

HADLEIGH

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

with Monks Eleigh and Whatfield



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2011

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

2011 NEWSLETTER NO: 676

WORSHIP IN HADLEIGH

Services led by Revd. Jim Dalgleish unless otherwise noted)

Worship in Hadleigh

Sun 2nd 10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion

Sun 9th 10.30am Morning Worship led by Mr Richard Jurd

6.30pm Evening Celebration for All

Sun 16th 10.30am Morning Worship

Sun 23rd 10.30am Morning Worship

3.30pm Worship at Friars Hall (ecumenical)

6.30pm Week of Prayer, Elmsett Methodist Ch

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 Rev J Dalgleish

Sun 23rd 3pm Mr C Wright

Evening Celebration Service

On the 9th January there will be an Evening Service at our Church at 6.30pm. The style of the service will be rather different to the morning with extended modern music led by Inspired. There will also be prayer, a talk and drama. We hope that many of you will attend and enjoy a different style of worshipping our amazing God using the talents God has given us.

Lisa Guest and Tom Gordon

FROM THE MANSE

“Do not be Afraid!”

The long, dark winter days stretch ahead. There is almost certainly more snow and ice to be endured. As the government and local council cuts begin to take effect, none of us is likely to escape their impact. On the international scene terrorism and the probability of unfriendly governments acquiring nuclear weapons are increasing.

Yet in spite of all this, I still say ‘Do not be afraid’. Or rather, that is what God says to us. When Joseph learnt of Mary’s untimely pregnancy and Joseph knew that there was a difficult road ahead, the angel assured him that he should not be afraid. When Jesus met with his disciples after his death and resurrection, he urged them to be at peace, not to be afraid.

The message of Christmas is that God came in Jesus to live among his people. He did this, not just for the duration of Jesus’ earthly life, but forever, by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus is called Emmanuel, which means ‘God with us’, because that is the amazing truth of our faith.

Whatever lies ahead for us in 2011 (and beyond) God will be with us and so we need not be afraid. Paul in his letter to the Romans expressed it by saying that nothing in all creation can separate us from God’s love.

As you step out into 2011, know that the love of God surrounds you. Go in the confidence that because of that love you can love others in Jesus’ name.

Milly and I wish you a joyful and blessed New Year, as together we love and serve the living God.

Jim.

TELLING STORIES - OUR STORY AND GOD'S STORY

This is the URC year of Evangelism.

We all have a story to tell about our journey through life - maybe one from which others will catch a glimpse (or more) of how God has helped us.

Why not join the Vision4Life group?

Hear stories from Christians near and far.

Be encouraged by them to think about your story.

When? - 7.30pm, Wed. 19 January at 6 Raven Way

All welcome, transport available.

Prefer a daytime group? - contact Milly or Jim (827895)

Church Flowers

The new flower rota for January – Easter 2011 is now in the vestibule. It is a fortnightly schedule.

If you wish to see flowers in the church as part of our worship, then may we encourage you to sign the rota. Often a specific slot is chosen to honour the memory of a loved one. If you feel that you would like someone to arrange the flowers for you then please do speak to one of us.

Please remove them when they are past their best. Flowers in church usually last for two weeks.

Silk flowers may be used for weeks not allocated.

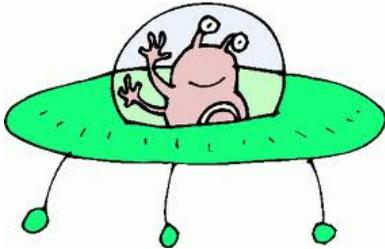
Mary Boon (824200)

Gill Cort (822149)



"Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit." - Psalm 17:1

What do you think about ALIENS ...



.. after a drink?

It is the stuff sci-fi stories and films are made of – intelligent life from another planet invading earth! Could it really happen? Do we think that there is any form of life elsewhere in our vast universe? Might it simply be single celled, like bacteria or could there be sophisticated plants and animals? If there is intelligent life, is it intelligent in a way we might recognise and communicate with? If it is out there, could it cross the vast distances of space to reach our solar system and land on earth?

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 January

The George Public House (back room)

All welcome!

For more information contact Jim (827895)

"Adoration, as it more deeply possesses us, inevitably leads on to self-offering. Charity is the live wire along which the power of God, indwelling our finite spirits, can and does act on our souls and other things, rescuing, healing, giving support and light." - Evelyn Underhill

Karen's story

I am the oldest of the five children of Rita and Pat Boggan who married in 1952 in London. My mother converted to Catholicism to marry my father – so for me love and trusting in God seem interlinked - I do not recall a time when God and the church were not a major influence in my life. We moved to Cheshire in 1956.

My father, a passionate Roman Catholic, wanted us all educated in a catholic school so that meant paying for a private education in Stockport. I had a happy and love filled childhood, the year marked out by the festivals of the church. My mother was a traditional 1950s wife and my father was a salesman, away a lot for business, entertaining a lot – my Mum had to be ready to trip out in support – and very involved in the social aspect of the church.

In April 1966 he was promoted and moved his family 200 miles to Norwich and head office. My mother did not see the house he had chosen until the day of the move – what trust! The house was large and lovely and we were very happy.

Then tragedy struck and in October 1966 he died suddenly of a cerebral haemorrhage at the age of 38. The family, very worried Mum would not cope with five children under the age of 11, talked of orphanages. But she was wonderful and kept us all together, supporting us through college and university. Her children - two headteachers, a police inspector, a police sergeant and a published author - have three Masters degrees and four teaching qualifications between them, so she did a really great job!

At high school I began to run things – I am extremely bossy – and started the first Norwich branch of Shelter as well as helping with Cub Scouts and singing in the choir. For me serving God is about serving the community and then as now I was always challenging myself to put in more than I took out. I went to Drama College in London and married at nineteen. I became a Drama teacher – my ambition since the

death of my father –but eventually wanted children and discovered I couldn't have them. This was a difficult and testing time for me. I was very, very lucky that God saw fit to allow me to adopt two beautiful children through the Catholic church.

Sadly the marriage foundered in 1992 and it was then I felt that the Catholic church failed me although God was always there when I prayed. It was a difficult, lonely time.

In 1997 I met Tony and 2 years later we married. The wonderful minister at St Andrew's Anglican church in Great Cornard, Norma, helped to make it possible for us to have the marriage blessed by God – it was the best part of a lovely day, to stand in his presence and make our promises. She was a wonderful friend to us. We worshipped at her church with joy.

In 2004 we moved to Hadleigh and to start with returned to worship in Great Cornard on Sundays. Gradually we began to visit St Mary's and enjoyed several services there until we came to an ecumenical Palm Sunday service here in the URC and were completely bowled over by the atmosphere and the welcome. Tony was particularly impressed with the use of technology which made a link between the traditional and the new. Since then I have become a regular attender, and involved in the church with Holiday Club, some singing and reading and lately a youth study group.

I am now the head of a church school and am trying to bring a little of God's message into the lives of my pupils. It's an enormous challenge but I feel privileged to have been given the chance. Serving God in this way is the path he wants me to follow right now.

Karen Harman

"You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." - Ephesians 2:19

BITS and SMALLS

'Out and About'

Jim is at Christchurch, Needham Market on Sunday 9th.
Milly is at St John's Ipswich on Sunday 23rd

Remember the
Church Coop
Dividend number:
2295

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**.

It used to be said...

'Cleanliness is next to Godliness'

Can you join the cleaning team? We need more helpers to share keeping our church clean.

Contact, Claire Coster 822850
or Hilary Crisp 822208. Thank you.

'Operation Christmas Child'

Shoebox fundraiser coffee morning.
Ansell Centre, Saturday March 12th.

Sunday Club AGM 2011

Monday 17th January
7.30pm in the Adventurer's room.

Please do join us at our AGM, if you are in any way involved or interested in Sunday Club, you will be made very welcome. Hilary Crisp

Please could you let me have all items for the Feb 11 Newsletter by **Sunday 16th Jan** (23rd if emailed)? Email to phil@the-wells.net, post to 11 Jordayn Rise, Hadleigh or use the tray in the Church. Thanks, Phil

REVELATION

What on earth is it about?

What's the point of it being in the bible?

Is it relevant to us today?

From Monday 24 January - for 3 monthly sessions, there's the opportunity to look

at just a little of this fascinating book and realise how much it offers words of comfort and challenge to Christians today.

7.30pm at 6 Raven Way - contact Milly (827895) for transport or more details. All welcome.



