

November  
2009

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MAGAZINE

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**ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS  
CHURCH (Anglican)**  
Mildred Ave. / Durban Rd.  
Watford



**WEST WATFORD FREE CHURCH**  
(Baptist)  
'Church by the Zebra Crossing'  
Tolpits Lane, Watford

## *A Pastoral Letter.....*

Dear Friends,

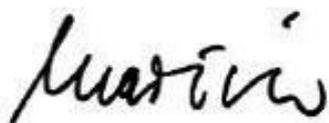
By the time you read this Bible Sunday will have come and gone but Dennis wants copy now and Bible Sunday is what's on my mind as I prepare to preach on this in deepest Devon. If you were in Church recently to hear Fr Geoff's admirable sermon on the Bible you can probably skip the rest of this letter. However, taking part in yet another Conference (sorry) has pointed up for me the role of the Bible as guardian of memory –an antidote to what some call the spiritual amnesia of our times. Quite simply most of those around us have forgotten (or as likely never known) the role of the Bible in shaping the kind of society we are, our ethical values, our view of the world and our place in it, much less of it being where we meet Jesus - who is himself the Word of God.

Sometimes it feels as if we are afraid of the Bible –too complicated and too long ago, and while it's true that the more we can learn about the Bible the more we can get out of it, it's a mistake to think that it cannot speak to us just as we are, connecting us in our own time with the experiences others have had of the God who is as alive and active now as He always has been.

But for many there are memories of a different kind at this time of the year –of the men and women whose lives were taken in battle, of loved ones gone to their rest but who remain forever in our hearts and minds, keeping company with the saints and angels – and with the Living Lord, who is the Word of Life and whom we meet still in the Bible.

May the memories of your departed loved ones and the memories of how God has blessed us give you peace now and confidence in the future -

With love and prayers

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a prominent 'M' and 'i'.



## **ST MICHAEL'S MOTHERS' UNION DIARY**



Saturday 14th November Christmas Fair - We help with the cake stall.

Thursday 19th November 10.00am Corporate Communion followed by meeting in the choir vestry.

Wednesday 9th December 10.30 to 12.00 Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy, when we hope to raise funds for the Mothers' Union.

*Pat Gandy*



### **HARVEST THANKYOU**

Many thanks to everyone who gave gifts at Harvest.

The New Hope Trust received a very good selection of 'dry goods' from St Michael's, for which they were very grateful.

The cash collection for the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal (to help provide safe, clean water for the poor of Ethiopia) raised £93.72. Several people gift-aided their contribution so our real total is over £100.

Thank you again for your generosity.

*Paul Chandler*

## *Dear Editor*

The Welsh have an expression “Diolch o galon” the literal translation of which is thanks from (the) heart. It is the sort of expression which probably means more to a Welsh speaker than its English equivalent to the English mind. I hope that what is written now is nonetheless sincere. There are two contexts in which I write.

### **HISTORIC CHURCHES BIKE/HIKE DAY**

That took place on 12 September. A number of us participated in the festivities that day in the cause of raising funds for the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust fund. At the time of writing, the total raised was £269. Around December or January St Michael’s and all Angels will receive a grant of £134.50 (50%) from the Trust in recognition of our endeavours. The other half will be taken up as part of funding towards major repair and refurbishment projects the Trustees deem as necessary throughout the St Albans diocese irrespective of denomination.

I record my thanks to everyone who sponsored us all. Thanks also on behalf of the heroines who raised monies by walking to different churches, namely Alison Makin, and Nicky and Holly Brighton. They followed a route suggested by Phil Gough plus some further churches of their choice in Rickmansworth. Also thanks are due to those who were on duty in church to receive visiting cyclists and hikers. Regrettably, I do not know who they were. They too raised sponsorship. I understand that there were 25 visitors. I should like to stress just how important it is for churches to receive visitors properly and hospitably. On my own ride I rode up to churches to find only a notice inviting cyclists and hikers to sign on, and no one to countersign our sponsorship sheets as having attended. In a couple of cases there was nothing to indicate even basic participation. It shows how seriously we at St Michael’s participate. At the time of writing, it is still open for belated contributions or sponsorship or both. If anyone wishes to contribute, could you give monies to Phil Gough as our Church Organiser, please, meaning an increase on the figures quoted above. Thanks also to Phil Gough who unfortunately was unable to take part this year.

Looking back on the ride, I have to relate an updated version of the parable of the wise and foolish virgins. There were wise and foolish Historic Churches Bike Ride virgins. The wise ones took with them tools to do any running repairs plus spare inner tubes. The foolish ones had tools but no spare tubes. You can guess which category I came under that day. The idea is that carriage of spare tubes allows the rider to change an inner tube, and repair the faulty one later at leisure. Having cycled to London Colney and Shenley and visited churches therein, I continued to Borehamwood and must have cycled over broken glass. Suffice it to say, much time was spent on trying unsuccessfully to repair the existing tube, having to search for a bike shop to purchase a replacement tube, and taking the wheel off (yet again) to put on the new one. I was able to visit churches en route having to climb hills in the process. I was determined to cycle up them, only to be overtaken by a passing tortoise at one stage. My intention was to call in at St Michael’s but time overtook me as Iola and I had an evening engagement to fulfil. I finished up calling at 17 churches instead of at least the 25 I had in mind. Incidentally, I had to ditch the original tube because the fabric was perished.

I am grateful to all who sponsored me. No one held my relative failure against me by withholding partially or completely what he or she had agreed to pay. Thank you all for timely payment. My contribution has been handed over to Phil Gough for collation and transmission to the Trust.

### **IOLA'S AND BOB'S QUIZ NIGHT**

This took place on 3 October. We are told that everyone who attended enjoyed the evening and between ticket sales, raffles and a donation, the sum raised was £264 after deduction for food. This was less than last year, due in the main to people being away who would have attended otherwise.

The success of the evening was due in no small measure to the food and hospitality of those doyennes of quiz cuisinerie, Jane Talbot and Sue Vos, to whom we are profoundly grateful. We had Ploughman Suppers plus their gorgeous home made fairy cakes. We were spoilt. Thanks also are due to Norma Twitchin as regal as ever in her role as raffle queen. Thanks to Iola also as commere and scorer which she performed with gusto, and also for compiling most of the through the evening table quiz. It was great to see Father Geoff taking part. We hope that he did not have second thoughts about coming to us as a result of the Quiz.

Without wishing to be too mercenary, we should like to think of the Quiz as having raised £264 ...SO FAR. We have had people not present on the night asking if they could have a copy of the Quiz to try answering straight off or using it as a basis for their own researches. We are happy to do this but it would be a kindness if recipients could make a contribution to St Michael's cross-referring to the Quiz. We are grateful for a donation from someone who was unable to attend on 3 October and who asked for a copy of the questions subsequently. Answers can be supplied on request.

It seems the Quiz has become identified solely with Iola and myself. We are not in the least possessive about this and would have no objection to others having a go. The original idea was that given all the quizzes that take place at St Michael's, we thought that there should be at least one a year purely for St Michael's itself. We simply started the ball rolling. It was to be a St Michael's Quiz, not an exclusive Iola's and Bob's Quiz. We are happy to continue, but it may be helpful to have some feedback. We think the format is right, but is the time of year right? We aimed for mid September, but found that we ourselves were unavailable. Last year, it was early September geared to putting it on before Father John's departure. This year, it was opportune for Father Geoff to attend. Is there a case for a quiz more than once a year? If so, that would be for others to arrange, and to be free to tackle it their own way and choose their own topics. As Lloyd Grossman would say in that unique style of his (impossible to convey on paper) "It's over to you".

In respect of both articles, diolch o galon.

*Robert Bilson*

## **THE EDEN DROP IN CENTRE**

We are very pleased to announce that Eden opened its doors to the people of Watford on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September. Since the Harlequin Centre offered us premises over a year ago it has been a bit of a rollercoaster with casting the vision for the project, forming a team of volunteers and finally (after a few setbacks) moving into the very large but shabby premises in Charter Place in the middle of July.

We started work repairing the walls, cleaning the floors, painting and decorating the premises, sourcing and accumulating furniture, finding local artists to exhibit their work and after many long days we had finished most of it for the September deadline. Response from the public has been extremely encouraging and very often visitors would say, "We will be definitely coming back again and bringing our friends".

Comments like "it is really peaceful here", "what a brilliant idea", "I don't know what it is but there is something special about this place" confirms that **God is in the House** and people are walking into his living presence when they step into Eden. People passing by are initially drawn to Eden by the massive mural on the glass, and tend to come in on closer inspection. We even had some people come in thinking it was a furniture shop wanting to buy the furniture, which was very funny after they get over the embarrassment.

Two weeks ago A Hindu lady was very interested in the Labyrinth and asked if she could walk it when it was completed. The Labyrinth is nearly finished and two Asian university students walked it for the first time on Friday which was just fantastic. One of them said he felt really peaceful after using it.

We are having a soft opening in order to give the teams' time to settle in and complete outstanding work on the Reflection Zone and the Labyrinth.

The official opening date was on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> of October at 7:00pm, Michael Stevens the General Manager of the Harlequin Centre cut the ribbon etc and the Watford Observer were covering the story.

**It has been very exciting to see the project developing, but in order for it to continue long term we need more funding and volunteers to cover Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and we would love to be open on Saturdays very soon, especially coming up to Christmas.**

For more information please contact the Chaplaincy Office on 01923 227700 or by email on [office@watfordtcc.org](mailto:office@watfordtcc.org).

## **THE BLESSING**

**Last week**

**the little girl at the altar rail asked  
“Why do I have to have a blessing?”**

**Her grandmother answered,  
“Because you are a child.”**

**This week**

**the little girl at the altar rail knelt,  
not questioning her blessing,  
having purposefully hopped  
all the way up the aisle.**

**There is no question that  
we are all blessed  
by little children.**

Submitted by Anne Eccleshall



**FINAL COPY DATE FOR DECEMBER SWORD:-**

**Midday on Sunday 22nd November 2009**

**Please submit copy before this date if possible -**

**hard copy, floppy disc or e-mail to**

**dhbeach@sky.com**

## ROMANTIC OR RADICAL?

Most people know the outline of *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, by Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772 - 1834). The story is told by the Mariner to a reluctant hearer, the Wedding Guest. The Albatross, shot by the Mariner and hung around his neck, has passed into our language for an inescapable badge of guilt.

The poem is quite long, and probably most people remember several moments of climax rather than the reflective passages worked into the dramatic story. The Albatross is compared to a Christian soul, but after the Mariner has shot it (his reasons are not openly stated, but we may perhaps infer a myth of original sin), the voyage continues prosperously for a while (these quotations are from the first edition):

'The breezes blew, the white foam flew,  
The furrow follow'd free'.

But it becomes clear that both the crime and its consequences are spiritual in nature, and soon the elements take revenge for the crime:

'Water, water, every where  
And all the boards did shrink:  
Water, water, everywhere  
Ne any drop to drink.'

Only the Mariner survives. If you have a horror of snakes, avoid this poem, for

'Beyond the shadow of the ship  
I watch'd the water-snakes:  
They mov'd in tracks of shining white;  
And when they rear'd, the elfish light  
Fell off in hoary flakes.

'O happy living things! no tongue  
Their beauty might declare:  
A spring of love gusht from my heart,  
And I bless'd them unaware!  
Sure my kind saint took pity on me,  
And I bless'd them unaware.

The self-same moment I could pray;  
And from my neck so free  
The Albatross fell off, and sank  
Like lead into the sea'.

At the end of the poem, the Mariner's words are almost a paraphrase of our Lord's Summary of the Law:

' ... This I tell  
To thee, thou wedding-guest!  
He prayeth well who loveth well  
Both man and bird and beast.

