

Imagine!

August
2011



Imagine being on RMS Titanic's maiden voyage on 14th April 1912. Up until 11.40 pm, everything was perfect, and the passengers were enjoying another evening of wining, dining and dancing in the warm ambiance of the panelled ballroom. But then there were three dull thuds against the hull. Less than three hours later their cocooned world had been turned upside down by a lump of ice, and of the 2,224 people aboard, only 711 survived.

Imagine what it must have felt like standing on the deck as it began to slope more and more quickly, and you could see the dark water getting closer.

Now imagine how Elijah felt when he heard Jezebel, the wife of King Ahab, declare that she would surely have him killed in vengeance for the death of the prophets of Baal. Imagine what you would do in the circumstances. We read in 1 Kings 19 verse 3 that 'Elijah was afraid and fled for his life'. Arguably he stood a better chance of escape than the passengers on the Titanic, although they were not to know that even if all the lifeboats had been filled to capacity there would have only been room for about half of them. Elijah chose to stick to dry land and set off on a 40 day trek to Sinai. He was so convinced that he would die that he prayed for it to happen right away. However, God had other plans for him. In his misery, Elijah could have totally ignored God, but instead he listened to the still small voice assuring him that all would be well for him.

Next time things are looking hopeless in our lives, let's remember that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Just imagine life without fear!

Mike Dyer

Pilot Visit to Steeple Bumpstead

On Thursday 7th July most of our Pilots joined the Pilot Group at Steeple Bumpstead Congregational Church for a special party celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the Pilot



Organisation which is nationwide.

Several families came with us, and it was good to have their company and support. In all we were a group of 16. We were greeted very warmly by Sheila Burr (Captain), her Pilot Officers, helpers and children of the group.

Games were played and lots of good food was eaten!! The children made friends with one another very quickly and

everyone had an enjoyable time. We were shown round the church building, which had a very peaceful and inviting feel about it and it was good to see children's work displayed in the main worship area. The children are obviously an integral part of



worship on a Sunday as well as attending other clubs such as Pilots. We plan to invite Steeple Bumpstead to make a return visit in the near future, and hope that this will be the beginning of a lasting relationship between the two churches.

We now break for the holidays and resume on 19th September.

What's on in August

Worship at Stansted Free Church

- 7th 10.30 am New Directions - Faith versus Fear
The Worship Team
- 14th 10.30 am Rev'd David Thompson - Communion
- 21st 10.30 am Rev'd Stuart Veitch
- 28th 10.30 am Rev'd David Thompson

Other Activities

- Sun 7th 11.30 am Fairtrade goods on sale after the service
- Mon 8th 10.00 am Church Oversight Group at 7 Blythwood Gdns

STANSTED FREE CHURCH 5TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Sunday 11th September

On 1st September, we will be celebrating our 5th anniversary of being a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP). Our anniversary service on 11th September will be led by Rev David Simpson, who was our URC minister at the time when the LEP was formed.

The service will be at 3.30 pm followed by tea.
There will be no morning service on that day.

All welcome. Please book the date in your diary now!

The next edition of **Imagine** will be available on Sunday 4th September. Please submit articles by Friday 19th August to: news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk or send to:

23A Bentfield Road, Stansted CM24 8HP. Thank you.

Editors: Alan Wheeler and Mike & Marion Dyer

Copies of this and previous editions of Imagine can be found on our website www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk



Care Time



Please remember any of our church family who need our prayers, including: Allen Morton, who is unwell, and his wife Daphne; Doris Lambden, mother-in-law of Alan Wheeler; Ivor Thomas, Chris Coetzee and those no longer able to attend church.

Betty

Stansted Free Church
Methodist / URC
www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Contacts

Minister

Rev David Keeble

Email: minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Church Secretary

Betty Francis

Email: info@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Church Notices

Marion Pretty

Lettings

Mike & Marion Dyer

Email: lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Newsletter Editors

Alan Wheeler Mike & Marion Dyer

Email: news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Treasurers

Alan Wheeler Marion Dyer

Email: treasurer@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Fairtrade

Brenda Veitch

Email: fairtrade@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Sunday Service

10.30 am Morning Worship

Children's Work

Alternate Mondays 6 pm Pilots for children aged 5 - 18 years.

Valerie Trundle Tel 813433 Email: pilots@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk