



CHRIST CHURCH PARBOLD EASTER 2022 PRAYER NEWSLETTER



ENCOURAGEMENT.

If an alien landed in this country at Easter, they would think that the event is all about chocolate eggs, little chicks, spring flowers and the Easter Bunny (where did he come from??). And the only cross you will see is on a bun. But to do so is to miss the most important theme of Easter.

It is like doing a jigsaw, yes first you put together the outline but until you put that last piece into the centre you cannot see what it is all about and also see the beauty of the finished picture.



So, what is missing? The wonderful news of Jesus, Son of God, who died upon the cross for our sins and to bring us back to God the Father and then, the amazing news of Easter Sunday – He is risen from the dead and lives forever and can live in our hearts and lives.

I will enjoy my chocolate this Easter but more so I will celebrate the Good News that Jesus died for me and is risen again. And to celebrate with my brothers and sister in the Lord in church.

Hallelujah!
God bless you all this Eastertime.

Lin

EASTER SERVICES

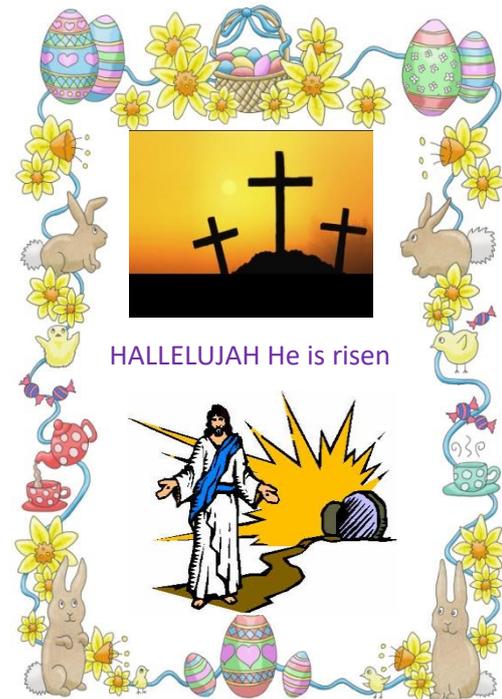
14th April Maundy Thursday 7.30pm, All Saints Church, Appley Bridge - Our Traditional service for Maundy Thursday will include a simple donated supper of bread and home-made soup.

15th April, Good Friday 10.30am - An Hour at the Cross - A special service as we consider Jesus' death on the cross. The children will be making an Easter Garden.

16th April, All Age Easter Eve Saturday 6.30pm, All Saints Church, Appley Bridge - Starting outside and then moving into Church, we'll anticipate the joy of Easter with our fire basket, water and candles during this 30minute service.

17th April, 8.00am Communion Service A quiet, said service to remember the Lord's last supper. Sue Timmins to preside.

17th April, All Age Easter Sunday Service and Holy Communion 10.30am - Our traditional Easter day service will include Easter Egg Hunts for both school and pre-school children.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please continue to pray for a peaceful end to the war in Ukraine and for all those who have fled as refugees, that they will be safe and protected.
- Pray for our Easter services that they will be a great blessing to all.
- Remember in prayer Barbara as she travels home from Kenya. She arrives back in the UK on Monday morning. Also pray that Jedidah's visa will be ready soon so she can visit her family here in May.
- Pray for all our children and teachers when they return from their Easter break that they will be refreshed and eager to be together again. And the rates of Covid infections will not cause further disruption.
- Pray for the work of Mercy Rescue, Andrew Fanstone and Miriam in Sierra Leone, Judith in the Message Trust and Joko & Karen in Cambodia, (news below)



NEWS FROM ANDREW FANSHAWE



We are all doing well. I think I mentioned to you that near the start of the year we had quite a hard time in the slum we work in with some drug wars, but that has all now quietened down which is good. Actually, on Friday I had the privilege of baptising one of the guys who has now come out of the drug gang world.

As a family we are doing well. It was Jessica's birthday yesterday and she is now 14 and will get baptised on Easter Sunday. Keziah will be 12 this month and was baptised last month and Noah is doing well and is now 10.

This year I have been traveling a bit more visiting some of the Iris bases and it seems like this will continue to increase a bit and so prayer for the future is much appreciated, to know how God is guiding for the new steps to come.

I did manage also to find a half-price ticket and visit my parents last month for a week. My Dad continues to do amazingly well given the circumstances. We took him out a couple of times in the car and also helped him walk a few steps with quite a lot of aid. Mum does amazingly well to care for him as she herself is 82, so prayer for them would be appreciated.

Next week we have week-long meetings which I am helping to organise with some of the key base leaders of Iris Global around the world in Nashville, which we would appreciate prayer for to help bring strategy for the future and at the end of the month we will be having a retreat for all the base leaders here in Brazil (We now have 9 bases) so we can train and encourage one another.

Here in Fortaleza we have started our mission's school which is going well and which I also do quite a bit of teaching on and so would appreciate prayer for that as we aim to raise up the next generation of Missionaries.

Otherwise, continued prayer for health and safety is always much welcomed.

Thank you so much for all your prayers and support!! We really appreciate it.
Trust all is well with you and please send our love onto the church family in Parbold.

Much love
Andrew and Claudia

NEWS FROM EDUCAID

Very best wishes to everyone at Christ Church from us all at EducAid. As we are well into 2022 we hope that the year is bringing you joy and peace, although we are all very sad to learn of the news from Ukraine.

Now, on Sunday, 27th March, Val and I were delighted to welcome Miriam Mason-Sesay to their home. She is currently on a tour of Great Britain in order to thank all the EducAid sponsors, and, of course, to raise money in order to keep EducAid going. It was unfortunate that she was unable to visit Christ Church as part of her trip, but she requested that we both pass on her grateful thanks for the continued support that the Church provides.

