

## Genesis 1

v24

And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: Live stock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.

And it was so.

v25

.....and God saw that it was good

# CORNERSTONE NEWS OCTOBER 2025



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To join our email distribution list please email Joy Funnell at [joy@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk](mailto:joy@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk)

For pastoral care offers or needs please contact one of the elders or email [pastoral@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk](mailto:pastoral@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk)

For church information please contact Richard Hall 023 8084 0191 [secretary@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk](mailto: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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## **NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER**

**The deadline for the November issue is Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October**

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](mailto: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*



## **ACORNs**

Crunch, crunch, crunch! That's the sound as I walk up the front path at our house and out and about at other places! It's that time of year when the oak trees cover the ground with their acorns spreading their seeds as far as they can in the hope that at least some will fall into good soil and enable fresh growth and the start of a new generation of young oak trees.

I've just read in the latest edition of Reform magazine (Issue 6 2025) an interview with Michael Harvey (he developed Back to Church Sunday) about **ACORN**, which I thought was worth sharing. He realised that most mission is not about going to a country far away but when the opportunity arises just connecting with the person next door or the other side of the street or at the local supermarket. But it's really important to get God involved with it from the start.

So, the first step in **ACORN** is to **A**sk God in a simple prayer who God wants us to be interacting with each day, such as: 'Gracious God, today, is there someone you want me to connect with outside church?' And God will either answer it clearly – **C**all you - and put someone in your path or maybe not - it's God's call!

Then what? Well **O**bey - talk to them! That probably comes a lot easier for some than others, so for people like me the suggestion is to simply ask 'How are you?'. Yes, just that! And when they say 'Fine' to follow up with 'No, how are you really?', which often releases what's really going on in someone's life and what God is already doing somewhere in their life, though they may not realise it. With God in the picture and by listening very carefully, the next question will come.

It's a simple idea and practice, which is already working in great ways in the North West Synod. So, it can work just as easily here. Like acorns bring new life and growth for oak trees, ACORN can help bring new life and growth to God's church. Why not give it a try?

With every blessing, *Richard Hall*

P.S. In case you are wondering, **R** stands for **R**eport back – sharing the experiences with others and **N** stands for **N**oticing what God is doing in the person that's reporting. More detail in the Reform article.



## PUPPET MAKING

### Christmas is coming

We want to put up our stable outside church again, but sadly the main characters suffered in the rain last year so need remaking.

**We plan to meet on three Saturday mornings in the hall at Cornerstone from 10.00 am to 12 noon, to remake them.**

**25<sup>th</sup> October** - Making Papier-Mache heads.

**1<sup>st</sup> November** - Painting faces.

**8<sup>th</sup> November** - Assembling characters.

If you like getting messy come along and join us. There is no need to bring anything, everything will be provided. Tea and coffee will be available.

We will also make cards to sell at the Christmas Fayre (less messy!)

So why not come along see what we are up to and get stuck in!

For more information please contact Bev Hall.

Tel 023 8084 0191 or e-mail: [beverley.b.hall@talktalk.net](mailto:beverley.b.hall@talktalk.net)



## 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 mostly by videos shown on the big screens or by organ and piano or occasionally by a small worship band.

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



## WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

Date	Speaker	Theme:
5 <sup>th</sup>	Revd Ted Slade	Galatians 1 <b><i>Service includes Communion</i></b>
12 <sup>th</sup>	Kay Keen	Galatians 2
19 <sup>th</sup>	Emma Borley	<b><i>All Age Service</i></b>
26 <sup>th</sup>	Revd David John (video)	Galatians 3



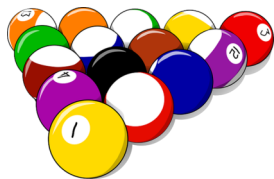
### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

At the service on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September, Leander Johnson was welcomed into membership of Cornerstone church.

We wish her God's blessing in the years ahead.

**Leander Johnson** writes: "Thank you all for the amazing welcome into membership, it was really touching. On top of all that, some gorgeous flowers were delivered! I am feeling very blessed."

