

# THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



February - March 2014

**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

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**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 all-age.

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

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**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](mailto:berne@anglican.ch)



# St Ursula's Church Magazine

VOL 33/1

February—March 2014

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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

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

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### **COPY DATE**

for the February—March magazine is

**16 March 2014**

Please send copy to [magazine@stursula.ch](mailto:magazine@stursula.ch)

**COLLATING DATE: 27 March 2014**

# Chaplain's Message

## LOOKING AHEAD IN 2014

Our Christmas services attracted more people than ever and there was a good, warm atmosphere at all of them. That gives us hope for the year ahead and it promises to be **a year of challenges and opportunities.**

We are fortunate to have a good number of children in the **Junior Church** and we have been well served by the leaders and helpers over the years. Unfortunately, some of them now feel it is time to move on, notably Tricia and Eva. We are most grateful to them for all they have done. It does leave us very short of teachers, however, so much so that we cannot sustain the pattern of having Junior Church groups every Sunday.

On the other hand it does give us an opportunity to involve the children more closely in the life of St Ursula's. They are, after all, not the Church of tomorrow but part of the Church today. Our response to this challenge is **ACT**. On the second Sunday of the month we shall be **All in Church Together**. All-age worship is what it says – not a children's service that adults have to sit through, nor an adult service that children can't understand, nor something in between that satisfies neither. The aim is to include elements that everyone can respond to at their own level – just like a family celebration at home.

On the fourth Sunday Junior Church will focus on worship. Worship is what the Church does and you learn it by doing it. We hope to start a children's choir, which will contribute to our services from time to time. In short, **there will be Junior Church every Sunday** but sometimes it will be alongside Adult Church.

Something else people of all ages can do is **pray** and it is vital if we are to turn our challenges into opportunities. During Lent, which starts on 5 March, I should like us to put into practice the line "the voice of prayer is never silent". If everyone would commit to spending at least 15 minutes a day, we could certainly have a continuous **Wave of Prayer** throughout Lent. Look out for more details and a rota soon.

The Diocese has been discussing **restructuring** for the past eight years or so. The plan was to appoint four paid full-time Archdeacons. Unfortunately this has had to be abandoned for financial reasons and the Archdeacons (including myself) have to continue doing two jobs. A small amount of money has been made available from central funds, however. Council has agreed that some of this should be used to pay for additional hours in the Church Office to relieve me of some of the administrative tasks as Archdeacon. The Rev'd Mark Pogson has kindly agreed to take on additional duties as Associate Priest. This will

enable us to expand our ministry in the Lake Thun area, give me more time to work on growth and development across the chaplaincy as a whole and, thirdly, to provide regular Sunday cover when I need to be with other churches in the Archdeaconry. Once again, a setback could be opening up opportunities.

A regular feature on our Council agenda is **Vision and Values**. We embarked on this exercise after a study day called “How to be a better Council member”, which made a great impression on those who came. We have identified some values that we can be proud of but also some that are less helpful in our mission. For instance, how good are we at encouraging newcomers and those on the fringe to get more involved? We are not alone in this by any means but at least we do have new people coming along for us encourage. The opportunities are there. We shall hear more of this at our AGM on 23 March.

It seems to me that the key to turning challenges into opportunities is **openness**. Firstly, to recognise the opportunities as they arise and secondly an openness that is willing to give something a try. Being open to ideas and teaching that we had not previously encountered is also important if we are to make progress. Allied to this is **confidence**: that is, a willingness to accept that we are getting somewhere and are doing some things right. A congregation that participates confidently in worship and ministry is a powerful attraction. A confident congregation also breeds confidence in itself, so that people are willing to encourage others to come and find out more.

If I were to be asked what is the **spiritual thread** that runs through our life together, I would choose the phrase “**celebrating transformation**”. This is what we experience every Sunday (although openness is required on our part too if we are to realise that it is happening). We believe in “the Word who became flesh”, God's mysterious transformation that establishes the pattern for his creation. As the Holy Spirit transforms bread and wine, so he is also transforming us, changing us so that we become more Christ-like. If he can do the one, he can certainly do the other. We are witnesses to and participants in this transformation every time we are present at the Eucharist.

During Lent we begin to walk that journey that Jesus took to the cross, with all the challenges he faced. These challenges have become our opportunities, and the cause for celebration is that we are invited to take part in this transformation.

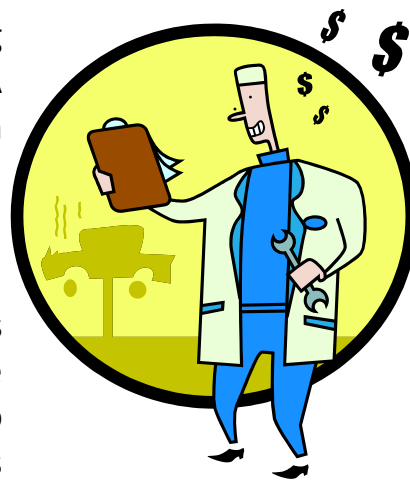
If we are open to the idea that our worship enables us to glimpse what God is doing, then we can meet challenges with confidence and see them as opportunities.

Peter

# All Breakages Must Be Paid For

In daily life, a lot of things get broken. A wineglass falls to the floor, and gets shattered. The washing machine suddenly refuses to spin the laundry. A loud roar reveals that the exhaust pipe has fallen off the car. The new DVD player stops working. What do we do?

