

The Link

Between you and

Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church



Editor's Note

Many thanks to everyone who has given me material for this Easter Issue despite the short notice.

The deadline for the June/July magazine is **Monday 18th May**. Please either post items to me, Ron Chidwick, or send by email to: thelink@hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk

Here is a QR Code link to our Church Web Site.



The views expressed in this magazine are those of the various authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Church Trustees

Easter Message from our Minister

Dear Friends

As we approach Easter this year we reflect again on the mystery of God's love and forgiveness for each and every one of us.

So far this year, I have had to explain Easter to two sets of small children, and there is nothing like explaining things to small children to make you think about it in a different way.

At Hockley's Messy Easter, we did a walkthrough of the whole Easter Story from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday in about 7 minutes. I heard myself telling the children, God sent his Son Jesus to tell people to be nice to each other, to care for each other, to love each other, no fighting, no hate, and no greed. We talked about how he was welcomed into Jerusalem, and we shouted Hosanna, and waved palm crosses as a Hobby Horse riding Jesus walked towards Jerusalem at the side of the church. We considered how some folk didn't like what Jesus was saying so they plotted to get rid of him.

It's not easy for any of us to deal with the Crucifixion and the death of Jesus, and I find this the hardest part of Easter. I know the theory, I know the Theology, I know it is part of God's plan for forgiveness but it's still hard to comprehend the cruelty meted out to Jesus, hard to comprehend that Jesus did this for me. So how do we cover the death of Jesus with small children in the story for Messy Church and for the Pre-school? In the end I choose to talk about Jesus' death without the mechanics of how it happened. I told them that people were very horrible to Jesus and he died. The young person playing Jesus lied down. It was very, very sad.

On Good Friday (God Friday), we need to spend some time in reflection on Jesus' death, we can't move straight to the joy and celebration of Resurrection and Easter Sunday, without reflecting on the passion, the pain and sacrifice of Good Friday. We will have a service at 3pm on Good Friday, when we can reflect on the story of Good Friday.

But the glory of Easter is that we move from sadness to happiness, as we enter Easter Sunday, and realise that Jesus is alive again, death has been defeated, and sin, guilt and shame have been wiped away, defeated. We can rejoice, we can celebrate.

In many ways Easter is better than Christmas, there is not so much pressure on us all to provide that perfect meal, or that perfect present, we can relax and enjoy this festival, and celebrate God's love for us.

Today our readings reminded all of us who are weary or heavy laden to come to Jesus and he will provide us with rest, as his yoke is easy and his burden is light. (Matthew 11.28-end). We are reminded that Jesus does not stand over us like a Policeman, or wag his finger at us like a stern school teacher. We are loved and valued; we are beautiful in his sight. There is no condemnation, just salvation. (John 3:16-17).

So let us reflect on Easter, and let us enjoy Easter, celebrate and rejoice in God's love and forgiveness.

Every Blessing.

Phil Warrey (Rev)

Family News

Welcome

It's always good to welcome newcomers to our church services and all other activities during the week. Do speak to a church steward if you would appreciate a visit.

Baptism

Oliver John French was baptised on Sunday 15th February; it was good to welcome him and all his family and friends who shared in this special day.

Illness

We remember with love all our members who are unwell, especially we think of Geoff Teare and Jean Pitt who have both undergone operations, Maureen Blake, Jean and Ken Saunders and Sheila and Michael Hayman.

Bereavement

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who have recently been bereaved; we give thanks for the life of Pauline Williams who sadly passed away on Monday 9th March.

Please let me know of any prayer request, special birthday, wedding anniversary etc. so that it can be included in our magazine.