## 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](mailto:youthclub@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk)

**We will be meeting on Fridays 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October**

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October**

**Autumn Half Term - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**For more details please contact Dave Symmonds**





## **BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER**

**\*\*\* Happy Birthday \*\*\***

**To: Ben Longland who will be 18 on the 7<sup>th</sup>**

### **Congratulations to:**

Peter Blasby who will be 86 on the 4<sup>th</sup>

Audrey Edmonds who will be 81 on the 8<sup>th</sup>

Mike Burman who will be 84 on the 9<sup>th</sup>

Gerry McCaughey who will be 86 on the 12<sup>th</sup>

Elizabeth Dennis who will be 83 on the 16<sup>th</sup>

Jo Pearce who will be 87 on the 19<sup>th</sup>

Agnes Macintosh who will be 85 on the 27<sup>th</sup>

If any church member is approaching 80 or over and would like their name added to the Birthday List in Cornerstone News, please let Joy Funnell know. She is in church on most Sunday mornings or you can send her an e-mail:

[joy@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk](mailto:joy@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk)



**CORNERSTONE**

Hythe United Reformed Church



**Table Top will be open  
Tuesdays  
October 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>  
9.30am-12.00**

**Future dates**

**November 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>    December 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Books on sale in the foyer every day**

**Everyone welcome to come in and look around,  
relax and enjoy a coffee or tea**

# HOME GROUPS

## THE BIBLE COURSE

The Homegroups (meeting twice each month) have just started, following the new version of the Bible Course. It's over eight sessions and uses videos and other resources, including a course Guidebook.

It's not too late to join in with a group, so whether you are starting to explore what it means to be a Christian or you have been a follower of Christ for decades, it's a great opportunity to discover or re-discover how Bible characters, stories and themes are connected from Genesis to Revelation. See further details at

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-bible-course>

**All are encouraged to participate in the course**, so Homegroups ready to welcome you to join them for the course are listed below – **just contact the leader of the Homegroup that's most convenient for you** to ensure that there's a space – most space is available at groups meeting at Cornerstone and only limited space at the others.

**GROUP 1:** Tuesdays at 2.00 pm; Venue: Cornerstone Room 1  
Leader: Margaret Yapp – Tel: 07546 279109

**GROUP 2:** Tuesdays at 7.30 pm; Venue: 21 Atheling Road, Hythe  
Leader: Nick Tustian – Tel: 023 8084 0296 (space very limited)

**GROUP 3:** Wednesdays at 10.30 am; Venue: Craigmere, Roman Rd  
Leader: Bev Hall – Tel: 023 8084 0191

**GROUP 4:** Wednesdays at 7.00 pm; Venue: Cornerstone lounge  
Leader: Joan Shewry – Tel: 023 8084 6282

**GROUP 5:** Wednesdays at 7.30 pm; Venue: 26 Atheling Road, Hythe  
Leader: Peter Blasby - Tel: 023 8084 3548

**GROUP 6:** Fridays from 9.15 am; Venue: Cornerstone  
Leader: Alison Boon – Tel: 07503 151331

The course Guidebook is available costing £9.99 (or £9 if 5+ are ordered), and a sample copy is available to look over on the foyer bar. Please add your name to the order sheet on the foyer bar if you would like to order a copy.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 8.30 am**

More information in the Weekly Notice Sheets.

