

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



October - November 2013

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: 19.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month: Eucharist and Bible study. Contact: church office 031 352 8567

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



St Ursula's Church Magazine

VOL 32/5

October — November 2013

Published & printed in Berne by St Ursula's Church/Hergestellt in Bern durch St Ursula's Church
Appears 6x a year/wird 6x jährlich herausgegeben

Annual Subscription Rates:
Fr20 including inland postage
Postfinance Account 30-4416-8 UBS Bern: IBAN CH41 0023 5235 9258 1510 0

Table of Contents

Chaplain's Message	2	Pilgrimage to Israel	18
People of the Book	3	Church Office Changes	18
Quotable Quote	4	Thun Church and Neuchâtel Church	18
FAQ: Who pays for church?	5	Calendar of Services	19
A Word for the Month - Tittle	6	Prayer Diary	20
Lay Reader in Training	8	For Your Diary	22
Chaplain's Notes	10	Junior Church News	24
This Year's Pledge Appeal	11	Happy Birthday	25
Flower Rota	11	New Youth Confirmation Class	25
Christmas Bazaar 2013	12	Coming Soon to a Church Near You	25
Cecily's Fund Pumpkin Soup	15	Your Child at Risk	26
How did we do?	16	Charity of the Month: CMS	27
Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld	17	Here to Help You	36
Daytime House Group in Stettlen	17		

COPY DATE

for the December—January magazine is

10 NOVEMBER 2013

Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE

21 NOVEMBER 2013

Chaplain's Message



The theme of gifts runs through our Sunday worship in October. On the first Sunday of the month we keep Creationtide and the following Sunday is our Harvest Thanksgiving. On 20 October we celebrate the Feast of St Luke and focus on the gift of healing. Then we have our Pledge Sunday, when we bring forward the gifts we have pledged to the Church, for use in God's service for the coming year.

Note the sequence. The first three focus on God's gifts and the fourth on our gifts offered to him. This is not to suggest that we are paying God for the gifts we receive from him. Nor are we bringing our money to church in order to buy some form of religious commodity. We come to church as members of the Body of Christ, not as customers.

Jesus taught that it is more blessed to give than to receive. In other words, it is good to give. It makes us feel good - and the more freely and generously we give, the better we feel. By definition, if we give, someone receives. The joy they experience, and the possibilities our gift opens up, increase our joy. We know we have done the right thing.

How different from times when we have given grudgingly or when we felt pressured into doing it. How different from when we give in expectation of getting something in return. Then any pleasure may be diminished by wondering if we have done the right thing or if we have got value for money. That is not how God gives.

Creationtide and Harvest Thanksgiving celebrate God's way of giving - without limit and without counting the cost. God gives because it is simply in his nature to give. From the moment of creation onwards, God's gifts have been gifts of life.

The same is true of our gifts to the Church. The Church's life of prayer and worship brings life to us and to others, even to people who consider themselves to be outside the Church. The pastoral care offered and the help given to people in need are given in the same spirit. On a practical level, the Church has the means to make our gifts work, in ways that we could not do on our own.

In brief, then, Christian giving is the sharing of God's gifts to us, giving freely, generously and joyfully in ways that are life-giving. Giving is one of the ways in which we show that we are made in God's image.

Peter

People of the Book

I once made the mistake of joking with a professor at an Islamic university about “us infidels.” He was most upset. “You are not infidels,” he declared. “You are people of the book.”



What book Mohammed was thinking of when he used this phrase, commending his followers to give special protection to Jews, to Christians, and to Sabians (a Jewish sect that died out not long after) is not clear. The Jews called themselves “people of the book”, meaning the Torah, the five books of the Law, and perhaps the shared history recounted in the Torah was what he had in mind – the story of Adam and Eve, of Noah, of Lot, of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

In this sense, we Christians are indeed “people of the book”. We share our understanding of God's first dealings with humankind with our Jewish and our Muslim sisters and brothers. We share with them the stories of Adam and Eve's loss of innocence, of Noah's righteousness, of Abraham's total confidence that what God called him to do was right.

But the book is not at the centre of our faith. Jesus, the Word of God, is at the centre, and our book, our Bible, is a description of how this is. Yet, like the Jewish Tanakh, the Old Testament, and like the Qu'ran, the book forms an essential part of our study, our teaching and our worship.

In worship, we do not merely sit and listen to the Bible being read to us, or being expounded in the sermon. We share in using the Psalms, sometimes explicitly, but often in the paraphrases created as hymns. And the Bible is the source of our whole liturgy. We echo the words of the seraphim “Holy, holy, holy” (Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8), of the crowds in Jerusalem: “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord” (Psalm 118:26, Mark 11:9), of the angels at Bethlehem: “Glory to God in the highest” (Luke 2:14). As Jesus taught us, we share his prayer to our heavenly father.

We need to remember, though, that the crowds who followed Jesus, who heard him preach and teach, who felt his healing hands and found forgiveness of their sins through him, were not students of the Bible. They mostly could not even read, for reading was a skill that the rabbis had, but the village folk did not. And as the church grew, it grew among people who did not read books.

Perhaps we should draw a lesson from this. Too often, we think of deepening our faith in terms of Bible studies, of passing on the faith to our children by giving them books. But in times past books were a rarity, and perhaps in the future, as our children peck away at their Xboxes and their iPods, other media will hold our attention. We have the advantage that we are not enslaved to a printed book – to a word, yes, but to Jesus, the Word of God. Perhaps if we look beyond the printed page to the substance of our faith, to Jesus himself, revealed not in print but in bread and wine, we can find a way to deepen our faith without “a book”.

