THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



St Ursula's Church Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne, Switzerland **Chaplain**

Ven Peter Potter 031 351 03 43

079 922 71 30 (emergencies only)

Honorary Assistant Chaplain Youth Coordinator

Linda Bisig Mary McKinley

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals by arrangement with the Chaplain

Normal pattern of Sunday services:

8.30 Said Eucharist (2nd and 4th Sundays)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church and Crèche

Our services follow the Church of England's Common Worship Order One (2000)

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, the 10.00 service is usually less formal.

See Calendar of Services inside for details of the next few weeks.

Services in Thun: see inside.

Services in Neuchâtel: at the Reformed Church at La Coudre (near the

Chaumont funicular) See inside for service times.

Information: Mrs Jennifer Veenendaal, 032 841 64 32

ST URSULA'S BERNE

The church is one of the nine Swiss chaplaincies that have a resident chaplain (minister) and together form the Archdeaconry of Switzerland. This is part of the Anglican Diocese of Europe which stretches from the Canary Islands to Ankara, from Moscow to Morocco.

The church was built in 1906 on a site that had been given to the community by the British-Berne Land Co. An American lady, Mrs Castleman from St Louis, provided the bulk of the money for the building as a thank offering for the near miraculous recovery of her adopted daughter, who was treated at the clinic of the famous Professor Kocher.

The hall and the house were added in 1959. An English Missionary Society, the USPG, helped to support the church from its earliest days. Since 1977, however, the chaplaincy has been fully self-supporting, relying solely on its members and well-wishers for its financial support.

St Ursula's has a long tradition of ministry to all English-speaking people in the Canton of Berne and beyond. It also provides a home for Christians from many different denominations and cultural backgrounds. Regular worshippers are encouraged to add their names to the Electoral Roll and so play a full part in the life of the church. Details from the Churchwardens or any member of the Church Council.

See Calendar inside for details of this month's services
St Ursula's Church website: http://www.anglican.ch/berne
E-mail: berne@anglican.ch



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COPY DATE

for the June—July magazine is

12 MAY 2013

Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE

23 MAY 2013

Chaplain's Message

What will Pope Francis be like?

We are not Roman Catholics but, as Archbishop Justin Welby wrote, "His election is also of great significance to Christians everywhere, not least among Anglicans. We have long since recognised—and often reaffirmed—that our churches hold a special place for one another. May the love of Christ unite us, and intensify our service in a genuine and fruitful ecumenism that can be a blessing for the Body of Christ throughout the world." The Pope is the highest profile Christian leader and many people will judge Christianity by what he does and says.

Pope Benedict, like Archbishop Rowan, is a scholar and a man of prayer. The Church needs such people, and we must pray that this will be their legacy. It is tragic that their terms of office were dominated by other issues, and they did not have the opportunity to offer the Church their best gifts.

The Church also needs leaders who can deal with conflicts and crises. The fact that these exist in the Church does not detract from the Gospel (even if the phrase "see how these Christians love each other" is also used ironically nowadays). To discern God's will for his Church and for individuals often requires us to struggle in prayer, as Jesus had to in the desert. Tensions arise because the Christian faith touches on things that matter to us deeply, on what it means to be human in community with others and with God.

We now need leaders who will go out and speak the truth to the world. Archbishop Justin has already begun to do this, and his previous experience gives him the necessary credibility. The Gospel does have things to say about business ethics and economic policy, as well as about personal morality. In our day, when politics, the media and the economic system have been seen to fail, we need someone who can speak with conviction, sincerity and truth. Now is the Church's duty and opportunity.

A Christian leader is also a servant. One of the Pope's titles is "servant of the servants of God". He, like any priest, is to serve the Church by example, by teaching and admonishing, by encouraging and caring. He is not to be a servant in the sense that he is there to do everyone's bidding, whether they are a powerful lobby within the Church or the opinion-formers in secular society. He must be willing to take a stand, even an unpopular one. For this he has Jesus as his example.

Please pray for him, and for all who are called to leadership in God's Church.

Moving with the Times

The coup had failed. The group of people who had assisted in the coup were terrified. Anyone who had shown support for them might be picked up and summarily executed. The reactionaries who were still in power could carry on as usual. The forces of progress would have to wait for a new opportunity – the revolution had not yet achieved its goal.

It had all started in earnest a few years before. Of course, there had been freedom fighters before this – some of them violent, but most of them had retreated into the mountains and had set up communes where they could think their ideas through. The regime had condemned them, but was not seriously worried about them. The two major parties in power were glad that the masses continued to support them.

Both of these parties opposed any change. The most conservative of them, which had the support of the nobility and the upper classes, wanted the country to be governed as it had been a thousand years before – institutions and laws which had served well enough in Bronze Age times did not need any changes – their adaptation to modern society was unnecessary.

The other party accepted that society had changed, but felt the old laws could be adapted by adding more detailed regulations, and by banning activities which had been unheard of a thousand years before. The petty regulations they introduced meant that genuine problems never got solved. People died because the authorities could not authorize the right treatment, families were divided because of arbitrary rules on divorce and inheritance, criminals could get away with murder if they played the regulations correctly.

The new freedom movement had begun almost unnoticed. It had begun just as the old regime had begun — with a period in the desert. The new movement was based on the same ideals — love, justice, listening to God. But it sought to sweep away the laws and structures that had enabled the powerful classes to work round the need to do justly, to love their neighbour, to hear God talking to them. The old regime paid lip-service to the old ideals, but for the new movement, the ideals were everything, and the machinery and the machinations the old regime had used to circumvent them needed to be swept away.