For details please contact Dave Symmonds -

call/text 07747698910 or e-mail:

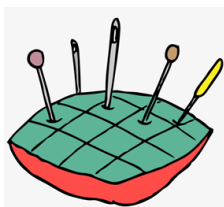
[mensbreakfast@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk](mailto:mensbreakfast@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk)

## **HYPHE 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.



## **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.



## WOMEN'S GUILD

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

### OCTOBER PROGRAMME

**9<sup>th</sup>** Honeypot Charity - Viv Carter



**23<sup>rd</sup>** History of Langdown Lawn - Gordon Chambers  
and our Bring and Buy table

For further information please contact  
Joy Funnell on 023 8084 3404  
or e-mail [guild@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk](mailto:guild@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk)



## PICNIC LUNCH

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

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  
and enjoy a time of fellowship together



**CORNERSTONE**  
Hythe United Reformed Church

# New Forest Brass

## Concert at Cornerstone



**Saturday 4th October**  
**7.30pm**

*Complimentary programme and  
Interval refreshments*

**Tickets £10** (under 18 £5)  
from the Church Office 023 8084 5005  
or the Herald office in Hythe

*Proceeds for Cornerstone Outreach Fund  
& New Forest Brass*

Cornerstone, Hythe URC, New Road, Hythe, SO45 6BR  
[www.cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk](http://www.cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk)  
Charity No: 1141707

## PRAYER POINTERS FOR OCTOBER



*May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.*

2 Thessalonians 2 v 16 – 17

**During the week there are opportunities to pray with others**

Before the service on Sunday  
in Room 1 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





## OCTOBER PRAYERS

**1<sup>st</sup>** Lord as summer gives way to autumn, help us to be mindful of Your creation. Amen

**2<sup>nd</sup>** We thank you for the bounty given us this harvest time. For the fruits, berries, vegetables and grains. Amen

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Lord not only do you feed our bodies, but also our souls. Thank you for the beauty of flowers, trees, grasses, ferns and bushes. Amen

**4<sup>th</sup>** Today we ask for Your blessings for George and Diane who are getting married at 11 o'clock today here at Cornerstone. We ask that all arrangements will go smoothly, and that You will grant them a long and happy life together. Amen

**5<sup>th</sup>** We pray for everyone who is involved in today's service, especially as we celebrate communion together. Thank you Lord Jesus for your love and faith in each one of us, bearing the pain and humiliation of the cross to enable us to come into the Father's presence along with you, holy and adored. Amen

**6<sup>th</sup>** We also give you thanks Lord for our families, homes and gardens. May we be a light and a blessing to one another. Amen

**7<sup>th</sup>** Today Lord we bring to you the infrastructure of our nation, and thank you for the ability to travel easily from county to county. We ask also Lord for your travelling mercies as we go about our daily lives. Amen

**8<sup>th</sup>** Thank you for all who make our travelling safer, by removing rubbish and debris from our roads and verges, and carrying out repairs. Amen

**9<sup>th</sup>** We pray for all who work on our railways, and thank you that they are beginning to make it easier for those of us who are disable to board and alight from trains. Amen

**10<sup>th</sup>** We pray for bus, coach and taxi drivers, Lord please keep them safe on our roads and protect them from abuse and attacks when working. Amen



**11<sup>th</sup>** We pray for the men and women who work in our docks and ports, enabling food and goods to be both imported and exported. Amen

**12<sup>th</sup>** Lord we thank you for the privilege of coming freely to worship and praise You, but we remember also all who are unable to do so around the world. May they know your presence with them always. Amen

**13<sup>th</sup>** Today we pray for our Border Force as they work to do their best to keep us safe from harm, testing products are fit for purpose, and preventing dangerous goods, drinks and drugs from getting through. Amen

**14<sup>th</sup>** Today Lord we bring before you all who work in our airlines and airports. We pray for their safety as they journey through the skies to destinations near and far. Amen

**15<sup>th</sup>** We pray for the Air Ambulance Service, from the mechanics who service the aircraft, doctors, medics, and operational control personnel. Lord, may they have both the means and the resources to continue operating. We also pray for their safety. Amen

**16<sup>th</sup>** We pray for the RNLI and other local coastguard services, and ask that you will keep them safe on the water, as they go to the aid of anyone who is at risk. We also pray for their protection. Amen

**17<sup>th</sup>** Lord, we thank you for the many charities that work tirelessly to both raise funds and resources to help make the recipients' lives a little easier. We thank you Lord for all the practical aid they give as well. Amen

