

Marathon on 16<sup>th</sup> April. Imagine being in that ill-fated Dhaka clothing factory block on 24<sup>th</sup> April. Imagine being in the eye of the tornado that swept through Moore City Oklahoma on 20<sup>th</sup> May. Imagine being witness to the horrific murder outside Woolwich Barracks on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. We have been stunned by seeing the television and newspaper reports; just imagine what it was like to actually be there.

Our memories of these and other traumatic events will probably fade. However, anybody who was there and survived will have those images haunting them for years to come. Some will have physical injuries to compound their mental damage. They will all have been through a life-changing experience. They witnessed how people died prematurely and in appalling circumstances.

Now imagine being in Jerusalem two thousand years ago. Jesus lost his life prematurely and in appalling circumstances. Those who witnessed his death and resurrection had life-changing experiences. Those who witnessed the work of God's Spirit on the day of Pentecost had their lives changed so dramatically that we still talk about them and about Jesus.

We cannot explain why innocent people die prematurely, but as Christians we believe that death is just a stage on the road to eternal life. Like Paul we can proclaim, 'O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?' (1 Cor 15:55)

Mike Dyer



Please pray for: Doris and George Lambdon, and George Wheeler, parents-in-law and uncle of Alan Wheeler; and Kath Hartnell as she settles into her new home at Stanley Wilson Lodge in Saffron Walden. We have received prayer requests from some of those who attend the Place on the Hill. We are remembering these requests during our Sunday worship. Please use the prayer slips which are available in the foyer.

Betty

## **Church Deacon Vacancy**

We have six deacons who represent the church members, and are elected for an initial term of six years. At the Annual Church Meeting, one of the deacons steps down, and although he or she could be re-elected for a further six years, this is an opportunity to draw someone new into this very important role in our church life. The Church Oversight Group (or COG as it is affectionately known) comprises the six deacons, the joint treasurers, the secretary (who may or may not also be a deacon) and the ministers. We meet every two months to discuss any issues concerning the running of the church, finance, pastoral concerns, etc, and if appropriate, bring proposals to the Church Meeting. This year Mike will be stepping down and we would ask all church members to prayerfully consider whether they should take on this role. If you would like to know more about what is involved, please speak to one of the present deacons: Valerie, Catherine, Mike, Betty, Judy, and Marion (Pretty). Anyone wishing to be considered must be nominated by another church member. Please hand any nominations to Betty by the end of July.

The next edition of **Imagine** will be available on Sunday 30th June. Please submit articles by Friday 21st June to: news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk. Alternatively, please pass to one of the editors, 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

# What's on in June

## Worship at Stansted Free Church

2nd 10.30 am Ruth Parker - New Directions

9th 10.30 am Rev'd David Mullins - Communion

16th 10.30 am Andrew Brown

23rd 10.30 am Gordon Doyle

30th 10.30 am Christine Heyhoe

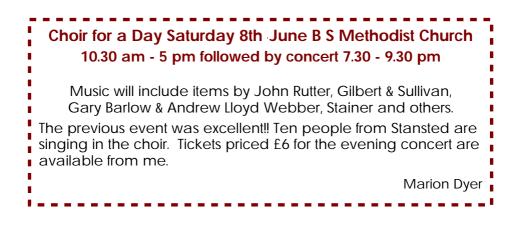
## Morning worship is followed by coffee. All are welcome.

## **Other Activities**

Sun 2nd	11.30 am	Fairtrade goods on sale after service
Thu 6th	8.00 pm	LPWT Meeting in the Hall
Mon 10th	6.00 pm	Pilots in the Hall
	8.00 pm	Shalom - 7 Blythwood Gdns
Tue 11th	8.15 pm	Churches Together Forum in the Hall
Mon 24th	8.00 pm	Shalom At Home - 49 Recreation Ground
Sun 30th	11.30 am	Fairtrade goods on sale after service

## **Our Minister**

Rev'd David Keeble is attending a pre-retirement course from 4th-6th June, and is on holiday from 10th - 24th June. For pastoral concerns during these times please contact Betty on 813977, or if you need to talk to a minister, Rev'd David Mullins on 654775.



# **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. 1st Sunday - New Directions (Informal)

### **Pilots Children's Work**

**Monday (monthly)** 6 pm Pilots for children aged 5 - 18 years. Valerie Trundle Tel 813433 Email: pilots@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

## The Place on the Hill Drop-In (All Welcome)

Every Wednesday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk