

DISCOVER YOUR GIFTS

Do you know what spiritual gift God has given you? The Network course will be running two parallel streams this autumn, both in St Michael's Chancel:

Evening Sessions

8:00pm-10:00pm

#1 Wed Sept 30th

#2 Wed Oct 14th

#3 Wed Oct 21st

Daytime Sessions

12:30pm-2:30pm

#1 Tues Oct 6th

#2 Tues Oct 20th

#3 Tues Nov 3rd

A NETWORK MINISTRY RESOURCE
network

Contact Arthur or Lynn Woo or Rosie in the Church Office to register.

PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those who live in
Station Road, Stonefield Drive, Stranks Close, Stroma Way, Swindon Road
and for all who attend, work or help at Southfield School

PRAYER

Dear forgiving God,

We come together with happy faces, but inside there are things that we hide away with our smiles. We have turned away from those in need, put down our friends, been unable to help those in need, made material things our priority, and we have forgotten You. We give to You now our personal confessions Lord.

Lord, take away these burdens and replace them with strength so that this week we may act in a way that is more like the way You teach us.

In Your Name We Pray,

Amen

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

...all those who are sick or troubled,
praying especially for Lorna Bowie, Bob Bromberg, Joyce Corrigan, Val Cox, Andrew Crowley, Gwen Drew, Hilary Fortnam, Kim Fulgoni, Joan Furlonger, Peter Gibbs, Syd Huband, Janet Livall, Keith Lodwick, Carole Richmond, Julia Riggs, Betty Taber

...all those who are recently bereaved,
praying especially for those who love and miss William Church BEM, Dorothy Eddy, Gwen Fisher, Mrs Hare, Raymond Lee, Daphne Start, Grace Summers and Christopher Wichall

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 13th September 2009

Give Jesus the battle with sin

From chapter 1.6 we see that Sin can't be part of God, and yet we try to deny this. The passage shows us three ways we seek to do this.

1. V6, 'Sin doesn't matter.'
2. V8, 'I'm not a sinner'.
3. V10, 'I haven't sinned'.

But of course God's view of sin is not about legalism, but character. Whether our character reflects that of God, who is without sin and whether we realise how much sin affects our relationship with him. If we want to grow our relationship with God, we have to begin to take sin seriously, begin to remove this denial and to depend on Jesus.

St John tells us why:

- Chap 2 v1, because of who he is. We can't do anything about our sin, but Jesus can
- Chap 2 v2, because of what he has done, 'he is the atoning sacrifice for our sin'.

What do we need to do? 1v9.

Confession.

1. Personal admission of sin. To God and others if necessary.
2. Look at our sin from others point of view. See how we have hurt God and others.
3. Desire to change.

Experience forgiveness. (He will forgive us v9)

He is faithful, V9. The guilt, uncertainty, from the past, have I really been forgiven? He is faithful, in his character, 'he will forgive us.'

He is just, V9. Fear of the future, am I really forgiven, has a price for my sin really been paid? The price for our sin has been paid on the cross, justice has been met. We need to rest in that assurance.

Geoff Sowden

Our readings today are

1 John 1:5-2:2 (pew bible page 1225)

1 John 3:4-10 (pew bible p1226)

Please join us for refreshments after the 10am service today

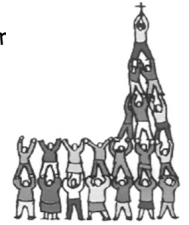
If you prefer not to take alcohol, alcohol-free wine is available at our communion services - please take a pink card from a steward and ensure it is visible as you come for communion

SERVICES TODAY, Sunday 13th September 2009, Trinity 14

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden
	10.00am	Family Communion, Geoff Sowden
	4.00pm	T Time Service, Geoff Sowden/Katie James
	7.00pm	Informal Worship, tba
Hannington	10.30am	Morning Worship, Rob Stewart
Blunsdon	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Rev Dr Richard Armitage
	10.00am	Family Worship, Jane Ockwell
	6.30pm	Evensong, Peter Demmen
Grove Hill	7.30pm	Evening Service, Helen Weaver

SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 20th September 2009, Trinity 15

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion CW, Arthur Woo
	10.00am	Morning Praise, Arthur Woo
	4.00pm	T Time Service, Arthur Woo/Bella Fasharr
	6.00pm	Shared Choral Evensong, John Rees
	7.00pm	Informal Worship, Arthur Woo
Hannington	10.30am	Morning Worship, John Godfree
Blunsdon	10.00am	Family Communion, John Rees
Newburgh	7.30pm	Holy Communion, John Rees

**COMMUNION****IN THE LIGHT OF SWINE FLU**

The ministry team has 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 remain 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**WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**

Mon 14 th	9.30am	Prayer time in church - all are welcome
	7.45pm	Ministry Team Meeting, Vicarage
Tue 15 th	9.30am	Pilates in the Church Room
	10.00am	Tuesday Morning Fellowship, 40 Bydemill Gdns (Lynn 763197)
	11.00am	Funeral of Christopher Wichall at Kingsdown
Wed 16 th	9.30am	Music Bugs in the Church Room
	9.30am	Little Fishes in the chancel and Cullerne Room
	10.00am	Holy Communion in St Leonard's Blunsdon
	2.00pm	Funeral of Raymond Lee in Church
	7.00pm	Pilates in the Church Room
Thu 17 th	7.30pm	Bellringing practice, Bell Tower
Fri 18 th		Lee Abbey Away Weekend
	7.00pm	No Choir Practice today
Sat 19 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning and bulletin folding, Church Room

BCP & T

The next service of BCP & T will be on Sunday 4th October 2009 at 2.30pm. **Please note slight change of time.** If you would like to help in any way - transport, food, serving - or if you would like a lift to the service, please let Esmé Buller know

Esmé Buller**8 O'CLOCK STAYS THE SAME!!!**

Our pattern of worship at 8.00 will remain as it usually is, with 1st and 3rd Sundays Common Worship services, and 2nd and 4th from the Book of Common Prayer. A slight blip got into the Link! Please do tell anyone who has been concerned about this.

Rosie Castle**MESSAGE FOR MU MEMBERS**

Subscriptions for Families First magazine are now due. If you are a subscriber, or would like to be, please let me or Janet Livall have £9 as soon as possible. Many thanks

Anne Rees

THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE INVITE YOU TO

AN AUTUMN ENTERTAINMENT

AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH HALL

9TH OCTOBER 2009 FROM 7.30PM

TICKETS £6.00

COLD BUFFET SUPPER**MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT by 'ENCORE'****RAFFLE**

Paté, cheese and assorted breads with homemade chutney, salads, nibbles

Fruit Punch (bring your own wine), Tea/Coffee & Petit-fours/mints

Tickets from Rosie in the office or Julia Bishop

BIBLE TEACHING DAY

Upper Thames Methodist Circuit invite you to their Fourth Annual Bible Teaching Day, on Saturday 26th September 2009 from 10.30am-3.30pm at Highworth Methodist Church. This year we have Rev Paul Smith teaching from John's Gospel chapters 14, 15 and 16 - 'I need to tell you before I go - Jesus' final teaching before the Cross'.

The day will include 4 main teaching sessions in the context of Prayer, Praise and Worship. Drinks will be provided - please bring your own lunch. More information from Rev John Wiltshire, email JohnWiltshire10@tiscali.co.uk or telephone.

John Wiltshire