



I magine you are walking along an alleyway and see a crowd of people around a large man lying on his back. You know he is in trouble but you feel powerless to help him. Fortunately, the number of people who survive sudden cardiac arrest is increasing gradually, thanks to the use of defibrillators that the lay person can use.

We have recently revisited Jesus's beatitudes and "Blessed are the pure in heart" seems only too true for the many people who have been helped by Good Samaritans who have had the presence of mind to react and who are able to use the simple equipment. The promise in Jesus's words is that "they shall see God". It is not normal to "see" God but if you recall the times when you have felt reassured in your faith, how often has it been as a result of contact with a good person through whom we catch a glimpse of the loving kindness and attention of our loving Father?

When we bring kindness and attention to a suffering person we are in a sense bringing God's love to them. One day you might see a person lying on the ground in our village. In a few months' time we hope that you will know where to find your nearest defibrillator and that you will have the confidence and training to use it.

A campaign has recently started in our village to fund one or two defibrillators for Stansted. If you are interested, come to the launch of the Stansted Churches' Lent Appeal to raise funds for the defibrillators at 7 pm on 4th March at St Teresa's; enjoy a free pancake or two and hear how you can support the campaign. One day soon you could help a person be 'pure in heart' and your swift action may help them to see God through your act of compassion.

Alan Wheeler

Pilots

In February our Pilot Group enjoyed another fantastic evening with Nicola Grieves and Pamela Jenner. Both had been to our meetings before, and the group had a lot of fun. Pamela engaged the Pilots in more drama, this time demonstrating the story of Jesus healing the leper. Nicola sat with the children and talked about prayer and the possibility of the Pilots putting together a service of their own, probably on 22nd



June. They all seemed keen, so watch this space.

Pilot Birthdays this month: 15th Antony Young, 31st Abigail King.

Valerie and the Pilot Team

Trip to the Holy Land

Last April I made my first visit to the Holy Land for 14 years. On returning, the response and interest was so great that I decided to run another trip in February 2015. So imagine this time next year you could have just come back with memories of praying at the Western Wall in Jerusalem or sailing on the Sea of Galilee! The first time I visited the Holy Land my life was dramatically affected by the experiences I had there. My reading of the Bible was transformed and my understanding of the modern day situation of the Middle East was enhanced. That was 24 years ago and throughout the 90's I travelled every year to Israel/Palestine, spending a 3 month sabbatical living there in 1993. I invite you to join Linda and myself on a nine day pilgrimage Saturday 14th to Sunday 22nd February with an option to stay an extra 4 days travelling through the desert to Eilat for some winter sun, returning Thursday 26th February. Full details are on my website: www.thesnells.org.uk. I hope you can join us on this trip of a lifetime! Every blessing

Paul Snell

URC Minister, Plymouth

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WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

Worship at Stansted Free Church

- 2nd 10.30 am Rev'd David Keeble - New Directions
9th 10.30 am Rev'd Paul Whittle - Communion
16th 10.30 am Christine Heyhoe
23rd 10.30 am Rev'd Charles Martin
30th 10.30 am Rev'd David Keeble

Other Activities

- Fri 7th/14th/21st 6.15 pm Investigators in the Hall
Sat 1st 10.00 am Church Meeting in the Hall
Mon 3rd 8.00 pm LPWT Meeting in the Hall
Tue 4th 10.30 am Big Brew in the Foyer
7.00 pm CTS Pancake Party - St Teresa's Parish Centre
Fri 7th 2.00 pm Women's Day of Prayer - St Teresa's Church
Sun 9th 11.30 am Fairtrade goods on sale after service
Mon 10th 6.00 pm Pilots in the Hall
8.00 pm Shalom - 7 Blythwood Gardens
Mon 24th 8.00 pm Shalom At Home - 49 Recreation Ground
Tue 25th 8.00 pm Circuit Meeting - B Stortford Church



BIG BREW

FAIRTRADE COFFEE/TEA & SALE OF FAIRTRADE GOODS
including food, cards, jewellery & gifts

10.30 am - 12.30 pm Tuesday 4th Mar Church Foyer

All are warmly invited ~ Come and browse!

FREE PANCAKE PARTY Eat pancakes and look after your heart!

7 pm Shrove Tuesday 4th March St Teresa's Parish Centre

For catering purposes, please let Catherine know if you are coming: tel 813579
Email: catherinemarydean@btinternet.com



Stansted Churches' Lent Appeal for the Village Defibrillator Fund

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year's service 'Streams in the Desert', prepared by the women of Egypt, is on Friday 7th March at 2.00pm in St Teresa's Church. All welcome – men and women.

Brenda Veitch

Stansted Free Church

Methodist / URC

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

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Brenda Veitch

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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 and Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk