

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



April - May 2014

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

Chaplain

Ven Peter Potter

031 351 03 43

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Honorary Assistant Chaplain **Associate Priest** **Youth Coordinator**

Linda Bisig

Revd Mark Pogson

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 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

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

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Chaplain's Message

It is sometimes claimed that there is no such thing as religious music because it is the words that make a piece religious. Nonsense! Music can reach the soul in ways that words cannot.

Beethoven's Sixth Symphony, *The Pastoral*, with its portrayal of the sounds and sights of the countryside – running brooks, birdsong, a thunderstorm – could well form the background to prayer. Without words, the music can move us to praise God for his creation and to thank him for all its beauty and variety. The thunderstorm in the piece could also cause us to realise the vulnerability of nature and to pray to be good stewards of what God has given.

His Third, *The Eroica*, contains great changes of mood. The second movement begins with a funeral march which graphically expresses the misery and desolation of the bereaved. It is music that would be a fitting background to the scene on Good Friday when Jesus' body is taken down from the cross.

Beethoven's great symphony, the Ninth, has a rather strange change of mood. His setting of Schiller's *Ode to Joy* in the fourth movement ends on a note of great spiritual emotion with the words “Und der Cherub steht vor Gott, vor Gott!” But then it is followed by a funny little march tune that seems to deflate the emotion. Is this akin to our prayer life, when we can be on a spiritual high one moment but then something banal and everyday intervenes?

For me, the third and fourth movements of his Fifth Symphony vividly evoke the events of Holy Week. The third starts with confident variations on the “V for Victory” motif but then a new and darker mood takes over. The same theme is there but it is somehow subdued and hesitant. The direction of the music is uncertain – a struggle is going on and the outcome seems in doubt. Then, in the dramatic transition to the fourth movement the darkness is overcome, the pace quickens and the symphony ends in a glorious finale. The fact that the same motif is there in the dark passages as well as the triumphant finale suggests to me that God is with us in our darkest moments too and that he can use these moments as the raw material for the new, eternal life which is his promise to us.

I have no idea whether Beethoven saw his music this way. But that does not matter. It is how we hear it that makes it religious. And what these bars say to me is:

“The strife is o'er, the battle won. Now is the Victor's triumph won.”

Peter

A Word for Lent – Sinner (what, me?)

“It's not my idea of heaven.” How often are we tempted to say that? Our dream holiday is ruined by the disco next door. The party we have organized so carefully does not run according to plan. The quiet relaxing evening at home ends in bickering and argument.

To us, these are very real obstacles to joy. But we recognize that they dwindle into insignificance compared with the refugee whose life has been blighted by war or persecution, with the exploited labourer forced to work for next to nothing and confined to a shared and squalid room, or with the peasant farmer starving from drought. These are wrongs that affect the whole of society, that stand in the way of the coming of God's kingdom. How can God's will be done on earth if people are still waging war, denying justice, suffering from natural disasters or famine?

The God who cares for the life of sparrows cares far more for us (Luke 12:7). God's will is for joy, peace and harmony, and anything that disturbs that harmony also disturbs God.

It is easy to think of “a sin” as a deliberate act to disturb this harmony – an act of anger, of selfishness, of greed. But there is also the sin of standing aside and doing nothing when some wrong is being committed, or letting God's harmony be broken and doing nothing to stop it.

The English word “sinner” comes from a root that means little more than “the one it was who did the deed”. It comes from a context of trial and judgement. But both the Old Testament Hebrew word for sin and the Greek word used in the New Testament imply that something has slipped and gone wrong; we have missed the target, we have wandered from the right way, we have not lived up to expectations.

Talk of wandering astray, of missing targets, is too narrow a definition. Sin does not merely affect us. It is not like failing an examination or missing a train. When we sin, we sin against God, and against the peace God has created. And very often, we sin against our neighbours too, marring our relationship with them.

As John's first letter recalls, “if we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (1:8). And as the next verse says, “if we confess our sins, the one who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness”.

In some cases, this will be quite straightforward. We lose our temper, we feel jealous, we cheat or pay no regard to our neighbours. But what of a relationship that has turned sour, what of a political situation that has become unstable, what of the injustices in the world that are an affront to humanity and which cry out to God? Nearly always, someone, or maybe everyone involved, is at fault. It is not for us to judge others, but we can examine ourselves. Is there anything we could have done to improve the situation? Is there anything we have done which has made the situation worse?

This does not only apply to our personal relationships, but to bigger social issues. Is our greed for sustaining our own privileged standard of living condemning workers in other lands to live in squalid shanty-towns? Are we unable to do anything to help the victims of persecution (even when they are in our own back yard)? Do we pray enough about the disharmonies in the world, in the lives of people we know, in our own circle of relationships?

It can be hard to define the specific causes of a breach of God's peace. But looking back and apportioning blame are not God's way. God's way is the way of mending and restoring – “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” (John 3:17). We must not close our eyes to sin, we must confess it and not deny it, but in Lent we must keep our eyes fixed on the goal – thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as in heaven. Amen to that.

- *Hector Davie*



Palm Sunday Procession, 2013

FAQ: Is the story of Abraham historically accurate?



