

150 Years of Worship and Outreach

Central United Reformed Church Hove



Rev. Sue Chapman

February 2016

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday Youth Ministry

Mrs. A. Austen

Mrs C. Vaughan

Boys' Brigade
(Mondays)

Mr. C. Jukes

Girls' Club
(Tuesday)

Mrs. S. Hill

Tuesday Fellowship
(Alternate Tuesdays)

Mrs H Brown

Men's Fellowship
(Third Wednesday)

Mr. P. Gear

Welcome Break
(Wednesdays)

Mrs. P. Macaulay

Bluebird Parent & under 3s Group

Mrs K. Hancox

Church Web Site

Mr John Brewster

Church Hall Tel: 01273 734162

MISSED CHURCH?

You can listen to the Sunday Morning Service by going to our website: www.centralurchove.com and hearing the recording.

AN ELDER SPEAKS.

Dear Friends,

By now the festive season of Christmas has somewhat dimmed, the celebrations are over, the decorations put away for another year, but let's continue to keep in mind the birth of our Lord as we head into this New Year and to take **Him** with us into all aspects of our daily activities.

Another chapter in the life of the pastorate is about to be opened as we welcome Rev Sue Chapman and her husband, Colin, into its midst. They have been called to serve their Lord here in this place, but let's not forget we also are here to serve our Lord, our community and each other as we seek to work together to advance **His** Kingdom.

An interregnum is a challenging time for any church, but the time ahead is likely to be even more so, so let's get enthused, let's get excited about this as we go forward in **His** name. Let us open our hearts and minds to new ways of doing things and accept that things may have to change, risks may have to be taken, opportunities may have to be seized upon, new thoughts and challenges may have to be accepted, but let's not be frightened about the future, but have faith and trust in our Lord and Saviour as we go forward and seek **His** way ahead.

Adrian Ball

STOP PRESS!

Just had an e-mail from Zimbabwe. All going well.
Exhausted. 9.00 pm and temperature 28° C.!

The Churches of the Hove Pastorate

Central, Hounsom & Portslade URCs

Invite you to

The Induction Service

Of

Rev Sue Chapman

As minister of the Pastorate

At

Central United Reformed Church

Saturday 13th February 2016 at 2.00 pm

And to refreshments afterwards

CHRISTMAS CHEER

This is the name that Brighton & Hove City Mission have used for a number of years to describe the scheme they have to distribute Christmas boxes to local families who would probably get no other gifts. To enable them to do this, the Mission approaches local churches, Central being one of these, for donations. Our donations are the presents placed around the Christmas Tree in the sanctuary.

The Mission decided that their evangelism should take a different route from Christmas 2015 but, knowing how much the recipients appreciate the Christmas boxes, they sought someone to take over. Fortunately, they were able to hand over the scheme to FRESH START, which is a community association based in Lewes Road, Brighton. Their appreciation of our contribution is shown in letter on page 25.

“Christmas Cheer” is now a much larger scheme than it was when it started. This past Christmas gifts were distributed too 227 people in 50 families. (107 adults: 120 children). Thank you to everyone who brought gifts to our Christmas Tree. It is so good to know how well they were received.

Alasdair Macaulay.

FAMILY NEWS FROM CENTRAL

Signs of an approaching Spring and a shaking off of post-Christmas sloth, make it more essential than ever to express our sincere thanks to all who made Central's celebration of Christmas so special. **Hilary Ball's** Christmas tree evoked much admiration with one couple, even parking their car and coming in to request if they might see it more closely. They had spotted it from their car in passing! Thanks to those who decorated the church and halls and the Men's Fellowship for their generosity in sponsoring the flowers. Thank you to those who brought gifts to lay under the Christmas tree – there is more information about how they were distributed elsewhere in the magazine. Thank you to **Alan Ireland** and the choir for their inimitable contribution to the music of Christmas in the Carols by Candlelight Service – Alan's postludes over the Christmas period were wonderful. And a special thank you to the Sunday Youth Ministry and their leaders for the Nativity Service: a well-known story made fresh each time and two new carols, one of which remained in the head long after the service was over.

