

OCTOBER 1978

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

As no doubt many of you already know from the general discussions in the parish and various meetings and publicity, the Stewardship Development Programme initiated by the P.C.C. through the Stewardship Committee is beginning to take shape. Planning has been under way since May and approaches are now being made to a number of people to assist in the Programme in various ways.

The Programme will begin in earnest with the Parish Communion on October 22, when the Archdeacon will preach. The visitors will be commissioned the following Sunday and the Parish Supper will be on November 2. **Please keep this date free in your diary.** The aims and ideals of Stewardship will be discussed on this evening within the context of an informal parish gathering, to which everyone who may be interested in being involved in a Stewardship Commitment will be invited to come along and hear about the Programme and then to think it over and then discuss it with a member of the Church who will visit shortly afterwards.

There will be information given in the form of a brochure setting out our views as Christians towards our possessions and to help us see the whole of our life in relation to God and the use we make of it.

We do recognise that within a parish such as ours there are many differing views on the role of the Church in society, and the individual response to that. Some will see the Church as an expression of the Holy, or the Mystery of God, others as an instrument for Personal Salvation, or the opportunity to spread the Social Gospel, or perhaps, just as a force for morality and because it stands for the right things.

If you have good will towards our church and wish to support its work and whether you view the Church in any of the ways mentioned above or not, we ask you seriously to consider joining us in the Programme and listening and reading about it.

We are asking a lot of people to help and if you are not actively involved we do need lots more help through prayer. Please pray for our Stewardship Programme and that God's will in our parish will prevail.

Alan Taylor

(Chairman, Programme Steering Committee)

(P.S. Some of you who read this should already have received a letter containing an Invitation to the Parish Supper. If these have not already come to you and you would like to have them, please do not hesitate to contact the Vicar - 979 2069 - or me - 979 7042).

CHRISTIAN AID

I cannot remember exactly when I first started organising St. James's C.A. collections - probably about 1964/5; my records only go back to 1967 by which time we were at last strong enough to cover every road in the parish.

This year Hampton and Hampton Hill collected £1,298.59 (St. James's contribution being £303.52 - a 20% increase on last year.) This healthy situation emboldened me to tell the Vicar that I would be giving up the organiser's job and handing over to someone else, thus bringing in new blood and giving my loyal collectors, some of whom have been faithfully collecting right from the beginning - a well-earned rest.

I do urge anyone thinking of volunteering to do this rewarding once-a-year job not to be dissuaded by the recent furore re the action of the World Council of Churches (commented on elsewhere in this issue).

Christian Aid, the service arm of the British Council of Churches, has always denied giving direct payments to the W.C.C.'s 'Programme to Combat Racism', but nevertheless have been increasingly concerned that some of their W.C.C. grants were being used to help finance the administrative and clerical costs of the programme.

Regarding the recent payment of the £45,000 grant by the W.C.C. to the Rhodesian Patriotic Front, Dr. Kenneth Slack, Christian Aid's Director, wrote:- "On the day on which the grant of £45,000 made by the World Council of Churches to the Patriotic Front (for humanitarian and welfare purposes) was announced, I issued a statement from Christian Aid to say that I wanted formally and without qualification, to dissociate Christian Aid from that action." Dr. Slack also said that there is a humanitarian task to be done in all areas where there is revolt against established governments, just as there is in time of war. "The fulfilment of that task is extremely difficult. . . . quite simply a grant like the present one makes the fulfilment of a delicate humanitarian task far harder. We (Christian Aid) would not wish to be linked with this recent, and to us regrettable, action."

The recently retired Director of C.A., Dr. Alan Booth, had misgivings about certain uses of some of the money C.A. sent to the W.C.C. in Geneva. While C.A. had never contributed to the Programme to Combat Racism as such, there had been grounds for criticism in that various "desks" in the W.C.C., - material aid, migration, finance - had in one way or another indirectly assisted the fund. C.A. had taken energetic steps to resolve the problem and as a result, in the calendar year of 1975 a new system of accounting had overcome this particular problem.

