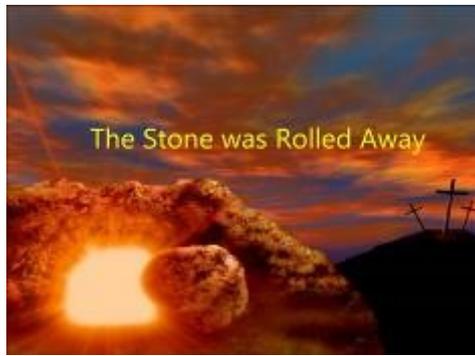


April 2016

Inspire



THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE FREE CHURCH
(UNITED REFORMED)
SAINT IVES



The Stone is Rolled Away - Christ is Risen

Very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the entrance to the tomb, so they went in; but they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. They stood there puzzled about this, when suddenly two men in bright shining clothes stood by them. Full of fear, the women bowed down to the ground, as the men said to them, "Why are you looking among the dead for one who is alive? He is not here; he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and three days later rise to life.'"

Luke 24:1-12

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View from the Manse

Spring is in the air! Finally! Although the winter was mild this year, it certainly seemed to last a very long time!

This year it is in April that we commemorate Ascension Day with a Holy Communion service at our usual morning prayers on Thursday the 7th. The story of Easter continues all the way through from Lent, Good Friday, Easter Sunday - through the day our Lord returned to his Father and our God - to Pentecost when we remember the Holy Spirit filling all the disciples with power and joy.



Ascension Day is often not made much of in our church worship, partly because it is held on a Thursday, but also because it seems to be a dip between the high points of Easter and Pentecost. Yet it was a significant part of the story, as the disciples needed to say their final goodbyes to the earthly Jesus. The ritual of a funeral, whether for believers or not, is an important part of acknowledging the reality of death and loss, an essential step in the grieving process.

The Ascension is also a problem for us because of the world view of the time in the wording suggesting that Jesus went upwards into heaven. We now live in a world where we know that heaven is not to be found spatially above earth. Yet some scientists today are seeing the world as multi-dimensional so heaven can exist in a way that transcends our three-dimensional view of the world.

The Ascension is also important as part of God's plan of salvation. For Christ had completed his role of offering his life for the world. Now he could return to the presence of God, taking his humanity with him, making us present before God. For his followers, they, and we today, no longer have the physical presence of Jesus to follow and watch his ministry of healing and reconciliation. God now entrusts us with the task of showing his love for the world. We are to do this by showing acts of kindness and compassion and sharing the good news of Christ's accomplishment of salvation over hatred, evil and death.

May God give us the joy of new life and the love toward others to be his faithful people today.

Love in Christ,

Catherine

St Ives Free Church Poetry Group "Faith, Hope and Poetry"

The theme for our March meeting on Wednesday 30th will be "Easter", and our April get-together will be an 'open house' when you are invited to bring along a best loved poem or one of special significance to you.



We meet at 7.45 for 8pm, starting with a cup of coffee. Please feel free to come along just to find out what we do. Everyone will be made most welcome.

Mary Cox and Lin Fleming

From the Interim Church Secretary

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this magazine, Barbara will have retired as Church Secretary after about six and a half years. She worked very hard in that time, doing the job with love and care, and Catherine and the Elders will miss her wisdom and cheerfulness. Thanks, Barbara, for all you have done.

I have offered to stand in as Interim Church Secretary for six months, by which time we hope to have a permanent replacement. But, I do not know all the ins and outs of the job, so, please if something is not done, do remind me!

We are now in April, our Easter Week and Easter Day services and celebrations over. Easter was quite early this year, although the earliest date is March 22nd. The last time this happened was 1818 apparently! (I am a mine of useless information on such topics!). We now look forward to Pentecost and a warm summer period.

As has been mentioned elsewhere, we are welcoming Tim Yau to lead sessions on 'Mission shaped Ministry'. These sessions will be on four Wednesday evenings, the first two in April, on 6th and 13th. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings.

Helen



Bank Holiday Snack Bars

The next two Snack Bars will take place on Monday 30th May and Monday 29th August

Please put the dates in your diary and look out for further information nearer the time.

Volunteers will be needed to serve, cook, clear tables, wash up etc



URC Easter Synod Newsletter Articles



"Weather Warning" climate change conference Saturday 18th June, 2016 St. Ives Free Church

The conference runs from 10am - 4pm on 18th June 2016. Speakers will include Christian Aid and Vellore Diocese, South India. The issue of climate change and its consequences is one that engages Christians - what does the bible say that can guide us through the pressing issues facing humanity in the years to come? The Vellore Link Group of the Cambridgeshire Ecumenical Council is providing an opportunity for Christians to get to grips with some big and important questions.