In unity is strength and nowhere was this more evident than on the two Sundays after Christmas, when Central and Hove Methodist congregations joined together in worship. The warmth, fellowship and singing enhanced both services. This was even more in evidence by the full attendance at the united service on Sunday 3rd January when it rained, poured and blew outside in contrast to the coming together in Jesus' name inside.

Unfortunately, some friends in our church family suffered sadness with the loss of loved ones over Christmas. We extend our sympathy, love and prayers for comfort to **Sheila Lovey's family** on the death of David and to **Ann Beach** on the death of her sister. May the knowledge that they are in our hearts and thoughts strengthen them.

Please hold **Violet Foard** in your prayers. As you will remember, Violet was always one of the first into church every Sunday morning until she had a bad fall. We have recently learned that her health is not good and that she is undergoing tests in hospital. We miss her smile and her company and pray that the help she needs will be given to her.

With the coming of Rev. Sue Chapman to be the Pastorate's minister and the ending of the interregnum it would seem appropriate to express our thanks to **Rev. Jenny Morgan** (as our interim moderator) and all the ministers, lay preachers and, indeed, those in our own congregation who

have led our worship throughout this period. It is also important to thank those who arranged the preaching rota and spent hours on the telephone or e-mailing to fill blank Sundays. We are very grateful and appreciative of every one of you.

(It should also be remembered that Rev. Sue will be ministering to three churches, so will be preaching in rotation at each.)

Speaking of ministers, it was good to welcome our former minister, **Rev. Alex Mabbs** back to the morning service on Sunday 17th January. He told us something of his work at Brighthelm, which is about Faith, Community and Sustainability. He is appearing as a special guest at the Junction in February, if you would like to know more. Brighthelm, which has been meeting since 1662, no longer has Sunday services but now has one midweek instead.

Friends will be glad to know that two people mentioned in the last magazine have made some improvement and are now getting out a bit. **Dorothy Gale** has recovered from her fall but her legs are still giving her a great deal of trouble. She spends many weekends at her daughter's home, so is less frequently in church. However, she gave a beautiful reading of a William Blake poem at Hove Flower Club in January, when she was her usual stylish self, so her spirit is undaunted. **Angie Eaves** was looking well and enjoyed the BB's Old Time Music Hall last Saturday. It was good to see both her and **Ray** there, solid as ever in their support for the Company. Still with the BB, **Dick Dench** is to be congratulated on winning the award for being the oldest Old Boy at the Battalion Church service in January.

Enormous congratulations to our **BB Company**, both Boys and Staff for another highly enjoyable Old Time Music Hall. The church was buzzing with favourable comments and talk about it on Sunday morning! Our special and sincere thanks to the officers and Staff for the enormous amount of work and time they have given to the production before, during and after the performances. While people had enjoyed the Music Hall, great admiration was also expressed on Sunday morning for the immaculate state in which they had left the halls. We know this was achieved by their working until after midnight after the Saturday evening performance. Such dedication and pride in doing a job well can only be commended.

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Emma Newman, Rebecca Manley Keren Hancox and the rest Lynda Hulcoop's team from Paraclete**

International out in Zimbabwe. May God bless both their work and witness and keep them in good health, as we know Keren had some bad reactions to her pre-flight medication.

And now, as we prepare and plan for a new beginning in the life of Central, with the Induction of **Rev. Sue Chapman** as our minister, we welcome her husband, **Colin**, and her to Hove. We pray that their move has gone smoothly and that both she and Colin will find a warm welcome, friendship, faith, fellowship and fulfilment in our midst.

- Please be advised that the Induction Service on Saturday 13th February, will start promptly at 2.00 p.m. As there are a lot of guests coming, it is a good idea to come early.

Fellowship of Prayer:

Sheila Lovey and family, Violet Foard, Jan Owen, Tebello Sibanda, Peggy McMillen, Clive Hamblin, John Gilson, Ros Ayling Jan Owen, Sally Marteau, Doug and Maureen Lawrence & Ivy Newell.

FROM THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

Dear Friends,

The area between the boiler and the flue in the basement is becoming obstructed with all sorts of “rubbish”, which we need to clear for safety reasons. Some of it has not been used or moved for some years!

