

Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.

Matthew 18
v 19-20

CORNERSTONE NEWS MARCH 2025



**Church AGM
26th March**

“Lord,
teach us to
pray...”



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New Road, Hythe, Southampton SO45 6BR

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Registered Charity No. 1141707



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FURTHER INFORMATION

To join our email distribution list please email Joy Funnell at joy@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk

For pastoral care offers or needs please contact one of the elders or email pastoral@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk

For church information please contact Richard Hall 023 8084 0191 secretary@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk or Craigmore, Roman Road, Dibden Purlieu SO45 4QJ

Please contact your home-group leader, Elders and Team Leaders or any trusted Christian for any spiritual support and guidance at this time.

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APRIL NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the April issue is Sunday 23rd March

The Editor would be very grateful to receive items and messages for the next issue of our newsletter, which will bless others in the church at this time, so please send such items to

E-mail: newsletter@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk

Items can be sent by post to

Diana Sandy, 38 Knightwood Road, Hythe, Southampton, SO45 6JL

Telephone : 023 8084 2745

Letter from the Elders



Dear Friends,

This month sees the Church AGM (26th March) and the production of the Annual Reports. Reading the reports I am always amazed at the variety of things that go on in the Church and the number of people actively involved in them. We truly are, as scripture says, one body with many members each playing their part. Much of the work goes on unseen but if it did not happen we would soon be aware of the shortfall. The Word tells us: *“We are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do”*. Ephesians 2 v 10 There is a place and a work for all of us in God’s Kingdom. As our circumstances change (age, health, available time etc.) then our roles will change but we never retire or become redundant in the Kingdom.

This year we have a vacancy for an Elder as Angela Rawcliffe is moving soon from Hythe to the Bristol area. She has been a faithful member of the Church serving us in many ways, some quite visible but much unseen. We will certainly miss her thoughtful ways and her contributions as an elder, leading meetings, working with the youth and cleaning and tidying round the building when we have all left. We thank her and pray that she will quickly find a Church home in her new area.

We ourselves look forward as we embark on the process of calling a new minister. This is a different situation for us as we will be sharing a minister with Immanuel Church, Southbourne. Although we can imagine challenges ahead, we are excited at the prospect of a new minister and closer links with Immanuel Church. The Lord is building His Kingdom and we want our Church to be right in the centre of what He is doing. We are very grateful for all the blessings and teachings we have experienced over the last few years but we do cry *“more Lord”*. Please pray for every aspect of this process and for the new minister.

May the Lord richly bless you and may you experience His peace.

Margaret Yapp



WORSHIP AT CORNERSTONE

Morning worship at Cornerstone starts at 10.30 am every Sunday and all are welcome.

Services are also streamed live via our YouTube channel

<https://bit.ly/CornerstoneHytheURC>

and the recording of the service will be available on YouTube afterwards.

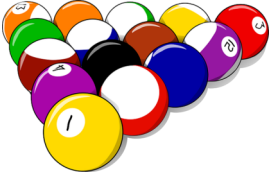
Most Sundays all parts of the service will be live, but occasionally the sermon will be a recording shown on the screen. Singing is a full part of our worship with a mix of songs and hymns accompanied by organ, piano or small worship group and recorded songs shown on the big screens.

After the service, **Coffee and Tea** will be served in the main hall where people enjoy fellowship together.

WORSHIP IN MARCH

Date	Speaker	Theme:
2 nd	Revd Brian Clarke (video)	Jesus in Luke - Gentle Jesus Meek and Mild? <i>Service includes Communion</i>
9 th	Diane Fry	Nehemiah
16 th	Revd Ian McGill	Jesus in Luke - Challenging the Crowd
23 rd	Revd George Gibson	Jesus in Luke - The Healer (Healing Service)
30 th	Nick Tustian	Mothering Sunday <i>All Age Worship</i>

YOUTH CLUB



For 11 to 18 Year Olds

**7.30 pm to 9.00 pm
alternate Fridays**



As well as the usual games such as snooker, pool, table tennis, football etc., we also have some other fun activities planned each week...

For further details and programmes please contact
Dave Symmonds

Email : youthclub@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk

We will be meeting on Fridays 14th and 28th March

YOUTH BIBLE GROUP

7.00 pm to 9.00 pm - alternate Fridays



We meet in the Youth Lounge for chat, Bible study and prayer. There's hot chocolate and slush puppies as well.

This is for young people 13 to 18, who want to learn more about being a Christian through studying God's word together in a relaxed and fun way.