Probably not, according to a recent news report. Why? Because archaeologists working in Israel have found some ancient camel bones. Radio-carbon dating shows that camels were not domesticated until about 950 BC, which is about 500 to 1000 years after Abraham. So the biblical picture of him setting off on his journey riding on a camel is untrue and science has disproved the Bible, so the headlines said. Coming from a journalist, this is rather rich since that profession is not usually known to let the facts get in the way of a good story.

It doesn't disprove anything, of course. The first five books of the Bible were written down during the exile in Babylon, between 587 and 538 BC. By this time domestic camels were a common sight and the writers simply assumed that Abraham had had them too. Shakespeare's historical plays have similar "mistakes" because previous generations had no way of checking the historical accuracy of details, and it would never have occurred to them to do so.

If we look at the bigger story, then the events begin to seem more credible. Mass migrations have been happening ever since primitive humans spread out from east Africa 1.8 million years ago. Much of the early history of Israel is about a nomadic people and the wanderings of an extended family like Abraham's are very likely to have taken place. In fact what has probably happened is that bits of the histories and memories of various tribes and families have been collected together and attributed to one person. This makes for a manageable (and more entertaining!) story that can easily be passed on to later generations.

We need to remember that the Bible was never intended to be a historical record or a science textbook. It is a collection of *religious* writings which contain the unfolding story of Israel's relationship with God. Knowing the historical background helps us to understand why this relationship was expressed in a certain way at any given time. To find out more about this historical background we need to turn to archaeology and other records. Treating the Bible as if it were an archaeological site, however, is to do a disservice to the Bible's real purpose.

In fact the only myth in the camel story is the myth that science has disproved the Bible.

-PMP

The Gardener's Clothes

From the day when Adam and Eve realised that they were naked and made themselves garments of fig leaves, exposing too much of the human body has been frowned upon in Jewish culture, and consequently in Christian and Islamic culture too. Paul, writing to the Corinthians (1 Cor 11:1-22), makes a point about women covering their hair that would find enthusiastic approval among the Taliban, but perhaps less enthusiasm among the young people of today.

Yet until quite recently, for a woman to wear a hat or veil to church was regarded as self-evident, just as a man would normally show his respect for a place of worship by removing his own head covering, or a Jew would wear a *yarmulke* (a skullcap whose name means *awe before the king*) to synagogue or Muslims would remove their shoes on entering a mosque. Anything less would be regarded as indecent.

It is hard to say whether Paul was condemning a fashion of the time or stating a general rule. Likewise, 1 Timothy 2:9 declares that women “should dress themselves modestly and decently in suitable clothing, not with their hair braided, or with gold, pearls, or expensive clothes”, but only in a context that suggests that people should think less about being seen in fine clothing, and more about being seen doing good works.

To come back to the gardener, even Adam felt called to “cover his nakedness”. Jesus, the Son of Man, the son of Adam, the last Adam (1 Cor 15:45), would also have worn clothes when Mary Magdalene saw him on that first Easter morning and mistook him for the gardener. He would have worn clothes when he appeared in the midst of his disciples in the upper room (John 20:19) and to the disciples on the Emmaus road (Luke 24:15-36) and at the lakeside (John 21). So where did he get his clothes from?

Of course this is a trivial detail, but one typical of the sort of point that critics of religion like to score. How did God create light so long before creating the sun? Where did all the water from the Flood drain away to? How exactly can you feed five thousand people with five loaves and two fishes?

To ask this kind of question is to miss the point of the story. Creating the sun on the fourth day proclaimed the message that the sun god worshipped in neighbouring cultures was an insignificant nobody, only good for “marking signs and seasons.” The story of the Flood was not a lesson in meteorology but a lesson about sin and cleansing. The feeding of the five thousand tells us how

God will not abandon us to a spiritual desert, but will nourish all who see God's presence in the resources God has provided.

The accounts of the Resurrection are not just a nice story with a spiritual message, though. The astonishment and the delight felt by the travellers on the Emmaus road and by the disciples in the room where they were hiding were very real. And the astonishment shows how unexpected the event was. The disciples had seen Jesus' miracles, the signs pointing to the new kingdom of God. But this was not some sort of super-miracle. It was something unique, and, as Thomas experienced, it had to be seen to be believed. But it was so far beyond anyone's expectations that questioning the individual details makes no sense.

The fact that it did happen is borne out by the existence of the Christian faith. If Christ was not raised, our faith is pointless (1 Cor 15:14,17). In the forty days between Jesus' resurrection and his ascension into heaven, the good news was not simply that he had risen, but that he had been seen alive. After his ascension, it was necessary for those who had seen the risen Lord to act as witnesses, so that others might believe. This is why witness is so important – Saul on the way to Damascus was unique in meeting Jesus face to face without an intermediary – and even he had to spend time with the disciples in Damascus to strengthen his new faith.

The church, as we proclaim each Sunday in the Nicene Creed, is apostolic – called to witness. It is through the witness of generations of Christian people, through their words and through their deeds, that we meet the risen Jesus now. Those who saw the clothed and risen Jesus in the forty days he remained on earth were indeed blessed, but, as Jesus told Thomas (John 20:29) blessed too “are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” May we in our turn bear witness to that truth!

- Hector Davie



Spring surprise

Spring has sprung a surprise on me! I arrived in Switzerland just a couple of weeks ago (3 March) in the expectation of the need for winter woollies, and what do I find? Glorious sunshine, mild temperatures (well, overnight a bit on the chilly side) and a definite sense that winter – such as it was – is rapidly exiting stage left. This was hammered home as I sped across France to an afternoon meeting in Paris just three days after getting to Berne. As the TGV flashed through the countryside, I could see the dull brown vista of winter-bare trees already yielding to hues of suffused green. First buds were cautiously appearing, punctuated by bolder patches of soft white blossom and at times borders of purple, yellows and white where the new season's wild-flowers were springing into view. The same was repeated the next day as I took the fast train from Paris to Stuttgart, there to spend the weekend at a conference.

This marked the half-way point of my current work-related trip from New Zealand to Europe. I had spent the first week in Melbourne, Australia, and had my first stop-over in Dubai. As with the Stuttgart event, the underlying theme of my trip has to do mostly with my research and publication work in the area of Christian-Muslim relations – a critical arena of contemporary concern. In Stuttgart, and a few days later in Berne, I spoke on the subject of recent developments and issues in Christian–Muslim relations.

Muslim and Christian intention to engage positively in many parts of the world is clear, yet the journey into this most critical of interfaith dialogues is by no means an easy one. Resistance, detraction and criticism from within both religions are constants, and in some parts of the globe mutual hostilities result in deadly violence. I am interested in both sides of this relationship – dialogue as well as extremism – and, indeed, it is important that both are given proper recognition. We cannot be starry-eyed about Christian-Muslim relations, nor do we need to be utterly sceptical and dismissive.

My travels themselves, especially by train in Europe, have been both enjoyable at an aesthetic level as well as instructive at a reflective level. My arrival in Berne had coincided with the beginning of Lent, the period of reflection and fasting that precedes the Easter celebration. Lent reminds us that life is a journey and, no matter the mode, itinerary, or time-frame of it, we all arrive at the same terminus. What then? What do we make of death, the ending of our life? How does the Christ journey inform and guide our own? What kind of end awaits – dissolution into material nothingness, or reception into meaningful acceptance and affirmation? Does the resurrection component of the Christ

story signal a transfer from the material train to a post-death spiritual one, where, in effect, our own journey continues? Or does it suggest something else?

Through the ages there have been many images and terms – heaven and hell, for example – that have been applied. We won't know until we get there. But the universal message of Christian faith is clear, nevertheless: the cosmos, and we within it, is the product of creative love, and this love knows no limits, no boundaries, including death and finitude. God loves us, and at life's end receives us. Confidence in that cancels any trepidation and anxiety we may otherwise feel as we contemplate our – and others' – finitude. And this confidence is reflected in the Easter journey and celebration which, in the northern hemisphere, coincides with the journey of changing seasons. This very change becomes a metaphor for new life in Christ.

As winter gives way to life-yielding spring, so we sense a glimpse of the deep meaning of Lent and Easter: the celebration of new life that arises from old, of transformation that springs forth from that which has otherwise run its course. Easter provides hope and encouragement not only in respect to matters of life's finality, but how we may change, grow, and receive new life within the life we now live. Like spring, Easter may be yet a delightful surprise. May our Lenten and Easter journey this year be full of meaning and rich in God's Blessing.

- *Rev Canon Douglas Pratt*
Adjunct Professor, Departement
für Christkatholische Theologie
Universität Bern
Professor, Religious Studies
University of Waikato
New Zealand



Easter at St Ursula's, 2013

Chaplain's Notes



One hundred years on

2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War and events are being organised in many countries. Although Switzerland was not directly involved, the war did affect life here too. Many wounded prisoners of war were sent to Switzerland and some of them are buried in the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Vevey, as well as in the Bremgarten Friedhof in Berne.

On Sunday 6 April at 18.00 there will be a special service at Lausanne Cathedral, led by the Rev'd Adèle Kelham. The choir will be made up of singers from several chaplaincies in the Archdeaconry and members of German and French churches will also be taking part. If you can, please be there to support this significant event.

Holy Week and Easter



There is lots of movement in our services during this week, some of it outdoors, as we remember the comings and goings of the last week of Jesus' earthly life.

On **Palm Sunday**, we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the joyful reception he got from the people. This year we shall be All in Church Together, so the children will join in the procession and stay with the adults for the rest of the service.

On **Maundy Thursday** we begin in the hall for a bring-and-share supper, remembering Jesus' last supper with his disciples. On that occasion he washed his disciples' feet and we shall do the same. Then we move to the church, just as Jesus left the Upper Room and went to the Garden of Gethsemane for those last hours of prayer.

This too is a service for all ages. Please bring some simple food to share and wear suitable footwear. We begin at 18.30.

There are two services on **Good Friday**. The Family Service at 10.00 traces Jesus' route through the streets of Jerusalem to the hill of Calvary and at 14.00 we watch with Jesus in the last hour. We hear the account of the crucifixion and we kneel in silent adoration of the one who both died and reigned on the cross.

The pattern for **Easter Day** this year is slightly different. So that as many of us as possible can get together, we shall have one main service at 10.00, when

we celebrate the Resurrection with the traditional ceremonies from the lighting of the Easter candle to the egg hunt. Please bring some flowers or greenery to decorate the cross and the Easter garden.

There will also be a quiet service of Holy Communion at 8.30.

Please pray for fine weather, so that we can make the most of these moveable feasts. And remember that, in order to enter fully into the joy of Easter, you have to have experienced what went before. I hope to see lots of you at our services in this crucial week.

Churches together

The Orthodox churches calculate Easter according to the Julian calendar, which is about 13 days behind the (western) Gregorian calendar. This year, however, the two coincide and the churches of east and west celebrate Easter on the same day. AKiB (Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Kirchen im Kanton Bern) is holding a joint service at St Peter and St Paul Old Catholic Church on Easter Day at 17.00. All are welcome.

The Swiss Council of Churches (AGCK) is holding a special service on Easter Monday at 16.00 at the church of Riva San Vitale near Lugano. This church has the oldest baptismal font in Switzerland and during the service the representatives of ten churches (including myself, on behalf of the Anglicans) will be signing a declaration on the mutual recognition of baptism. This means that anyone baptised in one of these churches is regarded as a baptised Christian by all the other churches. The declaration (expertly translated into English by Hector Davie) is a sign of our shared faith in Jesus our Risen Saviour.

Prayers for healing

Resurrection and healing are closely connected. The sight of the Risen Jesus healed Peter and the other disciples from their grief, fear and sense of guilt. Our next service with prayers for healing is in the Easter season, on 27 April.



Thank you

Shareene and I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes during her recent stay in hospital.

- PMP

Piano Recital

Tamar Usenashvili

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Thursday 24 April 2014, 19.30

at St Ursula's Church

<i>L. van Beethoven</i>	<i>Sonata no.23 "Appassionata"</i>
<i>R. Schumann</i>	<i>Variations on the name "Abegg"</i>
<i>S. Prokofiev</i>	<i>Sonata no.4</i>

Tamar Usenashvili was born in Tbilisi, Georgia. At the age of five she started to play music. She received her first music education at Z. Paliashvili Central Music School in Tbilisi.

In 2003 she began her training at the Conservatory V. Sarajishvili in Tbilisi where she graduated in 2011 with a master's degree in Solo Performance. Since September 2012 she has been a student of the same master's program at the University of the Arts in Bern.

Over the years she has performed with Chamber and Radiosymphonic orchestras in Tbilisi. She has given solo performances in such notable halls as Shota Rustaveli Theatre and the National Parliamentary Library of Georgia. She has also performed in different towns in Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaidjan, Armenia, France and Switzerland.

Entrance free. Donations invited.

Supporting Education — Together

Save the Dates

You are cordially invited to the SFCF annual “Lenten Soup” – **Sunday 30 March 2014** - at St Ursula’s. Your SFCF team will be serving delicious soups and desserts. All donations towards Cecily’s Fund would be very welcome.



The Neuchâtel Church will be organising the 3rd “Treasure Hunt” in aid of Cecily’s Fund on **Sunday 31 August** in the afternoon, culminating in a picnic. This year, Ann Morel’s clues will be taking us on a walk around her home village of Corcelles-Cormondrèche. As always, this will be a fun walk, ideal for families and dog owners!

ALL the entry money will be forwarded to Cecily’s Fund because generous people will be donating the food and the printing costs. Details will follow nearer the time.

SFCF “Benefit Concert” – **Sunday 19 October 2014** - at Heiliggeist Church, Berne, performing Synagogue and Classical Music of the Romantic period with the Lewandowski Chamber Orchestra, Conductor François Lilienfeld. Admission free, collection to enable Zambian AIDS orphans to go to school. Details coming soon.

We would be very delighted to welcome you at any of the SFCF events.

Cecily’s Fund helps thousands of vulnerable children every year get an opportunity to receive a quality education.

Education is the most powerful and effective way to help children escape poverty. It gives children knowledge, skills and confidence they need to shape a better future for themselves.

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

Prayer for Africans Suffering from HIV/AIDS

In the faces of the children who suffer from the AIDS epidemic, we see the suffering face of Christ. Help us not to turn away, in despair, frustration or apathy. Give us the courage to raise our voices and join with all people of faith in calling for drugs and medical aid for parents and children in Africa. *Amen.*

- *Yvonne Bomonti*

Berne Representative SFCF



SPRING INTO SUMMER FÊTE

Saturday 17 May 10.00 – 15.00

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

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

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

The restaurant also needs volunteers not only to help on the day but also to bake our usual scrummy selection of cakes.

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

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

For further information and to volunteer please contact the Church Office (031 352 8567) or email berne@anglican.ch

– *Jana Kutesko, Church Office*

Restaurant at the Summer Fête

We will be having a barbeque this year at the Summer sale but also lunches, cakes and drinks inside. Help is needed the day before to set up, on the day to serve, cook and clear tables. We also need cakes baked and scones etc to sell in the restaurant.

If you can offer help even for an hour or two please call Sharon 033 3369378 or email sha1977@quicknet.ch

Thank you,

– *Sharon Bachmann*



St Ursula's to take to the streets!

On Saturday 30 August, St Ursula's will be joining other churches in the city in the open-air Kirchenfest.

The aim of the event is to draw attention to the range of activities provided by the churches in Berne. In addition to street concerts and workshops, there will be a *Boulevard d'échange* in the Zeughausgasse when churches can, literally, set out their stall. This is what we shall be doing, to raise awareness of St Ursula's and what we have to offer. Donna Goepfert, Chloe Hodler and Janet Wenger have offered to join me to form a working party to plan our contribution.



The organisers are clear that they do not want stalls with piles of leaflets. We shall have some of those of course but we want to put on various activities during the day. So far we have thought of face-painting, badge-making, a quiz, banner-making and some musical contributions. If anyone has any other ideas, we would be glad to hear them. We also want to offer refreshments – cakes and buns, lime cordial perhaps, things that show the international nature of St Ursula's. We shall also need a team to set up and clear away afterwards.

During the coming months we shall be appealing for volunteers and we are looking for a good response.

The next day is when we have our Back to Church Sunday, so the timing couldn't be better.

Please pray and be ready to help, so that more people can find out about what a great church we have at St Ursula's.

-PMP



Calendar of Services

6 April - Lent 5 (Passion Sunday)

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

13 April - Palm Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 All in Church Together for the Procession and Eucharist

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Matthew 21:1-11

Matthew 27:11-54

17 April - Maundy Thursday

18.30 Commemoration of the Last Supper

Exodus 12:1-4

Exodus 12:11-14

John 13:1-17,31b-35

18 April - Good Friday

10.00 Family Service

Psalm 41:5-13

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Psalm 70

John 12:20-26

14.00 Liturgy of the Last Hour

20 April - Easter Day

8.30 Holy Communion

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 28:1-10

10.00 Parish Communion

Colossians 3:1-4

Matthew 28:1-10

27 April - Easter 2 (Low Sunday)

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Acts 2:14a,22-32

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31



4 May - Easter 3

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Acts 2:14a,36-41

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

18 May - Easter 5

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Acts 7:55-60

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

11 May - Easter 4

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 All in Church Together Eucharist

Acts 2:42-47

(1 Peter 2:19-25)

John 10:1-10

25 May - Easter 6

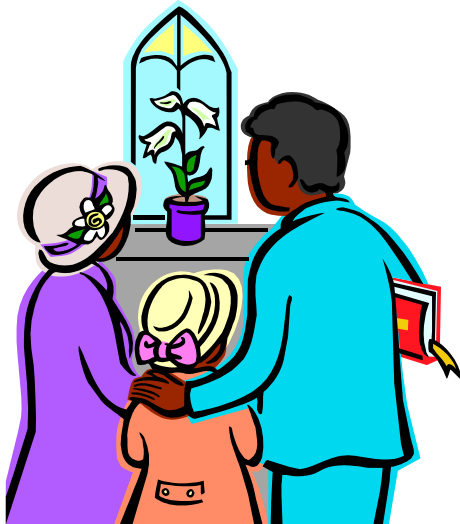
8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Acts 17:22-31

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21



29 May - Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11

Daniel 7:9-14

Ephesians 1:15-23

Church Breakfast

Why not have breakfast with other members of St Ursula's on a Sunday morning before worship. On Sunday 4 May and Sunday 1 June we will be offering all the ingredients for a simple breakfast. Come along from 8.30 and enjoy fresh rolls, croissants, jam, coffee and tea and a chance to chat and make friends. No need to sign up – just come along. Everyone is welcome.

- Tricia Carrick



Prayer Diary

April and May 2014

6-12 April, Passiontide

- strength and comfort for all who are suffering
- holding fast to God's goodness
- sorrow for the suffering we have caused

13-19 April, Holy Week

- being ready to take up our cross
- those tempted to give up their faith
- washing one another's feet

20-26 April, Easter Week

- give thanks for signs of new life
- remembering our baptismal promises
- sharing our Easter faith



- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 27 Easter 2 | From doubt to faith |
| 28 Monday | Family Life Mission (our charity of the month) |
| 29 Tuesday | Clean water for all |
| 30 Wednesday | New arrivals |

May

- 1 Thursday Being a Christian in the workplace
- 2 Friday Local town councillors
- 3 Saturday People working unsocial hours
- 4 **Sunday** People who have recently been bereaved
- 5 Monday Transport workers
- 6 Tuesday The place of women in Afghanistan
- 7 Wednesday Alcoholics Anonymous
- 8 Thursday The governments of the countries from which we come
- 9 Friday People looking for work
- 10 Saturday The Fair Trade movement
- 11 **Sunday** People making their first Communion
- 12 Monday Christian Aid
- 13 Tuesday Our new Church Council
- 14 Wednesday Volunteering
- 15 Thursday The Diocesan Communications Committee
- 16 Friday Carers
- 17 Saturday The Archdeaconry Choir Festival
- 18 **Sunday** Those who suffer for their faith
- 19 Monday The Central African Republic
- 20 Tuesday People working in the food industry
- 21 Wednesday Our vision and values
- 22 Thursday Outreach in the Thun-Interlaken area
- 23 Friday Holiday chaplains in Switzerland
- 24 Saturday People working in hotels and restaurants
- 25 **Sunday** People seeking faith
- 26 Monday The Archdeaconry Clergy Chapter
- 27 Tuesday Deliverance ministry
- 28 Wednesday Farmers in Switzerland and abroad
- 29 Thursday Ascension Day
- 30 Friday Environmentally-friendly farming
- 31 Saturday The Visitation - women expecting a baby

