



Christ  
Church  
Orpington

## Family News

### 15th January 2022

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#### Dear Christ Church,

As we begin a new year, would you like to get more into your bible? Or perhaps open it for the first time? Whichever it is for you, it can seem daunting as it's a big book (or collection of 66 books to be precise) and we can feel overwhelmed before we even begin!

To help with this, in our "Go Deeper" service, fortnightly at 6.30pm, we are going to look at the bible in bite-sized chunks, taking one big book or two or more small books each session, spending about 20-25 minutes finding out what it is all about. By the end of the year, we will have covered the whole bible, and I hope gain an overview of its contents.

The bible is a beautiful, very real, and sometimes earthy account of the history of God's people. From the bible's beginning to its end, it follows the story of the beginning of the *earth* to its end, and from the beginning of *humanity* to its end on earth. And woven throughout, is *God's plan* for us, and an amazing demonstration of His extreme and unfailing love for us.

Throughout history God is looking towards our final destination. Because if, as Psalm 103: 14b-16 says,

*... we are dust.*

<sup>15</sup> *The life of mortals is like grass,*

*they flourish like a flower of the field;*

<sup>16</sup> *the wind blows over it and it is gone,*

*and its place remembers it no more...*

...then our final destination in eternity is far more important than this life! More important than our comfort, our health, our wealth, our families, our everything. As Jesus pointed out in Matt 18, if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out. If your hand or foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. What is fleeting and temporary is infinitely less important than what is eternal and permanent. And we have to read scripture with this in mind - understanding that this is in God's mind too. After all, He says, "what

good is it if we gain the whole world yet forfeit our souls?" [Matthew 16]. He loves us far too much to leave us in earthly comfort if in it we are headed to eternal destruction!

The bible isn't just history though – it is "His story" – and His passionate love for us and His desire to save us is THE backbone of it all.

It is a living organic "whole". Most of it is relatively easy to understand, but some is difficult to interpret as sometimes it is written in answer to a specific issue or question, which we can only guess at. But it is truth, and it is alive – it is possible to read something many times, and still something new can leap out at you!

It contains the bad as well as the good. It contains humanity at its best and its worst, and it doesn't pull any punches or try to make God's people appear any better than they are. And it shows the measures God needed to take sometimes to make sure His light didn't go out in the world...!

To understand God the Father, we need to look at God the Son – Jesus - and read the gospels. But God is throughout His Word, and we will only get a full understanding by reading all the Word that He has given us, because it is revelation of who He is. Occasionally, people have said that they felt the God of the OT was different from the God that Jesus portrayed – the God of the OT was angry and warlike, whereas the God of the NT was gentle and peace-loving. So as we go through "His story" in these evening sessions, I want to show how both the OT and NT portray a wonderful, kind, loving, righteous, just and forgiving God, and we need both to understand our roots. We have been grafted into the vine with Israel, and what was once their story, is now our story as well.

Tomorrow we begin with Genesis, so please do join us.

With much love and blessings,

Sharon & Andi xx

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#### Notices for the next issue of Family News

email them to Vernon [vandjmapp@gmail.com](mailto:vandjmapp@gmail.com)

by **12noon Saturday 22nd January** please

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## What's on...

All 10.30am services will be both in church and online (if we have the Tech Team to provide this)

### Sunday 16th January 2022

10.30am Morning Worship  
6.30pm Holy Communion - Go Deeper

### Wednesday 19th January

Café Mosaic, open 9.15am to 2pm

### Thursday 20th January

funeral for Myra Mansi at 2pm in the Church  
the Family will then go to the Crematorium and will be back at 3.30pm, when refreshments will be served.  
Please come and support the family

### Friday 21st January

funeral for Pauline Mills at 12pm in the Church  
the Family invite you to join them for light refreshments in the hall after the service

please note just for this week the Café is closed

### Sunday 23rd January

9.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship

### Sunday 30th January

9.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
6.30pm Evening Worship - Go Deeper

