

# THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



June – July 2016

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

**Chaplain**

Ven Peter Potter

031 351 03 43

079 922 71 30 (emergencies only if no reply on the home number)

**Honorary Assistant Chaplain    Assistant Chaplain    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:** 18.30 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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## Table of Contents

Chaplain's Message	2	From the New Treasurer	18
Zion	3	Archdeaconry Choir Festival	20
Our chaplain is leaving.	5	Services and Readings	21
A Word for the Month: Eternal	6	Prayer Diary	22
Swedish Evening	7	For Your Diary	24
Ascension Day	8	Green Corner	25
Scenes from the Past	10	Happy Birthday	26
Book of the Month	13	Junior Church News	27
Chaplain's Notes	14	Fundraiser Book for Young and Old	28
Keeping Up to Date with the Church	15	Ecumenical House Group	31
St Ursula's Summer Fête	16	Advance Notice—October at the Uni	31
Church Breakfasts	17	Charity of the Month: SU Lifeskills	32
Farewell Party	17	Here to Help You	40
Treasurer's Adieu	18		

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# Chaplain's Message

On 26 June we shall be keeping the Feast of St Peter and it is also the Sunday nearest the thirtieth anniversary of my ordination as priest. That seemed to me a good day to step down from full-time paid ministry in the Church (which I would have to do anyway when I turn seventy in August). I want you to know how grateful I am that God called me to this vocation. I could not have wished for anything better.

So, this is almost certainly the last time I shall be writing "The Vicar's Letter" in a church magazine. What will I treasure, especially from my time at St Ursula's?

- People - just as there is no such thing as a lone Christian, so a priest serves God in a congregation;
- The variety of gifts God gives to his people, whether skills like music or flower-arranging or qualities like kindness, friendship and concern for others;
- Our walks in Dählhölzli;
- The spirituality of children and what they can teach us;
- Contacts with the other clergy and congregations in the Archdeaconry as well as the local Swiss churches;
- Meeting and working with people of many nationalities and different backgrounds; listening to their stories;
- The wonderful mountain scenery; train rides through the Alps;
- Coming alongside people at moments of joy and celebration, as well as in times of trial and sadness. The privilege of being able to minister in speaking and silence, in prayer and through the liturgy;
- Keeping my German up to scratch;
- Opportunities to explore the Christian faith together and to see how people's eyes are opened to new insights;
- The martens. (Well, not at three o'clock in the morning! But they do look cute and the chance of seeing one of their Scottish cousins is almost nil.)

It's not really my place to comment on the future at St Ursula's but as this is my last chance, I'm going to anyway.

My retirement officially begins on 14 July and so a chapter ends. There will be changes for us all but, in spite of the date, it will not be *Vive la révolution!*

During a vacancy, the motto is "steady as she goes". It is not a time for change and new directions. The clergy who will be taking services during the vacancy ("locums") will have different gifts and styles perhaps. This variety will enrich your experience and bring new insights that may help as you consider what you are looking for in your new priest. Much of the work connected with keeping the church on course will fall to the wardens, as well as the Council and others. Because of the extra tasks involved, it is important that people are willing to bear one another's burdens and to maintain unity.

Please pray for us in our new life and we shall be praying for you.

Thanks for everything and God bless you all

*Peter*



## Zion

One of the most revolting practices of modern times is known as ethnic cleansing. Many of the things we do could be described as barbaric, but killing other people merely because their culture, their way of life, their appearance, the language they speak is not the same as ours is horrendously so. Attempting to justify it makes the behaviour even more barbaric.

Any minority can be singled out, particularly those seen to be an obstacle to someone's plans, like the Jews, the travelling people and people with mental or physical abnormalities in Nazi Germany. The recent history of Bosnia, Rwanda, Chechnya, Nagorno-Karabakh, Bangla Desh, Sudan, Sierra Leone is tainted with the practice, and few nations can claim to have had clean hands throughout their history. The recent activities of "the Islamic state" are an extreme example – there are many more.

The Old Testament is also filled with tales of ethnic cleansing, in both directions. The Assyrians and the Babylonians come and take the Jews into exile. The Book of Daniel is set in the context of a clash of cultures, which is what happened when Alexander's Greece collided with the lives of the peoples he conquered. And in the story of the conquest of Canaan, the writers often record with satisfaction that such and such a city was "utterly destroyed". Moses' followers are to drive out "the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites" and to have nothing to do with them or their practices.

We know that this was very far from the real situation. The same Book of Deuteronomy that commands this purge also commands friendship to “the stranger within the gates”, and the Books of Samuel and Kings make it obvious that the population was significantly mixed. Country people shared in each other's celebrations, intermarried, and even the behaviour of the kings and queens of Judah and Israel was often very far from what the Law commanded.

In 2 Samuel 5, it is very clear that the ethnic cleansing had never been taken to its conclusion. It had been a command to avoid pagan beliefs and practices, not a genuine command to kill pagans. Jerusalem, right in the middle of the land, had never been conquered by the followers of Moses. Instead, it was occupied by the Jebusites. They had built a fortified space on one of the city's hills, protecting the hill top and an all-important spring. The name of the hill was Zion.

King David, freshly anointed after King Saul's death, found a way into the citadel with his troops and occupied it. The details of the invasion are obscure, and biblical scholars and archaeologists have struggled to form a picture. Even the precise hill where the citadel was is uncertain. It seems there was no ethnic cleansing. The part of Jerusalem where the citadel lay was given the name “the city of David.” Soon afterwards, the Ark of the Covenant was brought from Kiriath-Jearim, some ten kilometres to the west, and in the course of time, David's son Solomon built a temple to house it worthily.

In time, Zion came to be another name for the mount where Solomon's temple lay, God's holy hill. When the rulers of Israel turned to Egypt for help against Assyria, Isaiah told them “This is an agreement with hell. God has laid a foundation stone in Zion, and anyone who trusts in that will not panic.” (Isaiah 28:14-17) – a thought recalled by Paul in his letter to the Romans, when he combines it with another thought from Isaiah 8:14, of God being a stumbling-block for those who trust in their own resources, and applies it to Jesus – trust Jesus and we live, trust ourselves and we stumble.

During their exile, poets lamented: “By the rivers of Babylon - there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion.” And for Christians, Zion became the heavenly throne of the Lamb worshipped by God's people (Revelation 14:1). What a pity then that God's holy city has become a centre of conflict, fought over by Jews, Christians and Muslims alike, all of whom, at some time or other, have attempted the impossible – to kill the affection each of these three religions has for the God whose throne is not on a dusty hill in Palestine, but in heaven itself.

*- Hector Davie*

# Our chaplain is leaving. What happens next?

There is a very clear process to be followed and the Diocesan Office has sent a timetable to make sure each step is done at the right time. While this is happening everyone needs to pray for guidance to discern the sort of priest God will call to minister with you.

The selection process is undertaken jointly by the Bishop, the Archdeacon and the Church Council. First of all the Archdeacon meets the Council to take them through the various procedures. The Council then has to work on three important documents:

- ***the church profile.*** This gives essential information for anyone thinking of applying – location, pattern of services, church activities etc.
- ***a job description.*** To do this you need to have some idea of things like: Where do you see the church in five year's time? What are the priorities? Who are the other key people the new chaplain will work with? This is not a list of instructions for the new chaplain but for reflection and discussion once he/she has been in post for a while.
- ***a person specification.*** What qualities, experience and skills does the new chaplain need to work on the tasks in the job description?

