# THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



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

Ven Peter Potter 031 351 03 43

079 922 71 30 (emergencies only)

Honorary Assistant Chaplain 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.

<u>Services in Thun</u>: 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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#### **COPY DATE**

for the October—November magazine is

#### 16 November 2014

Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

**COLLATING DATE: 27 November 2014** 

## Chaplain's Message

October sees the end of the season of Sundays after Trinity (sometimes called "ordinary time") and we begin the cycle that stretches from All Saints to Pentecost. We focus on the Kingdom of God and its coming near in the birth, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Some Christian traditions do not pay much attention to the calendar. In Scotland, for instance, with its Reformed heritage, the celebration of Christmas is barely more than a generation old and Good Friday was not a public holiday. Although one could argue that the Gospel is the same throughout the year, something is lost if you abandon the recurring cycle of the Church's year.

The festivals have their different moods, from the childlike delight of Christmas to the gut-wrenching sorrow of Passiontide. Advent combines the contrasting emotions of hope and trepidation we experience when we are waiting for something major to happen. This combination helps us to realise that, at Christmas, we not only celebrate Jesus' coming in the birth at Bethlehem but also his second coming at the end of time. Lent and, especially, Good Friday give us silence and space to face up to who we are, while the season of Eastertide answers this with its hopeful, life-enhancing themes of healing and things being put right.

The Bible readings, the music, the colours and decoration all reflect the changing emotions in the different seasons. We come to see that all these emotions have their part in our relationship with God and we are not forced every Sunday into an unrelenting upbeat atmosphere that we do not always want to share.

These Sundays after Trinity are a time of growth, reflecting the growth of the Early Church in the days after the Ascension and Pentecost. The season reflects the steady, at times unspectacular but ongoing, growth which has been the experience of the Church over the centuries. It is a time for us to grow too and for this reason the liturgical colour is green, the colour of growth in nature. Now liturgy and nature are in step as we come to Harvest, with its themes of fulfilment and plenty, reflecting God's grace and generosity. What is our response going to be?

We need to reflect earnestly on that question because at God's great harvest, at the end of time, we shall be called to account.



## **Our Enemies**

It's the winners who get to write the history books. Or so the saying goes. In any case, finding a report of any event which is totally free of the writer's opinions, biases and prejudices is a hard undertaking.

The writers of the books we know as I and II Kings had a definite point of view to put forward. (It might be better to call them compilers, because it is obvious from the text that they had consulted and brought together several sources.) They were far from winners, however. The kingdom which had been united under David and Solomon had split in two, and successive rulers from the region of Iraq had envied its prosperity and had eventually sacked its cities and carried its people off to exile.

Yet this exile was not a defeat. Instead, it brought out some of the finest prophecy and some of the most beautiful Psalms in the Bible. "This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel ..., says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more." (Jeremiah 31:33-4). "By the rivers of Babylon— there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion." (Psalm 137)

In the two books of Kings (and in the books of Samuel which precede them), there is no attempt to write a balanced history. Each king or queen is judged, and praised or condemned, not on the basis of their political successes or social good deeds, but on one question only, how faithful were they to the Lord? Even Solomon is condemned, and the break-up of his kingdom is depicted as a punishment for his unfaithfulness (1 Kings 11).

In this version of events, it is very clear that the Promised Land was not the BC equivalent of an Islamic state. Townsfolk and country people were free to follow their own religion. Monarchs who encouraged the Canaanite worship around sacred pillars were condemned, and Jews were strictly warned against being led astray by these and other idols. But the other people living in the land were not enemies – quite the opposite.

The Book of Deuteronomy makes it clear that this was not a totalitarian regime. For all its outbursts about putting the Hivites, the Hittites, the Jebusites and their kin to the sword, the fact is that this never happened. In fact, Deuteronomy overflows with commands to exercise kindness and

tolerance to "the aliens who reside in your land" (the King James version calls them "the strangers within your gates.")

Jesus too preached a message of tolerance. Although he made it clear that a new order had dawned, by his prophetic actions, the cleaning of the temple, the parables of the judgement awaiting those who do not accept the Good News of God's Kingdom, he was clear this kingdom could not come by physical force. We Christians are to love our enemies — and since the nature of our calling means we are to hate nobody, then "our enemies" must mean the people who hate us (though why anyone should hate us ought to be a mystery!)