Of course, we now know the coup did not fail. Its leader was not dead, and its ideals were to spread to the ends of the earth. For the coup was led by the Son of God himself, and through his resurrection, the old regime was shown up as out-of-date – not useless, but flawed – pointing in the right direction, but un-



able to achieve either social justice or a world at peace with itself and with its creator.

At Easter, the new order which had dawned at Jesus' birth burst forth victorious, and later, at Pentecost, Jesus' apostles found the power to proclaim it, at first in Jerusalem, then to the Jewish world, and then as far as the centre of the known world, to Rome, and beyond.

The new regime needed its own machinery, of course, for the ideal needed to be enshrined in some sort of regulations. You cannot drive a car on the basis of "love God and love your neighbour" without any rules at all, even if they are arbitrary ones ("drive on the right", "give way to traffic on a roundabout", etc). But unlike the old regime, where the rules came first and the principles came last, in the new order it is the principles which come first, and the rules which come last. In the Easter world, serving God and loving our neighbour are our true priorities. Alleluia!

- Hector Davie

Quotable Quote



"Ich bin nur ein einfacher demütiger Arbeiter im Weinfeld des Herrn."
I am but a simple, humble labourer in the Lord's vineyard.

- Pope Benedict XVI

- Dorothy Beriger

FAQ: Why did Jesus die?

You find this as a heading in the Alpha Course and similar publications. A more meaningful question, however, is "Why did Jesus rise again?"

Death comes to us all. Many people have sacrificed their lives for others or have been willing to die for a cause. Innocent people die every day, many of them violently and as a result of other people's wickedness. Such



deaths have sometimes led to a better state of affairs. The Sandy Hook School shooting might lead to sensible gun-control laws in the USA, for example.

Looked at this way, there is nothing unique about the death of Jesus on Good Friday. What happened on Easter Day, however, is another matter.

The events of Easter Day tell us something vital about who God is and how he operates in the world. As we go through the Bible we are presented with God who creates life where there was none before (Genesis), who turns misfortune into advantage (Joseph), provides a way forward when there seemed to be a dead end (Exodus). There are stories of elderly couples and barren women who have children (Sarai, Elizabeth) as well as lyrical passages about the desert blossoming like a rose and exiles returning home (Isaiah).

In the Gospels, Jesus heals lepers, blind men and unclean women. They are all freed from the restrictions placed on them by their condition and by society. He provides food for the hungry and a catch for fishermen. He welcomes the stranger and outcast. These are signs of life and a chance to make a new start.

The Bible consistently shows that when we have come to a dead end, God saves the day. A tomb carved out of solid rock, with a large stone across the entrance looks like the ultimate dead end. But God raised Jesus from the dead. Once again, new life where there was none before, a new creation.

God's way of acting — bringing forth new life from the dead — is put to its ultimate test, and it succeeds brilliantly. It is the decisive proof of what God had been doing in all these other incidents recorded in scripture.

It is also the ground for our faith and confidence, and the reason why Christians are called Easter people, not Good Friday people.

-PMP

A Word for the Month – Temptation

Imagine a young couple getting guidance from their parish priest before their wedding. "Don't chop your spouse up and put the pieces in the freezer." Or a notice at St Ursula's: "Don't sing naughty songs during the sermon." Far fetched? Over the top? Of course, because nobody in their right mind would think of doing such a thing.

Yet every time we say the Lord's Prayer, we say to God: "Lead us not into temptation." Isn't the idea of God leading us into temptation just as perverted as a lover chopping up his or her beloved? Do we seriously believe that God would encourage us to do wicked things, and is only held back from doing so because of our prayers?

There are two sources of misunderstanding here. The first is that the *not* belongs to the *into*, not to the *lead us*. This is clearer in the English version than in the original Greek – yes, we want God to lead us, but to lead us away from temptation. This meaning is brought out by the second half of the verse, "but deliver us from evil", which says the same thing, but in different words. (This parallelism is a common way of expression in Hebrew and Aramaic. We find it all through the Old Testament, especially in the Psalms.)

The second misunderstanding is that the temptation Jesus is referring to has little to do with deliciously-wrapped chocolates or unwatched trinkets on a shop counter. The whole of the Lord's Prayer is about the coming of God's kingdom. Though it is possible to interpret the second half of the prayer as about day-to-day practicalities, it is far more likely that temptation refers to the testing of our faith, perhaps even the "time of trial" at the Last Judgment.

For the original meaning of temptation (and of the Greek word *peirasmos* used in the prayer) is a test. When Jesus spent forty days fasting in the Wilderness, we are told he was tempted by the Devil. But this was to test him – and he replied with a reference to Deuteronomy 6:16: "You shall not tempt the Lord your God" (itself a reference to Exodus 17, where the Israelites demanded proof that God would not leave them stranded in the desert.)

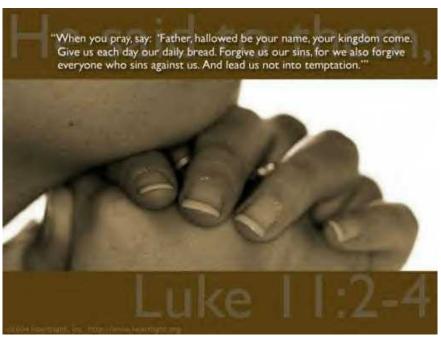
We certainly do not want temptations that try our faith. Few of us can suffer like Job and still say "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." But these are the temptations that the Lord's Prayer is referring to: the temptation to doubt God's providence when a friend dies of cancer, when an innocent child starves to death, when we lose something dear to us.

This kind of temptation certainly happens, and it is not easy to be consoled by the assurance in Hebrews 2:18 that because Jesus "was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested." But that is the answer. As Archbishop Rowan Williams said when asked where God was when 186 children and 148 adults were massacred in the school at Beslan, "I would guess that there must have been older children putting arms around younger children, you might see God there. In a world in which human decisions are free, even free for the most appalling evil like this, God does not dictate and intervene for outcomes."

Temptation in the Bible is about not losing one's faith when put to the test – by adversity or by persecution – and there was a lot of persecution about in New Testament times. The other meaning, to do with our appetite for sin, does occur, of course – though not so often as we might like to think. (Eve, for example, does not say "The serpent tempted me", but "The serpent deceived me", and when David casts his eyes on Bathsheba and resolves to seduce her, it is made very clear that it is he who is to blame, and not some pressure from outside him.)

The temptation to do wrong is something that comes from inside us, from our own desire (James 1:14 – echoing Jesus' comments in Mark 7:20-22). This kind of temptation comes from our own short-sightedness in thinking we can gain some short-term advantage out of our wrong actions. The forty days of Lent should have given us time for some long-term planning – for in the Easter world, the world of eternity, short-term goals lose their meaning, and there is no place for temptation – of any kind.

- Hector Davie



DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



Bishop's Easter Message, 2013

At the very heart of our Christian lives, at the very heart of the life of the Church, is what we call 'the Paschal Mystery', The word 'paschal' comes from the Greek word *pascha*, referring to the Jewish Passover which celebrated God's deliverance of his chosen people from slavery in Egypt and their exodus journey to the Promised Land. Passover was therefore a feast of liberation by God, and a recalling of God's faithfulness to his promises to his people. The Christian Passover which we celebrate every Holy Week and Easter is a celebration of an even greater liberation and faithfulness. This is not just a celebration of deliverance from slavery in Egypt, but of deliverance from the enslaving power of sin and death. It is a victory won by the God who in Jesus freely chooses to know from the inside our human condition, to bear the crushing burden of human sin, to enter into our dying.

As in Holy Week we follow again the events of our Lord's Passion, we remember on Maundy Thursday Jesus washing the feet of his disciples, taking the role of a servant; his taking of bread and wine at the Last Supper, breaking the bread and sharing the wine, identifying his life with this sacramental sign - and telling his disciples to go on doing this in remembrance of him to share in his life. We remember that this gift of communion is given in the context of betrayal - the denial of that very communion. We move to Gethsemane - the 'place of the pressing out of the olives' (for that is what the name Gethsemane means), where the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed One, is 'pressed out' in agony in the costliness of love and sacrifice. Judas, one of the close circle of the disciples, gives a kiss not of friendship but of betrayal; the disciples flee; and the Lord is handed over, bound, led to trials, savagely scourged, mocked, condemned, and in the end led out to the appalling torture of crucifixion. Nailed to the rough wood of the cross in excruciating pain, hands spread wide in what is the human embrace of love, Jesus hangs a scarecrow figure, beneath a mocking inscription, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews', a crown of sharp and spiky thorns rammed hard down on his bleeding brows. There is darkness over the land, over the whole world, as the Light of the world is blotted out. And from the heart of that darkness comes a cry of dereliction - 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' And then with a great cry Jesus dies. The centurion at the foot of the cross utters words of amazing faith - 'Truly this was the Son of God!'

He is dead. Wrapped in a shroud, laid in a tomb. Holy Saturday, Easter Eve, is a day of desolation, a day on which the living God embraces the annihilation and nothingness of our human dying.

But if that was the end, the full stop, so to speak, of the story, there would be no story for Christians to remember, to enter into, to celebrate. It would simply be one more story among many of another martyrdom, another terrible example of torture and the triumph of evil and injustice. There would be no church, no Christianity, and Jesus would be but another deluded prophet broken on the crushing wheel of human sin.

Yet this is not the end. The horizon is not the death of Jesus, but new life, new creation, a life born out of death. All four Gospels end with accounts of that new life - a tomb found empty, a stone rolled away, frightened women who had come to perform the last rites for the dead and found themselves face to face with a new, overwhelming and unbelievable mystery. Mark, the earliest of our Gospels, probably ended with the women fleeing from the tomb, for fear and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid - they were overcome with awe. That awe and wonder is at the heart of Easter. This event blows open human history, blows open human life, to the life of a new order. Jesus, the Risen One, appears the same, yet different, transformed, transfigured, his physical being taken up into this new order. His disciples and Mary Magdalene recognise him - and yet not immediately - as the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. St Paul, trying to explain to the Corinthian Christians what this means, uses the analogy of the seed sown in the ground and the plant that springs up from it - the same but different. This is Paul says, a 'spiritual body', by which he means a body 'animated by the Holy Spirit'. For this is the life of God's new creation. It is because this is the case that we can sing at Easter, Jesus lives! Henceforth is death but the gate of life immortal! It is because of this that we can speak triumphantly in the Creed that we look for (literally wait with longing expectation for) the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Matthew's Gospel ends with the Risen Jesus appearing to his disciples in Galilee and sending them out to proclaim the good news, Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always to the close of the age. That is our

life - your life and mine, That is the Church's mission, That is the Easter message running like wildfire in our lives and hearts - a new creation energised by the Holy Spirit, the living breath of God breathed out by the Risen Lord on his disciples on the evening of the first Easter Day. For Easter is not something shut up in the past, in a single life, but is your life and mine, for, as St Augustine proclaimed long ago, We are Easter people and "Alleluia" (Praise be to God) is our song! May God bless you in the singing of that song and the living of that life. And may you over and over again meet and know the Risen Lord of life as did the disciples in the breaking of bread at the supper at Emmaus.

+ Geoffrey Gibraltar

Electoral Roll Revision

As you probably already know, we have to prepare a new Electoral Roll for St Ursula's this year. This means that **everyone** must fill in an application form, even if already on the old Electoral Roll. The closing date for the receipt of applications is **Sunday 7 April**. So if you haven't already done so, please complete a form as soon as possible and return it to me (preferably by putting it in the box in the church hall).



Application forms are available in the church hall. Or contact me or the church office if you'd like one sent to you.

At the AGM, to be held this year on Sunday 28 April, representatives to the church council and the churchwardens are elected. In order to vote at those elections you *must* be on the Electoral Roll. You must also be on the Electoral Roll if you want to stand for election or nominate someone else.

If you need more information about the Electoral Roll, or if you need help completing the application form, please contact me or a member of council.

- Electoral Roll Officer (Tricia Carrick)

Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2013

After a successful Evensong on 9 March at St Ursula's, the choir is now practising the music for the annual Choir Festival. This will be hosted by the **Chaplaincy of St John the Evangelist in Montreux on Saturday 1 June and Sunday and 2 June 2013.** There will be a choral Evensong and a sung Communion Service. The music will include works by Durufle, Händel, Stanford, Rawsthorne, Rutter, Sanders, Tallis, Wood.



- Hans-Karl Pfyffer

Have you paid yet?

Each month, we print 350 copies of the magazine. This month we shall post 307 of these to our subscribers, leaving just over 40 available at church for visitors or other interested people. Over 50 other subscribers read their magazine on the internet. If all 307 who get a paper copy paid for it, we would receive Fr6140 (or more, if people are feeling generous!)

Of course, not everyone pays for their magazine, and we do not expect everyone to pay. Internet subscribers, the national library, our fellow chaplaincies, people in difficult financial circumstances are only a few of the categories who get complimentary copies. By 15 March, 168 people had paid, and between



them they had contributed Fr4205. Room for improvement! If you have mislaid the original Einzahlungsschein sent out with the last issue, a blank Einzahlungsschein made out to account 30-4416-8 (St Ursula's Church, Berne) with the comment "Magazine" will help us no end!

- The Treasurer

Chaplain's Notes

Healing Service

Our next service with prayers for healing will be on Sunday 21 April. The Easter season is a time when we recall how the Risen Jesus healed the feelings of hurt, disappointment and guilt among his disciples. Our reading from the Acts of the Apostles that day shows us that Jesus had also passed the gift of healing to his Church. As always, you are invited to come forward for individual prayer, either for yourself or someone known to you.

Interesting?



A recent poll of regular churchgoers in England found that nearly ten percent said they gave blood at least once a year, compared with four percent of the population as a whole. The Bishop of Carlisle, the Church's lead bishop for healthcare, described this as "extending our understanding of the central Christian themes of generosity and stewardship".

Neuchâtel - all change?

The church at Neuchâtel dates back to the 1860s but has been officially under the wing of Berne for some years. Recently, though, it has grown in numbers and is becoming more self-sufficient. It has had a house-for-duty (i.e. unpaid) chaplain for five years or more. There has also long been a feeling that a link with a chaplaincy in the Romandie would make more sense than with Berne. Christ Church, Lausanne is the obvious candidate and after talks between the two Councils, they wish to set up a formal link. St Ursula's Council also unanimously approved the idea. It needs to be approved by the Bishop but if all goes well we hope to have a formal handover on 12 May.

Please pray for the people at Neuchâtel as they take this important step in the growth of the church.

How to be a good Council member ...

is the title of the workshop organised by SACEP (Swiss Archdeaconry Christian Education Programme). The speaker is Canon Keith Lamdin, who is Principal of

Sarum College, a ministry training institute in Salisbury. He is well worth listening to, even if you are not a Council member.

It is at St Ursula's on 27 April (the day before our AGM) and you are asked to bring a packed lunch. Do come along.

Archdeaconry Retreat

The retreat this year takes place from 10 to 12 May at Crêt-Bérard, Puidoux. The theme is "Glimpsing the face of God: Jesus and the Gospel of Luke" and it will be led by Dr Clare Amos. She currently works for the World Council of Churches and was previously Director of Theological Studies in the Anglican Communion Office, based in London. Clare is a teacher of biblical studies by background - and has studied and taught in Jerusalem, Beirut, Cambridge and London. She has a particular passion for sharing the fruits of biblical study among Christians as widely as possible, and enjoys encouraging and challenging people to explore new ways to delve more deeply into scripture.

Please pick up a flyer from the hall and return it as soon as possible to book your place.

Ascension Day (9 May)

Last year saw a small but enthusiastic group set off along the St James' Way. We hope to do something similar again and are exploring possible routes. Look out for details in the weekly notices and posters in the hall.



Lenten Soup Lunch in aid of Cecily's Fund



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO BECAME A PART OF THIS AND TO ALL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS WHO HELPED TO MAKE THIS SUCH A SUCCESS!

"A HUGE THANK YOU TO ELFRIEDE & CORINNE FOR COOKING AND HOSTING THIS DAY."

