

NEWSLETTER

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Table of Contents

Message from our Chaplain.....	2	Council Meeting Report.....	14
Calendar of Services.....	3	News from Neuchâtel.....	15
Rotas for September 2009.....	4	Church Mission Society (CMS).....	17
Creation.....	5	Welcome Cards.....	19
Junior Church.....	7	Crossword.....	21
Birthdays in September.....	8	A picture from the past.....	22
New Confirmation Class.....	9	Chaplain's Notes.....	23
Confirmation for Adults.....	9	FAQ – Father, pastor, priest?.....	25
For Your Diary September 2009.....	10	A Word for the Month - Testament...26	
Odds & Ends.....	11	Ministry Team.....	36
The Church's Finances.....	11	Prayer Diary.....	37
Finding our common vision.....	13		

Message from our Chaplain

Thank you to everyone who has filled in a Welcome Card recently. This has been a useful exercise, firstly to test what is the best way to get this information. The cards will eventually be available for newcomers and visitors to complete and we hope this will help improve our outreach to them. Second, they have proved invaluable for keeping our records of current members up to date.

Quite soon you will be asked to give us some more information. We shall be distributing a questionnaire with questions about who we are – church background, length of stay in Berne, age distribution etc. This information will be very helpful in mapping out the way forward for the chaplaincy.

This will not be like the questionnaires supermarkets put out to ask you about your favourite washing powder. Neither will it be like the opinion polls in politics, nor a referendum for that matter. Because we are a Church, and specifically an Anglican Church, there are constraints. The outer boundaries are already mapped out for us but we need to find what is the common ground we can happily occupy within those Anglican boundaries. And that ground is the place where we can grow.

Another thing we hope the questionnaire will elicit is the resources we have and what skills and interests people are prepared to offer to help build up the church here. When you are planning, you have to start with what you have got.

So please fill in the questionnaire when it appears. If you can do so online, so much the better as it will be easier to process the replies that way.

Something else happening in September is my institution as Archdeacon. This will take place at the Diocesan Pastoral Conference for clergy in Cologne. In our Diocese all the Archdeacons are also chaplains to a congregation, so it will mean additional calls on my time. If everything in the Archdeaconry is running smoothly, then this should all work out. In the past, when I have had diocesan responsibilities, I have found that this wider perspective has a positive spin-off for the congregation too, in helping them to see themselves as part of a larger whole.

This awareness of being part of the wider Church will also be a factor in the sense of identity that our questionnaire will help us define.

Peter

***Calendar of Services
for
September 2009***



Sept 6 **Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**
10.00 Eucharist
Proverbs 22: 1 – 2, 8 – 9, 22 – 23
James 2:1 – 10, 14 – 17
Mark 7: 24 – end

Sept 13 **Creationtide (14th after Trinity)**
8.30 Holy Communion (said)
10.00 All-Age Eucharist
Isaiah 50: 4 – 9a
Psalm 19
James 3: 1 – 12
Mark 8: 27 – end

Sept 20 **Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**
10.00 Eucharist
Jeremiah 11: 18 – 20
James 3: 13 – 4: 3, 7, 8a
Mark 9: 30 – 37

Sept 27 **Back to Church Sunday (16th after Trinity)**
8.30 Holy Communion (said)
10.00 Informal Eucharist
James 5: 13 – 20
Luke 19: 1 – 10

Please note that not all the readings appointed for a particular Sunday will necessarily be used.



Creation

In September, churches all over the world are celebrating Creationtide, and celebrating God's gifts to us in creation. So what?

The writers of the Bible were firm in their belief. God made the world and put us there. Exactly how was not for them to say. In one account, God plants an oasis and breathes life into a pile of dust. In another, God acts as an architect (Ps. 104), or a bringer of order out of chaos (Ps. 74). The account we know best is at the beginning of our Bibles, and describes six stages of creation, followed by a day of rest.

This account is not meant as a science textbook. It is meant to show God's power and God's wisdom (a theme taken up in Proverbs 8:22-32). It is about God, not about dinosaurs. It is about God's relation to us, not about physics or biology. It is to teach us to put God first, not to teach us about tigers and mosquitoes.

So we find the sun being created on the fourth day, long after the light of which it is the source, and a day even after the plants which would have relied on it for life. The reason is almost surely that the writer was demoting the sun from a position it held in other cultures, where it was a god in its own right – Apollo to the Greeks, Ra to the Egyptians, Shamash to the Babylonians. It was not an astronomical statement about the formation of stars and galaxies, but a theological statement about God.

Another bit of theology is the seven times repeated statement: "God saw that it was good." The world is not inherently good. It is good because God has made it and because God has approved of it. This contains a lesson for all of us as well. We are not inherently good. We are only good when we act in accord with God's creative will. This does not limit us legalistically, but it does mean that we should always be asking ourselves if what we are doing is really what God wants for us.

In the account at the beginning of Genesis, God carries out two "good" actions on the sixth day. Firstly, "living creatures of every kind" are brought forth from the earth: lions, lambs, millipedes – all the members of the animal kingdom that do not live in the water or the air. And then, in a final act, God creates human life. (To stretch the translation, she creates women in her own image, and he creates men in his own image!)

It is food for thought to wonder what we should be like if we are indeed "made in God's image". And it is food for thought to wonder what God is like: what aspects of God's nature are reflected in us? In Jesus we see and meet God in person: we can know God and share God's life – food indeed!

But this Creationtide, we should also think about God's words to the women and men so newly created. "Fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion

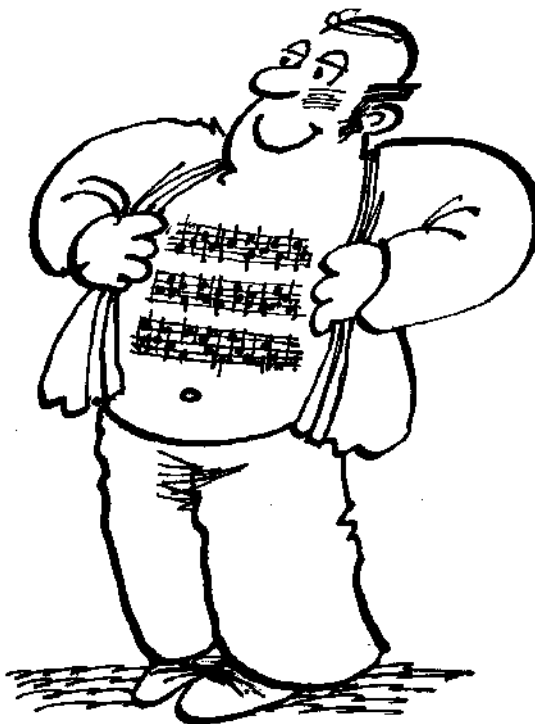
over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” How easy it is to confuse dominion with exploitation! To subjugate rather than purely to ensure order!

If we are indeed “God's image”, then our “dominion” over the rest of creation will be like God's own dominion – loving, caring, generous, kind, peaceful. God's dominion over us is like God's dominion over all the world. God wants the best for us, so that everything can be good, and can be seen to be good.

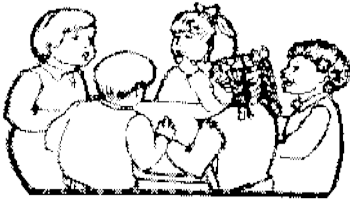
In the same way, we should want the best for the world around us. For the true message of this first account of Creation is that what God made was good. In all our actions, not just towards our neighbours but towards the world around us, it is up to us to keep it as God made it: not just good, but very good!

HD

A reader visiting Cumbria went to an organ recital and was intrigued to hear that details of further musical events could be found on the CHURCHWARDENS CHEST.



© CHRISTIAN CRACKERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR by Phil Mason, published by Monarch



JUNIOR CHURCH

If you would like more information about the Junior Church, please contact one of the people listed on the Ministry Team page at the back of the magazine, or refer to our website www.anglican.ch/berne

NURSERY ROTA SEPTEMBER

	6	WEEK-END AWAY
	13	Lynn Robb & Belinda Aréstegui
20		Jerusha Viggiswarapu & Maxine Wildhaber
	27	Somayeh Fattahi & Jessica Hoag

Laughlines

A local artist had been commissioned to paint scenes around the parish. He was showing them off to the vicar.

Artist: That is the inside of your church on a Sunday morning.

Vicar: I don't see me in the pulpit.

Artist: That's because you had finished preaching.

Vicar: But where is the congregation?

Artist: You don't suppose they'd be fools enough to stay there after you'd finished preaching? They've gone home for Sunday lunch.

+++++

While serving as church usher, I was carrying out our tradition of escorting parishioners to their seats before the service began. After I returned to the entrance of the sanctuary to escort the next party, I greeted two strangers and asked where they would like to sit. Looking confused, the young man smiled and said, "Non-smoking, please."

**Congratulations
to our Junior Church Children with Birthdays
in September**

Shelley Wildhaber
10
3 September

Eric Sovilla
15
7 September

Svenja Tomczak
2
30 September

Analisa Romberg
6
18 September

Florie Masciadri
9
23 September

Benjamin Bärtschi
12
19 September

Liam Frauchiger
7
20 September



New Confirmation Class for Young People

A new class for confirmation preparation for young people will start after the summer holidays. An introductory meeting for the young people and their parents took place on Sunday 23 August. This was an opportunity for information to be given to those interested in the class and for them (and their parents) to ask questions. After this information part, we shared an informal lunch together, allowing us to get to know one another a bit better.

We are pleased that 6 young Christians (aged 14 upwards) plan to attend the course and look forward to sharing a few steps on the Christian journey with them.

We will meet on Friday evenings, once a month, during the youth group time and also on Sunday mornings, approximately twice a month, during the morning worship. The Friday meetings will start on 18 September and the Sunday meetings on 18 October, after the autumn holidays.

Please pray for the young people starting out on this new stage of their journey and for their families and the leaders of the group. If you would like more information or have questions, please contact the chaplain or Tricia Carrick.



Confirmation for Adults

There will also be an opportunity for adults to be confirmed at St Ursula's in the summer next year. Classes will start in January. If you are interested please contact the chaplain.

- *Tricia Carrick* -

For Your Diary September 2009

Regular weekly events

Mondays	09.30-10.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork
	19.00-21.00	Youth Group (only 11 and 18 September)
Saturdays	11.30-13.30	Choir Practice

Other events

Tuesday 1 September	19.30	Church Council Meeting
Friday 4 – Sunday 6 September		Church Weekend Away in Aeschi
Sunday 13 September		Copy Date
Thursday 24 September	09.00	Collating
Sunday 27 September	12.00	International Outreach Lunch

Future dates

Saturday 17 October		Children's Toy & Equipment Sale
Sunday 25 October		Harvest Festival
Wednesday 4 November		Cecily's Fund Pumpkin Soup Lunch
Saturday 7 November		"Nacht der Religionen"
Friday 27 November	17.30 – 19.30 &	Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 28 November	10.00 – 14.30	
Thursday 17 December	19.30	Heiliggeist Carol Service

COPY DATE !!!

for the October issue is 13 September

COLLATING DATE

24 September 2009

Odds & Ends

English Church Services and Housegroup in Thun

Thun church group will be meeting only on the 1st and 3rd Thursday until further notice.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

Services are held at the "Pavilion" of the Reformierte Kirchgemeindehaus in Bubenbergstrasse, Thun.

For more information please contact Sharon Bachmann ☎033 336 93 78.

* * * * *

The Church's Finances

Antidisestablishmentarianism is the longest word in my spell checker. But in Switzerland, antidisestablishmentarianism is only an option for the Swiss Reformed, the Roman Catholic and the Old Catholic churches. For they are "established" - the state gives them formal status, and in most cantons, the state collects taxes on their behalf.

