

Date for your diary...



*Church Anniversary
Barbecue*



Sunday 14 June
at
Richard & Angie Anstead

**Following the Church
Anniversary Celebration**

All welcome!
Invite friends and family
to come along and join us



Vine Baptist Church
Sevenoaks



SEEKING TO BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS IN THE COMMUNITY

PASTOR'S PIECE

Well, as I write this article, we have just had a General Election and Prime Minister David Cameron has just given his 'pep-talk' to the new Conservative MPs and to his new leadership team. The headline in the Newspaper today as I write this is: 'The Prime Minister holds talks in Downing Street on how to improve relationships between Ministers and Conservative foot-soldiers.'

As I listened to what he had to say, much of it was about being an 'Inclusive Party' – especially since Westminster is about to be invaded by the Tartan Army! The truth is, of course, that he is aware that if we are to have a united country, then each person needs to feel part of it and to be able to buy into the policies that are going to be put forward. And, as we all know, this is no easy task.

I say all this because it struck me that this is a little bit like trying to run a Church! As a leadership we have been thinking about how we can make our little Church at VBC a more inclusive church, where each person who comes can 'buy into' what we are doing and where we are going.

I am aware that in the world in which we now live people are scared to over-commit themselves with so many things vying for our time and attention. And for many of us, Church can just become another thing to add to the list



of things that call for our attention and time. I think that sometimes we can wish for a Church that doesn't make too many demands.

I recently came across this little advertisement:

Church-Lite

Has the heaviness of your old fashioned church got you weighted down? Try us! We are the New and Improved Lite Church of the Valley. Studies have shown we have 24% fewer commitments. We trim off guilt as we are Low-Cal... low Calvin, that is. We feature a 7.5% tithe, a 35 minute worship service with 7 minute sermons. Next Sunday's sermon is on the Feeding of 500.

We can smile, but the reality is that when Jesus came and called His disciples, He called them to a life of service and commitment to Him ... and He still calls His disciples today to the same level of service – not because

ED'S LASTWORD

The church magazine can only be as useful as YOU make it, so please pass on anything you think will be of interest to the fellowship. FINAL COPY DATE for the August/September issue is Sunday 19 July 2015.

**So... See me on Sunday, phone me on 01732 469486
Email me at martinpalmer1@sky.com**

God bless, Martin.

Vine Baptist Church
Park Lane, Sevenoaks TN13 3UP
01732 740634

Sunday Services start at 10.30 am

Grape 7 for 3-10 year olds

Contact Sylvia Crockett 01732 452905
or Alison Saunders 01732 454455

Soul Purpose for 13-18 year olds
Meet Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm
in the Carey Hall

Contact Holly 07816 955561

Rascals for pre-school children & babies
Meet Wednesday's from 10.00-11.30am
Contact Sheila Pearson 01732 454524

CONTACTS:

Rev Jim Crockett
Pastor 01732 452905

Fiona Murray
Administrator 01732 360866

Davida Woodman
Secretary 01732 459741

The church office is open Tuesday's & Thursday's 9am - 3.30pm

vinebaptistchurch@talktalk.net
www.vinebaptistchurch.org.uk

tearfund

Dear Friends

Thank you so much for your gift of £200.00 to help those affected by the two earthquakes that have recently struck Nepal. Your generosity will help bring vital practical help and hope to those in Nepal and northern India who have lost their homes as a result of the disaster.

Thousands of lives have been lost, many buildings have been destroyed and 3 million people are in urgent need of food. Tearfund staff and partners, trained in emergency response, have been striving to reach the remotest and unreached communities affected by the earthquakes.

Thanks to the remarkable response of Tearfund supporters, we have been able to supply thousands of people with food, water, blankets, sleeping mats, tents, tarpaulins and medication. Your support means that we can help people like Sunam Nagarkoti, who was with his two-year old daughter Sumina when the earthquake struck. After six days sheltering under a tarpaulin, they have now been able to move back home. "I felt dizzy with all the shaking", he recalls. "My daughter curled up into a ball because she was so scared. She's very nervous now that another quake will happen."

Our partners are also raising awareness about the dangers posed by child traffickers looking to exploit the vulnerable and most impoverished after the earthquake. We can counter this danger by raising awareness of the tactics of the traffickers in the communities we are reaching.

