

March 2009 at Christ Church

Dear friends at Christchurch

Last Wednesday was Ash Wednesday – the start of Lent. Through the history of the church, Lent has been a time a preparation for Easter – a time when we readjust our priorities. Sometimes that might mean giving something up, but not for the sake of giving that thing up, as if God will somehow be pleased with me if I manage without chocolate for 40 days, but to be able to devote ourselves more fully to him.

Over the next few Sunday mornings we will be thinking about some of the things that stop our lives being all that God intends them to be – Pride, Envy, Sloth, Greed, Lust and Wrath. These things damage us as people, and also spoil our relationships with others, and with God.

Jesus showed a better way to live – summed up in the Beatitudes at the start of Matthew 5. Can I encourage you to make a priority over the next few weeks of being in church while we are looking at these key issues, and of attending a home-group, as they also look at the same things.

The other key event this month is the launch of our links with the Ipusukilo children's project in Zambia. This is a new venture for us, following on from our links with the family centre in Vaslui in Romania. Please do come along to our shared tea and evening service on Sunday 8th March to find out more.

I said that Lent is only about giving something up in order to do something better. So if this Lent you are giving something up – why not give the money you save to Ipusukilo? Because Jesus said, *Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.* (Matthew 25:40)

Yours in Christ

Regular weekly activities:

Monday	-	9.30 am Toddler Group
	-	1.00 pm TLC
Tuesday	-	9.30 am Toddler Group
	-	1.15 pm Art Group
	-	4..00 pm Shine
Wednesday	-	9.30 am Toddler Group
	-	1.00 pm Needlecraft Group
	-	1.30 pm Toddler Group
	-	4.00 pm Rainbows
	-	5.15 pm Rainbows
Thursday	-	1.00 pm Craft Group
	-	9.45 am Keep Fit
	-	11.00 am Keep Fit
	-	5.30 pm Brownies
	-	7.30 pm Guides
Friday	-	9.15 am Mothers 'n' Others
	-	7.00 pm Evening Bowls

LENT 2009

As usual during Lent, this year we will again be joining with Christians from the other churches in Moreton for a series of Lent Lunches. These will be on Wednesdays, and each week we will begin with a short service at 12.00 noon, followed at 12.30 pm by a light lunch. This year we will be looking at how the psalms can help us in our prayers:-

Wednesday	4th March	Praying our Trust - Psalm, 25
Wednesday	11th March	Praying our Anxiety - Psalm 55
Wednesday	18th March	Praying our Doubt - Psalm 73
Wednesday	25th March	Praying our Temptation - Psalm 141
Wednesday	1st April	Praying our Praise - Psalm 145

Annual General Meeting Wednesday 22nd April - 7.30 pm

Electoral Roll

In the run up to our AGM we will be updating our Electoral Roll. This is the official list of church members - so if you think of yourself as part of Christ Church, but aren't yet on the Roll, please fill in a form and give it to Eileen Hughes, our Electoral Roll Officer.

If you aren't sure whether you are on the Roll, please ask Eileen - she will be able to tell you! All Electoral Roll forms must be returned to Eileen by ***Tuesday 31st March*** at the latest, so why not fill one in today. They are on the table at the back of the church.

Reports

All reports need to be in the office by the very latest ***Wednesday 18th March*** for inclusion in the AGM booklet.

Wirral Former Carers Reaching out to former carers in Wirral

Wirral Former Carers is a voluntary self-help group which aims through social activities to ease the isolation often experienced by individuals who have had a heavy, enduring, private caring role, which has now ended either by the death of their loved one or by them going into long term residential care. If you want to find out more they can be contacted on 645 6027 or email:

wirral.former.carers@hotmail.co.uk