There will be more details and a booking form to come, but in the meantime, please put the date in your diaries and contact Priscilla Barlow on 01763 852841 or Lily Whymer on 01638 507576, if you have any questions in the meantime.

Greenbelt Festival - 26th-29th August 2016, Kettering

Greenbelt is a bringing together of the arts, faith and justice and aspires to be an open generous community reimagining the Christian narrative for the present moment. A festival will take place August Bank Holiday weekend at Boughton House, near Kettering and will include a programme of music, visual and performing arts, spirituality, comedy, talks and discussion. For more information, take a look at the website.

Article on Copyright - message from the Synod Clerk

Nowadays, it is very easy to use other people's material in our church services or other activities – from the words of a hymn to video clips or images downloaded from the internet. But just because they enhance our worship or liven up our evening entertainment doesn't mean we automatically have the right to use them.

We therefore all need to be aware of copyright law and to help us understand this better the United Reformed Church have produced a booklet called Getting to Grips with Copyright. Copyright doesn't stop us using other people's work - it just gives a proper legal protection to those who created the original material in the first place.

Commitment for Life (CFL) - invitation to count and share your blessings, message from the Synod Advocate

Commitment for Life is the world development programme of the URC and is your congregation's unique opportunity to be part of the global village, united around faith, love and just sharing. Churches are encouraged to participate taking action, praying and giving, especially with regard to our four partner countries, Bangladesh, Central America, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory and Zimbabwe.

Revd Cyuma, the Synod Advocate for Commitment for Life, would like to share with you how grateful people are who benefit from the support you give in various ways. He would like to encourage you to set aside a time to pray for those most destitute of the world.

There are lots of ways also to be actively involved, such as a Sunday with a special theme, coffee morning or hosting a hunger lunch for the congregation to share. You might raise funds by putting on a quiz or getting in a musical band, with proceeds to CFL. For more information, do have a look at the website or contact Revd Cyuma.

21st February “What a Wonderful World” - ‘Green Christian’ Service

David Chandler, a speaker with **A Rocha** was our guest at this special service organised by the Free Church eco-group. David spoke of our responsibility to care for the earth, encouraging us to think about our use of the environment and to develop practical ways to care for people and the planet, locally and globally, even if we start with just one small step. St Ives Mayor, Councillor Ian Jackson, and the Mayoress, Mrs Gilly Jackson, were present for both the service and for the lunch that followed. The retiring collection for A Rocha raised £136.60.



30 people stayed for this soup and cheese lunch and joined in a question-and-answer session with David. He revealed an amazing knowledge of dragonflies, and the amazing journeys they make. David invited us as a church or individually to visit **A Rocha UK's first ever nature reserve –‘Foxearth’** - on the Suffolk/Essex border, maybe as a retreat day. In five years' time Foxearth could be one of the country's foremost dragonfly and damselfly reserves. It may become a vital stepping stone for species attempting to move as a result of climate change. It is a place where those of faith and those who are seeking can come and experience God's peace.

A Rocha is an international Christian environmental NGO. (arocha.org.uk)

St Ives Mayor, Councillor Ian Jackson is involved with Holt Island project and he invited us to join him for a guided walk, perhaps in the summer with a picnic after.

David Chandler lives in Cambridge and is a member of the Cambridge Community Church. He is a trustee of **A Rocha**. He works for the RSPB at Sandy and is also a freelance writer. Among his many other publications he is co-author of “The RSPB First Book of Birds”.

Mary Cox

Photographs by Lin Fleming



Tookey's Volunteer Tea Party

The Tookey's volunteer tea party on the 13th March gave everyone the chance to say a big thank you to Pat for all her hard work and friendship. Pat has been Tookey's manager for the past 6 years and is now retiring and taking a well-earned holiday with her family. Pat was presented with a bag full of gifts to enjoy from the volunteers and the church. Tookey's has come a long way from serving tea, coffee and confectionery, then sandwiches and now hot meals too on three lunchtimes per week.

Linda who has worked alongside Pat also received a bouquet of flowers, as did Val who is stepping down as convenor of the Tookeys support group.

Thank you Pat and enjoy retirement!

Barbara



GREAT TURN-OUT FOR TOOKEYS TEA PARTY

Places were all taken at this year's annual Tookey's Volunteer Tea on Sunday 13th March. What a happy atmosphere, as always, as the room filled with around fifty volunteers and guests who enjoyed catching up with those they may not otherwise see during the week.

Although I tried to get around to as many as possible for news and a chat, it was to be more than a enjoyable challenge. As well as being a very special event in itself, there was a particular reason for us all being there and that was to

say an early fond farewell and retirement to our Tookey's Coffee Shop Manager, Pat Clarke. After an amazing six-plus years at the helm, it's time for retirement and the next chapter in her life with husband, Steve. In fact it was lovely to see Pat's family among us as well.