Please continue to pray with us for those affected, with thousands living in tents, for Tearfund's partners and staff, and for swift response as we follow Jesus to the areas of very greatest need. Please also pray for the people who are grieving, and that those who have been injured receive treatment quickly.

You can read more news of Tearfund's response, and points for prayers at www.tearfund.org/earthquake. Thank you again for your support.

Yours in Christ

Tinaz Sequeira
Donor Care Team

we HAVE to serve Him, but because we WANT to, because we love Him and we want to find real fulfilment in life.

Our Church is made up of many different people ... some have bought into the 'Party' and have become Church members ... many others are coming, and feel very much that this is 'their Church', but feel they can't or don't want at this stage to become 'Party Members.' My prayer is that each person who comes here – whether members of the Church or not – will find their role within the Church.

I want everyone who comes to feel that they have a say in the direction in which the Church goes. And so, I want to encourage each one of you to look at the gifts and abilities God has given you, and to ask yourself how you can use these in the Ministries of this Church. If you are unsure how to do this, please don't hesitate to talk to myself or one of the Leaders of the Church. If you have ideas about how we can do things better for God's glory, please come and talk to me.

Over the next few months, we will be looking at how to try to ensure that

each person who comes feels a real part of this Church, and how they can somehow have input into how we go forward in the future. If you have any ideas as to how we do this, please come and have a chat with myself or one of the other Leaders. I want us to be an 'Inclusive Church.'

Let me also challenge you: if you have been thinking about Church membership, then why not come and talk to me about it. The Bible talks about the Church as being like a body, where all the member parts need to play their part – and the best way to do that under the Constitution of this Church is by being a Member.

All of us who come to VBC are in this together, and I am so delighted that each one of you comes. Let us encourage one another by serving God and helping each other, and working as one 'Party'. And my prayer is that through this God's Kingdom will grow here at Vine Baptist Church, and in the wider world.



Bible Society sponsored walk

Walking boots, wellies and paws - one foot in front of the other and we were off, on a sponsored adventure for the Bible Society's Big Mission. Shirley Lang, map in hand (in protective polybag of course) led the way with Val, David, Dolly (the dog) and myself in pursuit, with Monica and Miller holding the fort back at church.

Down Hollybush Lane, up past Knole Park golf shop, over stile, through lovely mud, on to Back Lane and Godden Wood where we stopped to admire God's gift of lovely bluebells. Isn't God good to create such beauty for our pleasure.

We found our pace and settled into conversation and laughter along the way, deciding which tree was a mighty Oak or Chesnut. Turning right by the Dewpond and back through the wonderful parkland of Knole with it's Fallow and Silka Deer - Dolly's ears at the alert ready to defend us should a deer mistake us for a sandwich.

A huge thank you to everyone who signed up as sponsors, and we raised an amazing £438.

Margaret Palmer



A big thank you to Monica for organising the event and sponsorship, and to Shirley for planning and leading the walk. Unfortunately David and Dolly had left us when we remembered to take pictures!

The Bible Society's BIG MISSION

"We believe that every child has the right to encounter the Bible. But we have a big problem. Every day the Bible is kept shut for children all over the world. Misunderstanding, negative messages in the media, some poor teaching in schools, poverty, illiteracy, disability and persecution are just some of the reasons why. Time is running out. Children are growing up fast without the Bible. Our heart is to open the Bible up to 20 million children around the world by 2020 - with your prayers, Bible apps, new language translations, literacy programmes, film and Bible reading campaigns and much more."

needed on the day of persecution, but not a different sort of believer...

If you say to authentic believers in the midst of persecution "You are an inspiration to me," inevitably they will respond by deflecting your praise to the God who has supplied them even more in their persecution than he did in their prosperity. Good martyr stories ought to do the same. They ought to draw our eyes upward, cause us to relax and say, "Nothing can separate me from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore, I

can advance toward the cross."

That is why we don't venerate martyrs. To venerate a martyr - or to admire them, or to praise them, or to only be inspired by them - is to raise up the recipient of the gift rather than the giver. It is a category error of the most egregious degree because it may cause us to walk away from what we read with exactly and precisely the wrong conclusion: I could never do that.

Colin King

Join us on one of the world's greatest road race routes through the heart of central London.

Register today!



