

Imagine!

October
2014



I imagine you are not yourself, but the person you are talking to / walking with / writing to ... I was lent a book for 'light holiday reading' called 'The man who forgot his wife'. When I had taken on the humour, anger, and strong language (as predicted in the blurb), I found a remarkable lesson in **understanding**. As the husband goes to the court for the final divorce hearing he recalls his wife's last furious outburst: "You never see things from *my* point of view!" (and so comes a life change for both). The man received the Wisdom of Solomon, who saw a mother's torment in her child's cry. He saw his really-loved wife in the pain she was feeling. As Job (28:12) pondered, 'Where can wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding?'

Was it this **understanding** that brought Ian Paisley, scourge of the Roman Catholic Church, to change his "No! No! No! to popery" to "Enough! Enough! fellow-Irish killing"; and then come with Martin McGuinness to an amazing unity on policy and action for the preservation of Northern Ireland's peace - a firm friendship formed, by each coming to understand the other?

I was recovering from a slight accident when my young neighbour arrived, bearing a clip-board and a carton. "...the eggs you ordered...don't pay, but could you help me with my questionnaire on your faith?! - Do you believe in God? How did you first learn of Him? How do you see God? I replied along the lines of "As a loving Father; like when your father heard me when I fell last year and came and picked me up - just like that!" He was a God-send. I often wondered as a child what older people were thinking, and now I try to see what children see in this 'oldie'. I pray that through my unprepared, garbled answers to her quiz my young friend saw, behind me, just a little faith to go on.

Phyllis Harrison



Care Time



Please pray for: George Lambdon, father-in-law of Alan Wheeler, who is recovering from heart surgery; Roy and Christine Fowler as they settle into their new home, and for Roy's induction on 18th October; for others in our wider church family who need our prayers; and those no longer able to attend church.

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

Contact details for Fran and David Keeble

84 Faulkeners Way, Trimley St Mary, Felixstowe IP11 0FA

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The next edition of **Imagine** will be available on Sunday 26th October. Please submit articles by Friday 17th October to: news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk. Alternatively, please pass to one of the editors, or send to: 23A Bentfield Road, Stansted CM24 8HP.

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 OCTOBER

Worship at Stansted Free Church

- 5th 10.30 am Andrew Brown - New Directions
12th 10.30 am Christine Heyhoe
19th 10.30 am Rev'd Roy Fowler - Communion
26th 10.30 am Mary Whittle

Other Activities

- Mon 13th 8.00 pm Shalom at 7 Blythwood Gardens
Sat 18th 10.00 am Shoe Box Collection in the Foyer
3.00 pm Induction of Rev'd Roy Fowler (see below)
Sun 19th 11.30 am Fairtrade goods on sale after service
6.00 pm Village Harvest Supper in St John's Hall (pg 5)
Mon 20th 6.00 pm Pilots in the Hall
Sat 25th 10.00 am One World Coffee Morning in the Foyer (pg 6)
Mon 27th 8.00 pm Shalom At Home 49 Recreation Ground

Induction of our new Minister Rev'd Roy Fowler

The Induction of Roy to the West Essex and Bishop's Stortford Pastorate (WEBS) is 4.30 pm on Saturday 18th October at Abbey Lane URC, Saffron Walden preceded by refreshments at 3 pm.
Please let Betty know if you need transport



Shalom Monday 13th October at 7 Blythwood Gardens

Rosana Santos, a Brazilian friend of Ros and Howard Page, is sharing photos, videos and stories of her missionary work in Guinea-Bissau.

Our 'At Home' is on Monday 27th October at 49 Recreation Ground. All are welcome - please join us. Both meetings begin at 8.00 pm.

Marion

The next **Traidcraft** stalls will be after the service on Sundays 19th October and 16th November. If you would like any Fairtrade goods at other times, just give me a call. Catalogues are available in the church foyer.



Email: fairtrade@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Christmas is
a time of giving



SHOE BOX ITEMS COLLECTION MORNING

in the Free Church Foyer
Sat 18th October 10 am - noon

We would be pleased to receive

- ✓ *completed boxes*
- ✓ *items for the boxes ***
- ✓ *empty shoe boxes*
- ✓ *wrapping paper*
- ✓ *financial contributions*

Everyone welcome ~ hope to see you there!

For details call 813579, 814865 or 812109

**** For suitable items please see leaflets
available in the churches and local shops
or article in The Link**

Shoe Box Packing is on
13th November 7.30pm in the Hall



CHURCHES
TOGETHER
in STANSTED



Village Harvest Supper

St John's Church Hall
Sunday 19th October 2014
6 - 8.30 pm

*Fish, Chicken or Veggie Burger & Chips
followed by entertainment*

A great evening out for all the family

Tickets £6 ~ Schoolchildren £5

Tickets must be purchased in advance

from
814059 or 813579

Bring your own drink & glass - All Welcome



COFFEE MORNING

Sat 25th October 10 am -12 noon
Stansted Free Church Foyer

Books ~ Bric-à-Brac

Fairly-traded Food, Drinks, Cards & Gifts

Recycling box for

- ◆ Broken & Unwanted Jewellery
- ◆ Old or Foreign Banknotes
- ◆ Stamps

Everyone Welcome

Tel 815819 for more information

The One World Week theme for 2014 is 'Living Differently' focusing on:

- Sourcing food differently
- Reducing wastefulness
- Using money ethically

Welcome to Roy and Christine Fowler

We extend a very warm welcome to our new minister Rev'd Roy Fowler and his wife Christine. They will be living in a manse recently purchased by the URC Eastern Synod.



Their address is
8 Birchalls Stansted CM24 8LQ.

A telephone number has been provisionally allocated by BT, but will not be confirmed until the line is connected in early October.

Roy's ministry with us begins on 18th October.

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, joint treasurers, secretary (who may or may not also be a deacon), property secretary and the minister.

We meet every 2 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 Marion Pretty 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: Judy, Brenda, Catherine, Betty, Valerie and Marion.

Anyone wishing to be considered must be nominated by another church member. Please hand any nominations to Betty by the end of October.

Stansted Free Church

Methodist / URC

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Contacts

(All telephone numbers are 01279)

Minister

Rev Roy Fowler (from 19th October).
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 - term time) 6 pm Pilots for children aged 5 - 18
Valerie Trundle Tel 813433 Email: pilots@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

The Place on the Hill Drop-In (Everyone Welcome)

Every Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
Tel 814059, 813579 or 812748
Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk