of litter near and far,
We drop it when we are walking
And throw it from the car.
The wind and waves then also
Can sometimes make it spread,
So adults and all children
Should pick it up instead.

We should all be very thankful For all things bright and good, Wrappings of all sorts protect Our life, our health, our food. So never waste the cartons, Collecting all of these And magazines and papers Will help to save our trees.

(Author Unknown)

Nigel – found on travels!!

ITS and

Flowers 4 1

If you would like to place flowers in church, don't forget to sign the rota in the Vestibule. If you don't feel able to do the flower arranging, then someone can be found to do that for you. Please speak to Mary Boon (824200) or Jill Cort (82822149).

'Out and About' Jim is on holiday on Sunday 9th May Jim is at Christchurch, Needham Market on 23rd May

Milly is at Christ Church, Sudbury on 30th May

Remember the Church Coop Dividend number: 2295

Christian Aid Week (9-16 May) -

Collectors needed. Even if you can only manage a couple of hours, it really helps those in need. Contact Milly, if you can help.

Please could you let me have all items for the May 2009 Newsletter by Sunday 11th Apr (18th if emailed)? Email to phil@the-wells.net, post to 11 Jordayn Rise, Hadleigh or use the tray in the Church. Thanks, Phil (827878)

Prayer Page

PEOPLE FOR PRAYER

Those in residential care

Ruth Gleed, Violet Hines, Peggy Crabtree, Dorothy

For details of others who have asked for our prayers, please consult the blue prayer folder in church.

Prayer Points for May in our Church

- Give thanks for those who attended our Holy Week and Easter events and services. Pray for those who don't normally go to church, that they may find Jesus
- Pray for wisdom and guidance for Michele Farley, who has been elected to serve as an Elder and will be ordained Elder on the 2nd May.
- Churches Together in Hadleigh (CTiH) have adopted a new constitution and formed themselves into a Voluntary Association. Pray that we make progress with finding the right person to be a Youthworker for the young people of Hadleigh. Ask God how you might be involved in the Youth Ministries project.
- With only about a month to go before the presentation of the musical "Apostle" which is to be performed on the evening of Saturday June 5th, pray for all those involved, that they sing and present the story of Paul with confidence. Pray about who you might invite along to this enjoyable musical evening.
- Progress is being made on the repairs to the Ansell Centre. We are also in discussions about listed buildings issues for the changes to the church. Pray for good progress on both fronts.

The Explorers will be having a stand at the May Show. Pray that this is a witness that will draw many to Jesus. Ask God how you might help.

Christian Aid Week (9-16 May) gives us the opportunity to visit those who live around us and raise money for the world's poor. It is also a great witness of Christian love. Pray about how you might be involved.

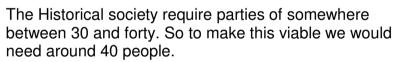
Half-Day trip to Bury St Edmunds and Day trip to Ely

We would go on a market day in May or June.

The Cost of the coach is £130.00,

The cost of the tour by the Bury Historical society is around £4.00

society is around £4.00 per person.



So then were around 40 people to go the price per person in round numbers would be £7.00.

Do let me know please if you would be interested. Also would anyone that might be interested in going to Ely in September (18th) please let either Ann or me know.

Ronnie

Christ emptied himself for love of us ... Do not try to apprehend or comprehend, but prostrate yourself before the most incomprehensible mystery of the tremendous love that God has shown. - Catherine de Hueck Doherty,

Madonna House

GUILD REPORT

On Tuesday March 23rd we held our AGM where the officers and committee were elected, and funds distributed. After the main part of the meeting we held a Bring and Buy Auction and raised £32 for Sue Rider Care, The Chantry. The evening ended with coffee and biscuits and thanks were expressed to all who gave so generously or helped in any way.

Our Holy Week devotional on March 30th was led by Miss Gill Taylor. Gill talked about Pilate, his history and his part in the death of Jesus.

Pilate tried to evade the responsibility of condemning Jesus, but he did not have the courage to defy the Jews. Gill told us that we must decide for ourselves whether to accept Jesus and that we cannot evade the personal decision to follow Jesus.

Many thanks to Gill for sharing her thoughts with us and for the lovely Easter Hymns accompanied by Diana.

This completes our Winter Programme and we now look forward to our monthly outings.

The first outing will be a walk along the riverside followed by tea and cake at 59 Ann Beaumont Way on April 27th at 2pm meeting in Toppesfield car park.

In the path of your judgments,
O Lord, we wait for you;
your name and your renown
are the soul's desire.
My soul yearns for you in the night,
My spirit within me earnestly seeks you.
For when your judgments are in the earth,
the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

- Isaiah 26:8-9

GOD'S COMPASS

A rough hewn compass stands atop a hill for all to see.
A simple cross marked on the map
That charts eternity.

And on this compass crude but true
A figure crowned and nailed
With arms outstretched bids "follow me
When other paths have failed"

And if we would but heed this guide Who calls himself "The Way" Our path would lead to "Truth" and "Life" Our feet would never stray.

For by degrees God's compass leads
Lost man to his true home,
Though often we may choose to stray
Or roam where we would roam.

And though at times we feel afraid
Or lost and on our own,
There is no place that God's love can't reach,
No paths to him unknown.

And if we choose to follow him we simply need to pray, God's sat-nav, you might say.

Jesus models a new kind of authority, a servant-leadership that ministers to the members rather than waits to be served by them. He does what, in that culture, slaves did: He, the Lord, washes the feet of the community. - Joan Chittister

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX NEWS

Dear All,

We have been praying that a suitable depot be found in our locality for sorting the filled children's Christmas shoeboxes, for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child project.

