

Family News

14th January 2023

Reflection

What a blessing we have to get direct access to God by simply dialling into our own 'prayer-channel'. To which other global leader, mega-influencer or authority does anyone have such direct access to.? None! But as believers all we need to do is go on our knees (in fact we don't even need to do that; we can be walking, driving or just laying still) and we can speak to Him and get his Divine counsel.

"For what great nation has a god as near to them as the Lord our God is near to us whenever we call on him?"- Deuteronomy 4:7 NLT

"Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world." James 4:8 NLT

Something that struck me recently in a conversation is the idea that we have good days and bad days, ups and downs; but all the time God is constant. He does not change and He is not moody - whenever we are ready, God is there, ready!

"But as for me, how good it is to be near God! I have made the Sovereign Lord my shelter, and I will tell everyone about the wonderful things you do." Psalm 78:28 NLT

As we embark on this new year ahead of us, and as we pray together today, let us cling on to the fact that God is ready to hear us, He is ready to carry us and He is excited to guide us; all we need to do is let Him! And through the blood of Jesus and the presence of the Holy Spirit there are no more barriers to overcome - He is right here now, inside all of us.

Pieter

Next issue of **Family News** is
Saturday 21st January 2023

Can you please send notices etc to
Vernon by **12noon** that day **please**
for inclusion in Family News
Email is **vandjmapp@gmail.com**

Sunday 15th January 2023 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

Jesus the name high over all
Open the eyes of my heart Lord
This is my desire (Lord I give you my heart)

Bible Reading

John 1 v 29-42

Sermon

Intercessions

Worship

Lion and the Lamb
Will you come and follow me?

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Holy Communion – Go Deeper



For online zoom coffee after morning church **today**
(Sunday 15th January 2023)

join **Heather Kroiter** from 11.45am:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/84610974627?pwd=Z1g4TzIwVFVtcEUxeGRWb1FLUDVuZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 1097 4627

Passcode: R4V5My



Mavis Grimwade

It is with great sadness that we pass on the news that our dear sister Mavis Grimwade passed into the arms of her Lord and Saviour on the 18th December. She was a wonderful and gifted lady, who was a friend to so many. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends, and all at Christ Church.

The Funeral Service and Celebration of her Life is being held at Christ Church on Thursday 26th January at 12:00 noon, with a brief service of interment at 1:30pm at Bluebell Cemetery (also open to those who would like to come), and refreshments at Christ Church. David and the family warmly invite you to join them on that day

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."

Northumbria Daily Prayer

You are invited to come along to Daily Prayer at 9.00-9.20am in the chapel on Mondays and Tuesdays.



There will be readings from Scripture, a short meditative reading, prayer, reflection and silence.

Dates we are meeting in January are:
16th and 17th, 23rd and 30th January.

Community Club Tuesday 17th January 2023

Our Lunch Menu is
Parsnip soup
Chicken & mushroom pie, potatoes and vegetables
Panettone and custard
Tea or coffee.

Cafe Mosaic

Cafe Mosaic is in need of more volunteers to keep providing a good service to our customers. Can you help between 9.00am – 2.30pm on Wednesdays and Fridays during term time.

If you can't do an entire shift an hour or two would be great or even be on a reserve list to cover illness or holidays. Our team has got smaller and we will lose another person if not more in 2023

For more information, contact Jeanette on
07445477710, email jeanettexox@hotmail.com

Electoral Roll

- Do you consider yourself to be a member of the congregation of this church?
- Would you like to enter more fully into the life of the church?
- Why not make 2023 the year you put your name on the church Electoral Roll as a commitment?

There are also advantages in doing so. One is the fact that you can hire the church hall for that upcoming family celebration at a reduced rate.

Application forms can be found at the back of church together with an explanatory leaflet 'Belonging and the Electoral Roll'. Complete the form and return it via a church officer or myself.

Roger Wilkinson



WANTED

OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS ARE:

Carrier Bags/Long Life Bags

Tinned Potatoes

Sponge Puddings

Angel Delight

Jelly

Tissues

PLEASE **DON'T** GIVE US **FROZEN** OR **CHILLED** ITEMS
AS WE DON'T HAVE THE CORRECT STORAGE FOR IT AND
IT SPOILS BEFORE WE CAN DISTRIBUTE IT

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF: PASTA, CEREAL, TEA & BISCUITS

**TAKE A PHOTO OF THIS LIST
WITH YOUR PHONE TO
REFER TO WHILE YOU SHOP!**

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF FOOD SUPPORT
PLEASE CONTACT US ON 0800 9 20 23 24**

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:
gdpr@ccorpington.org

Children's Minister

Available until 26th January 2023

Key Features

- £16,700 to £19,800 (£23,000 to £26,000 annually full-time equivalent) subject to demonstrated skills and experience
- School term time only, plus an annual "Holiday Club" in late July.
- The number of paid hours is 25 hours per week all worked in term time and later in July, plus a further 5-weeks paid annual leave.
- A job share possibility is available.
- Interviews are anticipated to be in February 2023.



Christ Church Orpington is a medium-sized, evangelical church which is looking to appoint an experienced and talented Christian to lead our Children's Ministry.

Do you love growing relationships with children and encouraging them to develop their awareness of God in their lives? When you pray, is God calling you to do so at Christ Church Orpington, either for the full role or even in some part? If so, please read on!

Various Children's Ministry groups for children aged from 0-11 years old meet on Sundays and some other days of the week. A significant part of the role is working with, leading and motivating a fairly large team of adult volunteers. Effective inter-personal skills to work with children and adults alike will be necessary to fulfil this role.