Revd. Sam Connolly

I was sorry to hear of the death of Sam Connolly on 31 January. Sam was our minister here from 1959 to 1966. He was invited to join the Leigh circuit with specific responsibility for the Methodist Churches at Hockley and Wickford. At that time the manse was almost opposite the Hockley church and Sam and his wife Gertie threw themselves into every facet of church activity. Largely through their efforts the congregation grew markedly but it was Sam's work with young people which still resonates. Sunday school numbers increased so rapidly that a new hall had to be built in haste on adjoining waste ground (now alas demolished to make way for the car park). Members may still remember his work with the uniformed organisations and especially the youth club, with regular Sunday evening meetings at the Manse after church and taking them on holiday, as far afield as Italy and Switzerland. He set up a cricket match between the youth club and senior members of the church. Out of that he encouraged a series of matches against local adult teams and this, in turn led to the formation of the 'Hockley Methodist Cricket Club', with Sam as President and captain in that first season. The Club won no matches at all that year but performances gradually improved and it played on for some 15 seasons until falling numbers led to an amalgamation with another local side. Sam himself was a bit of an all-rounder and would have a go at everything (except wicket-keeping).

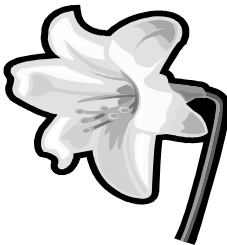
When a group of church ladies suggested a Young Wives club, he responded by setting up a Married Couples Club, it being important as he saw it for husbands and wives to spend more time together. When problems were raised about their young children at home, he dealt with that by personally persuading older church members to provide a baby-sitting service. Out of that arrangement many lasting friendships between parents and baby-sitter were established. That Married Couples Club is still going strong, now in its 52nd year, although with the passage of time it naturally felt obliged to change its name to the Thursday Social Club so that all may be welcomed. Sam returned to Hockley for its 40th Anniversary in 2003 and it was on that occasion that I was persuaded (and Sam was always a very good persuader) to join the Pen and Camera Club, of which he was an extremely proud President as well as a very competent photographer. It was always a delight to meet him at Camera Club Reunions and to marvel at his prodigious memory for names, youngsters and adults alike, from his time in Essex. You may remember we showed a video of him in the church taken on his 90th birthday fulfilling a lifelong ambition to drive a double-decker bus!

Sam was well-known around Hockley and Hawkwell, meeting many as he walked his dog through the woods, visiting local community organisations or just popping to the shops. His preaching was meaningful; his views often forthright but put over in a way that did not cause offence. The President of the Brotherhood at the time once described him as another 'Lax of Poplar' and I think he would have been secretly pleased at that description. He played a good innings, passing away peacefully in Haywards Heath Hospital at the age of 96.

Michael Deedman

Flower Rota

1 st Sunday	Kay Deedman	202802
2 nd Sunday	Carolyn Sturgess	203964
3 rd Sunday	Anne Sains	202010
4 th Sunday	Linda Williams	204309
5 th Sunday	Linda Clarke	204559



Pretzels Bread

The monks during lent could not use eggs or milk so all the bread they made was used with only flour, water, and salt. A long time ago a monk was making some bread for lent and he had some pieces left over. The monk folded them into strips, then twisted them into a crescent, and then he looped a twist like the fold of a child's arm in prayer.



They were given as a treat when the children learnt their prayers and the biscuits were named petioles which means in Latin, 'A Reward.'

Soon it was known all round the world as Pretzels, the shape being arms folded in prayer.

Carolyn Sturgess

Church Council Meeting

At its February meeting, the Council:

- * expressed its thanks to Mr Teare, stepping down from the post of Lettings Officer, for his valuable work in recent years;
- * noted that Mrs Rae had agreed to serve as a Vestry Assistant;
- * heard that the Stewards had in mind to review their duties, possibly in conjunction with stewards from Rayleigh and Rochford, perhaps by establishing a leadership team;
- * welcomed news of a generous legacy left to the church from the estate of the late Bill Potter;
- * agreed that proceeds from next June's Gift Day should go to the Church Property Fund;
- * expressed their appreciation to the Community Payback team for their ground clearance work;
- * discussed points raised during the recent Worship Consultation meeting and agreed to consider a number of items at a future meeting, including joint events with Rayleigh and Rochford;
- * noted with regret that the local Christian Aid Committee had disbanded;
- * discussed various safeguarding issues, to be considered further at the next Council meeting;
- * welcomed proposals to hold a summer picnic with other local churches, organised by the RC church, and to invite members of St. Peter & St. Paul to share in our own harvest celebration.