For online services:

through the Christ Church Orpington website:  
[www.ccorpington.org](http://www.ccorpington.org)

or on Facebook (you don't need to have a Facebook account)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ccorpington/live>



Join **Heather Kroiter** for zoom coffee after church, Sunday 16th January from 11.45am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5852280960?pwd=b1ByNjdxUzJ4bGY5TEp0YUpheEtZUT09>

Meeting ID: 585 228 0960

Passcode: 8Uwg8H

## Sunday 16th January 2022 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

### 10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices, Opening Prayer, Confession

#### Worship

Sing Glory 121 Holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty  
Jesus, lover of my soul (it's all about you)  
What a beautiful name

#### Bible Reading

Matthew 5 v 4 & Psalm 5 1 v 1-12

#### Sermon

#### Intercessions

#### Worship

I see the king of glory  
Amazing grace (my chains are gone)

#### Final Prayer & Blessing

### 6.30pm Holy Communion – Go Deeper

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## Funerals Myra Mansi and Pauline Mills

This coming week we have **Myra Mansi's funeral on Thursday 20th at 2pm**, and **Pauline Mills' funeral on Friday 21st at 12pm**, both in Christ Church. The families have kindly invited anyone who wishes to come to these funerals, and if you feel you might be able to come to one or both of these, please leave a message on the office answerphone (01689 871601) so that we will have an idea of numbers for refreshments. Thank you.

*'Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength.'* 1 Cor 15:43

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## Would you, or one of your family, like to be baptised? Or would you like to renew your baptism vows?

On Easter Sunday, April 17th, we will celebrate Jesus' glorious resurrection by holding a service of Baptism in our 10.30am service. So, if you would like to be baptised, or renew your baptism vows, please contact Sharon on [sharon@ccorpington.org](mailto:sharon@ccorpington.org) or phone the office on 01689 871601 and leave a message.

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## Would you like to be confirmed?

Confirmation is the second part of the Christian journey that began with Baptism where we look more fully at our Christian faith. It is the rite that opens up for us the chance to come to the Lord's Table and receive the Bread and Wine – His Bod and His Blood (when Covid-safe to do so).

If you would like to be confirmed, please contact Sharon on [sharon@ccorpington.org](mailto:sharon@ccorpington.org) or phone the office on 01689 871601 and leave a message.

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"If you would like to give to Christ's work here at Christ Church, the best way to give is via our bank account, Sort code 40 52 40, and account number 00095465, or by sending a cheque payable to Christ Church PCC Orpington to 165 Charterhouse Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 9EP

Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity."



LIVING  
IN LOVE  
& FAITH



All Saints' Orpington, Bart Hart Road, BR6 0QD  
with the Orpington Deanery Synod  
is hosting a free weekly Course for five weeks on  
**Living in Love & Faith** via Zoom  
Course Facilitator Rev Jane Winter,  
Diocesan Advocate for Living in Love & Faith.

Christian Teaching and Learning about identity,  
sexuality, relationships and marriage  
Each session includes an introduction to the  
topic, real life stories, bible study, time for  
questions and conversation, prayer

Wednesdays 19th & 26th January 2022  
Wednesdays 2nd, 9th & 23rd February 2022  
8.00pm via Zoom

The course is open to everyone  
Please email [orpdeanerysynod@gmail.com](mailto:orpdeanerysynod@gmail.com)  
to register your intention to attend and be  
**sent the Zoom code**

## Tech Desk Rota coordinator (Volunteer needed)



Photo by Eric Rothermel on Unsplash

Every Sunday, our dedicated tech team make sure that the audio and visual elements of the service run smoothly. But this does not just happen, a rota is prepared, and friendly reminders are sent to the teams involved. If you like to organise and are looking for a simple way to get involved, this might be a good place to start. We would love to hear from you. It is a great role that can be done from anywhere and does not require too much time. All you need is to be organised and send out weekly reminders. This can be done from email wherever you are.

Please get in touch if you think this is a role you would like to try.

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## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Tuesday 18th – Tuesday 25th January 2022

Below are the venues and times where we will be praying. Please note the United Service at the Methodist Church has been **postponed due to Covid-19**, and will happen at a later time in the year when it is deemed to be safer.

