

# THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



June - July 2015

**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

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**Normal pattern of Sunday services:**

8.30 Said Eucharist (2nd and 4th Sundays)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church and Crèche

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

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, the 10.00 service is usually all-age.

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

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

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**ST URSULA'S BERNE**

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

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

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

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

**See Calendar inside for details of this month's services**  
**St Ursula's Church website: <http://www.anglican.ch/berne>**  
**E-mail: [berne@anglican.ch](mailto:berne@anglican.ch)**



# St Ursula's Church Magazine

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

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# Chaplain's Message



The Canons of the Church of England are the Church's legal code. They are not, however, a collection of dry legalise but actually set out a rule of life for both clergy and lay people.

Canon B6, for instance, says "The Lord's day, commonly called Sunday, is ever to be celebrated as a weekly memorial of our Lord's Resurrection and kept according to God's holy will and pleasure, particularly by attendance at divine service, by deeds of charity, and by abstention from all unnecessary labour and business". Canon B11 tells us that the purpose of public worship is "to sustain the corporate spiritual life of the parish" and Canon

B15 states "It is the duty of all who have been confirmed to receive the Holy Communion regularly" and the minister shall "teach [this to] the people from time to time". So I shall do what is required of me.

"Regularly" has come to mean "about once a month" or "when I am on a rota" but in the Canons it clearly means every Sunday. Obviously there are times when we simply cannot come but our corporate life suffers when we cannot be sure who is going to be in church on any one Sunday. It makes it almost impossible to follow through any series of preaching. If someone is not there for a couple of weeks, are they ill or on holiday or just finding something else to do? And not everyone appreciates a phone call from the chaplain to find out why - "He's checking up on me"! It also makes it difficult to plan for variety or for special services. We want to involve the children in our services, especially on the second Sunday of the month. But that's not practical if we can't be sure how many children will be here, or whether they will be here the week before to practise a reading or a song.

Perhaps today's regularly irregular (or irregularly regular?) patterns of church attendance are a reflection of our modern consumer society. We want what is convenient for us and don't want to have to accept just what's on offer. We prefer to talk about choice rather than duty. The Christian life, however, is profoundly counter-cultural. The Bible tells us not to put self at the centre. That is where God should be, of course, and others ("our neighbours") should be closer to the centre than ourselves. The Bible mentions love of God and love of our neighbour in the same commandment, so our spiritual well-being must therefore sustained corporately (i.e. together with others).

Whichever way you look at it, the Canons have got it right and weekly attendance at worship is in accordance with God's holy will and pleasure. For the Christian it is truly our duty and our joy.

Peter

## Do Something!

“Don't listen to the sermon.” Would you welcome this advice? And if it was the preacher who said it, what would your reaction be? (I won't head this with “Don't read this article” - just in case!).

If you read the magazine regularly, you will know that St Ursula's supports missionaries and their work in several corners of the world. One of these is Andrew Leake, working with the local people in Northern Argentina to help stop the deforestation of their lands by large and powerful corporations. His latest newsletter began: “I generally find going to church boring. This is hard to reconcile with the fact that I am a missionary.”

Andrew explained this by going on to say that he and his family “often find it hard to associate the rough and tumble and frequently fast-paced action associated with Christ's mandate for us to bring good news to the poor, with the typical orderly and sedate nature of the services we so often experience. ... What we mean is that the services we attend sometimes seem a bit too (if not totally) detached from the reality of the world that we live in.”

This seems to fit with the command in James 1:22, to “be doers of the word and not hearers.” But this is not what the letter says; it says “not merely hearers”. We need both to hear and to act.

In the Gospel narratives, Jesus is at work, bringing good news to the poor, healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind, confronting arrogance, selfishness and hypocrisy. But in the midst of this “rough and tumble and frequently fast-paced action”, Jesus went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, “as was his custom” (Luke 4:16), and would have sung psalms, recited prayers, listened to readings from the Old Testament, and shared in the teaching there.

At other times, we hear of Jesus retreating to “a desert place”, where he could be alone, or with his closest disciples. This was not a rest-cure or a holiday. It was a chance to share in Israel's forty years in “a desert place”, to experience the total dependence of everyone who took part on the journey from

oppression to freedom on God's providence alone. It wasn't a chance to escape from the rough and tumble of bringing good news to the poor – it was a part of the same task.

Some of the people who attended the synagogue service in Nazareth may well have wondered how relevant the service was to their daily life. Jesus was in no doubt. On the day that Luke tells us about, the reading was from Isaiah 61: “The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners.” And Jesus tells those present that “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing”, which leads to some fast-paced action as Jesus is chased to the edge of a cliff!

For Jesus, attending services was part of his mission. The services were not irrelevant. They were part of the “reality of the world he lived in” – the whole service, like the whole Bible which underlay it, pointed to the work of the Gospel.

In the same way, we may find our own services “detached from the reality of the world that we live in.” But in fact they are not. Partly, it is our fault for not seeing this. Partly too, creators and leaders of liturgy need to keep working at making it easier for service-goers to link their own worship with the work of spreading wholeness, love and justice throughout the world. For as the saying has it, as soon as the service is ended, the service of God begins. Indeed, it never stops.

*- Hector Davie*



## FAQ: What do we mean by lay ministry?

Bishop Robert's mission strategy for the Diocese will be occupying our attention over the coming months. You will have seen the outline in our AGM booklet.

The strategy mentions the ministry of lay people. Obviously it does not mean lay people will be taking over the roles of the clergy. Celebrating Holy Communion and pronouncing God's forgiveness and blessing are reserved to those who have been called and ordained. Conducting baptisms, weddings and funerals are almost always the task of the clergy. Suitably trained people (especially Lay Readers) are authorised to preach and lead certain parts of the service. These things are non-negotiable but lay people do have a share in the Church's ministry.



From leading the intercessions to arranging the flowers, members of the congregation have important parts to play in our Sunday worship. Without lay people in the congregation we could hardly talk of the church's worship at all. Being committed to turning up Sunday by Sunday is an key feature of lay ministry.

Christian service does not stop when the Sunday service is over. The clergy can only minister in one place at a time but the whole congregation ministers in every place where its members are. When Jesus talked about his followers being yeast in the dough and salt in the stew he was giving us a good idea of what lay ministry is all about. It means bringing something positive and enriching into the lives of others, wherever we may be. This includes acts of friendship or kindness, volunteering, supporting charities or speaking out in favour of the disadvantaged. Through the choices we make and the way we treat others we can be ambassadors for Christ.

How can we equip people for this vital ministry? The most important way is through regular worship. The weekly presentation of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, the man for others, is an object lesson of the Christian calling. Then there is study and reading. It important that this must be from a reputable source and not just something you happened to come across on the

internet. This year's Lent course has already started us thinking about the ministry of all the baptised.

The most important place for lay people's ministry is to be found outside the church walls. As St Paul tells us, there are varieties of gifts, to be exercised in ways that serve the ministry of the whole Church. The Bishop's strategy will help us channel those gifts for the good of each congregation.

And let us rejoice that God has already given us the gifts the Church needs!

- PMP

## A Word for the Month – Anathema



Five hundred years ago, several people had the revolutionary idea that ordinary men and women could benefit from reading the Bible. There were several problems with this idea. Firstly, most people couldn't read. But this wasn't a big problem. They could be taught to read, which would be generally a good idea, and in the meanwhile, they could be read to. Secondly, without some sort of guide to the text, they might misinterpret it. This was a more serious problem, both for church leaders and for political authorities.

But the biggest problem was that the Bible was written in a foreign language – and not just a foreign one, but a dead one. If you studied law, or medicine, or any academic subject, then you needed a bit of Latin, but not a lot. So in the course of the sixteenth century, translators set about putting the Bible into the vernacular, with or without the agreement of the authorities, with varying degrees of accuracy and varying degrees of success.

When King James came to the English throne in 1601, he rapidly commissioned a scholarly new translation that could be treated as official and definitive. Committees produced the final text in 1611. They replaced foreign words with English ones, unless the context demanded otherwise. But their translation of 1 Corinthians 16:22 read “If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.”



*Maran atha* in Aramaic, the language Jesus spoke to those around him, means “the Lord has come”. (*Marana tha* means “Come, O Lord,” another possible translation.) King James’ translators followed earlier translators, including Tyndale and Luther, and assumed the Greek and the Aramaic words went together, and so left them both untranslated. Their printers added to the mistake, but missing out the full stop that should have separated the two words.

For anathema is Greek, and in the other places it occurs, James’ team translated it with “accursed” - so Paul tells the Galatians that if anyone, even an angel, proclaims “a gospel contrary to what we have proclaimed to you, let that one be accursed!” (1:8).

It is a little more complicated than that. The Greek word literally means “devoted”, and in the Old Testament, it is used when God orders the cities, the livestock and the people of a conquered nation to be “set apart for destruction.” They are condemned, under a ban, and God’s people must have no contact with them.

Pronouncing something anathema, then, was to place it under a curse, and if you read Deuteronomy 13, you can tell where al-Qa`ida and ISIS get their ideas from. Churches, too, might declare their beliefs and declare that anyone who disagreed would be “anathema” - and in the Middle Ages this might also mean persecution, inquisition and a painful death.

In the New Testament, though, a curse led to avoidance, not punishment. Just as the disciples were told to kick the dust off their feet if their hosts did not receive their message, John’s second letter tells his readers not to “receive into the house anyone who comes to you and does not bring this teaching.”

For the writers of the New Testament, anyone who consciously denied the Good News of Jesus Christ was “set apart”. Their ideas should be avoided. But by his parable of the Good Samaritan, by his dealings with the woman at the well, Jesus made it clear that though their ideas might be anathema, they were our neighbours, and that we should love them as people. The same idea occurs in the frequent commands in Deuteronomy to be kind to “the poor and the stranger”. Whatever their ideas, they are our fellow human beings, and should have our love, our respect and our help. If only all militant extremists would do likewise!

- *Hector Davie*

# From St Ursula's Book Corner

## DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS TITLE

Almost five years ago I was sent – totally unexpectedly – a copy of this book by someone I knew only slightly. She had just heard that I had been diagnosed with Parkinson's and she too suffers from a chronic condition. The subtitle of the book is *One woman's journey through aging and chronic illness*. The author is a Canadian Anglican nun and a Parkinson's sufferer.