We can throw it away and get a new one. We can complain to the manufacturer. If the breakage is accidental, or deliberate even, we can expect the person responsible to make the situation good – to buy a new wineglass, to have the car headlights repaired. We can repair it, we can send it off for someone else to repair, or we can replace it. It all depends on the value and the cost.



Around 1600, a Roman vase was discovered in Italy which was admired for its fine form and delicate cameo decoration. It later came into the possession of the Cavendish family, Dukes of Portland, and in 1810 they deposited it in the British Museum. In February 1845, a man who gave his name as William Lloyd picked up a sculpture and threw it at the vase, shattering it into tiny pieces.

The Portland vase was priceless, and the British Museum had it painstakingly repaired – not once, but three times – a fascinating story in itself. But where is the theology in that?

We talk of a broken world. But often we forget the full force of this image. Think of Syria, of South Sudan, of the barrios and favelas of South America, of the conflicts between Ulster Catholic and Protestant, between Israeli and Palestinian, between Sunni and Shi'a. Something, somehow, has broken.

We live in a world where famine is caused by a false distribution of resources, where floods are made worse by thoughtless building and development, where lack of opportunity leads to crime, where lack of satisfaction leads to alcohol abuse and drug addiction. Something, somehow, is not quite right.

Our world is precious – precious enough to repair and not just to discard. The reports of the world's brokenness we hear or read in our news bulletins should move us to do something to help, and not to turn our backs and pretend that we have not noticed. If a friend has broken something, our natural reaction is

to help with its mending. And if we see a passer-by in the street in difficulty, we do not ask if it is a friend before offering our help.

The Bible does not describe the world as broken, but as in need of healing – and healing means making something whole again. The end of John's Revelation has the tree of life growing in the middle of the new Jerusalem. "Its leaves are for the healing of the nations."

Just as societies can break, so can individuals – indeed we talk of shattering experiences, of broken hearts. Psalm 51:17 reads: "The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." Broken, not in the sense of subdued, as a horse needs to be broken before anyone can ride it, but in the sense of aware of its imperfections, and of its need to be healed, by the God who sent Christ "to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners."

Jesus shared in this brokenness, and through our own meeting with the body broken on the cross, we can share with him in the new life of the resurrection. We can do this through the broken bread of the Eucharist – but this bread is broken in a very different sense. A broken mirror becomes useless, but a loaf of bread is useless unless it is broken and shared among many. Lord, give us this bread always.

- Hector Davie



## AGM Notice

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **Sunday 23 March** at noon so please reserve the date. At the meeting, among other things, we will be electing church wardens, church council members and archdeaconry synod representatives so please start thinking and praying about people you think might be good representatives of St. Ursula's.

In order to vote you need to be a member of the Electoral Roll – see the article on page 9.

The official invitation is enclosed with this magazine.

# A Word for the Month – Alphabet

When I was young, my Bible had a long section at the back with lists of ancient weights and measures, a concordance of important words, with maps and pictures of Egyptian tombs, of Assyrian war scenes, of temples, coins, of anything that could provide an insight into the background of Bible times. In this section was a chart showing the development of the alphabet – how a picture of an ox's head with horns turned upside-down became our letter A, or how a drawing of a village house (*beth* in Hebrew) gave us our B.

In Bible times, only a few people could read or write – rulers, administrators, traders, priests. But a knowledge of the alphabet was the key to wisdom, and wisdom, as the Book of Proverbs frequently reminds us, is more valuable than gold and more precious than rubies. The Hebrew alphabet had 22 letters in a fixed order, running from A to T (our own alphabet omits a couple of them, and tacks six more on at the end). One way to display one's wisdom was to show that one knew the alphabet.

The writers of several of the Psalms, of the Book of Lamentations, and of part of Proverbs, used their skills to compose verses starting with successive letters of the alphabet – so all the chapters of Lamentations have 22 verses, apart from chapter 3, which has 66 (with three successive verses starting with the same letter). The longest of these compositions is Psalm 119, running to 176 verses, with eight verses to each letter. The shortest are Psalms 111 and 112, with ten verses each, with two or three short sentences per verse. (Other Psalms are 9 and 10 together, 25, 34, 37 and 145.)

We might think that a person writing poetry alphabetically is showing off, and attempts to produce the same effect in English (as in Ronald Knox's translation of the Bible) certainly sound strange and stilted. But the object of the writer is to show that God is present from beginning to end. In the words of Isaiah 44:6: “Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.” So part of Psalm 119's message is that the wisdom of God's law has no end, Psalm 111 praises God “from A to Z”, Lamentations depicts the utter desolation of Jerusalem.

The same theme recurs in the Book of Revelation, with the Greek alphabet. The Greeks had added five letters after T, the last of which was “big O” - omega, Ω. In Rev.1:8, ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega’, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. And everything else in between, one might add!



The fixed order of the alphabet led to Hebrew speakers (and Arabs, and Greeks) using the letters as numbers. (Our modern numbers did not come into use until the sixth century AD.) For example, in Greek, B was 2, H was 8, I was 10, K 20, M 40, T 300, and so on. One result of this was that ordinary words could have numerical meanings – in the example above, BIT would equal 312, HIT 318. KIT would be 330. In this way, a name could be secretly alluded to: the Emperor Nero as number 666, for example (Rev 13:18). And the fixed order of the letters also allowed for codes and ciphers – for example, by using a code rather like replacing ABCD with ZYXW, Jeremiah secretly refers to the hated state of Babylon (*Babel*) as *Shishak* (Jer 25:26 and 51:41).

