



CHRIST CHURCH, BRITTANY

*To know Jesus Christ and make him known*



## CHRIST CHURCH BRITTANY

'To know Jesus Christ and make Him Known'

Ploërmel + Huelgoat + Rostrenen

## Newsletter April 2008

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### **Prayer focus**

- For continuing home groups.
- For the newly elected Council and Wardens that they may serve Christ Church in His name.
- For the new Prayer Ministry team that they may serve Christ in others.

Priest-in-Charge:      Revd Hazel Door  
79 rue Glatinier, 56120 Josselin  
Tel: 02 97 22 31 38  
e-mail: [rev.hazel@wanadoo.fr](mailto:rev.hazel@wanadoo.fr).

Churchwardens:      Chris Wilson (Tel: 02 97 72 19 29)  
e-mail: [wilson.christopher@orange.fr](mailto:wilson.christopher@orange.fr)  
  
Barbara Dunford (Tel: 02 97 27 19 37)  
e-mail : [mdunford@wanadoo.fr](mailto:mdunford@wanadoo.fr).

Local Contacts:

Huelgoat:      Keith Beswetherick (Tel: 02 98 78 21 28)  
e-mail: [beswetherick.keith@wanadoo.fr](mailto:beswetherick.keith@wanadoo.fr)

Rostrenen:      Robin and Laura Hillman Tel: 02 97 51 74 26  
e-mail: [kermoran@wanadoo.fr](mailto:kermoran@wanadoo.fr)



**For further information about any of these services please get in touch with The Revd Hazel Door, Churchwardens or the local contacts.**

## **Other dates for your diary**

### **Alpha Course**

Following the postponement of the Alpha Course a revised commencement date for the course will be announced as soon as possible. If you require further information in respect of the Alpha Course please contact Hazel Door, the Wardens or Val Smith.

### **Fellowship Meetings – April 2008**

#### **St Vran**

Fellowship meeting dates are 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April starting with a shared lunch. All welcome. For further information please contact Joyce and Alex Fraser on 02 96 56 13 22 or e-mail [alex.fraser@wanadoo.fr](mailto:alex.fraser@wanadoo.fr).

#### **Redon**

Following the Lent Course hosted by Joy Morin a Home Group meeting will continue to be held in the Redon area through April. Dates are to be confirmed shortly so if you would like further information please contact Joy Morin on 02 99 71 12 30 or Chris Wilson on 02 97 72 19 29.

#### **Organ Concert**

An organ concert is being arranged for the evening of 10<sup>th</sup> May 2008 commencing at 8.30pm and will be held in the large chapel at Maison Mere. More information will follow in the next Newsletter.

#### **Autumn Fete**

Following last years successful Autumn Fête plans are already under way to hold another in September. A date will be finalised at the next Council meeting and will be notified in the May Newsletter. We would like this years fête to be even bigger and better than last year so if you have any ideas or would like to help in any way please contact Barbara Dunford on 0297271937.

## Other Matters

### Christ Church Annual Meeting 2008

The Annual Meeting took place in Ploërmel on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2008 following the Holy Communion service. Before the commencement of the Annual Meeting proper a brief ceremony took place to admit the two Churchwardens to office. There being only two nominations there was no requirement for a vote and the ceremony took place in the chapel where Barbara Dunford and Chris Wilson made their formal declaration and placed their signatures on the necessary papers.

The formal business of the Annual Meeting then followed and the main items of business were to receive various reports and to elect Council members and Archdeaconry Synod Representatives. The reports received included the Treasurers Report, and those from the Electoral Roll Officer, Churchwardens, Council, and of course from the President. There were also reports on La Source and the new Association Caritative, which has been named 'Les Mains Ouvertes'.

There was also a very interesting and thought provoking talk from Alan Mason on Stewardship. Alan has very kindly taken on the task of being Stewardship Officer and there will be more on this subject in the coming weeks and months.

The Electoral Roll Officer reported that there had been an increase in numbers on the Roll and the figure now totalled 103. In view of this the number of Council members could have increased to 12 but in the event only 9 were nominated. There was therefore no requirement for a vote and all those nominated were elected to Council. The increased number on the Electoral Roll also meant we were entitled to 3 Archdeaconry Synod Representatives and as there were only three nominations then again there was no requirement for a vote to take place.

