

# Imagine!



NOV  
2019

**I**magine a world where every tree were clothed in fresh green leaf all year round, in which flowers were in permanent never-fading bloom, and where we humans never suffered the limitations of sickness, pain, ageing and decline. Then imagine the poverty of soil which was never enriched by rotting vegetation, blossoms which did not grow and transform imperceptibly from tight bud to glorious flowering, and human beings who, complacent in their immortality, did not comprehend the preciousness of life or feel compassion for the vulnerable.

As the nights turn colder, the lime trees outside my study window have also turned a golden yellow, giving a beautiful warm glow in rare moments of autumn sunshine. It won't be long before the leaves have all fallen to the ground to nourish the earth, and the bare branches are silhouetted against the winter sky. It is a visible symbol of the cycle of life and death which we recall in this season of Remembrance. As we remember the joy of summer days, sunshine and laughter, holidays and al-fresco dining, we close our curtains, turn up the heating and already look forward to the warmer, lighter days of Spring which will herald new life and possibilities.

We may not like the cold nights, short days, bare trees and icy roads, but it is part of the blessing of God's gift in creation that autumn and winter confront us with our mortality and remind us to treasure the life we have. We take time to remember people we have known and loved, who died having left their mark for good on us and on the world. And we give thanks to God, who promises us that death is not the end but the pathway to a new and eternal springtime. May the Lord bless all our remembering with peace and his Spirit inspire us to live each moment with joyful appreciation and anticipation.

In Christian love,

*Caroline*



## Care Time



We continue to remember all those who are unwell, going through stressful times, or in pain, especially Valerie and Sue recovering from surgery and Roy with his broken arm. We pray for those who are mourning loved ones, especially the families of Don McGregor, Joyce Winckles and Margaret Denton, all from Bishop's Stortford Methodist Church. We also remember Liliane and Noel, and others who are no longer able to come to church.

Welcome to  
The



### **Harvest Events and Shoebox Packing** **Mon 28th Oct , Wed 30th Oct & Fri 1st Nov** **10 am - 11.30 am**

Come and join the fun being creative  
**All Welcome - do come along on either or all three days even if you do not normally attend The Place**

**The Place** is open Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9.30 am - 12.30 pm



## SHOEBOX PACKING



St Theresa's Parish Centre, High Lane

**Thursday 7th November 7 - 9 pm**

*Gratefully received in advance or on the night:*

**Completed boxes, empty shoeboxes,  
items for the boxes and financial contributions**

***Come and join in the fun - everyone welcome***

Please submit articles for the next edition of **Imagine** by Friday 15th November to: [news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk). Alternatively, please pass to one of the editors, or send to: 23A Bentfield Road, Stansted CM24 8HP.

Editors: Alan Wheeler, Mike & Marion Dyer

**Copies of this and previous editions of Imagine can be found on our website**  
**[www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)**

## WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

### Worship at Stansted Free Church

- 3rd 10.30 am Richard Lewney - New Directions  
10th 10.50 am Remembrance Service at the War Memorial (**Note time**)  
17th 10.30 am Karen Quelch  
24th 10.30 am Rev'd Roy Fowler - Communion

### Other Activities

- Fri 1st 10.00 am The Place Harvest Special (*see opposite*)  
Sat 2nd 7.30 pm Shoeboxes Quiz in St Theresa's Parish Centre  
Thu 7th 7.00 pm Shoebox Packing in St Theresa's Parish Centre  
Sun 24th 11.30 am Fairtrade Goods on sale after the service  
Sat 30th 5.30 pm Advent Remembrance Service S Walden URC



## Shoeboxes Quiz Night



**Sat 2nd Nov 7 for 7.30 pm St Theresa's Parish Centre**

Tickets £5 payable on the night

***Bring your own food, drink and glass***

Come on your own or as part of a team of 6 - 8

***Raising funds to cover transportation costs for the shoeboxes***



Photo (c)123rf.com

## A Service of Remembrance for Advent Saturday 30th November 5.30 pm Abbey Lane URC, Saffron Walden

You are warmly invited to join us for this special service on the Saturday before Advent, which will include an Act of Remembrance and the dedication of a lighted Christmas tree in memory of those we have loved. We thank God for his gift of love in the birth of his Son, Jesus Christ and pray that you may know his comfort and peace.

*Light refreshments will be served after the service*

# 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

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### Methodist Superintendent

Rev'd Gill Hulme

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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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