<b>Tuesday 18th</b>	<b>St Johns URC at 7.00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday 19th</b>	<b>Green St Green Baptist, 10.00am</b>
<b>Thursday 20th</b>	<b>Christ Church 10.00am</b>
<b>Friday 21st</b>	<b>All Saints, 5.00pm</b>
<b>Saturday 22nd</b>	<b>Hope, 9.00am</b>
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>	<b>UNITED SERVICE at Orpington Methodist, 6.30pm</b>
<b>Monday 24th</b>	<b>St Martins of Tours, 10.30am</b>
<b>Tuesday 25th</b>	<b>Holy Innocents, 8.00pm</b>

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## Steps towards employment

Join the **Orpington CAP Job Club**, a friendly community in a relaxed environment with the chance to meet other jobseekers, get support and gain the tools and skills you need to find work and to step confidently into employment. The free 8-week course starts on **Wednesday, 19th January** at Unity Church Rye Crescent, Orpington, BR5 4NH from 10.15am to 1.15pm. Lunch and refreshments provided. Call 07341369943 for more information or to register.

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**URGENT FOODBANK NOTICE:  
warehouse closed**

As a valued donor, we write to advise that due to staff shortages, our warehouse has needed to temporarily close.

Financial giving would be greatly appreciated at this time. Our usual supermarket and collections points will remain active.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused and hope to be back up and running as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support.

Stay Safe.

**Open Kitchen**

We had a great give-away at Christmas with 30 turkeys and other festive food given out to our recipients. The green token scheme at Asda is going well - please keep your clicks going for us here [www.asda.com/green-tokens](http://www.asda.com/green-tokens)

Just a reminder that all are welcome to help us cut down on waste food and help those in food poverty. We would also be grateful for any used carrier bags you could pass on to us as our supplies are very low.

Thanks so much for all your support and encouragement.

Liesel (on behalf of the whole team)

**Solution to last edition's word**

W	O	M	B		A	G	N	O	S	T	I	C	
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**Open Kitchen – Please vote for us!**

We have been nominated by Asda Swanley to be part of their Green Token Giving scheme during December and January. This gives us the opportunity to be awarded **£500** from the Asda Foundation, but we need your support. Only the charity with the largest number of votes will be awarded this grant.

Please vote for us **EVERY WEEK** during January 2022. Go to [www.asda.com/green-tokens](http://www.asda.com/green-tokens), select Swanley from the dropdown menu, and then vote for Open Kitchen at Christ Church Orpington. Please share this with your family and friends, encouraging them to vote each week. This money will make such a difference to local families who are in need, all with the click of a button.

Thank you so much for your support!

Liesel Stanbridge  
Open Kitchen foodbank



**GDPR**

The Data Protection Act 2018 is the **UK's implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**. Everyone responsible for using personal data has to follow strict rules called 'data protection principles'. They must make sure the information is: used fairly, lawfully and transparently.

Meina is our GDPR representative and if anyone has any queries relating to GDPR to please contact her on:

[gdp@ccorpington.org](mailto:gdp@ccorpington.org)



Dear friends of Kondoa,

A wonderful New Year message of hope from Bishop Given and much to pray for.

With my sincere best wishes to all for a happy healthy and blessed New Year.

Canon Sue Chalkley  
Chair, Kondoa Companionship Group,  
Rochester Diocese

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### **To our dearest Friends in the Diocese of Rochester**

Warmest Christian greetings and peace as we continue to celebrate the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ! God to become one of us in the person of Jesus Christ through the womb of Mary is the most incredible gift ever could be given to the world! God so loved the world and gave his only begotten son to the Saviour of the world! We are now one family of God scattered throughout the world.