'He prayeth best who loveth best,  
All things both great and small:  
For the dear God, who loveth us,  
He made and loveth all.'

The poem was written for inclusion in the volume of *Lyrical Ballads*, the first edition of which was published by Coleridge with William Wordsworth. Close though they were initially, the two poets eventually quarrelled. At first, like many of progressive and romantic temperament at the time, they sympathised with the *original* objectives of the French Revolution, of which Wordsworth had written, 'Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive'. Later in life, he abandoned this radical outlook.

Coleridge's ideas developed more interestingly. We tend to think of him as the philosopher of English romanticism (meaning spontaneous and all-conquering self-expression), but he had a wide knowledge of European thought, and studied Kant, for instance. His views on metaphysics and his religious position changed gradually, and there is much in them that still has a familiar ring. At one time he considered becoming a Unitarian minister - today, many in the churches, as well as outside them, are almost Unitarians even without realising it, as they are devoted to the *unity* of the Godhead rather than to the Holy Trinity.

Coleridge became unsympathetic to atheism and utilitarianism, which had developed during the eighteenth century and have become dominant in the ideas of our own time. I cannot improve on the words of a well known reference book: 'His final position is that of a Romantic conservative and Christian radical, who strangely foreshadows much of the spiritual "anxiety" of European existentialism '.

If this means that Coleridge became a radical traditionalist, it is a position that I sympathise with. Indeed, among the existentialists and syncretists of the twenty-first century, to be a traditionalist *is* itself radical.

*Graham Mordue.*

## DIARY OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

1st	SUN	<b>ALL SAINTS/MEMORIAL</b> Holy Communion with reading of Chantry List <b>MEMORIAL SERVICE</b> (Pres & Preacher: Fr Geoff) Crèche and Sunday School Evening Prayer (Off: Fr Geoff)	8.00 am 9.30 am  6.30 pm
2nd	Mon	ALL SOULS Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	7.30 pm
4th	Wed	Bring-&-Share lunch 11.15 Planning Meeting (86 Mildred Avenue)	12.30 pm 8.00 pm
5th	Thu	Fairhaven during morning Kids' Club Choir Practice	 3.30 – 5 pm 7.00 – 8.30 pm
8th	SUN	<b>REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY (Third before Advent)</b> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George) SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres & Preacher: Fr Geoff) Crèche and Sunday School The 11.15 Service of Thanksgiving and Praise River Court Service Evening Prayer (Off: Graham Mordue)	8.00 am 9.30 am  11.15 am 3.00 pm 6.30 pm
10th	Tue	Bible Study (John) (Choir Vestry)	8.00 pm
11th	Wed	REMEMBRANCE DAY Service at Home Manor	 3.00 pm
12th	Thu	St Anthony's during morning Kids' Club Choir Practice	 3.30 – 5 pm 7.00 – 8.30 pm
13th	Fri	<b>Set-up for Christmas Fair during afternoon &amp; evening</b>	
14th	Sat	<b>CHRISTMAS FAIR</b> (in Church & Hall) RSCM Examinations in Choir Vestry	<b>11.00 am – 2.30 pm</b>  from 9.00 am
15th	SUN	<b>SECOND BEFORE ADVENT</b> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff) SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres & Preacher: Fr Geoff) Crèche and Sunday School Evensong (Off: Fay Storey)	8.00 am 9.30 am  6.30 pm
16th	Mon	Finance & General Purposes Cmte	8.00 pm
17th	Tue	Service at The Chase Care Home	3.00 pm
19th	Thu	Meeting of Mothers' Union after Holy Communion Kids' Club Choir Practice	10.00 am 3.30 – 5 pm 7.00 – 8.30 pm

