



St Thomas News

Volume 3, Issue 9

6th September 2009

September Worship

September 6th,
10:00 am
Messy Church

September 13th, 9:00 am Holy Communion

Readings:

Isaiah 50:4-9a, James 3:1-12, Mark 8:27-38

10:30 all age service
Theme- Exile

Readings:

Psalms 137, Isaiah 42:1-9

September 20th,
10:00 am

Holy Communion

Theme - Fair justice or just revenge

Readings: Micah 6:8;

Romans 12: 9-21

September 27th,
10:00 am

Holy communion

Theme - Harvest waste, hunger, plenty

Readings: Joel 2:21-27;

James 5:13-20

Life After Debt Centre

This autumn we are going to open the **Christians Against Poverty (CAP) centre at St Thomas, known as the Life After Debt project.** This has happened by the grace of God and the generosity of LBB and Trusthouse Charitable Foundation in providing grants to get the project underway. Corina Kemp has been called by God to serve as Centre Manager, starting work on October 5th and training and raising awareness of the Centre. This work began at the Town Show in July and is continuing through various contacts. We are liaising with our funders about the start of the project and we welcome Sandra Sadler from CAP to speak at our service on October 25th.

You are invited to join Prayer/House groups

In September we are launching, as a rolling programme, a series of home groups to learn, support and to pray together. We shall start with a group at the Vicarage on Sunday evening at 6 pm and then a group midweek during the day. The starting for the Sunday evening group will be September 13. The theme for this group will be the major themes of St Luke's gospel of prayer, the poor and the Holy Spirit.

Watch for the date and place for the next group starting!

Bed Raffle

We are truly grateful to the Cumberland Bedding Co situated in Heathway Industrial Estate, off Wantz Road, for their provision of a bespoke bad as the prize for our draw this summer. The final amount raised was £529. Thank you to Tony Roovers for his enabling this huge offer to be realised, not least for the winner!

The themes in October & November are:

Oct 4, Truth and reconciliation - restorative justice, the work of Desmond Tutu

Oct 11, International Thanksgiving service at 10:30 with the theme: persecuted and enabling church (sharing with the church around the world)

Oct 18, Clean and dirty fighting - Justice in families

Oct 25, Christians Against Poverty (CAP) launch of St Thomas centre - hope out of crisis - guest speaker Susan Sadler from CAP

Nov 1, International co-operation based on justice

Nov 8, Justice, war and consent

Nov 15, Gender issues

Nov 22, Climate Change

What's On

Sept 5th	Quiet Morning in the chapel from 9-12	Sept 12th	Karaoke evening from 7:30pm –tickets available £5.00 p/p children under 15 £2.50
Sept 10th	Mothers Union AGM talk by Carol Woodham & Barbara Walker, on Church Banners	Sept 13th	Sunday evening house group meeting at the Vicarage 6.00 pm
Sept 11th	Shuffleboard at Corina's, 204 Valence Avenue, 7:00pm onwards. All welcome	Sept 14th	PCC meeting at 8.00 pm
Sept 12th	Cleaning the Church in the morning to 12 noon	Sept 16th	'Just Men' group at the Eva Hart, 7.30 pm (Hinds Head is now closed)
Sept 12th	Bike ride	Sept 23rd	Friends of St Thomas wildlife inaugural meeting, 7-8pm. Open to all
Parent and Toddlers	9.45am every Monday	Rainbows	Tuesdays 4.30 - 5.30pm
Tiddlywinks	9.30am every Wednesday	Cubs	Mondays 6.30 - 7.45pm
Line Dancing	9.45am - 10.45am every Tuesday	Brownies	Meets Tuesdays 5.45 - 7.15pm
Music group	7.30pm every Friday	Guides	Meets Thursdays 7.30 - 8.45pm
Beavers	5.15pm - 6.30pm every Wednesday		(Groups term time only)

Rejecting the current obsession with violence

I, Philip, was meandering through the subject of restorative justice in preparation for this autumn's sermon series, and, by chance, came across several interesting web pages, the first of which was about the work of Archbishop Desmond Tutu in chairing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa in days following the emergence of the Rainbow Nation.

Restorative Justice may be defined like this: it encourages those who have been caused harm to acknowledge the impact of what they have done and gives them an opportunity to make reparation. It offers those who have suffered harm the opportunity to have their harm or loss acknowledged and amends made.

I kept searching and I came across the following site: joninbetween.blogspot.com which Jon Evens, Vicar of St John's Seven Kings hosts. If you lookup this site and find The Black Rain (3) you will read an astonishingly interesting article on obsession with violence and perversion and the need to name such obsession. This is a challenging look at a serious subject. If anyone finds more interesting pages, please let us know for future newsletters.



Please Pray!

Please pray for

- our children going back to school or to new schools
- the services every week and their preparation
- parents and Toddlers restarting
- tiddlywinks, our mid-week church
- PCC making important decisions

Recently Bereaved

Please pray for those who mourn the death of:

Eddie Webb
Reg Self
Pete Tyler
Jim Russell
Arthur Tiney
Joyce Moore