What a contrast to the modern history of the Middle East! The events that have influenced it are intricate and complex – a Gordian knot, compounded by the debatable history of the Crusades, by repeated pogroms against Jews in Europe over the centuries, by the reaction of the authorities in Mecca to Mohammed's message, by the readiness of people to persecute rather than to tolerate "strangers within their gates." But one thing is clear. Unless the command to love our enemies is anchored in our hearts, the world will remain far from the peace its peoples deserve.

#### - Hector Davie



"By the waters of Babylon", Evelyn de Morgan

## FAQ: Why give money to the Church?

BECAUSE ...

it stands up for the poor and weak

it conveys values like togetherness and community

it tries to make sense of things

its festivals mark the year

it doesn't have to keep up with all the latest fads and fancies

it reaches places that are out of the spotlight

it is part of our culture

it looks heavenwards

it has answers to questions people don't want to ask

it keeps our Christian heritage in the foreground and proclaims it afresh in a changing world

it cares for people who don't know where else to turn

it keeps stories alive that help us to understand our (hi)story

it is a place where I can talk to Jesus more easily

it helps us remember our departed loved ones

it fulfils our spiritual needs

it doesn't measure the value of a person in francs, pounds and euros

it sets us up for the week, like a filling station

it is an oasis for rest, refreshment and encouragement

it doesn't have to find the meaning of life all over again

it makes space for more than consumerism, wellness and selfies

it is the only place where so many different sorts of people can be together

it tells you are loved unconditionally, you can have a second chance

without it the rumour of God will not be passed on

From a recent survey into the place of the Church in Swiss society.

-PMP

## A Word for the Month – Epithesis

Hands up if you have ever heard this word! I hadn't heard of it myself, but I didn't want to change the title of the article to "A Phrase for the Month". So there it is — a piece of jargon known only to the dictionary writers, and even they can't make much of it.

The "word" is short for "the laying on of hands", and the point of using a Greek word that nobody understands is to underline that when Christians talk about the laying on of hands, they are using simple words, words that describe what they do, and yet what they do is something that is strange. Like "the breaking of bread", it is a ritual – one that goes back to the New Testament and beyond, but which has no place in the secular world, where nobody understands such things.

The secular world is slowly losing its familiarity with Christian vocabulary. The bread we buy from the baker can be cut or sliced, we can tear pieces off it, but we cannot break it. "Breaking bread" is jargon — the name of something Christians do, but other people do not. In the same way, laying hands on someone in a non-religious context is something aggressive or violent. "Don't lay a finger on me or I'll kill you."

In the Old Testament, laying hands on someone was a way of passing on power or authority. Jacob uses his two hands to bless Ephraim and Manasseh (Gen 48:14). Moses lays his hand on Joshua to "give him some of your authority" (Numbers 27:20). At the same time, it was a way of passing on one's own feelings – so the worshipper making a burnt offering is commanded to lay a hand on the animal's head, to make the gift a real self-offering.

Jesus often used his hands to lay on people. But in his case, the power that he passed on was the power of the kingdom, the power of the resurrection, the power of new life – a power that restored, that healed, that made whole. This was the touch that made the leper clean (Matt 8:3), that opened the eyes of the two blind men (Matt 9:30), that Jairus wanted for his dying daughter (Mark 5:23). It was not a magic touch. It was the recipient's faith that healed (Mark 5:34) – the touch was not even necessary, as the story of the centurion's servant makes clear (Matt 8:5-13).

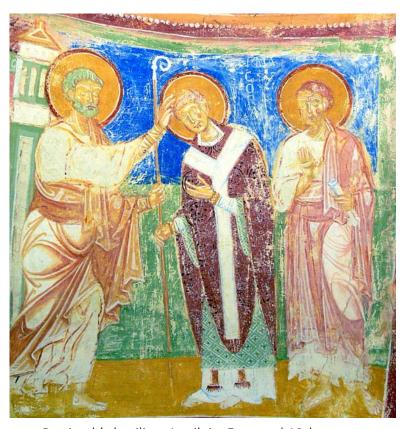
The early church continued with the laying on of hands, in Jesus name and inspired through his power. This laying on of hands might be for commissioning someone, as in the case of the seven deacons (Acts 6:6). The same action would pass on the power of the Holy Spirit, as Peter and John did

in Acts 8:17 or Paul in Acts 19:6. And this form of commissioning has continued to this day in the rites of confirmation and of ordination.