When I first read of her experiences – loss of capacities, difficulty swallowing, change in handwriting, no more running for a tram, loss of balance causing falls – it all seemed alien and alarming. Five years on and I see myself in so many of these same situations. In theory I know that I must accept my limitations, whilst still striving to do as much as I can. Life is definitely more challenging than it was. Although there is a tendency in all of us to resist the process of aging and probably do our best to compensate for our diminished capabilities, sooner or later we have to accept the inevitable. But because independence and self-sufficiency are important to many, to acknowledge our limitations is not easy.

In less than four years Sister Thelma's health declined to the extent that she took up residence in a room in the convent's infirmary. So I am very blessed that I can still manage a wide range of things, though they take longer than they used to. Even so, Parkinson's and other chronic illnesses bring gifts as well as losses. I share the author's feeling that one such gift is the positive attitude towards my illness. Like her I find strength in my sense of humour and pray that I never lose it. I too empathise more with others who have health problems and hope I am more patient.

“You are facing death” writes Sister Thelma. Not a statement we want to hear, read or even contemplate. Yet we are all heading that way. Aging is relentless and chronic illness does not suddenly vanish. It is not surprising that the old and the ill protest or rail against God, driven by fear, frustration and anger. Sister Thelma helps us to realise that only through facing our anger and grief can we let them go.

This book is a must for anyone affected by chronic illness, either in themselves or someone they know. It is also a book for all of us. We all want to get older but we don't want to be labelled “old”.

- Shareene Potter

*In Age Reborn, by Grace Sustained* by Sister Thelma-Anne (ABC Publishing, 2007) will be available soon at St Ursula's Library

# Summer Fête

## SATURDAY 20 JUNE

### 10.00 – 15.00

This year's summer fête will once again 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 a terrific 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 afternoon/early evening, during the sale itself and the clear up afterwards.

**Set up** will be from **15.00 - 18.00 on Friday 19 June** - please come along to help us move tables, put up tents and get things ready for the fête.

The **restaurant** also needs volunteers not only to help on the day but also to bake quiches as well as our usual scrummy selection of cakes - please contact Sharon Bachmann - 078 885 4632.

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.

**Clear up** will be from **15.00 - 17.00 on Saturday 20 June** - please come along to help us tidy up and make the church halls ready for our confirmation service the next day.

Please use the flyer that came with this magazine to advertise this event widely. Flyers are also 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](mailto:berne@anglican.ch)

*Jana Kutesko, Church Office*

# The Fire in the Forest

In the middle of the forest, a bright fire was burning. People were attracted by its warmth, and used to gather round it, receiving its warmth, grilling their provisions, or just gazing idly at the flames that leaped and danced around it. When they came, they would bring wood with them, and add it to the fire, so that the heart of the fire burned incandescently, emitting heat to all around it.



The chief forester loved the fire, and did all he could to keep it aflame. He laid out stocks of wood that people could throw on, he made paths so that people could reach this part of the woods more easily. But in time he grew old and died. His successor recognized that the fire was the reason so many people came into the woods ("his woods", as he called them), but felt that it was disorderly to allow people simply to come and put wood on the fire when they felt like it. He began to discourage people from feeding the flames too freely, and had guidelines drawn up about what kind of wood should be used, where it should be placed, and when the fire should be fed.

People still came to the fire, although there was some grumbling that the approved kind of wood did not burn nearly so brightly as the wood that had been used before. But gradually, the fire began to go out. Not all at once, of course, but small corners were now being tended and the heart was being neglected. Little by little, almost unnoticed, the heart of the fire lost the ability to sustain itself.



People stopped coming to the forest to enjoy the fire. Those who had loved the fire the most found themselves unwelcome. Maintenance of the fire was taken over by a self-perpetuating committee that paid lip-service to the need for a fire of some kind, but had no interest in keeping the heart of the fire incandescent.

In the village near the woods lived an old man. He had watched the slow death of the fire with frustration. Secretly, in the evenings, he would go into the woods and blow on the embers, and where he blew, they would burst into flame. People got to hear of what he was doing, and brought their own wood and placed it where the old man was blowing. Gradually, one corner of the fire became bright again.

But the old man grew tired, and his breath failed. One night, he died, and, without him there to blow life into the embers, the fire went out.



*Holy and heavenly Spirit, breathe on us, that through us your breath may kindle the flame of your love in the hearts of the whole world, that we may be a beacon, a comfort and a vessel of your fire, and ever seek its growth.*

*Amen.*

*-Hector Davie*



# Swiss Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2015



The annual Swiss Archdeaconry Choir Festival was held in Zürich at St Andrew's Church at the weekend of 11 –12 April 2015. It was attended by 55 singers from the chaplaincies in Basel, Berne, Geneva, Lausanne, Montreux and Zürich. From St Ursula's Church 11 singers were able to join the choir in Zürich. The music was led by David Hill (Chief Conductor BBC Singers) with James Orford (Organ Scholar, Truro Cathedral) at the organ.

A choral Evensong on Saturday and a choral Communion Service on Sunday Morning were the highlights of the occasion. On Saturday the choral music included works by Howells, Palestrina, Sanders and Rheinberger, and on Sunday the Missa Brevis by Mozart together with Anthems and Motets by Batten and Bainton enriched the liturgy of the Communion Service.

Thanks are extended to the Chaplaincy of St Andrew's in Zürich for having hosted this festival and made us feel welcome, and to all who have supported and contributed in many ways to making it a great event.