A beautiful spread was laid out before us and Pat and Linda worked so very hard to feed us all. The queues and seconds offered were testament to hard work and skill in providing a mouth-watering and tasty tea for all.

I was amazed at the generosity of everyone who contributed to Pat's leaving presents which were presented to her. Not much was needed to be said, but it was important to say it again anyway and that was to thank her so much for all the hard work and dedication in being our coffee shop manager. Not only that, but being able to fit in some events to be catered for over the years in between. Also, most valuable was the time and teamwork given by Linda Blake, the Dream Team in my view, and a bouquet of flowers was given to her also. The volunteers I spoke with before and during the tea were united in saying that Pat is one very special friend to them.

So Pat, thank you again from all the volunteers and from all at the Free Church. You will be so much missed and hope it won't be too long before we see you again.

Val Bush



Fairtrade – and the Sustainable Development Goals

Part 2 – Raising living standards and making life better for communities

Fairtrade can improve economic sustainability and increase living standards for farmers and workers. Research has shown that for some smallholder farmers Fairtrade has led to more stable and higher incomes – one study found an average 34% rise.



The Fairtrade Premium often goes towards expenses that farmers and workers would otherwise have to pay themselves, such as school fees. That frees up money to use for other things including food.

The Premium means farmers and workers can invest in their communities: as well as supporting education. It is often used to build roads or invest in better healthcare by building clinics or introducing immunisation programmes or, importantly, improving access to clean water.

These actions contribute to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2 & 8.
With thanks to the Fairtrade Foundation.

PRESENT

ST IVES CHORAL SOCIETY

ST IVES CHORAL SOCIETY

Elgar's
The
Apostles

SATURDAY 7 MAY, 2016, 7.30PM

ELY CATHEDRAL
BY KIND PERMISSION OF THE DEAN AND CHAPTER

ACCOMPANIED BY **ELY SINFONIA**

Conductor Julian Merson

TICKETS: £20/£15 (RESERVED) - £10 (UNRESERVED)
AVAILABLE FROM: ELY CATHEDRAL BOX OFFICE (TEL: 01353 660349,
MON-SAT 9.30AM-4PM)
OR ONLINE AT [HTTPS://TICKETS.ELYCATHEDRAL.ORG/](https://tickets.elycathedral.org/)
WWW.STIVES-CHORAL.ORG.UK

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**CAMBRIDGESHIRE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL
VELLORE LINK GROUP**



Dear friends,

The world and all that is in it belongs to God! With love he created the earth and planted humanity in it to nurture and care for all. So far, so good, but humanity hasn't got a good record on the nurture and care!

The issue of climate change and its consequences, therefore, is one that engages Christians particularly. How should we respond to it? What do we actually know about it? Does it affect us? What responsibility do we have towards those who are affected by it? What does the bible say that can guide us through what is probably the most pressing issues facing humanity in the years to come?

Big and important questions. The Vellore Link Group of the Cambridgeshire Ecumenical Council is providing an opportunity for Christians to get to grips with them. On 18th June 2016 a day conference is being held at St. Ives Free Church called "Weather Warning". There will be a number of speakers including from Vellore which has been facing testing times through unusual flooding. Christian Aid will be providing theological insight and we anticipate speakers from local farming and others concerned for the care of our environment. Break out groups will help us discern what we can do.

There will be more details and booking forms to come. Please put the date into your diaries. This is a unique opportunity to consider a vital issue incorporating a wider perspective than we can usually employ. Do try to come to the conference. Why not bring a group from your church so that impact of the day may continue into the daily life and witness of our churches?

With warm Christian greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Canon Paul Hills – Co-Chair

Weather Warning!



**A Conference for Christians
in Cambridgeshire organised by
the Vellore Link Group**

Common Future and Changing Climate
Speakers include Christian Aid and Vellore
Diocese, South India.
Saturday 18th June 10 am–4 pm
St.Ives Free Church
Cost: £10.00per person
Contacts: Priscilla Barlow
01763 852841
(Priscilla.Barlow@keme.co.uk)
Lily Whymer
01638 507576 (lilywhymer@gmail.com)

Jesus said
"...you know how
to interpret the
appearance of
the sky but you
cannot interpret
the signs of the
times"
Matthew 16:2-3

For Our Younger Readers

FIND THE MISSING WORDS

At the bottom of the page are 16 words to fit into the blank spaces.
If you are not sure of the answer look up the scripture as a clue.