For Your Diary April & May 2014



Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.30-10.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork (not on 18 April)
Saturdays	09.30-11.30	Choir Practice (not on 17 May)

Other Events

Saturday 5 April	10.00-13.00	Talk on Christianity in the Middle East at Holy Trinity Church, Geneva
Sunday 6 April	18.00	“To end all wars” - an Ecumenical Service of Prayer for Peace, Lausanne Cathedral
Sunday 13 April	11.30	7 – 12 Activity Club
Thursday 24 April	19.30	Piano Recital & Apéro
Sunday 27 April	10.00	Confirmation Class
Sunday 4 May	10.00	Confirmation Class
Sunday 11 May	10.00	Youth Group
Tuesday 13 May	19.30	COPY DATE
Friday 16 May - Sunday 18 May		Church Council
Friday 16 May	09.00	Archdeaconry Choir Festival in Geneva
	14.00-19.00	Book Sorting
Saturday 17 May	10.00-15.00	Summer Fête Set Up
Sunday 18 May	10.00	St Ursula's Spring into Summer Fête
	11.30-17.50	Confirmation Class
Thursday 22 May	09.00-11.00	7 – 12 Activity Club
Sunday 25 May	10.00	Magazine Collating
		Youth Group

Future Dates

Friday 29 August – Sunday 31 August

Saturday 6 September

Friday 21 & Saturday 22 November

Kirchenfest in Berne

Book and Food Sale

Christmas Bazaar

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

Happy Birthday!

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



Anna Batley 11 on 1 April

Samuel Eze 1 on 2 April

Rebecca Shergold 8 on 11 April

Lily Janssen 6 on 15 April

Alastair Frauchiger 13 on 26 April

Eleanor Kutesko-Pawsey 15 on 28 May

Raphael Hänggi 15 on 29 May

Youth Confirmation Class

The youth confirmation class has had two very interesting meetings recently.



On 2 March we had a challenging quiz on “the life of Jesus”, based on the first 11 chapters of Mark’s gospel. The two teams were surprisingly good at answering the questions – just shows the benefit of preparation.

On 16 March we had a special visitor – an “envoy from Rome” who had come to find out what was behind the persecution of Christians in Jerusalem in around 50AD. All of the young people had prepared their part as a witness to the resurrection and they each told their story and answered questions. It was a fun way of looking at a well-known story and I am sure that we all learned something.

On 16 March, we also had lunch together – pizza and salad. It was an opportunity for us to spend time together in an informal setting – as well as working together in a practical way. Lots of fun.



The next meeting, on 30 March, will be led by Father Peter and includes interaction with Piotr Wolochowicz from the Family Life Mission in Poland.



After that, we will have a long Easter holiday, meeting again on 27 April when we will look again at the events of Easter. In May and June we will be focussing on learning more about the Holy Spirit and the Trinity.

Our meetings are held on Sunday mornings, normally on the first and third Sunday of each month – you can find the dates for April and May 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

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, 2, 16 and 30 April 2014

Wednesday, 14 and 28 May 2014

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, 1, 15 and 29 April 2014

Tuesday, 13 and 27 May 2014



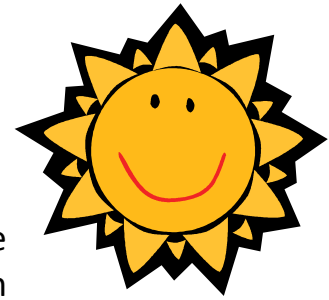
We are also studying “Unshakable Faith”
by Rick Joyner

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

Address: Flurstrasse 15, 3066 Stettlen

- *Brian Morgan*

Junior Church News



Classes

The Junior Church meets almost every Sunday in the upper hall after joining the first part of the service with their families and the congregation in church. The second Sunday of each month is an all-age worship. 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.

Confirmation Class

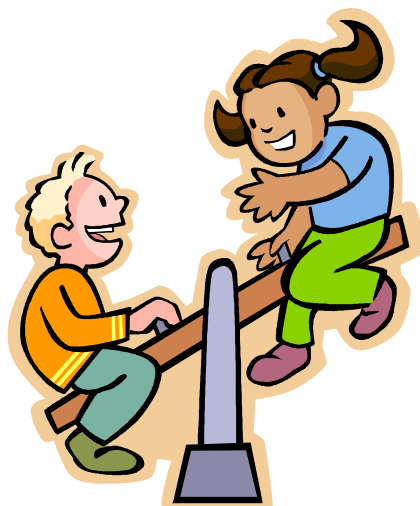
This group has been meeting on various Sunday mornings in order to prepare for confirmation. The confirmation service is planned for June 2015. Please continue to pray for all those involved in the group: the young people, their families and the leaders.