The Bible contains secret codes but it is not full of them, though, in the way Dan Brown would like us to believe. The time when Revelation and Jeremiah were written (Daniel is another example) was a time of persecution, when it was prudent to write in code. But for most of scripture, there was no need to conceal the real message, of God's power, God's majesty and God's care for us all. And this care covers everything from A to Z, from alpha (A) to omega (Ω), from aleph( א ) to tau ( ט ) from first to last, indeed!

- Hector Davie



## Children's Toy & Equipment Sale



This very popular sale will be held on Saturday 15 March from 10.00 – 12.00 in the Upper Hall.

Please let your friends and family know about this opportunity for buying excellent quality second-hand clothes, toys & equipment. For more details please contact the Church Office (031 352 8567). Flyers are available from St Ursula's website, [www.anglican.ch/berne](http://www.anglican.ch/berne)

# Chaplain's Notes

## WELCOME

The congregation at Neuchâtel will be welcoming their new minister this month, succeeding the Rev'd Dianne Cox, who retired last year. The **Rev'd Christine Bloomfield** was previously Assistant Chaplain in Strasbourg and will be Assistant Chaplain in the Lausanne-Neuchâtel group. The licensing is on Sunday 9 February at 17.00, in the Temple La Coudre in Neuchâtel.

## BAPTISMS IN 2014

To help with the planning of services, we normally offer baptisms on four Sundays a year. In 2014 these will be:

**2 March**

**25 May**

**10 August**

**23 November**



Additional dates can be arranged in special circumstances (e.g. family travelling from abroad). There also needs to be a preparation session beforehand, either with the clergy here in Berne or by their local clergy if the family do not live in our area.

## PRAYERS FOR HEALING

We shall be continuing our pattern of having prayers for healing in the main service on four Sundays a year:

**12 January**

**27 April**

**20 July**

**19 October**

Needless to say, I pray for anyone who is ill or in other difficulties in my daily prayers. Please let me know if you feel in need of prayer. If you are going to be in hospital or housebound, please tell me in advance and I will try to visit you and bring you Communion if you wish.

# Electoral Roll Revision

Each year our Electoral Roll is revised just before the Annual General Meeting (AGM) – you will find more information about the AGM elsewhere in this magazine.

At the AGM we elect representatives to the church council and also the churchwardens. In addition, this year we will elect our representatives to the Archdeaconry Synod who will hold office for three years.

In order to vote at these elections, you **must** be on the Electoral Roll. You must also be on the Electoral Roll if you would like to stand for election yourself or nominate someone else.

If you are not already on the Electoral Roll, may I encourage you to consider joining. You can find an application form on the next page of this magazine. Forms are also available in the church hall and on our website, or you can contact the church office to get one sent to you. Please fill in this form and return it to me. The **closing date** for the receipt of applications is **Sunday 2 March**.

If you are not sure whether you are already on the Electoral Roll, please look at the list on the church noticeboard in the hall or ask me.

If you have questions about the Electoral Roll or are unsure whether to join please speak to the chaplain, to me or to a member of council.

- *Electoral Roll Officer (Tricia Carrick)*

## 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](http://www.neuchatel-church.ch)



Church of England Diocese in Europe

ST URSULA'S CHURCH, BERNE

APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL

Full Name.....

Title..... (Mr, Mrs, Miss etc)

Full Address.....

.....

I declare that

1) I am baptised

2) I am aged sixteen or more years

**or** I shall reach my sixteenth birthday on ..... (being a date before the AGM)

**(delete as appropriate)**

3) I am a member of the Church of England or of a Church in full communion with the Church of England

**or** I am a communicant member of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and am in good standing with that Church

**(delete as appropriate)**

4) I have habitually attended public worship in this chaplaincy during the last six months

**or** My name is on the electoral roll of .....(parish or chaplaincy)

**(delete as appropriate)**

I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the electoral roll of St Ursula's, Berne

Signed ..... Date .....

When completed, this form should be returned to:

The Electoral Roll Officer  
St Ursula's Church  
Jubiläumsplatz  
3005 Berne

# Shrove Tuesday = Pancakes

It is a tradition in the UK to eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday – the day before Lent begins. You are invited to drop in at the church hall from **18.00** on **Tuesday 4 March** and participate in this tradition. Pancakes and drinks will be provided. Savoury pancakes with chilli con carne, cheese or cheese and ham will be available. As will sweet pancakes with the traditional sugar and lemon juice. If you would like any other topping please bring it with you.

We would like to welcome everyone, of all ages, to join us.

- *Tricia Carrick*



# Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2014

The Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2014 will be hosted by the Chaplaincy of Holy Trinity, Geneva, on Saturday 17 May and Sunday 18 May 2014, with a first rehearsal in the Evening of Friday 16 May. The music will include traditional and contemporary works for the Liturgy (Choral Evensong on Saturday and sung Communion Service on Sunday).

The Choir of St. Ursula's Church will start rehearsing the music from February onwards.

Our regular choir practices are on Saturday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30. Singers who are not regularly singing in our choir, but would like to join us for this event, will be welcome at our choir practices. Please contact Elisabeth or Hans-Karl Pfyffer (026 492 03 26) for additional information.

- *Hans-Karl Pfyffer*

# Family Life Mission guest speaker, 30 March

St Ursulas has been supporting the work of the Family Life Mission (FLM) in Poland for some years now. On 30 March, **Piotr Wotochowicz from the Family Life Mission, Poland** will be visiting St Ursula's and you will be able to hear about the work of the FLM during the service on this Sunday. As well, you will be able to share with him about the work of his mission during the Cecily's Fund Lent soup meal following the service. More information about Piotr's visit will come in the Sunday notices in March.