1. David and _____ (1 Samuel 17:4)
2. The Tree of _____ (Genesis 2:9)
3. Abraham was a _____ of Jehovah (James 2:23)
4. Jacob married sisters called _____ and _____ (Genesis 31:4)
5. Jacob's daughter was called _____ (Genesis 34:1)
6. _____ were the children of wicked angels (Genesis 6:4)
7. _____'s wife told lies about Joseph (Genesis 39:4-7)
8. Pharaoh dreamt about _____ fat and thin cows (Genesis 41:1-4)
9. Joseph's youngest brother was called _____ (Genesis 42:4)
10. _____ was the name of the ruler of Egypt (Exodus 6:11)
11. Moses wife was called _____ (Exodus 2:21)
12. Jehovah sent _____ to feed the Israelites in the desert (Exodus 16:31)
13. There were _____ plagues in Egypt
14. The Tower of _____ (Genesis 11:5-9)

BABEL	BENJAMIN	DINAH	FRIEND	GOLIATH
LEAH	LIFE	MANNA	NEPHILIM	PHARAOH
POTIPHAR	RACHEL	SEVEN	TEN	ZIPPORAH

Easter Prayer

God our Father,
by raising Christ your Son
you conquered the power of death
and opened for us the way to eternal life.
Let our celebration today raise us up
and renew our lives by the Spirit that is within us.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.



content.palme.org

Church Activities

Wednesdays (term time)	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers
Tue 12th Apr	14:30	Meditation led by John Williams at Fenstanton
Wed 30th Apr	19:45	Poetry Group
Mon 2nd May		Bank Holiday NO Snack Bar

Appointment of Mace Bearer Town Council

Upon retirement of the present post holder in May this year, the Council is looking for a mature, physically fit replacement. The post upholds a long tradition of civic pride and dignity, and this should be reflected in the personality and appearance of the Mace Bearer whose duties will require a strong sense of duty, together with tact and courtesy.

Duties involve attendance at meetings of the full council on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, at other civic functions (approx. 6 per year) and occasionally Charity events with mutual agreement with the Mayor.

The Macebearer is required to proceed the Mayor with the Mace and to be responsible for its care and safe keeping during these events. Other duties include advising the Mayor and Town Clerk on ceremonial protocols before and during events (training will be provided) and taking responsibility for the upkeep of all civic regalia used by the Town Council.

An honorarium of £691 is paid annually

Community Activities

Mondays	10:00	CRUSE
Tuesdays	19:30	St Ives Photographic Club
Wednes- days	14:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thurs- days	09:30	Sunny Steps
Thurs- days	10:00	U3A Italian Class
Sat 2nd Apr	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Wed 6th Apr	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 7th Apr	19:30	WI
Fri 8th Apr	11:00	COPE
Fri 15th Apr	10:00	U3A Local History
Fri 15th Apr	19:30	St Ives Civic Society
Sun 17th Apr	14:00	Concert
Tue 19th Apr	09:30	Alzheimer's Drop-in Cafe
Wed 20th Apr	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Wed 20th Apr	19:30	St Ives Gardening Club
Mon 25th Apr	13:00	U3A French Class
Sun 1st May	14:00	Bowls Club Service
Wed 4th May	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 5th May	19:30	WI
Sat 7th May	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair

Contacts

Minister

Revd Dr. Catherine Ball 352058
Mobile: 07714 081930

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Helen Ackroyd 494005

Associate Church Secretary

Andy Fleming 468055

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alan@stivesfreechurch.org

Finance Convenor

Peter German 352401

Freewill Offering Treasurer

David Duffett 395308

Tookey's Manager

Sam Cooper 07840-959090

Resident Musician

Brian Lodde 354647

Flower Convenor

Margaret Cakebread 462726

Eco Group Convenor

Mary Cox 300103

Chapel Prayer Coordinator

Gerry Swain 468053

Just Sharing Manager

Sue Billings 496570

Asst Manager

Rosemarie Smith

justsharing@stivesfreechurch.org

Church Office 468535

office@stivesfreechurch.org

Open 9am. - 1pm. Monday to Friday

**Room Bookings should be made
through the Church Office**

Free Church Worship



Chapel Prayers Daily at 10 am
Monday to Saturday

Sun 3rd 11:00 Keith Cakebread
Apr Holy Communion

Sun 10th 11:00 Revd Peter Ball
Apr

Sun 17th 11:00 Jacob Bali
Apr

Sun 24th 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Apr Cafe Style

Sun 1st 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball
May Holy Communion

Fenstanton Worship

Sun 3rd 9:30 Revd Derek Newton
Apr

Sun 10th 9:30 Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Apr Holy Communion

Sun 17th 9:30 Revd Roy Muttram
Apr

Sun 24th 9:30 Keith Cakebread
Apr

Sun 1st 9:30 Revd Derek Newton
May