**18<sup>th</sup>** We pray for our local hospice, Oakhaven, and thank you that we have this resource on our doorstep. Please be with everyone who needs this facility and also the doctors, nurses and volunteers. Amen

**19<sup>th</sup>** Heavenly Father, we praise and worship you, for this is the day that you have made, and we shall be glad and rejoice in it. Today is also the day of salvation, and we ask that many will come to know you through church services and community involvement all around the world. Amen

**20<sup>th</sup>** Today we lift up our own charity Families Matter. Please help them to meet the demands made upon them for their services; both time and resources, We ask that each family in need will feel and know of improvements in their situations. We pray too that they will feel listened to. Amen

**21<sup>st</sup>** We pray for all who are being held captive because of their faith in You Lord. Please grant them the strength to endure their imprisonment; may they know your presence with them, and despite their suffering for you Lord, may their faith increase and help to keep them strong and secure in Jesus. Amen

**22<sup>nd</sup>** We pray for the work of Tearfund as they continue to roll out their Transforming Communities programme in Africa and Asia. Thank you Lord for the many lives that have been helped through this teaching. We ask that many more communities and churches will respond to Tearfund's prayer for more communities to ask for this training, and many more individuals will come to know Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

**23<sup>rd</sup>** For the Bible Society we ask for your protection for all who deliver bibles around the world, especially where owning a bible is prohibited.

**24<sup>th</sup>** We pray for the translators who enable the bible to be read in a country's native tongue or dialect. Please keep all their printing presses free from detection.

**25<sup>th</sup>** Thank you Lord that many prisoners are asking for a bible of their own in this country. Thank you that more and more prisoners are turning their life around after coming to know you Lord.

**26<sup>th</sup>** We pray for our church service. Thank you for the provision of hymns and Christian messages via the internet. We ask that members who are no longer able to attend in person will still feel included in all we do. For our prayer ministry team - Lord may they be used by you to bring healing and knowledge to the person being prayed with.

**27<sup>th</sup>** Lord, may the Bible Society continue to receive both the funding and resources it needs to enable them to freely give out new bibles, new testaments and study resources that can be understood. Thank you for the work they do within refugee camps, being a light in the darkness.

**28<sup>th</sup>** As a church, many of us will be doing the new Bible Course. Lord please open our hearts and minds to more fully understand your word. Please help the leaders as they prepare for each session, and may more members of our congregation choose to join one of our homegroups.

**29<sup>th</sup>** Lord we thank you for our NHS, where we can receive free treatment for our injuries and ailments. Lord as our population grows, the demand on the NHS is greater, and causes it to struggle. Please be with all the doctors and nurses as they go on shift – grant them the strength and energy they need throughout the long hours of work.

**30<sup>th</sup>** We pray too for all the technicians, office workers, cleaners, maintenance workers and porters. Please help and enable them each day to assist in the smooth running of our surgeries and hospitals.

**31<sup>st</sup>** Today Lord we ask that you will keep children safe. Please help Christian families to have alternative Light Parties. We also ask for your protection on our young people. Help them Lord, not to be drawn into the ways of the world, but to continually look to you.





## **GLENYS BARTLETT**

**7<sup>th</sup> September 1933 –**

**20<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

Glenys was many things to many people but to her daughters Louise and Nikki she was Mum. She was born in Llanharry, Wales to Trevor and Rose Kempton, and was nearly 92 when she died. The eldest of three children, she was followed in 1936 by Sheila and then in 1941 by Allen. There was the

usual sibling rivalry between the three children, not least because Glenys and Sheila thought it very unfair that Allen was given a middle name, and they were not.

The family moved to Ringwood before Sheila and Allen were born but ultimately settled in Lyndhurst where Glenys attended Lyndhurst Baptist Church as a young girl. Spending her school years in Lyndhurst and Bartley she was a good student and represented the school at netball and was the fastest runner in the school. (No wonder her knees wore out). She loved to sing, and this was something which she carried on doing into adulthood when she sang with the Orchard Singers, conducted by her great friend Winifred Thomas.