In England, the Church of England is "established", but its special status does not extend to getting any money from the British government – it must stand in the same queue as any other charitable body. Each parish maintains its church buildings and pays for its church activities, and each parish pays money to the diocese, to cover the cost of providing resources – the chief of which is the cost of paying the parish clergy, and providing for their pensions. There is a Central Board of Finance, thought by some to be fabulously rich with land and investments from previous generations: in these recessionary days, their resources are more imaginary than fabulous! However, they pay part of the clergy's pension entitlement, they pay for bishops and cathedral staff, they provide support for poorer dioceses and make grants for training clergy, and for new schemes which benefit the church.

But we are not in England. And the Diocese in Europe, of which we are part, does not pay its clergy. We do. Our diocese does not provide for clergy pensions. We do. (Fortunately, the Central Board of Finance provided for pensions up to 1998!) Our diocese does provide grants to promote the growth of the church throughout Europe, and is a valuable resource for outreach – but the expenses of the diocese come from the individual chaplaincies, and we in Switzerland are better off than churches in Latvia, Serbia, Turkey, or even the retirement havens of the Spanish costas, so our contribution is relatively large (some Fr11 000 this year), on top of further support for the Swiss archdeaconry (some Fr2300) to finance retreats, seminars and general support.

So, far from being supported from outside, we actually give support – some Fr35 a day. We donate a further Fr70 a day for charity and mission work around the world, as well as what we collect at Harvest and Christmas and in other special collections. But this makes up only 15% of our total budget. A further 20% is used up in maintaining our buildings, leaving the largest part, almost two-thirds, or Fr450 a day, to provide for our ministry team and our administration. Like a commercial business, our personnel costs are significant, but do not imagine that the whole Fr450 finds its way into Peter's, Tina's, Jana's and Jennifer's pockets! The government likes to have a share, there are insurance and pension contributions to make, and necessary expenses for travel and resources to pay out.

As I have said, we need your support in this. Each year, we have a pledge appeal, and ask you to make a contribution, small or large, towards our work. But donations at any time are welcome (to our post account 30-4416-8, or, if you seek to claim tax relief, to St Ursula's Charitable Association (post account 60-666488-7: but we can only use the money in a restricted way, for less than half our activities)). Talk to the Treasurer, or any council member, or pick up a leaflet at the entrance to the Hall. And, to have extra fun, come and support our book and food sales and our bazaar as well!

The Treasurer



"But why do we have to plough the fields and scatter when we get everything from Tesco?"

Finding our common vision

What does St Ursula's mean to you? Do you have ideas to share about the future of this church, its place among English speaking people in Berne?

For years there have been debates and discussions about what the church's priorities, style and outlook should be. Since the arrival of Peter Potter as our chaplain over a year ago, those discussions have continued and have given rise to the sense that now is the time to move on from discussion to action.

If you were in church on 7 June (or have read your July newsletter!) you will remember that we held a discussion session after the Special Meeting. There was clear enthusiasm to contribute ideas and the suggestion of a fuller questionnaire was greeted warmly. Since then a small group (Pieter Perrett, Hector Davie, Isabel Jordan) has got to work on designing the survey, drawing in advice from others and trying out a pilot version. It's no easy task! We face some difficult compromises: including the many subjects we would like to explore, while keeping the questionnaire to a manageable length; trying to balance scope for people to express their thoughts with the need to be able to process and analyse the responses; working out how to make the questionnaire as widely available and accessible as possible.

The questionnaire is just a part of a longer term process (already started with the new welcome cards) to help us find out more about who we are, the values we share and our priorities for St Ursula's for the next few years. We hope that this process will help to spark questions in all of us about how we can serve God and others in this church.

We hope to have the questionnaire ready for launch by mid September, with a complementary process to canvass the views of our children. The questionnaire is being designed for online completion, which makes it MUCH easier to collate the responses; but we recognize that not everyone will be able or willing to use a computer for their answer so there will be a paper version for those who need it. The important thing is that EVERYONE who in whatever way regards St Ursula's as "their" church takes part.

We plan to allow up to four weeks for people to make their responses. After this it will take a few weeks to process the results, but we hope to have this part of the task finished before Christmas. Then starts the real work: turning views and aspirations into plans for the future.

Of course, we will have different views, and any action we take forward must fit within our Anglican status. But we also know that despite our differences we share much common, and a common commitment to serve God – so that's what this process aims to identify and help us act upon.

How can you help?

- By keeping this process in your prayers

- By looking out for update information

- By filling in the questionnaire, and encouraging others to do so

- By being prepared to take part in follow-up action

Council Meeting Report

The council meeting held on Tuesday 7 July considered a large number of items – some of the important ones are:

- the Child Protection guidelines and policy are being reviewed by a small team and will be approved by council in the autumn.
- we currently have no “Environment Officer” – this post should be filled as soon as possible.
- our financial situation is becoming precarious – income from pledgers is down again this year. It is vital that new pledgers are recruited.
- a questionnaire about various aspects of our church life is being prepared and should be available in September.
- there is a lot of work to be done in the gardens, in the hall (replacing the floor) and in the church house. The building committee are doing a great job in organising all of this, but they need help from volunteers.

Others were: the weekend away, feedback from the council awayday, the ministry team page in the magazine, the Old Catholics' football tournament, our participation in the “Nacht der Religionen”, dates for Harvest, Creationtide, carol services etc, outreach, and the “welcome cards”.

If you would like more information about this meeting, or about any other aspect of council, please contact a council member – the list is at the back of this magazine.

- Tricia Carrick (Council Secretary) -

THANK YOU I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who sent (or said) messages of good wishes and congratulations on my appointment as Archdeacon. It is, of course, an honour to be asked by the Bishop to undertake this role. As some of you pointed out, it is also an honour for St Ursula's, showing his confidence in the gifts and potential that exist in the congregation here.