Sunday July 12th 2015

Runners set off at 9.35am

Start: Cavalry & Guards Club, Piccadilly

Finish: Royal Horseguard's Arch, Whitehall

Registration fee: £20

Fundraising target: £250

Whether you're running 10k for the first time, or a seasoned runner trying to beat your personal best, we would love you to join the Smile International team and help us raise over £3,000 towards our life-changing projects.

For more information, or to download one of our registration forms visit:

www.smileinternational.org/news_article/100.aspx

Alternatively, email info@smileinternational.org

Smile International, PO Box 3, Orpington, Kent, BR5 1WZ.
01689 870932
Registered Charity No. 1079730



"I COULD NEVER DO THAT"

Eric Foley, CEO of one of the Release International family of ministries, argues that our response to the witness of Christians who are persecuted for their faith should point us to Christ Himself:

If a martyr story is to serve the purpose for which it is intended, then it will always and emphatically point beyond itself to Christ, whose life and love is represented in the martyrdom. If the martyr story does that, then there are two reactions it ought not to produce:

1. "I don't know if I could endure like that if I were persecuted."
2. "This story has really inspired me to be more serious about my Christian life."

The reason a martyr story ought not to produce these reactions is because it obscures the very truth that God intends to make plain through the martyr story, namely: God is the giver of every good gift. In every circumstance in our lives he provides what is needed for us to accomplish his perfect purpose for us and for the world. Circumstances of great pain and physical anguish are not



exceptions. He provides there, too – even more lavishly.

In other words, the proper reaction to a martyr story is reassurance that God will supply our every need in Christ Jesus in every circumstance. It builds faith, not admiration. It buttresses the belief that when you as a believer face persecution, God will supply the grace commensurate to overcome it. What is needed is not your personal fortitude but rather your simple childlike faith. To say "I don't know if I could endure persecution" is to say something about God and not something about ourselves. And what is said is not humble but, rather, faithless...

But even more importantly, what it overlooks is that persecuted believers and martyrs are rarely paragons of virtue distinguished by super-human prayer lives or valiant track records of self-sacrifice. They are surprisingly ordinary people, with feet whose clay quotient differs very little from our own. What they are are people who have received from God what was needed for the day, just as God has given unto us this day our daily bread. It is a different sort of bread that is

MISSIONARY UPDATE

ORPHAIDS in Ecuador

Currently we have sixteen children in the orphanage, the youngest is just 6 months old (both parents are alive but have AIDS. Happily, the older young people are able to care for themselves, but they still need to have a home, food, clothing, and education. At the time of writing just three members of staff are managing the day to day needs. They are: Johana (house mother, and secretary), Segundo, and Lenin (administrator, driver and handyman). He has been with us for nearly 20 years! Above all, he is a Christian and a musician. Please pray for his mother who remains in hospital following surgery.

Elizabeth should now be home, due to arrive in the UK on 6th June. Pray that she will have a good rest and as she prepares presentations and sermons for meetings. Remember those back in Tanzania while she is away, particularly Joshua and Raphael, the translators Elizabeth works with.

Continue to remember **Alaric Dunsmore-Rouse** whilst on home leave in the UK, particularly for his father who is very ill.



London City Mission. From travelling by train to walking the streets of the Becontree Estate, Jeff Potter's journey continues. Still carrying the good news of Jesus, Jeff settles into a different kind of ride than he's used to. For twenty years, he's worked the railways as a chaplain, but his feet are now busy familiarising themselves with the uniform streets and avenues of the world's largest council housing estate of nearly 30,000 homes. With the Ford Factory's closure in 2013, unemployment is high, and this huge estate is still under-resourced in social amenities like schools, shops and other communal facilities.

Jeff is now following in the steps of many before him as Team Leader for Bethel Christian Centre. Instead of walking along a platform to chat with a conductor, he'll be walking up a path to ring on a residents' front door. The Bethel team know that only Jesus can meet the needs of a community, so pray that as Jeff gets into stride, God guides his steps to many who need Jesus.

An Invitation from The Pastoral Care Team

On Sunday, September 13th 2015, from 2.30 - 4.00pm we are hosting a seminar on Practical Steps in Creating a Dementia Friendly Church.

The seminar will cover:-

- What dementia is and is not
- Early signs of dementia
- The Christian with dementia
- Why church is so important
- Key steps to making a dementia friendly church.

