



Warsash "Jesus is Lord" Church

Warsash United Reformed Church
www.warsashurc.com

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the church or the leadership team

Diary

May

- 10 Hambledon praise & prayer the young people are leading this service 6:30
- 24 Joint service @ St Paul's 6:30pm
- 31 Party in the Park 12-2:30pm

June

- 7 Hawthorn Court 2:30
Care Home Tour
- 14 Hawthorn Court
- 15 Rose Villa
- 17 Glen Lyn
- 18 The Firs
- 20 Forest View
- 21 Hambledon—
Prayer & Praise

Welcome

Prayer meeting this evening 6:30pm

We hope that you enjoy today's service

This morning's preacher is: Graham Womersley

Following the service we will be sharing a church lunch, if you are visiting and able to join us please do.

Next week: The Puppets



Christian
Aid
Week
10-16
May



Inside	
Which way?	2
Christian Aid's history	2 3
"Speak for your servant is listening"	3
Coming up	4
Regular activities	4



Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting, we will do so.

(Hebrews 6:1-3)



Which way?

Do you sometimes find yourself in a position of having to make a choice and you are really not sure which way to go? Well, I have this week. You may recall Adam asking for some to support Re-Mix as they take the service at Hambledon Methodist Church this Sunday evening. Obviously, we all want to support and encourage our young folk in what they do. My first thought was to close the prayer meeting this week and encourage those people to support Re-Mix. But as the week progressed I was unhappy about that decision and I wasn't sure why, till I remembered the "Road Block" December 2008.

It has to be said that it isn't always easy to discern what God is saying to us either individually or corporately. If we were more Christ-like life would be so much clearer for us. Jesus said *"I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."* (John 5:19) To be able to see clearly what God is doing is a wonderful gift, which I believe

God has given to each one of us. However, so often our vision is clouded and we don't see clearly.

Jesus when speaking to the disciples said *"Do you have eyes but fail to see, and ears but fail to hear? And don't you remember?"* (Mark 8:18) This verse shows three ways of understanding what God is saying to us. We have eyes but so often fail to "see" spiritually what God is doing; we can still hear His voice, but frequently, especially when we are struggling, we may fail to hear. However, there is no excuse for not remembering what Father has done for us, be it personally or corporately, as we only have to read the Bible and remember, how we got to where we are today.

Going back to the "Road block" I personally haven't been convinced with any explanation that has been offered to-date. What I am convinced of is God is calling us back to Himself and one way of drawing closer to God is prayer, so the prayer meeting will be held tonight; now you have the choice.

Christian Aid's history

For more than 60 years, Christian Aid has fought poverty, strengthened the poor, and turned hope into action.

1940s

In the aftermath of World War II, British and Irish church leaders met, determined to do everything possible to help European refugees who had lost everything.

The name they gave themselves was Christian Reconstruction in Europe. Their purpose was not to evangelise, but to alleviate suffering for ordinary people, no matter what their faith.

Christian Reconstruction in Europe became a department of the British Council of Churches, and was eventually renamed the Department of Interchurch Aid and Refugee Service. In a decade, it raised £29,000.

1950s

Janet Lacey became president in 1952. Her appointment stamped a mark of courage, honesty and determination on the organisation that has remained ever since. Some clerics thought her views too radical, but Lacey was not going to allow faint-hearts to get in the way of her aim to 'combat poverty' across the world.

We began to look beyond Europe and expanded our remit to support development work in newly independent nations in Africa and Asia, and respond to emergencies worldwide. We were involved in the creation of Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) - an organisation dedicated to sending skilled volunteers to work in the developing world - and providing grants for Palestinian, Chinese and Korean refugees.

We made sure that the public was aware of continuing problems in the world by organising the first Christian

Aid Week in 1957, and by famously building a replica of a refugee camp in the church of St Martin in the Fields in London. Since that first Christian Aid Week five decades ago, our little red envelope has dropped through literally tens of millions of letterboxes.