Once this is done, the post is advertised. The Bishop and the Archdeacon look at the applications and select the people they wish to interview. The selection is done by matching the applicants with the criteria on the documents produced by the Council. Soon after that the Bishop, the Archdeacon and two representatives of the chaplaincy interview the candidates. On paper, all the candidates meet the requirements but the chaplaincy representatives have a key rôle in deciding which of them best fits their chaplaincy.

The preferred candidate will then visit the chaplaincy, so that s/he and his/her spouse can get an idea of what they would be coming to. Once all the safeguarding procedures have been completed, the candidate gives notice in his/her present post and starts to pack. Assuming all goes well, he/she could be with you next March, which is quicker than usual. Until then it is the wardens' job to find priests to take the services. The Diocesan Office will send the names of suitable clergy.

The key ingredient in all this is prayer. The aim is not to find the priest you want but the one God wants to come to St Ursula's. - PMP

# A Word for the Month – Eternal

One of the best beloved of Bible verses for many people is John 3:16 – usually omitting the first word. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”

The first word links these words with the previous verse, and this, in its turn, links the thought to a story in the book of Numbers (21:4-9). Things are going badly on the way to the promised land. The Edomites will not let Moses pass through. His brother Aaron has just died. The local Canaanite tribe has just attacked them, though unsuccessfully. The people are forced to take a detour through the wilderness, and they complain about it, even about the manna that God provides. “We detest this miserable food.”

So, in the words of Numbers, “the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.” At this point, the people stop complaining and repent, and on God's instructions, Moses makes a bronze serpent on a pole. Anyone bitten by a snake has only to look at Moses' pole and will live.

It is a long way from the promise of not dying from snakebite to the promise of eternal life. There are obvious similarities between being bitten by a snake and living and being bitten by sin and being restored. People who had been bitten did not have to do anything complicated – merely focus on the image that would save them. And after being cured, they could continue on their journey to the promised land.

But Jesus is offering more than this. He is offering eternal life. Yet what does “eternal” mean?

The Greek word John's gospel uses is *aionios*, but knowing this does not help. You might translate it “for ages”, and it is clearly a word we can use for something that, like God, never changes. In 2 Corinthians 4, Paul refers to one aspect of our life as a clay jar, easily broken, containing an eternal treasure. “So...we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.”

So the word eternal is used for things that are endless. God is endless. God's power is endless. God's glory is endless. God's love is endless. Christ's redemption is endless, and treasure of life in Christ is endless. “We know that if the earthly building we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”



Someone has noted that Facebook, because of its policy of not deleting anything, will soon have more dead members than live ones. The idea that each of us will leave a digital legacy is one that has provoked serious theological discussion. Shakespeare may well have ended one of his more famous sonnets with the words: "So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see, / So long lives this, and this gives life to thee," but now any internet user will leave traces behind of their personality, their hopes, their sins even!

This is not the sort of eternal life that Christians are thinking of. When we talk of what happens after death, we are not envisaging a life where we live on in chat rooms, through our blogs and through our tweets. We envisage a life close to Jesus, moving towards the joy of the resurrection. And this is what Jesus is recorded as saying, at John 17:3: "This is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." Life indeed!

- *Hector Davie*

## Swedish Evening

The Swedish Evening on 20 May was organised by the Swedish Church who use our premises on a regular basis. The sell-out evening was a fun and very successful event. The food was really outstanding and the Swedish folk songs performed by the Swedish choir

between courses were highly entertaining and hugely appreciated. Great fun was had by all participants and we raised a magnificent Fr 2688 for our Sustainability Appeal.



A huge thank you to the Swedish Church for not only organising the evening and cooking all the wonderful Swedish food but also for donating all the ingredients.

Our next themed fund-raising evenings will be hosted by the Ethiopian Church (date to be confirmed) and the Danish Church on Thursday 29 September. More details will be posted on our website shortly.

- *Jana Kutesko*

# Ascension Day

There were ten of us – plus one dog – who alighted the train at Düdingen. It was a fine, clear morning; spring in evidence all around; warm, not hot; a day to take the Wanderweg to the Madeleine Hermitage and there to celebrate, in simple underground surrounds, the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. The present moment of a glorious day reached back into an early past of Christian presence in this land, worshipping where others had done so many centuries before and, as with them, we remembered that which had occurred even earlier; at the very birth of Christian faith.

And so it was that, after the short train ride from Bern, we set off. As far as I could tell, we sort of knew the way – others had walked to the Hermitage from Düdingen before – but once on the outskirts of the town, maps were duly consulted. We wandered on. Past pleasant fields, farm out-buildings and houses with gardens festooned with gnomes and other paraphernalia of human imagination; then on into a nature preservation area. We turned off the paved road and took the Wanderweg proper, coming soon to a forked choice – to the right, a rise suggestive of the high road; to the left, a level, if not slightly descending, low road. Debate ensued. The dog chose; we humans duly followed. We took the low road. I wondered, momentarily, if we would really get to our destination. Oh me of little faith ... suddenly, it seemed, we were there.

Through the gate all was revealed. Until we arrived I had no idea this was a hermitage built into a limestone cliff-face, looking down onto the river and across, now, to the outskirts of Fribourg. My curiosity was well piqued. I descended the paved pathway to the grassed area that once, I imagine, supported a garden. Today there are picnic tables. And here were half-a-dozen



others from St Ursula's waiting our arrival, along with other picnicking visitors. Fr Peter quickly disappeared into the cave complex; soon we would enact worship in a carved-out chapel whose floor area would not be too dissimilar from that of St Ursula's church hall, and the height reminiscent of the church itself! I marvelled at the sheer ingenuity and industry that had produced this space. But this is Switzerland, a land where it seems to live is to dig – or at least create tunnels! Cave-making is but one variation, I guess. And in this cave we made Eucharist, giving thanks for the one who brought us to this moment, this place.

And as Fr Peter reminded us, here in a cave we commemorated the ascension of Him who, from a carved-out tomb, the resting place of the dead, was brought into new life.



The ascension narrative speaks of a moment of departure from this world and of return to the realm of the

Father, whence came the Son in the first place. Theologically and spiritually, however, there is much more in all this. Ascension is a liminal moment for the Christian community. In the unfolding of the grand narrative of the Good News. It is a necessary step, marking a shift, a development; enabling the embedding of the gospel within the community of believers itself. Where Christmas marks the birth of the Saviour, and Easter the birth of saving faith, Pentecost marks the birth of the community of the Easter faith – the Church; the community called to embody the good news, to continue God’s incarnated presence in and to the world. And the empowering transition is effected, first, through resurrection. This is not the return of Jesus from the dead (that would be resuscitation, with physical death still to occur, as with all flesh); no, resurrection is about new life in God; the risen Christ is the proof of the living God, the God whose promise to be with us unto the end, and whose promise may be relied upon because it has been made real in and through Jesus, the Christ. The drawing of the sting of death is the palpable good news of the God who is genuinely with us in and through all of life, whatever it may hold for us, good or bad. And irrespective of the fidelity or otherwise of our discipleship – and we can be a very fickle lot, we human followers of Christ – God is ever faithfully with us through all that we encounter, enjoy, or endure. But our eyes needed to be opened; our spiritual sense sharpened.