For God's promise to Jeremiah (31:33), recalled in the New Testament in the Letter to the Hebrews (8:10), is not about a book, but about our hearts and minds. “I will put my law within them, and write it on their hearts, and they shall be my people. And they shall not teach one another or say to each other, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.”

- *Hector Davie*

Quotable Quote



(The narrator is walking past the homeless on a street in Manhattan)

A tall red-headed figure, a "Finn McCumhal" of the pavement, with green eyes, is enfolded in a tartan rug, which he wears toga-wise. He sells things - cheap abstract prints, black and white cubes, and the wounded orchids of Georgia O'Keeffe that appear both spent and fertile. I give him a coffee in the mornings, since he is stationed outside the deli. I asked him if he ever felt down in the dumps. He looked surprised. He said never. He was a mountain man and a Green Beret man. "Plus, I have God". Yes, that was his reply - "Plus, I have God".

-*Edna O'Brien*

- *Dorothy Beriger*

FAQ: Who pays for the Church?

Archbishop Justin Welby has come out strongly in favour of credit unions, as a way to avoid the extortionate rates charged by payday lenders. His action has also highlighted the fact that the Church of England has a lot of investments - £8 billion in fact.

With so much money, you might think worshippers have no need to give more. But this figure does not tell the whole story.

These assets (mainly land and shares, not cash in the bank) are held by a central body, the Church Commissioners. They originally came from gifts and legacies to the Church over the centuries, which has been carefully managed ever since. In other words, from people who are long dead (notably Queen Anne). The job of the Church Commissioners is to use these funds to “support the Church of England’s ministry particularly in areas of need and opportunity”. Their investments provide about £202 million that will help poorer dioceses with ministry costs, provide grants for mission activities, pay for the pensions of more than 32,000 retired clergy and other church workers as well as pay bishops' salaries and a host of other items.

Included in this figure of £8 billion are funds held on behalf of individual churches (including St Ursula's), schools and charitable trusts. The Commissioners act as a kind of savings bank and pay favourable rates of interest on these funds.

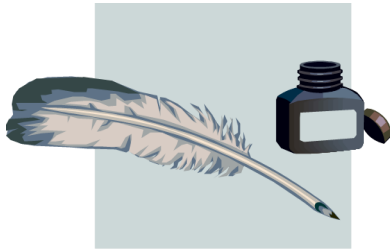
All of their income is used to provide resources for the Church's ministry but, except for some grants for specific projects, none of this money goes directly towards the day-to-day running of individual parishes. When it comes to paying the electricity bills for St Ursula's, we are on our own.

In short, we look to the living to pay for the living Church of today.

-PMP



A Word for the Month – Tittle



Around 1375, an Oxford philosopher and theologian, John Wycliffe, began to have ideas which the church authorities in Rome found worrying. He wanted more emphasis on active belief, less emphasis on the power of money, and above all he wanted people to experience the story of salvation themselves by reading the Bible in their own language. He set about translating the four Gospels, and commissioned other scholars to work on the remaining books. In 1382, the work was complete. Even though at that time books had to be copied by hand, Wycliffe's Bible still reached a wide range of people.

The church authorities found some of Wycliffe's ideas too extreme, and poured scorn on his translation. "The jewel of the clergy has become the toy of the laity," they complained. But the translation was honest and straightforward, and made a real effort, like some modern bibles, to use simple language that anyone could understand.

Over a hundred years passed before the Bible was again translated into English, this time as a result of the Reformation. William Tyndale had been impressed by the work of Martin Luther in producing a German Bible, and in 1522 set about translating the original Hebrew and Greek texts (Wycliffe only had the Latin Vulgate available to him). Tyndale's translation of Matthew 5:18 reads: "For truly I say unto you, till heaven and earth perish, one jot or one tittle of the law shall not escape till all be fulfilled." (Wycliffe had paraphrased the verse, rather than translating it literally.) Later translators did not change the reference to the jot and the tittle, and King James' team of translators retained them in the Authorized Version of 1611: "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."

So what is a jot, and what is a tittle? Jot is simply an English version of iota, the smallest of the letters in the Greek alphabet, and since the Law was written in Hebrew, Jesus presumably said yod, an even smaller letter in the Hebrew alphabet (י). A tittle (it's the same word as "title") is a printer's term for a mark that goes above a letter - the dot on an i, for example - the Greek term used in Matthew specifically means a mark to show that letters should be interpreted as numerals.

This is all very trivial - like the jot and the tittle themselves. But what Jesus appears to be saying is that trivial things matter just as much as big things. The

law is here until the end of time. Not just the big things – the Ten Commandments, the command to love our neighbour – but the trivial things (“You must not turn any leaven or honey into smoke as an offering by fire to the Lord” (Lev 1:11), “The firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck” (Exodus 34:20).)

If we were obliged to keep all the commandments literally, the path to heaven would be very narrow. This is the whole point of Paul's letter to the Romans – nobody living can be put right with God by following the law. But it is Jesus' point too – the sentence about the jot and the tittle follows his statement that he has not come to abolish the law, but to fulfil it. And the examples he gives (about anger being as bad as murder, and about the thought of adultery being as bad as the deed) make it clear that he is paving the way for a radically new approach, one heading towards perfection “as my heavenly Father is perfect”.