C.A.'s support since 1975 (out of its £4 million p.a. budget) to the All Africa Council of Churches and the Commission on the Churches' Participation in Development, to the tune of some £67,000 and £21,500 respectively towards building and administration costs, is difficult to comment upon. The A.A.C.C. which has the support of Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole, pillars of the Internal Settlement in Rhodesia, has undoubtedly looked after refugees caused by the warfare. "If it were proved that the A.A.C.C. were provoking violence C.A. would reconsider its position." Dr. Slack has promised.

It is very hard to disprove or prove anything - especially for the outsider. But one thing IS certain. If we allow the current dispute to cripple C.A.'s world-wide work to alleviate the lot of the world's have-nots, thousands and thousands of innocent people will be deprived of the help they so desperately need, and this is certainly something that no Christian would want on his or her conscience.

M. Orton.

THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

One can hardly have failed recently to have noticed a plethora of articles in the National Press pertaining to the W.C.C.

It must be said that if the white regimes in Africa and Rhodesia were all that they should have been the door would not now be wide open to those who promise liberation, with a permanent dose of their particular kind of bondage to follow!

Massacres of black and white people in Rhodesia and Africa by guerillas and freedom fighters must tease the minds of many Christians and cause them to re-look at the teaching of Christ - the only safe point from which to work - on the matter of violence. **I can see no way in which Christ ever advocated meeting violence with violence.**

I note with interest that the Salvation Army has suspended its membership of the W.C.C. pending inquiries, and that Dr. Kenneth Slack, Director of Christian Aid, has dissociated that Organisation from the action of the W.C.C. in making its £45,000 grant to the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front. (I recognise that the grant was made from a "special fund" contributed to by people for this specific purpose; however, the grant appears to have the moral backing of the W.C.C. of which the Church of England is a member.)

Dr. Slack's comments were:- "It is my judgment that the action taken by the World Council's Officers is sadly bound to lead to misunderstanding. It links a humanitarian act to a particular judgment on the Internal Settlement in Rhodesia. It gives direct Church support to the Patriotic Front at a time when its individual acts of violence have deeply distressed many who are eager to see justice established in Rhodesia."

I was recently privileged to see a television programme 'Portrait of a Black Editor' - Bill Quoboza - who was gaoled for five months by the South African Government and whose newspaper 'The World' was banned. This wonderful man, a deeply committed Christian, greatly admired Martin Luther King, and himself believes in the peaceful working towards a just society for black people. He uses his pen in the fight to underline the misery of black South Africans, (recently winning the 'Golden Pen of Freedom Award' from the International Federation of Editors.) For this he pays the price for his Christian convictions . . . but then, following Christ can be a costly and for some, a dangerous business!

The devil has a left and a right hand. Extremes of either amount to the same evil, and both may seek to make use of perversions of the Christian Gospel to further their own ends. They also seek to rob man of the freedom and dignity conferred on him by Christ.

B. Page

(A number of people in the parish have expressed to us opinions similar to those so well outlined above. It is an issue on which people feel strongly. But there are those who defend these grants, and they have brought to our notice various considerations. For instance, we have been reminded that leading Churchmen in Rhodesia have had the courage to point out that some of the atrocities officially attributed to the guerillas of the Patriotic Front have in actual fact been carried out by members of the Security Forces themselves. And our attention has just been drawn to an article in the Catholic Herald for September 15, copies of which were sent for sale in our church because it was thought we might be interested in the reference made to Father Thevenet. The report appears on the front page and is headed 'Rhodesian Bishops talk with the Front', and it describes meetings between leading Roman Catholic

churchmen and Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe to discuss ways of bringing to an end the escalating war. These meetings, which took place in August, are said to have been very successful. But the point which we were especially called on to note was that the members of the delegation visited three refugee camps -presumably some of those to which the grant from the WCC goes; one for boys, one for girls, and one for mothers and children. They were very impressed by what they saw—There was no question of any military training or of Marxist indoctrination.'