As usual this festival has been one of the few occasions where members from the different chaplaincies meet and join forces in a common cause: enriching worship with meaningful music.

Next year's Swiss Archdeaconry Choir Festival will be held in Berne 22-24 April.

- *Hans-Karl Pfyffer*

# Church Breakfasts

The next Sunday Church Breakfast will be on the first Sunday of June – 7 June. We will then have a break in July and August, resuming on 6 September.

Everyone is welcome. Just come along any time between 8.30 and 9.15 – no need to sign up or bring anything. Cereals, fruit, bread, butter, jam, marmalade and croissants together with tea, coffee and juice will be there waiting for you.

And you can meet people – those you know and perhaps even some you do not know.

- *Tricia Carrick*



# Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld

We welcome you to walk with us on our journey of faith.

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

We are studying “Unshakable Faith” by Rick Joyner, a devotional based on the Book of Genesis.

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

Wednesday, 10 and 24 June 2015

Wednesday, 8 and 22 July 2015



Please contact Brian or Lynn Morgan (031 971 13 36, 079 415 26 19 or [bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch](mailto:bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch)) for more information. Address: Falkenstrasse 2, 3097 Liebefeld (No.10 bus to Hessesstrasse and then just a short walk)

# Confirmation Service

There will be a confirmation service on 21 June 2015 at 10.00. Currently it seems that 10 young people and 5 adults from St Ursula's will be confirmed, together with 2 people from Neuchatel. Bishop David will be taking the service.

It is an important occasion, so please pray for all those involved.

It also means that our church will be very full that Sunday, so come prepared to squish up on the seats.

The service will be followed by an apéritif for the whole congregation in the hall. Afterwards there will be a meal for those who have been confirmed and their guests, so we politely ask you to leave in good time after the aperitif – or continue your conversations outside. Many thanks for your support and prayers.

- *Tricia Carrick*



## A Word of Thanks

The whole church community is supported by its members and its well-wishers, and as Treasurer I am always amazed at the generosity and commitment of so many people – not just in giving money, but in supporting our activities and simply by just being yourselves!

Apart from a grant to compensate us for the time Father Peter is occupied, here or away, on archdeaconry business, we have to find practically all the resources we need ourselves. We are still working to reduce our day-to-day costs, but many things have a price, and even in these days of zero inflation, prices have a tendency to go up – especially when parts of the church have remained unchanged since 1906, and parts of the chaplain's house since 1956.

Thank you all, therefore, for what you give, and the way you support our activities. Our finances in 2015 show an improvement on 2014, but are still in deficit. Every little counts – even by getting your cards from our card stand or your food from Jana's food stall, you can help reduce this deficit. Putting your small change in a piggy bank (or its electronic equivalent, an e-Kässeli (our account numbers are on the contents page!)), baking a cake for the church, adding an extra 50 rappen to your regular pledged giving all may seem trivial – but they mount up. Thank you again!

- *The Treasurer*



# Report on our St Ursula's Lent CMS 'The Possible World' Study

Some 40 members took part in this year's Lent Study at St Ursula's, a study from CMS 'The Possible World': Practical ways to join in Jesus' mission.

It was a 7-week study and started in early February. We had 4 study groups, one at the church on Friday mornings and three evening groups at different locations in Bern. We were very grateful to Brian and Lynn Morgan, Beat and Chloe Hodler, and Sue Faillettaz and Angus Carrick for hosting and leading study groups. Donna Goepfert and Cecily Klingler co-led the Friday lunch study at the church.

The overall theme of the study was our role of prophetic mission and about living with a renewed hope that another world is possible. This was encouraging to us and challenged us to think about the challenging realities of our time. It helped open our eyes to imagine a different way of living and join in with what God is already doing – all in the confident hope that he will bring about the ultimate transformation of His world.

Each study session had a Bible study, a DVD featuring views on the theme from various CMS partners and speakers and open times of sharing what we had learnt or what we were moved to keep on doing, to change or act upon in our own lives, in our community or in the life of our church.

Weekly themes we looked at were:

Jesus, a prophet. Me a Prophet: Changing worldviews

Hospitality: All right for some

Consumer culture: I want to live simply.... but I like stuff

The Environment: For God so loved the world

Human suffering: How can I show that I care?

Injustice: So many issues. So few of us

Now what? Joining the prophetic and the practical

On Sunday 29 March, after church, we had a follow up/evaluation meeting from the Lent Study which many of the members from all four study groups attended. This Lent study led many of us to a desire to move and undertake some action/actions in our personal lives, communities or church either individually or as a group. Many of these outcomes were shared at this meeting and then the main question was 'How do we go from here?' What

and how can we undertake some of these ideas practically, feasibly into sustainable projects?

The Charity and Missions team followed on from here. Our team is reviewing all the input we have from all the groups and looking at possible projects we might be able to undertake. The team has planned a 'Possible World' study follow up meeting to present these possibilities for a meeting after church on June 14, 2015 at 12.00 in the lower church hall. We hope that as many members from the study groups as possible will attend and warmly invite all other interested church members to attend.