The contract is for three years initially and is subject to a six months' probationary period.

It is a genuine occupational requirement that the person will be a practicing Christian and we are looking for someone who will embrace our Christian ethos and values. This post will require the successful applicant to undergo an enhanced DBS check and to complete the required safeguarding training.

If you are feeling drawn to this post and wish to receive an information pack and an application form, please contact Anna Carey via email at ccorpington@talktalk.net Completed application forms should be back with Anna

by 26th January 2023.

2023 Services at Christ Church Orpington

Sunday 15th January

10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Holy Communion - Go Deeper

Sunday 22nd January

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect

Sunday 29th January

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

Cream Tea



Come and join us on **Friday 27th January 2023** for our end of month Cream tea special from 12pm (last orders will be taken at 1.30pm)

Enjoy either our Cream Tea for one with 2 freshly made Fruit or Plain Scones with Clotted Cream & Jam or try our Savoury Cheese Scones all with unlimited tea for £5.50

Or

For two people try our selected Mini Sandwiches, Mini Cakes, freshly cooked Scones with Clotted Cream and Jam plus unlimited tea for £18

Photo by Sarah Kilian on Unsplash

ADVANCE NOTICE!

World Day of Prayer - focusing on Taiwan

Friday 3rd March

10.30am at St Mary's, Worlds End Lane.

Please put the date in your diary and take a friend too.

"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

CAP
LIFE
SKILLS



With you on
your journey to
a brighter future

Charity Registered No. 1087217 (England & Wales), SC038776 (Scotland). CAP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Product code: 105336V1

Join our friendly group and
gain skills to lift the pressure
of low income life

Wednesdays 10:30 – 12:30
Unity Church, Rye Crescent,
Orpington,
BR5 4NH

Starting 18th January

For more details and to book
a free place contact
Alison
07843 194981

CAP Life Skills course

Unity Church is running a new CAP Life Skills course with a taster session on Wednesday 18th January.

It's a lovely relaxed course with everyone sharing their tips and experiences as well as gaining skills. Shopping, cooking, saving energy, staying healthy, budgeting, and maintaining healthy relationships in times of financial pressure are all topics we will be discussing.

More relevant than ever during this cost-of-living crisis, all are invited to join us at the taster session on Jan 18th at 10:15 for a 10:30 start.

Contact Alison Dennis on 07843 194981

Christmas is over. New year shout outs are done, now back to work. Whatever that means. For some of us, it is a sigh of relief, back to normal, after endless catch ups, meet ups, hosting, you name it.

And now it's time for you. You are invited to a Ladies Evening of Chill.

Date: 11th February 2023

Time: 6.30 – 9.30pm

Venue: Christ Church café



We'll order Pizza (£5 each)

Optional: bring desert, bring
a bottle – your shout.

CCO Women's Ministry - God's Diamond, beautiful and unbreakable.

A sign-up sheet is at the back of the church

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th to 25th January

Please see below the dates for prayer for this worldwide **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**. It feels like this year, maybe more than ever, the churches need to get together to pray for unity.

Christ Church are beginning the prayers on **Wednesday 18th at 8pm**. Please can I encourage you to come to this, and as many of the other prayer times as you possibly can. Please note that the **united celebration on Sunday 22nd at 6pm at the Methodist Church** is instead of our usual 6:30pm service.

John 17: 20b-21

"I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
18th - 25th January

Wednesday 18th 8:00pm - Prayer @ Christ Church
Thursday 19th 12:30pm - Minister's Lunch
Friday 20th 8:00pm - Prayer @ Hope Church

Sunday 22nd 6:00pm
United Celebration @ Orpington Methodist

Monday 23rd 12:00noon - Prayer @ Orpington Baptist
Tuesday 24th 12:15pm - Healing Eucharist @ All Saints
Wednesday 25th 10:00am - Prayer @ Green St Green Baptist

Churches Together
IN ORPINGTON

Life lost and Found

We are born into darkness and unfortunately for some, that is where they stay. Our lives become a journey that we stumble through; tripping over one obstacle after another, not knowing in which direction the path runs smoothly. Inside, we might cry and wail at being left in this murky gloom, wanting and needing help, not understanding that help is always close at hand.

Far in the distance, a concealed hand reveals a light. A tiny spark of hope, that shows we're not alone. A candle burns and flickers unsteadily, almost threatening to extinguish itself. To our eyes, in this void it's light is dim, but beckoning. We are cautious in our approach, as many impediments still appear to bar our hesitant, stumbling footsteps. The nearer we are to this light, the steadier it glows and its brilliance intensifies. We fall to our knees exhausted before it and are bathed in its ever-expanding radiance. It lights up our path to the future, filling us with hope and strength for our onward journey. Also, it highlights our past, showing our mistake that we might learn from those errors of judgement that we have made.

As we kneel within this ever-intensifying light, we become aware that we are not alone. A gentle hand reaches out to us, helping us to our feet. A face of kind concern smiles, like a proud father whose child has taken its first steps. We are grateful for this sanctuary, but query why they were not there to help us earlier. With the gentle grace of a loving father, we are told that they have always been there; we just needed to open our eyes to see, our hearts to feel the love and our minds to understand with clarity the other two. We were not aware that God has always been with us on our journey, we couldn't see him in our own darkness. A darkness we create, not by our closed eyes, but by our closed minds.

His gentle voice now speaks, "Follow the path that I have laid out before you and you will never again be in the dark".

Jim Callaghan