Or the laying on of hands might be for healing, although again it was the faith that healed as much as the touch. (Even Peter's shadow was enough!) The healing was part of the work of the Holy Spirit, and when Paul reaches Damascus and goes to the house of Ananias, God tells Ananias to lay his hands on him "so that he may regain his sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

One of the ministries of the early church was laying healing hands on the sick – accompanied by prayer and anointing with oil (not just for therapeutic reasons but as a sign of God's blessing). Again, what was (and is) most important is the faith, rather than the hands. But whether through their prayers, their actions, or their anointing, the healers pass on the same healing force that Jesus had shown – the power of the kingdom.

#### - Hector Davie



Patriarch's basilica, Aquileia. Frescos (12th century):Saint Peter consecrating Hermagoras as bishop in the presence of saint Mark Photo by Wolfgang Sauber

## Chaplain's Notes

#### Important dates coming up

Our **Harvest Thanksgiving** service will be on **12 October**. Being the second Sunday of the month we shall all be in church together for the service. Please bring along some



harvest gifts to be presented at the start of the service, to remind us of the range of good things God presents us with. After the service we shall be auctioning the produce for Tear Fund, to help those who cannot enjoy the plenty we have here.

The following Sunday, **19 October**, is the **Feast of St Luke**, the physician. We shall be having prayers for healing in the 10.00 service that morning.

Then **26 October** is the **Last Sunday of the Trinity Season**. We mark this time of harvest and fulfilment by having our **Pledge Sunday**, when you are asked to renew your giving to the church. It is also the Sunday nearest the Feast of All Saints, when we are reminded of the need to live lives of holiness and commitment. We really depend on all of us if St Ursula's is to meet all its expenses and to have the means to develop our ministry. Please read the material in your annual stewardship mailing carefully, pray about it and act.

The **Commemoration of All Souls** is on **2 November**. We shall commemorate our departed loved ones and the list for you to add names will be available beforehand. Many people who have suffered a bereavement find this service a great comfort, so please invite anyone you think might be helped in this way.



Remembrance Sunday falls on 9 November and it has additional significance this year, the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. Reconciliation between former enemies is a prominent feature of the anniversary and to mark this our preacher will be the Rev'd Falko von Saldern from the Lutheran Church in Berne.

## **Church Breakfasts**

The Sunday Church Breakfasts continue to be popular with around 20 people each time. So we will continue to hold them on the first Sunday of each month. The dates for the rest of 2014 are therefore 5 October, 2 November, 7 December.

Everyone is welcome. Just come along from 8.30 – no need to sign up or bring anything. Cereals, bread, butter, jam, marmalade, croissants together with tea, coffee and orange juice will be there waiting for you.

#### - Tricia Carrick









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

#### **PRESERVES AND PICKLES**



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

#### **CAKE BAKING**



Please join us to help make this year's Christmas Cakes. All the ingredients are provided but please bring along any small cake tins that you have. Baking day is Wednesday 22 October from 09.00

#### **CAKE DECORATING**

If you can help in decorating the Christmas cakes, please collect one (or more!) from the Church Kitchen after Thursday 23 October. Cakes should be iced in the traditional way with marzipan and white icing, if you need icing ingredients, please contact Jana Kutesko 031 809 4737 or 031 352 8567.

#### **TOMBOLA**

The tombola is a wonderful "catch all" stall – we all receive gifts that aren't quite right for us but could be perfect for someone else, or perhaps you've

over stocked on some food items or have some other extra goodies that you're happy to donate! Everything, as long as it's brand new, in perfect condition and not past its sell by date, is welcome. Please deposit any suitable tombola prizes in the Red Tombola Box in the Upper Hall.

#### **RAFFLE**

The raffle is very popular and if we can get some good prizes, will be even more so. If you can think of any potential donors or can donate a prize yourself, please contact the Church Office: 031 352 8567 or just bring the prize along to church.



#### CHRISTMAS DECORATION WORKSHOP

Please come along on Thursday 20 November at 09.00 to help make the lovely Christmas Wreaths and Decorations that we sell at the bazaar. No special skills are needed to take part in this fun-filled day of crafts. Lunch will be provided – just let Chloé know you'll be there - for more information, please contact Chloé Hodler: 031 951 4057.