- Cecily Klingler

## Money and Magazines

With this magazine, you will receive a payment slip. Obviously, if you receive a free copy, you don't need to pay it – but it is simpler to send the same reminder to everyone. Starting with this issue, the magazine is again being printed “in house” - it will help towards paying for our sophisticated new photocopier. Please help by paying promptly.

If there is any “sophisticated” photocopying you need doing—or unsophisticated too— from simple flyers to colour brochures, have a word with Jana in the office. We have the resources to help you, and it makes sense to use our assets to the full – as with your talents!

- Hector Davie



## Christmas Cakes

A huge thank you to all who took part in the preparation, baking, icing and decorating of the Christmas cakes. I was again quite overwhelmed and am delighted to say that we sold all the cakes, with great financial success! Thank you also Vreni Hawker for the superb shortbread which has become an annual favourite.

- Libby Stewardson



# Christmas Bazaar 2013

It all seems a very long time ago ..... but here's some memories of the two days of our Christmas Bazaar.



Once again, the decorations team did an absolutely superb job with lots of beautiful wreaths and Christmas decorations to welcome our visitors.

A vast array of wonderful patchwork from this very popular stall.



Lots of imaginative crafts for our younger visitors.

A new stall welcoming everyone to the bazaar as well displaying information about St Ursula's and all the charities we support.



An incredibly well stocked tombola stall proved a very big hit amongst our visitors.

A chance for fellowship and catching up with old friends in the restaurant, plus giving people the chance to spot all the things they forgot to buy at the Food Stall first time round!

And of course, no bazaar is ever complete without all those thousands of second hand English books on sale.



Apologies to all the stalls that didn't make it onto the 'Bazaar Hall of Fame', - we couldn't have managed without you and you were just as important to the success of the bazaar as the stalls that **did** manage to get photographed!

Once again a HUGE thanks to all those dozens of people who helped make last year's Christmas Bazaar such a joyous, welcoming and profitable event.

For those of you who like facts and figures here's an updated tally of the results, stall by stall.

Patchwork	2515.50
Restaurant & Glühwein	2450.00
Second Hand Books	2540.40
British Food	9942.95
Christmas Cakes	1237.80
Christmas Decorations	1202.55
Tombola	598.80
Cards	196.00
Children's Activities	174.30
Bric à Brac	123.45
Toys & Lucky Dip	282.60
Raffle	722.00
Guess the weight of the cake	191.00
'External' Stalls	115.00
<i>Bazaar Expenses</i>	<i>151.20</i>

Apart from the British Food stall, all figures are net, i.e after expenses.

The final bazaar tally is Fr 22,141.15. - an excellent result!

Enclosed with this magazine is a flyer for our next Book and Food Sale on Saturday 1 March – please help to advertise this event. More flyers are available from the church website, [www.anglican.ch/berne](http://www.anglican.ch/berne)





# Nativity

Can you imagine being Joseph, going to register the birth of Jesus? The registrar asks for the father's name – what do you say? “God Almighty”!



This was the basis of the youth group's contribution to the Nativity Service held on Sunday 8 December. There were also three wise women who came looking for the baby. The registrars were very sceptical. So some young angels came and took them away to hear the whole story.

The traditional Christmas story was then told by the heavenly host, with contributions from Mary, Joseph, shepherds and Herod. The service also included traditional carols and some songs from last year's Nativity Service.

It was all appreciated by everyone attending. Many thanks to all who took part – in so many different ways. Thanks to those who learned their speaking part and spoke it so well, to the musicians, to all the members of the heavenly choir, to those who arranged costumes, props, scenery and microphones, to those who helped with rehearsals, to those parents who brought their children along. There are too many people to mention by name – but without you all, it simply would not have been possible.

There are more photos on the church's Picasa site (click on “Pictures” on the St Ursula's home page). If you have photos that we can add please let me know.

*-Tricia Carrick*



# Junior Church News

Sadly, this year both Tricia and Eva are leaving the teaching team after more than 10 years of teaching the Junior Church. In that time they have helped plan, coordinate and run virtually uncountable sleep-overs, nativity plays, summer camps, activities, other special events and above all they taught the children and youths of St Ursula's faithfully and lovingly. We would like to thank them from the bottom of our hearts for all the work and passion they have put into their ministry. They will be sorely missed, although Tricia won't be far away, as she is leading the confirmation class which many of the Pilots also attend. Eva on the other hand will be far away, as she is spending six months in the USA; we wish her a safe and interesting time.

## Teaching Material

The Junior Church uses material from Seasons of the Spirit ([www.seasonsonline.ca](http://www.seasonsonline.ca)), which offers a range of information, ideas and teaching material for different age groups. The lessons follow the same lectionary as the services in church. This means that the whole church family is learning and focusing on the same topics, each in an age-appropriate manner. February will be looking at the Sermon on the Mount, followed by Lent in March.

## Help Needed

This year three teachers will be leaving the team, which unfortunately leaves us severely understaffed. At the moment we cannot offer Junior Church on a weekly basis. We are using this as an opportunity to have more all-age worship. However, without more helpers, it might not be possible to keep up a Junior Church ministry. Please, if you feel drawn to teaching or have ever been interested, now would be the time to step forward and join the team. I personally find that I learn at least as much preparing and from the children as they do from me. It is also very fulfilling to interact with and see the next generation of the church maturing in all aspects of life. Contact Father Peter, Jana Kutesko or anyone on the teaching rota if you would like more information.