Michael Deedman
Council Secretary

Annual Church Meeting

Numbers for this year's Meeting were up on last year's, with 24 members there to consider reports on the year's activities (and enjoy lunch together afterwards). Among other things:

- * it was confirmed that although the Sisterhood had ceased to meet, there was to be a celebration of its centenary at 4pm on 17 May at Spa Court;
- * the meeting heard with great regret of the death of Pauline Williams and stood in silence in memory of her and three other members (Isabel Murphy, Norman Daniels and Bill Potter) who had passed away since last year's meeting ;
- * a Church Spring Cleaning morning was set for Saturday, 18 April from 10am onwards;
- * the Treasurer (Stan Rae) reported a balance of £11,017 in church funds, also that he had received an anonymous donation of £3,000 for church redecoration;
- * Muriel Pregnall, Gill Cross, Carolyn Sturgess and Linda Williams were re-elected as Church Stewards;
- * Kay Deedman, Shirley James, June Parkhurst, Anne Sains and Ron Chidwick were elected as representatives to the Church Council;
- * a vote of thanks to Geoff Teare was passed for all his work as Lettings Officer in recent years. The appointment of Carolyn Sturgess as his replacement was unanimously approved.

Next year's meeting is fixed for Saturday 19 March. If you missed this year, do try to get to the next one.

Michael Deedman
Secretary



Thursday Social Club

We met at the home of Ian and Vivienne on Thursday 22nd January and were treated to a talk on their recent holiday to Vietnam.

Vietnam is a beautiful country that has been blighted by wars over many years. Fresh in a lot of westerner's minds is the battle with the Vietcong that culminated in the withdrawal of the Americans in 1975. Ian and Viv's holiday was booked with HF Holidays and has been used before as their organisation and guides are second to none.

Things have changed immensely since the Americans left Vietnam as tourism is increasing year by year. The largest city in Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City (formerly known as Saigon), was the destination and on arrival the pace of the traffic was unbelievable. Cars were not the problem but the sight of motorbikes everywhere, speeding through the crowded streets.

A throwback to the days of the Vietcong could be found in many strange places. You could be walking along the street when you encounter a large underground tunnel that brought the Vietcong behind enemy lines to devastating effect. Temples could be found wherever you looked but surprisingly one of the most impressive was a Catholic church in the city.

In the U.K. there are decreasingly less purpose built post offices as the majority are now housed in pharmacies, newsagents or supermarkets. Not so in Vietnam, their post office was in the style of an impressively large railway station. A travel along the Mekong Delta gave a glimpse of the many waterside dwellings. Ho Chi Minh was the president of Vietnam from December 1954 to September 1969 and his influence could be seen throughout the city. A faraway country but in Ian and Viv's talk it brought it much closer to home.

Thursday 5th February and we met at the home of Stan and Joyce for a talk on "Reporter's Ramblings" with Roger Buxton. To anyone who has met Roger before they will know that he does enjoy telling you one of his many anecdotes. His early experience was working for a local newspaper group as an inexperienced junior reporter before reaching the giddy heights of chief sports reporter. His love of music and talking to people brought him to Essex Radio where he met many well known faces from the world of sport and entertainment.

One of the most inspiring people he met was Helen Rollason MBE. Helen was a former supply teacher of PE who left the profession to join Channel 4. Sport was her greatest love and in 1990 she became the first female presenter of Grandstand. In 1996 she was named as Sports Presenter of the Year. In 1997 she was diagnosed with colon cancer and despite a brave fight she passed away in 1999. Helen lived in Brentwood and the Helen Rollason Cancer Trust has raised millions of pounds for this most deserving charity. A truly brave and

inspiring woman. We eventually had to call time on Roger as he launched into one more of his anecdotes. An evening with a difference from the man of many stories.

We used to meet in January for our annual social club lunch but a few years ago we moved it to February to escape the inclement weather regularly experienced in January. For the second year running we went to The Anchor at Danbury. Wednesday 11th February was the date for our dinner which, for the romantics among us, was three days before Valentines Day. En route we stopped off at The Meadowcroft nursery in Battlesbridge for teas and coffees and looked around at this delightful garden nursery. Suitably refreshed we set off for the short journey to The Anchor at Danbury. Most of us arrived fairly comfortably but it is not the easiest place to find for some people.

We all sat together on a long table in a corner of the restaurant and it was only a short wait before our orders were taken. The staff coped very well with our varied choices and despite the large helpings we found room for the very appetising desserts on offer. Teas and coffees followed before we made our way back to our cars for the short journey home.

Thursday 19th February we met at the church for a talk by Sarah Coyte-Broomfield which was originally to be called "Walking With Elephants." As very few elephants were encountered perhaps it should be re-titled "South Africa Expedition 2014." To any of you dog walkers out there, it is not easy when your dog decides he wants to go somewhere at high speed. You are still holding the lead and hanging on for dear life. Sometimes your dog even slips its lead. Imagine the scenario if you were walking your elephant in Hockley Woods and the same thing happened. A word of advice - LET GO OF THE LEAD. If an elephant wants to go in a certain direction then it's best if you don't disagree. An elephant might take you to places you may not want to go.

I'm digressing. Sarah is a teacher at Southend High School and took sixteen boys and two girls to a game reserve at Sodwana Bay in South Africa. Flying into Johannesburg, their destination was the edge of the Kruger National Park. This area abounds with sightings of lions, elephants, hippos, rhinos, crocodiles, leopards, zebras, buffalo and many more too numerous to mention.

A trip to the Oliphant River gave glimpses of oxcracker birds, vultures, kingfishers, hornbills, giraffes, warthogs and fruit bats.

This was a trip of a lifetime and, although tiring, was an experience that they would never forget.

Another visit to our church on Thursday 5th March for a talk by Mike and Muriel on "A Trip to the Antipodes." As you all know this means a talk on their recent visit to Australia. This was a five week visit, with the first two weeks staying with old friends before travelling up to the Great Barrier Reef. Mike and Muriel's friends live just outside Perth. Just outside Perth in Aussie terms meant a three hour drive to Bridgenorth Town. Australia is so vast. A peculiar sight around Perth was the many trees cloaked with knitted jerseys placed around their stems. It had to be seen to be believed. I'm sure there is a good reason for this phenomenon but for the moment it escapes me.

To anyone complaining of the cold at present, spare a thought for the poor Aussie. While Mike and Muriel were there the temperatures during the day were at a constant 40 degrees centigrade. This equates to 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Now, that is hot. Very hot. It was essential not to be dehydrated so sipping from water bottles at regular intervals was a must.

Mike is a very keen scuba diver and on reaching the Great Barrier Reef he was in seventh heaven. Muriel joined Mike in taking advantage of the warm clear waters in the area and some of their photos were amazing, displaying the many unusual fish and flora in the clear waters.

It was with a heavy heart when Mike and Muriel arrived back in the U.K. and our temperature of single figures.

Next meetings:

Thursday 19th March - "Travelling with the Theatre" - at the home of Gill and Ivor
Thursday 2nd April - Maundy Thursday - NO MEETING
Thursday 16th April - "Carousel" - at the Palace Theatre

Ray Williams

Hockley & Hawkwell 55+ Social Centre

You are invited to a Coffee Morning on Saturday 16th May from 10am – 1pm.
Admission is £1.50 which includes tea/coffee and a scone. Please try to support the Day Centre.



HOCKMIRA

Hockley Methodists' Inactive Ramblers' Association

FIRST WALKS OF 2015

Monday 6th April
Easter Monday Bank Holiday

Benfleet - 5½ miles.
Walk to Chalkwell Station from Benfleet
Station, train back to Benfleet. Sandwiches.
Leave Church Car Park at 11:00am

Thursday 7th May

Althorne - 5½ miles
Train from Hockley to Althorne, pub lunch
before walk then train back. Leave
Hockley Station 11:16am (unless the
timetable is changed!) then walk a bit
before a pub lunch

Monday 25th May
Spring Bank Holiday

Woodbridge
Another visit to the Cogars; pub lunch and
walk then tea chez Cogar. Details later.
probably leave the Church Car Park mid-
morning.

Please make sure you have sturdy walking shoes (not “fashionable” trainers) or boots, plus waterproofs and something warm to wear. Always bring something to drink.

All these walks are fairly straightforward but any activity like rambling (even the inactive variety!) needs care so please watch what you're doing and keep an eye on any young people.

Contact Mike or Mu Pregnall on 01702 204748
or e-mail mumic@pregnall.freeserve.co.uk
if you want further details of any of these
walks or need a lift.



the connexion

the connexion is a new free print magazine for the Methodist people. The first issue brings you news of people and projects in the UK as well as North Korea and Sri Lanka, showing how vibrant Methodism can be. It has a primary theme of evangelism (the 'e-word') and ways that Methodists can refocus on an area that many find problematic.

A range of Methodist office holders have received three copies in the post, with a request to pass two of these on. If you don't get a copy, look out for someone who did (ask the stewards!). Or you can download your own printable electronic copy of the magazine from the internet at <http://www.methodist.org.uk/news-and-events/the-connexion-magazine>.

The magazine has been produced in response to calls from many Methodists for improved communications and more news about what is happening across the Connexion.

Two more issues will be published in 2015 - issue two in April and issue three in September.

If you want to stay in touch with what is happening across Methodism, there are several ways you can do this. The Methodist Church website www.methodist.org.uk contains all you need, from daily prayer and Bible study to specific forms and policies. You can sign up to receive any of Methodism's free newsletters at www.methodist.org.uk/signup. These include:

E-news – general news from across the Connexion and the wider Methodist family. E-news also comes ready to cut and paste into church or circuit newsletters.

The Buzz – good news stories from local churches

The Well – news for Methodist children and youth workers

The Week Ahead – weekly news and information digest

Heritage News – news about Methodist heritage across the Connexion

World Church Bulletin – news from Partner Churches, mission partners and more

Methodist Publishing – latest information about new resources plus special offers, extracts and more.

What's going on?

Since the last Link was published we have had two general meetings. The first was the Worship Consultation and the second was the Annual Church Meeting. Both these meetings were open to all of you, members or not, and both were followed by lunch and a chance for further discussion.

The Worship Consultation discussed a variety of issues concerning worship and gave future dates. There were also four questions to answer about highlights and favourite hymns. Notes from this meeting are available on the table at the back of church or from me. The Annual Church Meeting has a specific set agenda and includes appointments as stewards and congregational representatives to the Church Council. Each group or section of the Church provides a report of their activities over the last twelve months which were published in advance and available to all. There are still copies available on the table at the back of the church. The stewards also brought a revision of the Five year Plan and asked for input into each section. To help us, there was a copy of the Circuit Vision Statement and an article about Discipleship, copies of which are also available in the usual place. The new 5 Year Plan will be published shortly and minutes of the meeting will be available soon from Michael Deedman.

Thank you to Phil for leading and guiding us through all the issues and to the catering team for providing lunch on both those occasions. Thanks to all of you for participating and sharing your thoughts and ideas. We are stronger if we are all moving forward together.

At the Circuit meeting on 12th March, Hannah Bucke sent a report about her Town Centre Ministry which I have reproduced separately. This is a focus for the Circuit and thought should be widely read. We were also given quite a number of dates so I have done my best to compile a list, including our own special events, and ask that you support as many as you can. Remember the Lent Course at Rochford and Rayleigh is continuing, details on the notice boards.

Sunday	29 th March	Palm Sunday Eggstravaganza & Easter Egg Hunt
Monday	30 th March	Ecumenical Stations of the Cross, 8pm St Teresa's, Rochford
Thursday	2 nd April	Friendship Day in the hall, 10am to 12noon Maundy Thursday Section Service at Rochford, 8 pm
Friday	3 rd April	Good Friday Service, 3pm in the church
Sunday	5 th April	Easter Sunday Communion 8.30am, followed by Breakfast and Easter Day Worship at 10.30am

Saturday	18 th April	Premises Spring Clean 10am
Sunday	3 rd May	Section Service, Rayleigh, 6.30pm
Sunday	7 th June	Church Anniversary Service 10.30am Worship for All - Circuit Service, Belfairs 4pm
Saturday,	13 th June	Hannah Bucke's Testimony Service, Wesley 7.30pm
Sunday	14 th June	Rev Michael Langley leading the morning service
Saturday	18 th July	Rev Bryan Tolhurst's Farewell BBQ, Hadleigh
Saturday	5 th Sept.	Welcome the new superintendent Thorpe Bay 3 pm

Sorry if I have missed out anything! Hope the list is useful.