Upon leaving school, she went to work for New Forest District Council where she met Ron Bartlett. They were married at Lyndhurst Baptist Church on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1962, 63 years ago. Louise followed in November 1967 and Nikki in July 1972. Tragically Ron died in 1975 leaving Glenys with two young children to bring up. In her typical fashion she lifted her head, put her shoulders back and got on with the job in hand. Looking through old photographs Nikki and Louise can see clearly the love between the two of them. Glenys was absolutely devastated by the loss of her soul-mate. It was a difficult time and there was very little understanding and support in the 1970s but she soldiered on and made Louise and Nikki the strong women they are today.

Glenys devoted over 50 years of her life to the United Reformed Church in Hythe. She always had a strong Christian faith, founded at Lyndhurst Baptist and demonstrated through her service within the church - be it as an Elder, Secretary or Treasurer, helping with the

catering for the Harvest Supper, being President of Women's Guild, leading the Gentle Exercise Group, manning the cake stall at the Christmas Fayre and decorating the church for the candlelight service. She was always leading, always organising, always busy. Glenys was promoted to 'Granny' on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 1989 when daughter Abi was born to Louise. And she wrote a poem on the day Abi was born - a sweet reminder of just how excited Glenys was to become a grandmother. Steven arrived in October 1990 to Nikki.

For a while Nikki and Steve lived with Glenys so she was able to be a very hands-on granny, which she loved. In June 1991 Hannah followed. Max brought up the rear in June 1998 and arrived one summer weekend when Glenys had taken the other three grandchildren to Swanage for the day on the Sunday School Summer trip. This completed her set of grandchildren, two girls for Louise and two boys for Nikki.

There is a standing joke amongst the grandchildren that granny never did find third gear. From the time she learnt to drive as a young widow Glenys never really walked anywhere. Unfortunately, she wasn't a natural driver and her car could be heard coming down the road from about a mile away. Granny's hair is also memorable. When Louise got married in 1988 Glenys tried out a new hairstyle - a very stylish French pleat. Every Friday, almost without fail, she had an early appointment to have her hair 'put up'. Between appointments an ever-increasing layer of hairspray was applied until the following week. Glenys was also renowned for her quirky Christmas presents, random ornaments, Christmas toilet rolls and blank video tapes, to name a few. Trips with Granny in her car are also fondly remembered.

Granny was further promoted to Great Granny with the arrival of Amelia in July 2015, who was followed by Ava, Otilie, Franklin, Alfie and Ernie. Although she couldn't be as hands on as she would have liked, Glenys loved hearing about all their achievements and adored their visits. Even though it always took her a couple of days to recover from them.

Glenys was interned with Ron at the Lyndhurst Cemetery on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. She will be greatly missed by so many.

*Edited from Eulogy by Louise Barrington*



## DRAMA LLAMAS

**Hello dear Cornerstone family,**

I am not going to apologise about not mentioning Drama Llamas too much in this month's article. If I am honest, we have not had the chance to work on our next production for very valid reasons. Last month I mentioned that our team had been given the opportunity to take on our All Age services and I am writing this literally a few hours after delivering our latest one, Harvest Thanksgiving. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. We hope that we are finding the right mix to reach all our audience which at times can be very challenging.

Thankfully we have our little A<sup>2</sup> team which at the moment consists of myself, Ray and Naomi to work on all the planning and organising for our services and of course to help with the delivery of it. I am so excited about this morning that I do not know where to start. I think I will start at the beginning with Naomi. I loved her introduction which I could not have written any better as it summed up perfectly what we were hoping to achieve within the service; for us to reflect on the growth within ourselves and our church,

Later on in the service, Naomi with the help of Grace and Ryley led our Open Mic session of prayers and thanksgiving. Whenever we have the Open Mics, I always have a moment of doubt at the start when I am not sure if anyone is going to want to say anything and in this case it was even more daunting as we had set a specific task! As always, we had nothing to worry about as everyone spoke from their hearts and the gratitude expressed was so beautifully heartfelt. Grace summed it all up with Naomi's prayer which I thought was absolutely spot on.