Please keep me in your prayers as I endeavour to serve you and the wider Church to the best of my abilities,

Peter

MORE THANK YOUS ... for your good wishes on the occasion of our Ruby Wedding anniversary in August. We enjoyed a very pleasant weekend of celebrations with family and friends in Scotland.

Peter and Shareene

NEWS FROM NEUCHÂTEL CHURCH

Chapelle des Charmettes, Rue Varnoz 1, Neuchâtel

Regular Services: 2nd and last Sunday of each month at 5 pm

2nd Sunday : Family Communion Service

Last Sunday : Communion service (During the sermon and liturgy, children leave to follow their own programme in Junior Church.)

Minister in charge: The Rev. Roy Farrar Tel : 032 730 51 83

Chemin du Chasselas 11

2012 AUVERNIER

www.neuchatelchurch.ch

FOR YOUR DIARY

Bible Study evenings, held at the home of Roy and Mieke Farrar (see above):

Tuesday 1 September at 8 pm

Tuesday 15 September at 8 pm

Tuesday 29 September at 8 pm

Debate @ Eight discussion evenings, at Roy and Mieke's home:

Sunday 6 September at 8 pm

ADVANCE NOTICE

NEUCHÂTEL HARVEST FESTIVAL

PLEDGE SERVICE AND SUPPER

on **Sunday 25 October at 5 pm**

From Roy and Mieke

Mieke and I were privileged to spend two glorious weeks touring Scotland this summer, and during one of our walks on the Island of Skye we came across this



ruined house on one of the headlands of the Island. Our thoughts went to imagining the families that once were here and all of the life that must have occurred around this house, but now it was totally abandoned and ruined, the nearest habitation being some 10 kms away.

What had happened to cause the population to move away? What histories could be told around the walls of this house?

The question that arose in our minds was about a walker coming to Neuchâtel in a few years time and wondering about the English Church. Would they find just

faint memories of the family that had been there, or would they find a vibrant and lively community that was still proactive in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ?



Quite a challenge before us as a church; will we grow and be more creative in our worship and influence or will we just fade into an insignificant memory?



To help us to grow we will be exploring new ways to be church over the next few months, with the start of a daytime **ALPHA** course in September, in which we shall explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open and interactive way. The precise details of the day and time will be arranged to suit those who want to

come.

We are also continuing the new Sunday evening event "Debate @ Eight" this provides an opportunity for open debate about a whole range of topics. The purpose is to explore a subject and listen to the questions, queries and different points of view that people might have in an informal atmosphere

We started with "The Holy Spirit" and the next ones will cover topics such as "Forgiveness - not bearing grudges", "Homosexuality" and "Do all roads lead to God".

Both of these activities will allow us to grow and become more effective in our witness and impact on the community.

Another point of growth on my heart is for **many more** people to become active in leading our services, prayers and preaching. I believe that one of the prime roles of a church leader is to liberate and set free people's gift for ministry. If you would like to be involved, talk to me and I will support your exploration.

Quotes

The limit of giving is to be the limit of our ability to give. *C S Lewis*

Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.

As the purse is emptied, the heart is filled. *Victor Hugo*

Charity of the Month

Church Mission Society (CMS)

The motto of CMS is “**Sharing Jesus, changing lives**”. It is a community of people in mission in over fifty countries having formed 240 international and local strategic alliances of collaborative work. CMS supports over 700 people from its home office in Oxford. Thousands more are drawn into local mission wherever they are, especially Africa and Asia (CMS also has offices in Cape Coast, Nairobi and Seoul). The Archbishop of Canterbury is the Society’s patron, the Rev Canon Tim Dakin is the General Secretary and there is a board of trustees made up of people from all walks of life who are passionate about mission, and people in mission around the globe.

The Church of England was without vehicles for mission after the Reformation, and CMS, “born” in 1799, stepped into that void. It agreed to be loyal to Anglican leadership and liturgy but is not confined to Anglicanism.

Gone are the days of “converting the natives”. CMS is definitely committed to evangelistic mission, working to see our world transformed by the love of Jesus and longing to see all people drawn into fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ. But while CMS sees marks of mission as proclaiming the good news and teaching and nurturing of new believers, it also places emphasis on responding to human need by loving service, seeking to transform unjust structures in society and caring for creation. In short, mission is about relationships: Our primary relationship with God and our relationship with our neighbour. CMS sees mission as an attribute of God’s character rather than an activity of the church and recognizes that missionary initiative comes from God alone. Actually, we should all be partners in God’s mission!

CMS lists its four core values as **Evangelistic, Pioneering, Faithful** and **Relational**. Evangelizing is about sharing Christ’s love on other people’s terms, across frontiers, in the depth of their identity and context. Pioneering means sharing our faith in “Jesus the pioneer of our salvation/faith” (Heb. 2:10/12:2). Faithful people don’t give up, they encourage others and they do their best. The knowledge of the relational existence of God in three persons is our model for attempting to live in relationship with others. When we journey to another culture to be with others rather than do things for them, our eyes are opened.

Since CMS feels that mission is about “sharing in each other’s lives” it is involved in a wide variety of ministries. Some sharing includes supporting an Anglican church in providing food and health care in the Congo, being involved in the church’s relief efforts in peace building in Nepal and Peshawar, Pakistan, helping support a church school in Kashmir, working among street slum dwellers in Mumbai and supporting the church of Ceylon in long term contributions to healing wounds of a divided country.

CMS offers short-term and long-term missions. It also has an encounter programme for church/youth groups, and encounter programmes for individuals. Long term mission work might be in health care or teaching.

Like so many other organizations, CMS is feeling the effects of the financial crisis. Donations are welcome and sponsored events can be a good way of raising money for them. There is also an online shop where one may order books and other items, the profits of which go to CMS missions. Also available is a free booklet called *Prayerlines* that features a devotional called "Pray with the Bible" as well as news from CMS people in mission so one can support them in prayer.