Muriel

Christian Bookshop

A reminder that we are fortunate to have a Christian Bookshop in Southend, and we need to use it to keep it. If you are looking for books or resources please take the time to call in and have a browse. The book shop is at 57 London Road Southend on Sea Essex. SS1 1PF. They are happy to order books, cds or other resources for you and can be phoned on 01702 344008. They open from 9.am - 5 pm Monday to Saturday.

Action for Children

I have just finished opening the home collecting boxes in which money is saved during the year.

There are 7 box holders, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their generosity and continued support - it is very much appreciated. The sum of £148 has been sent to Action for Children.

Last September the charity received £86 following a house to house street collection.

Sue Cook

A Copy of Hannah Bucke's Report to the Circuit Meeting on 12th March

Town Centre Ministry – Hannah Bucke provided the following overview:-

She thanked all who took part in, came to watch, and prayed for the Christmas Flashmob. It was a wonderful event made possible by the cooperation of people from so many churches across the town. One of the highlights for Hannah was the way in which Christians from a wide variety of churches worked so well together to bless the people of the town centre. They were very fortunate to receive some very good coverage of the event from the Echo and a video of the event is on YouTube. The team was very grateful for the cooperation of Southend Council in allowing the event to go ahead.

Christmas Icons at the Royals was a great success and it had plenty of use. The Royals management were particularly pleased with how well it was received and would like to use it again next year. Hannah was grateful to Thorpe Bay who has stored it.

Easter Icons is nearly upon us and this year, the Icons team is breaking out into the High Street with the Easter Story. They will be placing 15 pieces of art around the town centre on some of the Easter themes. Final details will be sent to all churches but if you are in Southend during Holy Week, look out for art attached to railings, in planters, in the odd shop window and perhaps even on a bike somewhere!

Now that the 'Icons' team has worked together on Easter and Christmas Icons and the flashmob, they have decided to brand themselves 'Icons-on-Sea' so they can better publicise the work. The core Icons team consists of Rev Steve Tinning and David Elcock from Leigh Road Baptist Church and Rev Andy Goodliff from Belle Vue Baptist Church. Other key people include Peter Courtenay and Anne Briant from our circuit. They already have a facebook page and a website will follow soon.

One further recent development has been the invitation to Hannah to become the Chaplain to Adventure Island. They are one of the largest employers in the town, employing up to 1000 staff during the summer season and the vast majority of these are college and university students. Hannah has already been along to some of the new staff inductions and started to build relationships with the staff there now that they are open at weekends. She has been very well received so far and the management is actively encouraging staff to make use of this support. This is an exciting opportunity to engage with many young people in the town and with one of the town's most important businesses.

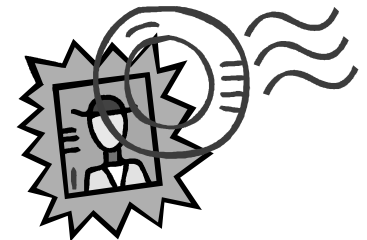
Finally Hannah would like to thank all of you who have supported her through candidating, training and probation. The District Probationers' Committee have recommended her for ordination at the Southport Conference this year and she is due to be ordained at Chester Cathedral on 28th June at 6.30 pm. She would love to have friends from across the circuit at this very special occasion. Please let her know if you would like tickets. Her testimony service will be at Wesley on 13th June, 7.30pm and again, she would love to see everyone there.

Please continue to keep the town centre ministry in your prayers - they are very much appreciated.

Hannah's Management Group noted that the Town Centre Ministry is one of the Circuit's priorities so this should steer future process regarding seeking funding for the role. The Circuit has agreed to continue funding a quarter stipend for the length of Hannah's time in post. She has found additional funding through the local Avenue Trust. Circuit Meeting endorsed and supported the proposal to establish the work as a project so that further District and other funding could be sought. A volunteer is needed to undertake the practical work, establish project papers and create the applications – freeing Hannah to use her skills for the ministry itself.

