

**HIGHWORTH BEAVER SCOUTS ARE
HAVING A COFFEE MORNING**

on

13th MARCH 2010

St Michael's church room

10.00am-12.00noon

CAKES & RAFFLE

TOYS, BOOKS AND GAMES SALE

(the children are turning out their toy
boxes!)

Offers of cakes, toys, books etc to
Lesley Uzzell. We are happy to collect if
needed

PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those who live in
Bute Close, Bydemill Gardens,
Cherry Orchard, Church View,
Cobbett Court and Copper Beeches

PRAYER

Lord God, our source and our foundation,
keep us close to you, in the way made
possible for us by your Son Jesus Christ
on the cross.

Help us to love each other as you have
shown us. Bring us close to you as we
prepare to celebrate the joyous
resurrection of your precious Son, who
defeated death for us to have eternal
life. **Amen**

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

www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

SERVICE REVIEW

The new service formats have been running
now for a few months, and we would like to
hear your views on how they are going.
Please give any thoughts or comments on
the service you usually attend to a worship
leader of that service.

THANK YOU

...for all your love and good wishes on our
70ths. We thank God for blessing us with
such a lovely Church family.

Pete and Madeleine xx

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

...all those who are sick or troubled,
praying especially for

Joan Burton, Steve Chandler, Val Cox, Pat
Dunderdale, Hilary Fortnam, Peter Gibbs,
Syd Huband, Carole Richmond, Betty
Taber, Jane Underwood, Anne Willis,
Charlotte Vockins

...all those who are recently bereaved,
praying especially for those who love and
miss Gwen Drew, Peggy Dobson, Heinz
Hilker, John Maddison

*...all those caught up in recent natural
disasters,* praying especially for the
people of Haiti and Chile

*...all those involved with our local Primary
Schools,* praying especially for all who will
be affected by the closure Northview
School



Week beginning Sunday 7th March 2010

The Sap in the Vine

I had a friend with a vine in his house. It wasn't one of those cute ones in a pot by a window, though. This was the real thing. It had started in his garden and forced its way through earth and brick and floor and was now climbing up the wall inside his front hall. Nature is forceful.

What did Jesus mean when He said, "I am the vine"? He had said He was a lot of things in his ministry, the Bread of Life, for example, and the Light of the World, and the Way the Truth and the Life. But at the last gathering of His disciples before His arrest and death, he said "I am the True Vine". It must have been important.

He said more. He said that His followers were the branches of the vine. I am not sure that one can really spot where a vine stops and its branches start unless you are an expert in plant biology, and I doubt if his followers with him on that night were. What would it have meant to them? What would it mean to us?

I believe that Jesus meant what He said, and that if we are close to Him then we are connected to Him as branches are to the vine and share in the same sap that flows in the whole vine. And what is that sap? Look at verse 12, "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you".

Are we doing this? Do we love each other in the way Jesus shows us? Because if we do, then we are promised that we are part of the True Vine. And my friend's accidental vine shows us all what vines can do.

For reflection:

How can we feel more part of the Vine?

Who do we find it difficult to love in our church fellowship? How can God help?

Charles Kirke

Our readings today are:

Romans 8:12-17 (pew bible page 1134)

John 15:1-17 (pew bible page 1083)

Please join us for refreshments after our 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 7th March 2010, 3rd Sunday in Lent

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion CW, Allan Bucknall
	9.00am	Parish Breakfast, Church Room - ALL ARE WELCOME
	10.00am	Morning Praise & children's activities, Charles Kirke/Lesley Page
	4.00pm	T-time all age communion, Arthur Woo/Bella Fasham
	7.00pm	Informal Worship, Steve Rawlinson/Neil George
Sevenhampton	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden
Hannington	10.30am	Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden
Blunsdon	10.00am	Family Communion, John Rees/Justin Griffith/Ann Griffith

SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 14th March 2010, Mothering Sunday

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden
	10.00am	Family Communion for Mothering Sunday, Geoff Sowden/ Hilary Fortnam/Lesley Page
	4.00pm	T-time service & children's groups, Geoff Sowden/Katie James
	7.00pm	Informal Worship, Arthur Woo
Hannington	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Service, Arthur Woo
Blunsdon	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Rev Dr Richard Armitage
	10.00am	Mothering Sunday Service, John Rees
	6.30pm	Evensong, John Rees
Grove Hill	7.30pm	Evening Service, Helen Weaver

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Next Sunday March 14th Mothering Sunday will be celebrated at the 10.00am and 4.00pm services. There will be flowers for all ladies at all four of our services that day.

LENT LUNCHESES

Lent Lunches continue on Wednesday in The Methodist Church. Donations will be shared between three Christian charities: Cafod, Christian Aid and TEARFund, working in Haiti. Thank you to those who helped with St Michael's week earlier this week. **Lesley Page**

A PASTORAL LETTER TO THE METHODIST PEOPLE

We have a copy of a pastoral letter to all Methodists from the President of the Methodist Conference, if anyone is interested to read it please see Rosie

BCP & T - The next BCP & T service will be held on Palm Sunday, 28th March, at 2.30pm in St Michael's. As always please contact me if you need a lift to the service, or are able to provide any items for the tea. Many thanks, **Esmé Buller**

We have 2 copies of "The Bible designed to be read as Literature" in need of new homes. It's the Authorised text but laid out like an ordinary book. If anyone wants a copy, they are welcome to one of them. **Madelaine Kirke**

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 8 th	9.30am	Prayers in Church - all welcome
	10.00am	Watercolour Group, Church Room
	7.30pm	Visiting Bellringers
	7.45am	Ministry Team Meeting, Vicarage
	8.00pm	Fabric Committee at 28 Barra Close
Tue 9 th	9.30am	Pilates in the Church Room
	10.00am	Tuesday Morning Fellowship, 14 Brookfield (Lynn)
	11.00am	Thanksgiving for the life of John Maddison
	7.00pm	Church Room booked for private hire
	8.00pm	Lent Studies, URC
Wed 10 th	9.15am	Music Bugs in the Church Room
	9.30am	Little Fishes in the Chancel
	12.00noon	Lent Lunches, Methodist Church (to 1.30pm)
	7.00pm	Pilates in the Church Room
	8.15pm	LINK meeting at the Bridge
Thu 11 th	11.00am	'One Only' in the Church Room
	7.00pm	Memorial Service for Alan Thomas
	7.30pm	Bellringing practice, Bell Tower
Fri 12 th	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat 13 th	10.00am	Highworth Beavers Coffee Morning, Church Room
	7.00pm	'Just for Fun' Quiz Night, St Michael's Hall

HIGHWORTH HOLIDAY CLUB 2010

Have you ever wanted to get involved in holiday club but not known what it's all about? Have you helped in the past and want to find out what's happening in 2010. If so then please come along for a coffee and a chat and find out more on Wednesday 24th March from 7.30pm onwards in The Bridge.

We are looking for a variety of people to get involved in the many different roles of holiday club. If you want to be involved this year or find out some more, but can't make the 24th then contact Sarah Heppenstall (email sheppenstall@talktalk.net) or Chris Speller (email chris@spellerfamily.co.uk).

'JUST FOR FUN' INTER CHURCH GROUP QUIZ

13th MARCH 2010 AT 7.00PM
in St Michael's Church Hall

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR ENTRY FORM BY THURSDAY

Entrance £5.00 per team of 4 (£1.00 for extra members max 2 per team).

We will provide the basic bread and cheese supper and you provide the trimmings and nibbles for you team and your choice of liquid refreshment. We look forward to seeing you and your team for a fun evening. If you haven't got a team but would still like to come along you will be very welcome we can always make up teams on the night just let **Lesley P** or **Rosie** know you are coming so we have enough food. There will be a raffle and lots of laughter so come and join in.

HELP NEEDED If you can spare some greenery from your garden, please bring to the Cullerne Room on Friday, or on Saturday morning. At 2pm on Saturday 13th we will be bunching the Mothering Sunday daffodils - if you would like to come and help, that would be much appreciated.

Hilary Fortnam

LENT STUDIES continue on Tuesday 9th March, 8.00pm at the URC. All welcome, please join us.