#### **BAZAAR RESTAURANT**

Help is needed throughout the whole of Friday and during the bazaar itself. We'll need plenty of cakes, scones, biscuits or mince pies baking too! All help, even if it's just for an hour or two, will be gratefully received – please contact Lynn Morgan: 031 971 1336.

#### **TOY STALL**

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



#### **BRIC À BRAC**

Please check out your cupboards, drawers, cellars or attics for any "no longer wanted" crockery, ornaments, china & any other items suitable for this stall – please note that we can not accept clothing or items of furniture - please bring your donations into church on Sundays and put them in the Red Tombola Box in the Upper Hall.

#### **NEW STALLS?**

If you have an idea for a new stall and are willing to help run it, please contact Jana Kutesko: 031 809 4737 or 031 352 8567 – we'd love to hear from you!

#### **HELP ON STALLS**

If you can help on a stall during the bazaar, please either contact the stall holder directly or write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Upper Hall. A list of stall holders is available in the Upper Hall or ask the Church Office: berne@anglican.ch or 031 352 8567 for contact details.

#### **SET UP**

Calling anyone who can spare a couple of hours on Thursday 20 November from 17.30 to help set up the stalls – please write your name on the sign- up sheet in the Upper Hall.

#### **CLEAR UP**

Please join our clear up team on Saturday 22 November from 15.00. and help make the church and halls ready for Sunday. If you can help, please write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Upper Hall.

#### **FLYERS**

Please use the flyer with this magazine to help advertise the bazaar. If you'd like more flyers, please either pick them up from the Upper Hall or contact the Church Office: berne@anglican.ch or 031 352 8567. Flyers are also available in German.

- Jana Kutesko, Church Office





### **Heartfelt Invitation**

to all English-speaking mothers, grandmothers, aunts and women who have a heart of prayer for children, schools and staff.

Join us for

## Moms/Mums in Prayer International (MIPI)

## **Informational Coffee Morning**

**Input: Four Steps of Prayer** 

**Date/Time**: Wednesday **29 October** 2014, 9.15-11.15

**Place:** c/o RiverLife Church

FEG Oasis Bistro, 3<sup>rd</sup> level

**Zeughausgasse 39**, 3011 Bern (entrance: Kongress entry Hotel Kreuz)

To **register by 21 October**, please contact Shelagh Brawand, Tel: 031 829 15 57, or email her at <a href="mailto:mbrawand@bluewin.ch">mbrawand@bluewin.ch</a>

For more information about Moms In Prayer International, please visit <a href="https://www.momsinprayer.org">www.momsinprayer.org</a> or www.momsinprayer.ch

## **God and Mammon**

26 October is Pledge Sunday. For many of you, this will be a chance to renew your commitment to supporting St Ursula's in its work of worship, teaching, caring and praying. For some an opportunity to groan, "Not again. The church is always after our money."

As Treasurer, I know that the church always needs money. The church needs heating, the office needs staffing, the blinds in the hall need repairing, the coffee after the service doesn't just jump off the bushes into your cup. Sometimes the need is obvious, and people give generously if they can see the comfortable new chairs, the neatly-tiled roof, the physical objects (flags, or candles, or plates of scones) which they have given. But often it is not.

We are irrational beings, and sometimes follow our hearts and not our heads. When the need is less obvious, we are reluctant to see what it means for us. Heating, lighting, repairing, employing, even contributing to the costs of the archdeaconry and the diocese, or providing crayons to the children in Junior Church, all cost money, and apart from a small grant to cover Peter's time when he is serving on archdeaconry business, we have to raise this ourselves. Our budget for 2015 sees us spending Fr 258,070 on these essential things. Please think about what it is fair for you to give.

- Hector Davie, Treasurer

## 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

# COME to the STABLE

## Nativity Play 2014 14 December



Based on *Come to the Stable: A Christmas Musical* by Derek Haylock, with some new and many familiar Christmas songs.

If we are to do this, we need around 30 people (adults and children of any age: 3 to 90) to take part. Rehearsals will be on Sundays after church starting on 12 October – maximum 45 minutes except for the last two. You don't need to come to all the rehearsals, but the more the merrier.

If you can join in, please contact Tricia.



St Ursula's Church Magazine

# THE SONG OF GOD'S PEOPLE: a day of singing for all who like to sing\*

\* (no musical knowledge or skill required!)