Help Needed

This year three teachers have left the team, which unfortunately leaves us severely understaffed. Please, if you feel drawn to teaching or have ever been interested, now would be the time to step forward and join the team. Contact Father Peter, Jana Kutesko or anyone on the teaching rota if you would like more information.

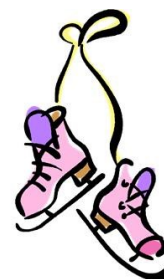
7-12s Activity Club

The Junior Church Activity Club continues to meet for fun activities, some of which are aimed at helping others. We also enjoy getting to know each other better and making new friends. In February we met for a fun afternoon's ice skating at Ka We De. The full 2014 programme is shown on the following page. For more information, please contact Françoise Haenggi (031 802 1005) or Sharon Batley (031 711 4148)



- Sharon Batley

Activity Club Programme 2014



Sunday, 13th April **Easter baking (hot cross buns and fudge)**
At St. Ursula's Church.
Time: 11.30 - 15.30. Bring packed lunch.

Sunday, 18th May **Goldwashing** and river games at Rotache river, Heimberg.
Time: 11.30 - 17.00/17.50. Bring packed lunch and sausages for BBQ.
Alternative programme if raining: paper making workshop at St. Ursula's Church

Sunday, 22nd June **Bike trip from church to Thun, Schloss Schadau (30 km)**
Bring games, packed lunch, drinks and sausages for a BBQ.
Time: 12.00-17.30.



Friday, 8th August **Summer holiday event: Schwarzwasser Canyon hike with BBQ and evening swim.** Meet at Rüeggisberg post office.
Time: 10h00 – 19h00

Sunday, 14th September **Harvest programme.** Make syrups, corn dolls and stewed fruits for harvest festival.
At St. Ursula's Church. *Time: 11:30 - 15.00.* Bring packed lunch. Cost CHF 3.00.

Sunday 2nd November **Drumming workshop.**
At St. Ursula's Church. *Time: 12.30-16.00.* Bring packed lunch. Cost CHF 5.00.

Saturday, 22nd November **Supper and ten pin bowling** in Rubigen after the Christmas Bazaar.
Drop off at St. Ursula's Church. Pick up at Bowling. Cost about CHF 25.00, including shoe rental + supper. *Time: 15.00-19.00.*



Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Sharon and Françoise

Tel.no. if you need to contact us: Sharon 079-482 29 72, Françoise 031-802 10 05

Charity of the Month: Family Life Mission Poland (FLM-PL)

A LONG TERM FRIENDSHIP WITH ST URSULA'S CHURCH

From Piotr & Mariola Wolochowicz, Warsaw, Poland

Family Life Mission (FLM) is an international interdenominational Christian ministry with a biblical focus on marriage and the family. It was founded in 1965 by Walter and Ingrid Trobisch, widely known missionaries and authors. After the death of Walter Trobisch in 1979, FLM workers carried on with the work in various countries in Europe and in Africa. As young students, Mariola and I had both independently read the books of Walter and Ingrid Trobisch, and we were each fascinated by the message about the biblical model of marriage and family. The day we first met each other was 8 May 1980 and very soon after that we started to talk together about these very books! That was really a good beginning and almost 2 years later, in February 1982, we married.

All our involvement in church renewal was influenced by the ministry of the Trobisch's. It was in connection with this that we came to Berne in 1990 to take part in a congress 'Jesus Hope For Europe'. In Berne our hosts were a wonderful couple, Beat and Chloe Hodler, and it was through them that we had our first contact with St. Ursula's Church. Two years later FLM-Poland became formally established and Mariola and I both left our jobs to become full-time ministry workers. From the beginning St Ursula's Church Charity and Missions Team has been one of our faithful partners, supporting this ministry with prayer and finances. We are so thankful for that!

All this time God has been faithful: He has shown us the way, given us His strength and has taken care of us. He will continue to do so – glory be to HIM!

Let me now share some current news and topics about current FLM-PL ministry, mostly from 2013 and some of our future plans:

Marriage Relations – we were invited to Myslenice (a town near Krakow) to give a seminar for couples, how to make the marriage relationship more cordial. In addition to using the Bible, we also took the example of Jan III Sobieski, a brave Polish king from the XVII century (he defeated the Turkish Army near Vienna in September 1683) for inspiration. His personal letters to his wife were an example as to how to cherish the marriage love. We made an exhibition showing how Jan III Sobieski can be a spiritual and human inspiration for us today.

Child Upbringing – in Poland we face not only the challenge of how to deal with the children, but also how to help them to become believers in these postmodern times. Parents need a lot of encouragement and tools here. We gave a seminar in Katowice in May. Also our book about this topic should soon be published. Throughout the year, small groups for mothers are running in Warsaw and some other towns in Poland. We try to combine them with special meetings for the husbands of these women. We also support parents in the initiatives of homeschooling.



Summer Workshops on Hel Peninsula – these are one of our two annual highlights:

3 weeks in caravans and tents dedicated to couples, parents and singles; just studying God’s Word, encouraging one another, building friendships – all in a wonderful environment.