Some prayers for CMS could be as follows:

- that the CMS trustees and directors will recognize and follow God's leading in their ministry
- that those God has chosen will heed His call and rely on His leading through His Holy Spirit
- that workers will have strength, joy and hope in their work and evangelizing
- that many will support CMS through prayer
- that many will thoughtfully and generously support the CMS mission financially

If you desire further information about CMS you may visit their website at www.cms-uk.org or write to them directly at info@cms-uk.org.

Laughlines

Joe's wife liked to sing. She decided to join the church choir. From time to time she would practise while she was in the kitchen preparing dinner.

Soon, whenever she would start in on a song, Joe would head outside to the back garden.

His wife, with hurt feelings, said, "What's the matter, Joe? Don't you like my singing?"

Joe replied, "Well, put it this way, if I stay outside, the neighbours won't assume that I'm beating you."

Welcome to St Ursula's Church



Jubiläumsplatz 2
Postfach, CH-3000 Berne 6
Tel: 031 352 85 67

Email: berne@anglican.ch
www.anglican.ch/berne

Welcome Cards

A small team has been working for a while on the topic of "Welcome" at St Ursula's and the idea of having welcome cards in the backs of the chairs has been developed. A welcome card invites newcomers and visitors to give us their name and contact details and will help us to follow up and provide more information.

If you have been in church on one of the Sundays since the summer holidays you will already have been given one of these welcome cards and hopefully completed it. If not, we would like to encourage you, as a member of St Ursula's, to complete one of the welcome cards (perhaps the one above) and return it to us - even if you have been attending worship for many years. This is to allow us to review and correct our lists and hopefully add missing information like telephone numbers and email addresses.

If you have questions or comments about the cards, please contact a member of the team: Pieter Perrett, Jennifer Hockley, Hector Davie, Tricia Carrick

Welcome to St Ursula's Church, Berne

Name
(Mr / Mrs / Ms / Other)

Home Address

.....Date of Birth.....

Telephone

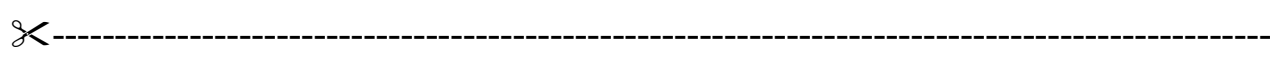
Email

I would like to receive
the church magazine:
-by post
(Fr 25.- p.a. plus postage)
or
-by email (No charge)

Family Members living at the same address- (with dates of birth - optional for adults)

Title	Names	Date of Birth
.....
.....
.....

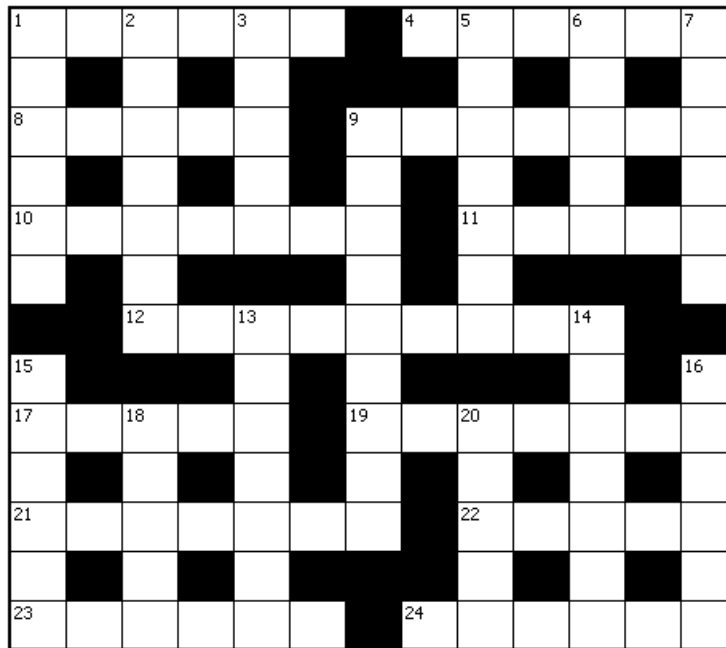
Your data will be held securely and only used by St Ursula's Church. It will not be released to any other person or organisation.