A law consisting of rules has to rely on jots and tittles to close any loopholes. But this is not the kind of law Jesus is telling his hearers about. It is a law that will be fulfilled in him, where there is no need for jots or tittles, because the real need is for love, of God and of every one of our neighbours. Yet the old law will not pass away. It will always be there, as a warning that without taking up Christ's cross and following him, we will find it hard to do what God wants – very hard indeed!

- Hector Davie



Lay Reader in Training

You might have heard (or seen) that I had my first sermon some weeks ago. Many people came to speak to me afterwards which was really encouraging. Some of you also had some questions about the Lay Reader Course which I am doing. So, I thought it would be good to write a few lines about it in the magazine.



First of all: What does a Lay Reader do exactly?

“The main role of Readers in the Diocese in Europe is both liturgical and educational. As well as preaching and leading non-Eucharistic services, Readers may teach children and adults, prepare people for baptism and confirmation, and lead discussion groups and study courses. They may also in some cases take funerals.

Reader ministry stretches far beyond the chaplaincy or congregation. At home or at work, Readers meet people where they are. Like every Christian they have good news to share, but their training and their experience give them an extra dimension when it comes to talking about faith, listening sensitively and offering pastoral support.” (Extract from the policy document on Vocation to Reader Ministry).

Before I could embark on the course I had to undergo a strict screening process. I was asked to describe my Christian journey and sense of calling. Along with that Father Peter and two other referees (someone from the congregation and someone who could give feedback about my behaviour outside church) were asked to comment on my conduct. Moreover Council had to consider the financial implications and pass and minute a resolution of support and sponsorship for me. Bishop David, the Warden of Readers, then arranged for documents to be sent for me which enable me to comply with Child Protection regulations. Thereafter Bishop David arranged an interview with Rev. Robin Stockitt in Germany to discuss my application. Only after these steps was I given the permission to be a “Lay Reader in Training”.

In order to complete my studies I will have to do the following six modules within the next three years:

Old Testament Introduction

New Testament Introduction

The Creeds – Their Making and Message

Christian Ethics

Common Worship

The Holy Spirit and the People of God

The course material is provided by St John's Nottingham. These modules are complemented by training in preaching, teaching and pastoral care. There is also the opportunity to take part in a residential Diocesan course in England on "The Anglican Tradition".

I started my studies around 6 months ago and have almost completed the first module. It is a distance study course, which basically requires me to plan ahead (and stick to my plan) so that family life or work do not get affected. Though the study course is demanding, it's very exciting too and enriching to dive into different aspects.

I am very grateful that Father Peter helps me to keep on track by reviewing my progress every few months, lending me books, answering my questions, going through the basic structure and ideas for my assignment topics etc. I have also a tutor in each module who corrects and rates my assignments.

Please pray for Father Peter and my tutors as they guide me through the course and please also continue to pray for me to be of good use to our Lord.

-Archana Jacob(-Chittazhathu)



Chaplain's Notes



Celebrations!

October is a month of special Sundays. Sunday 6 October is the nearest to the Feast of St Francis, who has become the patron saint of the environmental movement. On that Sunday we shall be celebrating God's gift of creation, as well as reflecting on our calling to be stewards of his creation. The Council is looking into our energy-efficiency at St Ursula's and you will have the chance to join the debate during our service.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving service is the following Sunday and we are pleased to welcome as our speaker Alison Eastwood. She and her husband Basil set up Cecily's Fund in memory of their daughter. After the service we shall have our traditional auction of harvest produce in aid of Tearfund. Please bring along suitable items to be presented in the service.

The next service with prayers for healing will be on 20 October, appropriately the Sunday nearest the Feast of St Luke "the good doctor". As is our custom, you are invited to come forward for prayer for yourself or for others.

And finally, the month ends with Pledge Sunday, when we have the opportunity to respond to God's generosity to us throughout the year.



November too is full of special Sundays. On the third of the month we keep the Commemoration of All Souls, when we remember before God our departed loved ones. Remembrance is of course the theme of the following Sunday, and poppies will be available again nearer the date.

November also sees the retirement of Bishop Geoffrey. There is a lengthy process of consultation before a new bishop is appointed. During the vacancy Bishop David will be in charge of the diocese. Please pray for him as he takes on these additional responsibilities.

The bigger picture

On the rack by the main door of the hall we have magazines from the other chaplaincies in the Archdeaconry, as well as from our Old Catholic partners and some of the charities we support.

They are there for you to borrow and read. It's always good to know what other churches are doing – who knows, perhaps we can pick up some tips from them.

This year's Pledge Appeal

27 October is Pledge Sunday – when we make our commitment of what we are prepared to offer to God and to the ministry of St Ursula's over the coming year. For some of us, this will be in service, or simply in love and in prayer. But many, I hope, will be able to respond to the appeal letter which will drop into your letter box a week or so earlier, and help to support us financially as well.

The budget for 2014 is not yet finalized, but typically, to keep the church's ministry running at its present level, we need around Fr15000 each month in donations, pledges and through the collection on Sunday mornings. This is in addition to what we can raise at our outreach events, and from letting others use our premises during the week. Some of us give generously – sacrificially even. Many of us give what we can, and it makes sense to do this through the pledge scheme, so that the church knows what support to expect. (And if, as we suggest, you make half of your offering to our “Charitable Association”, which looks after our buildings, our pastoral care and our own support of charities around the world, you can set that half against your taxable income!)