As much as I love leading our All Age services, I see my role as a facilitator because, as today proved, it was everyone else's contributions which brought it all to life. In particular, I found Ray's message a real inspiration. I love how he took Grace's choice of song and brought it to life with his words. Who would have thought that 'Big Red Combine Harvester' could have such

a deep meaning! I am not going to say too much about it, if you weren't able to watch it today, I highly recommend that you watch it online. Even Bobby was impressed and he thinks Ray saved the service as he definitely does not like that song.

Today we were thanking God for the abundant harvest He has given us. While that harvest is not the physical crops that we have sown, it is evident in the people in whom we have planted the seed of faith which is so evident within all of those who come to share their Sunday mornings with us. I picked the bible passage which refers to Jesus as the bread of life as it seemed really pertinent to me. Jesus said by coming to Him, we would never be hungry or thirsty because He was the bread of life. This passage spoke out to me as there is something powerful about trusting God so deeply that I no longer need to worry about where my next meal is coming from. I know for us, that is not a big deal as we can always pop into a shop to buy whatever we need, literally any time, day or night. The delivery of this whole service has been a huge step for me in trusting God on so many different levels.

We started planning soon after our August All Age service and very quickly we had an outline in place which was good as it meant that we had a little break which we all needed. With hindsight, I can see why this happened as just over a week before, we had to say goodbye to our dear little cat Pusskins so I had not been in the space to even think about our service. I was really concerned that I had taken on too much and it would all be a complete disaster. God obviously had different plans. On Friday, my husband and sons travelled up to Hull to watch a football match (don't mention the score please!) so I had Friday night and all day Saturday to myself. I woke yesterday morning alone, apart from my dog, Woody, of course and what I did before anything else was to sit with God. I used the two way prayer technique which I have not used for a while and it worked perfectly. I handed everything over to God, knowing that He was listening. I then had time to myself to organise everything which was exactly what I needed.



I arrived at church this morning with no fears or worries about the service, I knew it was in capable hands, God's not mine. Everything worked exactly as God had intended it to, perfectly imperfectly. So I was very grateful to have been able to feast on the bread of life as without it, today would not have happened.

We are in the very early stages of planning for next month's All Age service so I am not able to give you any teasers other than we are hoping to finish our 'Jesus Christ: The Prequel' series with a look at Mary's story.

So on that note my dear friends, I think I need to end it there as I have left it rather late to write this and the deadline is looming!

Take care and God bless,

*Emma xx*



## **FLOWERS AT CORNERSTONE**

Thank you to everybody who has contributed to the flowers for 2025.

## **FLOWER ROTA FOR OCTOBER**

- 5<sup>th</sup> - The Wedding of George Gibson and Diane Fry
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Marilyn Hood for Family
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Pamela Bridge for church family.
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Nick and Wendy Tustian in memory of parents, the fathers.

Thank you and take care,

*Pamela Bridge*

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



# Hythe Huddle

**Drop in support group for people  
living with dementia and their carers**

## Entertainment

**1st October**

**Chair Exercise**

**5th November**

**Christmas Craft**

**3<sup>rd</sup> December**

**Christmas Party**

**7th January 2026**

**tbc**

**Meet first Wednesday of each month**

**2 - 4 pm**

**Cornerstone United Reformed Church, Hythe**

Refreshments kindly donated by **TESCO**

**For more information contact us on:**

**023 8020 7623    [office@families-matter.org.uk](mailto:office@families-matter.org.uk)**

# PASTORATE PROFILE AND CALL PROCESS

## The Pastorate

I hope by now you will know that we are now part of a joint pastorate with Immanuel URC Southbourne. The two churches have been clustered together as we are fairly similar in a number of ways – evangelical, contemporary worship style, strong bible preaching and teaching, number of members and have similar needs for support from a minister.