The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

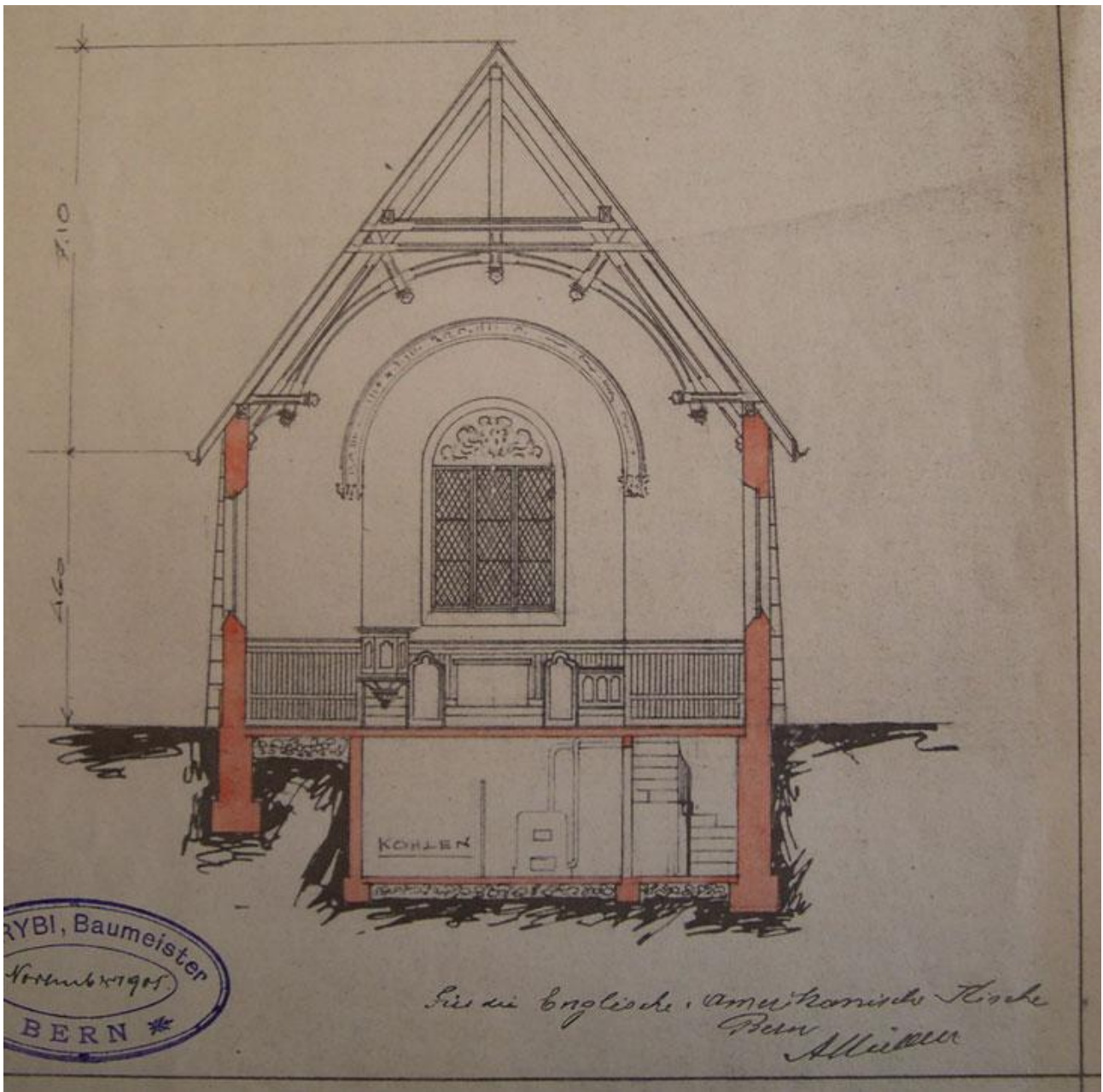


Bad Church Etiquette: Taking money out of the offering plate because you believe you did not get your money's worth from last weeks service.



Across	Down
1 'Through [Christ] we have gained — by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6)	1 Popular Christian author and humorist, — Plass (6)
4 Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6)	2 Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7)
8 The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5)	3 Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack (2 Chronicles 32:1) (5)
9 Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7)	5 Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4)
10 Belgium's chief port (7)	6 Lonny (anag.) (5)
11 Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water'(John 3:23) (5)	7 Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6)
12 Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9)	9 Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9)
17 Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5)	13 Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7)
19 Comes between Amos and Jonah(7)	14 What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3)
21 'Your will be done — — as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5)	15 'Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net — ' (John 21:11) (6)
22 Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5)	16 His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6)
23 Axle, eh? (anag.) (6)	18 'There will be weeping and gnashing of — ' (Matthew 8:12) (5)
24 'Out of the — I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6)	20 Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5)

Answers on next page



A picture from the past

Eduard Rybi and Ernst Salchli's plans submitted for the *Baubewilligung*, dated 7 November 1905.

For more information, go to www.stursula.ch/historyplan.html

Crossword Answers

13 Funeral 14 Spit out 15 Ashore 16 Thomas 18 Teeth 20 Aisle
1 Adrian 2 Crystal 3 Siege 5 Lay bare 6 Nylon 7 Saying 9 Lappidoth
DOWN

17 Satan 19 Obadiah 21 On earth 22 Storm 23 Exhale 24 Depths
1 Access 4 Blinds 8 Rhyme 9 Loyalty 10 Antwerp 11 Aeon 12 Loftiness
ACROSS

Chaplain's Notes

AUTUMN STUDIES – ADVANCE NOTICE

What do a former Archbishop of York, the Bishop of Durham, a Benedictine Abbot, a Methodist professor and an Anglican agony aunt all have to say about Faith, Hope and Love?

That is what we aim to find out in the autumn. We are planning to follow one of the York Course series, which have proved a huge success over the years, “deservedly so”, according to the *Church Times*. The course is based on 1 Corinthians 13, using a study booklet and presentations on a CD. “The booklets are crisply written and don't duck difficulties”, says the *Church Times*.

The sessions will take place after the school autumn holidays, probably on Friday evenings in the hall. Watch out for details in next month's magazine and on the notice sheets. In the meantime you can find out more at www.yorkcourses.co.uk

MORE STUDY

The Department of Old Catholic Theology at the University of Bern is fortunate in having The Revd Dr Paul Avis a leading Anglican to give a lecture series on ***The Anglican Tradition: An Introduction to its History, Theology and Ecumenical Significance.***

Dr Avis is General Secretary of the Council for Christian Unity of the Church of England and one of the leading theologians in the Anglican Communion today.

The lectures will be held on 25.09. / 23.10. / 27.11.2009 at 14-18.00; 26.09. / 24.10. / 28.11. 2009 at 9-14.00. The venue is. Raum A 206 (2. Stock) of the faculty building (Länggassstrasse 51)

You can attend as a guest participant. Further information from Professor Urs von Arx, u.vonarx@sunrise.ch



BacktoChurchSunday

Churchgoers in every one of the Church of England's 44 dioceses are set personally to invite up to half a million people to services on Back to Church Sunday, 27 September. This makes it one of the largest coordinated evangelism events in recent history. The idea began in Manchester in 2004 and has since become ecumenical and spread to other countries, including Switzerland. Although it falls in the school holidays, not everyone will be away and so it is worth joining in.

Who is going to do the inviting? You, of course, dear reader. We are planning to

welcome people on that Sunday, and to have a special lunch afterwards. In the meantime, please do three things -

- think whom you may want to invite (back) to church
- pray for them daily
- invite them to a service and offer to escort them or meet them at church.

More information at <http://www.backtochurch.co.uk>

CREATIONTIDE IS HERE!