## Classes

The Junior Church meets almost every Sunday during the service. The second Sunday of each month is an all-age worship. Children start with the main congregation, then leave together for their classes after the welcome. There are three classes by age:

Sparklers (3 - 6+)

Trailblazers (7 – 10+)

Pilots (11 – 14+)

Children under the age of 3 are welcome in the crèche/nursery, which is available every Sunday in the lower hall.

- *John Hutchison*



## Youth Confirmation Class

The youth confirmation class last met on Sunday 1 December when we looked at various aspects of Advent and Christmas. Many of the members were involved in the Nativity Service on Sunday 8 December.

After that we had a long Christmas holiday with the next meeting planned for 19 January. We will then meet one time in February, after the ski holidays, and three times in March. The focus of the next meetings is “God the Father” and “Jesus”, with interesting and challenging activities and topics for discussion.

The meetings are held on Sunday mornings, normally on the first and third Sunday of each month – you can find the dates for February and March on the “For Your Diary” page.

Please continue to pray for all those involved in this group: the young people, their families and the leaders. If you would like to know more please contact the chaplain or Tricia Carrick.

- *Tricia Carrick*

# Teens Pulling Together

There's nothing better than having a sense of purpose - that good feeling you get when you know that what you're doing makes a difference. The teens at St Ursula's started a fundraising project last summer and since then have been pulling together, baking and raising money to help one youth a year realise his/her dream. You have probably already noticed and maybe partaken in the Youth Group bake sale, which takes place about two



Sundays a month during tea and coffee after the service. The baked goods are available for any donation at your discretion, and all the money goes towards sending a youth abroad to volunteer their time helping people in need. Has buying a cookie ever felt so good?

This year's goal is to contribute funds to send Ruby Wildhaber to Africa. Ruby, Maxine and Edi's eldest daughter, will be finishing Gymnasium this year in June and on October 9th will fly off to spend 10 weeks in Tanzania to take part in a very special project with Raleigh International, a charity which enables youths to get involved helping local communities in needy areas and preserve the environment. After a week of training, Ruby will spend three weeks getting hands-on, working with the local people in a community to, for example, improve their infrastructure and amenities. Then she'll move on to work with the environment, for example in a nature reserve helping to protect endangered wildlife. For her final three weeks in Tanzania, she'll go out on her own on a survival trek - alone in the desert or jungle, to discover who she really is and what she's made of. This is a challenging program and Ruby is ready to jump in with both feet!

The Youth Group are very excited that their work this year is going to contribute to Ruby's dream, and to another youth's dream in the future as the teens continue to pull together to fundraise. Keep your eyes out for the Youth Group Bake Sale sign, and for future fundraising events! This is going to be an exciting year for the youths of St Ursula's!

For more information about the program in which Ruby will take part, go to [www.raleighinternational.org](http://www.raleighinternational.org)

- *Mary McKinley*

# Calendar of Services

## 2 February – Presentation (Candlemas)

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Malachi 3:1-5  
Hebrews 2:14-18  
Luke 2:22-40

## 9 February – 4 before Lent

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 All in Church Together (ACT)  
Isaiah 58:1-9a  
Matthew 5:13-20

## 16 February – 3 before Lent

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Matthew 5:21-37

## 23 February – 2 before Lent

8.30 Holy Communion  
Romans 8:18-25  
Matthew 6:25-34  
10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Genesis 1:1-2:3  
Matthew 6:25-34



## 2 March – Sunday before Lent

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism  
Exodus 24:12-18  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

## 5 March – Ash Wednesday

18.30 Holy Communion with  
the Imposition of Ashes  
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
John 8:1-11

## 9 March – Lent 1

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)  
Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7  
Matthew 4:1-11

## 16 March – Lent 2

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Genesis 12:1-4a  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17

## 23 March – Lent 3

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Exodus 17:1-7  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-15, 27-38

## 30 March – Lent 4 (Mothering Sunday)

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
1 Samuel 1:20-28  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 2:33-35

# Prayer Diary

## February and March 2014

### February

1	Saturday	Cecily's Fund, our charity of the month
2	Sunday	"Let your light shine before others"
3	Monday	troublespots in the world today
4	Tuesday	today's Council meeting
5	Wednesday	the Willibrord Society
6	Thursday	vulnerable children
7	Friday	our colleagues at work
8	Saturday	the members of the Federal Council
9	Sunday	the Neuchâtel church
10	Monday	vulnerable adults
11	Tuesday	people facing difficulty in their marriage
12	Wednesday	people who have lost a spouse
13	Thursday	the Mothers Union
14	Valentine, martyr	couples preparing for marriage
15	Saturday	people caring for their spouse at home
16	Sunday	our young people's Confirmation Group
17	Monday	the Train a Priest (TAP) Fund
18	Tuesday	chaplains with a vacancy
19	Wednesday	Christians in the Middle East
20	Thursday	family members far away
21	Friday	victims of human trafficking
22	Saturday	people resident in care homes
23	Sunday	"Strive first for the kingdom of God"
24	Monday	diplomats working in Switzerland
25	Tuesday	our Charities Committee
26	Wednesday	Old Catholic Theology Department in Bern
27	Thursday	the mission field in Europe today
28	Friday	endangered species of plants, birds and animals