Dear friends I am writing to you to wish you a very Happy and prosperous New year 2022. Here in Kondoa we enter the new year with great thankful heart for what God has done in this historical year 2021 will be remembered for ever in this Diocese! Many things to remember but particularly to mention two of many things: The big outreach that has turned upside down the Diocese. So many people have come to faith than any other time. We know now we are approaching 25000 Anglican Christians in Kondoa scattered in 127 congregations in 43 Parishes served by 67 priests! Lilian and I as we look back, we see God's divine purpose for us to be in Kondoa at this very time in our historical lives. From around 7000 Christians to 25000 it must be God! From 77 congregations to 125, from 21 priests to 67 priests! It is a sign of growth. We did not have a priest with a degree now we have three and one in progress! And we have six diplomas and about 57% now have Theology knowledge so that they can preach and teach the word of God effectively! They are able to explain the truth of the gospel the majority Muslims in Kondoa! I take this opportunity to thank all of you whom you have a heart for the word of God and you have supported our Bible College sacrificially so as to build a strong future church in Kondoa build on the foundation of the Word of God! Since as we grow, we are challenged to form indigenous men and women for the ministry in the church. These young people are the one who will take the church to next generations. Nine years ago, we did not have a school but now we have a very good school of St Peter and Paul. There now 150 students whose lives are being transformed. Chemba Education Center on progress. Thank all of

you who have given us this possibility of having a school in the Town of Kondoa.

Secondly; 2021 will be remembered for the first time in Kondoa God has blessed us with a Cathedral, after worshiping in a small Chapel many years we now have a Church building in the Town of Kondoa. Many Christians from various denomination in Kondoa have told me that the Cathedral of St Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles stands as a witness of Christian presence in Kondoa. It is a big mark of our Christianity in the town of Kondoa. Indeed, the building bears witness of Christ present in the Town of Kondoa. It was great to hold the national Service of Christmas Eve this year. I preached with great courage I addressed the nation with confidence and it was broadcasted widely! I gave a prophetic sermon and my address to national was clear and has caused a big debate in the country regarding our constitution amendment. It was great honour to have the service at our new Cathedral. We thank those who have enabled us to have the building. I particularly want to give a sincere heartfelt of highest appreciation from my inner heart to the Ruxtons who have given 75% of (this huge) building cost. They have given sacrificially to give a mark of Christian witness and presence for the generations to come in Kondoa!

Thirdly 2021 will be remembered for those who departed this world because of Covid-19. Some have been very close friends of mine. I know will meet again in the eternal glory.

Dear friends as we start a new year 2022, may you kindly continue to pray for us. Currently we are facing a big challenge of drought in the country especially in Kondoa. It is almost January and no rain has come. Most people are worried! Food cost has come up last week a tin of corn maize was being sold 6000 now as for today it has doubled! And business people have started hiding the maize for the purpose of raising the price! Life has just changed and we don't know how it will be in the next two weeks if the rain will not come! Please pray for the rain to come as for us rain is Life! No rain no Life!

Lastly, I am inviting you to come to join us in thanking God for what he has done for us in the last ten years. You have been part of our journey! We could not achieve what we have achieved without the support of our friends. You have walked along side us in so many ways! History will tell. Please do come and celebrate with us on June 5, 2022

Thanks

+Given

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# WE ARE RECRUITING!



Spinnakers' Mission is to inspire primary school children to engage with the Christian faith and explore its beliefs and values.

To do this we coordinate teams to visit schools and deliver engaging Collective Worship Assemblies & RE Lessons.

With each school visit we seek to inspire wonder and learning as we share stories of Jesus and from the Bible.

*Could you join the team and help us fulfil our mission?*

We are currently seeking candidates for these key roles.

**For more info visit: [www.spinnaker.org.uk/job-opportunities](http://www.spinnaker.org.uk/job-opportunities)**

EASTBOURNE  
SCHOOLSWORKER

We are looking for someone to work alongside our hub leader in Eastbourne to get involved with writing materials, delivering assemblies and possibly assisting with producing our videos! You will need to be flexible, keen to talk to children about what faith means and be able to share that creatively.

This is an exciting and much needed role. The successful applicant will advance our work in London by mobilising and developing activities with a focus on leading and co-ordinating the work in schools and developing supportive relationships with churches. We are looking for a person who can shape and communicate our vision and help develop this across the Spinnaker network.