We needed to be shown, in the first place, that the risen Christ is encountered when we break bread together; when we are called, by name, and confronted by His name in our lives; when we find ourselves challenged to try again, but differently, to do that which we are called to do – to cast the net on the other side, perhaps. And having had our eyes opened to new ways of encounter and relationship with the living Lord, we are, as we say ‘left to it’. Ascension is not a matter of Christ literally ‘going up’ following a ‘coming down’ – the ancient understandable language of a three-tier universe worldview. Rather, spiritually and theologically, ascension – the second moment of empowering transition –

signals a liminal closure that opens the way for the next moment of the journey that leads to the founding and empowering of the community in and through which God continues to manifest the good news of saving grace and embracing love. Us. The Church. The community of faith. Followers of the living Lord. Walkers along God's Wanderweg. Our Ascension Wanderung and celebration was a fresh moment of opening of eyes and sharpening of spiritual senses. For me, an unforgettable day; full of the grace of interpersonal encounter, of new discoveries and learning, of bread shared, of engaging faith. Thank you to St Ursula's for providing the opportunity!

- (Revd Canon Prof) Douglas Pratt

## Scenes from the Past

Nearly 100 years ago on a warm day in 1920, Corporal Delbert Havens (Del) and his best friend, Edwin Carney, escorted Del's fiancée, Dora Gallner on a late morning stroll. The sun was almost overhead when they stopped to pose for pictures in front of St. Ursula's Church. It was likely they had attended Sunday service, as they were dressed in their very best attire. That same day, Dora took a picture of Del and Carney in front of the gates of the Historical Museum. They also walked over the bridge across the Aare, where Dora captured the dapper gentlemen with the Cultural Casino in the background. On April 21, 2016, Del's granddaughters, Deb Havens and Lynette Doele were photographed by Hector Davie



in the exact same locations on the bridge across the Aare, and under the now giant fir tree that shades Bern's "English Church."

We sisters are exploring the history of our grandfather. Family legend says he drove for General Pershing after WWI. This is one of the things we set out to confirm on our trip to Europe this spring. Before we left our homes in west Michigan, we knew that Del was a bystander to history.

Our mother, Roselle Havens, was Del's daughter-in-law. After his death, she discovered a dusty box of faded photographs in a forgotten corner of his attic. No one else wanted them, so with many fond memories of shared family moments, she took them home. Years later, once she retired, she compiled the photos into a notebook, honoring her father-in-law's memory and military service. She insisted that we peruse the notebook to at the very least admire her handiwork and on the loftier side, become informed of our heritage.

It turns out Del was not only a bystander of history, he also recorded it. A farm boy from a small town in west Michigan, he arrived in France in 1919. He was an inveterate shutter bug with Army pay and a new-fangled camera. His notebooks bulged with photo after photo of his buddies, his travels, and his appreciation for the beauty and novelty of his surroundings still intact. He was a collector as well – souvenir handkerchiefs from France, military documents related to his service, scenic postcards, with mysterious messages written in German on the back.

Curiosity drove us to a friend who could translate a note on the back of a particularly intriguing photo of a decidedly sad-faced woman. We were shocked to learn what it said:

*St. Gall, July 1922. A picture of myself in the month where I received my sad news from you. I nearly died from the heartache. Your lost bride, Dora. It is very sad.*

Despite the many questions the photo prompted, it took us some years to seek the answers. Now with Deb's son living in Germany, and the sisters retired, the time was right for a trip to Europe. We decided to try to answer two burning questions: Had Del and Dora been married in the English Church in Bern, Switzerland? Why was she left behind?

Before we left home, we read the documents and examined the photos and postcards thoroughly. We know that in 1920 he was a Chauffeur assigned to Colonel William Godson, military attaché and his assistant, Major Iven Jones, during their diplomatic service in the American Legation in Bern. During his time there, he drove for generals and diplomats as they traveled to and from the peace negotiations that followed WWI. We also found a number of other Dora photos labeled in





Del's handwriting; we learned that Dora's last name was Gallner, and for several months, she wrote to our Great-Grandmother Grace, addressing her as "Mother," and sending love and kisses.

The search was on for information about the mysterious Dora Gallner. An internet search of all the genealogy sites gave no hits on her name. Deb discovered St. Ursula's web site doing a Google search for "English Church in Bern" and made contact with Jana Kutesko, who wondered if church marriages in 1920-1921 might be stored in the far recesses of the church attic. She introduced us to Hector Davie, who

immediately became an enthusiastic and invaluable liaison.

Thanks to Hector's mentorship, and his sleuthing, we visited the apartment building our grandfather resided in on Cäcilienstrasse, ate dinner at "dr Suder," our grandfather's local hostelry, and embarked on a grand walking tour of the places identified in Del's photographs; to retrace our grandfather's footsteps was a profoundly moving experience.

Unfortunately, Hector, and later Peter Potter, confirmed there would be no record of a marriage at St Ursula's as none were stored from that era. And we have no record from the City Archives of a civil service, which would have been required before a church ceremony.

Throughout our entire experience our thoughts have remained with Dora and Del. Poor Dora. We had discovered during our visit with the Archivist in St. Gallen that she died on October 12, 1922, just 5 months after our grandfather returned to the United States. We have no idea where she might be buried; we now believe she and Del never married.

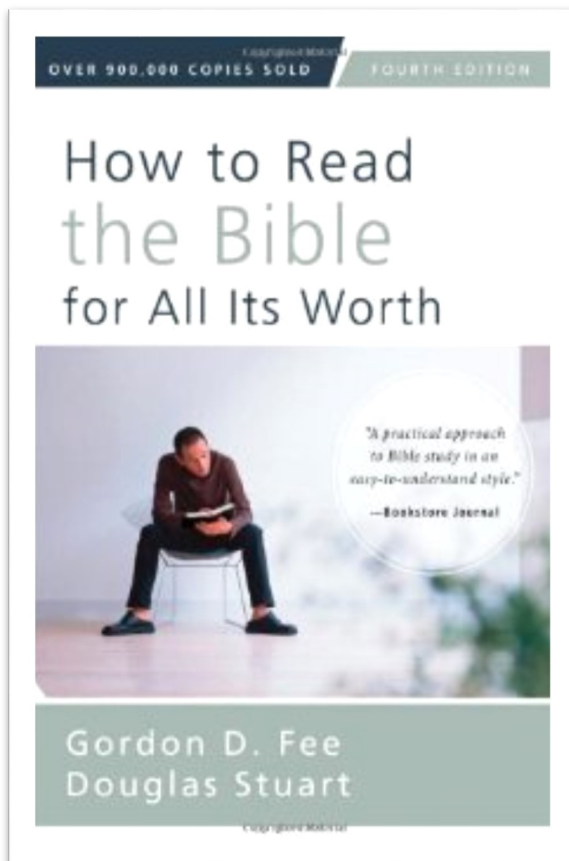
Closure is what we seek but all we really can say is that two young people fell in love during extreme post-war circumstances that tragically led to extreme consequences. Dora was left behind (why, we still hope to find out) and subsequently died too young. Del married a girl from his home town, raised a family, and harbored Dora's memories in a box he moved from place to place, from attic to attic, for the rest of his life.

