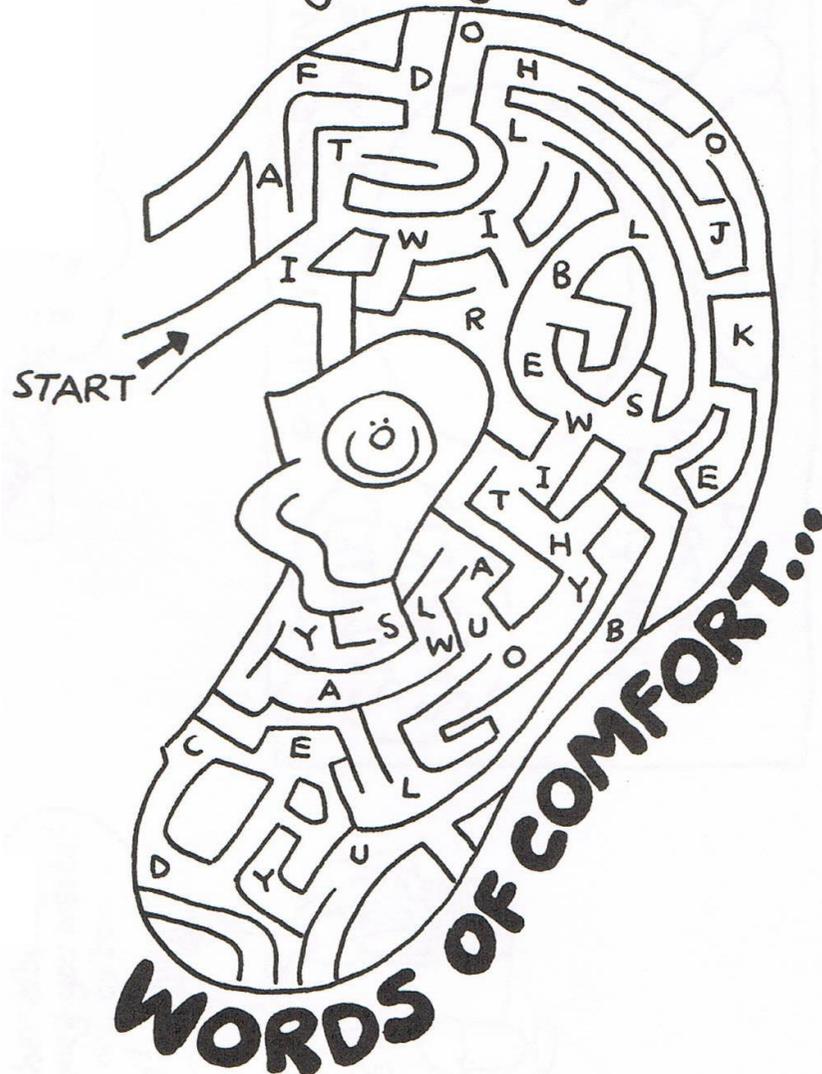


GOOD NEWS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Find your way to the centre of the ear, reading Jesus' message as you go....



January 2012 at Christ Church

Dear friends at Christchurch

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Yes, even though it is already 8th January, 2012 has really only just started. I wonder whether you began the year with excitement and optimism about what lies ahead, or with a feeling of anxiety.

On the one hand, so much that affects us seems to be beyond our control – from global financial troubles to the threat of terrorism and international tensions. On the other hand, we are surrounded by issues where we do have to make decisions, but where we often don't know what is the best thing to do.

Faced with all of this, so many people turn to false gods. In this country over 300,000 people are addicted to opiate drugs, and maybe as many as 1 in 13 have an alcohol problem. Others turn to 'retail therapy', with the result that around 1 in 5 of the population are on a credit blacklist.

We see this tragedy all around us, but as Christians we have something infinitely better to pin our hopes on. Because we belong to the God of hope. We may not know what the future holds for us, but we do know the one who holds the future.

And so as we start this new year, surely our prayer must be that of the psalmist: *Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me.* When we pray that, it doesn't mean that God will necessarily lead us where we expect to go, or teach us what we want to hear. If we genuinely pray that prayer, who knows what the Lord will teach us this year, or where he will lead us to. But one thing we can be certain of – he is God our Saviour, and we can confidently put our hope in him.

Yours in Christ

Graham Cousins

Regular weekly activities:

Monday	-	1.00 pm TLC
Tuesday	-	3.30 pm Shine
Wednesday	-	1.00 pm Needlecraft Group
	-	5.30-6.30 pm Rainbows
	-	5.45 pm-7.00 pm Brownies
Thursday	-	9.45 am Keep Fit
	-	11.00 am Keep Fit
	-	1.00 pm Craft Group
	-	5.00 pm Brownies
	-	7.30 pm Guides
Friday	-	9.15 am Mothers 'n' Others
	-	7.00 pm Evening Bowls

SUNDAY 29th JANUARY

United Service

At 6.30 pm on Jan 29th we join with Christians from the other churches in Moreton to celebrate the unity that we have in Christ. The service is at Moreton Methodist Church, and the speaker will be Rt Revd Brian Noble, the former bishop of Shrewsbury.

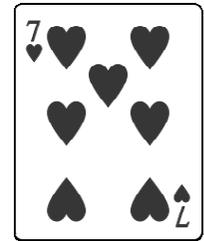
THE BIG CHRISTMAS CARD



We had the ambitious challenge at Christmas of raising £327 to provide a well for a village in Kenya. The great news is that we actually raised over £570. Well done Christ Church! More information about what the extra money will be spent on will follow shortly.

MEN'S BREAKFAST SEVEN DEADLY SINS

PRIDE... ENVY... SLOTH... GREED... LUST... WRATH... GLUTTONY... sins common in all men. What did Jesus say about them? Join us on Saturday 21st January, 9am as we begin as considering 'The Seven Deadly Sins and the Beatitudes'. Guest speakers booked and a fry up breakfast guaranteed. Please do sign up for the Men's Breakfast.



QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 27TH JAN 7.30 PM



Come along to the Parish Centre and join in our quiz evening. No charge but there will be an opportunity to give a donation.

CROSSWORDS: **Raising Our Children - Saturday 25th February**
How can we best raise our children; within the family and the church? The morning is designed for parents, youth and children's leaders and ministers to explore this issue together. 9.00 am – 1.00 pm location to be decided.