

# **HADLEIGH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

**WITH MONKS ELEIGH AND WHATFIELD**



## **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

September 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](http://www.hadleighurc.org.uk)

# 2010 NEWSLETTER NO: 672

## WORSHIP IN HADLEIGH

*Services led by Revd. Jim Dalglish unless otherwise noted)*

### Worship in Hadleigh

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> 10.30 Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
and Renewal of Promises

Sun 12<sup>th</sup> 10.30 Morning Worship led by Mr Peter Fox

Sun 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30 Morning Worship led by the Elders

Sun 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30 Harvest Festival Thanksgiving Service  
3.30 Worship at Friars Hall (ecumenical)

### 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 12<sup>th</sup> 3pm HARVEST PRAISE  
led by Rev J Dalglish

Sun 26<sup>th</sup> 3pm Mr R Howson

### **Church Meeting – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm**

We meet in early September to continue to discuss and make decisions about the future of our life together. There is much to give thanks for, as we have now raised all the money needed for the repair of our buildings and repairs are well in hand. We will be considering the next phase of our church plans, the alterations to the worship area. There is much to share about our mission and life together. The meeting is open to all and it is important for as many as possible to be there. **Jim**

## FROM THE MANSE

### Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Paul, the Apostle who was beaten, stoned, imprisoned, shipwrecked, afflicted with a thorn in the flesh and ultimately executed, wrote repeatedly that we should pray with thanksgiving (Col. 4.2 and 1 Ti 2.1, for example). In his letters he frequently gave thanks for the Christians in the different churches he had visited, in spite of some of the very difficult problems he was writing to address.

Milly and I were in Turkey earlier in the summer and saw how enormous and mountainous the country is. Yet Paul travelled it repeatedly in daunting and dangerous circumstances in order to share the good news of Jesus. He was still able to give thanks to God for every blessing.

Here in the west in our day, we are blessed with all sorts of good things. Our basic necessities are well met and we are not short of a few luxuries, but do we regularly give thanks to God? Or are we more concerned with making sure that our standard of living does not drop?

In the current economic climate with jobs getting scarcer, wages not keeping up with inflation, pension funds in trouble and benefits being cut, nearly everyone will experience a cut in their standard of living; some luxuries will have to go. Even then we won't have to face anything like the hardships that Paul faced – and he continued to give thanks.

Giving thanks to God (Counting your blessings!) really does make you feel much better. You begin to realise just how fortunate you are and are reminded that God is the giver of all good gifts.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service is a good time to start a discipline of regular prayer with thanksgiving. Come along to worship and go out to give thanks to God for all his goodness.

Yours in Christ, **Jim**

## ChAT at the Irwins'

(ChAT = Church All Together)

Karen, Peter, Rebecca, Alison and Emma Irwin have kindly invited us to a gathering, a time together for all the church family in the beautiful setting of their Aldham home.

### **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

This is a social day with activities for all the church family and transport will be provided, if needed.

If you haven't got your invitation, please contact **Jim** (827895).

If you have got your invitation, please reply by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

Whatever you do, don't miss out!

## **A SAD FAREWELL TO OUR MONKEY PUZZLE TREE**



By the time you read this our lovely tree will have been felled.

It had become dangerous with falling branches and the Council have given permission for it to

be felled. We are going to replace it with either a Lime tree or a Hornbeam, which we hope will give pleasure to future generations. Sylvia

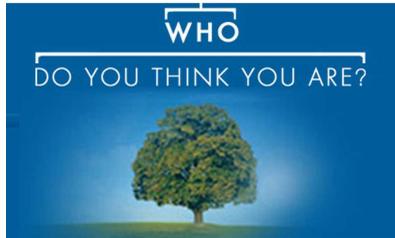


*To choose what is difficult all one's days, as if it were easy, that is faith. - W.H. Auden from For the Time Being*

# THURSDAY GROUP

The Group will meet on September 2nd, 7.30pm in the Community Room.

The subject will be:



You are invited to an evening with Blanche.

We will take an illustrated journey to discover something of her father's time in the Suffolk Regiment and life in 19th century Monks Eleigh.

Plus we will look at some of the photographs of Blanche's visit to have tea with the Queen last year.

This will all be followed by refreshments.

Any queries please phone Nigel 822208 or Phil 827370

All welcome.

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. - **Matthew 11:28-30**

*The journey by which we discover God is also the journey by which we discover, or uncover, our true self hidden in God. It is a journey that we all have to make.*

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- Esther de waal

## Themes and Readings for September

Quoting from Scripture Union our theme for September is given as: "**Random Diffusion?**" (Please note that the following reading will not always be followed exactly.) *Nigel*

**September 5th**, Acts 18:1-23 "Get Connected". Aim: to see that God carries out his plan through teamwork.

**September 12th**, Acts 23:12-22 "Time to move on". Aim: to learn that God's plan cannot be blocked by people.

**September 19th** Acts 25:13-26:32 "Right words, right time." Aim: to discover that God gives his people opportunities to be part of his plan.

**September 26th** Acts 27 and 28, "Capsized, but not drowned out." Aim: to learn that God's plan can't be blocked by anything.

### Reform...

... is the national magazine of the United Reformed Church. It is full of interesting articles about the Christian faith and about the Church. The cost is only £1.80 per copy and it is published 11 times a year.

If you don't receive it, but might be interested, get in touch for a sample copy and details of how to subscribe.

If you do subscribe through Naomi, please note that from next year you will have to subscribe directly, as the system is changing. See the current edition for details, although you won't need to subscribe until you have received the December edition. **Jim.**

So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. - **Galatians 6:9-10**

## **RUBY SATURDAY**

Since 2001 September 11th will be for ever a reminder of the horrific suicide attacks on the Twin Towers. However, for Brian and me the date has a much happier significance as it is the date of our wedding anniversary. September 11<sup>th</sup> 2010 has an even greater significance as it is our Ruby wedding anniversary and happens to fall on the same day as the annual Suffolk Historic Churches Cycle Ride.

In order to celebrate both events we will be taking part in the cycle ride and I would love to hear from anyone who would be willing to sponsor us for any amount including the number 4! For example, 4p per church, 14p per church or £4 donation. Half of any amount raised goes to our own church and the other half to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. **Jan**

## **James - the "How to..." Book of Christian Living?**

After Sunday morning, have you ever struggled with the practicalities of being a Christian the other 6 days of the week?

Why not join others like you, looking at the letter of James to early Christians struggling with life?

3 monthly sessions, starting 7.30pm on Monday 27th September. (Oct/Nov dates to be decided later, to suit the group.)

Meeting initially at 6 Raven Way (venue can be changed if needed.)

All welcome, transport can be provided.

More details from Milly (827895)



## NEWS FROM THE ANSELL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Our events for September are as follows:

Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 12	Luncheon Club
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> at 12.30	Wednesday Lunch Club
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm	Digital Cinema – “The Last Station”

We have decided that from October, in order to avoid confusion, both lunch clubs will start at 12.15 pm. The Wednesday Lunch Club would like a few more members so if you know of anyone who would be interested, please let one of us know.

Our film on 17<sup>th</sup> September “The Last Station” is a historical drama that illustrates Russian author Leo Tolstoy’s struggle to balance fame and wealth with his commitment to a life devoid of material things. It stars Christopher Plummer as Tolstoy and Helen Mirren as his wife. Please note that it has a rating of 15 for one scene of a sexual nature.

*Eve and Jan*

Though [Christ] was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death -- even death on a cross.

### **- Philippians 2:6-8**

*Are we doing it? Are we giving the world a symmetrical, authentic, fully-formed image of Christ? There is still time. Spiritual growth is not a matter of chronology alone. It's a matter of spirit. Of heart. Of who you are to the next person you meet. In the next crisis you face, In the next moment you live.*

*- Lloyd John Ogilvie*



# Pens, paper and pennies



Come and help raise money for... a charity which sends pens, paper and other things to African schools for children who have very little.



*"What's happening?"*

**Craft and cake making**



**Games**

**Food to share**



*"When?"*                    **2-4, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September**

*"Where?"*                    **The Ansell Centre, Hadleigh URC**

*"Who's invited?"*    Anyone school age  
(Toddlers welcome with parent/carer)

## **Harvest Festival for all ages**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

Come and say thank you for all the good things we have.



Come and help sell the things we made yesterday.

*More details*    *Milly 827895, Michelle E 827757, Michele F 823634.*

*All welcome to one <sup>8</sup> or both of these events*



Whatever our theological perspective, it's always good to talk and explore what we believe and how it affects our lives. A new discussion group will be starting in September which will give an opportunity for anyone who may have a more liberal theology, or who is interested in what that means, to come and talk about it.

Can only Christians get to "heaven"?

Did God create the world?

How is the Bible the "Word of God"?

What happens when we pray?

What do we mean when we say that Jesus is the Son of God?

Did the miracles really happen?

Have you ever asked yourself questions like these? Do you find it difficult to honestly say some of the words of the creed? Do you feel that you don't "fit" the conventional idea of what it is to be a Christian? If so, you may like to consider joining the group. I don't promise any answers but I do promise the opportunity to explore many questions of faith in an open, honest and non-critical atmosphere where we will be able to learn from each other and hopefully deepen our faith.

The group will meet on the second (or third) Monday of the month in the Quiet Room (aka the Minister's Vestry) at 7.30 pm. First meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> September. Please speak to me if you are interested (even if the day and time is not suitable).

