



CHRIST CHURCH LANARK
CLYDESDALE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
FEBRUARY 2018

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Sunday 4th

Candlemas

09.00 – Said Eucharist

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 11th

Sunday before Lent

10.30 – All Age Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 14th

Ash Wednesday

7 pm – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 18th

Lent 1

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 25th

Lent 2

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

LUNCH CLUB

The Lunch Club meets every Tuesday in the Church Hall. Cost £2.50

Come along and enjoy friendly company, homemade soup and a filled roll.



There are also frequently speakers and slide shows. Do speak to Doreen Dixon if you are able to give a short talk or slide show on any topic.

All welcome

SHROVE TUESDAY

PANCAKE PARTY

Tuesday 13th February

Christ Church Hall

5 pm - 7 pm

*Join us for a pre-Lent feast of French crepes,
filled with delicious savoury and sweet fillings
all washed down with a glass of wine!*



And

bring a friend

remember -

Drew's Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends

January is often thought of as the driest of months. After all the excitement, colour and vibrancy of the Christmas and New Year Celebrations January can feel a bit of a damp squib, and the weather usually does little to dispel that impression. So, if you're anything like me, you'll be glad it's now over and that things are moving on.



As we enter February there are signs of the first daffodils and crocuses pushing their wee heads through the hard ground and the chatter of the birds in the trees (especially the tree at my bedroom window!) is definitely getting louder and louder. These and other signs point us towards the brighter, longer, warmer days that lie ahead.

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I've been reading up on my biblical history of late. What has amazed me in my reading is how quickly and easily the nation of Israel wandered away from God throughout its history. There were times when morally and spiritually Israel was a very dark place. Under the wayward leadership of some bad kings idols were worshipped, the Temple got neglected, bad practices were adopted and God's Word was forgotten. And yet, in spite of those regular slippages, there were always signs that God had not abandoned his people; through thick and thin God still sought to establish his will among them and to fulfil his purpose for them. Great prophets arose to keep the flame of truth burning. Kings like Hezekiah and Josiah came to the fore with the reforming zeal to bring their people back to God. In the fullness of time Jesus the Son of God emerged – the ultimate sign that God had not abandoned his people or the world he loved and longed to reconcile and save.

I believe these signs continue. The story of Jesus is still being told, people are still giving their life to him, and his love, living in and through them, is making a huge difference to so many in so many places and ways. The great purpose of God, as far as I can see, is still moving forward to the day when all darkness and pain will be eliminated from human experience.

Thanks to God's grace we can be involved in all of this through our individual callings to strive for the best and to be instruments of God's truth, love and justice. We need to remind ourselves of this from time to time and to be encouraged to realise that all things are possible under God. There was a moment when the Psalmist realised that with God's help he could be an example to many, a sign of God's presence in the midst of all the challenges of life. "I have been like a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge" (Psalm 71: 7) That is not just something for us to admire; it's also something for us to aspire to.

Drew

Nigel Beeton, the poet, writes: I enjoy Valentine's Day, it is a time when we can stop and think about love, and our 'significant other'. The path of love is often not smooth, but some, and I include myself in this, have been blessed by God with a soul mate who is a lifelong friend through life's ups and down. So, I hope you and your readers will forgive me, but I've gone all soft this month.

Before the World

Before the world our lives were planned
By God, the Lord who loves we two;
He knew that you would take my hand,
He knew that we'd be ever true.

And so He brought our paths to meet
He set ablaze the fires of love!
He chose to make our lives complete
He sent His Spirit from above.

I love you more than words can say
And, though these years have passed us by,
I love you more each passing day -
I'll love you till the day I die.

By Nigel Beeton





STUDY GROUPS IN CHRIST CHURCH

Every two weeks the Bible Study Group gets together in the home of one of its participants to conduct a focussed study on one of the books of the Bible. Over the years they have covered the epistles of Paul, the Gospels, some of the Prophets and aspects of the Pentateuch. The Group's next meeting in February will be on Wednesday 24th in the home of Peter & Susan Clark. All welcome.