*- Deborah Havens and Lynette Doele*

*Old photos courtesy of the Roselle Havens Collection*

# Book of the Month

## ***How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*** **By Gordon Fee & Douglas Stuart**



Understanding the Bible...where do I start? Which translation should I use? How do I begin to understand the Epistles, the Gospels, the Psalms?

This challenging but accessible book has been recommended by a Bible scholar I know as one of the best resources to use in understanding the Bible. And it emphasizes that Christians should learn not only to read but to believe and obey the Bible.

Interpreting the Bible involves careful, systematic study of Scripture to discover the original, intended meaning. That is called exegesis. Then there is hermeneutics, meaning seeking the contemporary relevance of ancient texts.

Additionally, if we are not Greek, Aramaic and Hebrew scholars we rely on translations. This book gives help in selecting a translation which we can comfortably use.

Some of the chapter titles are: "The Epistles: Learning to Think Contextually", "The Old Testament Narratives: Their Proper Use", "The Gospels: One Story, Many Dimensions", "The Law(s): Covenant Stipulations for Israel", and "The Revelation: Images of Judgment and Hope". Don't they make you want to borrow the book and find out what they have to say?

*-Donna Goepfert*

# Chaplain's Notes



## Vacancy arrangements

During the vacancy the wardens are responsible for making sure everything continues as normally as possible. Please remember them in your prayers as they take on these extra responsibilities. Enquiries about weddings, baptisms and funerals will be handled through the church office as usual. The Rev'd Mark Pogson and our new Lay Reader, Archana Jacob, have kindly offered to help with taking services. This will be especially useful in the next couple of months when most retired clergy have already been booked up to cover other chaplains who will be taking their summer holidays soon. Please pray for Mark and Archana too.

Later on in the year there will be locums (stand-in clergy), which will give some variety and perhaps food for thought. Any arrangements will need to be dovetailed in with the work that is planned in the clergy house. This too is the responsibility of the wardens, together with the Archdeacon and the staff at the Diocesan Office.

Some of you remember the vacancy in 2007-8; some of you have experience of how it is done in other churches. Our Diocese has a tried and tested procedure which must be followed. The Archdeacon and the Appointments Secretary in the Diocesan Office are there to help and offer advice. At the St Ursula's end, the wardens have the key rôle and it is important that they are allowed to manage the process. (Remember the proverb about too many cooks!)

## Familiar face in new rôle

Congratulations to Adèle Kelham who was made a Canon of the Cathedral recently. On 14 July (the day after my retirement) she will be taking over as Acting Archdeacon and will be involved in working with the Council in the process of appointing a new chaplain. In fact she will be kept busy with appointments as Montreux will become vacant in July as well as her own chaplaincy of Lausanne when she retires from there later in the year.

Adèle knows St Ursula's well, of course, so it will be good to have her around.

## More goodbyes

The Rev'd Paul Dalzell is retiring from St John's Montreux and is returning to Australia. Fr Paul has been an active and loyal member of our Clergy Chapter.



He has inspired us with his ideas about Christian discipleship, delivered in Aussie straight-talking ways. We wish him and Robyn all the best.

Later on in the summer you will also be saying goodbye to Linda and Benedikt. They are leaving Berne and going to live in Liverpool. (Do I detect a footballing connection here?) We hope and pray this is going to be a new and happy chapter for them all and wish them every blessing.

### **And finally**

I hope to see you all on 26 June for my farewell service, to wish you Adieu with our heartfelt thanks and good wishes for the future.

- Peter

## **Keeping Up to Date with All Our Church Activities**

Did you know that in addition to our Website we also have a Facebook page and a Blog?

All 3 platforms are kept up to date with all our activities. You will find the information related to all our ideas for the fundraising on the website under [www.stursula.ch/Appeal/](http://www.stursula.ch/Appeal/) and we will be highlighting specific things on the blog.

You can easily sign up to get an email when a new blog post is published, you do not need a Wordpress account. Similarly you can view our Facebook page, without being on Facebook. You will find links to both at the bottom of our website which is of course [www.stursula.ch](http://www.stursula.ch)

We even have a Twitter account, but it is currently not so active. If you love Twitter and would like us to be more active, just let us know by sending us a tweet. Let us see how many tweets we get.

- Sue Higson



# St Ursula's Summer Fête

## 4 June 10.00 – 15.00



It's just a few days to this year's summer fête when we will be celebrating the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II with a special exhibition about her life and reign, musical contributions from our choir as well all our usual traditional summer fête fun.

This will be an event for ALL with lots of adults' and children's activities and games, bric à brac, tombola, our fabulous "Pimms on the Lawn" and of course, a barbecue outside - whilst not forgetting our usual sales of second hand books and British food including a special selection of fine British Cheeses for sale.

Please advertise this event widely, flyers are available in the Upper Hall or you can print some from our website, [www.anglican.ch/berne](http://www.anglican.ch/berne)

For further information or to volunteer at the fête please contact the Church Office (031 352 8567) or email [berne@anglican.ch](mailto:berne@anglican.ch)

- Jana Kutesko, Church Office



# Church Breakfasts

The next Sunday Church Breakfast will be on the first Sunday of June which is 5 June. 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.



We will then have a break in July and August. And, at the moment, it is not sure whether the breakfasts will resume in September – please look at the next magazine to find out.

- *Tricia Carrick*

## Farewell Party

As you already know, Peter and Shareene will be leaving us at the end of June. Before they go, we would like to hold a farewell party for them. This will give us a chance to thank them for all they have done at St Ursula's over the last 8 years.

The party will be at St Ursula's on Friday 24 June at 18.00. There will be a finger food buffet. There may also be some entertainment (not sure about that yet!) Everyone is invited.

If you would like to contribute something for the buffet or entertainment, please contact Tricia Carrick (best by email: [pcarrick@hispeed.ch](mailto:pcarrick@hispeed.ch))

# Treasurer's Adieu

I was elected Treasurer in May 1992, and, with a break between 1998 and 2001, have spent twenty-one years in that post. During that time, I have seen people come and go, experienced major financial triumphs, like the windfall grant from the canton that allowed us to create the hall as we know it today, with (fortunately) no major disasters. The time has come to pass the task on to someone younger, when I am still active enough to pass on the things I have learnt from experience over the years. For the way the Anglican church does things does not always fit in neatly with Swiss accounting practice, and the way the Swiss do things does not always fit in neatly with the accounting policies of the Church of England! Sue Higson has the background that will give her a chance to reconcile the two in an efficient way.

I thank the council members, past and present, who have tolerated my financial reports. I thank the Auditors who have kept me on my toes. I thank past Treasurers - Nigel Coombs, who reworked our accounting procedures and introduced our current accounting software; Rob Parsonage, who identified key tasks and produced a valuable job description; David Winfield, who was the first to computerise the accounting in the 1980s and who set standards for reporting statistics that have been hard to beat; and before him Hans Pfyffer and Vreni Hawker, each responsible for innovations that stand us in good stead today. And I thank you all, past and present, who have contributed to St Ursula's (and not only financially). May we continue to master Mammon and to serve God!