We don't want to clear out what is important to some organisation, so, please, help us by removing any items which are essential – there is plenty of space further into the basement beyond the boiler room.

Anything remaining after **1st March** will be taken to the tip.

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Peter Elliott (pp Building Committee).



10th BRIGHTON (HOVE) BOYS' BRIGADE COMPANY'S



OLD TIME MUSIC HALL

The one thing you can be sure of about the BB's Old Time Music Hall is that you can never be sure about anything. Yes, we know the opening and closing number will feature the song claiming they are "the Boys to entertain you!" but after that ... well, anything goes.

This year's production featured pirates, mice, frogs, newscasters, a pantomime horse, the Flower Pot Men, the Phantom of the Opera, a euphonium solo and synchronised swimmers. How diverse can you get! Throw into the mixture a bit of Holland, a trip to wartime France, a bit of mental mathematics – bet you could not do that sum in your head! – and the inevitable groan-making jokes And you begin to have some idea of the melange of the Old Time Music Hall's programme.

Q. What is a pirate's favourite subject at school?

A. Aaarrrrrt!

The Blomfield Family brought back memories of children's afternoon television before CBBC with their idea of "Giggles in the Garden" with Bill and Ben and Little Weeeed. Their selection of gardening jokes kept up the BB tradition of eliciting groans.

"Do you know some people put manure on their rhubarb?"

"Really! I like custard on mine."

One would like to say that Pastor Pete raised the joke standard when he used the Ten Commandments as a basis for his jokes. He did prove, however, that, although the audience knew its commandments, it did not necessarily know their order!

All of the jokes in the show were in the best tradition of the BB Old Time Music Hall.

One of the question asked by many people in the audience was how the Company keeps coming up with something fresh in each production. The skit based, loosely, on “Hello! Hello!” or, as the BB would say, “Bonjour! Bonjour!” was carried off very well by Rene and Herr Flick maintaining their “accents” and by the guest star appearance of Edith.

The Anchors and Juniors stole the hearts of many every time they appeared on stage; whether singing about “a mouse with clogs on in Old Amsterdam” or as Wetland Wonders to the “Frogs Chorus” or as pirates. The members of the Company Section have a more difficult job as they have left the “cute and sweet” stage long behind them. They have entered what might be known as the “phoarr” stage (pinched from the tabloid’s description of ‘War & Peace’). This was evident in their show stopping presentation, as Team BB, of synchronised swimming. Totally brilliant. Their discipline in keeping straight faces and to time was so good.

As if the leaders had not enough to do in producing and guiding the show, they all participated as well. The Brewster Brothers closed the first half with their usual suave duet; Sam Clarkson befuddled the audience with Maths, as they tried to work to his instructions; Pam Stringer and John Brewster led the audience in the Sing-a-long and Sarah Blomfield joined her sons as Little Weed.

The amount of work, which goes into producing such an event as The Old Time Music Hall, is mind-blowing. Costumes, props, scenery, which get better ever year don’t just happen. So to all the backstage hands, the Staff and Boys of the Tenth congratulations and thanks for giving us so much fun and laughter and entertainment.



Dress Rehearsal



REQUEST FROM HILARY

Thank you for all your lovely comments about the Christmas Tree. I am already thinking of a different idea for this year's, 2016, tree and I have a request.

Please can you collect for me small boxes – no larger than 3" x 3" or 4" x 2". I will put a box upstairs by the lift for any donations.

If you are sorting out your tree baubles and have any spare, especially if they are coloured, please put them in the box too.

Many thanks,

Hilary Ball.

Flower Rota for February

7th Kathleen Dalley – in memory of Evelyn

14th Induction Flowers

28th Girls' Club



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

New Year Party – January 2016

The MF New Year Party has become a traditional ‘opener’ to our annual programme of events and its ongoing success owes much to being joined by partners and guests. We are also hugely grateful to Peter and Celia who again organised the mental and physical activities!