So please take time to read the pledge letter you will receive, to reflect on the little study it contains, and to familiarize yourself with our budgeted needs. Together, we can ensure that St Ursula's continues to offer living worship, a living ministry, and a living witness to God.

- *The Treasurer*

Flower Rota

It is with great joy that I have offered to take the step of "doing" the Flower Rota.

I was asked to do this 37 years ago (!) when I took over from Miss Chapman who had done the flowers on her own for the previous 20 years !

We are ALL very grateful to Yojena and thank her for the time she gave, as doctor and mother, to doing the flower rota. With so many very gifted and even professional 'flower ladies' at hand, I look forward to continuing with them and any new volunteers to help enrich our precious place of worship Sunday by Sunday.

- *Vreni Hawker*





CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2013

Friday 22 November 17.00 – 19.30

Saturday 23 November 10.00 – 15.00

This year, the Christmas Bazaar promises to be as good as ever, with all our usual stalls plus a couple of new ones too. However, as ever, the Christmas Bazaar is a team effort and all help offered is gratefully received!



JAM JARS NEEDED

We need lots of jam jars, they should be no bigger than 450g size, have all their labels removed, be totally clean inside & out and have their lids with them - please leave them in the Church Kitchen

PRESERVES AND PICKLES

The home-made jams, marmalades and pickles are always very popular, so if you can spare a few jars of your home-made preserves, please leave them - clearly marked - in the Church Kitchen.



CAKE BAKING

Please join us to help make this year's Christmas Cakes. All the ingredients are provided but please bring along any small cake tins that you have. Baking day is Wednesday 23 October from 09.00

CAKE DECORATING

If you can help in decorating the Christmas cakes, please collect one (or more!) from the Church Kitchen after Thursday 24 October. Cakes should be iced in the traditional way with marzipan and white icing. If you need icing ingredients, please contact Jana Kutesko 031 809 47 37 or 031 352 85 67.





TOMBOLA

The tombola is a wonderful “catch all” stall – we all receive gifts that aren't quite right for us but could be perfect for someone else, or perhaps you've over stocked on some food items or have some other extra goodies that you're happy to donate! Everything, as long as it's brand new, in perfect condition and not past its sell by date, is welcome. Please deposit any suitable tombola prizes in the Red Tombola Box in the Upper Hall.

RAFFLE

The raffle is very popular and if we can get some good prizes, will be even more so. If you can think of any potential donors or can donate a prize yourself, please contact Mark Wienand: 026 971 1336 or just bring the prize along to church.



CHRISTMAS DECORATION WORKSHOP

Please come along on Thursday 21 November at 09.00 to help make the lovely Christmas Wreaths and Decorations for selling during the bazaar. No special skills are needed to take part in this fun-filled day of crafts. Lunch will be provided – just let Chloé know you'll be there - for more information, please contact Chloé Hodler: 031 951 40 57.

BAZAAR RESTAURANT

Help is needed throughout the whole of Friday and during the bazaar itself. We'll need plenty of cakes, scones, biscuits or mince pies baking too! All help, even if it's just for an hour or two, will be gratefully received – please contact Tricia Carrick: pcarrick@hispeed.ch

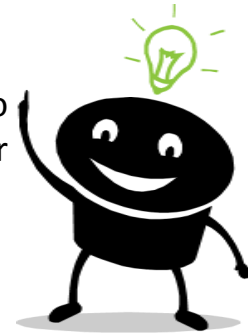


TOY STALL

New or second hand toys in excellent condition are wanted for the Toy Stall – please bring your donations into church on Sundays and put them in the Red Tombola Box in the Upper Hall.

NEW STALLS?

If you have a brilliant idea for a new stall and are willing to help run it, please contact Jana Kutesko: 031 809 47 37 or 031 352 85 67 – we'd love to hear from you!



HELP ON STALLS

If you can help on a stall during the bazaar, please either contact the stall holder directly or write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Upper Hall. A list of stall holders is available in the Upper Hall or ask the Church Office: berne@anglican.ch or 031 352 85 67 for contact details.

SET UP

Calling anyone who can spare a couple of hours on Thursday 21 November from 17.30 to help set up the stalls – either write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Upper Hall or contact Peter Masciadri: 031 829 18 69.



CLEAR UP

Please join our clear up team on Saturday 23 November from 15.00. and help make the church and halls ready for Sunday. If you can help, either write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Upper Hall or contact Walter Bisig: 031 932 41 69.

FLYERS

Please use the flyer with this magazine to help advertise the bazaar. If you'd like more flyers, please either pick them up from the Upper Hall or contact the Church Office: berne@anglican.ch or 031 352 85 67. Flyers will also be available in German.



We rely on YOUR support, goodwill and generosity for a successful Christmas Bazaar. THANK YOU for any help that you can offer!

- Jana Kutesko, Church Office



You are cordially invited to the
Cecily's Fund's
Annual

- Wednesday, 13 November 2013 -
**“Pumpkin Soup at
St Ursula’s”**

Homemade soups
with vegetables
harvested from the garden

11.30 – 13.30



Both events are free to attend but donations towards
the Cecily's Fund are certainly welcomed



Reminder about the Benefit Concert

Sunday, October 13th, 6 pm, Heiliggeist Kirche, Bern
Flyers are available in the Upper Hall.

We would be delighted to see you then.

How did we do?

“How did it go?” That's the question helpers always ask me at the end of any book sale or bazaar. Sometimes they are more specific - “How did the books (/ restaurant/food stall) do?” And usually I can make a stab at telling them.

With the books, it is fairly easy. Takings are practically all profit. This September, the team took Fr1926.50. Often they ask me how this compares with previous sales. I keep records, and can assure them that this was the third highest total ever for a book sale (though at the bazaar recent totals have all been above Fr2000 – last Christmas indeed above Fr3000).

The food stall is easy too, though here I only record the takings, which are not all profit! It is unrealistic to ask Jana to value her stock more than once a year, and profit margins on the different items vary considerably. So the figure here is the takings, not the profit. This September, it was Fr2675.25 – only four of the 23 book sales since 2007 have taken more.

The restaurant is more difficult. Firstly, the total in the cash box at the end of the day is not always final. At the end of the day, people go home with uneaten morsels and pay a few, or lots of, francs after the sale is over. The bills for the food may get paid in cash out of the cash box, or earlier, or later – sometimes much later. The figure I have on my spreadsheet, in this case Fr766.10 may turn out to be more by the time everything is counted, or may turn out to be less. It doesn't matter – the restaurant is the glue that binds our events together. It is more important for people to relax over a plate of food, a glass of wine, a cup of coffee or a cake.

For the fellowship is even more important than the money, and in terms of fellowship as well as in terms of cash, the answer is simple. It went well.

- *The Treasurer*



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 continuing a Florence MacKenzie Scripture Union bible study – *The Gifts of the Spirit*

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

- Wednesday, 16 October
- Wednesday, 30 October
- Wednesday, 13 November
- Wednesday, 27 November



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, 15 October
- Tuesday, 29 October
- Tuesday, 12 November
- Tuesday, 26 November



We will be starting a new study in October as yet to be decided.

Please contact Brian Morgan (Leader) (031 971 13 36) or Linda Bisig (Host) (031 931 63 86) for further information.

- Brian Morgan

Pilgrimage to Israel

The Rev'd Hilary Jones at the Anglican Church in Basel is organising a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 3 to 12 September 2014. The trip would be with McCabe Travel who are a Christian travel company who specialise in pilgrimages to the Holy Land. The trip would be for 10 days and would cost approximately CHF2400 – this would include all travel and meals.

The itinerary includes visiting all the major sites in Jerusalem as well as going to Bethlehem, Nazareth and Tiberias. In order for the trip to run there must be a minimum of 16 participants. If you are interested in learning more about this trip please contact Hilary by phone on 061 813 34 05 or by e-mail at hilaryjones@bluewin.ch

Church Office Changes



As a result of the recent telephone upgrade the Church Office's "bluewin" email address is no longer valid.

Please delete the old bluewin email address from your address list and replace it with berne@anglican.ch

- Jana Kutesko, Church Office

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

Neuchâtel Church

The Neuchâtel Church is now linked with Christ Church Lausanne.

For information contact Mrs Jenny Veenendaal (tel 032 841 64 32) or see the website www.neuchatel-church.ch

Calendar of Services

6 October – Creationtide

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Genesis 1:26-31
Romans 8:22-25
Luke 17: 5-10

3 November – All Souls

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Wisdom 3:1-9
Revelation 21:1-6a
John 11:32-44

13 October – Harvest Thanksgiving

8.30 Said Communion
10.00 Informal Eucharist
Deuteronomy 26:1-2,8-11
Philippians 4:4-9
John 6:25-35

10 November – Remembrance Sunday

8.30 Said Communion
10.00 Remembrance Service
with Eucharist
Job 19:23-27a
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

20 October – St Luke

10.00 Sung Eucharist
with prayers for healing
Isaiah 35:3-6
Acts 16:6-12a
Luke 10:1-9

17 November – 2 before Advent

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Malachi 4:1-2a
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

27 October – Pledge Sunday

8.30 Said Communion
10.00 Informal Eucharist
Joel 2:23-27
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 6-18
Luke 18:9-14

24 November – Christ the King

8.30 Said Communion
10.00 Informal Eucharist
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43



Prayer Diary

October 2013

- | | | |
|----|---------------|---|
| 1 | Tuesday | our Charities Team |
| 2 | Wednesday | volunteers in our church and neighbourhood |
| 3 | Thursday | the people of Syria |
| 4 | Friday | <i>St Francis</i> – our responsibility to care for animals |
| 5 | Saturday | people travelling |
| 6 | Sunday | Creationtide |
| 7 | Monday | maintaining biodiversity |
| 8 | Tuesday | all who suffer for their faith |
| 9 | Wednesday | making St Ursula's more energy efficient |
| 10 | Thursday | the TearFund water project in Uganda |
| 11 | Friday | members of parliament in Switzerland |
| 12 | Saturday | Cecily's Fund |
| 13 | Sunday | Harvest Thanksgiving |
| 14 | Monday | Thanksgiving Day in Canada |
| 15 | Tuesday | tonight's Council meeting, looking at our vision and values |
| 16 | Wednesday | responsible methods of food production |
| 17 | Thursday | your response to this year's Pledge Appeal |
| 18 | Friday | <i>St Luke</i> – the medical profession |
| 19 | Saturday | The Anglican Health Network |
| 20 | Sunday | The Church's ministry of healing |
| 21 | Monday | local hospitals |
| 22 | Tuesday | family members far away |
| 23 | Wednesday | The Friends of the Diocese |
| 24 | Thursday | thanksgiving for God's gifts to us |
| 25 | Friday | our responsibility to support St Ursula's |
| 26 | Saturday | resourcing the Church for mission |
| 27 | Sunday | Christian Stewardship |
| 28 | Monday | all hit by recession |
| 29 | Tuesday | interchurch and interfaith families |
| 30 | Wednesday | The World Council of Churches |
| 31 | Thursday | members of the government in the countries we come from |

