



Inspire

The Newsletter of The Free Church (United Reformed) St Ives

Thoughts for the month ahead

Greetings on this first re-issue of our *Inspire* Magazine after a year and a half of Covid restrictions! Thank you to Chris Curtis for putting together weekly 'Keeping in Touch' during the pandemic and to all who contributed stories, pictures and poems to help us maintain contact during lockdown which will continue fortnightly.



A special thank you to Peter Davies for uploading the services on our website and to Gail Wase and Alan Curtis for the newsletter and distributing Prayers and Reflection so that we could continue to worship individually while we were not able to gather. Thank you, too, to Barbara Duffett for setting up zoom coffee mornings, and most especially to David Duffett, who has helped keep our church life together as Church Secretary throughout this time. I enjoyed leading 'Prayer in the Park' at Warners Park on the third Saturday of the month at 10am.

Now that restrictions have eased it is wonderful to be getting back to a semblance of normality in church life. We have returned to worship on Sundays with 25 – 30 people attending weekly. We try to keep people as safe as possible with voluntary mask wearing, test and trace, sanitiser and social distancing. We are now able to sing hymns and pleased that Brian is back and able to play for us. We plan to serve coffee and tea after the service upstairs on the first Sunday of the month and when we hold church meetings.

Tookey's Café has reopened and Just Sharing is selling fair trade products once again. Morning prayers have resumed. As well, different user groups are returning to the church, and some of our church groups: Tots and Carers, and Bowls Club on Monday evenings.

Our return has been gradual and careful, and now we would like to encourage all of you to consider whether you are able to come back to worship and church life again.

Having returned to worship, I realise how valuable and precious it is to have fellowship with other Christians. It has been wonderful to meet in person once again and to have fuller conversations with people to hear how they are doing and to encourage each other in the faith.

October 2021

Services this month

Sunday 3rd	11:00 Holy Communion Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sunday 10th	11:00 Morning Worship Peter Ball
Sunday 17th	11:00 Morning Worship Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sunday 24th	11:00 Morning Worship Dr Christine Macleod
Sunday 31st	11:00 Morning Worship Revd Dr Catherine Ball



How privileged I am to be in a line of ministers of a church with such a rich history of youth work and community involvement and good worship, and real friendships that have been forged through difficult as well as joyful times. It is an honour and a delight to be your minister!

So, what do we gather for? The computer and the phone have been great blessings however not quite the same as meeting together in person, where we can corporately share in worship and build deeper relationships.

Hebrews 10,24,25 says, *'And let us consider how we may spur one another on to love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.'*

We gather to worship God, to encourage each other in our faith journeys and to find fellowship with one another and rest, healing and hope ourselves.



Just Sharing is open!

Monday to Saturday
(closed Thursdays)

10am - 3pm



TOOKEYS CAFÉ

is OPEN!

Home cooked hot meals, sandwiches and cakes



HOT and COLD drinks

Come in and see our menu for daily specials

9.45am - 2pm
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Friday and Saturday

EAT IN or TAKE AWAY

Tots and Carers baby and toddler group



includes craft, video Bible story, large play, nursery rhymes

WEDNESDAYS 10 - 11.30am term time only

Reverend Dr Catherine Ball: 07714 081 930
Free Church Hall

Deadline for the November issue is 20th October.

TOOKEYS CAFÉ Monday Snack Bar



9.30am - 1.30pm
Mondays

Plus our usual menu

SAVE THE DATE!

COME AND SING AT THE FREE CHURCH
ON 16 OCTOBER

Do you fancy having a sing with your local Choral Society?

On Saturday 16 October at the Free Church in St Ives come and have a day learning to sing the Mozart Requiem* with members of St Ives Choral Society. Never sung before? Nor had some of our members until they gave it a try and now, years later, those same people are now part of our wonderful choir.

Everyone is welcome although we are especially looking for more men to join our choir so come on chaps, give it a go! Remember, we are not looking for experienced singers – if you enjoy singing and would like to try something different then do come along.

So the plan is to come to the Free Church where we will go through the piece – and in the evening your hard work will pay off as you take part, along with our choir, in a concert where you can invite friends and family to be amazed at what you've achieved.

Book your tickets for the evening concert online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-ives-choral-society

Music scores will be provided on the day.

Cost is £10 per person. We will rehearse from 2pm-5pm, with a tea break, after which can you pop home and return for the concert at 7.30pm.

You will need to purchase a ticket for the evening concert if you are not taking part (details above).

Please e-mail membership@stives-choral.org.uk to book your place for the Come and Sing day

If you decide to join St Ives Choral Society afterwards, you will receive a reduced subscription for a year. For more information about the Society see www.stives-choral.org.uk.

*Find it on YouTube if you would like to try it in advance of the come-and-sing day!

COME AND SING

Just Sharing

We are delighted to announce that we will be launching our Christmas stock on the 29th and 30th of October.

Our Christmas Shop will be in Just Sharing this year rather than in the hall, with our Annual Sale on tables in the foyer.

The usual wide range of Advent calendars and candles, Christmas cards, decorations, and nativities, plus gifts for everyone, will be there for you to choose from.

Our opening times for these two days will be from 9:30 to 4:30.

We look forward to seeing you.



Contacts

Minister

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Church Office

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office@stivesfreechurch.org

Open 9am—1pm Mon/Wed/Fri

Room bookings should be made through the Church Office

Church Secretary

David Duffett 395308

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alan@stivesfreechurch.org

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Babs Moore 352627

Safeguarding Lead

Christine Curtis 350787

Resident Musician

Brian Lodde 354647

Flower Convenor

Valerie Temple 466204

Chapel Prayer Coordinator

Joey Dyke 07787 370201

Tookey's Manager

Pat Clarke 468886

Just Sharing Manager

Sue Billings 496570

Assistant Manager

Rosemarie Smith

Justsharing@stivesfreechurch.org

The Free Church is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.