*- The Ex-Treasurer, Hector Davie*

# From the New Treasurer

I am very happy to introduce myself as the new Treasurer for St Ursula's Church and for the Charitable Association. A lot of you know me already as I was assistant Treasurer for many years, first to Nigel Coombs, and then to Hector Davie, before my work commitments meant I had to stop. I have been a member of St Ursula's for many years, and even during my time in Germany I helped regularly at book sales and the bazaar.

After five years working in Germany we returned to near Thun last year. Hector has been doing an amazing job single handed doing all the accounts, as well as being on Synod, doing the projection on a Sunday, and updating the

website, to name but a few of his many services to the Church. He will still have plenty to do in the Church without the Treasurer function. As your new Treasurer I will not be able to do all the things that Hector was also doing on the side. I also work 100%, so I ask for your understanding and support. It may also be that I am not as present as Hector is in Church, but I look forward to meeting more of you on Sundays and at our events. We are forming a small group to focus on the financial side of our Church related to giving and general fund raising. If anybody feels called to assist in some way just contact me: [Treasurer@stursula.ch](mailto:Treasurer@stursula.ch)

I will also be reworking the finances page on the website to bring you more up to date news of our finances on a regular basis. This is something that has been requested by various members of our Church. At the time of writing I have only been in post a week or so, so it is still early days. Hector has passed over a wealth of information to me, with some figures going back to 1967. This allows us to track our history in quite a lot of detail. Fascinating reading, and I will be sharing some insights in the future.

We are extremely grateful for all the money we receive and have been trying very hard over the last few years to reduce expenditure where we can and find other sources of income. Expenditure has gone down significantly in the last years, but unfortunately so has Income.

We will be highlighting Giving along with our financial situation on a regular basis. We are also aware that there are many demands on your generosity these days, and many people give to several charities every month. However we do have a need, and if we are to continue serving the English speaking residents of the



area into the future we need to close that gap. We want our Church to grow, we want to be able to offer more to our Youth and Junior Church, and we want to attract new families. To be a Church for the future, we need to grow, and to grow we need food, of both a spiritual and an earthly nature.

On this note, I would remind those who still need to pay for their magazine or advertising, or maybe it is time to make the annual pledge payment, to do so today, while the thought is in your mind. And if you were meaning to pledge or donate, there is no time like the present. Our post account numbers are at the front of the magazine. Thank you for all that you give.

Yours in Christ,  
Susan Higson.

# Swiss Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2016



The traditional annual Swiss Archdeaconry Choir Festival was held in Berne at St Ursula's Church over the weekend of 23-24 April 2016. It was attended by 36 singers from the chaplaincies in Basel, Berne, Geneva and Zurich. The music was led by Gordon Appleton (former RSCM Regional Director) and Mark Jones (former Director of Music at Gresham's School) on 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 W.H. Harris (Holy is the true Light), J. Reading (Preces and Responses); C.V. Stanford (Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C); E. Elgar (The Spirit of the Lord). On Sunday the choir sang the Mass in F (set by Ch. Wood) and Cantate Domino (composed by G.O. Pitoni) as an Introit. The Communion Motet by C. Saint-Saens (Panis Angelicus) and the post-communion anthem by O. Gibbons (Almighty and everlasting God) further enriched the liturgy of the Communion Service. Psalms were sung in both services in the traditional Anglican chant style.

A great thank you is extended to all who supported and contributed in many ways to making the Festival a great event. The Catering Team of St Ursula's Church spared no effort in making all singers very welcome with excellent food and refreshments.

This festival is one of the few regular annual occasions where members from the different chaplaincies meet together and join forces in a common cause: enriching worship with great and meaningful music.

- Hans-Karl Pfyffer

# Services and Readings

## June and July 2016

### 5 June

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
1 Kings 17:17-24  
Galatians 1:11-24  
Luke 7:11-17

### 3 July

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Isaiah 66:10-14  
Galatians 6:7-16  
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

### 12 June

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)  
with Holy Baptism  
2 Samuel 11:26-12:10, 13-15  
Luke 7:36-8:3

### 10 July

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)  
Deuteronomy 30:9-14  
Luke 10:25-37

### 19 June

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Isaiah 65:1-9  
Galatians 3:23-29  
Luke 8:26-39

### 17 July

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Genesis 18:1-10a  
Colossians 1:15-28  
Luke 10:38-42

### 26 June St Peter

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Isaiah 61:1-3a  
2 Timothy 4:6-8,17-18  
John 21:15-19

### 24 July

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Genesis 18:20-32  
Colossians 2:6-15  
Luke 11:1-13

### 31 July

10.00 Sung Eucharist  
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23  
Colossians 3:1-11  
Luke 12:13-21



# Prayer Diary

## June 2016

- |    |               |   |
|----|---------------|---|
| 1  | Wednesday     | Construction workers at the St Gotthard Tunnel          |
| 2  | Thursday      | Thanksgiving for Holy Communion                         |
| 3  | Friday        | The Old Catholic Church in Switzerland                  |
| 4  | Saturday      | Our Summer Fête   |
| 5  | <b>Sunday</b> | The ministry of Lay Readers                             |
| 6  | Monday        | Scripture Union South Africa, our charity for the month |
| 7  | Tuesday       | Today's Council meeting                                 |
| 8  | Wednesday     | The countries of the Middle East                        |
| 9  | Thursday      | The leaders of the nations from which we come           |
| 10 | Friday        | Local medical practices                                 |
| 11 | Saturday      | All who care for the terminally ill                     |
| 12 | <b>Sunday</b> | Vivienne Kreis being baptised this morning              |
| 13 | Monday        | The Diocesan Synod meeting this week                    |
| 14 | Tuesday       | Fair trade practices in the world                       |
| 15 | Wednesday     | Ecumenical relations in Berne                           |
| 16 | Thursday      | Students taking exams                                   |
| 17 | Friday        | Strengthening St Ursula's finances                      |
| 18 | Saturday      | People on holiday                                       |
| 19 | <b>Sunday</b> | Ministry to people with mental-health problems          |
| 20 | Monday        | Ethical dealings in the financial world                 |
| 21 | Tuesday       | Environmentally-friendly travel                         |
| 22 | Wednesday     | Seasonal chaplains at holiday resorts                   |
| 23 | Thursday      | People with frail relatives far away                    |
| 24 | Friday        | Those being ordained priest or deacon this weekend      |
| 25 | Saturday      | Today's Archdeaconry Synod                              |
| 26 | <b>Sunday</b> | <i>St Peter</i> , the Chaplain's Farewell               |
| 27 | Monday        | Our churchwardens                                       |
| 28 | Tuesday       | All who volunteer their help at church                  |
| 29 | Wednesday     | Catherine Jackson, the Diocesan Appointments Secretary  |
| 30 | Thursday      | Locum clergy in the Diocese                             |