Following the elections therefore the Christ Church Council is now made up of the following:

Chairman - The Revd Hazel Door (Priest in Charge)

Churchwardens - Chris Wilson  
Barbara Dunford

Council Members – Derek Richards



The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.

The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the President, leaders in business and industry and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

And lastly comes our little finger. The smallest finger of all which is where we place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, 'The least shall be the greatest among you'. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

This is beautiful and is surely worth making the five finger prayer a part of our lives.

(If you would like a favourite prayer to be published please send to the Wardens or Barbara Woodford).

## **STEWARDSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH**

Talking and writing to people, even Church members, about the giving of money is usually an unpopular and sometimes controversial topic, but I think we need to remember that when God sent Jesus to die in your place and mine, as we are thinking about particularly at this time of year, he gave us His best. How can we possibly give back to Him anything less than our best?

Currently, Christ Church is relatively well placed financially. We have a pretty healthy Bank balance and last year there was a surplus of income over expenditure. That's the good news.

The bad news is that we have some significant financial obligations to meet in the very near future.

1. We must begin to pay Hazel, our minister, a stipend as soon as possible, since at the moment we don't pay her at all. She already does far more than is required of her!
2. We give away no money to support other Christian work, e.g. Tear Fund, Christian Aid, missionaries etc.

3. New groups such as the recently formed Mums and Toddlers group will develop and incur costs to the Church.
4. We must expand our evangelistic outreach which is beginning soon with the Alpha course – essential expense, at Ploermel, Huelgoat and Rostrenen.
5. There are improvements and maintenance necessary; e.g. Sound system, video projector, improvements to facilities, etc.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- a) Let someone on Church Council know if you have a particular interest in a Christian Group we can support financially. But remember, it is better to support a few things substantially than a bigger number poorly.
- b) Let us know if you have ideas for improvements at Christ Church which will help the Church move forward in service and outreach to the community.
- c) Prayerfully review your giving and if possible, commit to giving regularly either through the weekly offering envelope scheme, or by regular Bank transfer. Complete one of the forms available at all three Churches and return them to me in the envelope provided, and I will see that you receive what you need. Even if you are only at Christ Church for some of the year, would you prayerfully consider committing some of your regular giving to Christ Church?

I believe that the future for Christ Church, Brittany is going to be exciting and humbling as we allow the Lord to lead us forward under Hazel's ministry. We ALL have a part to play as the body of Christ at Christ Church, in giving, praying, working, supporting and witnessing. Please prayerfully let the Lord show you how you can play your part.

“Now you are the body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it.”  
(1 Corinthians 12:27)

With love in Christ,  
Alan Mason

### **And finally....**

Many of you will be reading this at Easter or around that time, you will have read elsewhere in this newsletter of the outcome of our AGM, my thanks to the many who attended, for those who were unable to be there, you missed a very good presentation from Alan Mason about our stewardship.

Not just our stewardship of material things although that is important, but also those less tangible. I am always mindful that some have fewer resources than others. So what can we, who may not have much, offer to God?

Our time and our talents are both gifts from our Creator, so perhaps there is a way to offer ourselves. At the AGM I spoke of prayer, and of my gratitude for your prayers and support; and the many ministries which come together to make Christ Church.

I proposed that Prayer ministry should be offered at the end of each time of Worship for those who request it on the day, in all of our worship places. We could use as a nucleus, those who did the Healing Ministry course, as well as those whose training has already equipped them, and also those who feel they may be called to such ministry. No one needs to be a super- duper prayer person. (I'm not even sure that I would feel comfortable around such people.)

Prayer ministry has been described as the "laying on of ears". The real heart of praying with and for someone lies within each of us: it's called love. If you would like to hear more about prayer groups and prayer ministry, do contact me or Barbara Dunford or Barbara Woodford.

God gave us everything, even our very breath. We may feel we have little to offer back to Him. WRONG!!! We can give ourselves, using His gifts, our time and talent, to His praise and glory.

As Christ commanded us: "love one another as I have loved you", so we can continue His work by giving ourselves to God and allowing Him to use us as He wills.

Blessings

Hazel

***Christ Church Newsletter Contributions: For the May 2008 issue, please email your contributions to Chris Wilson at wilson.christopher@orange.fr the deadline is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008. Many thanks.***