Our song should give voice to everything we want to say to God – the depths of faith and our deepest questions, our gratitude, hope, longings, joy, anger and sorrow.

Singing connects up our emotions and our spiritual selves, it draws us together in community and gives the community a voice to reach out to God.

As St Augustine said, the one who sings prays twice. Singing matters.

God asks us all to sing a new song and that command is not just for choirs and the vocally gifted!

We all have a voice and together we sound GOOD!



Alison leading a song

In our workshop we'll focus on songs for congregations to sing – lots of repertoire from contemporary hymn-writers such as John Bell (lona Community) and Bernadette Farrell, but also psalms, short songs from around the world, songs for prayer and liturgy and singing in simple, yet powerful harmony!

Singers of all abilities (or even no ability!) are welcome and everyone will get something out of our day together.

We will be led by ALISON ADAM who is a skilled song leader with a passion for congregational song. Alison works freelance, enabling churches, organisations and schools to sing new songs and explore new ideas for worship.

Alison worked for 7 years with the Wild Goose Resource Group of the Iona Community and has sung on all their recordings. Her song teaching technique and repertoire strongly reflect the ethos of the Iona Community, of which she is a member.

Her work has taken her all over the UK and beyond, facilitating workshops, training events, conferences and leading worship. She has worked in USA, Canada, South Africa, Philippines, China, Sweden, Demark, France and Germany.



St Martin's Cross on Iona

She lives in Cumbria, UK, and is married to a United Reformed Church minister.



Alison leading a seminar at the Calvin Symposium on Worship 2014

## **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, 1, 15 and 29 October 2014

Wednesday, 12 and 26 November 2014

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

for more information.

Address: Falkenstrasse 2, 3097 Liebefeld

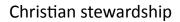


## Prayer Diary October and November 2014

### Your prayers are asked for -

#### Creationtide and Harvest

- \* reducing our energy use
- \* fair trade terms for producers in poor countries
- \* preserving endangered species
- \* thankfulness for God's goodness
- \* responsible use of the earth's resources
- \* using public transport
- \* farmers and food producers
- \* recycling where we can
- \* people affected by climate change
- \* the life and witness of St Francis (4 October)
- \* our Harvest Thanksgiving service on 12 October



- \* supporting the life and mission of St Ursula's
- \* generous and sacrificial giving
- \* gratitude for all we receive
- \* how much should I give?
- \* commitment of our time, talents and treasure



#### Our Charities and Mission spotlight

- \* the Earl Haig Fund (supporting wounded servicemen and women)
- \* possible new projects in South America
- \* the CMS course, "A possible world", to be used in Lent 2015
- \* the Hip Hop project supported by AkiB (Berne Council of Churches)

#### Other subjects for prayer

- \* the Church's healing ministry, our service with prayers for healing, hospital chaplains (St Luke's day 19 October)
- \* thanksgiving for the lives of the saints (All Saints Day 1 November)
- \* our departed loved ones (All Souls Day 2 November)
- \* the Remembrance services in St Ursula's (9 November) and at Vevey (11 November at the Commonwealth War Cemetery)
- \* reconciliation between former enemies
- \* places where there are wars today
- \* clergy arriving (at Geneva) and leaving (Zurich)



## Calendar of Services

### 5 October - Trinity 16

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46

### 12 October - Harvest Thanksgiving (Trinity 17)

08.30 Said Communion 10.00 All in Church Together

> Deuteronomy 8:10, 17-18 Luke 12:24-30

#### 19 October - St Luke

10.00 Sung Eucharist with prayers for healing

> Isaiah 35:3-6 2 Timothy 4:9-13, 16-17 Luke 10:1-9

## 26 October - Last Sunday after Trinity 23 November - Christ the King (Pledge Sunday)

08.30 Said Communion 10.00 Sung Eucharist

> Deuteronomy 8:7-10 2 Corinthians 9:6-12 Luke 12:16-21



#### 2 November - All Souls

10.00 Sung Eucharist

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

#### 9 November - Remembrance Sunday

08.30 Said Communion 10.00 Sung Eucharist

> Wisdom 6:12-16 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13

#### 16 November - 2nd before Advent

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-14 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30

08.30 Said Communion 10.00 All in Church Together

> Ezekiel 34:11-12, 14-16 Matthew 25:31-46

## 30 November - Advent 1 (readings for Year B)

10.00 Sung Eucharist

Isaiah 64:1-9 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37



## An Evening of Classical Music

## You are cordially invited to Cecily's Fund's Benefit Concert

Saturday, October 18, 2014 at 8.00pm Temple du Locle



Sunday, October 19, 2014 at 5.00pm Heiliggeistkirche Bern

Join us for this entertaining concert featuring Synagogue Music of the Romantic period.