During Lent the Rector intends to respond to a request from a number of people in the congregation for a refresher course on the basics of Christianity, including aspects of what it means to be an Episcopalian. This course will run on Wednesday evenings throughout Lent (21 & 28 Feb, 7, 14 & 21 Mar) meeting at 7 pm in the Memorial Chapel of the Church. If there are specific topics that you would like to have explored in that course, please drop your suggestions in the box on the table at the back of the church.

Later in the year the Rector also intends to respond to another request from a number of people in the congregation for a course that explores in some depth some of the theological conundrums that people struggle with as faithful people in an increasingly secular world. One topic that will definitely feature will be "Evil & Suffering and The God of Love". There will be others that you wrestle with too. Once you've made your list, again pop your requests in the box on the table at the back of the church. The Rector will then tailor make the course to fit your specific requirements.

As someone once said: "Studying the faith is not where your journey ends; it's where it begins." Get started this year at one of the opportunities on your doorstep.

Away Giving

Our third quarter 'away giving' was for **New Beginnings** and the wonderful sum of £500 was sent to Mrs Mary McLellan. She has sent the following:

"I would like to offer our sincere thanks to all of the Christ Church Congregation for their amazing donation to New Beginnings. At a time when donations are rather thin on the ground it comes as a very welcome surprise that our work in the community has not been completely forgotten."

You may be aware that NBC has changed direction during the last few months and our new project is to provide White Goods to pretty well the same sector as we previously served here in Clydesdale. In this way it will be possible to maintain their personal hygiene to a higher level than before and also to be able to buy, store and cook healthier foods in the future.

Many thanks again -we are most grateful."

Our final quarter away giving was as usual for **Children in Distress**. The magnificent sum of £900 was raised from last Sunday collections, the Christingle collection and other donations.

A decision will be made shortly by Vestry about the 'away giving' charities for 2018. Please let us know if you have a special charity that you think we should support.

Clydesdale Food Bank Christmas Appeal

Our friends at Clydesdale Food Bank have sent their grateful thanks for the donations received over the time we have supported them. They were particularly appreciative of the very generous donations received for the Christmas food hampers which enabled many families who may not have been able to do so, to enjoy a lovely Christmas meal.

Special mention needs to go to Addie and Naimh who donated their pocket money the week before Christmas to buy food for the foodbank...well done Addie and Naimh!"

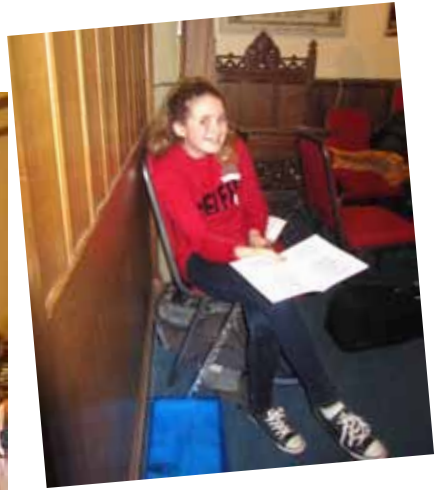
Obituary

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Jack Gibson, husband of Mary who sings in our choir and does so much for the church and church events. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mary at this sad time.

FESTIVE SNAPSHOTS

Although Christmas is well and truly over for another year I thought it would be good to include a picture gallery of all the participants at the Chringle and the beautiful flower arrangements done by Jane.

Ed





**Lots more photos on the
Church website**

Thank you

Our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful congregation of Christ Church for making our first visit to your beautiful place of worship such an amazing one of Christian unity and welcome.

When our family moved to Lanark from England in August last year, apart from feeling very tired and understandably unsettled after the trauma of our relocation,



it was with feelings of great trepidation (and even disloyalty) that we joined the service of family worship some three weeks later. We need not have worried, from stepping in through the doors, our experience was what we can only describe as one of utter joy as we were met with smiles and enthusiastic greetings of welcome from everyone, including the Rev'd Drew who extended the same hospitable welcome to us before the service. And still your kindness to us continues, you have won us over completely!

We had previously been very much a part of St John the Evangelist in Hurst, Ashton Under Lyne, for over 40 years where we too knew the importance of extending the hand (or hug!) of hospitality and Christian welcome.

Not only have we left a big hole, more importantly we have left behind friends of many years whom we miss very much, and they us.

Although the feelings of disloyalty are very much still with us we know that in time this will lessen, indeed, our last service at St John's was a "leaving service" which was very moving indeed. Sad yes, but we know we left with the blessings, prayers and good wishes of everyone present and our hearts, thoughts and prayers will be always be with them, wherever we are.

However, with God's help we will move forward and try to return the Christian embrace and hospitality beautifully extended by you all.

With warm and grateful thanks, love and prayers.

Joyce, Peter and Paula Moody



Mr Bill Hardie feeling the joy of being in Christ Church.

No reason for putting in this photo except for the fact that Bill is a long and faithful member of our Church Family and he looks so happy to be in church.

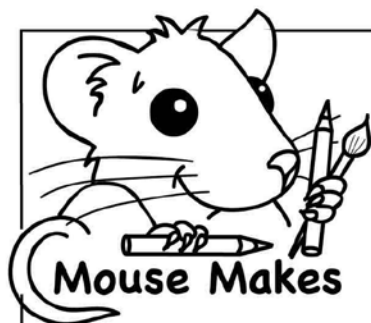
I was asked by several members of the congregation to make sure I put something in the magazine about my trip to Buckingham Palace on 12th December and to include a photo of the famous hat that had caused me so much trouble!.

It was a truly wonderful experience with everyone at the Palace doing everything in their power to make the day special for all the recipients. I was thrilled to receive my MBE from Prince William who was utterly charming and chatted away.

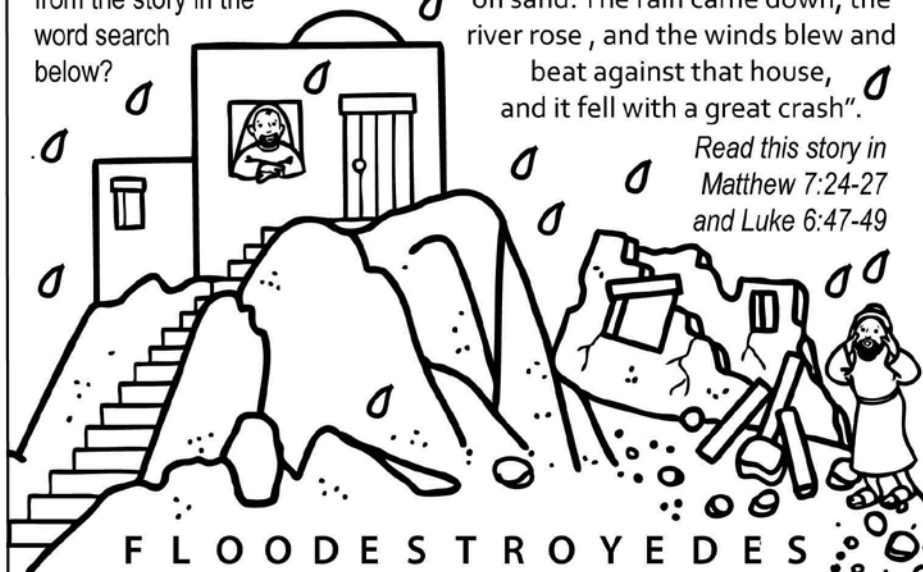
Many thanks for all the cards and messages of good wishes

Sylvia





Can you find the words from the story in the word search below?



Jesus taught his disciples...
 "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds his house on solid rock. Though the rain came down, the river rose and the winds blew and beat against the house it did not fall. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the river rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash".