- Cecily Klingler on behalf of the Charity and Missions team

## Youth Confirmation Class

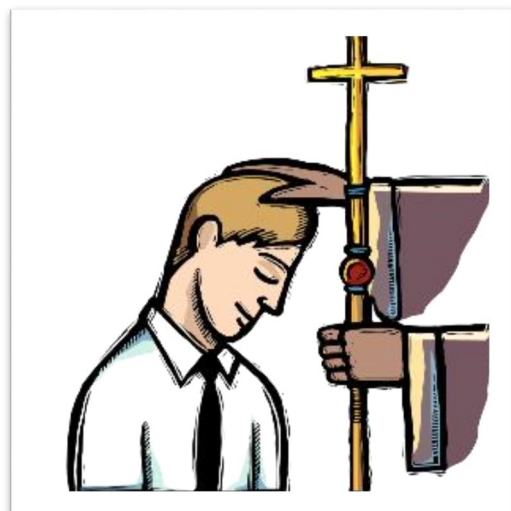
The youth confirmation class is coming to an end. In 2015, we have been very privileged that several members of our congregation have come to talk to the group about some aspect of their Christian life. This has been a very special time for both the members of the group and also for those who come to meet the young people.

At the start of June, the youth confirmation class will have a weekend away. Once again, we will be going to the Wildhabers' place in Sargans. The theme for the weekend is "The Bible" with many different activities. We will work hard, but also have lots of fun. Please pray for those leading and all those taking part.

All ten of the members of the youth confirmation class wish to be confirmed on 21 June. Please pray for them individually as they take this next step on their Christian journey. Their names are:

Eleanor Kutesko-Pawsey  
Raphael Hänggi  
Shelley Wildhaber  
Edi Kirundi Kingori  
Florie Masciadri  
Matthew Batley  
Samuel Klein  
Brenda Sacks  
Rebecca Fluri  
Naomi Watiri Kingori

-Tricia Carrick



# Services and Readings

## June and July 2015

### 7 June – Trinity 1

#### (Thanksgiving for Holy Communion)

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Genesis 14:18-20  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 6:51-58

### 5 July – Trinity 5

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Ezekiel 2:1-5  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10  
Mark 6:1-13

### 14 June – Trinity 2

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)  
Ezekiel 17:22-24  
Mark 4:26-34

### 12 July – Trinity 6

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)  
Amos 7:7-15  
Mark 6:14-29

### 21 June – Trinity 3

10.00 Confirmation  
2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
Mark 4:35-41

### 19 July – Trinity 7

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

### 28 June – St Peter, Apostle

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Ezekiel 3:22-27  
Acts 12:1-11  
Matthew 16:13-19

### 26 July – Trinity 8

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 Sung Eucharist  
2 Kings 4:42-44  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
John 6:1-21



# Prayer Diary

## June 2015



- |    |               |                                                               |
|----|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Monday        | Children and young people in the Church                       |
| 2  | Tuesday       | The Church Council meeting today                              |
| 3  | Wednesday     | New arrivals in Berne and Thun                                |
| 4  | Thursday      | Thanksgiving for Holy Communion                               |
| 5  | Friday        | The Old Catholic Church in Switzerland                        |
| 6  | Saturday      | The confirmation weekend away                                 |
| 7  | <b>Sunday</b> | Adult confirmation candidates                                 |
| 8  | Monday        | The Diocesan Synod meeting this week                          |
| 9  | Tuesday       | Scripture Union projects in South Africa                      |
| 10 | Wednesday     | The countries of the Middle East                              |
| 11 | Thursday      | The leaders of the nations from which we come                 |
| 12 | Friday        | Local medical practices                                       |
| 13 | Saturday      | Christians in sport                                           |
| 14 | <b>Sunday</b> | New chaplains in the Diocese                                  |
| 15 | Monday        | The Diocesan Missionary Strategy                              |
| 16 | Tuesday       | Fair trade practices in the world                             |
| 17 | Wednesday     | Ecumenical relations in Berne                                 |
| 18 | Thursday      | Young people leaving school                                   |
| 19 | Friday        | The Summer Fête                                               |
| 20 | Saturday      | Today's Archdeaconry Synod                                    |
| 21 | <b>Sunday</b> | Those being confirmed today at St Ursula's                    |
| 22 | Monday        | Ethical dealings in the financial world                       |
| 23 | Tuesday       | People on holiday                                             |
| 24 | Wednesday     | Seasonal chaplains at holiday resorts                         |
| 25 | Thursday      | People with frail relatives far away                          |
| 26 | Friday        | People facing chronic illness                                 |
| 27 | Saturday      | People dealing with financial insecurity                      |
| 28 | <b>Sunday</b> | <i>Peter and Paul</i> , those being ordained priest or deacon |
| 29 | Monday        | Young people looking for jobs or apprenticeships              |
| 30 | Tuesday       | The Swiss Council of Churches (AGCK)                          |

## July 2015

- 1 Wednesday The people and government of Canada
- 2 Thursday The charity and mission agencies we support
- 3 Friday Environmentally-friendly travel
- 4 Saturday The people and government of the USA
- 5 **Sunday** The protection of children and vulnerable adults in the Church
- 6 Monday Local hospitals
- 7 Tuesday Merchant seafarers
- 8 Wednesday Marriage counsellors
- 9 Thursday Christians facing discrimination
- 10 Friday General Synod meeting 10-14 July
- 11 Saturday People looking for holiday jobs
- 12 **Sunday** The people of Northern Ireland
- 13 Monday Just practices in world trade
- 14 Tuesday The government and people of France
- 15 Wednesday Holiness in our daily lives
- 16 Thursday Visitors to our churches
- 17 Friday Animal-friendly farming
- 18 Saturday Religious communities
- 19 **Sunday** All who volunteer their help at church
- 20 Monday Local businesses
- 21 Tuesday Diplomatic representatives in Berne
- 22 Wednesday Mary Magdalene, ministry to people with mental-health problems
- 23 Thursday Christians in the media
- 24 Friday Transport workers
- 25 Saturday Christian communities at risk today
- 26 **Sunday** United Nations agencies in Switzerland
- 27 Monday Our ministry to the elderly and housebound
- 28 Tuesday All who contribute to the Magazine
- 29 Wednesday People serving on peace-keeping missions
- 30 Thursday Victims of people-trafficking and modern slavery
- 31 Friday Ignatius of Loyola, Christian retreats



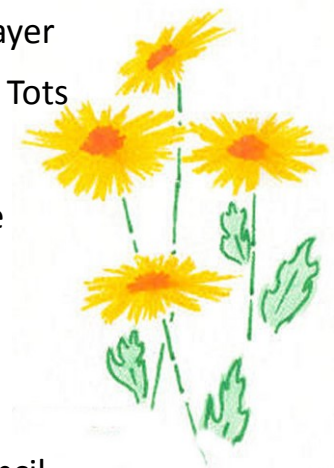
# For Your Diary

## June & July 2015

### Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.30-10.00
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15
Fridays	09.30
Saturdays	09.30-11.30

- Morning Prayer
- Parents and Tots
- Patchwork
- Choir Practice



### Other Events

Tuesday 2 June	19.30	Church Council
Friday 5 – Sunday 7 June		Confirmation Class Weekend Away
Sunday 7 June	08.30	Church Breakfast
Wednesday 10 June	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Sunday 14 June	10.00 11.30 12.00	Youth Group Confirmation Rehearsal Further Follow-up Meeting on Lent Course
Friday 19 June	09.00 15.00	Book Sorting Summer Fête Set Up
Saturday 20 June	10.00 15.00	Summer Fête Summer Fête Clear up
Sunday 21 June	10.00	Confirmation Service
Wednesday 24 June	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Tuesday 30 June	19.30	Church Council
Sunday 28 June	10.00	Youth Group

Sunday 5 July	10.00	Youth Group
Wednesday 8 July	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Sunday 12 July		COPY DATE
Sunday 19 July	10.00	Youth Group
Wednesday 22 July	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Thursday 23 July	09.00 - 11.00	Magazine Collating

### **Future Dates**

Friday 28 – Saturday 29 August	Junior Church Sleepover
Sunday 30 August	Back to Church Sunday
Saturday 5 September	Book and Food Sale
Sunday 11 October	Harvest Thanksgiving
Saturday 24 October	Children's Toy & Equipment Sale
Sunday 25 October	Pledge Sunday
Friday 20 & Saturday 21 November	Christmas Bazaar



**‘Possible World’ study follow up meeting Sunday 14 June after church**

The Charity and Missions team has been reviewing all the input we have from all the CMS ‘Possible World’ Lent study groups and looking at possible projects we might be able to undertake. The team has planned a ‘Possible World’ study follow up meeting to present these possibilities for a meeting after church on 14 June 2015 at 12.00 in the lower church hall. We hope that as many members from the study groups as possible will attend and warmly invite all other interested church members to attend.

# Junior Church News

## Groups and Meeting Times

Junior church meets on Sundays during the service. The children start the service with the congregation and then leave together after the welcome. Classes are divided into three age groups - Sparklers (3-6+), Trailblazers (7-10+) and Pilots (11-14+). The second Sunday of the month is an all age service when the children remain in church. On the fourth Sunday of the month the junior church groups meet together for songs and praise.

## Crèche

For children younger than three there is supervised crèche. The crèche is in the lower hall. Parents can bring their children before the service. Pick up is immediately after the service or alternatively before the Eucharist where children are welcome to receive a blessing.

## Activity Club

The Junior Church Activity Club is for children 7-13 years old and organizes fun group activities several times a year. Please see the following programme. If you are interested and want to know more please contact Françoise Hänggi (031 802 10 05) or Sharon Batley (079 248 19 89) or check the church webpage ([www.stursula.ch/Junior](http://www.stursula.ch/Junior)) for more information.

- Sharon Batley



Congratulations to the Junior Church Children with birthdays in June and July:

Aaron Campbell 5 on 5 June

Zornitsa Neda Holden 6 on 8 June

Charlotte Gertsch 10 on 10 June

Brenda Sacks 14 on 12 June

Ariel Hutchison 8 on 18 June

Paul Quesnot 13 on 22 June

Nayden Holden 3 on 25 June

Rachel Eze 9 on 3 July

Emma Quesnot 9 on 6 July

Emanuel Schmidt 4 on 9 July

Lucas King 12 on 9 July

Rebecca Fluri 14 on 16 July

Michael Hänggi 10 on 21 July



# Activity Club Programme 2015

**Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> May**

**Chili Cook-off at St. Ursula's Church.**

*Organise and run the games section of the Youth Group / Scout Fundraising Event for Kenya.*

*Time: 4-6 pm. You are welcome to stay for supper with your family (until 9pm).*



**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> June**

**Summer Fête at St. Ursula's Church.**

*Organise and run the tin can alley at St. Ursula's annual Summer Fête.*

*Time: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. We will have a rota. Bring a packed lunch or money to buy a lunch.*

**Week of 3-7<sup>th</sup> August**

**Summer holiday event: Schwarzwasser canyon hike with BBQ and evening swim or cycling trip from Bern to Schloss Schadau in Thun.**

*Spend a day out together during the summer holidays. Details closer to the time.*

**Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> August to Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> August**

**Junior Church Sleepover at St. Ursula's.**

*Spend the night at church: games, stories, crafts and songs.*

*Time: 5 p.m. - 11 a.m.*



**Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> October**

**Harvest programme at St. Ursula's.**

*Make fruit cup cakes and syrups for the harvest festival to raise money for our Tear Fund project in Uganda.*

*Time: 11:30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. Bring packed lunch. Costs CHF 3.00.*

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> November**

**End of year event: Ten pin bowling and supper in Rubigen**

*Help tidying up after the Christmas Bazaar and then join us for a fun evening in Rubigen. Drop off at St. Ursula's Church. Pick up at Bowling Centre Rubigen.*

*Time: 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Cost about CHF 25.00, including shoe rental + supper.*



Looking forward to seeing you soon,

*Sharon and Françoise*

# Children and Confirmation

There will be a new course starting in October (after the school holidays) for families who wish their children to be admitted to communion before confirmation.

This course is intended for children aged 10 or older who are ready to take a first step themselves on their Christian journey and make a public commitment to belonging to the church family.



There will be a short introductory session for parents and children, probably after church on Sunday 18 October. This will be followed by four teaching sessions during the regular service. Then there will be a Saturday all-day event for children and parents. The admission service will be on Sunday 29 November (Advent Sunday).

If you would be interested in taking part, please contact Father Peter or Tricia Carrick.

This is an important part in these children's growth in faith and as part of a Christian community. Their parents and the wider congregation will therefore be involved in their preparation through encouragement of the children and prayers for them. The intention is that the children's Christian journey in the Church will then continue to their profession of faith as a young adult at confirmation and beyond. So please pray for the course, its leaders, its participants and their families.

- *Tricia Carrick*

# “Why didn't you save the forest?”

## Bishop Henry Scriven, CMS's mission director for Latin America, Special Guest at Missions Sunday event on Sunday, 8 March 2015



Figure 1: Missions Sunday: Some Participants at the all-age missions service

We were honoured to hold our Missions Sunday with Bishop Henry Scriven, CMS's mission director for Latin America. As well as speaking at the Missions Sunday service, Bishop Henry also held an informative presentation after the service, which focused on the work of CMS in the Carco region of Argentina. The

Missions Sunday service drew on multiple participation from the congregation, included the accompaniment of some touching choral songs and the confirmation class leading the prayers of intercessions.

Bishop Henry tied in succinctly with a number of current St Ursula's themes, including:

1. The challenge of how to protect the world we live in and raise awareness in our church
2. Providing an example of how the Wichi community is having its livelihood threatened in northern Argentina
3. Referring to the content of the CMS "Possible World" course

Bishop Henry highlighted how CMS is supporting environmental needs amongst the Wichi people, the indigenous peoples of the Chaco region of Argentina. The Wichi have lived for millennia on their land in the Chaco region of northern Argentina (see Figure 2) and have traditionally supported themselves by hunting and fishing.



Figure 2: The Chaco region in Northern Argentina

The Chaco region was also illustrated in session 6 of the CMS “Possible World” course, which St Ursula’s congregation had the privilege of following throughout Lent. In the multimedia course materials, Ana Alvarez outlined how the Wichí people, numbering more than 25,000, are having their habitats and livelihoods threatened by the introduction of alien crops such as soybean.

We were provided with more details about how St Ursula’s status as a link church means that we will have a more intense connection with both Andrew Leake and his wife, Maria.

During the presentation, Bishop Henry illustrated how the Bible is mandating us, as Christians, to care about God’s creation.

We also enjoyed the fellowship of a Potluck lunch to share together and discuss some of the points raised in our inspiring Missions Sunday event.

As Donna Goepfert, from the Charity and Missions team, reported in the February / March 2015 issue of St Ursula’s [Magazine](#), Andrew Leake from CMS, will be our CMS contact person.





# Charity of the Month: Us (formerly USPG) Connect: Jobarpar, Bangladesh

St Ursula's has supported the former United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, now renamed Us, for many years. Our donation usually went into the general fund and we didn't really know what project we were supporting. Us is now giving churches a chance to support a specific project by their Connect scheme, receive regular reports, and thus be more directly connected to it. The charity committee felt we would all benefit from this.

By joining "Connect: Jobarpar", our church is now supporting the work of the church in Jobarpar, Bangladesh as it reaches out to rural communities, providing vital healthcare.

Jobarpar is a flood-prone area of Bangladesh in the River Ganges delta, with widespread unemployment, poverty and malnutrition.



Washing pots in clean water supply



Meeting of a women's support group

Here, supported by Us, the church is working with village communities.

Together, the church and Us are:

- Providing vital healthcare;
- Training women in how they and their families can prevent illness (and avoid medical fees they cannot afford);
- Training families in how to eat more healthily and the importance of hygiene in food preparation;
- Training new mothers in how to care for their babies, with a focus on the importance of breast feeding and birth registration.