There will be a power point presentation with time for questions. We are being led by Janet Jacob who is the Conference and Exhibitions Coordinator for Pilgrims' Friend Society. Janet lives in Yorkshire but is in Crowborough on Saturday 12th. She has generously agreed to stay overnight to be with us on Sunday.

Solomon wrote, "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1) There is much that we do not understand about dementia and none of us would anticipate a season that might take us, or someone we know, on a journey through dementia. Our hope is that the afternoon gives us an insight into, and a clearer understanding of the needs and the care we can give where needed. We would welcome anyone who wishes to join us.

Hazel Elliott

The Magna Carta

What do Salisbury and Lincoln Cathedrals have in common with the British Library? Each hold copies of the document that became known as Magna Carta. There are two at the Library one thought to be London's copy and the other which has been damaged by fire, Canterbury's. Although extensively damaged, the seal is still attached. This copy was probably passed to Archbishop Stephen Langton. Both these copies form part of the Robert Cotton collection which was donated to the nation in 1702.

It isn't clear how many copies were made but some think that there were forty, one for each shire. They were hand written by scribes using sharpened goose quills and parchment made from the hide of a sheep. Scribes from both London and Oxford worked on the document.

The copy owned by Salisbury Cathedral is the best preserved and the easiest to read considering that 3,500 words had to be crammed on to one page.

The Lincoln Magna Carta was received by Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln four days after the sealing. In 1939 it was in New York and because of the outbreak of WWII there it had to remain in the safe keeping of Fort Knox, Kentucky.

The charter was reissued in 1217 by Henry III when for the first time it was described as Magna Carta and was periodically confirmed throughout the thirteenth century. Much of it has become redundant but three clauses still remain on Statute in England and Wales. These concern the freedom of the English Church, the 'ancient liberties' of the City of London and the right to due legal process.

Helen Ellis

WE ARE THE AROMA OF CHRIST

'We are...the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved, and those who are perishing. To one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life' (2 Cor. 2:15-16). When the Roman army won in battle, they paraded their defeated foes through the streets in chains. And as part of the celebration they burned incense on a series of altars throughout the city. That way those who couldn't see the procession knew the army had triumphed because they could smell the incense. The aroma was symbolic of their victory - and there's a lesson here for you.

As followers of Christ we've been called to carry with us '... the aroma of the knowledge of Him...' (v. 14). Forget Estée Lauder and Chanel No. 5; your life should be so permeated with God's presence that people around you sense it. After all, you are the most compelling evidence that Jesus is alive and well in His children.

In the great cathedrals of Europe you'll see beautiful stained glass windows portraying important events in the life of Christ. And while it's good to appreciate such craftsmanship, God doesn't need church windows to tell His story. He uses born-again, tuned-in, turned-on believers to do that.

Have you ever noticed that the longer some husbands and wives live together, the more they begin to talk and act alike? It's the same with us: the more time we spend with Jesus, talking to Him, meditating on His Word and basking in His presence, the more people are going to ask, 'What's that scent you're wearing?' *Extract from: Every Day with Jesus*

Felicity



BMS Birthday Scheme sends greetings for a very Happy Birthday to:

16 June	Ben Boyden	19 June	David Woodman
	Sam Boyden	4 July	Ruby Marchant

JULY PRAYER DIARY

"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom"

(2 Cor. 3:17)

Sunday	5	Sound & Projection Team
	6	Denise James
	7	Girlfriends
	8	Ruby Jurado
	9	Colin & Flora King
Sunday	10	Miller & Shirley Lang
	11	Lucy Lockett
	12	Stewards
	13	Elis & James London
	14	- Natalie, Peter & Jonathan
Sunday	15	Ministry Leaders' Meeting
	16	Colin London-Latter
	17	Tim & Jennie Longthorne
	18	Myrtle Lyle
	19	Crèche & Grape 7
Sunday	20	Richard & Jenny Marchant
	21	Ruby Marchant
	22	Rascals 10am
	23	Gavin & Fiona Murray
	24	- Mark
Sunday	25	Martin & Margaret Palmer
	26	Soul Purpose
	27	Margaret Palmer-Douglas
	28	'Forward' Production Team
	29	Sheila & David Pearson
Sunday	30	Jennifer & Tom Pelc
	31	- Nathan, Sam
Aug	1	- Sophia & Jacob

Please pray daily for Outreach through our Membership

JUNE PRAYER DIARY

"Be filled with the Spirit"

(Ephesians 5:18)

Sunday	7	Music Group
	8	Lucy Christian
	9	Gus & Jenny Copeland
	10	Luncheon Club 12.30pm
	11	Jim & Sylvia Crockett
Sunday	12	Ken & Bernice Das
	13	- Michael
	14	Church Anniversary
	15	Clive & Ruth Doubleday
	16	Bert & Hazel Elliott
Sunday	17	Ministry Leaders' Mtg. 8pm
	18	Helen Ellis
	19	Nick & Michelle Ellis
	20	- Calum & Niamh
	21	Church Members' Meeting
Sunday	22	Karien & Jacobus Esterhyse
	23	- Klarissa
	24	Rascals 10am
	25	Chris Faircloth
	26	Ian Fielder
Sunday	27	Prayer Morning 9.30am-1.00pm
	28	Wycliffe Bible Translators - Elizabeth
	29	Mike & Sharon Francis
	30	- Luca
	31	Solo's
July	1	Solo's
	2	Mervyn & Ann Gaston
	3	George & Eileen Henderson
	4	Wendy Holden

Please pray daily for our Pastor and his wife

KIDS XTRA

The Miracles of Jesus

Jesus did many miracles. A miracle is something that only Jesus can do, like healing the leper.

Can you find the letters
that spell
M-I-R-A-C-L-E
hidden in this
picture?



Jesus calms the storm (read Mark 4:35-41). Can you spot the mistakes? There are 10 to find, then you can colour in the picture.

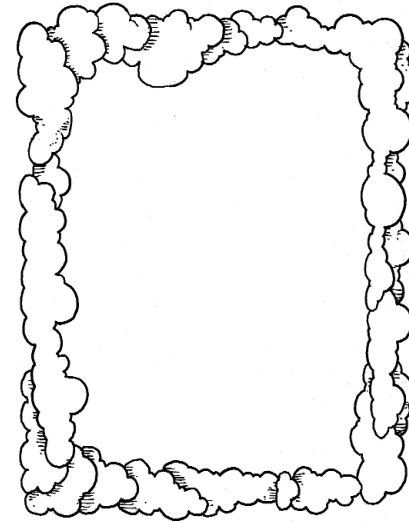


ANSWERS. Sun out, flying fish, sail missing, lady, umbrella, disciple not afraid, surfer, boat planking differs, upside-down wave, mast broken.

God Thinks You're Special!

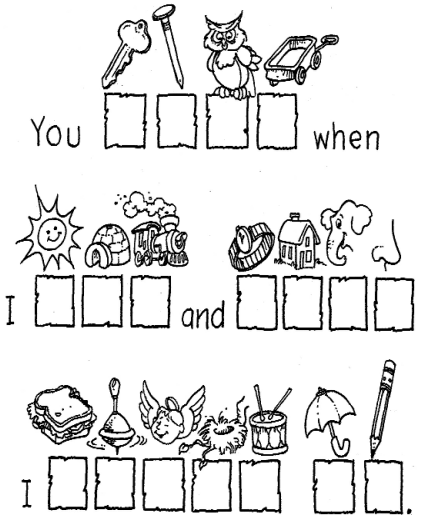
God knows all about you! The Bible says He knew you before you were born! God even knows how many hairs are on your head!

Draw a picture of yourself here.



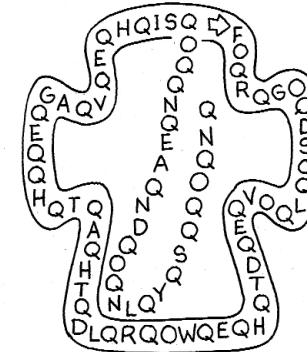
God watches over you every day. He sees everything you do!

Write the first letter of each picture in the boxes.



You are special to God! How much does God love you?

To find out, start at the arrow and cross out every Q. Then fill in the blanks with the letters you DID NOT cross out.



John 3:16

If you have asked Jesus into your heart He is making a special place for you. Where is that place?

Color all the spaces that have dots. Then read the word.