We will be meeting on Fridays 7th and 21st March

For more details please contact Dave Symmonds

BOYS' BRIGADE



All the boys have enjoyed playing the chair swap game, team games, dodgeball and escape ball. The Anchors and Juniors have done various activities on the theme "inside the museum", made snake cup cakes for the Chinese New Year and played some table games. The Company boys played cricket and were introduced to the rules. They talked about the history of the Bible and made snakes for the Chinese New Year. They also took part in Paralympic sports.

I am please to announce the following appointments:
Rachel from Registered Leader to Warrant Officer and myself from Warrant Officer to Lieutenant.

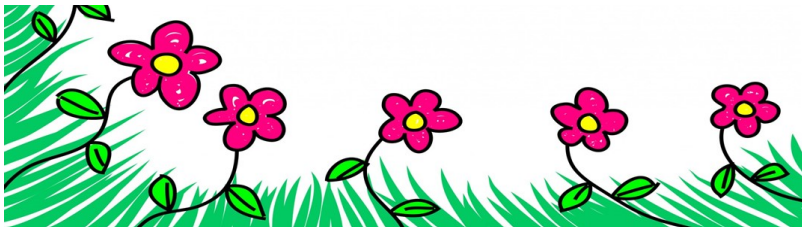
Gill Tabenor



BIRTHDAY IN MARCH

Congratulations to:

Clare Irwin who will be 97 on the 15th



YOU TELL ME I AM GETTING OLD

You tell me I am getting old,
I tell you that's not so!
The "house" I live in is worn out,
And that, of course, I know.
It's been in use a long, long while;
It's weathered many a gale;
I'm really not surprised you think
It's getting somewhat frail.

The colour changing on the roof,
the windows getting dim,
The walls a bit transparent and
looking rather thin,
The foundation not so steady
as once it used to be -
My "house" is getting shaky,
but my "house" isn't me.

My few short years can't make me old,
I feel I'm in my youth.
Eternity lies just ahead,
a life of joy and truth.
I'm going to live forever there,
life will go on - it's grand!
You tell me I'm getting old?
You just don't understand.

The dweller in my little "house"
is young and bright and gay;
Just starting on a life to last
throughout eternal day.
You only see the outside,
which is all that most folk see.
You tell me I'm getting old?
You've mixed my "house" with me!

Taken from "Bless This Home"
Published by Golden House Publishing Co, Inc.



WOMEN'S GUILD

You will be very welcome to join us at any of our meetings at Cornerstone on **2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons** from **2.15 pm to 3.30 pm**

MARCH PROGRAMME

13th From Drab to Fab -
Helen Turnpenny

27th What do you collect?



There will be a Bring and Buy table at every meeting

For further information please contact our
President, Glenys Bartlett
on 023 8084 2871 or
e-mail guild@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk



PICNIC LUNCH

Sunday 9th March 2025
12.30 pm- 2.00 pm

On the second Sunday of each month there is a get-together picnic lunch in the hall after worship and coffee for all who would like to stay. This month, we plan to play board games afterwards.



FLOWERS AT CORNERSTONE

It is a pleasure to organise the church flowers for another year and I hope that everyone will be able to enjoy them.

I am still taking names for the 2025 rota. People donate the flowers for many reasons: in memory of a loved one, a birthday or anniversary, a celebration, or just to give thanks.

The average cost is £25 to £30 but please do not be put off by this amount. You can always share with someone else. Just contact me and I will help you.

I can be contacted at church in person, by telephone on 023 8084 3249, or e-mail: pamela@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk.

FLOWER ROTA FOR MARCH

9th - Pamela Bridge for her Father's Birthday
23rd - Pamela Bridge for her nephew, James

2nd, 16th and 30th - These dates are still available.

Thank you and take care, *Pamela Bridge*



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday 8th March at 8.30 am

More information in the Weekly Notice Sheets.

For details please contact Dave Symmonds -

call/text 07747698910 or e-mail:

mensbreakfast@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk

NEWS FROM SIERRA LEONE

When I spoke at Cornerstone (Sunday 12th January), I mentioned that some of the Outreach funds have been used to get Simonette into the Lakka Hospital in Freetown where she is being treated for Multi Drug Resistant TB. When she entered the hospital she was in a very severe condition and finding it hard to breathe. It is real joy to tell you that she is now out of hospital and her treatment continues back home in Madina; she is with her children again. She will need to make the long journey by bus from Madina back to the hospital once a month for the next six months to be checked and to receive her next month's course of medication. We will send her funds once a month to cover her transport. Her children tested negative for TB. The chance of surviving MDRTB is 75% and in Simonette's case it was late getting treated. She has been released from the hospital as her tests show the level is now so low that she is not infectious. I have received messages and photos from Simonette one of which is below.

(Picture: Simonette with her nurse. Nurse left with Simonette right).