GUILD REPORT

On Tuesday November 23rd our meeting was led by John Cunningham, one of our guild members. John talked about The Apocrypha and had brought along some very old Bibles for us to see. He told us that the apocrypha was the bridge between the Old and New Testaments and recognised mainly by the Roman Catholic Church. He read some of the more colourful stories for us and we thank John for all his research and for such an interesting evening.

January 2011 Programme

4th New Years Party 7 -9 pm in the Community Room
Shared supper + competition for best robin card

11th Devotional led by Members

18th No meeting

25th Working in an orphanage in Moldova - Ben and Jill Gordon

All meetings in the Community Room unless otherwise stated

Church Accounts to end November

Please note that Newsletter finance entries are always a month in arrears. That is, the November n-l will describe the October accounts and the December one will describe the November accounts, etc.

Summary.

There was large loss this period. This has been mostly due to payments in connection with the Buildings projects..

Church Daily Running Account.

Negative cash-flow (i.e. a loss) of £1,800.

Offerings up on last month.

We paid £500 to our charities, and £360 gardening bills.

After removing those extraordinary items c-f remains , as last month, roughly stable.

It should be noted, though, that stable means a long term , if small, loss. Removing the rent that we earn from the School House would worsen that position. I.E. Our offerings do not cover our day-to-day costs: we use the income from the School House to augment our offerings. A perilous position.

Ansell Centre.

Stable.

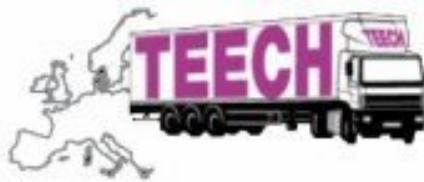
Buildings Fund.

We paid £14,000 in connection with the Windows. There will be some other bills against the Windows in December, but we ought to balance those mostly against the Biffaward grant which shall request quite shortly. You may recall that the Biffaward grant is paid to us in arrears. I.E after the invoices are received and paid.

RTH

"This is the rule of most perfect Christianity, it's the most exact definition, its highest point, namely, the seeking of the common good. For nothing can so make a person an imitator of Christ as caring for [their] neighbours."

- John Chrysostom



Thank you for nominating TEECH as one of the charities we will support this year.

TEECH (Telecoms Eastern European Challenge) is a local charity which started in 1998 aiming to help people in the former eastern block countries, particularly Romania and Moldova.

The charity usually makes two trips each year. One at Christmas time takes aid in the form of shoe boxes, warm clothes and food to families and orphanages. The other trip takes place during August with up to 50 volunteers taking humanitarian aid and providing practical help to a needy community.

The 2011 summer project is to help a village school in Moldova, which also serves as a community centre for the village and surrounding area. The school has no internal toilets and only limited washing facilities. The kitchen is in a poor state, the plumbing is antiquated and the wiring is positively dangerous.

At the Guild on 25th January Jill and Ben Gordon will be speaking about their experiences with TEECH in Moldova last August.

*"We all know well that we can do things for others and in the process, crush them, making them feel that they are incapable of doing things by themselves. To love someone is to reveal to them their capacities for life, the light that is shining in them." - **Jean Vanier***

Prayer Page

Prayer Points for January in our Church

Give thanks for all of the special Christmas services and pray that those who came along will be drawn to Jesus.

Give thanks to God that he sent Jesus into this world to show us his love. Thank him for his constant presence. Pray for those who don't know the love of God.

Pray for those who struggle with the dark wintry days and either suffer from depression or are housebound because of the difficult conditions.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity falls in January. Pray for a real sense of God's love binding Christians of all denominations together. Ask God to show us practical ways in which we can be the light of Christ together.

Pray that the new all-age worship service, which takes place on the evening of 9th January, will draw many new people to worship.

Remember those of our fellowship who are in residential care – Ruth Gleed, Violet Hines, Peggy Crabtree and Alan Brooks and remember others who are in the prayer book.

Thursday Group

Next meeting of the Thursday Group will be held on Thursday 3rd February in the Community Room at 7.30pm.

No meeting in January

Wishing you all much happiness, health and God's Blessing on each and everyone for the year 2011.