## **DIARY OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER (cont)**

<b>22nd</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT – CHRIST THE KING</b>	
		Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00 am
		SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres: Fr Geoff; Preacher: Fr George)	9.30 am
		Crèche and Sunday School	
		Evening Prayer (Off: Fr Geoff)	6.30 pm
23rd	Mon	Worship Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00 pm
24th	Tue	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30 pm
26th	Thu	Kids' Club	3.30 – 5 pm
		Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30 pm
28th	Nov	Advent Workshop	
<b>29th</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>ADVENT SUNDAY</b>	
		Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00 am
		SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres: Fr George; Preacher: Violet Allen-Smith)	9.30 am
		Crèche and Sunday School	
		Bring-&-Buy Sale	
		Evening Prayer (Off: Graham Mordue)	6.30 pm

### **ADVANCE DATES FOR DECEMBER**

2nd	Wed	Bring-and-Share Lunch	12.30 pm
		PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.55 pm
13th	Sun	Christingle Service will be at 11.15 am	
		Service for Compassionate Friends	6.30 pm
15th	Tue	Service of 9 Lessons & Carols (Watford Boys' Grammar School)	7.30 pm
		Church in use all day for rehearsals	

**Morning Prayer is said daily in the Lady Chapel (Monday to Friday) at 9.00 am.**

**A service of Holy Communion is held every Thursday at 10.00 am. Both this and the 8 am on Sunday are Order One in Traditional Language.**

**The Toddlers' Group meets in Church every Monday from 10.00 – 11.30 am.**

**Tea, Coffee & Squash are served in Church every Wednesday from 10.30 until noon. On the first Wednesday of the Month this is followed by a bring-and-share lunch at 12.30 pm**

## **9.30 am SUNG EUCHARIST DUTY LIST (November)**

### **Sunday 8th November**

Deacons	V Alvarez, J Wareham
Intercessor	P Gough
Chalice	J Wareham, A Kiddle
Lesson Readers	B Bilson, I Bilson
Sidespeople	V Blacklock, H Moring, D Beach
Crèche	A Makin, A Mc Donald
Sunday School	P Beach, E Watkin

### **Sunday 15th November**

Deacons	M Simon, V Alvarez
Intercessor	P Chandler
Chalice	V Alen-Smith, P Gough
Lesson Readers	J Alexander, H Moring
Sidespeople	A Makin, C Dixon, P Ricketts
Crèche	N Roche, L Kinch
Sunday School	J Chandler, S Dunning

### **Sunday 22nd November**

Deacons	V Allen-Smith, V Alvarez
Intercessor	P Jenkins,
Chalice	M Simon, S Moring
Lesson Readers	M Watkin, E Watkin
Sidespeople	N Hart, J Alexander, P Hart
Crèche	A Mc Donald, A Makin
Sunday School	K Jenkins, N Brighton

### **Sunday 29th November**

Deacons	J Wareham, V Allen-Smith
Intercessor	V Matthews
Chalice	A Kiddle, B Huthchinson
Lesson Readers	tba
Sidespeople	P Coley, I Bilson, A Coley
Crèche	N Roche, L Kinch
Sunday School	P Beach, E Watkin

## **ASCEND AND THE UNSUNG TOWN**

Over the past month, BBC's "The Choir" has moved audiences across the country. Choirmaster Gareth Malone has a dream that everyone can and should sing and he made it happen against the odds in South Oxhey. It was great to see people overcoming personal difficulties and growing in confidence as the South Oxhey Community Choir came together and made splendid music. Listening to them singing such a difficult piece as Barber's Adagio in front of a large audience in St Alban's Cathedral is a special memory from the series.

Pam Wise, the Vicar of South Oxhey, was instrumental in lobbying the BBC to come to her parish to make the programme. South Oxhey has had more than its share of problems and badly needed a boost. Pam's intervention has been well rewarded. The programmes have shown not only the problems that people face but also their potential.

As well as being the Vicar, Pam is chairman of the community-based charity, ASCEND, which was begun by Christians at All Saints' Church and is still based there some 13 years later. ASCEND's work has a lot in common with "The Choir". It is all about moving people forward and challenging their perceived barriers to self-improvement. The aim is to provide people with more choice and control over their lives. Thanks to ASCEND, many local people now have the confidence, self-esteem and skills to find a route to employment both paid and voluntary, some for the first time in their lives.