Summer Workshops for Youth in Masuria - also in tents and caravans, in the middle of the wood, not far from a lovely little lake; the nearest town is Szczytno. Young people, assisted by some families, are studying the Bible and building character and working towards responsibility in boy-girl relations. One weekend was dedicated to an event called “Love Szczytno” with outreach there.



Generation Transfer – Our FLM-Youth-Group: throughout the year it has its



own activities, such as a week of kayaking in July, weekend conferences in May and November; regular creative meetings during the year. We, as the older generation, want to share our hearts with them as well as all the spiritual riches we have, and thus help them to build strong, integral personalities.

Being active in nationwide Polish pro-family initiatives – as an NGO we try to be present and support important events on this topic: we had our stand on nation wide Polish Conferences about family life, we also took part in demonstrations against sexualizing of the children (governmental sex-education programs are now obligatory programs in schools from the preschool level). One of our families came with a banner held by their 10-year old daughter: “Let me have a pure heart and pure thoughts”.

Let me mention last but not least, that Gosia, who on behalf of our Mission visited you at St Ursula’s 2 years ago on your Missions Sunday was married on 1 May last year to our son Daniel, so she is now not only our spiritual daughter but also daughter-in-law! They are both very happy together!



More can be found in our latest Prayer Letter (written in German), which will be available at St Ursula’s and there will be a photo display on FLM Poland on the charity noticeboard in the church hall.

Please note that on Sunday 30 March Piotr Wolochowicz will be visiting us at St Ursula’s. During the Mothering Sunday service he will talk on the work of FLM Poland in the sermon slot. He will also be present at Cecily’s Fund Lent Soup Lunch following the service so please do take the opportunity to hear more firsthand from him about the work of FLM in Poland.

Magazine subscription

Have you paid your magazine subscription already? If you have, read no further. If not, please read on. We produce and print the magazine ourselves. This is a way of keeping the production costs down, but not avoiding them altogether. There is the cost of the paper the magazine is printed on. There is the



cost of photocopying, both the unit cost per page to cover the cost of ink and staples and the overheads involved in owning the copier itself. There is the cost in time involved in production, from putting the paper into the copying machine to taking the finished copies in their envelopes to the post office. And there is the postage, for which we no longer qualify for a reduced rate. At Fr20 for six issues, we are a bargain. If you have lost your payment slip, pick up a pink slip in the church hall, or go to your local post office and fill in a neutral pink slip to credit account 30-4416-8. Better still, use telebanking to save the trip to the post office and the extra cost to us (for with telebanking we get Fr20, but at the counter with an orange slip Fr19.10, and with a pink slip only Fr18.50.) Many thanks for your support.

- *The Treasurer*

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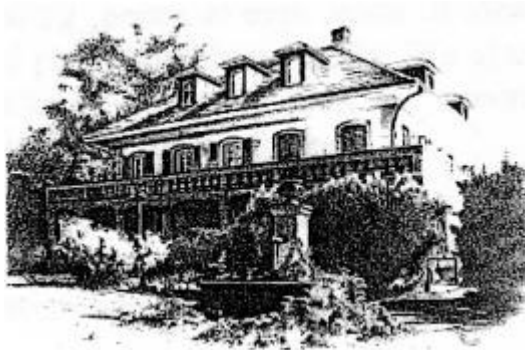
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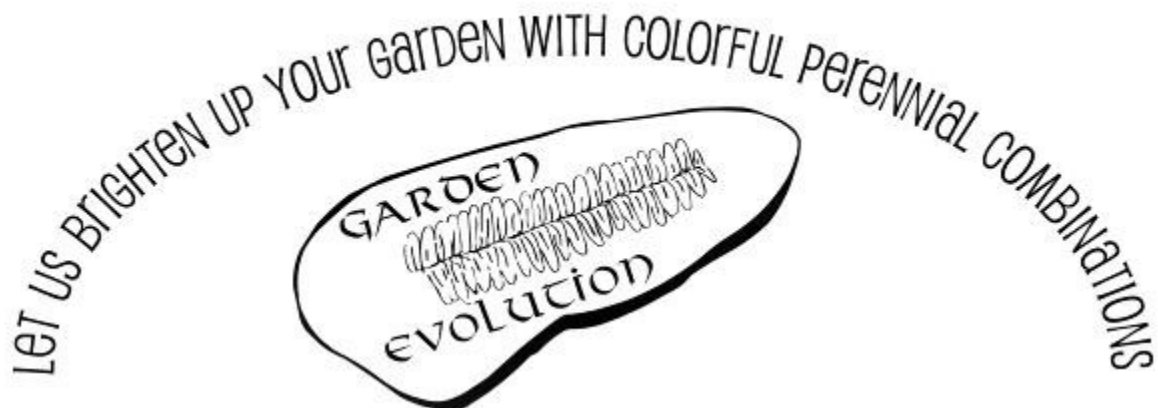
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Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net
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Contact: President: Chris Warren

Email: cuwarren@zapp.ch

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Donna Goepfert (*secretary*) 031 931 27 42

Hans Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Tony Read 033 243 34 32

Isabelle Wienand

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