1960s

In 1964, on the back of the success of Christian Aid Week, we changed our name to Christian Aid. The change of image worked, and our annual income reached £2.5 million by the end of the decade.

As world food shortages increased, Christian Aid began to look more deeply into the causes of poverty - not just at dealing with its symptoms. We began campaigning in earnest when we challenged the British government on its aid and trade policies in 1969.

1970s

Severe famines in Pakistan, Sudan and Ethiopia in the 1970s prompted a huge rise in public support for aid. However, it was becoming obvious that emergency relief wasn't enough. What starving people needed was a genuine solution, not hand-outs.

We saw that it was not just an act of nature that made people poor, but political and economic decisions. Alongside traditional relief and development, we started to consider how to work for people's rights.

We worked in the world's hotspots: in Vietnam and Laos, destroyed by war; in Uganda after the overthrow of Idi Amin; in Nicaragua after the toppling of the dictator Somoza; and in Kampuchea (present-day Cambodia) after the fall of Pol Pot.

By now we were working in 40 countries, funding more than 100 long-term development projects.

(Continued on page 3)

Christian Aid's history

(Continued from page 2)

1980s

The 1980s saw a huge change in the way aid agencies operated. Large-scale fundraising events like Live Aid brought the troubles of the world to the public's attention as never before. More people were giving, and for the first time government funding was made available to Christian Aid.

By the end of the decade, Christian Aid's annual income had increased from £5.5 million in 1979 to £28 million in 1989. That same year, Christian Aid Week raised more than £6 million.

But this extra funding was needed more than ever. The global economic recession was gathering pace. We provided support in many countries, including Lebanon, Mozambique and Ethiopia.

Our director, the Rev Michael Taylor, articulated our purpose in line with the times. Drawing on liberation and other theology, he wrote that our aim was to 'strengthen the poor'. He drove the creation of the Southern Africa Coalition, which brought together trade unions, church groups and others to press the British government to help end apartheid. This political stand seems mild today. But back then, it was a controversial and courageous act.

1990s

In the 1990s Christian Aid became one of the first aid agencies to highlight 'unsexy' and complex global economic issues.

Our celebrated Banking on the Poor campaign alerted people to the need to cancel Third World debt, while the culpability of the World Trade Organisation and International Monetary Fund was exposed in our Who Runs the World? campaign.

We were not afraid to confront governments and challenge the rules of the day that said charities should be apolitical. This resolve helped change government trade policy and establish the Fairtrade Foundation - our campaigning works. Christian Aid was also quick to respond to humanitarian crises in Rwanda, the Middle East and, at the end of the decade, working across

ethnic and religious divides in Serbia, Bosnia and Kosovo.

We also ran an enormously successful supermarket campaign, when hundreds of thousands of supporters handed in their till receipts to demand that their supermarkets use decent labour standards. Clare Short, then Secretary of State for International Development, appeared on the front page of the Independent, standing next to a giant lobster and bunch of grapes, at the launch of the campaign.

As we neared the new millennium, we were able to announce that world leaders had promised to deliver \$100 billion in debt relief after our intense campaigning as part of the Jubilee 2000 coalition.

2000s

The 21st century has brought new challenges to Christian Aid. The so-called war on terror, climate change and the increasing number of natural disasters, and the fact that almost half the world's population live on less than \$2 a day, mean our work is needed more than ever.

In 2007 our annual income was £86.5 million and we now work with more than 650 overseas partners in around 50 countries. We are putting into practice our aim of turning hope into action.

But 60 years on from our founding, the fact that we're still here isn't a victory.

The world isn't getting any fairer. Children in Gaza are going to schools pockmarked with bullet holes. Parents are selling their daughters in marriage to earn the money so the family can survive a drought in Afghanistan. Life expectancy for women in Zimbabwe is now 34 years old - it was 65 just a decade ago. The income of some multinational companies exceeds that of entire countries.