Christine Wyard, the Project Manager, and ASCEND's small professional staff provide a high quality service for the people of South Oxhey and the surrounding area. We pride ourselves in welcoming everyone equally and providing a caring environment based on a Christian ethos, in which people from difficult backgrounds have the space to grow. Many of our clients did not gain much from formal education and need a lot of support over a long period to help them progress. The testimony of our clients amply demonstrates how much ASCEND's help is needed and how effective it is.

One client, who has become a volunteer at ASCEND, wrote

This is a thank you letter to say thank you for all the help you are giving to ASCEND. You all work very hard and I appreciate everything you are all doing. I love coming to ASCEND because there is such a lovely feeling of love. You care and share and listen to what we say even when we are struggling. If ASCEND was not here and if you did not encourage me and worked with me I would never have got as far as I have. I would not be able to seat a write [sic] this letter because I would have not wanted to or be scared to put pen to paper. Thank you for all you are doing for other people and myself.

Another client said:

I would like to “Thank you” at South Oxhey. Last year I was in a terrible state. Thanks to ASCEND and especially Morag. Morag helped me with my confidence, CV and always made me feel worthy. I now have my life back on track, and would like to donate £50 to your charity. Many, many thanks.

Researchers from Coventry University found that:

While ASCEND offers training and skills, as well as advice and assistance with finding work, it is so much more than this. It is not just that clients may receive extra support and find their tutors very approachable during the training sessions, but the holistic approach taken by the project offers a safe space for them as well. ‘I’ve lost count how many times I’ve walked in ... and I’ve just bawled me eyes out’, said one client, ‘but I’ve felt better afterwards because I’ve talked to somebody.’ ‘Let me put it this way,’ said another client, ‘ASCEND is more of a family than anything else. A family that helps you learn, and a family that is always there for you. If we lose a member of our family, we feel downhearted; if we lost ASCEND, we’d be devastated’.

Today with the impact of the recession, ASCEND’s work is needed more than ever. We are finding more people are turning to us for help. We also have plans to diversify. Three Rivers District Council have agreed that we can take over the lease of an overgrown allotment. We hope to use it to offer the exciting prospect of environmental training for young people. We are also working with MIND to provide better support for the many people locally who face mental health issues. We hope to open a centre in the South Oxhey precinct.

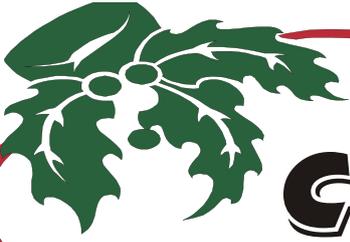
Of course, all this needs money and people to make it work. Sadly, the recession is making it harder for ASCEND to find the funds to continue and grow. ASCEND has depended on the Church since it began and we pray that support from the Churches will continue and increase. We not only need money but also volunteers. There are a range of essential tasks which our hard-working volunteers perform. These range from welcoming visitors to administration to fund-raising and assisting clients to learn.

We hope and pray that the South Oxhey Community Choir will not be just a passing fashion but will continue. We pray too that ASCEND will receive the funds required for the patient, caring work in the community that is so much needed and that is an integral part of the work of the Church.

If you would like to know more about ASCEND and how to provide financial support or how to become a volunteer, please visit [www.ascend.org.uk](http://www.ascend.org.uk).

Brian Thomson, ASCEND Trustee

**St Michael & All Angels Church  
Mildred Ave. / Durban Rd. WD18 7DY**



# **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**In Church and Littlebury Hall  
Sat 14 November 2009  
11.00 - 2.30 pm**



**Come for  
gifts, cards, cakes,  
preserves, fun  
&  
Excellent Lunch**

**All proceeds to Church funds  
Please come and support your parish church**

# **WEST WATFORD FREE CHURCH (BAPTIST)**

**TOLPITS LANE, HOLYWELL WATFORD**

**PASTOR: GARTH WOODHEAD**

## **NEWSLETTER**

### **Services during November**

**Every Sunday** we meet for the family service at 10.30am. The children leave the main meeting at around 11am for their own time of teaching.

**Holy Communion:-** Celebrated the 4th Sunday of each month.

**Refreshments:** At the end of the meeting drinks and biscuits are served in the back hall. Please stay and have a chat and get to know each other.

### **In addition to the above:**

**Every Sunday** at 2.30pm the French speaking church meet for worship and bible teaching.

**Every Friday** at 7pm the Indian speaking church meet also for worship and bible teaching.

**Joint services for November:** TBA

### **From The Herts Baptist Forum's Prayer Link:**

**November 1st.** West Watford and Lay Pastor Garth Woodhead.

The church has 3 language groups meeting - English, French and Tamil. We have just started a joint prayer meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Please pray for these meetings that we will know God's heart in our prayers. On Tuesday mornings we hold Cafe West - please pray that we will continue to meet the needs of our community. In these challenging times please pray that all 3 pastors will stand firm on God's word. Garth & Lissie; John & Sandra and Joshua & Rhaji. Thank you.

**November 8th.** Grovehill LEP & Sue Allen

Working & worshipping with those who have disabilities and stronger links with the young people in the community.

**November 15th. Hoddesdon Baptist Church**

The induction of Chris Johnson - 21st November. Thank God for His provision for refurbishment inc. sound and lighting in the church and for the new families who have joined the church.

**November 22nd. Borehamwood Baptist Church & Rev. Ray Ellis**

Some of our buildings need repairs and we ask God for the finance to complete them.

**November 29th. Central Baptist Association & Secretary, Rev. Stephen Copson**

For the nomination of the right people on the council to work with the regional Ministers.

**December 6th. Mill End & Pastor Todd Nightingale.**

We thank God for the on-going work with the children but would like more input with the older people in the community and non-church goers.

**From The Baptist Union's Prayer Guide**

**Remembrance**

“Lest we forget”:- Poppies, wreathes, round the war memorial - reminders of battles still being waged, of young lives lost too soon, of families bereaved suddenly and violently.

Lord, when will we learn another way?  
How long will it take to make peace?  
Each year we remember; each year we pray for another  
way to solve disputes.

Each year we don't seem any closer to your peace.

Lord, forgive us and teach us

In Jesus name we pray.

**AMEN**

**November 01 - 07. Marshalswick Baptist Free Church.**

That relationships developed with the schools will continue to grow.

**November 8th - 14th. BUGB Council**

BUGB Council meet this month, please pray for God's guidance in their decisions.

**November 15th - 21st. Chaplains**

There are chaplains in many areas of the community. Please pray that God will encourage and strengthen them and that those they work with will want to know about Jesus.

**November 22nd - 28th. East Midland Baptist Association.  
Pray for guidance**

**November 29th - December 5th. Faith & Unity Dept..  
Please pray 'God's will be done'**

**From the Baptist Missionary Society's Prayer Guide**

**November 1 - 7. Indonesia & Sri Lanka. While many live peaceably together, ethnic tension has regularly spilled over into bitter conflict. In both countries BMS partners aim to share God's peace and love.**

**November 8th - 14th. Arab World Broadcasting. Please pray that Christian media will be effective.**

**November 15th - 21st. Baptist World Alliance. Please pray that the gospel of Jesus and the Holy Spirit will go forth.**

**November 22nd - 28th. Nepal. While there is a new freedom spiritually we need to pray for their practical needs, (water & electricity).**

**November 29th - December 5th. HIV & Aids. There is no cure and no vaccine; we can only teach people how to protect themselves.**

**Additional Dates: At West Watford Free Church**

**November 4th 7.30pm:-Wednesday Prayer Meeting. All 3 churches will meet together.**

**Prayer For Israel: 10am on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Next meeting November 12th.**

**CAFE WEST: We are now open again after the installation of facilities for those with disabilities, especially wheelchair users. *Check it out!!***

**A couple of scriptures to end on:**

**Jeremiah 29:12 - 13**

**'Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek for me with all your heart.**

**Matthew 6:33**

**'Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you.**

## November Birthdays

2nd Jacqui Cottenham  
13th Garth Woodhead  
19th George

### Just for fun!!

One day a woman woke up to find her much beloved pet had died.

Obviously very distraught she couldn't fully accept it.

She found a warm blanket and carefully wrapped her pet.

Having phoned the vet she went immediately to see him.

She took her pet into the consultants room, laid him on the table and explaining the situation, asked for the vet's verdict.

The vet spent several minutes examining the pet but in the end He said 'I'm sorry, he's gone'

Again the woman could not accept this and asked for a second opinion.

The vet looked at her and left the room. 2 - 3 minutes later he returned with a labrador. The dog poked the pet and sniffed at it, shook his head at the vet and left the room.

Still the woman was not sure. She again asked for reassurance. Once more the vet left the room and this time returned with a cat.

The cat looked at the pet and starting at the head pawed and sniffed from head to tail. A few minutes later the cat looked sadly at the vet, shook his head and left the room.

'There is nothing more I can do' said the vet, 'Your pet has gone'.

Finally, accepting the truth, the woman asked for the bill.

On being told it was £320 she was horrified. 'WHY?' she shrieked

'Well' said the vet 'Had you taken my word for it, the bill would have been £20 for the visit, but the lab report cost £180 and the cat scan cost £120.'

*Lesley Patterson*

# St Michael & All Angels Church

Tel:- (01923)247090

Web site:- [www.stmichaels-watford.org.uk](http://www.stmichaels-watford.org.uk)

E-mail:- [stmichaels@talktalk.net](mailto:stmichaels@talktalk.net)

Vicar	* Revd Geoffrey Calvert	St Michael's Vicarage, 5 Mildred Avenue	232460
Hon. Asst. Curate	* Revd George Ochola BTh	157 Vicarage Road	239567
Readers	* Mrs V Allen-Smith	40 Park Avenue	249921
	* Dr M Heath	72 Harwoods Road	249168
Churchwardens	Mr P Chandler	115 Kensington Avenue	252926
	Mrs S Moring	6 Cassiobury Park Avenue	231917
Joint PCC Secretary	Mrs P Beach	18 The Gardens	247982
	Mrs V Matthews	134 Mildred Avenue	229408
PCC Treasurer	Mrs C J Deeley	5 Greenbury Close, Chorleywood	282001
Hall Secretary	Mr P Jenkins	86 Mildred Avenue	463263
Sacristan	Mr J Wareham	26 Belgrave Avenue	221216
Organist & Choirmaster	Mr A Benoy	Flat 1, Prince Michael of Kents Lodge, Stratford Road	239524
SWORD Magazine	Mr D Beach	18 The Gardens	247982
Gift Aid Secretary	Mr R Ward	67 The Chase	242494
Electoral Roll Secretary	Mr H Moring	6 Cassiobury Park Avenue	231917
The Children's Soc. Secretary	Mrs N Twitchin	78 Princes Avenue	249327
Brownie Guides	Mrs S Mulligan		351840
Creche	Mrs A Makin	37 St James Road	236067
Sunday School	Mrs K Jenkins	86 Mildred Avenue	463263
Kids Club & Youth Group	Mrs J Talbot	35 Kings Avenue	226276
Young Children & Grown-Ups	Lesley Kinch	Flat 21, Ashridge House, Chenies Way	234788
Mothers' Union	Mrs P Gandy	15 Lynbury Court	224215
Wednesday Coffee Morning	Mrs J Dickinson	23 Whippendell Road	228441
Social Committee	Mrs P Hart	127 Parkside Drive	220884

The names of members of the Parochial Church Council and their membership of the various committees will be found on the Church Notice Board.

\* Members of the Pastoral Team.

*The Vicar's day off is Friday*

For the Month's Diary of events and details of all Church Services please turn to the centre pages of this magazine.

## West Watford Free Church (Baptist)

Pastor	Mr Garth Woodhead	184 Hagden Lane	466509
Church Secretary	Mr A Cockram	139 Briar Road, Kingswood	677372