Jan

God is spirit, and those who worship [God] must worship in spirit and truth. - **John 4:24**

# BITS and SMALLS

## 'Out and About'

Nigel is at: Sudbury URC on 12th  
Stowupland URC on 19th

Jim is on holiday 19<sup>th</sup>  
Christchurch, Needham  
Market on 12<sup>th</sup>.

## St Mary's Harvest Horkey, Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct

I have been asked to sell some tickets for this event. If you are interested I would love to hear from you. Tickets cost £10. Jan

## Flowers

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).

## Coffee

If you enjoy coffee after church, please consider joining the rota, otherwise there may be Sundays when coffee is not available. To find out what is involved, contact **Tom** or **Jim**.

Remember the  
Church Coop  
Dividend number:  
**2295**

Please could you let me have all items for the Oct 2010 Newsletter by **Sunday 12th Sept** (19th if emailed)? Email to [phil@the-wells.net](mailto:phil@the-wells.net), post to 11 Jordayn Rise, Hadleigh or use the tray in the Church. Thanks, Phil

## Prayer Page

### PEOPLE FOR PRAYER

Those in residential care

Ruth Glead, Violet Hines, Peggy Crabtree, Alan Brooks

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

### **Prayer Points for September in our Church**

Pray for the start of our new church year and renewal of promises; that we may each put Jesus at the centre of our lives and that he may be the focus of our life together.

Pray for anyone facing large changes – young people moving up a year at school, or on to new education or work opportunities, those moving on in employment and those facing major changes in relationships. Pray that they all know the reality of God's presence.

Give thanks for the Holiday Club and all those who gave their time and talents to it. Pray for the children and their families, that they might have learned of God's love.

Pray for our Harvest Thanksgiving Service on the 26<sup>th</sup>, that it may be a great time of celebration and that our gifts may change the lives of others.

Pray for "Back to Church Sunday" on the 26<sup>th</sup> and ask God to show you who you might invite back to church for our Harvest Service.

Don't forget to look at our blue prayer folder and pray for those who have asked for our prayers. God may also prompt you to help them in some practical way.

**What do you think ...**

**... about your final month ...**

**... over a drink?**

If you were told that you only had a month to live, how would you choose to spend your last days? What are the important things that you would want to do? Would there be final conversations that you would have? Where might you want to go?

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 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
The George Public House (back room)**

All welcome!

For more information, contact **Jim (827895)**.

*Many people are hungry not for bread only, but they are hungry for ... love. Many people are not only naked for want of a piece of cloth, but they are naked for human dignity ... Homelessness is not only not having a home made of bricks, but homelessness is being rejected, unwanted, unloved, uncared for. People have forgotten what the human touch is, what it is to smile, for somebody to smile at them, somebody to recognize them, somebody to wish them well.*

**- Mother Teresa**

## **A Youthworker for Hadleigh**

### **'THE PORCH PROJECT' AND FORTHCOMING YOUTH WORKER**

Last month we updated you on exciting plans to serve the young people of Hadleigh. Those plans continue to progress, so here's an update:

*'The Porch Project'* began exactly a year ago, based in St Mary's Church. This challenging project provides a safe space and hospitality for those who are 13 to 19 years of age, particularly on a Friday evening, but also informally at other times. We are now in contact with over seventy young people. During the spring, several people from other churches and the wider community offered to help in a variety of ways. As the project moves into a new phase this autumn there is a special evening during which people can be updated on forthcoming plans and also explore how they might help. Suffolk County Council youth workers have also offered to lead a short training session afterwards for all those who already help, or would like to. All of this is planned for **Friday 10 September, 7.30 to 10pm in St Mary's Church, Hadleigh**. You don't need to tell us if you're coming – just turn up!

The latest news concerning the youth worker is that a job advert will appear in the September issue of 'Youth Worker Magazine' with interviews being held in early October and the successful candidate here for January 2011.

The Very Revd Martin Thrower – Dean at St Mary's

The Revd Jim Dalgleish – Moderator for Churches Together in Hadleigh

O Lord, you will hear the desire of the meek; you will strengthen their heart, you will incline your ear to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed, so that those from earth may strike terror no more. - **Psalm 10:17-18**

## **Renewal of Promises and Promotions**

### **Sunday 5th September**

We are planning our annual renewal of promises service on the morning of Sunday 5th September. This is a time when we can stand together and commit ourselves to the life of faith we have chosen.

The promises are based on the understanding of our **FAITH**,

**Family** – as the family of God caring for one another

**Adoration** - we worship the God who made us and loves us

**Inspiration** –we are inspired to follow him

**Tell** –we seek to tell the world of his love

**Heal** –we seek to bring healing into a needy world

This service is an opportunity for us to show that Jesus is of central importance in our lives.