Used Stamps

Please keep collecting used stamps. Did you save the ones over Christmas? They are passed to Jean Hodges before going to Oxfam and raising money for Charity. Thank you.



June Waterfield



Revd Hannah Bucke
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07442 496843

17 March 2015

Dear Colleague

To mark the beginning of a county-wide week of prayer for the UK General Election, Church Leaders in Essex and East London will be holding a prayer vigil at Chelmsford Cathedral on 30th April between 7.30 and 8.30 pm, which you are very welcome to attend. Alternatively you may wish to hold a prayer event in your local area during this time or at another time during the week before the election, possibly at your local town hall or civic building.

A prayer for the election will be available from the new website for Churches Together in Essex and East London, www.cteel.org.uk, launching in March. Election resources, including guidelines for hustings, are already available from ctbi.org.uk.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Yours sincerely

Revd Hannah Bucke

County Ecumenical Officer, Churches Together in Essex and East London



What factors should we take into account when choosing an MP (or any other elected office)? The “Joint Public Issues Team” set up by the Methodist Church, The Baptist Union, The Church of Scotland and the URC that works on issues of justice and inequality, has produced a pack containing 4 short films, Bible notes and other materials for reflection in the run up to the general election – these materials include four postcards carrying brief reminders of the core themes and suggestions for questions that might be asked of candidates..

The aim of this pack is not to tell you how to vote but to offer four lenses through which Christians can view and interpret the messages and promises we get from the various parties and candidates. These are **TRUTH, JUSTICE, PEACE and WELLBEING.**

You can find more about the “Joint Public Issues Team” and this election pack, and can order the pack, at:
<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/issues/politics-and-elections/election2015/>. If you don't have access to the internet and would like to see or order the pack, speak to Muriel or Mike tel. 204748.

There'll be an opportunity to watch the four short videos and look at the rest of the pack before the General Election on 7th May.

THINK, PRAY, VOTE ON 7th MAY

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUN	Morning Worship JaM Club for children (every week)	10.30 am 10.20 – 11.30 am
MON	Brightstars Parent & Toddler Group, <i>contact Linda S 204309</i>	9.30 – 11.45 am
	Ballroom Sequence Dancing: IN THE HALL <i>contact Fay 01268 780028</i>	7.30 – 10.00 pm
	Triple H Community Choir: IN CHURCH <i>contact Ashley 07581390448</i>	7.30 – 9.30 pm
TUE	Dru Yoga Class: <i>contact Ruth on 07818599183</i>	10.00 – 11.30 am & 7.30 – 9.00 pm
	Hockley Ladies Keep Fit Club: <i>contact Roselle 07709349695</i>	2.00 – 3.00 pm
	Messy Church (3 rd Tuesday each month) Contact Anne Sains S 202010	4.00 – 5.30 pm
WED	50+ Keep Fit: <i>contact Julie 07912622483</i>	10.30 – 11.30 am
	50+ Stretch & Tone: <i>contact Julie 07912622483</i>	11.45 – 12.30 pm
	Bible Study followed by a Communion Service 2 nd Wed., <i>contact Anne 01702202010</i>	3.00 – 4.00 pm
	2nd Hockley Brownie Pack: <i>contact Vivienne S 204550</i>	5.30 – 7.00 pm
	Badminton Club: <i>contact Michael S 202802</i>	7.30 pm, most weeks
THU	U3A Floral Art Group, <i>contact Irene 202975</i> , last Thursday	1.30 – 4.30 pm
	1st Hockley Beaver Colony: <i>contact Jane S 203739</i>	5.15 – 6.15 pm
	1st Hockley Cub Scout Pack <i>contact Dan, 07802 193936</i> <i>or email Hockleycubs@yahoo.co.uk</i>	6.30 – 8.00 pm
	Thursday Social Club: <i>contact Joyce S 201635</i>	8.00 pm, alternate weeks
FRI	Friday Club (years 3-7) <i>contact Wendy Bennett S 200484</i>	6.00 – 7.30 pm
	Friday Club + (years 7 & upwards) <i>Contact Rev Phil Warrey 01268 770333</i>	6.45 – 8.15 pm

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