## March

- 1 Saturday The book and food sale today
- 2 Sunday preparing for Lent
- 3 Monday reconstruction work in the Philippines
- 4 Tuesday The Bishop's Lent Appeal

### 5 **Ash Wednesday**

- a faithful keeping of the season
- shared prayer in Lent

### 9-15 **The first week of Lent**

- listening in prayer
- our awareness of God's holiness

### 16-22 **The second week of Lent**

- asking in faith
- perceiving the answer to our prayers

### 23-29 **The third week of Lent**

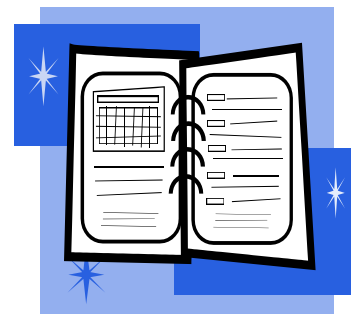
- the prayer of the whole Church
- praying for those who have hurt us

### 30-5 **The fourth week of Lent**

- honesty in prayer



# For Your Diary February & March 2014



## 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

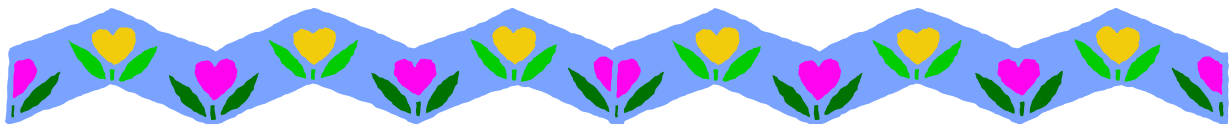
Tuesday 4 February	13.30 – 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
	19.30	Church Council
Wednesday 5 February	19.30	Ecumenical House Group (Liebefeld)
Sunday 9 February	10.00	Youth Group
Sunday 16 February	10.00	Confirmation Class
Tuesday 18 February	13.30 – 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
Wednesday 19 February	19.30	Ecumenical House Group (Liebefeld)
Sunday 23 February	10.00	Youth Group
Tuesday 25 February	16.15	Charity Team Meeting
Saturday 1 March	10.00 – 14.00	Book & Food Sale
Sunday 2 March	10.00	Confirmation Class
Tuesday 4 March	13.30 – 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
	18.00	Pancake Supper
Wednesday 5 March	19.30	Ecumenical House Group (Liebefeld)
Sunday 9 March	10.00	Youth Group
Tuesday 11 March	19.30	Church Council
Saturday 15 March	10.00 – 12.00	Children's Toy & Equipment sale
Sunday 16 March	COPY DATE	



	10.00	Confirmation Class
Tuesday 18 March	13.30 – 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
Wednesday 19 March	19.30	Ecumenical House Group (Liebefeld)
Sunday 23 March	10.00	Youth Group
	12.00	St Ursula's AGM
Thursday 27 March	09.00 – 11.00	Collating
Sunday 30 March		Mothering Sunday
	10.00	Confirmation Class
	12.00	Lenten Soup Lunch in aid of Cecily's Fund

## Future Dates

Saturday 17 May	Summer Fête
Saturday 17 May— Sunday 18 May	Archdeaconry Choir Festival
Friday 29 August – Sunday 31 August	Kirchenfest in Berne



## Happy Birthday!

Congratulations to the Junior Church Children with birthdays in February and March:

Cara Hofer 8 on 7 February  
 Andrew King 9 on 14 February  
 Justin Campbell 8 on 22 February  
 William Hockley 11 on 4 March  
 Christopher Shergold 6 on 12 March  
 Daniel Hänggi 12 on 15 March  
 Gemma Hockley 9 on 21 March



# Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld

*“Understanding the beginning is the beginning of understanding”*

We are studying “Unshakable Faith” by Rick Joyner.

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

Wednesday, 5 and 19 February 2014

Wednesday, 5 and 19 March 2014

Please contact Brian or Lynn Morgan  
(031 971 13 36, 079 415 26 19 or  
[bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch](mailto: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, 4 and 18 February 2014

Tuesday, 4 and 18 March 2014

We are also studying “Unshakable Faith” by Rick Joyner

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

- *Brian Morgan*

## Jam Jars!

It's that time of year again... the oranges are almost ready to make marmalade **but** I'm still 70 jars short, so a special plea for lots of jam jars so that we don't have a shortage of marmalade at this year's sales.



The jars should be no bigger than 450g size, have all their labels removed, be totally clean inside & out and have their lids with them.

If you have any to spare, please leave them in the Church Kitchen

THANK YOU!

- *Jana Kutesko*

# Charity of the Month: Cecily's Fund



## Building a Bridge between Berne and Zambia: helping orphans to go to school

Cecily's Fund, Swiss Friends of Cecily's Fund and the wonderful community of St Ursula's have enjoyed a long standing relationship, which has greatly benefited orphans and vulnerable children in Zambia. Following the founders' visit to Berne in 2013, we hope this article provides an update on what has been achieved in Zambia to thank you all for your support- and of course to encourage future cooperation!

As many of you know, Cecily's Fund is a memorial to Basil and Alison Eastwood's daughter Cecily who died in a traffic accident in Zambia when she was volunteering. This is the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fund: a remarkable testament to the founders and the supporters like you. We still work predominantly in the Kitwe area where Cecily was based, as this remains an area very hard hit by HIV. We have also branched out to support a community school in the capital city Lusaka.