Message from Simonette:

“Hi Steve, how are you doing? Thanks so so much for saving my life. You are really kind hearted. I will be discharged on Thursday said by the doctor. The following medication will be giving to me monthly till it ends the six month. So every month ending I should be coming to Free Town for another check up and medicine”.

I hope like me you are full of joy at this great outcome. Thank you for your support and keep praying for the people of Sierra Leone.

Steve Baker



FRANK TIMOTHY MOTH – ‘TIM’

11th April 1937 – 2nd January 2025

Tim was born in 1937 to Kathleen, a housewife and Frank, a retired Merchant Navy captain. He had two siblings, William aged five and Patricia aged seven. Weighing in at three pounds 10.5 ounces, he did well to survive in those pre-incubator days, in a cotton wool lined bowl in front of the fire in a local nursing home.

When war broke out in 1939 Tim’s father had already passed away. The remaining members of the family relocated to Sutton Coldfield to be nearer relatives. After the war, the family returned to their former home in Southampton, which had been converted into three flats, and Tim started at the local Prep school. Whilst Tim did have a couple of school friends, he spent quite a lot of time exploring old Southampton on his bicycle and visiting various industrial premises. He especially liked being shown around and understanding the local refrigeration plants. From there he developed a passion for refrigeration and all things electrical. As a school boy he even built a working model lift for an exhibition.

Tim’s mother remarried, an Armenian man of unreliable temperament, which unsettled the children, so Tim was sent to boarding school in Knutsford. His main recollection of that time seems to be going with other boys to Saturday morning pictures and keeping clear of a very severe usherette wielding a very long billiard cue with which she would poke the offender at the first sign of misbehaviour. Tim’s mother subsequently divorced her husband, they remained friends from a distance, which gave the children a more stable life. They moved back into their Southampton home where Tim went to Clarks College, where he made two good friends. One thing they remember is that once, when the class teacher did not turn up, Tim stood up and gave an impromptu lesson on refrigeration.

Tim did an electrical engineering apprenticeship in Southampton, attending night school two evenings per week to gain his Ordinary National Certificate. In the meantime, he had met Barbara, a student nurse at Southampton General Hospital, at a friend’s party and they soon became an established couple, marrying in 1962.

About this time Tim heard that IBM Laboratories at Hursley Park were hiring people, so he applied, was interviewed and was offered a job, which he held until retirement. Whilst at Hursley, Tim continued at night school to gain his Higher National Certificate, then went on to study for endorsements to bring him up to degree standard. Tim progressed at IBM and a very proud moment was when one of the microchips that he had developed was demonstrated on the BBC's Tomorrows World programme by Judith Hann. Barbara thinks he quite fancied her.

In due time Tim and Barbara were blessed with three sons, Richard, Nicholas and Simon. The couple moved to Chandlers Ford with their three small boys in 1967 and bought a house to be near Tim's work. They moved twice more whilst in Chandlers Ford and were very happy there. During that time they became proud grandparents to Richard, Tom, Alex, Robert and Emma.

In 1970 the family spent a year in Maryland USA, courtesy of IBM. They rented a house in Gaithersburg, not far from Washington DC. They had a great year there exploring the east coast and made many friends, some of which they are still in touch with.

Tim was always a hands-on dad once the nappy stage was over. He and the boys spent many happy hours making things in the workshop and on DIY projects around the house and garden. The skills learned, have proved very useful in their own homes.

Tim always had a passion for Steam! For many years he belonged to the Twyford Waterworks Trust and he and Richard used to spend a day, alternate weekends, working on the restoration of the engines and boilers. He maintained his membership to the Trust, also to Kempton Great Engines Trust, which is a similar set up.

For Tim's 60th birthday he was treated, by the family, to a steam train foot plate ride on the Watercress Line and for his 80th a dining experience on the Flying Scotsman. He thoroughly enjoyed both occasions.

Tim and Barbara were both very involved in Chandlers Ford United Reformed Church where Tim held many roles over the years including Eldership. Tim did have a mischievous streak which often manifested itself during House Groups both in Chandlers Ford and Hythe. Sometimes his mind would wander and he would come out with some totally inappropriate remark, often from Proverbs. Martin, who was the

leader at Chandlers Ford, would say “Tim we are not doing Proverbs”! Much laughter ensued before the group was able to carry on.

In 2011 they relocated to Hythe, to be by the sea, and settled down to a slower pace of life. They were made very welcome at Cornerstone URC and have formed new friendships both at Church and with their great neighbours.

As Tim’s health deteriorated and he was moved onto palliative care; Tim and Barbara were blessed with much kindness from professionals, family and friends. They were both very grateful for this.