Fr. 690.- has been raised to help children orphaned by AIDS in Zambia supported by Cecily's Fund and its partners through school and peer health education. The money raised from this fantastic event went towards helping orphans like Misozi to complete her teacher training college.

Misozi

"The day I was born my brother passed away. That's why I'm called Misozi. It means 'tears of sorrow'. My mum died when I was three and my dad died when I was seven.

"I was brought up by my grandfather. He had many orphaned grandchildren to care for on his small salary as a security guard, so I was supported by Cecily's Fund from grade 7 through to grade 12... Now my name means 'tears of happiness'!



"I am teaching at Shalom Christian School. I give 10% as my tithe at church, which they use to help orphans and old people. I helped my cousin with K200,000 at Kitwe Boys secondary school and helped my cousin's daughter with school material after my uncle passed away."

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SAY A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO: St Ursula's Church, Berne for organising our Traditional Soup Lunches in aid of the many children in need in Zambia.



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE AND JOIN US

"Treasure Hunt" in aid of Cecily's Fund Sunday 9 June 2013, in the afternoon Organised by the Neuchatel Church Invitation and details coming soon

For more information about the charity please visit www.cecilysfund.org or contact Yvonne Bomonti at yvonne@bomonti.ch or 032 331 83 85



St Ursula's Summer Fête 25 May 10.00 – 15.00

This year's summer fête will be a fun and fabulous event with lots of games, activities and stalls for adults and children alike, including our fabulous "Pimms on the Lawn", an outside barbecue, Usborne Books and Tombola - whilst not forgetting our usual stalls selling second hand books and British food and fine cheeses.

However, to make this day a success we'll need lots of help – from set up, the sale itself and the clear up afterwards.

The restaurant especially needs volunteers to help on the day and to bake our usual scrummy selection of cakes.

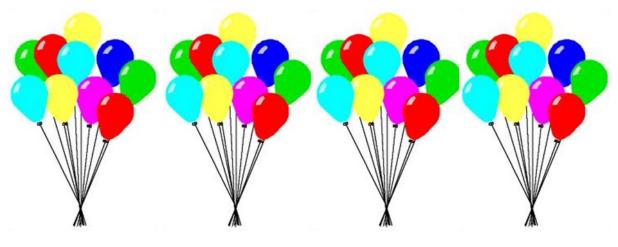
Anyone wanting to sell their own bric à brac or crafts is also welcome to book a space with the Church Office.

New and in perfect condition (please check the sell-by date on any food items first though!) tombola items are also needed – just leave them in the red box in the Upper Hall.

Please use the flyer in this magazine to advertise this event - more are available from our website and in the Upper Hall.

For further information please contact the Church Office (031 352 85 67) or email berne@anglican.ch

- Jana Kutesko, Church Office



Wendy Astor 1930-2013

We were saddened to hear of Wendy's death, on 23 February, after a time of gently failing health. Wendy, born in Canada on 13 February 1930, was editor of this newsletter for 25 years of its 32-year history.

For the first three years of the magazine's existence, it had been produced by a small team based in the church office – at that time off the landing on the first floor of Kirchenfeldstrasse 50. Jenny Blair had coordinated the content, while Barbara Bream, the church secretary, together with Hilda McMahon and a team of proofreaders assisted in the final production.



Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

John 14, 27

When Wendy's husband died in 1985, Peter Hawker suggested that Wendy should come and help in the office, and starting with the April 1985 issue, Wendy quickly became established on the editorial team, as well as inheriting the post of church secretary from Barbara Bream, who moved back to England.

From 1985 right through to 2010, Wendy produced ten issues of the magazine each year, with no issue in August (because she was on holiday in Canada) or January (because Christmas was too much of a rush). Although she was assisted by a team of proofreaders, and (later) a formally organized magazine committee, she did most of the work herself. She produced the text on the church typewriter in the church office (which in 1987 moved to a precarious position above the unrenovated church hall, reached up a ladder-like staircase which the Health and Safety department never found out about), and later on her home computer in Bremgarten, each page being produced in A4 format and then sent off to the printers.

Early in the 1990s, the church's administration was restructured, and the job of church secretary disappeared. Wendy remained active on Council, and was able to devote herself to the task of editing the newsletter more fully. She was tireless in chasing up contributors and suggesting ideas for articles, and magazines from the turn of the millennium bear the characteristic marks of Wendy's editing.

When at the end of the first decade of this century, Wendy found herself more housebound, and less able to keep in touch with events in Jubiläumsplatz, she

realized it was time to give up, and it was fitting that her last issue as editor marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of her first. (If you would like to read her final article, it is on page 10 of the March 2010 issue, still available on our website.)

Wendy, we shall miss you.

Calendar of Services

7 April Easter 2

10.00 Sung Eucharist Acts 5:27-32 Revelation 1:4-8 John 20:19-31

14 April Easter 3

8.30 Said Communion 10.00 Informal Eucharist Acts 9:1-6 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-14

21 April Easter 4

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Prayers for healing Acts 9:36-43 Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30

28 April Easter 5

John 13:31-35

8.30 Said Communion 10.00 Informal Eucharist Acts 11:1-18 Revelation 21:1-6



5 May Easter 6

10.00 Sung Eucharist Acts 16:9-15 Revelation 21:10,22-22:5 John14:23-29

9 May Ascension - see Chaplain's

Notes

12 May Easter 7

8.30 Said Communion 10.00 Informal Eucharist Acts 16:16-34 Revelation 22:12-14,16,17,20,21 John 17:20-26

19 May Pentecost

10.00 Sung Eucharist Acts 2:1-21 Romans 8:14-17 John 14:8-17

26 May Trinity

8.30 Said Communion 10.00 Informal Eucharist Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15

Prayer Diary

April 2013

1	Monday	"God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom"
2	Tuesday	God's blessing on the new pope
3	Wednesday	the work of Tear Fund
4	Thursday	people serving on peacekeeping operations
5	Friday	music in worship
6	Saturday	embassies and their staffs in Berne
7	Sunday	Christians in the Middle East
8	Monday	The Annunciation to Mary: obedience to God's call
9	Tuesday	today's Council meeting
10	Wednesday	the housebound
11	Thursday	all who volunteer time and talents at church
12	Friday	the people of Syria
13	Saturday	Christians in sport
14	Sunday	faith in our familiar surroundings
15	Monday	women in labour
16	Tuesday	family members far away
17	Wednesday	making our church premises attractive
18	Thursday	the Thun group
19	Friday	people with long-term illness
20	Saturday	our family doctors and their staff
21	Sunday	AGM at Neuchâtel
22	Monday	the Restructuring Plan for the Diocese
23	Tuesday	St George: the churches and people of England
24	Wednesday	our neighbours and work colleagues
25	Thursday	St Mark: may we hear the Gospel message today
26	Friday	Swiss Archdeaconry Christian Education Programme (SACEP)
27	Saturday	Independence Day, South Africa
28	Sunday	AGM at St Ursula's
29	Monday	local schools
30	Tuesday	safeguarding children and vulnerable adults in church

May 2013

1	Wednesday	a good work-life balance
2	Thursday	fair and responsible use of the land
3	Friday	relations with those of other faiths or none
4	Saturday	our welcome to newcomers
5	Sunday	worship with whole company of saints
6	Monday	Tear Fund's water project in Uganda
7	Tuesday	our new Council
8	Wednesday	a responsible use of social media
9	Thursday	Ascension Day: "May we in heart and mind also ascend"
10	Friday	the Archdeaconry retreat
11	Saturday	Neuchâtel Church
12	Sunday	Swiss Mothers' Day
13	Monday	God's animal creation
14	Tuesday	St Matthias: our readiness to step in and help where needed
15	Wednesday	the Diocesan Communications Committee
16	Thursday	organisations who use our hall
17	Friday	fairly traded goods
18	Saturday	couples getting married
19	Sunday	Pentecost: "May we be filled with the fire of God's love"
20	Monday	all who share faith's journey with us
21	Tuesday	achieving a greener lifestyle
22	Wednesday	English-speaking clubs and societies
23	Thursday	people looking for work
24	Friday	John and Charles Wesley: our heritage of hymns
25	Saturday	today's Summer Fête
26	Sunday	Trinity Sunday: "Be still in the presence of the Lord"
27	Monday	teachers
28	Tuesday	the Archdeaconry clergy chapter meeting
29	Wednesday	priests exercising a ministry of deliverance
30	Thursday	Corpus Christi: "Teach us to venerate these sacred mysteries"
31	Friday	the Archdeaconry Choir Festival in Montreux

For Your Diary April & May 2013



Regular Weekly Events

Mondays 09.30 - 10.00 Morning Prayer

Wednesdays 09.15 - 11.15 Parents and Tots

Fridays 09.30 Patchwork

Saturdays 09.30 - 11.30 Choir Practice

Other Events

Tuesday 9 April 19.30 Church Council

Sunday 21 April 10.00 Youth Group

Saturday 27 April 10.00 SACEP Training Day

Sunday 28 April 10.00 Youth Group

11.30 7 – 11 Activity Club

12.00 St Ursula's Church AGM

Friday 3 May 09.00 Book Sorting

Tuesday 7 May 19.30 Church Council

Thursday 9 May Ascension Day Event

Friday 10 - Sunday 12 May Archdeaconry Retreat

Sunday 12 May 10.00 Youth Group

COPY DATE

Thursday 23 May 09.00-11.00 Magazine Collating

Friday 24 May 09.00 Book Sorting

14.00-19.00 Summer Fête Set Up

Saturday 25 May 10.00-15.00 St Ursula's Summer Fête

Sunday 26 May 10.00 Youth Group

11.30 7 – 11 Activity Club

Friday 31 May - Sunday 2 June Archdeaconry Choir Festival

in Montreux

Future Dates

Saturday 7 September Book and Food Sale

Friday 22 & Saturday 23 November Christmas Bazaar



Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld

While the role that the Holy Spirit desires to have in our lives is enormous, many believers do not begin to allow Him to work. Whether through fear, ignorance, or sin, they have effectively hindered Him. Most of us have only begun to explore the works God yearns to do in our lives by His Holy Spirit! Don't be afraid to give Him freedom to work. Your life will never be the same!

We will be starting a new Florence MacKenzie Bible study, *The gifts of the Spirit*.

The Ecumenical House Group meets on the following dates at 19.30:

Wednesday 3 April (No meeting in Liebefeld. Some of the group will join a Healing Seminar in Spiez)

Wednesday 17 April

Wednesday 1, 15 and 29 May

Please contact Brian or Lynn Morgan (031 971 13 36, 079 415 26 19 or bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch) for more information.

Daytime House Group in Stettlen

The Daytime House Group will meet on the following dates at 13.30:

Tuesday 2, 16 and 30 April

Tuesday 14 and 28 May

We will continue our study of the Lord's Prayer. Please contact Brian Morgan (Leader) (031 971 13 36) or Linda Bisig (Host) (031 931 63 86) for further information.