## With the kind cooperation of:

Ensemble vocal Domenica La Chaux-de Fonds, Conductor Maryclaude Huguenin, the Vocal Ensemble Supplèments Musicaux Bern, Conductor Moritz Achermann the Louis Lewandowski Chamber Orchestra, Conductor François Lilienfeld

Enjoy a night of great music! You don't want to miss it!

Our flyers are available in the upper Hall Please pass the information on to anyone else you think might be interested.

## Many thanks for your cooperation!

Yvonne Bomonti yvonne@bomonti.ch



## For Your Diary October & November 2014

## **Regular Weekly Events**

Mondays	09.00-09.30	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork — not on 21 November
Saturdays	09.30-11.30	Choir Practice — not on 22 November
Other Events		
Wednesday 1 October	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Sunday 5 October	08.30	Church Breakfast
Tuesday 7 October	19.30	Church Council
Sunday 12 October	10.00	Harvest Festival
	10.00	Youth Group Meeting
	11.30	Auction of Harvest Offerings for
		the Tear Fund
	11.30-12.15	Nativity Service Rehearsal
Wednesday 15 October	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in
		Liebefeld
Saturday 18 October	10.00-13.00	"On the Way" - exploring the
		Gospel of Mark
		<ul> <li>at Holy Trinity Church, Geneva</li> </ul>
Sunday 19 October	10.00	Confirmation Class
	11.30-12.15	Nativity Service Rehearsal
	17.00	Charity Concert at Heiliggeistkirche
		for Cecily's Fund
Wednesday 22 October	09.00-11.00	Christmas Cake Baking
Saturday 25 October	10.00-12.00	Second Hand Children's Toy and
		Equipment Sale
	10.00-15.00	SACEP Training Event in Montreux
Sunday 26 October	Pledge Sunday	
	10.00	Youth Group Meeting
	11.30-12.15	Nativity Service Rehearsal
Wednesday 29 October	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in
	00 00 10 55	Liebefeld
Friday 31 October	09.00-13.00	Book Sorting

Sunday 2 November	08.30 10.00	Church Breakfast Confirmation Class
	11.30-12.15	Nativity Service Rehearsal
	12.30-16.00	JC 7 – 11 Activity Group Event
Tuesday 4 November	19.30	Church Council
Thursday 6 November	TBA	Charity Concert at St Ursula's
Saturday 8 November	18.00-23.00	Night of Religion in Bern
Sunday 9 November	10.00	Youth Group Meeting
Sulluay 5 November	11.30-12.15	Nativity Service Rehearsals
Wednesday 12 Novembe		Ecumenical House Group in
Wednesday 12 Novembe	1 13.30	Liebefeld
Sunday 16 November		COPY DATE
Sulluay to Novellibel	10.00	Confirmation Class
	11.30-12.15	Nativity Service Rehearsals
Thursday 20 November	10.00-16.00	Christmas Decoration Workshop
Thursday 20 November	17.30-20.00	Bazaar Set-up
Friday 21 November	09.00-16.00	Bazaar Set-up Bazaar Set-up
Triday 21 November	<b>17.00-19.30</b>	Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 22 November	10.00 15.00	Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 22 November	15.00-17.00	Bazaar Clear Up
	15.00-17.00	JC 7 – 11 Activity Group Event
Sunday 23 November	10.00	Youth Group
January 25 November	11.30-12.15	Nativity Service Rehearsal
Wednesday 26 Novembe		Ecumenical House Group in
Wednesday 20 Novembe	1 15.50	Liebefeld
Thursday 27 November	08.30-10.00	Magazine Collating
Sunday 30 November	10.00	Confirmation Class
	11.30-15.00	Nativity Service Rehearsals
Future Dates	11.00 10.00	Traditie, Control Membarsars
i uture Dates		
Sunday 7 December	08.30	Church Breakfast
	10.00	Confirmation Class
	11.30-15.00	Nativity Service Rehearsals
Sunday 14 December	10.00	Nativity Service
Thursday 11 December	19.30	Heiliggeist Carol Service
Thursday 18 December	19.00	Thun Carol Service
Christmas Eve	16.00	Crib Service
	22.00	First Eucharist of Christmas
Christmas Day	09.15	Holy Communion (Said)
	10.00	Carol Service
Sunday 18 January	10.00	Confirmation Class