Read this story in
 Matthew 7:24-27
 and Luke 6:47-49

F L O O D E S T R O Y E D E S
 O W J H W A R B I F E L L F A
 B O P O I F O U N D A T I O N
 G R O U N D C I J E S U S O D
 E D U S D O K L B U R S T L M
 A S H E A R T T E W I S E I A
 S O L I D R I V E R A I N S N
 C O L L A P S E D R U I N H T

LISTEN • HEAR • JESUS • WORDS • WISE • MAN • BUILT • HOUSE • SOLID
 FOUNDATION • ROCK • RAIN • WIND • FLOOD • RIVER • BURST • FOOLISH
 SAND • GROUND • COLLAPSED • FELL • DESTROYED • RUIN

Laughter is the Best Medicine

With St Valentine's Day fast approaching, some reflections on 'LOVE'

Love

'Love is when a little old woman and a little old man are still friends, even after they've been married forever.' Tommy - age 6

Lights

Halfway through a romantic dinner, my husband smiled and said, 'You look so beautiful under these lights.' I was falling in love all over again when he added, 'We really should get some of these lights.'

Know your spouse

While attending a Marriage Seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife Grace were told by the instructor that it was essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other. He addressed Tom. 'For instance, can you name your wife's favourite flower?'

Tom leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, 'It's self-raising, isn't it?'

The rest of the story gets rather ugly, so I'll stop right here.

Oops!

Memory is what tells a man his wedding anniversary was yesterday.

Listen

My wife says I never listen, or something like that...

Beware of these contagious diseases in church

Frontophobia: A morbid fear of the front seats in church. The sufferer is struck by an attack just inside the church door, and collapses in the nearest back seat.

Ear Frequency Destruction: Caused by sitting near the loudspeaker when the minister is singing full volume, off-key, etc., into the microphone. (*never Drew!*)

Accelerate Vocal Response: A condition which causes the sufferer to try to sing faster than the organ.

Retarded Vocal Response:

A condition which causes the sufferer to try to sing slower than the organ.

Church Meeting Paralysis:

This can strike suddenly, when a post in the church needs filling. A good dose of enthusiasm works wonders with this sad affliction.



...er... apart from this little hiccup... it was an excellent church pancake supper..

DATE	SIDESPERSIONS	TEA/COFFEE	CHURCH CLEANING	LUNCH CLUB	COMMUNION CUP
2018	Rosemary Marshall Tel: 663774	Jean Rance Tel: 662461	Connie Johnstone Tel: 01899 308764	Doreen Dixon Tel: 750295	
4 Feb	S. Russell M. Main	M. Caddell C. Robbins	N. Broadbridge	(Soup) 6 Feb Jamie & Janet	P Glancy
11 Feb	R. Marshall G. Rankin	M. Gibson J. Patrick	J.Rance K.Rance	13 Feb Ruby & Joyce	S Cardwell
18 Feb	J. Rance N. Broadbridge	L. Rickards E. Baxter	J.Rance K. Rance	20 Feb Diana & Connie	C Johnstone
25 Feb	D. Evans S. Russell	J. Rance K. Rance	A. Comrie	27 Feb Hilary & Doreen E	R Cleary
4 Mar	M. Main R. Marshall	M. Caddell C. Robbins	A. Gray	6 March Janet & Jamie	R Burgon

DATE	DIARY	READERS	FIRST LESSON	SECOND LESSON	GOSPEL
2018 4 Feb	Epiphany 5	P Glancy	Isaiah 40: 21-31	1 Cor'thns 9: 16-23	Mark 1: 29-39
11 Feb	Sunday Before Lent	All Age Service	-----	-----	T.B.A.
18 Feb	Lent 1	L Rickards	Genesis 9: 8-17	1 Phil'ns 3: 18-22	Mark 1: 9-15
25 Feb	Lent 2	F Caddell	Genesis 17: 1-7 & 15-16	Romans 4: 13-25	Mark 8: 31-38
4 March	Lent 3	J Hill	Exodus 20: 1-17	1 Cor'thns 1: 18-25	John 2: 13-22

CHRIST CHURCH LANARK

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Please remember Christ Church in your will as an act of thanksgiving for the Church.

For confidential advice please speak to the Treasurer

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