So we won't stop now. We'll carry on tackling the causes of poverty. We'll continue to support local organisations to deliver real, practical change. We'll work so that everyone can fulfil their right to a decent life.

"Speak, for your servant is listening."

That was the reply Samuel gave to God after God had spoken to him three times and Eli instructed him to answer. It is interesting that Samuel didn't recognise God's voice and it was only after Eli instructed the young boy Samuel that he realised it was God who was speaking to him. I wonder, when God speaks to you, do you recognise His voice? Or have you told yourself He wouldn't speak to me?

Anyway, whatever the answer, God is clearly speaking to us as a church about healing, in fact I would go as far as to say He is shouting at us. For sometime individuals in the church have believed that God was speaking to them about healing. A few weeks ago Terry stood-up and asked if anyone was interested in pursuing "Healing Prayer". A number of folk contacted Terry and there is a first meeting to explore healing prayer this Wednesday, which is great.

What most of you may not know, although it was advertised in the newsletter, is that in Southampton 22-25 April there was a "Healing School". Sandy Matheson, vicar of St Paul's attended this school and has contacted us, Warsash "Jesus is Lord" Church, to see if we would be interested in having some joint evening meetings to look at "Healing, Covenant & Kingdom". These meetings will take the form of 20-30 minutes of worship followed by teaching and then prayer for healing.

Dates have not been finalised for these meetings but the first provisional date is Sunday the 24th May. These are exciting times that we are living in and this is an opportunity not to be missed. We have the lighter evenings so there is no excuse for not coming to these meetings, to be challenged, encouraged and blessed and healed.



Sunday 31st May
12–2:30pm at Sarisbury Green.

Bring a picnic.

An event for the whole church family.

Churches in the Western Wards coming together to celebrate Pentecost.

Bouncy Castle Games Dove Release and much more ...

QUIZ AID

A Quiz to raise money for Christian Aid will be held on Saturday 23rd May, 7 for 7.30 pm, at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Warsash. Tickets cost £7. Do come and join us for a light-hearted evenings' entertainment, either as an individual or bring a team. A ploughman's supper will be provided, and you are welcome to bring your own bottle of wine.

Booking essential. To book a place, or for further information, please contact: Jill Sadler - 01489 584310, or Sylvia Switzer - 01489 572452.

Exploring-Healing-Prayer

A few weeks ago, Terry asked if anyone was interested in exploring healing prayer to contact him. A number of folk have indicated that they are interested. The first meeting will be on

**Wednesday 13th May, 7:30pm at
 8 Home Rule Road, L/H**

This is something we believe God is wanting us to pursue and to journey together on. If it is something you are interested in then please do come along.

This Wednesday!

Healing / Kingdom / Covenant

A series of joint evening meetings with St Paul's Church Sarisbury and ourselves to explore these subjects.

First meeting
**Sunday 24th May 6:30pm at
 St Paul's Church.**

Regular Activities

Sundays	10:15am	Prayer in the vestry
	10:30am	Morning service with children & young people's work 1st Sunday in the month Communion 2nd Sunday in the month Church Lunch following the service
	6:30pm	Prayer meeting — 2nd and 4th Sunday in the month
Monday	7:30pm	Puppet ministry <i>for info contact Brian 01489 584317</i>
Tuesday	1:00pm	Craft Afternoon <i>for info contact Isabel 01489 584317</i>
	7:30pm	Re-Mix (youth) <i>for info contact Adam 07515719462</i>
Wednesday	7:30pm	House groups—various locations and alternate weeks <i>for info contact Linda 01489 581009</i>
Thursday	10:15am	Coffee Morning <i>for info contact Charlie or Sylvia 01489 600523</i>
Friday	2:00pm	House group—alternate weeks <i>for info contact John or Ida 01489 576511</i>
	7:30pm	Worship Practice <i>for info contact Brian 01489 584317</i>