In conclusion, Tim was a very gentle man, quiet by nature, courteous and with a great sense of humour. Above all he was loved so much by his family, right down to his two little great-grandchildren, Scarlett and Albie. He was always ready to help, either practically or with explanation. He will be greatly missed but the consolation being that he is restored to wholeness in Heaven.



Well Done Good and Faithful Servant.

THANKS FROM BARBARA MOTH

Barbara Moth and family would like to express their sincere thanks to all at Cornerstone who supported them so faithfully during Tim’s illness and subsequent passing, also for attending his funeral service and wake. It made such a difference knowing we had your prayers and practical support when needed.

We as a family, although mourning Tim’s loss, enjoy remembering all the many happy times and experiences we enjoyed together over the years. I myself am so grateful and thankful for our 62 years together.

PRAYER POINTERS FOR MARCH



Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thessalonians 5 v 16-17)

During the week there are opportunities to pray with others

Before the service on Sunday
in the Counselling room at 10.15 am

After the service on Sundays
an opportunity to receive prayer

On Monday mornings in Meeting Room 1
from 10.00 am to 11.00 am

On Wednesday mornings
in the Foyer from
8.30 am to 9.30 am

At Homegroup meetings fortnightly



March 1st - 8th

- ◆ Pray for Christian agencies across the world trying to give people a better life and teaching about Jesus. For all the workers who go out with aid to areas of hardship.
- ◆ Pray that all those who accept Jesus will be kept safe and will always hold on to their faith if threatened by persecution.
- ◆ Pray for Christians all over the world.
- ◆ World Day of Prayer Friday 7th - pray for this service as it progresses round the world, may it touch many hearts.
- ◆ Pray for the people of the Cook Islands; they struggled with Covid-19 and their culture is being devalued . Being a mainly Christian country, they have a strong sense of God's love in their lives. They write: *"God knows us intimately and we are special to God in our uniqueness. When we open the doors of our hearts to his truth everything in our life changes. We glow from within and we begin treating others as beloved children of God"*. Pray that these sentiments are true for all Christians everywhere and that we may all glow from within.

March 9th - 15th

- ◆ We are now in the season of Lent, a time when it is good to make extra space to pray, read the Bible and reflect on God's love. Pray that God will renew us, refresh us, give us greater understanding of his word and wisdom during this time.
- ◆ Pray for all those who are unwell in mind or body that they will feel God's loving touch on their lives. Pray particularly for those known to you personally.
- ◆ Pray for all those who work in the NHS. With heavy work loads pray that they find the strength they need to keep going. May they always feel highly valued as they seek daily to save lives and give people quality of life.
- ◆ Pray for all those who work in the emergency services, thank God for their willingness to care for others sometimes putting their own lives at risk.

March 16th - 22nd

- ◆ Pray for Church leaders, whatever denomination, that they may lead wisely, with integrity and humility. Pray that they can be trusted in all that they say and do, showing that they are totally reliant on God.
- ◆ Pray for our church as we start the process of looking for a new minister. May the sharing with Emanuel Southbourne be beneficial to both churches and that the right minister will finally be appointed. Pray that he will be suited to leading both churches and lead us forward.
- ◆ Pray for the elders and group leaders in the church.
- ◆ Pray about the appointing of a new elder.
- ◆ Pray for growth in the church, that more people will be willing to take on leadership roles, that people with musical skills, able to help with the leading of worship, will come forward.

March 23rd - 31st

- ◆ As we approach Mothering Sunday pray for families known to you. Some may be going through hard times; bring them to God in prayer. Others celebrating special events, thank God for them.
- ◆ Pray for families that are struggling because of money worries, health issues, conflict in the home, that they might find help, love and kindness as they try to solve their worries.
- ◆ Pray for all those who have lost their homes, through war, flood earthquake or any other disaster. Pray for children who have become orphaned because of disaster.
- ◆ Pray for families trying to make a new life in a strange land; may they find the help they need to settle into this new life.
- ◆ Pray for Families Matter, the Food Bank, the Crossings, and any other projects that you know of that have been set up to help those going through hard times.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**Friday 7th March. 2025 - 2.00 pm
at Cornerstone**

I MADE YOU WONDERFUL

This year it has been prepared for us by the women of the Cook Islands

The prayer starts on the international dateline in Samoa. Then as the earth rotates, a great wave of prayer begins to build. It sweeps across the pacific, it rolls through Asia, then across Europe, across the Atlantic to the Caribbean and all the Americas until the sun finally sets over American Samoa, where the final service takes place, and a worldwide circle of prayer is complete.

Anyone can join this service so put the date in your diary, it is a wonderful event to be part of.