## Scoping

The Minister has been scoped 100% (i.e. full time) to the **whole pastorate**, so arrangements between the churches and the minister need to be negotiated, but with an expectation of roughly 50% each. The minister will have 44 Sundays/year (after holiday and study leave) available, while the pattern of mid-week work will need to be worked out and adjusted as appropriate.

## Manse & Financial arrangements

The manse will be provided by Synod and most probably the one at Hythe will be used. It will be a PASTORATE manse with shared responsibilities, so manse and other local expenses (including car allowance, travel costs, mobile phone, book allowance) need to be to be

paid from a shared fund to which each church contributes. One church will be the 'banker' with the designated account. The call process and removals will incur expenses.

### **Pastorate Profile**

The joint Pastorate Profile and Pastorate Summary documents have now been approved by the SW Area Pastoral Committee (23<sup>rd</sup> Sept). These have been circulated to Church Members by email and printed copies are available to Church Members not on email. The vacancy declaration was also supported by the Committee and finally approved by the Ministries & Learning Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Call Process**

The steps in the Call process are outlined as follows:

- ♦ The vacancy and Pastorate profile will be taken by the Synod Moderator to the monthly Meeting of Synod Moderators where vacancies and potential candidates are shared.
- ♦ The vacancy is also included on the vacancy list circulated to all URC Ministers (with their pay slips).
- ♦ An interested Minister would then contact his/her Synod Moderator
- ♦ The profile of the candidate minister would be sent to our Interim Moderator and on to the Vacancy Call Group.
- ♦ The Vacancy Call Group comprises three elders from Cornerstone (Margaret Yapp, Peter Blasby, Richard Hall), three elders from Immanuel and the Interim Moderator (Revd Andy Hall).
- ♦ Only ONE candidate can be pursued at a time, as this is a **discerning process** for the call, not a competitive process.
- ♦ **Strict confidentiality** must be kept about the identity of candidates – don't be tempted to Google!
- ♦ The Vacancy Call Group decides whether or not to meet a candidate and then whether or not to invite the candidate to 'Preach with a View'.
- ♦ A 'Preach with a View' should include a social event to meet the candidate as well as leading and preaching at a service at each church – and all in one weekend!

- ◆ There can be no live stream of the services, as this would breach confidentiality, but a recording can be made and shown to those who are housebound.
- ◆ With two churches the suggestion is that one church holds a social gathering on the Friday evening with the Service on the Saturday morning - the other church holds a social gathering on the Saturday evening with the Service on the Sunday morning.
- ◆ After the 'Preach with a View' a Special Church Meeting is held in each church to consider and vote on the Call; this is to be held as soon as possible and before the next service at the church
- ◆ Voting needs to be on different coloured ballot papers or with the church name on. The votes are sealed until both churches have met and then counted at one location.
- ◆ The recommended threshold of around 80% of those present and voting is needed in each church to sustain a call.

This is an exciting stage in the life of our church and one that needs God's hand to guide every step in the process. **Discernment** is the essential need of the whole process and that requires the whole church to seek God's input through **prayer**, both together as we meet in worship and small groups and as individuals. Just pray!

If you have any queries or need further information, please contact me at [secretary@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@cornerstonehytheurc.org.uk) or telephone 023 8084 0191.

*Richard Hall*



## THANKS FROM HOLLIE BRAYBON

I have been attending Cornerstone Church regularly for the past two years and have come to know many as my church family. I very much enjoy attending on a Sunday to worship

the lord and hear his word and love for me through the fellowship that we hear together.

In August 2024 I was diagnosed with a meningioma brain tumour and in July 2025 underwent a craniotomy for the removal of the tumour.

This is a massive thank you for the flowers pre-surgery and the most recent flowers delivered to me August bank holiday Monday and the continued love and prayer for my surgery and recovery. Surgery was long, but the surgeon is optimistic he removed all of the tumour. An MRI scan and biopsy results hopefully by the end of November will show how successful the surgeon was in removing the meningioma and the grade of it also. They will then be able to uncover any further treatment needed and the hope is that no radiotherapy etc. is needed and all has been removed.