It is congregations like St Ursula's who help to create a bridge to Zambia, where we helped over 8,000 vulnerable children to access education last year. These children face enormous challenges in gaining an education. When we visit Zambia, we meet countless youth who have to support their siblings, earn an income for the household and look after ill relatives. Understandably there is often no money to spare for school.



Martin (left) has graduated from high school thanks to Cecily's Fund

*'My mother is a poor widow who survives through peasant farming. She struggles a lot taking care of me and my siblings. I have 3 brothers and 3 sisters. I am the only member of my family who has gotten educated. Due to lack of money all my siblings have had no chance of going to school as such, they are working as maids and garden boys. I am very grateful to Cecily's Fund for sponsoring me.'*

Your donations enable these children not only to gain the means to go to school, but they also mean that each child is looked after by a contact teacher- someone working specifically with the child to make sure they do attend school regularly, to provide a sympathetic ear to overcome the many problems they face.

Judith, a contact teacher at Mukuba High School explains how her sense of faith is intricately tied to her work for orphans: *'As a Christian my reward may not be on earth, but even on earth I am rewarded for this work. I have done 19 years of teaching, and some of these (students) I've taught for 10 years. Some of them stay in touch with me and send text messages saying God Bless you, and telling me how they are getting on. And then I feel so wonderful! When they bring you good words, you feel humbled and encouraged.'*

Schooling gives these children tangible hope of changing their future. They also gain subtle but important advantages: they tell us that the stigma they can suffer as orphans greatly reduces once they go to school, and they meet friends who can become a supportive network to help them in times of need.

However, in these uncertain economic times, Cecily's Fund, like many other charities is struggling to keep up with demand. Despite on-going support from communities such as St Ursula's, Cecily's Fund was unable to raise the funds we expected in 2013, and this will have an impact of how many children we can support in 2014.

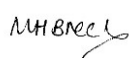
As you can imagine, it will be very hard to decide how a smaller pot of funding is distributed, as the need is so great. However we are taking this as an opportunity to make sure we are supporting those who are truly the most in need. We are also looking at ways in which our local partner organisations can campaign more effectively with Zambia's government bodies— with the hope that we can 'graduate' some of those we have supported on to government bursaries.

So on this 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fund, we ask you to renew your amazing efforts - and do something Fabulous, Fantastic and Fun to sustain the help we can offer Zambian orphans. The tireless Yvonne Bomonti is already organising the events listed below for the coming year - please support her and them in any way you can.

Inspired by them please also organise other events of your own. Yvonne and we in the UK office will be happy to help.

Thank you again for your continued efforts to build a bridge to help Zambian orphans.

With best wishes for 2014



Molly Brech

Director, Cecily's Fund

## A Concert to Remember

As always, the ground had been well prepared. For over a month, posters and flyers in every shape and size had advertised a benefit concert on Sunday 13 October in the Heiliggeist Church in Berne. The concert was to benefit Cecily's Fund, but it also formed part of the Heiliggeist Church's "open church" programme of events, part of an oasis of rest and culture in the middle of a bustling city.

The advertised theme was intriguing. The poster showed a *menorah*, and promised "Synagogue Music of the Romantic Period", together with works by Bach, Purcell, Mendelssohn and Vaughan Williams. They would be performed by the Louis Lewandowski chamber orchestra under their conductor, François Lilienfeld, and by the vocal ensemble Suppléments Musicaux, who were conducted by Moritz Achermann. Naomi Sánchez was the soloist for the opening piece, the first movement of Bach's Concerto for Piano in A major.

The concert attracted some 230 people. We were very fortunate that Basil and Alison Eastwood could be with us, and they were able to preface the concert with an explanation of the work of Cecily's Fund. Yvonne Bomonti and her team had worked hard to ensure that there were explanatory leaflets in the pews, and that all ran smoothly.

François Lilienfeld is famous as a scholar and interpreter of European Jewish music, and the concert showed off its rich breadth and distinctive melodious tones, from settings of the Psalms to synagogue chants of his own composition. Those who attended were presented with a fine balance of music, from Purcell's dances from the *Fairy Queen*, through Mendelssohn's setting of some of the Psalms and Louis Lewandowski's *Zakarti lach*: a splendid 19th century piece for the Jewish New Year.

British hearts were stirred, too, by the final piece, Ralph Vaughan Williams' setting of Psalm 100, composed for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, and the performers drew loud applause from the assembled listeners.

At the end, there was a chance to enjoy a drink, a light refreshment and a chat, to hear more about Cecily's Fund, to buy and to give money. The concert raised Fr3451 in aid of the Fund, and several people undertook to contribute later by payment slip. Congratulations to the team which organized the event and ensured it ran smoothly – it was well worth it!

*Hector Davie*  
*Charity and Mission Team*

Thank you so much to Hector for this splendid article and to everyone who helped and attended at the Swiss Friends of Cecily's Fund fundraising events.

## Please save the Dates

You are cordially invited to

the **SFCF annual "Lenten Soup"**

**Sunday, 30 March 2014** - at St Ursula's

and the

**SFCF "Benefit Concert"**

**Sunday, 19 October 2014** - at Heiliggeist Church, Berne.



**These events are free to attend but donations towards the SFCF are certainly welcomed!** We would be very delighted to see you there. Volunteers willing to help are most welcome.

Also huge special thanks for all your prayers, thoughts and financial support, to the Children Orphaned by AIDS in Zambia.