PRAYER

changes things



Cornerstone URC
present a

fiddle paradiddle

CEILIDH

with live music & calling

Saturday 15th March
7 – 9.30pm (Doors 6.45pm)

Tickets £10 / £5 (under 18)

from the Church Office – 023 8084 5005

office@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk

or Herald Office, Hythe

Proceeds to Cornerstone Building Repairs Fund

BYO drinks & nibbles. Cold drinks, tea & coffee available

ELDERS ELECTION at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on 26th MARCH 2025

At our Annual General Meeting we have to consider the **Election of Elders**, who are also Trustees. In our church structure the government of our church rests with the Church Meeting, whose members elect Elders to share with the Minister (when in post) in the leadership of the local church. Elders are normally elected for a **4-year term** and will then be eligible for re-election for a further term of 4 years, following which they will not be eligible for re-election for one year.

This year there is **one vacancy** in the team of nine elders. By the AGM, Angela Rawcliffe will have served three of the four years of her period of service, but will be standing down as she will shortly be moving away from Hythe. We warmly thank Angela for all she has done in serving as an Elder over the last three years.

The Elder's job description is given opposite so that you can see what is required of someone who is to be an Elder. There is also a booklet "They've asked me to be an Elder" with more detailed information. This is available in the Church Office or also at <https://urc.org.uk/your-faith/joining-the-ministries/become-an-elder/>

An elder is also a **trustee** of the church charity. This has always been the case, but was formalised when the church became a registered charity. A further document "Elders as Trustees" provides a short guide about what it does and doesn't mean to be a trustee. This is also available from the church office. However, please also speak with myself or another elder about any aspect of being an Elder.

It is both exciting and challenging to serve God in this way and we thank Him for the way He has been with and guided the Elders over many years and pray that He will guide us all in the election in March.

To be nominated as an Elder, a Church Member must have been in membership for a minimum of two years. Nomination forms are available from the church office. The nomination form includes a space for a statement about the candidate to be made by the nominating Church Members. **The closing date for nominations is Sunday 16th March.** Please pray about this and use the nomination form if you feel led to propose someone to serve as an Elder.

I ask you to make it a priority to attend the **Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 26th March at 7.30pm**, and to prayerfully consider who we should elect to this key role.

Richard Hall (Church Secretary)

JOB DESCRIPTION OF AN ELDER

Key Role

- ◆ Share in the spiritual oversight and leadership of the church's mission, life and vision.
- ◆ Act on behalf of the Church Meeting insofar as it has entrusted its authority to the Elders to do so.
- ◆ As an Elder, you are also a **trustee** of our church charity and are responsible for the general management and control of the assets of the church.
- ◆ As a trustee also ensure that the church operates within the terms of its governing document, complies with charity law and meets the requirements of the Charity Commission.
- ◆ Collectively, elders are responsible for overseeing all aspects of safeguarding - ensuring everyone within the life of the church is kept safe.
- ◆ Collectively to support and provide pastoral care for all Ministry Leaders by receiving reports from Ministries and taking any action required.
- ◆ Collectively provide pastoral care of the church fellowship, and individually keep pastoral contact with a small number of the fellowship.
- ◆ Meet regularly at Elders Meetings to oversee the life of the church.
- ◆ Together act as an executive if decisions need to be made and it would be impracticable to do so at the Church Meeting.
- ◆ Share in the various Elder's duties that are necessary on a regular and occasional basis.

All, except the last of the above elements, would also be shared with the minister when in post.



Hello dear friends, I have left my article until the final moment this month as today is the deadline! I could pretend that I intentionally waited until after our performance on Sunday 16th February, however that is not really true. I have been fighting a nasty cough which has meant that I have not focused on Drama Llamas. I was actually quite amazed that we

were able to put on any kind of performance as just a couple of days before, I couldn't say more than a few words without coughing. That's enough about me, lets talk about Drama Llamas instead, as that's far more interesting.

Our latest sketch was for our All Age service led by Bev and Richard Hall and based on Valentines Day. I think it was fair to say that there was a lot of love



floating around during the service. The inspiration for our little drama came about as I was writing my last article as I was thinking about how we could send love to people, which is where Valentines day cards come about. Due to my cold, I made sure that I kept everything very easy to manage so there were just two characters, myself and Bobby. Nick was very proud of me as even being so poorly, I was still able to learn my lines. Which was no mean feat bearing in mind that the play involved banter between the two of us. Now some of you may be quite observant and have noticed that my lines were a tad shorter than Bobby's and I did repeat myself just a little. Well maybe quite a lot! In essence, my lines comprised of a total of seven words, two of which I repeated numerous times. "But why"? This played to my strengths and



meant that we were able to put on a relatively polished performance with minimal rehearsal time. I had hoped to be able to get someone else to take on the role when my cough got really bad although that didn't work out as everyone I approached already had other commitments. So I knew that if I was not able to perform then we would need to cancel, which is not something I ever like to do.