## July 2016

1	Friday	Work to make our church buildings more energy-efficient
2	Saturday	“Walking Together in Faith” - The Diocesan Mission Strategy
3	<b>Sunday</b>	All who will be taking services during the vacancy
4	Monday	The people and government of the USA
5	Tuesday	The protection of children and vulnerable adults in the Church
6	Wednesday	Local hospitals
7	Thursday	Young people leaving school
8	Friday	General Synod meeting 8-12 July
9	Saturday	Christians facing discrimination
10	<b>Sunday</b>	Marriage counsellors
11	Monday	People looking for holiday jobs
12	Tuesday	The people of Northern Ireland
13	Wednesday	Just practices in world trade
14	Thursday	Canon Adèle Kelham, the new Archdeacon of Switzerland
15	Friday	The Royal School of Church Music
16	Saturday	Holiness in our daily lives
17	<b>Sunday</b>	All who contribute to the Magazine
18	Monday	The United Nations
19	Tuesday	Refugees arriving in Switzerland
20	Wednesday	Diplomatic representatives in Berne
21	Thursday	Local businesses
22	Friday	<i>Mary Magdelene</i> . Victims of people traffickers
23	Saturday	<i>Brigid, Abbess</i> . Religious communities
24	<b>Sunday</b>	Christians in the media
25	Monday	<i>James</i> . Following in the steps of the apostles
26	Tuesday	<i>Anne</i> . Our ministry to the elderly
27	Wednesday	United Nations agencies in Switzerland
28	Thursday	People serving on peace-keeping missions
29	Friday	Transport workers
30	Saturday	<i>William Wilberforce</i> . Victims of modern slavery
31	<b>Sunday</b>	Visitors to our churches

# For Your Diary June & July 2016



## Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.00-09.30	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork
Saturdays	09.30-11.30	Choir Practice - no practices in July

## Other Events

Sunday 5 June	08.30	Church Breakfast
Tuesday 7 June	19.30	Church Council
Wednesday 8 June	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Friday 3 June	09.00	Book Sorting
	18.00	Summer Fête Set Up
Saturday 4 June	10.00	Summer Fête
	15.00	Summer Fête Clear up
Saturday 11 June	17.00 - 20.00	Chilli Cook Off
Tuesday 21 June	19.30	Church Council
Wednesday 22 June	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Friday 24 June	18.00	Leaving Party for Peter and Shareene
Wednesday 6 July	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Sunday 17 July		COPY DATE
Wednesday 20 July	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Thursday 28 July	09.00 - 11.00	Magazine Collating

## **Future Dates**

Sunday 28 August	Back to Church Sunday
Saturday 3 September	Book and Food Sale
Thursday 29 September	Danish Evening
Sunday 9 October	Harvest Thanksgiving
Saturday 22 October	Children's Toy & Equipment Sale
Sunday 23 October	Pledge Sunday
Friday 25 & Saturday 26 November	Christmas Bazaar

## **Green Corner**

### **Zero Waste, or one year's rubbish in a glass jar**

How many bags of garbage do you fill in an average month? What would it take to reduce the number by half? Impossible, you will say. Yet there are people who manage to live by the principle of “zero waste”. What remains after a year, anything that cannot be recycled or composted, fills one glass jar. You can read the “blogs” of these young American women in the internet: their advice on how to shop, avoid plastic (hence the glass jar), make your own beauty products, whatever contributes to a “litterless life”. I came across their stories in an online newspaper article and was awed by their commitment and inventiveness. It made sense, though, when in the same article I read that, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, 40% of US greenhouse gas emissions come from “hauling, making, using and throwing away stuff and food”. The answer to this comes from the pioneer of the zero waste lifestyle, Bea Johnson. She proposes the five R's as a simple guideline: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot (in exactly this order).

Of course not many people are willing and able to adopt such a radical way of life. However, it is not a question of all or nothing; we can all help reduce waste. Here are some points I collected from my reading.

Be clear about your motivation. Whether you want to reduce your carbon footprint, combat climate change, save money, help protect God's creation, or simply reduce the amount of garbage to prove to yourself that you can do it – remember why it is important to you personally when you are thinking of buying the early raspberries that look so tempting in their plastic box.

Take note of what you are doing, be aware of alternatives. In the supermarket, do I need a plastic bag for a few apples or can I just put them in the cart and stick the price label on one of them? Why pull a fresh bag from the pad every time you buy your fruit or veggies, when you can keep one or two in your purse to use them over and over again? Just pull off the price stickers and the bags are ready for the next time you go shopping.

Do not ask too much of yourself. It is better to choose one small change at a time and make it a habit rather than get discouraged and give up the whole idea altogether. And allow yourself those raspberries once in a while as a reward for what you have achieved so far.

By the way, St. Ursula's uses a garbage container. So why care about how many bags of rubbish we fill it with? There is the economic reason: in addition to a basic fee of Fr. 594.50 we pay 37.3 Rappen for every kilo. These are the figures for the past two years:

in 2014 we paid Fr. 262.70 for 703 kilos of garbage,

in 2015 it was Fr. 372.05 for 997 kilos.

Within one year the amount of waste we collected in the container went up by 294 kilos, for which we paid an additional Fr. 109.35. But apart from the money we could use elsewhere, what about the resources and energy that went into the production, transportation and use of these materials? And what about next year, and the year after that?

You and I will probably never achieve a zero waste life, but we can give it our best effort every day.

- Ruth Freiburghaus

## Happy Birthday

Congratulations to our Junior Church children with birthdays in June and July:



Zornitsa Neda Holden 7 on 8 June

Charlotte Gertsch 11 on 10 June

Brenda Sacks 15 on 12 June

Ariel Hutchison 9 on 18 June

Paul Quesnot 14 on 22 June

Nayden Holden 4 on 25 June

Rachel Eze 10 on 3 July

Emma Quesnot 10 on 6 July

Emanuel Schmidt 5 on 9 July

Lucas King 13 on 9 July

Rebecca Fluri 15 on 16 July

Michael Hänggi 11 on 21 July

# Junior Church News

## Groups and meeting times

Junior Church meets most Sundays during the service. The children start out in church with the congregation, then leave together after the welcome and a short talk by the priest. In the front right of the church, seats are reserved so that the children can sit together, parents are of course also welcome. July will see a change of service pattern and on second Sundays from then on, only the Pilots' class will stay in church for the whole service, the younger children will go to their classes as normal.

There are three classes for different age groups: Sparklers (3-6+), Trailblazers (7-10+), and Pilots (11-14+). We start the teaching together with prayer and then split up into the different groups. On fourth Sundays the children stay in one group to learn and sing songs.

For children 3 and under there is a crèche in the lower hall during the service. If you would like your child to come with you to communion for a blessing, you can also pick them up during the service. Please collect your children directly after the service.

## Lessons

We have been following Jesus' journey to the cross and beyond to his truly awesome resurrection and ascension to heaven. We have felt with his disciples, exploring the fear, confusion and elation they must have experienced during all these events. Since Easter we have continued that journey with the disciples and apostles, moving through uncertainties and doubts to find the living Jesus still right there with them and receiving the Holy Spirit to help guide them on their way. At the same time revisiting key moments where Jesus' words to them only now begin to make sense. We have looked at how these are the same feelings we go through and at how Jesus helps us and guides us today, in happy and difficult times.

Pilots have been learning Psalm 23 "The Lord is my Shepherd" by heart, as an expression of all the things the Lord does for us and how he shelters and takes care of us every day.

## Activity Club

We have an Activity Club for children 7-13 years old in St Ursula's Church.



We generally meet every two months for an outdoor activity together in the region. If you are interested in joining the Activity Club and would like to receive our mails, please contact Sharon Batley (079 482 29 72) or Françoise Hänggi ([françoise.haenggi@fhnw.ch](mailto:françoise.haenggi@fhnw.ch)).

## Helpers

If anyone would like to help in the crèche or teaching Junior Church, we always love to have more people in the Junior Church. Talk to one of the teachers on the day, Father Peter, a council member or anyone else to help you get involved.

*- John Hutchison*

## Fundraiser – Book – for young and old.

We have had the idea of publishing a book, in the form of an E-book as well as print on demand. The book will contain letters to a younger or a future self, or short stories or poems about life experiences, whether fictional or based on real life experiences.

We are looking for contributions from all walks of life, young and old. The main emphasis will be stories and letters from ordinary people living their lives. However as we want to raise as much money for our appeal from this book as possible we will also be including “celebrity” contributions from personalities from the world of sport, and media, as well as well-known names from publishing, the church, politics etc.

Contributions can be with a pseudonym or actual name. Please note that all copyright will pass to St Ursula’s Church on all published contributions.

We already have a couple of contributions, plus a commitment from a published author to contribute to the book.

If you are interested in contributing to this project, or know somebody who could be interested please contact us using the enclosed form or by email with the same information. We are looking for contributions not only for content, but also from people who have experience of publishing, editing, illustrating or getting a book to market. The form is also available on our website to complete and send.

The form can be sent to Church office, left in the Treasurers box in the Church hall, or emailed to: [treasurer@stursula.ch](mailto:treasurer@stursula.ch)

Hope lots join in; just speak to me if you have any questions.

*- Susan Higson*

**Form: St Ursula's church Book: please complete all relevant fields**

Contact info:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: Home \_\_\_\_\_  
mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to be contacted via: Post      Phone      email      any

I want to contribute something myself \_\_\_\_

I know somebody who will contribute: \_\_\_\_\_

I can offer technical help: \_\_ I know somebody who can offer technical help: \_\_

The contribution would be: ( more than one answer possible)

Correspondence to my younger self: \_\_

Correspondence to my future self: \_\_

Short story \_\_      Quantity: \_\_      approx length in words: \_\_\_\_\_

Poem \_\_      Quantity: \_\_      approx length in words: \_\_\_\_\_

Technical assistance: Committee    Printing    Editing    illustration PR

Other contribution: (please specify)

\_\_\_\_\_

I own an E-book reader or App, or intend to get one: \_\_\_\_\_

The written contributions will be in English \_\_\_\_

Some or all of the contributions will need translating from \_\_\_\_\_.

Contact info for other people that I have spoken to and are willing to contribute:

1.Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

2.Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

3.Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions for prominent people who I think might contribute:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

I can contact these people:	1	2	3
I know somebody who can contact them	1	2	3
I have no contact possibilities	1	2	3

***Thank you for supporting this appeal and this fundraiser.***



# Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld

WE WELCOME YOU TO WALK WITH US ON OUR JOURNEY OF FAITH.

We have been studying “Unshakable Faith” by Rick Joyner, a devotional based on the Book of Genesis, for almost two years and have reached the last chapter. And in our worship, study, discussions and prayer we have been richly blessed. We will be deciding on our next study during June. New members to the group are always welcome. In fact, several of our members have moved away and we are praying for 5 new members. So this would be a good time to join us.

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

**Wednesday, 8 and 22 June 2016**

**Wednesday, 6 and 20 July 2016**

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 down Hessesstrasse). Please contact us in advance, in case there is a change of location.

## Advance Notice – October at the University

From time to time we enjoy the presence among us of Canon Douglas Pratt, from New Zealand, who is adjunct professor of theology at the university here. He will be back in October, leading a six-week course of seminars on ecumenical discussions between the Anglican church and other denominations, and also on interfaith dialogues, particularly with Islam. He is also helping chair the fourth international conference on interreligious relations and ecumenical issues, at the University and the Haus der Religionen between 27 and 29 October. The topic is the day-to-day lived experience of religion in the various faith communities. Fuller details are available from the university.

# Charity of the Month: News from Scripture Union South Africa Lifeskills Program

Maylene\* is a 15 year old young girl from Factreton in Cape Town, a dormitory suburb located 23km away from the city centre, and is a senior at the local primary school. This community is challenged by a culture of drug and alcohol abuse, and the social deviance that normally results from these activities. Just like in other disadvantaged areas in the country, Maylene and other young people have to contend with difficult social issues such as unemployment, lack of basic services and also crime. Today she walks to school with a purposeful spring in her step though; Scripture Union is coming to her school to conduct the Lifeskills class as they do every week. She is excited because she gets the chance to learn and to engage with the issues that affect her. Her situation at home is not ideal; because even though her parents are still together, unlike most of her friends' who are in single parent households with fathers absent, their relationship is going through a bad patch and the quarrels are taking a toll on the family.

As she walks she remembers the first time she encountered SU Lifeskills. It was at a holiday club in her area. A friend had invited her along and since there was nothing much to do anyway during the holidays, she decided to go. This turned out to be the most fun that she had, and she was really surprised to be able to learn so much at the same time. Imagine her delight when the same team showed up at her school to teach Lifeskills in class. At the end of the holiday club, she had felt compelled to write a note to the Scripture Union team. Her



Some young people at Factreton Primary School in Cape Town with their principal before the start of holiday club

note, in part, reads as follows; *“Dear SU, I want to thank you very much for everything that you have taught me. You’ve taught me how to be honest, how to love others, how to work as a team and not to blame other people for my own mistakes. You’ve also*

*taught us how to respect one another and to take care of each other. Thank you for the support from my team leaders."*

As she walked to school she remembered how that holiday club had been truly helpful, as she stopped blaming herself for her parents' fights, but at the same time was able to keep respecting them as her elders. Her friend Karen\* who had invited her, showed her the note that she wrote to the SU team, and it read in part; *"I write this letter to tell you what I learnt at this holiday club. I learnt to work with other people and to talk to them nicely. In our groups we had leaders who respected us and were very understanding and they were very good. They helped us to understand everything. I love holiday club, it makes me to be a person."*

We at Scripture Union treasure the stories that we hear from young people and are very privileged to make a difference in their lives. With the support of our faithful donors, SU reached over 7,000 young people with value based decision making Lifeskills. We thank our cherished donors for helping us make this possible.

*\*not their real names*

- *Charity and Missions Team*



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Michéla Kolb  
079 347 11 50  
Marcel Kolb  
079 301 55 92

Or look for us on Facebook.



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preschool-kindergarten@feusi.ch | www.feusi.ch

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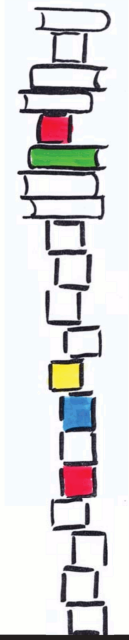
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[www.baumassurance.ch](http://www.baumassurance.ch) - FINMA 27132

# English Speaking Playgroup/School

## Enjoying English from 0-18



The English Speaking Playgroup/School offers a stimulating learning environment aimed at developing English language skills.

