

# Imagine!

June  
2018



**I** magine what life would be like without time-saving technology such as washing machines and vacuum cleaners. Imagine what life would be like without modern transport such as cars, buses, trains or planes. Imagine having to walk for miles in order to meet our friends and family. Imagine what it would be like without television, radio, computer games, telephones, the internet and computers. Wouldn't life be wonderful, I hear some of you say!

Of course many of us do not have to imagine the absence of these things, because that's how it was in our youth. My early childhood was spent without washing machine, car, television or telephone. As time went by these things were added, and became the norm for the majority of homes. If we are honest, most of us would not want to return to those 'good old days', because we can also remember that it was not all good. Imagine being on the rota to stoke the church boilers at 4 am on a Sunday morning in the depth of winter, or going to a church which did not have any heating at all!

We sometimes forget that in the time of Jesus there was no technology as we know it today. Yes, the ruling Romans had horse-drawn vehicles and under-floor heating, but that was about it. I wonder how Jesus would regard all our sophisticated technology today. Would He want us to wind back the clocks, or would He encourage us to embrace everything that makes life easier? After his passionate sermon at the recent royal wedding, Bishop Michael Curry suddenly became a world-wide celebrity. His strong message on *The Power of Love* was broadcast across the world and taken up by social media. In the 1st century, Jesus was able to communicate with thousands of people; but now we are able to communicate with millions. Is the Christian Church missing the golden opportunity offered by 21<sup>st</sup> century technology?

Mike Dyer

## WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

### Worship at Stansted Free Church

3rd	10.30 am	Richard Lewney - New Directions
10th	10.30 am	Jerry Heyhoe
17th	10.30 am	Rev'd Christine Fowler - Communion
24th	10.30 am	Rev'd Roy Fowler - Baptism of Sue's grandson

### Other Activities

Sun	3rd	11.30 am	Fairtrade goods on sale after the service
Wed	6th	8.00 pm	LPWT Meeting at B Stortford Methodist Church
Thu	7th	10.00 am	Property Committee Meeting in the Hall
		7.30 pm	WEBS Bible Study at Newport URC
Mon	11th	8.00 pm	Shalom at 7 Blythwood Gardens
Wed	13th	8.00 pm	Churches Together Forum at the Meeting House
Sat	16th	10.00 am	Flower Festival at Water Lane URC
Sun	17th	2.00 pm	Flower Festival at Water Lane URC
Sat	23rd	1.00 pm	Bouncy Picnic on the Recreation Ground
Mon	25th	1.00 pm	Shalom Party at 7 Blythwood Gardens
Wed	27th	8.00 pm	Messy Church meeting at 27 Spencer Close
Thu	28th	9.30 am	Church Oversight Group at 7 Blythwood Gardens



### WEBS BIBLE STUDIES

#### CHRIST OUR LIFE

Led by Rev'd Roy Fowler

**Final session Thursday 7th June 7.15 for 7.30 pm - 9 pm**

**Newport United Reformed Church**

*New Life in Christ Colossians 3: 1 - 4, 12 - 17*



## SHALOM

Our next meeting is on Monday 11th June at 8 pm when Lieutenant Megan Lowe will be talking to us about the Salvation Army. This promises to be a very interesting evening.

Our *Shalom Party* will be on Monday 25th June at 1.00 pm (note time). Bring and share some finger food plus an item to read or a piece of music. Both meetings are at 7 Blythwood Gardens. All welcome. After the party we do not meet again until the Autumn.

*Marion*



# Care Time



We pray for: Desiree, Noel and Lillian and others who can no longer attend church; Valerie and Brenda awaiting treatment; Dave (husband of Iris) who has been unwell for some time; Margaret T that her cataract operation will be successful; Arthur, that his house move will go through soon; Marion P as she settles into her new home; the two Syrian families; Rev'ds Caroline Vodden and Paul Wilkin on sabbatical; those who come to The Place on the Hill and are going through difficult times; and any others known to us.



## Water Lane URC Flower Festival

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 10 am - 4 pm  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2 - 4 pm

*Enjoy the arrangements reflecting the work of  
a number of charities*

**Entry Free    Refreshments**

**Stansted  
Family  
Cafe**

## STANSTED BOUNCY PICNIC

Saturday 23rd June 1 - 4 pm  
Recreation Ground

Bring your own picnic • Drinks and hotdogs provided  
Inflatables for under 5s, under 12s, over 11s and adults

*Relive your childhood on an inflatable obstacle course or the bungee run!*

This is a **free** community event and all are welcome



*Ros Page*

*Organised by Messy Church and Family Cafe and supported by Churches Together in Stansted*



## 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*

# Stansted Free Church (Methodist / URC)

[www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](http://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)  
Email: [minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

### WEBS Minister

Rev'd Caroline Vodden

### Methodist Superintendent

Rev'd Gill Hulme

### Church Secretary

Betty Francis  
Email: [info@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:info@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

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Brenda Veitch  
Email: [fairtrade@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto: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)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday (not Bank Holidays)

9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Tel Marion & Mike , Catherine or Fran

Email: [theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