I woke up on Saturday morning and my cough seemed to have eased slightly. So we went to Cornerstone to have a quick rehearsal which went remarkably well. Up until that point, whilst I was slightly better, I was still frequently coughing and had not left the house for a couple of days. Yet I knew that I would be OK although still in the back of my mind

was the option of cancelling if need be. One of my concerns was that I would be spreading this bug on to other people if I were to have a coughing fit. I had taken my worries to God and felt confident that He would guide me throughout.

On the way home from our rehearsal, Bobby mentioned that at Youth Bible Study they had prayed for me. Then everything fell into place as I realised why I was feeling better. Don't get me wrong, I had still needed to put the action in and had been using my asthma inhaler, taking vitamin C, using steam inhalation and resting lots but all of a sudden I was getting better rather than worse. Last month I attended George's discussion group regarding healing prayer and this week I have experienced it myself. Up until now, I am usually the one praying for others and whilst I have seen other people's healing, I have not acknowledged it for myself.

So I am delighted that we were able to perform on that morning and can honestly say that our prayers had been answered. There is something so powerful that happens when we pray together which is one of the topics we covered in the healing prayer discussion. I am sure that you are all aware of this verse in Matthew 18:19-20 which is on the front cover of this newsletter.

"And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them".

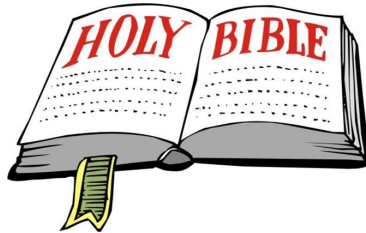


During my nurse training I was on placement with a Drug and Alcohol team. My mentor told me that the most effective way of overcoming addictions was that found within Alcoholics Anonymous and anything he did was second best. The fact that AA has nearly two million members who meet at more than 123,000 AA groups in approximately 180 countries worldwide is quite phenomenal. During each of these group meetings, they will pray together for their own and each other's recovery and it works. Clinical evidence looking into sobriety has found that AA was significantly better than other interventions or no intervention at all. In one study, it was found to be 60% more effective so I think that is a very good example of the power of prayer.

Back to Drama Llamas, I have absolutely no idea what or when our next performance will be. If I'm honest, I was quite shocked that we were able to put on the last performance and that I was able to write this article the same afternoon. Thank you all for your on-going support with everything we do and don't do, it is very much appreciated by us all. Hopefully next month we will be back on track.

Take care and enjoy Spring
Emma

LISTEN TO THE BIBLE



Many years ago, David Suchet, best known for playing "Poirot", had a midlife conversion to Christianity. Following that, he committed to reading the whole Bible and recording it. His reading is available on YouTube and also on an MP3 box set from Amazon. MP3 discs cannot be played on a CD player but can be played on a DVD player (sound only).

As a trained actor, David's reading is full of expression and I have found it very helpful. My father also enjoyed listening to it when he was waiting for a cataract operation and was unable to read for a period of time.

God bless David and the working out of his faith in such an amazing way to enable God's word to reach so many people. I hope some of you find this useful.

Jane Wood



TABLE TOP SALES

The next Table Top sales are on **Tuesdays 4th and 18th March** from **9.30am – 12 noon**, in the hall at Cornerstone, so don't miss them!!

There'll be a great selection of:

- Electrical items
- Jewellery
- Collectables
- Kitchenware
- Tableware
- Glassware
- Bags
- Toys
- Jig-saw Puzzles – great variety and sizes
- Paperback Books – extensive library!
- CDs and DVDs.

New goods are arriving all the time, so it's a great opportunity to get a good bargain!

Of course, it's also a great time for fellowship with coffee, tea and biscuits always available in the Foyer! All proceeds go to the Cornerstone Building Repairs Fund. So don't miss it!

Joan Shewry and Richard & Bev Hall

YOUTH BIBLE GROUP



Hello, Bobby here. I am writing the first of what will hopefully be a long and successful series of articles in this newsletter on the topic of our Youth Bible Group (YBG). It takes place fortnightly on a Friday so each episode will contain two sessions from YBG.

The first two-hour meeting we did this month was on the seemingly generic topic of 'The Bible'. This was on the 31st January and also coincidentally, on the day of Grace's 14th birthday. We discussed, among other things, questions like 'why should we read the Bible?' and 'how should we read the Bible?'. We agreed that the main reason to read the Bible is to improve a connection and understanding of God and Jesus. In response to the second question we decided that the best times to read the Bible are in the morning or just before bed and that the best place to do it is in a relaxed environment or somewhere you can focus.