We have also been asked to reprint extracts from articles and letters from other Church newspapers which give a more balanced account of the matter than many which have appeared in the National Press, but we have room only for one - and it does indeed go to the heart of the matter - a statement by the Bishop of Southwell recorded in the Christian World on August 31. This is the gist of what he said:

"The decision of the World Council of Churches to make a grant to guerilla organisations in Africa is one which many people cannot understand.

"The World Council is an organisation which embraces all the Churches in Christendom, bar the Roman Catholics. Its Central Council does an enormous amount of work, such as relieving the sufferings of refugees, feeding the hungry, social work, and fostering relationships between the Churches themselves.

"There is, however, a separate fund called the Programme to Combat Racism (PCR), to which people can contribute if they wish, but no Church of England money goes into it, unless anyone contributes to it privately. It is used to help people who are caught up in the fighting, refugees and other victims of violence, and there is no evidence that the money is being misused by the people to whom it is given. It is devoted entirely to social and humanitarian purposes and is not for arms.

"The countries who would protest loudly and most quickly if the money was misused would be South Africa and Rhodesia, and there is no evidence that they have been able to find any misuse of the fund. So a lot of the anxieties which have been engendered by such headlines as 'World Council of Churches gives money to guerillas' is really due to rather emotive language for a programme which is designed to help people who are in a very difficult situation"

There is obviously a good deal more that could be said, for which there is no space in our magazine : but we are grateful to those who are concerned about such important matters beyond the parish pump, and ask us to make reference to them. - Ed.)

THE WORD OF THE LORD (3)

To hold a position which we consider is either derived from or supported by what we believe to be an authentic word of the Lord: we can imagine - if we do not know by experience - what a great source of strength and tenacity this would be. So the Stuart monarchs, when they stood by their principle of the Divine Right of Kings, fortified themselves by their identification with such godly kings of Judah as Hezekiah and Josiah. So they persuaded themselves that the words which God spoke to these leaders of old in their time and place, and the power and authority which he gave them, applied with equal - or even greater - force to themselves as anointed kings in the seventeenth century. And they saw the realm of England as a modern version of ancient Judah, in which every number of society should be

constrained to be both a citizen and a churchman, and all Christian polity modelled on Old Testament precedents. Much as we may rightly admire Charles I and what he tried to do for the good of his country, we have to admit that if his view of kingship had prevailed, much healthy political and social development in England would have been stifled.

Then in modern times it has been of great help to the government of South Africa to have its policy of apartheid backed up by theologians of the Dutch Reformed Church who claimed to have found backing for it in the Bible. For are not the blacks the descendants of Ham, slaves upon whom an everlasting curse rests (see Genesis, chapter 9, verses 18 to 27)? So they fully deserve the harsh treatment which they receive from the whites, the presumed descendants of the virtuous Shem.

Again, the Seventh Day Adventists - as is obvious from their name - make one of the central planks of their religion the conviction that the fourth commandment, interpreted literally, is an authentic word of the Lord binding on all people everywhere, and so things will never come right until the Christian Sunday is finally abolished, and we all return to the Jewish sabbath on Saturday.

A book published two years ago had the striking title 'The Use and Abuse of the Bible', and most Christians would agree that such instances as given above come under the second category. But how do we avoid such pitfalls and grow in right understanding and proper use of the Scriptures? We hope that we may be able to make some helpful suggestions about this in future articles.

(There were unfortunately a few errors in last month's instalment, but they were easily recognisable - except for the missing nought. The 500-mile pilgrimage route was reduced to a mere 50! And Lesley tells us that from some starting-points it is more like 1500. We hope to hear more about all this shortly - and look forward to a full exposition as the highlight of our next St. James's Day celebration! - Ed.)

REPORTS

(12) The Liturgical Committee 1977-78

The Committee has, as usual, attended to a great variety of matters over the past year. Not only have we been at pains to devise the right service for the many 'special' occasions in the church calendar, but we have also witnessed the birth of our own 'St. James's Hymn Book' and tackled such vexatious problems as the timing of services, church amenities (mostly the lack of them!) and the participation in worship of the Uniformed Groups. The impossibility of conveying the wide-ranging nature of our business was brought home most forcibly when we were confronted with decorating a stall for the recent Open Day. We chose as our theme 'Working to enrich worship'. Not surprisingly, the main display illustrated the work involved in producing the St. James's Hymn Book, a task very ably shouldered by Janet Robinson. But it was unanimously agreed that the centrepiece of the table should be an enlarged photo, kindly donated by the Hampton Hill Studio, of the staff and servers gathered round the altar for Communion. The Lord's Supper must be seen to stand at the very heart of our worship at St. James's. Nothing must detract from its importance.

Innovations in the past year have included the moving of Evensong to 4.30 p.m. during the winter and the changing of Parade Sunday to the first Sunday in the month. Unusually, the Harvest Festival Service in 1977 took the form of dramatic readings interspersed with modern songs, capably performed

by members of the Questers. The 'Carols by Candlelight' service at Christmas also diverged from the traditional pattern by incorporating secular as well as biblical readings. Special services were devised to celebrate St. James's Day both this year and last.

As I write this report, the arrangements for Christmas 1978 are well in hand and we are already beginning to plan the pattern of worship for Holy Week and Easter 1979. Father George Sidebotham of the Community of the Resurrection has agreed to lead the Three-Hour Service on Good Friday and the Committee, for its part, is hoping to celebrate the festival by producing an Easter play.

Lesley P. Mortimer
(Chairman)

WASTE PAPER COLLECTION

The Waste Paper Collection on September 9 raised £92 for a load of about 6 tons. The total collected since January comes to £463, which will all go to local charities. We have two more dates fixed this year, the next being October 28.

Our paper merchants, Messrs Smith Brothers of Hayes, have complimented us on our organisation and we want to keep up our "good name" with them. Please do not slip in the odd magazine with your newspaper pack. If you do so, the bundle has to be undone and retied. Those who come along on the collection day will realise how much work is done outside Wayside by our chief sorters Margery and Janet, who have taken on the re-building job. They would very much appreciate some extra help from anybody who can spare half an hour or an hour on the appropriate Saturdays. "Radio Times", which is printed on newspaper, can be put flat in the newspaper bundles **provided the staples are removed.**

Although we are still accepting magazines, these are fetching a low price at present. Newspapers which after de-inking are used in newsprint are in considerable demand and the price may soon go up as more de-inking machines are coming "on steam"

D.E.N.

JUMBLE SALE

£50 from the last M.U. jumble sale went with monies collected by other branches of the Diocese to pay off the £82 deficit on the 1977 'needy families holiday' and to provide the £700 needed to ensure that the 1978 one would be solvent. If this had not been done it would have been impossible to consider planning the holiday for 1979.

The Welfare State provides, fortunately, that with few exceptions everyone's most basic material needs can be met but for some harrassed mothers the little break by the sea that we provide is often a life-line for which there is no other agency. The professionals who ask us to take the families - only mothers and young children - could fill the places many times over so that we have only those most sorely in need. The premises we use belong to the Methodists who lend them at the lowest possible rate, but their costs continue to rise: the organising and actual work of cooking, child-minding and entertaining is done voluntarily by M.U. members and students, but still the costs of food and transport continue to rise.

So we want to be sure of enough money to meet the costs of the 1979 holiday now being planned and our jumble sale on SATURDAY OCTOBER 14

at 2.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall will provide our next contribution. Please help especially if you and your family have just enjoyed a good holiday - by sending us goods on the morning, or letting Dorothy Edmonds 979 1589 know that you would like it collected. And come and buy; we may have just what you want!

C.H.B.

PRAM SERVICE : TWO IMPRESSIONS

(1) I was very pleased to have been one of the Mothers' Union members who went to 'give a little moral support' to the Young Families' Pram Service on Thursday September 7, when they not only invited their members, but also those who had been baptised in our church over the past year. This was, I am sure, a completely new venture in St. James's church and it was very successful and well attended.

The service was opened by Coryn Robinson giving a word of welcome and encouragement to the mothers to feel at ease and let their children run or crawl around freely if they wished, as they were all very tiny. We sang a hymn or two very lustily. Kate Stannaway gave the reading and Hilde Bucknall led the prayers. Our vicar gave a very good address from the nave and I feel sure all the Mums were able to hear him as he raised his voice and moved around according to necessity! The highlight of the service for the children was a processional hymn "All things Bright and Beautiful" led by one of our Mums, Jennifer Lloyd, carrying a Baptismal candle. All the children carried something relevant to the hymn, 'the little flower that opens', a picture of a river, a tree etc., and those left out carried a 'shaker'. The service was followed by a welcome cup of coffee, thanks to Connie Brunt who also stayed by the door through the service to see that no tinies escaped! The coffee and chat proved also time well spent. I don't think the organisers really needed 'moral support' for this new and very worthwhile venture but we all enjoyed it and I hope they ask us next time.

Eila Severn

(2) On Thursday morning Duncan and I cycled down to St. James's Church for the Pram Service. Many mothers with small children and babies in prams were there. Amid the general noise a member of the Young Families' Group introduced the service with the theme "The Baptismal Role." After a short talk by the vicar everyone enjoyed the opportunity to parade round the church singing "All things Bright and Beautiful" with the children carrying of the things we sang about; Duncan proudly carried his flower around for the rest of the morning.

After the service we all enjoyed a coffee and the children had drinks and biscuits. It was very pleasant to be in church with other young people and their children.

Hilary Horswill

A USELESS BIT OF INFORMATION

I wonder how many people thought, as I did, that Euro Size packets of soap and detergent were a standard weight, thus enabling one to compare the price? Well, this is not so; they vary enormously although the packets look alike.

On discovering this we wrote to Proctor and Gamble Ltd., to ask for the explanation. This was their reply:-

"The difference is due to the fact that different formulations have

different densities Euro-sizes are standardised by volume and not by weight. They are based on the 'E1' unit which is 750 ml. in volume. The size E2 is twice the E1, the E3 is three times the size and so on. For any individual brand the weight of the contents of the E- size packets follow the same progression. For example if E1 holds 280 g. the size E2 will hold 560 g. and so on."

So - you can't compare varieties against one another, only sizes.
E.S.

AROUND THE SPIRE

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Len Rockliffe on their forty-fifth wedding anniversary recently. Len and Vera have been part of our community for many years now and they are both active in their service to the church. It is a marvellous example to us all to see such a happily-wed couple and after so many years. We all look forward to seeing them celebrate their Golden Wedding!

Congratulations too for Pam and Trevor Atkinson on the safe delivery of their baby son. Pam came to church soon after her arrival back home so many of us were able to admire Jeremy whilst he was still a very tiny baby.

By the time you read this, Mrs. Coral McCarthy and her sisters the Misses Browne will have settled into their new home. It was wonderful to see Mrs. McCarthy in church after her long absence - we wish these three much-loved members of our congregation good fortune and much better health in their new surroundings.

Carnival Day has now passed and it was a great success although no details are yet to hand. The weather was perfect and crowds of people lined the route and flocked to the Buckingham School Grounds. A lot of hard work had obviously gone into both the floats and the stalls - both very numerous. No praise can be too high for the organisers of the event.

Our church was well represented with a float in the procession holding a number of healthy-looking individuals representing many sports and wearing T-shirts encouraging us to "Look after Yourself." A stall at the ground was run by the Young Families Group. This was a "Paint-In" and looking at the results of the children's work, had obviously been enjoyed. The whole day was truly a worthwhile venture and exercise in co-operation between the two Hamptons.

CHEMISTS' ADDITIONAL DUTY ROTA

October

- 15 E. Moss, 14 Broad Street, Teddington
- 22 F.G. Martin, 28B Priory Road, Hampton
- 29 D.G. Manley, 122 High Street, Teddington

November

- 5 F.G. Martin, 3 Station Approach, Hampton
- 12 E. & R. Kirby, 53 High Street, Teddington

SOME DATES TO NOTE

October

- 8 HARVEST FESTIVAL : 08.00 Holy Communion; 09.30 Parish Communion & Family & Parade Service, followed by Parish Breakfast in church: 16.30 Harvest Family Welcome Service, followed by special Harvest "Tea" in church. Gifts of fruit, flowers, vegetables, tins, etc., may be presented at every service.

- 9 09.30 Distribution of Harvest gifts; 14.30 Deanery Mothers' Union Service (SS. Philip & James, Whitton); 19.00 Dr. Peter Toon's second Lecture on 'New Light on the New Testament' (St. Giles-in-the-Fields Church WC2). These lectures continue on every Monday evening until November 20
- 10 20.00 Prayer Meeting (75 Burton's Road)
- 11 07.30 Holy Communion; 20.00 Liturgical Committee (63 Park Road)
- 12 20.00 Stewardship Committee (106, Park Road)
- 14 14.30 Mothers' Union: Jumble Sale (Hall)
- 15 17.15 Members of St. James's lead the service at Laurel Dene
- 16 10.30 Editorial Board (75, St. James's Avenue)
- 17 20.00 Properties Committee (Vicarage); Tuesday Club: Social Evening to celebrate 10th anniversary of the Club's opening)
- 18 SAINT LUKE'S DAY : 19.15 Holy Communion
- 19 10.30 Young Families' Group : Sally Low talks about 'Prereading Skills' (W); 20.00 Wayside Monday Centre Helpers: AGM (W)
- 22 - 29: WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE
- 22 09.30 Parish Communion : Preacher – The Archdeacon of Middlesex. The Stewardship Development Programme is initiated. No Evening Service here, but we join the UNITED SERVICE at 18.45 in the United Reformed Church, at which the Preacher will be Mrs. Hope Hay
- 24 19.30 The Bishop visits the Deanery Synod (St. Augustine's, Whitton); 20.00 Prayer Meeting (75 Burton's Road)
- 25 07.30 Holy Communion.
- 26 20.00 VIGIL : 'The Building of a Multi-Racial Society in Obedience to God's Will' (St. James's Church)
- 28 09.30 Paper Day.
- 29 09.30 Parish Communion : at this service the Stewardship Visitors will be commissioned. The time of Evensong reverts to 16.30, and continues until BST begins next spring.
- 31 Tuesday Club: Mrs. Hilde Bucknell - 'Rome' (W)

November

- 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY : 14.30 Mothers' Union : Branch AGM (W); 19.15 Holy Communion
- 2 10.30 Young Families' Group : 'Perfect Pastry' - demonstration by Linda Clift (W); 19.45 PARISH SUPPER (Hall) - by invitation: see first page of this magazine.
- 4 18.00 Fireworks Party : admission by ticket only (Laurel Dene)
- 7 20.00 Prayer Meeting (75 Burton's Road)
- 8 SAINTS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND : 08.45 Holy Communion (LEHS); 19.15 Holy Communion (in church)

N.B. The Catechumenate Announcement continues every Wednesday and Sunday evening in church throughout this period.

BAPTISMS

September

- 10 Ian Alexander Brown, 85 Hampton Road
Sarah Patsy Smallpiece, 206 Hanworth Road

MARRIAGE

September

- 9 Keith Martin Whittle to Debra Anne Neesham

CREMATION

September

15 Dorothy Olive Stokes, Laurel Dene, aged 88 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium)

STOP PRESS:

BIBLE PUZZLE NO. 5

No solution came in for this; some people who had solved previous puzzles fairly easily said that they found this very baffling. As the propounder of the puzzle was on holiday in foreign parts and had not left an official solution before he went, the outlook looked grim. Then one of the younger members of the Vicarage got down to it, and after an hour's deep thought came up with what was obviously the right answer. It is St. John chapter 15, verse 5: 'I am the vine, and you the branches. . . .'. She discovered one misprint: in the last line - CSF should be CCF. She has now put together

BIBLE PUZZLE NO. 6: LCFU CF BYF LCOGP KMPD CFR FYCF ASPYC
LM WYBLSQ ELGLPMK CF BCPYCNNY RQPGD MR WPYK DM YSYBEYK
KMPD LCFU CF BYF WJPCKPMD RQKA RSM LCTLQ QJGTCB.

This is a coded version of a verse from St. Mark's Gospel (NEW ENGLISH BIBLE)