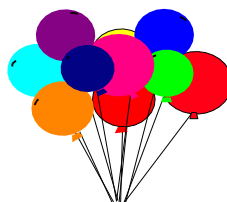
The evening began with a picture quiz – quite easy if are able to imagine what famous people looked like when they were young – or can spot likenesses! Even with some cryptic clues most of us struggled, except Colin Hancox who displayed a hitherto unknown talent and came up with most correct answers. Celia then subjected us to a memory game – a challenge for those of us who frequently have to stop and wonder why we opened the fridge door!

We then split up into teams for a music quiz. There was some loud muttering when it was noticed that a group of classical music “buffs” had found their way into the same team! Fortunately their knowledge did not extend to film themes and popular music, giving the rest of us a chance. Enough said! The General Knowledge quiz had something for everyone – even a couple of biblical questions, which usually cause a bit of embarrassment!

Following a more than ample shared supper we were given the chance to work off the calories trying to be the first team to complete Peter’s list of film titles, books, TV shows etc. with a game of Charades. This got the competitive juices flowing and woe betide anyone who got in Hilary’s way as she crossed the room clearing the way with her walking sticks! We rounded the evening off trying to unravel a series of cryptic clues relating to stations on the London Underground – those that seemed obvious were not always so!

Slightly exhausted but happy we retired, reassured that church folk can enjoy themselves and that age is a state of mind not a number. We look forward to next year – and of course all the other activities we have planned for this year.

Bill Maclean



OUTREACH

Does anyone remember the “Little Green Boxes?”

At the time of the redevelopment of our premises we encouraged everyone in the fellowship to do whatever they could to aid the completion of the work. Many responded: “ I can do some painting and decorating;” “ I can make curtains;” were a couple of the offers made. One elderly lady said, “ I can’t do anything like that and I don’t have much money but I can let you have some of my loose change.”

Most folks empty their pockets (or handbags) at the end of the day and they frequently find they have much more coin than they need for the next day. How could we encourage members to give some of this to the church? One of our members at the time, Gladys McIntyre, advised that her hobby was making decorative boxes and she offered to make a box for everyone who joined the scheme. The Development Resources Committee was born.

In the early days of the DRC donations were around £200 in a half year. When the redevelopment was complete, it was anticipated that donations to the DRC would cease but a number of our members said they wanted to continue as it was so easy to donate their loose change. The DRC collecting boxes became the Roof Slate Fund Collection Jars, then, some years later they became the Outreach Fund Collection Jars.

Loose change giving has contributed several thousand pounds to church funds since the little Green Boxes were first made available over twenty years ago.


This method of giving is still available but only a few contribute regularly. Is this perhaps the time to stop? The “few” donated £150 in 2014 and £100 in 2015. Not great sums in today’s money but money we would not have received without the scheme.

Let us see if 2016 can be the year we increase the number of contributors and therefore the amount of money donated. If you would like a collection jar or want to know how the scheme works, have a word with Alasdair Macaulay.

In the meantime, a big “thank you” to everyone who has contributed, particularly those who continue to do so.

A Classic Evening with Soprano Rebekah Smith

Saturday 27th February
7:30 pm

A portrait of soprano Rebekah Smith, a young woman with long, wavy brown hair, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. She is wearing a dark, lace-trimmed top and a necklace. The background is dark and out of focus.

Join versatile young soprano Rebekah Smith
and pianist Phillip Leslie for an enchanting
recital of opera and song.

Experience a recital of classics by Puccini,
Mozart, Britten and Gilbert and Sullivan.

Central United Reformed Church, Hove
£5 Tickets
£3 Concessions

CHURCH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

SUN 7	Family Service Neil Watts (Telscombe Cliffs) Evening Worship – The Junction Special guest : Rev Alex Mabbs	10.30 am 6.30 pm
Tue 9	Tuesday Fellowship Music with Ken Smith	2.30 pm
Fri 12	Lent Course – Session 1 Hove Methodist Church, Portland Road	10.00 am
Sat 13	INDUCTION OF REV. SUE CHAPMAN As minister to the Hove Pastorate	2.00 pm
SUN 14	Family Service – Holy Communion Rev Peter Elliott NO EVENING SERVICE AT CENTRAL	10.30 am
Mon 15	Lent Course – Session 1 Hove Methodist Church, Portland Road	7.30 pm
Wed 17	Lent Course – Session 1 Central URC Men's Fellowship – Film Night (Alan Ireland's)	2.00 pm 7.00 pm
Fri 19	Lent Course – Session 2 Hove Methodist Church	10.00 am
SUN 21	Family Service Rev Roger Wood Evening Worship Rev. Sue Chapman	10.30 am 6.30 pm
Mon 22	Lent Course - Session 2 Hove Methodist Church Christian Book Club – <i>Song of Songs</i> (Chip Dunn's)	7.30 pm 8.00 pm
Tue 23	Tuesday Fellowship – Fay Patterson South Downs National Park	2.30 pm
Wed 24	Lent Course – Session 2 Central URC	2.00 pm