Another question that was previously debated and still remained unsolved was, 'is there such a thing as righteous anger?' After a heated argument between myself, Liam and Grace, we came to the conclusion that the only time anger could be seen as righteous is if it leads to righteous actions. In my opinion, anger isn't good or bad but how you use it can be, for example if you were angry about deforestation then channelling it into a peaceful protest would be an example of righteous anger, but nicking a tree-cutting vehicle and going wild would not be. We concluded our discussion with prayer, preceding a game of UNO as we frequently do.

Our second and more recent Youth Bible Group meeting was on the 14th February, or Valentine's Day. The theme for that Friday was 'The Holy Spirit' and we answered the question 'who/what is The Holy Spirit'. We decided that the Holy Spirit is one of three of God's forms, the other two being The Father and The Son. The next question before us was 'what does the Holy Spirit do?' and we read two Bible passages to find out. One was an extract from Corinthians which I have tragically forgotten to make note of, but the other was John 14 v 23-29. The two readings taught us that the Holy Spirit can help us with remembering and understanding Jesus' words, speaking and understanding tongues, prophecies, healing, miracles, wisdom and more. However there was one question I asked Dave, that even he, despite his profound wisdom

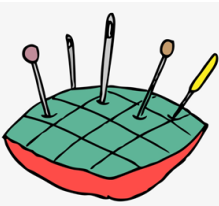
could not answer, that question was 'If both The Son and The Father are God, and The Son and The Father are not the same, then how come, according to John, Jesus (The Son) says explicitly that The Father is greater than He is?'

I was under the belief that all three forms of God were of equal value but Jesus said otherwise. I am yet to find an answer to this question so would love to hear anyone's expert (or amateur) opinions!

After this discussion we listened to a short song found by Gloria about the fruits of The Spirit, those being Love, Peace, Kindness, Faithfulness, Self-control, Joy, Patience, Goodness and Gentleness. After this, we ended our session with prayer and a game of UNO that Bev won.

Thank you for reading,

Bobby



PINS AND NEEDLES

10.00 am to 12 noon

Every Friday morning in the Foyer

We are a friendly group who meet for two hours on a Friday morning in the Foyer as we knit, sew and crochet. Tea, coffee and pleasant conversation are always available. Further information can be obtained from Agnes Macintosh.



HYTHE ACTIVE EXERCISE GROUP

We meet on Thursdays at 10.00 am in the Hall at Cornerstone for exercise and fellowship.

Why not come along and try? You can do as much or as little of the exercises as you choose, and some attendees remain seated. It's an enjoyable time, and there is good evidence that strength and balance exercises reduce the risk of falls in older age.

ON-GOING FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND GIVING TO CORNERSTONE

We are very grateful to you for your continued financial support to our church and its life and mission and here is a reminder of possible ways of giving:

1. On-line banking

For those of you who use on-line banking, the Church's General Fund bank details are as follows:

Account Name: Hythe United Reformed Church

Sort Code: 40 52 40 Account No: 00016303

If you wish to give to the Outreach Fund the bank details are as follows:

Account Name: Hythe United Reformed Church

Sort Code: 40 52 40 Account No: 00021634

2. Card payment

We now have a card payment facility available. Please speak to Nick Tustian or Richard Hall if you would like to make a payment by Debit or Credit card.

3. Cheques

We are happy to accept cheques, which should be made payable to "Hythe United Reformed Church". Please write on the back of the cheque whether it is for the General Fund or Outreach Fund and pass it to the Treasurer, Nick Tustian or place it in the Offering Box on a Sunday morning.

4. Cash

Cash offerings may be placed in the Offering Box on a Sunday morning.

5. Gift Aid

In addition, if you are a UK taxpayer and would like the Church to be able obtain a further 25% Gift Aid from the Government please see Nick Tustian or Richard Hall for details.

If you're not sure what to do please email Nick at treasurer@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk or give Nick a call on 07554 443254.



Anne Gale says: "Thank you to all my friends at Cornerstone for the lovely flowers. They cheered me up on a cold, wet Monday morning. Thanks also to Marion Brodie for delivering them and staying for a chat."

Diana Sandy writes: "Thank you for the lovely flowers from my friends at Cornerstone, delivered by Bev Hall on a very wet Monday morning. She stayed for a chat and we caught up on all the latest news."

Kay Mellor says: "Thank you all very much for the beautiful flowers that you sent me which I so very much appreciated"

Ken Young would like to thank all his friends at Cornerstone for the beautiful flowers he received recently. They were very much appreciated. Thanks also to the person who delivered them, I am sorry to have missed you.