- Brian Morgan

Junior Church News

The Junior Church normally meets every Sunday in the year, unless there is a special All-Age service. It begins with a time of worship with the whole congregation in church. After this, all the children and teachers meet together in the hall for a brief introduction, prayer and to collect our gifts for Tear Fund. We currently run three classes: All-Stars for those aged 3 to 6+, Trailblazers for those aged 7 to 10+ and Pilots for those aged 11 to 14+. Every 2nd and 4th Sunday the groups return to church at the Peace for a blessing.

Lessons

After the Season of Lent, we have a period of 50 days starting Easter Sunday referred to as the Season of Easter. During this time the children will explore stories from the book of Acts and the ways in which Jesus' followers shared the good news of the risen Christ. These are exciting stories of courage, transformation, and faithful witness. Consider reading each week's story again at home, using a children's Bible: Acts 5:27–32, Acts 9:1–20, Acts 9:36–43, Acts 11:1–18, Acts 16:9–15, and Acts 16:16–34.





Social Activities for 7-12 year olds: past and coming up

After our East African Afternoon in January and ice-skating in March, Activity Club for the 7-12s will be going gold-washing and river wading in April and mini-golfing in May. These activities are organised so that our younger congregation members have a chance to spend more time with each other. It is also a valuable time for us leaders as we get to know your children better, share joys and difficulties. If you are interested in our events, please contact Sharon Batley or Françoise Hänggi.

Nursery

All children under 3 are welcome in the nursery (creche). A reminder to parents: please collect your child immediately after the service; you may also fetch your child before communion, if you would like him/her to receive a blessing.

- Françoise Hänggi



Happy Birthday!

Congratulations to the Junior Church Children with birthdays in April and May:



Anna Batley 10 on 1 April
Roman Roche 3 on 3 April

Rebecca Shergold 7 on 11 April

Lily Janssen 5 on 15 April

Alastair Frauchiger 12 on 26 April

Eleanor Kutesko-Pawsey 14 on 28 May

Raphael Hänggi 14 on 29 May

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Minister in Charge: The Rev. Dianne Cox

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Services are held twice monthly:

10 am on the FIRST Sunday of the month: Communion service

Junior Church

5 pm on the THIRD Sunday of the month: All-age Communion service

<u>Contact:</u> Mrs Jennifer Veenendaal

Telephone 032 841 64 32

Read the monthly magazine on the website, or, to receive a paper copy, phone Rosemarie Zimmermann, 032 853 29 86

www.neuchatel-church.ch

Thun Church

There is a fortnightly service (normally a eucharist) at the Reformed Church Hall in Bubenbergstrasse in **Thun**. This is held at 19.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month, usually combined with a Bible study. (It's best to check with the office first!)

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

St Ursula's Charity and Missions Team Kigezi Diocese Water & Sanitation Programme (KDWSP)

Meeting the needs of the rural poor and water stressed communities in the Diocese of Kigezi, Uganda

At the end of last year, it was decided that the Junior Church would change their Tearfund Schweiz support from the Sudan school project to that of the **Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Programme.** (The Junior Church collection each week goes towards this project.) It was felt that the children could learn more from this project. In addition members of our church have had direct experience of this project as Philip Klingler spent 6 months working with this project as part of his Swiss Civil Service. Agatha, his wife, also spent 3 weeks as part of a Swiss Tearfund transformation team where they worked together with local villagers to help build a hilltop water reservoir. Last September, you may remember the visit of the Rev Reuben Byomuhangi from Kabale, Uganda who was visiting us for the second time and heads this project. It is helpful when we can have a direct link with such a project.





Background of the Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Programme (KDWSP)

Since its inception in 1986, it has evolved and grown from grace to grace, providing safe clean water to rural communities of Kigezi. It is "the unsurpassed NGO" in water and sanitation service delivery and has won this award from the Ministry of Water and Environment for the years 2005/6 and 2010/11. When in full operation, KDWSP employs over 45 staff members with an average budget of \$850,000 serving all people irrespective of social status, religious and political affiliations. KDWSP works with different committed development partners to ensure sustainable safe water supply and holistic community transformation through Construction, Capacity Development, Health

Education, Advocacy and Publicity, Rain Water Center skills based training for community based artisans and Integrated Water Resources Management.

Vision

Healthy and self-reliant members of the Church and Community

Overall objective

Improved and sustainable water and sanitation services in targeted communities in the Kabale District





Specific objectives

- 1. Provision of improved and sustainable water and sanitation services
- 2. To equip the local church, NGOs, CBOs, other Dioceses, community members and interested individuals with skills and best practices in WatSan
- 3. Mainstreaming cross-cutting issues of HIV/AIDS, environmental sustainability, family planning and food security
- 4. To advocate for improved and equitable access to safe water and sanitation services

Problem Statement

Lack of access to safe water, skills, knowledge and resources to ensure sustainable WATSAN services, best hygiene practices, and Development initiatives for improved livelihoods. These problems are worsened by a lack of capacity to address them. A combination of distant and unreliable water sources and poor hygiene practices. The water is contaminated by human and animal excreta. Water sources are found in the valley bottoms while people reside on hilltops reserving low fertile soils for agriculture the people still drop in altitude of more than 200 meters on steep slopes in water hauling. Water resources are under pressure from competing uses and most of them are depleted which puts the life at danger.