Also at this service we will be celebrating those who move up to Explorers, those moving on to university, college, new employment etc. It is a time of giving thanks as we journey together as the family of God.

**Jim.**

*Each of us, famous or infamous, is a role model for somebody, and if we aren't, we should behave as though we are -- cheerful, kind, loving, courteous. Because you can be sure someone is watching and taking deliberate and diligent notes.*

## **Come and Join in the Harvest Celebrations!**

**See if you can bring a special gift on  
“Back to Church Sunday”**

Harvest Thanksgiving Service and Back to Church Sunday  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. 10.30am**

We have so much to give thanks to God for – life, our daily bread and the love of Jesus. We all know that life can be very difficult at times, but it is important to go on giving thanks to God, because he goes on loving us. Our annual harvest thanksgiving is a special opportunity to do this.

We will welcome our local Scout Group to join us in this all-age service.

We will have an opportunity to show our thanks to God by bringing gifts.

Gifts of produce will go to local friends or to the Sue Ryder Home at Chantry.

Gifts of money will go to Build Africa. This charity is regularly supported by our Sunday Club and focuses on providing for the educational needs of young people in Africa.

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. is also National Back to Church Sunday. It is an opportunity to encourage friends who once came to church to give it another try. Harvest Sunday is a good time to return, so why not pray about who you might invite? After all, what better gift can you give someone than the gift of God's love?

Bring yourself, bring your gift and bring a friend, so that together we can give our thanks to God for his great generosity to us.

**Jim.**

## GUILD REPORT

On Tuesday July 20th friends from the Guild enjoyed a barbecue supper at the home of Hazel and Ken Wilding. On a beautiful summer evening and in the delightful garden and countryside we spent a truly lovely time together. Many thanks to Hazel and Ken for their hospitality and to Jean and Bernard for all their help in making the evening such a success.

On Saturday August 7th friends from the Guild visited Dunwich and Dunwich Heath. We enjoyed fish and chips at the beach restaurant and then spent some time on the beach itself.

Later we drove to the Heath where some went for a walk and this was followed by ice creams and tea and cakes.

Many thanks to the car drivers for enabling us to have such an enjoyable day.

The Guild coffee morning in aid of the Treehouse Children's Hospice appeal was held on Saturday August 14th. Many thanks to all who helped or contributed in any way and so far we have raised approximately £270 with more to come.. well done everyone!



### September programme

7th - Hollow Trees Farm walk and tea Dept 2pm R/D £1

Meet at Toppesfield Hall Car Park for outing

Names to Harold 2 weeks before outing please

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, [the Lord's] mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. -

**Lamentations 21:22**

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN SEPTEMBER**

- Wed 1<sup>st</sup> 7.30pm Churches Together, Salvation Army  
7.30pm Film Discussion Group, 6 Raven Way
- Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm Thursday Group, Community Room
- Sat 4<sup>th</sup> 3.30pm onwards ChAt @ The Irwins'
- Mon 6<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Church Meeting, Community Room
- Tues 7<sup>th</sup> 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Room  
10.15am Prayer Service, Church
- Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> 9.45-11am Toddlers, Community Room
- Sat 11<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm Scrabble, Community Room
- Mon 13<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre
- Tues 14<sup>th</sup> 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Room  
10.15am Prayer Service, Church
- Wed 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Hadleigh Youth Ministries, Salvation Army
- Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> 9.45-11am Toddlers, Community Room
- Sat 18<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm Scrabble, Community Room
- Mon 20<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre
- Tues 21<sup>st</sup> 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Room  
10.15am Healing Prayer Service, Church  
8.00pm Prayer & Praise, Monks Eleigh
- Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> 2.00pm Bible Study, Whatfield SA  
7.30pm Vision4Life, 6 Raven Way  
8.00pm What do you think?, The George
- Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.45-11am Toddlers, Community Room
- Sat 25<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm Children's Harvest Preparations,  
Ansell Centre  
2-4pm Scrabble, Community Room
- Mon 27<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Letter of James, Bible Study,  
(827895)

8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre  
 Tues 28<sup>th</sup> 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Rm  
 10.15am Prayer Service, Church  
 10.45am Church Plans Group, Community Rm  
 12 noon Lunch Study Group, 16 Weavers Close  
 Wed 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Film Discussion Group (October),  
 Maltings Mews  
 Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> 9.45-11am Toddlers, Community Room

*I urge you to still every motion that is not rooted in the kingdom. Become quiet, hushed, motionless until you are finally centred. Strip away all excess baggage and nonessential trappings until you have come into the stark reality of the kingdom of God. Let go of all distractions until you are driven into the Core.*

**- Richard Foster, from his book Freedom of Simplicity**

*And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.*

**- Philippians 1:9-11**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness." - **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

## **MINISTER**

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## **ELDERS**

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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,  
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