### *Prayer for Children in Need*

We pray for children who live without either of their parents: children whose parents have died, children who have been abandoned, children taken away from their parents because of abuse or neglect, and children who have run away from home.

You care for these little ones God, and not one of them is lost from your sight. Guide, guard and protect these children as they move in with relatives, as they live with foster parents, as they are adopted into new families or as they struggle on the street.

Comfort each one who feels unloved, unwanted and afraid. Give wisdom to people who make decisions about children's lives. Empower those who care for them to be loving and compassionate. Instil in our governments' leaders a passion for protecting the most vulnerable. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who loves the little ones. Amen.

With hearty thanks,

*Yvonne Bomonti*

*Berne Representative SFCF*



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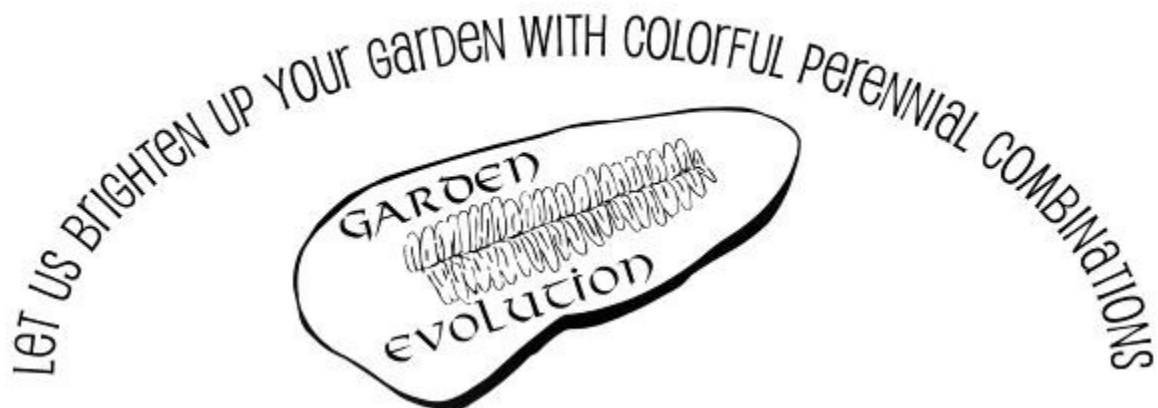
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Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email [g.tritt@gmx.net](mailto:g.tritt@gmx.net)  
International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, [www: icberne.2ya.com](http://www.icberne.2ya.com)  
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Contact: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

Email: [cuwarren@zapp.ch](mailto:cuwarren@zapp.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](mailto:bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch).*

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*Brian C Morgan, Clinical & Pastoral Counsellor*

*Falkenstrasse 2  
3097 Liebefeld*



# Here to help you

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Claire Morgenthaler 031 351 57 29

## **BOOK TABLE**

Rosalind Richards 026 401 14 21

## **CARETAKER**

Rolf Klingler 031 302 48 59

## **CATERING COORDINATOR**

Lynn Morgan 031 971 13 36

## **CHARITY AND MISSIONS TEAM**

Cecily Klingler 031 302 48 59

## **Church Council**

### *Lay Members:*

Jonathan Carrick 031 535 53 28

John Eze 079 489 58 46

Donna Goepfert (*secretary*) 031 931 27 42

Hans Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Chloë Holder 031 951 40 57

Tony Read 033 243 34 32

Edi Wildhaber 079 460 61 15

### *Lay Representatives to Archdeaconry Synod:*

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Donna Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Janet Wenger 031 839 46 53

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## **CRÈCHE**

Maxine Wildhaber 076 349 40 42

## **ECUMENICAL CONTACT**

Esther Hutchison Funkhouser 031 351 73 47

## **ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER**

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## **ENVIRONMENT OFFICER**

Walter Bisig 031 932 41 69

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## **PATCHWORK**

Elisabeth Pfyffer 026 492 03 26

## **ROTA COORDINATOR**

Ruth Freiburghaus 031 992 56 15

### **Chalice Bearers:**

Ruth Freiburghaus 031 992 56 15

### **Intercessions:**

Esther Hutchison Funkhouser 031 351 73 47

### **Readers:**

Allison Masciadri 031 829 18 69

### **Servers:**

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Mary Mead 031 982 00 37

## **THUN CONTACT**

Rachel Huguenin 033 336 29 54

## **TREASURER**

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## **VESTRY**

Sue Faillettaz 031 832 42 45

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# Lent

Welcome dear feast of Lent: who loves not thee,  
He loves not Temperance, or Authority,  
But is composed of passion.

The Scriptures bid us fast; the Church says, now:  
Give to your Mother<sup>1</sup>, what you would allow  
To every Corporation<sup>2</sup>.

It 's true, we cannot reach Christ's fortieth day;  
Yet to go part of that religious way,  
Is better than to rest:  
We cannot reach our Saviour's purity;  
Yet are bid, Be holy ev'n as he.  
In both let 's do our best.

Who goeth in the way which Christ has gone,  
Is much more sure to meet with him, than one  
Who travels the by-ways:  
Perhaps my God, though he be far before,  
May turn, and take me by the hand, and more  
May strengthen my decays<sup>3</sup>.

Yet Lord instruct us to improve our fast  
By starving sin and taking such repast  
As may our faults control:  
That ev'ry man may revel at his door,  
Not in his parlour; banqueting the poor,  
And among those his soul.

– *George Herbert*  
(1593—1633)

1 Our Mother the Church (cf Mothering Sunday)

2 any other authoritative institution

3 imperfections