

Imagine!



MAY
2017

I imagine what 65 million people looks like. It is a million more than the population of the UK and the estimated number of people who are currently displaced from their homeland because of war or hunger or fear or destitution. It is 70 years since Christian Aid was set up to respond to the needs of refugees in Europe in the aftermath of the Second World War. Who would have thought then that in the 21st Century there would be so many more?

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

These words of Jesus tell us that if we meet the needs of others, we are doing it for Christ. They are at the heart of what motivates Christian Aid and its supporters. With our financial assistance, the words are put in to action. Refugees are given food, clean water, shelter, health care, advice and comfort, no longer just in Europe but throughout the world. This year there will not be a house-to-house collection in Stansted in Christian Aid Week, but there are fund-raising events happening throughout the year. If you would like to make a donation, please call 08080 006 006, go on-line at www.caid.org.uk/week or you can pass your donation to me to pay in to a Christian Aid account.

“When I needed a neighbour were you there?” is well known to us. Based on the above Bible passage, the last verse is:

“Wherever you travel I’ll be there And the creed and the colour and the name don’t matter: I’ll be there.”

Catherine



Care Time



We pray for the events that are happening during May, particularly Messy Church and Christian Aid Week. We remember Phyllis who is now home from hospital; all those who are unwell or awaiting operations; the Syrian Family; and those who come to The Place on the Hill and Messy Church.

You are invited to use the prayer request slips which are available in the foyer

Retirement of Rev'd David Mullins

David's last service with us is on 25th June and we are planning to give him a farewell gift on that day. Please pass contributions to Marion by the end of May.

On 23rd July we shall be joining the Methodist Circuit service at Bishop's Stortford, which is followed by a hot lunch.

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The next edition of **Imagine** will be available on 28th May. Please submit articles by Friday 19th May 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 MAY

Worship at Stansted Free Church

7th 10.30 am Jerry Heyhoe
14th 10.30 am Mike Dyer - Christian Aid Service
21st 10.30 am Karen Quelch
28th 10.30 am Rev'd Roy Fowler - Communion

Other Activities

Tue 2nd 7.30 pm Bible Study at Newport URC
Sat 6th 10.00 am Church Meeting in the Hall
Mon 8th 8.00 pm Shalom at 7 Blythwood Gardens (p5)
Wed 10th 7.30 pm Discussion Group at Abbey Lane URC (p5)
Sat 13th 7.30 pm Christian Aid Quiz at St Theresa's
Sun 21st 3.30 pm Messy Church at St Mary's School
Mon 22nd 8.00 pm Shalom At Home 49 Recreation Ground
Sun 28th 11.30 am Fairtrade goods on sale after the service
6.30 pm Easter Offering Service at B Stortford Methodist (p6)

WEBS BIBLE STUDIES

All will be Revealed!

How on earth do we understand the Book of Revelation?

Led by Rev'd Caroline Vodden

Tuesdays 7.30 pm - 9 pm Newport United Reformed Church

2nd May *I am the First and the Last*

6th June *Behold, I stand at the door and knock*

4th July *Behold, I am coming soon!*



Christian Aid Week Quiz Night Sat 13th May 7 for 7.30 pm St Theresa's Parish Centre

Entry is £10 payable on the day, but please let me know if you intend to go. To maximize donations to the **Famine Relief Appeal for Children in Yemen** we will not be providing refreshments, so please bring your own food and drink (there is no bar). There will be a raffle.

Catherine



Easter Craft Special Events
Mon 27th, Wed 29th & Fri 31st March



Lots of people came to our special events, when we had great fun decorating eggs & crosses and making Easter baskets



The Place on the Hill is open
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
including the school holidays
For more details contact Marion & Mike
email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk



SHALOM

Our next meeting is on Monday 8th May at 7 Blythwood Gardens when Catherine and Alan Dean will be giving an illustrated talk about their trip to Peru. Our informal coffee and chat *At Home* is on Monday 22nd May at 49 Recreation Ground. Both meetings start at 8.00pm. All welcome.

Marion



Just War? "Thou shalt not kill"



Can war *ever* be justified? Is pacifism absolute?
Mosul/Aleppo – right or wrong?

Discussion Group

Join our Conversation...

7.30 pm Wednesday 10th May Abbey Lane Vestry

For more information contact Stephen
Email: stephen@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

STANSTED CHURCHES FOODBANK

The following are needed, and can be left in the vestry. Thank you.

Tins: cooked meats, vegetables

Cartons: fruit juice, long- life milk

Small jars of coffee, small packets of sugar

Catherine



STANSTED MESSY CHURCH

INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLING



Please bring your used ink cartridges and place in the boxes in the foyer and the hall. All makes except Epson can be recycled, but they must be originals, not re-manufactured. We receive £1 for every cartridge which will go towards the costs of Messy Church.

Marion

EASTER OFFERING 2017

Shine like Stars



Your local
Easter Offering
Service is prepared
by Methodist Women in
Britain on behalf of
the World Mission Fund

This act of worship enables
the Methodist Church in
Britain and Ireland to give to
the work of the 65 Partner
Churches overseas



Methodist Women
in Britain

The **Methodist** Church 

Sunday 28th May 6.30 pm
Bishop's Stortford Methodist Church
All Welcome



WEBS OUTING SAT 10TH JUNE

9.30 am - 4 pm

Ipswich Showground



Entry: Adults £6, Children Free - *includes picnic lunch*

A fun day for all the family celebrating our history, our family and our future.

**Worship at 10.30 am and 3.30 pm
plus workshops and activities for the whole family during the day**

It is hoped to book a coach if enough people are interested
(price according to numbers), or organise car share.

Pick up in Stansted about 9.15 am, returning by 5 pm

Please let Betty know by 12th May if you would like to go

Stansted Free Church (Methodist / URC)

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

**Part of the WEBS (West Essex & Bishop's Stortford) URC Pastorate
and the Bishop's Stortford Methodist Circuit**

Contacts

Minister

Revd Roy Fowler (day off Monday)
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WEBS Minister

Revd Caroline Vodden

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Church Notices

Marion Pretty

Lettings

Mike & Marion Dyer
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Alan Wheeler Marion Dyer
Email: treasurer@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Fairtrade

Brenda Veitch
Email: fairtrade@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Sunday Service

10.30 am Morning Worship
Some months we hold New Directions which is an informal service

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

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
Tel Marion & Mike, Catherine & Alan or Fran
Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk