



CHRIST CHURCH DOUGLAS-IN-PARBOLD

JUNE 2019

PRAYER NEWSLETTER

ENCOURAGEMENT

HOPE

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit' Romans 15:13.

We've all faced situations where we've struggled to hope. Maybe the challenge seems too big, or maybe we've prayed for so long and nothing seems to have changed or maybe we just don't feel up to it how then can we hope, how then can we pray?

The crucial truth for us as Christians is that our hope isn't in ourselves, our hope is in our God. Hope doesn't start with us, with our feelings or with the weakness of our hearts, hope starts with the truth of who our God is.

He is the *'God of hope'*, He knows the situation and the challenges which we face and He sovereignly is able to hold hope that change is possible. Hope starts in the heart of God and it never fails.

As we stop looking at the weakness of our own hearts and instead turn to Him, He is able to fill us with *'all joy and peace as we trust in Him'*. I love that word *'all'* - *'all'* means *'all'*. He alone is able to settle, hold and strengthen your heart and to *'fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him'*.

This is practical every day stuff, where we turn away from ourselves and turn instead to God.

And then the miracle happens, God doesn't leave us with our weak heart looking up to an awesome God - as though to remind us of the divine differential (!) - God then comes to us. He alone is able to change us and to make us *'overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit'*. That's His sovereign work of grace in each one of us, and He knows how to do it

So when we face those mountains which just seem to big for us, let's turn away from our own weakness and look instead to the God of hope who alone is able and let's see what He will do.

Sue

PARISH TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN.

- a) Anyone who has a prayer need can phone his/her request to Brian and Frances McGucken (01257 462058) between 6pm and 6.30pm any day, or for urgent needs, at any time. A team of people is on hand to pray immediately for your need.
- b) If neither is available to take your call live - please do not use the answer phone for this purpose - but contact Lin Milne on 463523 or John Mountain on 463919.

Your prayer request will be treated as confidential – unless you state otherwise



THY KINGDOM COME
Monday 3rd – Saturday 8th June 2019



The church will be open during the following times. All are welcome to come and enjoy some quiet time and reflection and some refreshments.

Monday 3rd June – 9 to 11 a.m. & 6 to 8 p.m.

Tuesday 4th June – 2 to 4 p.m.

Wednesday 5th June – 12 noon to 2 p.m. & Evening Communion Service from 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 6th June – 9 to 10 a.m. prayertime &
10.30 a.m. Midweek Communion
7.30 – 9 p.m.

Friday 7th June – 8 to 10 a.m.

Saturday 8th June – 5:18 PENTECOST PRAISE

7 p.m. – Timeout service

8.15 p.m. – Pentecost praise.

MERCY RESCUE TRUST

Things have been very hectic at Mercy Rescue with lots of comings and goings, over the past few weeks.

The main cause for concern is Alice a baby who was born prematurely weighing in at 2lb 2oz. She arrived at Mercy rescue three weeks, having been discharged from the hospital into the care of Kitale Children's Department. They contacted Jedidah to ask if they were able to take her.

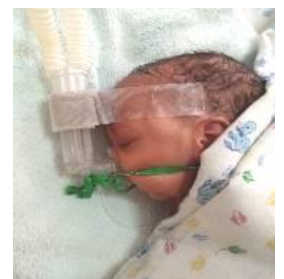
When she arrived at Mercy Rescue they realised that she was very sick, not only having to be fed via a nasal tube, but also that she had sepsis and a club foot. Very soon Alice was back in hospital to get the treatment she urgently needed. Whilst in hospital she was also diagnosed with pneumonia and had collapsed lung.

A week later Alice was transferred to a hospital in Eldoret which has a specialist baby unit. This hospital is a good hour and half away from Kitale, on not good roads. Jedidah and Sally are visiting every other day which is very exhausting for both of them.

Alice is improving and is becoming more active and alert, also her lung has started to expand.

Thank you to everyone for their prayers.

Barbara



PRAYER NEEDS

Please pray for Olwen Higham whose mother passed away this week. Pray for peace and comfort for her and all the family.

A special message from Miriam

The new government has changed the conversation around education completely. Free quality education is the flagship policy and as such the situation has changed enormously. Yes, we still have over 500 children who live with us and need that support to keep them in school but now, the opportunity has come to support ever increasing numbers of schools to improve the quality of the teaching they provide.

This month, 80 school heads were presented with certificates of professional learning and implementation by the Deputy Minister of Education as they committed themselves to new styles of leadership and upholding the great gains they had already made:

- No more corporal punishment (still standard in nearly all Sierra Leonean schools)
- Significantly improved staff and student attendance
- Establishing Girl prefects and Girls' Clubs supporting the fight towards gender equality and equity & protecting girls against early or enforced marriage
- The establishment of respectful relationships throughout the schools: between heads and staff, staff and students, schools and communities

The Lady in blue is the Deputy Minister of Education in Sierra Leone presenting certificates.



We are proud of the changes these heads have made despite so many incredible challenges in remote, rural, resource constrained contexts.

We are proud to have had you as partners in this work and hope you will continue to work side by side with us as we grow this outreach work.

For those of you who are in a position to make regular donations direct to EducAid, this is one of the most powerful ways of you participating in our story of supporting youngsters in achieving their full potential. All the information to set up a standing order can be found on this link: <http://www.educaid.org.uk/get-involved/donate/>

Thank you once again for all you do to support all that we do.

FUNNY THOUGHTS

Michael, the local vicar at St Mary's, is talking to one of his parishioners. Michael remarks, 'When you get to my age you spend a lot more time thinking about the hereafter.' 'Why do you say that?' enquires the parishioner. Michael, the pastor replies, 'Well, I often find myself going into a room and thinking what did I come in here after.'



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Children's and Youth Work Prayer Meeting for both Christ Church and All Saints, **Tuesday, 4th June, from 9:45-10:30am at All Saints Church.**

Refresh - Monday, 10th June 10.45am at All Saints Church

Encounter (5:18 Pentecost Celebration) – Saturday 8th June 7pm at Christ Church. Guest speaker Bishop Chris

Saturday & Sunday 22nd-23rd June between 10-4pm. Lawrence Smye-Rumsby has organised a poetry and art exhibition inspired by his time in Uganda and by the work he is doing with the asylum seekers, which is entitled 'Journeys'. It's being held at the Artz Centre, Hartland, Birch Green, Skelmersdale WN8 6QE. Entry is free with all profits going to the asylum seekers and the Uganda WASH project.

ADVANCE NOTICE – Saturday 7th September – An audience with Jonathan Viera. Songs and tales from the popular Christian Musician in Christ Church.



OUT OF THE MOUTHS.....

Darlene was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, 'Grandpa, did God make you?' 'Yes, darling,' he answered, 'God made me a long time ago.' 'Oh,' Darlene paused, 'Grandpa, did God make me too?' 'Yes, indeed, poppet,' he said, 'God made you just a little while ago.' Feeling their respective faces again, Darlene observed, 'God's getting better at it, isn't he?'



A PRAYER FOR PENTECOST

For the Spirit of Peace
that calms our mind
and stills our life,
we give you thanks.
For the Spirit of Love
that touches hearts
and reaches out,
we give you thanks.
For the Spirit of Joy
that lifts our soul
and gives us faith
we give you thanks.
For the Spirit of Power,
that gift of grace
for this your church,
we give you thanks.



Read more at: http://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_Pentecost.htm#ixzz5pashFuul
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