November 2013

1	Friday	<i>All Saints</i> – thanksgiving for holiness in others
2	Saturday	the bereaved
3	Sunday	our departed loved ones
4	Monday	the development of our prayer life
5	Tuesday	the Clergy Chapter meeting
6	Wednesday	Church Mission Society, our charity of the month
7	Thursday	preparations for the <i>Nacht der Religionen</i>
8	Friday	Bishop Geoffrey's retirement
9	Saturday	Bishop David
10	Sunday	Remembrance Sunday
11	Monday	<i>St Martin</i> – chaplains in the armed forces
12	Tuesday	diplomatic staff in Berne
13	Wednesday	areas of conflict in today's world
14	Thursday	the United Nations
15	Friday	AGCK, the Swiss Council of Churches
16	Saturday	vocations to the ordained and licensed ministry
17	Sunday	all who lead the music in our worship
18	Monday	the people of Egypt
19	Tuesday	the Pastoral Group
20	Wednesday	people serving on peace-keeping missions
21	Thursday	our outreach to the English-speaking community
22	Friday	our Christmas Bazaar
23	Saturday	everyone helping at the Bazaar
24	Sunday	the Kingship of Christ
25	Monday	the groups that use our hall
26	Tuesday	victims of child abuse
27	Wednesday	the charities and mission agencies we support
28	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day in USA
29	Friday	other churches who use our building
30	Saturday	living our faith in everyday life

For Your Diary October & November 2013



Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.30-10.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork, not 22 November
Saturdays	09.30-11.30	Choir Practice, not 23 November

Other Events

	Sunday 13 October	10.00	Harvest Festival
		10.00	Youth Group Meeting
		11.30	Auction of Harvest Offerings for the Tear Fund
		18.00	Charity Concert at Heiliggeistkirche for Cecily's Fund
Tuesday 15 October	19.30	Church Council	
Saturday 19 October	10.00 - 12.00	Second Hand Children's Toy and Equipment Sale	
Sunday 20 October	10.00	Confirmation Class	
Wednesday 23 October	09.00 - 11.00	Christmas Cake Baking	
Sunday 27 October		Pledge Sunday	
		10.00	Youth Group Meeting
		11.30 - 17.30	JC 7 – 11 Activity Group Event
Sunday 3 November	10.00	Confirmation Class	
Tuesday 5 November	19.30	Church Council	

Saturday 9 November	18.00 - 23.00	Night of Religions in Bern
Sunday 10 November		COPY DATE
	10.00	Youth Group Meeting
Wednesday 13 November	11.30 - 13.30	Pumpkin Soup Lunch
Sunday 17 November	10.00	Confirmation Class
Thursday 21 November	08.30 - 10.00	Magazine Collating
	10.00 - 16.00	Christmas Decoration Workshop
	17.30 - 20.00	Bazaar Set-up
Friday 22 November	09.00 - 16.00	Bazaar Set-up
	17.00 - 19.30	Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 23 November	10.00 - 15.00	Christmas Bazaar
	15.00 - 17.00	Bazaar Clear Up
	15.00 - 19.00	JC 7 – 11 Activity Group Event
Sunday 24 November	10.00	Youth Group
	11.30 - 15.00	Nativity Service Re-
hearsals		



Future Dates

Sunday 1 December	10.00	Confirmation Class
	11.30 - 15.00	Nativity Service Rehearsals
Friday 6 December	TBA	Charity Concert for Fragile Suisse
Sunday 8 December	10.00	Nativity Service
Thursday 12 December	19.30	Heiliggeist Carol Service
Thursday 19 December	19.00	Thun Carol Service
Christmas Eve	16.00	Crib Service
	22.00	First Eucharist of Christmas
Christmas Day	09.15	Holy Communion (Said)
	10.00	Carol Service
Sunday 19 January	10.00	Confirmation Class



Junior Church News



The annual Junior Church sleepover was held on 30 August, the theme this year was "God's Worldwide Family". 16 children and several teachers "slept" over in the upper and lower halls and took part in various activities ranging from worship, craft, campfire activities and preparations for the Sunday service. We were fuelled by a fabulous grill (thanks to Edi) and pancake breakfast (thanks to Christina). This year the weather was kind and we were not rained off in the woods! Many thanks to all those who came and made the sleepover such a success.



Two weeks later the 7-12 Activity Club met in the church hall to make pizza and watch "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe". Further Activity Club events planned for this year are a cheese factory trip on the 27 October and a bowling trip following the Christmas bazaar. For further details, please contact Francoise or Sharon.

The Junior Church (Sunday School) provides Christian teaching for children aged 3 upwards. Children under 3 are welcome in the crèche/nursery which meets every Sunday in the lower hall.

The Junior Church has 3 classes:

Sparklers for children aged 3 to 6+

Trailblazers for children aged 7 to 10+

Pilots for children aged 11 to 14+



There is some overlap in the age range of the classes to allow teachers and parents some flexibility in deciding which class a child attends.

Apart from a short summer break, the Junior Church meets **every Sunday** in the year (except when there is a special All-Age service) at **10.00** in church. Children sit with their parents. After a time of worship together with the main congregation, the children normally go to their own classes, except that the **Pilots** stay in church on the second Sunday of the month and help in various ways. The children rejoin the main congregation in church for a blessing at communion on the second and fourth Sundays in the month.

If you would like more information about the Junior Church, please contact one of the people in the who's who list.

- *Sharon Batley*

Happy Birthday!

Congratulations to the Junior Church Children with birthdays in October and November:



Darcy Wildhaber 16 on 1 October

Gabriela Cintron 5 on 19 November

Amélie Sims 11 on 1 October

Karl Gertsch 6 on 26 November

Matthew Batley 13 on 10 October

Naomi Kingori 12 on 28 November

Gemma Masciadri 15 on 20 October

New Youth Confirmation Class

A new confirmation class for young people is starting on Sunday 20 October. There are ten young people aged 12 to 15 who plan to join the class. The class will run for about 18 months, with meetings on Sunday mornings, normally on the first and third Sunday of each month. You can find the dates for the meetings in October and November on the “For Your Diary” page in this magazine.

As leaders, Peter and I are looking forward to getting to know the young people better and to lots of interesting discussions. As Christians, we are all on a journey and we hope we can all travel a few steps together, learning more about God and aspects of the Christian faith on the way. We appreciate your support and prayers for this new group.

- *Tricia Carrick*

Coming to a Church Near You...



Once again, the teens of St Ursula’s have pulled together to bring you spectacular Christmas drama, entitled “More Than a Baby”. The play, chosen by the Youth Group members, will make you laugh and maybe think anew about the real people involved in Christ’s birth. As in 2011, the Youth Group will perform their special skit before the Junior Church has us all singing and dancing (well, maybe not dancing...). If you’ve never seen the young talent at St Ursula’s, you’re missing a treat. Make sure to catch the special Nativity Service on 8 December!

- *Mary McKinley*

Your Child At Risk



That title may sound a bit sensational (well, it is a bit over the top), but I wanted to get your attention. Did you know that one in five teens have been the victims of bullying online, according to the Swiss youth organisation Pro Juventute? In fact, the organisation has set up an emergency hotline, “147”, for teens in need of an open ear and advice, and the number of calls has increased significantly in recent times. Yet in a survey, more than half of Swiss people were unaware that this is even a ‘thing’. It’s called cyber-bullying, and it’s on the rise.

As stated in a Swissinfo.ch article last year, “Cyber-bullying is particularly threatening to teens because it continues away from school, is not monitored by adults and can often be conducted anonymously.” Cyberbullying can be anything from anonymous jibes, such as name-calling and teasing, to overwhelming cruelty and threats from a myriad of sources. There are so many ways to communicate online; it can come in the form of texts, tweets, pictures, emails, Facebook posts, YouTube videos, chat room messages, etcetera, etcetera. Swissinfo.ch goes on to say that, “In some cases, such bullying has led to teen insomnia, depression and even suicide.”

The Youth Group discussed this problem at a recent meeting, and while luckily none of the attending members have been bullied online as of yet, the general opinion was that if they were harassed online, they’d just ignore it and the bully would probably stop. According to cyberbullying.us, that’s not the best strategy. Here’s what your child should do if he/she receives threatening, cruel or unwanted communications online:

Do not respond to the bully.

Do not delete the communication.

Show the communication to a parent or a teacher.

Or call the Pro Juventute emergency hotline on “147”

Make sure you talk to your youth and that they know that bullying isn’t just something that happens at school, that we all deserve to be treated with respect, and it’s not the victim’s fault. Moreover, that they are not alone.

- Mary McKinley

Charity of the Month-

The Church Mission Society (CMS)

Sharing Jesus – Changing Lives

Have you ever asked yourself what it takes to be a missional (or mission minded) church? CMS, one of the oldest mission organizations of the Church of England, is challenging its supporters to become directly involved with their mission outreach. There is more to supporting missions than giving financial support and praying for projects.

CMS gives churches an opportunity to connect with individual missionaries and so establish a link to their work. This can be through e-mail or letters, remembering birthdays or by giving practical help when they return from the field. In return the workers keep the church informed periodically about the challenges they face and the progress of their project and, if possible, visit the church and give them an update in person.

Might this be a way for St Ursula's to get more involved with Missions?

Here are some stories from the CMS Newsletter about the people who are touched by their ministry.

Twelve years, three mission partners, one joyous birth



From years of misery to happy mum, thanks to medical and spiritual care from CMS mission partners.

Photo: Schoonbees/CMS

In a story that spans a dozen years and involves three CMS mission partners, a woman in Rwanda has gone from hopeless misery to happy mum.

Vestine was 17 years old when she went into labour 12 years ago. She lacked a fully developed pelvic bone and had prolonged labour with the baby's head impacted in her pelvis for many hours. This caused tissue to break down and she developed a large defect between her bladder and vagina. The baby was stillborn.

After this trauma the misery continued as Vestine leaked urine continuously. Her boyfriend left her and she became an outcast because of the odour that surrounded her.

Searching for a cure, Vestine eventually came to Gahini Hospital, where (former) mission partner Dr Adrian Shutt visited regularly to perform surgery on women with fistulas.

It took three attempts, but Vestine was eventually restored to health. She frequently returned to the hospital with other young women seeking surgery. According to mission partners Drs Bertha and Wim Schoonbee, who've been serving at Gahini since 2003, "We noticed Vestine receiving inner healing after years of rejection.

"A good young man soon noticed her beautiful grace-filled smile. She married a caring husband and great was their joy when she got pregnant!" Now it was the Schoonbees' turn to help. "We planned a caesarean section under spinal anaesthesia. When the baby gave its first healthy cry in the theatre, she praised Jesus with us!"

