

HOLIDAY CLUB 2009 - 17-24 August - HELP REQUIRED

If you are able to help with refreshments please contact Phyllis Gill 762375.
If you can help with registration on the Wednesday please contact Lesley Uzzell 765050.

For the crafts we need 100 Shoe Boxes, 100 Pringles Tubes and 100 Clear Plastic Pudding dishes - we are closer but still need more! Please search out any shoe boxes you may have about the house, it matters not how big they are. And could some of you eat some Pringles, and all of you eat lots of yummy puddings in clear dishes?!
If you can, please drop any bits you have at The Bridge (8 Sheep St) on Saturday Mornings from 10am-12pm or give Nay a ring on 01793 765060 and we'll arrange to come and pick the bits up from you. THANK YOU!!!

Nay and Stephen

PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those who live in for those who live in Hamington village, for all who live or work on the High Street, and for those who live in Inglesham village

PRAYER

Lord, throughout our lives we hunger and thirst for you,
We long for you, we look for you;
Nothing in this world can fill us unless you come to us.
Lord, we will perish, we will sink amid the storms unless you uphold us,
Come, enfold us in your peace, O Christ our Lord, who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, is one God, forever,
Amen

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

...all those who are sick or troubled,
praying especially for
Lonna Bowie, Bob Bromberg, Leonard Cheesley, Joyce Corrigan, Val Cox, Andrew Crowley, Kim Fulgoni, Joan Furlonger, Peter Gibbs, Syd Huband, Timothy James, Janet Livall, Keith Loadwick, Carole Richmond, Julia Riggs, Mick Sellar, Betty Taber
...all those who are recently bereaved,
praying especially for those who love and miss Clive Humphreys, Gladys Winnall

Parish of Highworth, with Sevenhampton & Inglesham - who to contact

All Ministry Enquiries - Rev Geoff Sowden (day off Friday) telephone 01793-765554
Church Office (Administration/General Enquiries) - Rosie Castle, tel 01793-762702 or email to stmichaelshighworth@offices.orangehome.co.uk
Youth Ministry Enquiries - telephone 07983-507349 (day off Saturday)
www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Week beginning Sunday 26th July 2009

The story of Jesus feeding the 5000 (and this is only the number of men, there would have been many more) shows the outrageous generosity of God. Picture the crowd sitting together sharing generously and without reservation because the food provision from God was more than anyone could finish. Can you imagine this? No-one hungry, everyone satisfied, everyone willing to share because God's generosity was outrageous. So why don't we see this today? You don't need to look to Africa to see poverty. The inequality of wealth, rooted in greed, is our present reality even here at home. So where is God's generosity?

I want to suggest three reasons why God's generosity is sometimes hidden.

Perspective: Sometimes we look more to what we don't have and forget just how much we have. This is not to say that some of us suffer unjustly, but at least in terms of food, many of us have much to be thankful for.

Partly Realized Final Kingdom: We live in a strange time: after the time of Christ's first coming, but before the second coming. Only at Christ's second coming with the fullness of God's kingdom be asserted on the earth. The feeding of the 5000 was a taste of the heavenly banquet. We too get only a taste, a glimpse of the heavenly banquet. It keeps our hope alive for that day when Christ comes again to feed us.

Personal Inner Joy: So do we need to simply wait to experience something of that banquet? Paul emphatically says 'no!' As he explains, the Spirit causes us to be 'rooted and established in love...' so that we 'may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.' The good news is that we, as we wait for Christ's second coming, experience a very real personal and inner joy.

God is generous. We pray that we might know the joy of his love more and more.

Arthur Woo

Our readings today are

Ephesians 3:14-21 (pew bible p1175)

John 6:1-21 (pew bible p1069)

Please join us for refreshments after the 10am service today

If you prefer not to take alcohol, alcohol-free wine is available at our communion services - please take a pink card from a steward and ensure it is visible as you come for communion

SERVICES TODAY, Sunday 26th July 2009, Trinity 7

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Arthur Woo
	10.00am	Benefice Parish Communion, Geoff Sowden/Arthur Woo
	3.30pm	Baptism of Lily Parker
	6.00pm	Informal Worship, Arthur Woo
Blunsdon	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, John Rees
	10.00am	All Age Worship, John Rees

SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 2nd August 2009, Trinity 8

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion CW, Arthur Woo/Charles Kirke
	10.00am	All Age Morning Worship & Welcome, Lesley Page/Rob Stewart
	6.00pm	Informal Worship, Arthur Woo
Sevenhampton	6.00pm	Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden
Hannington	10.30am	Holy Communion CW, Geoff Sowden
Blunsdon	10.00am	Holy Communion CW, John Rees

COMMUNION

IN THE LIGHT OF SWINE FLU

The ministry team have decided that while swine flu remains in our community it would be right not to use the common cup for the distribution of wine at communion. This practice will commence this coming Sunday, 26th July and last until such time as it is judged that swine flu is no longer a danger within our community.

Wine will be distributed in the bread/wafer placed into the recipient's hands. I am sure everyone will understand the reasons for the adoption of this practice.

Geoff

GOODBYE PARTY FOR THE BRADLEYS & THE COOKS

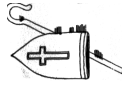
Everyone is welcome to come to the Vicarage on Thursday 30th July at 8.00pm. Please bring something to share. **Geoff**

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 27 th	9.30am	Prayer time in church, all welcome
	10.00am	Ministry Team Meeting, Church Office
	12.30pm	Funeral of Clive Humphreys
Tue 28 th	10.00am	Tuesday Morning Fellowship, contact Lynn 763147 for venue
	8.00pm	Social Committee meeting, 27 Pound Road
Thu 30 th	7.30pm	Bellringing practice, Bell Tower
	8.00pm	Farewell to the Bradleys & the Cooks at the Vicarage
Fri 31 st	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat 1 Aug	10.00am	Coffee Morning and bulletin folding, Church Room
Sun 2 nd	10.00am	Welcome for Lily Parker

CONFIRMATION

St Michael's is having a Confirmation Service on 15th November. If anybody is interested in discussing this or is thinking about becoming confirmed please contact Geoff or Rosie



CHURCH FAMILY BBQ

This year the Church Family BBQ is on **Sunday 9th August** at 12.30pm at **THE VICARAGE**

Tickets on sale from Rosie and Lesley P Adults £6, Children £3 (same as last year!) Includes burger or sausage, salads, sweet/ice cream and squash, (bring your own alternative drink if you want to!)

We look forward to seeing you at this happy family occasion.

Contact **Rosie** or **Lesley P**

VICARS' BOARD

We hope you have all seen the new Vicars' Board which is on the west wall by the tower, and will be dedicated on Sunday 26th July.

The Board has been beautifully made in oak by Paul Jefferies at Coleshill and has been very kindly donated by a member of the congregation, to whom we are most grateful.

Peter Hinton

Advance Notice **Women's Day Conference** at Freshbrook Evangelical Church, Worsley Road, Swindon, SN5 8NU
 Know Your Bible - transforming women's lives through the power of God's Word - present a day's conference on **The Life of Promise (God's Promises and our Response)**
 on Wednesday 9th September 2009, 9.45am-2.30pm (crêche available)
 The Speaker will be Joy McIver from New South Wales, Australia
 For more details or to book the crêche contact daphne.bateman@talktalk.net
www.knowyourbible.org.uk