## **Junior Church News**

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



#### Classes

The Junior Church meets almost every Sunday during the 10.00 service. The second Sunday of each month is an All in Church Together service and on the fourth Sunday all the Junior Church classes meet together to sing. Children start with the main congregation, then leave together for their classes shortly after the start of the service. There are three classes by age:

- Sparklers (3 6+)
- Trailblazers (7 10+)
- Pilots (11 14+)

#### **Help Still Needed**

A special meeting was held on 29 June to discuss the Junior Church ministry. At the moment there aren't enough volunteers to offer weekly Junior Church classes. After months of appeals there were still no new volunteers, so the meeting had to address the fundamental question of whether the Junior Church ministry should continue. Although the overwhelming consensus of the meeting was that Junior Church is a vital ministry and should not be discontinued, no concrete solutions to the staffing shortage were found. Another Junior Church special meeting was held on 24 August.

Please consider volunteering to help with Junior Church. It is a rewarding experience for both the children and the adults who teach them. With twelve volunteers we could once again offer weekly classes and each volunteer would teach only once a month. Volunteers are welcome from the whole church family, not just those whose children are involved in Junior Church. If you are able to help, please contact Father Peter, Jana Kutesko or anyone on the teaching rota for more information.



#### 7-11 Activity Club

The Junior Church 7-11 Activity Club is a fun way for children to spend time with their church friends. On 8 August the club went for a hike to the Schwarzwasser Canyon for an afternoon of swimming and a barbecue. On 14 September they are making syrups, corn dolls and stewed fruits for the Harvest Festival. The full 2014 programme is available on the Junior Church Page on the website (www.stursula.ch) or you can contact Françoise Hänggi (031 802 1005) or Sharon Batley (031 711 4148) for more information.

#### - Querida Long



## **Happy Birthday!**

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

Amélie Sims 12 on 1 October

Matthew Batley 14 on 10 October

Gemma Masciadri 16 on 20 October

Joana Agoba 11 on 13 November Gabriela Cintron 6 on 19 November Karl Gertsch 7 on 26 November Naomi Kingori 13 on 28 November



## **Youth Confirmation Class**

The youth confirmation class met three times in August and September. We discussed aspects of the Holy Spirit, the Trinity and the Creeds. This included an interesting session where we tried to understand the "hard" words in the Nicene creed – the creed we say in church most Sundays.

We now have a break over the autumn holidays. We will meet again on 19 October and then 2, 16 and 30 November. The final meeting of this year will be on 7 December. The main topics to be covered in these sessions are "Prayer" and "Why go to church?"

In the first part of next year we plan to look at what it means to be a Christian. And, once again, we hope that many of you can help — we invite you to come and talk to the young people about some aspect of your Christian faith. Maybe how/why you became a Christian, what it means to you in your everyday life, or perhaps something special that you have experienced. If you would like to take part, please contact me.

-Tricia Carrick

## **Autumn Book Sale 2014**









St Ursula's Church Magazine

# Charity of the Month: Earl Haig's Fund

This year in particular, we remember the disastrous war that broke out in the summer of 1914. That war concluded with an armistice signed on 11 November 1918, declaring that hostilities should cease "at the eleventh hour" on that day.



Ever since then, at this date and time, nations have commemorated the men, women and children who suffered in the war, with the laying of wreaths, and the two-minute silence — one to give thanks for those who returned, one to remember the fallen. With the Second World War, the focus has widened from the armistice signed in 1918, and the day has taken the title Remembrance Day, or Veterans Day in the USA. It is also popularly known as Poppy Day, recalling the flowers that were often the first thing to grow on the ruined fields of Flanders on soldiers' graves.

In 1921, Field Marshal Douglas Haig, Earl Haig, who had commanded the British forces at the battles of the Somme and Passchendaele, created the British Legion, to represent people who had served in the armed forces, and to work for their welfare. Since 1971 the organization has been called the Royal British Legion.

