

Imagine!

May
2018



Imagine your house fell down. What would you do? Well, you might give thanks that no one was hurt. Then think about where you might find shelter; perhaps with a friend? But all your friends' houses have fallen down as well, because they have been hit by the same hurricane. Imagine that eighteen months later you are living in a 2m x 2m block of concrete about the size of a four-man tent, which used to be a communal shower. There are no windows or door, and the only furniture you have is a single bed.

Imagine you are bringing up three teenage daughters on your own in these conditions. Imagine you can't provide for your family as you used to, because your farmland was also destroyed.

This is the reality for Marcelin in Haiti, where Hurricane Matthew struck in 2016. Imagine that every day you live in fear of another storm. Imagine you could help Marcelin and his family to prepare for the next storm, so that they fear it less. The good news is that you can! Christian Aid can help Marcelin build a storm-resistant house, as they have done for many other families in Haiti.

On Saturday 12th May 10 am - noon at the Big Brekkie, together with the other churches in Stansted, we will be raising funds for Christian Aid's life-changing work in Haiti and in other countries. If you can't make that date, there will be envelopes in the church during Christian Aid Week, 13th-19th May. If you are a tax payer please gift-aid your donation. This year Christian Aid Week falls within Thy Kingdom Come, an ecumenical global prayer movement between Ascension Day and Pentecost. This is the Kingdom Prayer:

Holy God, in your Kingdom the strong need the weak, the rich are transformed by the poor, the fortunate are welcomed by the homeless. Your Kingdom is built by those who expect their God to come. Amen.

Catherine

WHAT'S ON IN MAY

Worship at Stansted Free Church

6th	10.30 am	Nicola Grieves - New Directions
13th	10.30 am	Rev'd Stuart Veitch - Communion
20th	10.30 am	Julie Finbow
27th	10.30 am	Rev'd Roy Fowler

Other Activities

Thu	3rd	7.30 pm	WEBS Bible Study at Newport URC
Sat	5th	10.00 am	Church Meeting in the Hall
Sun	6th	11.30 am	Fairtrade goods on sale after the service
Sat	12th	10.00 am	Big Brekkie for Christian Aid in the Hall
Mon	14th	8.00 pm	Shalom at 7 Blythwood Gardens
Sat	19th	10.00 am	Safeguarding Training at Bishop's Stortford URC
Sun	20th	3.30 pm	Messy Church at St Mary's School



WEBS BIBLE STUDIES

CHRIST OUR LIFE

Please join us as we look at the letter to the Colossians

Led by Rev'd Roy Fowler

Thursdays 7.15 for 7.30 pm - 9 pm Newport United Reformed Church

3rd May *Fullness of Life in Christ Colossians 2: 6 - 19*

7th June *New Life in Christ Colossians 3: 1 - 4, 12 - 17*



Christian Aid Big Brekkie Sat 12th May 10 am - noon Free Church Hall

Please join us for delicious bacon butties and other breakfast goodies, raising money to help fight poverty and injustice.



SHALOM

Our next meeting is on Monday 14th May 8 pm at 7 Blythwood Gardens when Stuart will be leading a bible study and discussion on **Luke 14: 26** *Teasing out the Truth in the Bible*. All welcome.

EASTER EVENTS



Good Friday Service
Alan Dean



Easter Sunday
Judy Colliver



Thank you to everyone who supported my recent event and gave so generously. A total of £118 was raised for Fairtrade (which will be doubled by the Government). Fairtrade goods will be on sale on Sunday 6th May.

Brenda



The Place on the Hill Crafts
Mike Dyer



STANSTED MESSY CHURCH

Sunday 20th May 3.30 - 5 pm
St Mary's School, Foresthall Park



You can see photographs of our previous Messy Church events at www.stanstedchurches.com/messychurch. A very big thank you to all those who have helped or provided food at our previous events. Carol will be looking for people to provide sandwiches and cakes for 20th May. For general information contact Marion & Mike



Care Time



We pray for: Desiree; Noel and Lilian; Valerie; Marion P; Brenda; Judy; Arthur, that his house move will go through soon; the two Syrian families; our Quaker friend Anthea, still in hospital; Rev'ds Caroline Vodden and Paul Wilkin on sabbatical; those who come to The Place on the Hill; and any others known to us.

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

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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

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