CITY HUB  
LEADER

BROMLEY  
ADMINISTRATOR

This part time role will suit an enthusiastic, resourceful administrator with a flexible approach as well as a passion for order! The successful applicant will be working with the Spinnaker core team to manage the essential operations of the charity and provide a foundation of excellence and efficiency from which the entire team work together to fulfil the Spinnaker Mission.

We are looking for an enthusiastic, caring person To provide support and assistance to a schoolworker with a disability to enable them to carry out their role. This role is a fixed term contract of 6 months with scope to extend depending on funding.

LAMBETH  
SUPPORT WORKER

## News from Peter and Veronique Moody

Saint-Nicolas-de-Redon, 22.12.2021

*News from Peter and Veronique Moodie  
Christmas Greetings from South Brittany!*

*“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.” (Isaiah 9:2)*

As we remember the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, we'd like to mention to you a short film (40 minutes) from All Souls, Langham Place (just in case you had not heard about it as yet), which we recently watched and found really cheerful and inspiring. It should lift up your spirit too!  
<https://youtu.be/IDrdt143GCI>

### Local news

#### Carol Service

On the 7th of December, we had “our” bilingual Carol service with about 80 present. This service has been a tradition here in Redon for over 10 years. It is organised by the local Anglicans (Christ Church Brittany – us!) but most of the visitors are predominantly French Catholics. Many of them know English and enjoy singing and listening to the readings and the preaching of the Gospel in both languages. They also enjoy the mulled wine and mince pies which are offered after the service, and it is an opportunity to get to know each other. We believe the Lord is using these services for His purposes.

### A few other things worth mentioning regarding CCB Redon

With about 15 people (including 4 who are between 12 & 16 years old), CCB Redon remains a small congregation. Two couples went back to the UK. Due to the significant distances which separate us, we only meet twice a month (which is not conducive to church growth) and have a Chaplaincy-wide Zoom service once a month.

It has been a full year since our previous (Irish) Chaplain and his wife returned to the US after faithfully serving CCB for three years. He was not replaced, and there is still a vacancy for a part-time Chaplain. With the Brexit employment restrictions and the impact of the pandemic, it may well take some time for potential applicants to show some interest...

This being said, the Church is well supplied with a number of retired clergies, as well as lay readers and others. The communion services are led by our retired clergies, who visit us once a month, and the other services are led by lay readers and worship leaders. I'm included in this ministry at the Redon worship centre – mostly preaching and leading the prayers. Véronique helps with practical issues, the prayers, the lessons, and some translations from English to French.

During the summer, we had Bible study sessions on Zoom with CCB members from the 4 congregations. Véronique and I were also grateful to be able to co-lead an Alpha Course (independently of CCB) which finished just before the summer, and which was well attended with 14 people throughout. Some were based in Paris & Northern France, others in London, with one in Glasgow and one in Copenhagen! It was a very good group, and we were really encouraged to see that all of them stayed till the end of the course. I also led a weekly “Alpha follow-up” Bible study on Zoom in the autumn but only 6 came out of the group and we had quite a few one-to-one sessions.

In these challenging times where many are facing job insecurity, we have had the privilege of doing some mentoring with younger believers and to pray with them. A few were part of the Sunday morning Bible study which I used to lead while at the ACP (American Church in Paris). One of the things we often do is to encourage them to watch online sermons from All Souls, Langham Place or HTB – as we try to watch now and then too! (We have not been able to travel to the UK for 2,5 years now, but thus feel somehow connected.)

### CCO

We continue to receive news from CCO too and have been saddened to see how many of the dear folk we knew there went to be with the Lord in recent months.

We do not forget to pray for the congregation as a whole and for Sharon in particular, and do hope to visit again, God willing, in 2022. We hope you and your loved ones are well despite the ongoing challenges we are all facing and would like to wish you strength and peace this Christmas.

« Joyeux Noël & Tous Nos Bons Voeux pour la  
Nouvelle Année »

*From Peter & Véronique*