Any queries please phone Phil 0127370

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 18th – 25th January

Bring & Share Meal

Saturday 22nd January, 6.30pm, Ansell Centre

In addition to the many opportunities we will have during the Week of Prayer to gather together for worship, meditation and prayer (see following), Churches Together in Hadleigh are planning a Bring and Share Meal for Saturday 22nd January, 6.30pm in the Ansell Centre.

Bring along a savoury or sweet contribution to the meal. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided, but do bring your own bottle if you wish.

The evening will be a mixture of food, conversation, drama, activities and who knows what else! It will be mainly a time when Christians from all the churches can get together for fellowship.

It would be very helpful for planning purposes to have a rough idea of the number planning to attend. If you hope to be present, please give names to your church representative below. You may, of course, need to turn up without having booked and you will be made very welcome. But if everyone decides to do that, it will unfortunately have been cancelled. Please book if you can!

Church Rep: **Sylvia Jarvis** 829166

Worship and Prayer Events during the Week:

Tues 18 th	11.00am	Row Chapel	Morning Prayer
Wed 19 th	7.30am	St Mary's	Communion & Breakfast
Thur 20 th	7.45pm	SA	Praise & Fellowship
Fri 21 st	9.10am	St Joseph's	Mass & Coffee
Sat 22 nd	6.30pm	Ansell Centre	Fellowship Meal
Sun 23 rd	6.30pm	Elmsett Meth.	Joint Service
Mon 24 th	7.00pm	St Joseph's	Meditation
Tues 25 th	10.15am	URC	Prayer & Coffee

For more information, please get in touch. **Jim.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN DECEMBER

Sun 2nd 7.00pm Inspired, Church

Mon 3rd 8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre

Tues 4th 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Room
10.15 Prayer Service, Church

Wed 5th 7.30pm Churches Together, Salvation Army
7.30pm Film Discussion Group, Sideways,
Station Road

Thurs 6th 9.45am Toddler Group, Community Room

Fri 7th 12.15pm Ansell Lunch Club, Ansell Centre

Sat 8th 2-4pm Scrabble, Community Room

Sun 9th 6.30pm Inspired Celebration service

Mon 10th 7.30pm Facilities Meeting, Community Room
8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre

Tues 11th 10.00am Area Partnership, Stowupland
10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Room
10.15am Prayer Service, Church

Wed 12th 7.30pm Churches Together Forum, Salv'n Army

Thurs 13th 9.45 Toddler Group, Community Room

Sat 15th 2-4pm Scrabble, Community Room

Mon 17th 7.30pm Sunday Club AGM, Adventurers' Room
8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre

Tues 18th – Tues 25th Week of Prayer – see details P 12
10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Room
10.15am Prayer Service, Church
8.00pm Prayer & Praise, Monks Eleigh

Wed 19th 12.15pm Wednesday Lunch Club, Ansell Centre
3.00pm Monks Eleigh AGM
7.30pm Hadleigh Youth Ministries, Salv'n Army

Thurs 20th 9.45-11 Toddlers, Community Room
2.30pm Bible Study, Whatfield Salvation Army
7.30pm Worship Team, 85 Angel Street

Sat 22nd 2-4pm Scrabble, Community Room
6.30pm Week of Prayer Meal, Ansell Centre

Sun 23rd 7.00pm Inspired, Church

Mon 24th 8.00pm Badminton, Ansell Centre

Tues 25th 10-11.30 Come in for Coffee, Community Room
10.15am Healing Prayer Service, Church
12 noon Lunch Study Group, 2 Queen's Row,
Magdalen Rd

Wed 26th 8.00pm What do you think?, The George

Thurs 27th 9.45-11 Toddlers, Community Room

Sat 29th 10.00am Table Top Sale, Ansell Centre

Mon 31st 4.00pm Pastoral Team, 2 Queen's Row,
Magdalen Rd

* **Thank you** *
* Milly and I would like to thank all those who have given *
* us cards, gifts and words of encouragement over the *
* Christmas season. You can be sure that they are all *
* very much appreciated. *
* Grateful thanks to all who contributed in so many ways *
* to our Christmas celebrations – readers, musicians, *
* hospitality, church decoration and cleaning, general *
* encouragement. I pray that you are both blessed and a *
* blessing throughout this new year. **Jim.** *
*

MINISTER

Rev Jim Dalglish

6 Raven Way

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IP7 5AX

Tel: 01473 827895

ELDERS

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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)

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