Fri 26	Lent Course – Session 3 Hove Methodist Church	10.00 am
Sat 27	Concert by Rebekah Smith (see separate notice)	7.30 pm
SUN 28	Family Service – Parade Rev Sue Chapman Evening Worship – Holy Communion Rev. Peter Elliott	10.30 am 6.30 pm
Mon 29	Lent Course – Session 3 Hove Methodist Church Quiz Night at Hove Methodist	7.30 pm tba

MARCH

Wed 2	Lent Course—Session 3 Central URC	2.00 pm
Fri 4	WOMEN’S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Lent Course— Session 4 Hove Methodist Church Service at Salvation Army Citadel Sackville Road	10.00 am 10.30 am
Sat 5	Cake Stall Coffee Morning	10.00 am
SUN 6	MOTHERING SUNDAY Family Service Roger French Evening Worship – The Junction	10.30 am 6.30 pm

All contributions for the **MARCH** edition of the magazine should be handed in no later than **SUNDAY 21ST FEBRUARY**

Please inform **Mr. Bill Maclean** by Wednesday of the preceding week of any calendar changes so that the calendar on the Order of Service may be altered.

Lent Series 2016.

The title of the Lent course for 2016 is “Windows into the first Holy Week.”

This is a 6 week course and (like last year) each session will take place 3 times and the details are below.

	Fridays	Mondays	Wednesdays
	10 am - 12 at HMC	7.30 pm - 9.30 pm at HMC	2 pm - 4 pm at Central URC
Session 1	12th Feb	15th Feb	17th Feb
Session 2	19th Feb	22nd Feb	24th Feb
Session 3	26th Feb	29th Feb	2nd March
Session 4	4th March	7th March	9th March
Session 5	11th March	14th March	16th March
Session 6	18th March	21st March	23rd March

The sessions are interchangeable in any given week, so you will not miss out if you are unable to attend on your usual day.

All are welcome to attend as we look behind the story as it is told to discover the amazing life changing truths it has for us.

Paraclete Christian Network International

A big “Thank You” to all who gave to Paraclete’s Christmas appeal - for the sum raised was just over £700 and about another £150 will be added as a result of many donations being gift aided. I’m sure we shall get a full report from Rev Lynda Hulcoop and the 3 ladies from Central on their return from Zimbabwe in early February. We hope they have a safe, interesting and rewarding time. Much of the money raised will have been spent on food, not only for those at the training school but on the local community who are having a very hard time at the moment.

Thank you also for the foreign coins which, when added to other amounts from other places, will also be spent in Zimbabwe on equipment for the centre.

Adrian Ball

CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB

“The Children Act” is a thought provoking book when it is describing the cases with which its main character, Fiona Maye has to deal.

Fiona is a leading High Court judge who presides over cases in the family division of the court. Career-wise she would appear to have it all: successful, highly intelligent, musically gifted, respected for her judgements, which are exact and sensitive. Matrimonially her home life is falling apart.

As we read about her career and get to know the kind of judgements she has to make and the reasoning behind them, we were filled with admiration for the difficulty of her decision making. Should two girls be allowed to have a higher secular education, as their mother wished, or return to the father’s religious stance/tradition and finish their schooling at 16? Seems a no-brainer to most people today but the reasoning and the other issues behind the parent’s individual beliefs regarding the upbringing of their daughters fogs some of the arguments.

What about a case of con-joined twins? If they are not separated, both boys will die. If the operation is allowed to go ahead the weaker twin will certainly die. Again it seems straight forward but the parents’ religious beliefs insist that it would be murder and it should be left in the hands of God. God gave life and only God should take it away. So, she is faced with the choice of deciding on the lesser evil and then comes up with the idea of intent because in both cases she must keep within the law.

We are carefully presented with the arguments and her thinking about what the law says. However, the case, which is the crux of the novel and almost Fiona’s nemesis, is one in which Fiona has to rule on the issue of whether or not a 17 year old young man who is desperately ill should or should not have a blood transfusion. If he doesn’t, he will die in great pain. Again, it seems straightforward the medical profession’s diagnosis and the parent’s religious beliefs are at odds. The boy cannot be allowed to decide his fate because he is a few weeks short of being 1

All these cases and others have a conflict between religion and the law. Some amongst us wondered if the author had a mind-set against religion because he covered every major religion in the cases presented. Fiona, the judge, however, does not appear to be anti-religion, per se, rather she is pro-law.

Brilliant as she is in court, domestically her life is unsatisfactory: nice life,

nice home, nice husband, she thinks, but all a bit sterile. She has sacrificed having children for her career – there was always a reason or step-up for their postponement.

And it is when this edifice starts to crumble that Fiona discovers she cannot keep home, court, people in carefully separated boxes. And it is in the second part of the book that the pace slackens and the story line becomes questionable/ slightly less credible.

There was much room for discussion and debate in the book: morally, theologically, socially and yet it is not a difficult read. As a story it can be read superficially but there are so many modern issues being raised that it demands closer reading and examination.

February sees us turning to a totally different “read”. By our next meeting on 22nd February, we shall have read “Song of Songs” from the Old Testament. We are meeting at Chip Dunn’s home, at 8.00 pm. And you are welcome to join us.

With an early Easter, we are not meeting in March but on 4th April at Pam Moody’s , 1, Hartington Villas, when we switch to a more light-hearted book , “The Other Side of the Dale” by Jervaise Finn.

Alasdair Macaulay.

Central United Reformed Church

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY 20TH MARCH 2016

12.00 noon

- It will be assumed that Officers and Representatives are willing to continue to stand unless Keren Hancox is notified otherwise by 28th February.
- Alan Ireland is stepping down as Organist and Elder. It is imperative that you think and pray about who might be elected to the Eldership. Nomination Forms will soon be available in the Upper vestibule and these should be completed by Sunday 6th March.
- This is your church please support it by working and praying for its future well being.

		RECEIVE CHILDREN. RECEIVE ME			
<p>Friday 4th March Women's World Day of Prayer All are welcome</p>			 <p>Praying for Cuba</p>		

**SALVATION ARMY CITADEL
SACKVILLE ROAD**

10.30 a.m.

Any No .5 bus will get you there!

Get off at Coleridge Street

www.wwdp.org.uk Registered Charity Number 233242

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Topical as ever, just another of those God-incidences we are becoming accustomed to when WWDP Services are planned 2-3 years in advance, Cuba and USA start talking to each other and re-establishing diplomatic relations.

Join with 15 churches in Hove and Hangelton and other Christians - an estimated 3 million men, women and young people - in 170 countries and islands in prayer with and for the people of Cuba.

Come early and enjoy refreshments at the pre-service café—Cuban style.

BARBADOS WITH PARACLETE

Last October I had the amazing opportunity to travel with folk from my Church to Barbados on Mission.

Am I up to the job? Will I be any good at it? What about the heat? Oh and not to forget How about the finances?

I needn't have worried as God answered our prayers and gave us the knowledge and understanding to do his work.

On arrival we soon settled in to a daily routine of Swim in the beautiful Caribbean sea (usually we were at the beach by 6am as it was very difficult to sleep with the temp reaching up to 38 degrees and no air conditioning) Then back for breakfast and final prep for the day. Off for the day carrying out our sessions. Generally back by 5ish - off for a swim before dinner and planning for the next day.

We worked with all ages from 3 to 103 years old. Visiting Schools, Nurseries, University and Senior Citizens.

The children were full of joy. They enjoyed our various sketches and activities (all with a strong Christian message) They had very little in the way of equipment or resources. We taught them to make paper aeroplanes and it was a total joy to see them playing with the parachute. A first for all the children.

On one of the days part of our introduction was to say something about ourselves. Each of the group included a pet that they had and when it came to my turn I told them I didn't have one. (many sighs) When we were driving away after our visit one of the boys came running up to the car asking for "the lady who didn't have a pet"

He had a kitten to give me!

He was sad when I told him I couldn't take it on the flight home.

Visiting the Senior Citizens homes was fantastic. What a blessing and privilege to spend time with men and women over 100 years old.

We also ministered to the staff in these homes. The owner's son, Owen, was visibly moved during our worship session and asked us to pray for him at the end. He re-committed his life to Jesus that day. (We were all moved to tears.)

One of our team felt led to seek out Sharon, a member of staff, and during their prayer time Sharon too gave her life to Jesus.

God's timing is perfect. We can never know when we will be given the blessing of opening His word to those who need to hear it.

Our time with the University students also had rich rewards. We met with them for worship and prayer and supported them with their outreach on the Campus.

We felt challenged doing this work as many of us had never worked with this age group. We needn't have worried as God gave us the tools for the job. We have since heard that the Christian Union is now having a social session each week and they have dedicated Fridays to work on the campus, speaking to other students about their faith.

The nursery and the schools have reported that they are continuing with the ideas we brought to them.

We have heard that the owner of the homes has died and Owen has taken over her work. God needed us to be there to awaken Owen to His word. God alone knows the plans he has for us.

During our sessions at the beach we founded the **First Church of the Caribbean Sea!** Each day during our worship and prayers other swimmers would join us. We prayed for many people and certainly saw God at work in this setting. We met people from far and wide along with locals.

I have been greatly blessed by this experience. Hopefully some of the pictures will give you a flavour of our time. God bless you all.

Frances Beacham





Paraclete Christian Network International
Mission Trip to Zimbabwe based at Kuwadzana
Christian Training Centre
28th January to 9th/ 16th February 2016

PRAYER SHEET

We would value your prayers as 9 of us set off to Zimbabwe on mission. Those going: Lynda Hulcoop (SCCC); Granville Steppel (SCCC); Keren Hancox (Hove Central URC); Rebecca Manley (Hove Central URC); Emma Newman (Hove Central URC); Olivia Evans (Westborough URC, Guildford) Stephen Hulcoop (Potters Street Baptist Church, Harlow); Michael and Jeanette Hulcoop (Southcourt Baptist Church, Aylesbury). We would value your prayers for safe journeying at all times, good health, no accidents and God's anointing and blessing on all we do as we seek to serve the people of Zimbabwe. Please pray for us specifically for our daily programme: (NB Zimbabwe +2 hours)

Thurs Jan 28th Flying from Heathrow on Ethiopian Airlines ET701 to Addis Ababa leaving at 20.15

Friday Jan 29th Flying from Addis Ababa to Harare on Ethiopian Airlines ET873 arriving at 12.30; afternoon meeting staff and settling in and hopefully having a sleep!

Sat Jan 30th Acclimatising and preparing for Sunday Church ministry and the week's programme; possible visit in the afternoon

Sun Jan 31st Group ministering at 2 different churches – Kuwadzana Presbyterian Church and Kambuzuma Presbyterian Church doing Sunday School, children's talk, preaching, prayer ministry Afternoon with training centre staff on an outing to Kuimba Shiri Bird Park

Mon Feb 1st **Mornings:** Leading Staff devotions (all) Bible School course: Understanding the Prophets (Granville and Lynda)

Friday Feb 5th Pre-school/crèche teacher training course (Keren and Jeanette, Olivia, Rebecca and Emma some mornings + help with Superkids pre-school Assisting at Batsirai special school (Olivia, Rebecca and Emma 1 or 2 days) Practical work (Stephen); Auditing accounts (Michael); photography (Emma) Bible school marking (Lynda)

Lunchtimes: Outreach mission to Paraclete College secondary school – drama, activities, testimony, music (all)

Afternoons:	Tuesday:	Visit to
Batsirai Special School (all)		
	Wednesday:	Staff and
Families tea in honour of Amos		
	Thursday:	Women's
Association meeting (all ladies); possible home visits		
	Friday:	Free time
Outing to Wild is Life		
Evenings:	Possible Bible School	
sessions for workers: preparation packing clothing parcels		