Egyptian Christians respond to country's need



*Empowering unemployed people:
a Diocese of Egypt vocational
training programme.
Photo: Diocese of Egypt*

Traumatic events have made life for Egyptians - especially the poorest - more difficult than ever. Bishop Mouner Hanna Anis describes how the church is responding.

The past week has been traumatic for Egyptians. We witnessed bloodshed on our streets, vandalism and the deliberate destruction of churches and government buildings in lawless acts of revenge. One of our Anglican churches was attacked, and other ministries received threats. We praise God that our churches and congregations are safe, but we grieve for the loss of life and for the churches which were burnt over the past week in Egypt. The Anglican Church in Egypt serves all Egyptians, especially the disadvantaged and

marginalised, through our educational, medical and community development ministries. We seek to be a light in our society, and we continue to serve our neighbours in the difficult situation which surrounds us.

The poorest of the poor are the most affected by the situation in Egypt. As the church, we want to practically show the love of God and provide for people in this challenging time in Egypt.

It is very difficult for young people to find jobs, and the Diocese is empowering young adults (both hearing and deaf) through vocational training and micro-loans.

And of course, we continue to serve our congregations, and to teach the Word of God.

Two pioneering projects celebrate 10 years of transformation



Neema Crafts has given 100+ disabled people like Netusta new skills and employment.

Photo: Jason Koenig

Neema Crafts in Iringa, Tanzania and Jigsaw Kids Ministries in Manila, the Philippines are both commemorating a decade of sharing Jesus and changing lives among people who are often neglected or scorned.

Both projects were started by CMS mission partners in 2003. Susie Hart started Neema with three deaf young men in a workshop, making paper products from elephant dung and Kate and Tim Lee started Jigsaw with a handful of children from Manila's streets and their own children's toys.

Today Neema has trained and employed more than 100 deaf and disabled people in a variety of craft-making and hospitality skills. It has grown to include a cafe, guesthouse and physiotherapy centre.

"It's an enormous privilege to give paid work and training to people who would otherwise have no hope of accessing these things," said mission partners Ben and Katy Ray, who are now leading Neema following the Harts' return to the UK last year.

Jigsaw's four centres throughout Manila provide for the basic needs of more than 1,200 street children. This work is being overseen by Filipino Timothy mission partner Lendehl Salliado, who says, "Together [through food, play time, prayer time and education] these children experience the love of Jesus."

In these accounts the motto of CMS - **Sharing Jesus – Changing Lives** – comes to life and makes us aware of just a few of the many needs in the world. Will you commit yourself to uphold CMS in the coming weeks in prayer?

Pray

- that many people in need will receive help and comfort through CMS and hear about Jesus' love for them.
- for the safety of CMS workers and the people they serve in dangerous situations, especially in Egypt.
- for the deaf and disabled in Tanzania and the children in the Philippines, that these projects would be able to continue and reach many more who can benefit from them.
- that St Ursula's church will continue to keep in close contact with its charity and mission partners and intensify them where possible.

For more information check the CMS website: <http://www.cms-uk.org/>

- Esther Hutchison Funkhouser for the Charity and Mission Team





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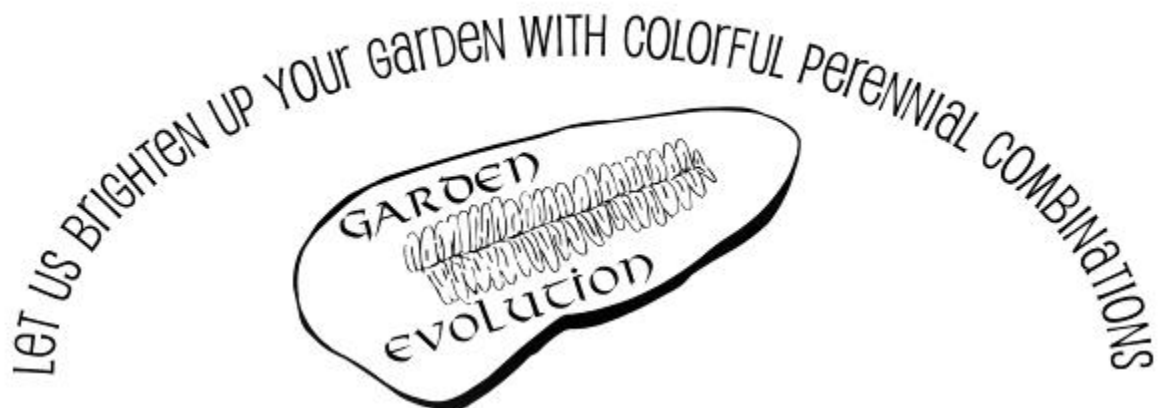
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Contact: President: Chris Warren

Email: cuwarren@zapp.ch

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Christian Giving

Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others.

- *St Augustine 354-430*

If I have but enough for myself and family, I am steward only for myself and them; if I have more, I am but a steward of that abundance for others.

- *George Herbert, priest and poet 1593-1632*

If you hoard a thing for yourself, it will turn into spiritual dry rot, as the manna did when it was hoarded. God will never let you hold a spiritual thing for yourself; it has to be given back to Him that He may make it a blessing to others.

- *Oswald Chambers, Baptist preacher 1874-1917*

Money is like muck, not good except it be spread.

- *Francis Bacon, philosopher 1561-1626*