- o Parents & Tots Group in English for 0 – 3 years

There are 5 types of classes for ages 3 and above:

- o Playgroup
- o Reading and Writing
- o English as a Foreign Language
- o Examination Classes
- o Private Classes



Weissenbühlweg 26 - 3007 Bern  
www.esp-bern.ch

Tel: 031 332 9292  
info@esp-bern.ch

**Coiffure Dieter**

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Mon. 14.00 – 18.30 Uhr  
Tues.–Fri. 08.00 – 18.30 Uhr  
Sat. 08.00 – 16.00 Uhr

**We are looking forward to seeing you soon!**

# The British School, Bern

[www.britishschool.ch](http://www.britishschool.ch)

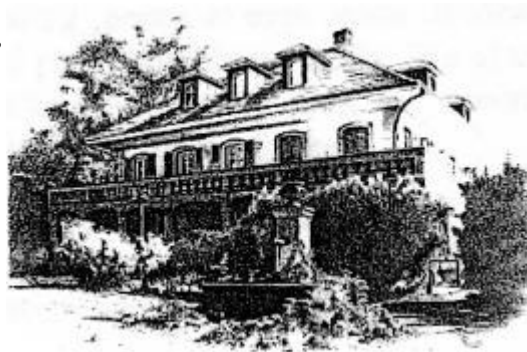
Hintere Dorfgasse 20  
3073 Gümligen, Switzerland

Tel: +41 31 952 7557

Fax: +41 31 952 7557

E-mail: [britishschool@bluewin.ch](mailto:britishschool@bluewin.ch)

- Established in 1988 for pupils aged three to eleven years
- 80 pupils of all nationalities
- Members of the Swiss Group of International Schools, affiliated with the European Community of International Schools and registered with the Bern Education Authority.
- Staff trained in Schools Attuned/All Kinds of Minds program



- Small class size with flexibility to meet the unique needs of individual students
- British and International curriculums taught in English, including classes in German as a second language, skiing, ice-skating and swimming
- Qualified teachers and learning support teachers
- English as a Second Language Groups
- Friendly, family-like atmosphere

**Early registration is recommended!**

English Speaking Club of Bern

## Official Invitation

Since 1978, we have been Bern's one and only English Speaking Club. We offer you a reasonably priced bar, free billiards and a free round of darts. Visit us and get in touch with our English speaking members from all over the world. Just present this invitation at the bar. If you enjoy the experience, you can become a member - Basic Membership is free!

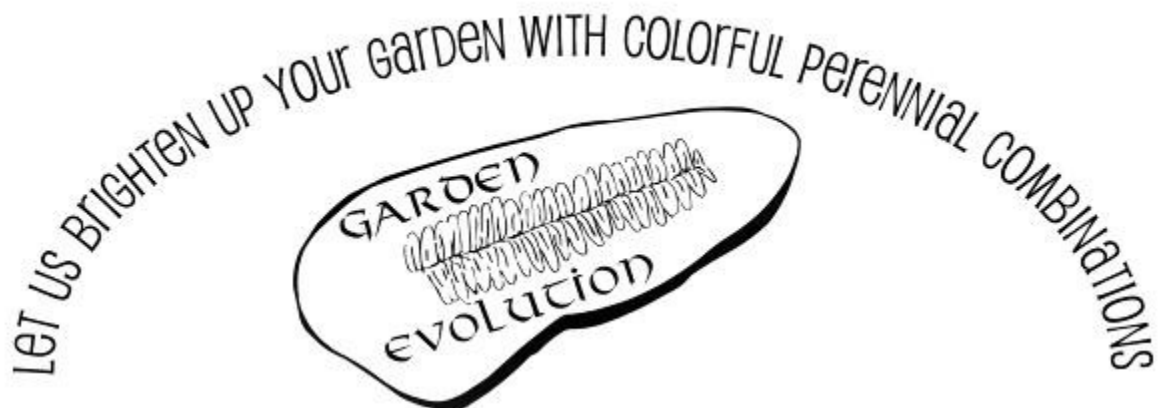
We are looking forward to meeting you

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

## Why not join the International Club of Berne ?

The club was formed in 1991 as a non-political, non-religious organization open to all men, women and their families, interested in meeting for social and cultural activities. Our aim is to facilitate a better understanding of - and integration into - Switzerland, through a variety of services, programmes and joint explorations of this country and its people. We welcome members from all over the world, and currently count 140 members (including families) from some 30 nations. Our common language is English, but among our members many other languages can be heard. We hold a monthly meeting with guest speakers and presentations on a wide range of topics, and publish a monthly Newsletter. In 2016 the club celebrates its 25th anniversary with several special events. We are waiting to welcome you !

Nazanin Kupferschmid, President  
Tel. 078 905 5743, email nkschmid@gmx.net  
International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, www: icberne.ch  
Annual membership: CHF 50 for singles, CHF 60 for families.



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The Swiss British Society, Berne organises a number of cultural events including visits to exhibitions, concerts, a Christmas dinner, Burns supper and musical evenings. We also invite guest speakers to address our members on a range of literary, musical or political topics. Usually our events have a social element - we try to combine dinner or lunch together with our lectures and outings, or at least a chat and a cup of tea! New members are always welcome. Our website (and circular) is hosted by the Federation of Anglo Swiss clubs at [www.angloswissclubs.ch](http://www.angloswissclubs.ch)

Contact: President: Chris Warren

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

# Here to help you

## **BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP**

Claire Morgenthaler 031 351 57 29

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Rolf Klingler 031 302 48 59

## **CATERING COORDINATOR**

Lynn Morgan 031 971 13 36

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John Eze 079 489 58 46

Donna Goepfert (*secretary*) 031 931 27 42

Hans Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Sue Higson 076 690 50 88

Tony Read 033 243 34 32

Edi Wildhaber 079 460 61 15

#### *Lay Representatives to Archdeaconry Synod:*

Hector Davie 031 971 27 71

Donna Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Richard King 031 822 09 21

## **CHURCH OFFICE** 031 352 85 67

*Administration:* Jana Kutesko

### **Normally open Tuesdays & Thursdays**

Church Hall 032 510 22 12

## **CHURCHWARDENS**

Isabelle Wienand 079 864 03 83

Maxine Wildhaber 076 349 40 42

## **CRÈCHE**

Maxine Wildhaber 076 349 40 42

## **ECUMENICAL CONTACT**

Esther Hutchison Funkhouser 031 351 73 47

## **ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER**

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Françoise Hänggi 031 802 10 05

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Querida Long 031 331 41 07

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A warm, child-centered environment fostering each student's curiosity and enquiry skills
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For further information or a visit please contact us at:  
ISBerne, Mattenstrasse 3, 3073 Gümligen, Switzerland  
Phone +41 (0)31 951 23 58, [office@isberne.ch](mailto:office@isberne.ch), [www.isberne.ch](http://www.isberne.ch)



Accredited by the Council of International Schools and  
the New England Association of Schools and Colleges

# A PRAYER OF ST COLUMBA

*(6<sup>th</sup> CENTURY APOSTLE OF SCOTLAND - FEAST DAY 9 JUNE)*

BE A BRIGHT FLAME BEFORE ME, O GOD  
A GUIDING STAR ABOVE ME.

BE A SMOOTH PATH BELOW ME,  
A KINDLY SHEPHERD BEHIND ME  
TODAY, TONIGHT, AND FOR EVER.

ALONE WITH NONE BUT YOU, MY GOD

I JOURNEY ON MY WAY;

WHAT NEED I FEAR WHEN YOU ARE NEAR,

O LORD OF NIGHT AND DAY?

MORE SECURE AM I WITHIN YOUR HAND  
THAN IF A MULTITUDE DID ROUND ME STAND.

AMEN.