In addition, women are benefiting from visits from church community health workers. Others benefit from church-run clinics, enabling them to access free healthcare in areas where government health provision is unavailable or unaffordable.

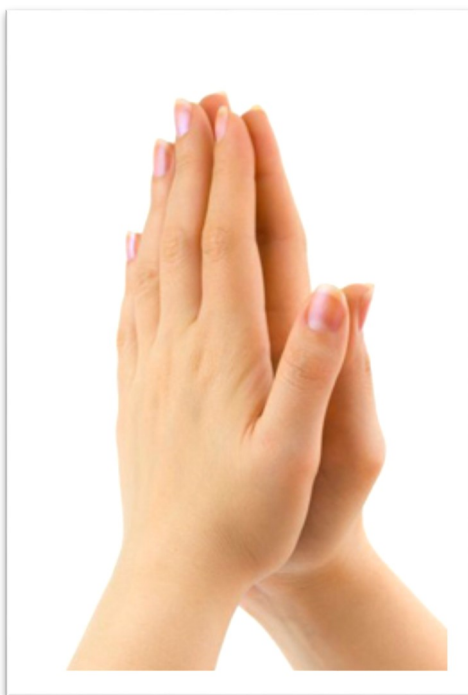
The people in Jobarpar are extremely poor, often barely able to survive. Subsistence farming and fishing are the main means of livelihood, but many – particularly women if they have been abandoned by their husbands – struggle to make ends meet and to provide for their families.

Government policy is to provide healthcare for all, but in reality this amounts to very little and only 10-15% of the population can afford any medical fees.

Often the nearest government health clinic will be a 60-minute ride away by vangarry (rickshaw-type bicycle) – another expense. For this reason, health work has always been very much at the heart of the church’s ministry and outreach to rural communities in Bangladesh.

The church-run health work in Jobarpar provides much-needed healthcare in an area where government provision is very limited. Through the church’s health ministry, Christians have been able to build strong relationships with neighbours of other faiths.

Supported by Us, the Church of Bangladesh’s community work is building on its long-standing provision of rural health clinics. The church is increasingly working with communities, particularly women, to raise awareness of health issues and disease prevention.



Unsurprisingly, women are keen to learn how they and their families can become healthier, avoid illness and live longer without incurring medical fees they cannot afford.

The church’s community health workers have been welcomed with open arms as women feel empowered to take matters of health into their own hands.

By joining Connect, our prayers and financial donations will directly support this vital ministry. Currently we are one of 5 churches, supporting Jobarpar with a total of £6,600 (St Ursula’s £1,800) per year. The fundraising target is £10,000.

Check the board in the upper hall or the website <http://www.weareus.org.uk/> for further information.

With the people in Bangladesh let us pray for their wellbeing:

Enduring God,  
You embrace us with a mother's tender, focused love.  
Bless those who work with tireless energy to strengthen women in their hours of need.  
That through them, families and communities may thrive with laughter, health and hope.  
Lord of the storm,  
To all who live beside dangerous seas and on the banks of unpredictable rivers,  
Grant peace of mind and the assurance of your presence in each and every circumstance that may befall them.  
Amen.

- *Esther Hutchison Funkhouser for the Charity and Missions Team*



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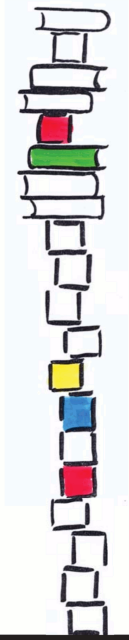
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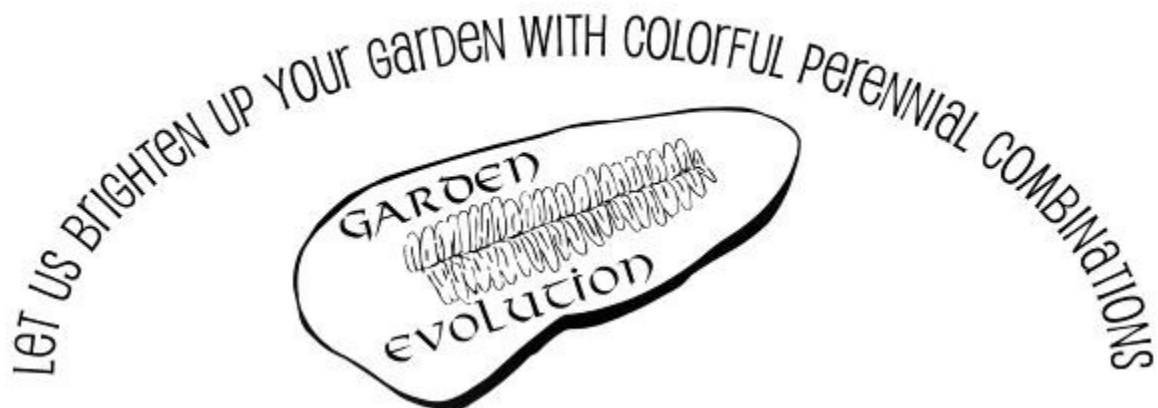
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Mittelstrasse 55, 3012 Bern | Open every Thursday & Friday from 8pm | [www.englishclub.ch](http://www.englishclub.ch)

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

Email: [cuwarren@zapp.ch](mailto: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

Edi Wildhaber 079 460 61 15

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Donna Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Richard King 031 822 09 21

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