The Samaritan's Purse meeting held on Friday 12th March at Great Wenham, drew no immediate result of a replacement venue. 2 regularly involved volunteers went home & discussed the possibility of using their premises in Bentley. This venue has been put forward to Samaritan's Purse & soon we shall know the conclusion. Please keep this in your prayers.

We pray for, & bless Meg & Phil Pearson for their commitment heading up the local depot for at least 10 years, with Ivan & Mary at Vauxhall Farm who also receive our prayers & blessings. Thank you, Meg, Phil, Ivan & Mary for all your work & our walk together with The Lord. Your dedication has touched the lives of many. May the Lord bless you greatly.

Please be reassured that the project is still going ahead, so keep on looking out for items to put in your shoebox......Christmas will be with us before you know it!

Love & blessings from Doreen & Hilary

When I went to the factory to work and live with the labourers ... I met them simply to evangelize and teach the gospel, but it was no use. It was like pouring water into a bottomless jug. After a long time, I realized that there is a systemic evil. To solve this problem, it is necessary not only to worship but also to demolish that systemic evil. - Cho Wha Soon, Methodist minister and advocate for better working conditions for women in Korea

VISION4WORSHIP

A day course for all Lay Preachers, and all who have an interest in worship.

10 am - 3.30 pm, SATURDAY 5th JUNE 2010 at DANBURY URC, ESSEX



Led by –Revd Peter Ball - Training & Development Officer

Milly Dalgleish - Synod Lay Preacher.

Advocate

Talks, discussion, worship, resources, practical tips on worship leading, sharing ideas.

Drinks available, please bring a packed lunch. This event is free but donations welcomed on the day towards costs.

PLEASE BOOK A PLACE by 29th May to aid practical arrangements.

For further details Contact:
Milly - 01473 827895 - e-mail
milly.dalgleish@btinternet.com or
Revd Peter Ball - 01223 830770 - e-mail
eastern.tdo@urc.org.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN MAY			
Sat 1 st	2-4pm	Scrabble, Community Room	
Sun 2 nd	7.00pm	Inspired, Church	
Mon 3 rd	8.00pm	Badminton, Ansell Centre	
Tues 4 th 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Room 10.15amPrayer Service, Church			
Wed 5 th		Churches Together Prayer, Salv'n Army Film Discussion Group, (823413)	
Thur 6 th	9.45am 7.30pm	Toddler Group, Community Room Thursday Group, Community Room	
Sat 8 th	2-4pm	Scrabble, Community Room	
Mon 10 th	¹ 8.00pm	Badminton, Ansell Centre	
Tues 11 th 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Rm 10.15amPrayer Service, Church			
Wed 12 ^t	^h 7.30pm	Film Discussion Group, (823413)	
Thur 13 th 9.45amToddler Group, Community Room			
Sat 15 th	all day 2-4pm	May Show Scrabble, Community Room	
Sun 16 th	7.00pm	Inspired, Church	
Mon 17 th	¹ 8.00pm	Badminton, Ansell Centre	

Tues 18th 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Rm 10.15amHealing Prayer Service, Church 11.30amChurch Plans Group, Community Room 8.00pm Prayer & Praise, Monks Eleigh URC

Thur 20th 9.45am Toddler Group, Community Room 7.00pm Ansell Centre Management group, Ansell Centre

Sat 22nd 2-4pm Scrabble, Community Room Mon 24th 8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre

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Tues 25th 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Rm 10.15amPrayer Service, Church 12 noon Lunch Study Group, 16 Weavers Close

Wed 26th 2.00pm Bible Study, Whatfield Salvation Army 7.30pm Vision4Life, 6 Raven Way 8.00pm What do you think?, The George

Thurs 27th 9.45am Toddler Group, Community Room Sat 29th 2-4pm Scrabble, Community Room Mon 31st 8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre

Encounter

with **Jesus** and each other

We were delighted to welcome about 40 people from our Churches to the Quiet Day held in Holy Week. Joyce led our thoughts to reflect upon our own spiritual journey as we remembered Jesus Christ's last few days in Jerusalem before his Crucifixion. An Agape lunch provided opportunity to share stories from our own lives with each other. Positive comments from the day has led us to believe you would like more opportunities to encounter Jesus in this way so watch this space...

<u>Coming soon</u> – spend time in a beautiful, private, wildlife garden in Monks Eleigh

- time to be refreshed
- time to reflect on God's love

Saturday 24th July, 10am – 2.30pm

Talks, shared lunch, time to wander and reflect

To book a place contact Anita (810057), Joyce (823165), Milly (827895)

Help one person at a tíme, and always start with the person nearest you. **- Mother Teresa**

MINISTER

Rev Jim Dalgleish 6 Raven Way Hadleigh IP7 5AX

Tel: 01473 827895

ELDERS

Sylvia Jarvis (Secretary)	01473 829166
Mary Boon	01473 824200
Nigel Crisp	01473 822208
Jan Dicks	01473 823413
Barbara Dixon	01473 829945
Ronnie Howson	01473 310169
Pat Langley	01473 823844
Elizabeth Meeks	01473 827318
Sylvia Roberts (Monks Eleigh)	01449 740607
Michèle Farley	01473 823634

Please contact any of the above, if you need to get in touch with one of our church family, whose address you do not know.

TREASURER

Ronnie Howson 4, Ash Grove, Capel St Mary 01473 310169

Newsletter editor Phil Wells (phil@the-wells.net) 11 Jordayn Rise, Hadleigh Suffolk IP7 5SY