Recovery has been long and slow and will continue to be for up to 12 weeks potentially. Each case is different but at the moment I have been suffering with awful migraines and surgical pain, which the doctors hope will start to improve over the next few weeks. I have to take each day as it comes and hope for a brighter future going forward. As a mum of a nearly three year old, a lot of help has been needed also.

This explains my absence from church the last month or so, and as I continue to improve I hope to be able to join you all again soon, with the help of lifts etc. as my driving licence is also taken for a period of time after brain surgery.

I do appreciate any continued prayer, love and well wishes in my journey hopefully back to full health. May the lord bless you all.

Many thanks and lots of love to you all, my friends and church family at Cornerstone. xxxx

# OCTOBER 2025 CALENDAR

**Cornerstone Cuppa is open Monday to Saturday - 10.00 am - 12 noon**

Wednesday	1	<b>HOMEGROUP WEEK</b> 8.30am Early Morning Prayer : 10.00am Toddler Group : 2.00pm Hythe Huddle
Thursday	2	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group
Friday	3	10.00am Pins and Needles : 7.00pm Youth Bible Group
Saturday	4	11.00am Wedding of George Gibson and Diane Fry : 7.30pm New Forest Brass Concert
<b>SUNDAY</b>	5	10.30am Morning Worship with Communion
Monday	6	10.00am Daytime Prayers
Tuesday	7	
Wednesday	8	8.30am Early Morning Prayer : 10.00am Toddler Group
Thursday	9	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group : 2.15pm Women's Guild
Friday	10	10.00am Pins and Needles : 7.30pm Youth Club
Saturday	11	10.30am Wessex Synod meeting at Avenue St Andrews church Southampton
<b>SUNDAY</b>	12	10.30am Morning Worship followed by Picnic Lunch
Monday	13	<b>HOMEGROUP WEEK</b> 10.00am Daytime Prayers
Tuesday	14	9.30am Table Top
Wednesday	15	8.30am Early Morning Prayer : 10.00am Toddler Group
Thursday	16	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group
Friday	17	10.00am Pins and Needles : 7.00pm Youth Bible Group
Saturday	18	8.30am Men's Breakfast
<b>SUNDAY</b>	19	<b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> 10.30am Morning Worship
Monday	20	10.00am Daytime Prayers
Tuesday	21	
Wednesday	22	8.30am Early Morning Prayer : 10.00am Toddler Group : 7.30pm Elders Meeting
Thursday	23	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group : 2.15pm Women's Guild
Friday	24	10.00am Pins and Needles : 7.30pm Youth Club
Saturday	25	10.00am Puppet Making for Christmas
<b>SUNDAY</b>	26	10.30am Morning Worship
Monday	27	10.00am Daytime Prayers
Tuesday	28	9.30am Table Top
Wednesday	29	8.30am Early Morning Prayer
Thursday	30	10.00am HytheActive Exercise Group
Friday	31	10.00am Pins and Needles

# **REGULAR CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

**Cornerstone Cuppa is open Monday to Saturday  
from 10.00am-12.00 noon except Bank Holidays**

## **SUNDAY**

- 10.30am Morning Worship with  
Light Years (4-11 years) and Grid (11-18 years)
- 10.30am Holy Communion:  
(1<sup>st</sup> Sunday usually - see Worship notice)

## **MONDAY**

- 10.00-11.00am Prayer Time at Cornerstone

## **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 (2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday quarterly)

## **THURSDAY**

- 10.00am-12noon Hythe Active Exercise Group
- 2.15-3.30pm Women's Guild (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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

# ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

*Refrain: All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all.*



Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
he made their glowing colours,  
he made their tiny wings. *Refrain*



The purple-headed mountain,  
the river running by,  
the sunset, and the morning  
that brightens up the sky  
*Refrain*



The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden,  
he made them every one. *Refrain*



He gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty,  
who has made all things well.  
*Refrain*



*Cecil F. Alexander*