Earl Haig's Fund supports the legion. Its best-known activity is the annual "poppy appeal" in the weeks before Remembrance Sunday. 36 million poppies are produced (by disabled ex-service people) each year at a purpose-built factory in Richmond (and a further five million in Edinburgh, for the Scottish fund has (always!) been independent).

Whatever our thoughts about war in general, the political correctness of wearing poppies, and about individual countries' military policies in particular, we all owe a debt of compassion to those who have been recruited by their countries as soldiers, sailors or airmen. Their countries do not offer them an easy life, and often the interests of the people who serve are incompletely covered.

How do military personnel fit back into civilian life once their period of service has ended? Who gives the additional support their families need when they are away from home? Who ensures that governments honour their commitments to service people in cases of injury or imprisonment?

The Legion has been involved in several high-profile cases — the right of Nepalese who have served in the Gurkha regiments to settle in Britain, the recognition of Gulf War Syndrome as a genuine medical condition, the development of high-tech artificial aids to rehabilitation. But its main work has been to work for the long-term support of people who have given time to serve their country, and to ensure that they receive fair treatment.

We should all take time to pray for those who have been called to serve their country in this way, and, in praying too for the peace of the world, pray for fair and just recognition of the sacrifices which some of the peace-keepers have made. We live in an imperfect world. Compassion can only make it better.

- Hector Davie for the Charity and Missions Team

## St Ursula's and the Sex Trade

While the Bible says both good things and bad about prostitutes and their trade, depending on the context, it is clear that in the context of the modern world, prostitution is a shady and often sordid business. With few exceptions, women (and children, and men even) are forced against their better judgment into allowing their clients to hire and use them as objects of sexual gratification. In the worst cases, any money that changes hands goes directly to a brothel-keeper and the prostitute does not even see it.

This is most often a wretched trade, and one that attracts groups of organized criminals. Vulnerable individuals, especially those facing poverty, are lured by the promises of riches and comfortable living into prostitution. In many cases, they are tricked into leaving their homes and families by promises of innocent-sounding jobs in the entertainment or hospitality business, as dancers, fashion models or au pairs. Often they are charged exorbitant sums to be taken, sometimes illegally, to a foreign country, and are reduced to a life of virtual slavery until, if ever, the money is paid back.

Something must be done. In 2007 the Anglican chaplaincy in Naples proposed a motion against human trafficking at the Italian archdeaconry synod, and this proposal worked its way up to the Church of England's General Synod in 2009, and has been high on the agenda ever since. It was among the topics discussed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, at his recent visit to Pope Francis.

It is easy to express concern, but harder to do something concrete. The concrete steps are offering assistance to the people engaged, usually against their wills, in the sex business — offering counselling, support and a path to alternative employment, and giving help to the people in foreign countries, especially eastern Europe, West Africa, South America and the Far East, so that they are not trapped into the net of the traffickers. (Obviously there are other measures at a



political level, to combat both the organized criminality that is involved, and the underlying poverty that often lies at the root of the situation.)

Our Charity and Missions Committee considered this issue. We asked ourselves what we at St Ursula's could contribute. In the first place, we would like to involve the whole church, in prayer at least, and so we have put two DVDs about the issue in the church library, one in German, one in French, but each subtitled in the other language.

They are presented by Philippe Decourroux, and entitled *Die neue Sklaverei* (*Le Nouvel Esclavage*). Please borrow them, look at them, learn from them, and act!

- The Charity and Missions Team

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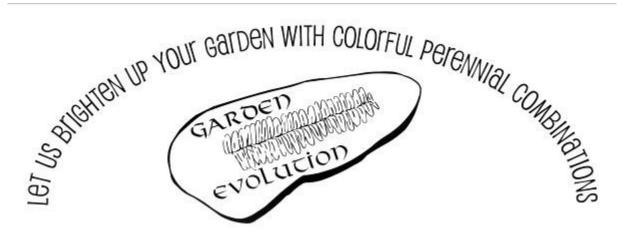
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Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, www: icberne.2ya.com
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Contact: President: Chris Warren

Email: <a href="mailto:cuwarren@zapp.ch">cuwarren@zapp.ch</a>

## 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 <a href="mailto:bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch">bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch</a>. Alternatively you can ring me on 031 971 13 36 or 079 4152619. My service is gratuitous.

Brían C Morgan, Clínícal & Pastoral Counsellor

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Seen on the webpage of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Woodbury, Minnesota.