As part of her visit she will attend Durham University on Thursday, 31st March, in order to accept the award of a Ph.D. and be able to use the title of Doctor - although not a medical one. Miriam has worked extremely hard to achieve this award whilst fulfilling her leadership duties as Country Director of EducAid in Sierra Leone. The recognition of this highly regarded academic status, whilst personally satisfying, is very important in Miriam's work for EducAid. In Sierra Leone such status enables her to be much more influential in developing high quality education within the country. She is much more able to influence others in positions of responsibility for education within Sierra Leone, and her advice and contribution to educational thought and the practical development of education is beneficial both to the work of EducAid and the other schools in the country.

During our discussion with Miriam during our time together we talked about many of the trials and tribulations of EducAid's work and the difficulties being faced in terms of raising money to keep the organisation going. However, we also discussed the many successes of EducAid, and the success of many individuals. Quite often ex EducAid students are awarded the accolade of being the Best Student of the year at Makeni University. One such was a young man named Dulux.

Dulux studied with EducAid and on passing his examinations decided that he wished to attend Makeni University. He applied for a place and was accepted. As in England, university education is not free. Dulux set up a small subsistence farming project that he worked himself. He used the results of sales to pay his University fees and to keep himself in food, shelter and clothing, in addition to meeting the expenses of studying. So, he worked a small farm and studied at the same time. What motivation! What dedication! What resilience! What persistence!!!

Whilst doing all that he co-ordinated the ex-EducAidians who were studying at the University to enable them to form a group to offer mutual support, together with the inclusion of other EducAidians who had graduated from the University.

What a young man! We can only hope that he has the opportunity to use his talents for the benefit of himself and the population of Sierra Leone. For further information and details in respect of EducAid Sierra Leone please contact Pat Horn. Email patval@sky.com
Telephone 01257 462008 or Mobile 07941 577 436





MERCY RESCUE TRUST NEWS

Hi Everyone

It's been a while since my last update been busy. We had a trip to Lodwar to visit five of the children in the home care programme. It was a long dusty journey through the desert, although the road is being upgraded and in parts was a smooth ride. Four of the children, as we call them although are now young adolescents, are about to enter their final year of school. Taking the KSCE schooling into 6 months.



Last week 13 babies had to be taken court to be officially committed to the care of Mercy Rescue. It was quite a day out for everyone. Jedidah borrowed a minibus and we all staff along with babies went off to court, where they were one by one committed by the magistrate into the care of Mercy Rescue. Although it was formal, as we entered the court room we all were singing and dancing with the babies to our seats.



At the moment the centre is quite quiet after being very busy over past weeks with new babies arriving and babies being fostered. Over the weeks I been here we have averaged one baby a week coming into our care. All babies are taken to clinic for an initial check and vaccinations before going to staff in the community until a forever family is found for them.



This will be my last update before I return home on Monday. See you all soon Thank you for all your love and support, please continue to hold the work of Mercy Rescue in your prayers

God Bless
Barbara

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



EASTER QUOTES

“Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there.”—Clarence W. Hall

“The very first Easter taught us this: that life never ends and love never dies.”—Kate McGahan



Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb. Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom; let His church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won.

NEWS FROM JUDITH AT THE MESSAGE TRUST

Thank you so much for your continued support and prayer for all the work that I'm involved in with the Message Trust. At the minute, we're in the middle of a high school tour, leading up to Festival Manchester in July. So far, we've visited 27 schools, with at least another 36 to go! It's been a great opportunity to share with young people in their lessons about 'loving your neighbour as you love yourself' and then inviting them to a youth event as part of Festival Manchester on 1st July, in Wythenshawe Park.

I was able to go with one of the Message teams into the Deanery High School in Wigan (my old school) where the World Wide Message Tribe (some of you may remember the track 'Jumpin' in the House of God) visited back in 2001 when I was in Year 9. I was so encouraged by having the Tribe in my school all those years ago and that day (and many other Message events) were really key in me sharing my faith with others. Now I'm in the privileged position of organising mission to schools and seeing young people really impacted by the Gospel!

Please pray for the Schools Tour and for Festival Manchester – I would love to see thousands of young people hear the Good News of Jesus and the Greater Manchester region transformed by the Gospel!

Festival Manchester is happening in Wythenshawe Park 1st to 3rd July – it's a free, family festival and I'd love to invite you all along. More information can be found on the Festival Manchester website: www.festivalmanchester.com

THE RICE CART PROJECT

We just wanted to thank you for your ongoing support for the rice cart project, 'Bong Songha'. We were so blessed when we received the news of your recent love gift for the project, as yet again it was another huge answer to prayer. Your generous donation has really encouraged us, as we have been seeking the Lord for direction, and God has used you and your church members to be part of the answer to our prayers. We love just working in partnership with you all, for the expansion of His glorious Kingdom.

Joko & I have recently had covid, and PTL our symptoms were not serious, but we have both been unwell for a few weeks. We're recovering now, but we've been getting tired very easily. Next week we're going to have our first break since 2019. We're planning to have a weeks' break in the province, so we can get some much needed R&R. The accumulation of these life events has caused us to delay the reopening of Bong Songha. Also, we're needing to expand the Bong Songha team, so the project can operate successfully every day. However, we haven't had the funds available to expand the team. It's also impractical for myself or Joko to work full time within the project, as we have many other ministry commitments, which we need to dedicate our time to. So your kind donation has allowed us to move forwards in expanding the team, to be able to provide job opportunities for more young people, who have not been able to complete their education.

We hope you're all keeping well! We pray that one day, we will meet you face to face! But we're so blessed with knowing Beth & Nigel, as they've been integral in sharing information and supporting Bong Songha since the very beginning. We thank God for all of you!!

Blessings, Joko & Karen