Shadia and Robert write: "Dear Cornerstone brothers and sisters, we would like to express our deepest thanks for the beautiful flowers left outside our door recently. We were sorry we were out, but what a treat and nice surprise to come home to. It is such a blessing to have this wonderful fellowship church and a lovely ministry. God bless you all and grant you all your desires. Thank you again for your love and friendship."

Mike and Sylvia Burman would like to thank all their friends at Cornerstone for the beautiful flowers they received recently, and thanks to Sue for delivering them. Also thank you to Pat and Peter for delivering a sympathy card.

Mary York writes: "Thank you very much for the flowers which were delivered for my special birthday. They were lovely and very much appreciated. Placed in with the flowers were my birthday sweet and card from the church which were such a lovely extra, thank you."

Marjorie Spencer would like to thank everyone at Cornerstone for the beautiful flowers sent to her for her birthday. Thanks also to Sue Ruddock for delivering them.

MARCH 2025 CALENDAR

The Foyer is open Monday to Saturday - 10.00 am - 12 noon

Saturday	1	
SUNDAY	2	10.30am Morning Worship with Communion
Monday	3	HOMEGROUP WEEK 10.00am Daytime Prayers : 5.30pm Boys' Brigade
Tuesday	4	9.30am Table Top
Wednesday	5	8.30am Early Morning Prayer : 10.00am Toddler Group : 2.00pm Hythe Huddle
Thursday	6	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group
Friday	7	10.00am Pins and Needles : 2.00pm World Day of Prayer : 7.00pm Youth Bible Group
Saturday	8	8.30am Men's Breakfast
SUNDAY	9	10.30am Morning Worship followed by Picnic Lunch and Board Games
Monday	10	10.00am Daytime Prayers : 5.30pm Boys' Brigade
Tuesday	11	
Wednesday	12	8.30am Early Morning Prayer : 10.00am Toddler Group
Thursday	13	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group : 2.15pm Women's Guild
Friday	14	10.00am Pins and Needles : 7.30pm Youth Club
Saturday	15	7.00pm Ceilidh
SUNDAY	16	10.30am Morning Worship
Monday	17	HOMEGROUP WEEK 10.00am Daytime Prayers : 5.30pm Boys' Brigade
Tuesday	18	9.30am Table Top
Wednesday	19	8.30am Early Morning Prayer : 10.00am Toddler Group
Thursday	20	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group
Friday	21	10.00am Pins and Needles : 7.00pm Youth Bible Group
Saturday	22	
SUNDAY	23	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 10.30am Morning Worship
Monday	24	10.00am Daytime Prayers : 5.30pm Boys' Brigade
Tuesday	25	
Wednesday	26	8.30am Early Morning Prayer : 10.00am Toddler Group : 7.30pm Church AGM
Thursday	27	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group : 2.15pm Women's Guild
Friday	28	10.00am Pins and Needles : 7.30pm Youth Club
Saturday	29	
SUNDAY	30	10.30am Morning Worship
Monday	31	10.00am Daytime Prayers : 5.30pm Boys' Brigade

REGULAR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

The Foyer is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10.00am - 12.00pm - except Bank Holidays and during August

SUNDAY

- 10.30am Morning Worship with Light Years (4-11 years)
10.30am Holy Communion:
(1st Sunday usually - see Worship notice)

MONDAY

- 10.00-11.00am Prayer Time at Cornerstone
5.30-7.00pm The Boys' Brigade** (5-11 years)

TUESDAY

- 9.30am-12noon Table Top Sale (Alternate weeks as advertised)

WEDNESDAY

- 8.30-9.30am Early Morning Prayer
10.00-11.30am Toddler Group**
7.30pm Church Meeting (2nd or 4th Wednesday quarterly)

THURSDAY

- 10.00am-12noon Hythe Active Exercise Group
2.15-3.30pm Women's Guild (2nd and 4th Thursdays)

FRIDAY

- 10.00am-12noon Pins & Needles Group
7.00-9.00pm Youth Bible Group** (Alternate weeks) (13-18 years)
7.30-9.00pm Youth Club** (Alternate weeks) (11-18 years)

SATURDAY

- 08.30-10.30am Men's Breakfast (as announced)

HOMEGROUPS meet twice a month on various days, at various times, and various venues.

** Except School Holidays & Bank Holidays

FOR YOUR DIARY

**Friday 7th March
World Day of Prayer
2pm at Cornerstone**



**Sunday 9th March
Picnic lunch in the
hall after the
morning service**

**Saturday
15th March
Fund Raising
Ceilidh
Barn Dance
7pm**



**Wednesday
26th March 7.30 pm
Church
Annual General Meeting**