The Church of England believes that concern for God's creation is imperative for all Christians and the season from early September to early October has been designated "Creationtide". Last year we joined with other churches throughout the world in holding a special service to focus on this issue.

We shall be doing so again this year, with an All-Age Eucharist on Sunday 13 September. Our church Youth Group will be helping to lead the service.

At Diocesan Synod in June, Brian Morgan (who is the Diocesan Environment Officer as well as being one of our Synod representatives), tabled a motion about 'using a more environment friendly form of transport that Sunday and pledging to make some environmentally positive change in our daily lives'. So how about it? Tram, bike, foot or even car-share?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SING GREGORIAN CHANT?

St Peter and Paul Old Catholic Church is starting up a "Schola Cantorum" to sing Gregorian chant. The group will be led by Helene Ringgenberg, the church organist and choir leader. There will be practices on 8 and 15 September and 6 November from 18.45 to 19.45 at the church.

Anyone interested is invited to turn up and sing.

Quotes

Don't wait for six strong men to take you to church.

This church is prayer-conditioned.

The soul is a never-ending sigh after God. *Theodore Christlieb*

God excludes none if they do not exclude themselves. *William Guthrie*

The Christian is a God-explorer *Tom Wells*

FAQ:

Priests and ministers, fathers and pastors – why these different names?

The Anglican Church, along with the Orthodox, Catholics and some Lutherans, has preserved the threefold ministry of deacons, priests and bishops. The Book of Common Prayer says "It is evident unto all men diligently reading holy Scripture and ancient Authors, that from the Apostles' time there have been these Orders of Ministers in Christ's Church".

At ordination, candidates receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit for the ministry to which they are called and their authority to exercise this ministry is recognised by the Church. By the sacrament of ordination, a person *becomes* a deacon, priest or bishop. It is *who they are* rather than *what they do*. It is rather like *becoming* a husband or wife when we get married or becoming a parent when our children are born.

The word *minister* means "servant". It is often used for the clergy of those churches which do not have bishops, although in fact all Christians are ministers. We are all servants of the Gospel and of one another. We all share in the Church's ministry.

Some, however, are called to exercise ministry in a particular way and this is recognised by ordination (which literally means "setting apart"). We know from the first Letter of Peter (2:5) that all believers are called to priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices. Nevertheless it is clear that when Jesus superseded the Temple sacrifices (Hebrews 4:14-5:10 and elsewhere), he instituted a new order of priesthood to be ministers of the new covenant. He commissioned his Apostles to this task and they in turn passed it on to others. Anglicans therefore speak of clergy as being ordained "in apostolic succession".

Father is simply a form of address, equivalent to *Herr Pfarrer* in Swiss usage. This brings me to what has been called "The horrible custom of addressing us in speech as 'Reverend Smith'". The correct way to use "Reverend" is with "Mr/Mrs/Miss/Dr" or with the Christian name *and* surname. On an envelope we write "The Rev'd A.B.Carter" and we would refer to (not address) him in formal speech as "The Rev'd Mr Carter" or "the Reverend Andrew Carter". Speaking to him, we call him "Mr/Father Carter", "Father Andrew" or just plain "Andrew".

And finally, *pastor*. In Britain it tends to be used for a lay person who looks after a congregation, and in America it is the equivalent of "minister" in some churches. The word of course means "shepherd" and so it emphasises the duty of looking after or guiding the flock, rather than the priestly calling of lifting them up in prayer or offering them to God as a "living sacrifice".

Then there are *vicar*, *rector*, *chaplain* and all the rest. That's for next month.

PMP

A Word for the Month - Testament

“This is my last will and testament.” Readers of detective stories will remember that testaments have something to do with leaving property after one's death – as will anyone familiar with European continental legal systems (or even with Scots law). So it is easy to slip into the idea that “the New Testament is a sort of will. After Jesus died, we all were given the salvation promised in it. Doesn't the Bible say we are Christ's heirs?”

The Bible says nothing of the sort. We are “heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ” (Romans 8:17) – not the same thing at all. Paul is recalling how the Jews were given the Law and how they were given the Promised Land as their inheritance – obviously not something they received after God died, but something that was theirs permanently and for all time (as long as God didn't disinherit them!) Paul has earlier explained about Abraham's inheritance (Rom. 4:13) – just as Abraham inherited God's promises, so we in Christ share in God's love, and inherit God's salvation and God's glory.

If you know your Bible inside out, you may recall that there is a passage that says: “Where a testament is, there must also be the death of the testator.” And this is how the King James Bible translated Hebrews 9:16. But as a footnote in more recent translations explains, this is not the only way to translate this sentence. Three verses later, the writer explains how the old covenant was made. Moses killed “calves and goats”, and sprinkled their blood on the scroll and on the people. In what way was this “the death of a testator”?

In Jesus' day, the Greek word used, *diatheke*, certainly had the legal sense of a will. But when the Old Testament had been translated into Greek, *diatheke* was used to translate the Hebrew word which we normally translate into English as “covenant”. A covenant is an agreement, but it is a rather one-sided sort of agreement. It is not like a contract, where one party does something and the other party does something of similar value in return. Especially where God makes the covenant, the emphasis is on giving. And this is the literal sense of *diatheke*, which literally means a disposition, a gift.

In the Old Testament, covenants could also establish friendship between families and between nations, and this second sense led the translators of the German Bible to use the word *Bund* where English versions have 'covenant'.

A covenant was often ratified with a sacrifice, and the writer to the Hebrews draws attention to the report in Exodus 24:3-8 of how Moses confirmed what the writer to the Hebrews calls “the first covenant” with such an offering of a sacrifice. Clearly the writers had taken note of Jesus own words, that his own blood was being poured out to confirm a second, an everlasting covenant.