Sat Feb 6th **Morning:** Preparation for graduation day + preparation for Sunday ministry

Afternoon: Bible School Graduation

Sun Feb 7th **Morning:** Group at 2 different churches – Kuwadzana Presbyterian and Kambuzuma Presbyterian doing Sunday School, children's talk, preaching, prayer

Afternoon: Outing to Mukuvisi Woodlands Park

Mon Feb 8th: **Morning/Afternoon:** Free Time: trip to Avondale market and possibly Mbizi Game Park

Tue Feb 9th Main group leave for Addis Ababa departing 02.40 on flight ET893 (Ugh) Flying from Addis Ababa to Heathrow ET701 arriving 14.30

Lynda Stephen, Michael and Jeanette meetings with Jonah and staff re finance, future plans etc. Please pray for God's leading here as we face major issues that need God's solutions

Wed Feb 10th – Visit to Mutare/Inyanga to see work done at a local school, Semwayo School of Sewing and

Sat Feb 13th Tafara feeding programme + some free time. Please pray for safety on the roads!

Sun Feb 14th Church ministry at Kuwadzana Presbyterian Church

Mon Feb 15th Final meetings with Jonah and Staff

Tues Feb 16th Flying to Addis Ababa on ET 893 leaving 02.40 (Ugh again); Addis to Heathrow arriving 14.30



- Christmas Cheer 2015.

14th January 2016.

Dear Alasdair,

Hoping you had a fantastic Christmas and best wishes for 2016.

Thank you for all that you donated to Christmas Cheer. We had an amazing response from donors and recipients. Your contribution made a big difference to a lot of people's lives this Christmas.

The photograph shows a selection of hampers we were able to create from your generous donations to Fresh Start Community Association.

Christmas Cheer photographs will shortly be placed on our website.
<http://www.freshstartbrighton.org.uk/christmascheer>

Regards,

Julie Warner



Fresh Start Community Centre 131 Lewes Road Brighton BN2 3LG

Phone 01273 602157 office@freshstartbrighton.org.uk

Charity No. 1124999

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2016

COFFEE MORNINGS

March 5 th	Cake Stall
September 17 th	Social Activities Committee (Funds for Harvest Supper)
November 26 th	Boys' Brigade

SUPPERS

April 23 rd	Spring Supper
September 24 th	Harvest Supper

FAIRS

June 11 th	Summer Fair
December 3 rd	Christmas Fair



CAKE STALL

COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 5TH MARCH

10.00 pm

VENTNOR HALL

CENTRAL'S COPYRIGHT LICENCES

This is key standard information, like telephone numbers - don't forget what you have to do if you are:

- (a) ...reproducing (by typing) song words (eg in notices, separate song sheets or for the overhead projector) you need to include at the foot of each song the following details:

Author, © year © owner, CCL licence number 12011

... and inform Chris Hill for the records. If you don't have some of the information, try Chris - he may be able to help!

- (b) ...photocopying words out of a book then you have to acknowledge at the foot of the photocopy the following details:

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ADVANCE NOTICE

AN AFTERNOON

Of

CAKES, COOKIES AND CHAT

Saturday 2nd April

To raise funds for **Christian Aid**

At 234 New Church Road

More details next month

CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HOVE

Corner of Ventnor Villas and Blatchington Road, Hove

Church Hall Telephone: 01273 734162

www.centralurchove.com

MINISTER

Vacancy Advused

CHURCH SECRETARY

Mrs K. Hancox

TREASURER

Mr. C. Hill

COVENANT & FREEWILL OFFERING SECRETARY

Refer: Secretary/Treasurer

ORGANIST & CHOIR MASTER

Dr. A. Ireland

BUILDING HALL(S) HIRE

Mrs Celia Elliott

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Mrs. R. Brice

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30 a.m.

MORNING WORSHIP

with Youth and Children's Ministry

6.30 p.m.

EVENING WORSHIP

HOLY COMMUNION

First Sunday of the month at 10.30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of the month at 6.30 p.m.