KDWSP Core Values and Guiding Principles

- 1. Accountability
- 2. Transparency
- 3. Integrity
- 4. Christ centeredness
- 5. Quality assurance

A Transformation Story about Topista and her family from the KDWSP project





Barikurungi Topista is 32 years old. Her husband died of HIV/AIDS five years ago and left her with four children. The first born Ndungutse Force is 14 years old and is in P.4, Twinamasiko Joshua is 9 years old in P.2, Kemigisha Grace is 7 years old in P.1 and Edison Friday who is 5 years old is also in P.1 Topista is one of the 9 beneficiaries of Ferro cement tanks for PLWHA in Kaara community. Topista's house is not ideal for rainwater harvesting. The house is very old and in a poor state and cannot accommodate a tank. So when visited and contacted about the plan she has, she says she would be willing to build a new house but cannot manage since she has no income generating activity from which to earn a living. She is weak but now can happily access safe clean water at her home.



You can read more about this project under www.kigezi-watsan.ug, or on the Swiss Tearfund Schweiz website (in German) www.tearfund.ch or the UK Tearfund website: www.tearfund.org

Please keep the Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Project in your prayers that this project may help reach out to help more people in this region to have access to safe water and sanitation services and that there may be sufficient funding for these needs.

- Cecily Klingler on behalf of the Charity and Missions Team

Religion on the Web

There's a lot of it about. The World Wide Web has become a source of information about next to everything – cookery recipes, medical diagnoses, tsars of Russia, biographies of pop singers – just name it and it's there – the good, the bad, the beautiful, the ugly, the inspiring, the perverted, the helpful, the downright evil – all just a click away at the end of a Google search.

Like so many things the web can be used wisely, or it can be abused. Someone with an itch can easily look on the web and convince themselves that it is some horrendous disease, but we need to keep what we read in proportion, and realize that someone has written each contribution, possibly without knowing the facts, or perhaps with their own opinion that they want to push.

This is true of many topics, but with religion it is particularly true. Anyone with strong views can set up a website, and it is not always simple to tell if a web page represents the agreed view of the whole Christian church, the deranged thoughts of a fanatic, the extreme views of some strident sect, or a commentary by an irrational atheist or a gun-toting jihadist. Anyone who can write English can write or amend a page on Wikipedia, and although information there is moderated (i.e. checked by someone reasonably impartial), there are bound to be some ideas presented as facts which are fanciful, exaggerated or untrue.

How can we tell the sound from the suspect? Certainly the suggestion in 1 John 4:1-2 is a start ("Test the spirits... By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God."). We should beware of sites that concentrate on side-issues – the way we behave, our attitudes to particular topics (life after death, the place of the Jews, the authority of particular verses of scripture), and avoid sites that declare that their version of Christianity is superior to anyone else's (sites with "faith" or "grace" or "bible" or "spirit" or "truth" as part of their titles are often anything but true, spirit-filled or biblical!)

Above all, we should check out who is behind such a site. Is the author the member of a recognized church? How do their views compare with the teaching of our own church? (And in some countries, the terms "professor" and "college" are no guarantee that a person or their message is academically sound!)

There is so much available on "normal" church sites — have you looked at www.churchofengland.org (or the official sites of the Methodists, the Baptists, the Roman Catholics, or any church you have confidence in)? Not just teaching, but bible -reading material, material for prayer and worship.

Our own church website has a page of links to useful and interesting sites (look at www.stursula.ch/links.html – or check the site map). Start from the top down – and don't just think Google has all the answers. Test the spirits. Use your God-given brain!



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St Ursula's thank





for their assistance in producing this newsletter and for their efficient planning, supply and maintenance of our office printing, scanning and photocopying systems.



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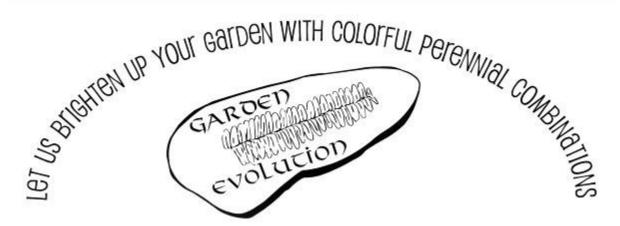
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Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, www: icberne.2ya.com
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The Swiss-British society, Berne organizes and supports cultural and social events throughout the year, such as guided tours of museums, archives, collections, lectures, concerts and drama performances in and around Berne. All these have some strong British link.

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

Share your burden.....

If something in your life is disturbing you and you would like some independent advice, you may like to make confidential contact with me at bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch. Alternatively you can ring me on 031 971 13 36 or 079 4152619. My service is gratuitous.

Brían C Morgan, Clínical & Pastoral Counsellor

Falkenstrasse 2 3097 Liebefeld



Here to help you

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John Eze	079	489	58	46
Donna Goepfert (secretary)	031	931	27	42
James Holden	026	422	13	55
Tony Read	033	243	34	32
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A Hymn for Pentecost

Come, Holy Spirit, send forth the heavenly radiance of your light. Come, father of the poor, come, giver of gifts, come, light of the heart. Greatest comforter, sweet guest of the soul, sweet consolation. In labour, rest, in heat, temperance, in tears, solace. O most blessed light, fill the inmost heart of your faithful. Without your grace, there is nothing in us, nothing that is not harmful. Cleanse that which is unclean, water that which is dry, heal that which is wounded. Bend that which is inflexible. fire that which is chilled. correct what goes astray. Give to your faithful, those who trust in you, the sevenfold gifts. Grant the reward of virtue, grant the deliverance of salvation,

grant eternal joy.