So the “New Testament” is a covenant. It is not just a book. The book records the New Covenant between God and God's people, but the covenant itself, the

“disposition”, is sealed by Jesus' sacrifice. This is the meaning of his words over the wine at the Last Supper, “this cup is the new testament in my blood” (1 Cor 11:25, Luke 22:20). The testament, the disposition, the covenant, is Jesus himself, and it is this that makes us all in the truest sense blood brothers with Christ.

HD

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Quotes

When praying, don't give God instructions - just report for duty.

We don't change God's message -- his message changes us.

When God ordains, he sustains.

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

We are all fallen creatures and all very hard to live with. *C S Lewis*

Dear me, the Lord got on very well before I was born, and I'm sure he will when I am dead. *C H Spurgeon*

With God there are mysteries, but no mistakes. *Michael Griffiths*

Automobile: A mechanical device that runs up hills and down people.

Back up my hard drive? How do I put it in reverse?

Bacteria: the only culture some people have.

Bad thoughts are like germs. Build up your immunity!

One can live on less when he has more to live for. *S S McKenny*

Before they invented drawing boards, what did they go back to?

Before you criticize someone, make sure you've walked a mile in their shoes. That way, you're a mile away AND you have their shoes!

The hand that rocks the cradle usually is attached to someone who isn't getting enough sleep.



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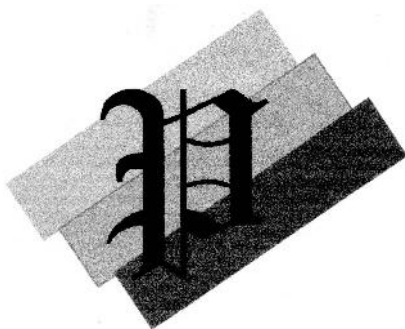
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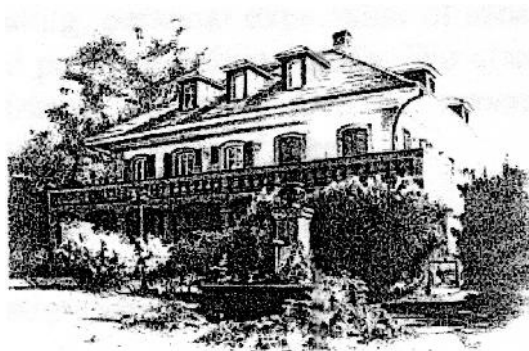
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Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net
International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, [www: icberne.2ya.com](http://www.icberne.2ya.com)

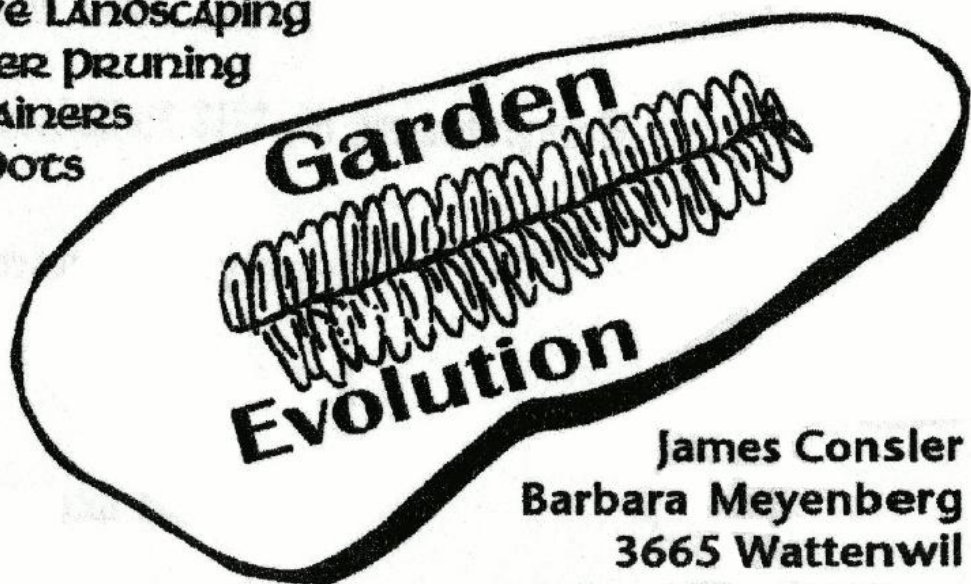
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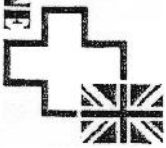
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New members are always welcome. Our website hosted by the Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs is: www.angloswissclubs.ch

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SEPTEMBER PRAYER DIARY

1. Tuesday The Church Council
2. Wednesday The city and cantonal governments
3. Thursday The governments of the countries from which we come
4. Friday The Church Weekend Away
5. Saturday The charities we support
6. **Sunday** University and student chaplains
7. Monday Employers' Organisations and Trades Unions
8. Tuesday (*Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary*) All who point us to Jesus
9. Wednesday The congregation at Neuchâtel
10. Thursday Local schools
11. Friday The Swiss Archdeaconry Continuing Education Programme (SACEP)
12. Saturday Harald Rein, to be consecrated Old Catholic Bishop today
13. **Sunday** A responsible use of the environment
14. Monday (*Holy Cross Day*) Thanksgiving for God's limitless love
15. Tuesday Understanding between neighbours of different races
16. Wednesday (*Ninian, missionary*) The Churches of Scotland
17. Thursday The Thun Church Group
18. Friday Junior Church leaders
19. Saturday Groups using the Church Hall
20. **Sunday** National Day of Prayer
21. Monday (*Matthew, Apostle*) Diocesan Clergy Pastoral Conference, Cologne
22. Tuesday All who lead Bible studies in the chaplaincy
23. Wednesday Medical services in our area
24. Thursday All who lead music in our worship
25. Friday The Swiss Archdeaconry
26. Saturday People in the headlines this weekend
27. **Sunday** Back to Church Sunday – that people may rediscover what they have been missing
28. Monday Neighbours and people at work
29. Tuesday (*St Michael and All Angels*) Thanks for God's protection
30. Wednesday Local shops and businesses