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**24th–31st
Jan 2010**

**ST PETER & ST PAUL, ST ANDREW'S, ST PHILIP'S &
ST SAVIOUR'S**

Tonbridge Parish News

Dear Friends,

Jesus' words to his disciples are striking. He dares to repeat himself because it is so important. At the risk of embarrassment by going on and on, he says the same thing over and over again, not just once, twice, but six times. Ask, seek, knock... someone will listen, something will be found and doors will be open.

What a great privilege prayer is! 'The Christians' vital breath'. It doesn't come easily, it is better done together, but it is the one sure way we know we are completely in step with God's will for us, because Jesus tells us to do it so often.

On Monday evening (25th) at 8pm our termly whole parish 'Prayer & Praise' meeting takes place at St Peter & St Paul. This is for all our churches and all of our ten congregations (*answers on a postcard!!!*). Please don't miss out, stay in touch with all that is going on and meet to do as Jesus said we should...

Ask, seek, knock.....

Yours in Christ

Mark Brown

I am very grateful to all who help assist in the leading and preaching at our public acts of worship. Our commitment is to meet twice every year to reflect on good practice and encourage each other. Our next gathering on Saturday **30th January** 9.30am for refreshments for a prompt start at 10am, to be held at St Peter & St Paul and led by James & Jo Levasier is on "All age worship". We wanted to make this event open to all and it might be of special interest to the following: Those leading our children's and young people's work, those assisting in other ways on Sundays, in fact if the subject inspires you - you are most welcome. If you would like to attend in addition to the team already invited **please let me know;**

jane@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk or tel. 01732 770962 x25.

Mark Brown

Discovering Christianity

Discovering Christianity is a relaxed series of 3 Wednesday evenings with the Revd's Peter Goodridge and Gary Townsend looking at some basics of the Christian faith. In particular, we will be thinking about the following:

- What do Christians believe in a nutshell?
- Who was Jesus? What did he claim?
- Why did Jesus die?
- Did Jesus really rise from the dead and so what if he did?

However, there will also be the opportunity to answer any question you like and to enjoy a nice cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake. We meet at 8:00pm at 14 Salisbury Road on 27 Jan, 3 Feb and 10 Feb.

This is a great way to investigate the Christian faith for the first time or to revisit any questions you may have. If interested, please call Gary on 357205 or Peter on 355200.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mon 25th Jan ~ Pray for a good attendance at our termly prayer meeting of Praise & Prayer at St Peter & St Paul 8pm.
Pray for Abi as she speaks to the Mission Action Group today.

Tues 26th Jan 2pm ~ Please pray for Mark & Terry leading and all those attending, the Funeral Service of our dear sister Wendy Nicholls at P&P today.

Wed 27th Jan ~ Pray for the gathering of 'Godly guys' at Pizza Express tonight.

Fri 29th Jan ~ Please pray for Gary as he speaks at the Ruston Society this evening.

Sat 30th Jan ~ Pray for the training day on All Age Worship today to be attended by all who assist in leading and preaching across our parish.
Tonbridge Denary Synod also meets today.

Sun 31st Jan ~ Pray for St Philip's celebration meal today.

Mon 1st Feb ~ Pray for Standing Committee as it meets today.

Wed 3rd Feb ~ Pray for Gary as he takes the funeral of Jean Fillmore today.
Pray for the P&P Leadership as they meet with other key workers from the Parish Church.

Sat 6th Feb ~ Pray for Mark attending Diocesan Synod today.

Two pianos will shortly become available at St Peter & St Paul for anyone who wants one or both! The responsibility for moving the piano(s) would rest with the person who takes them. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

Tuesday Fellowship invite you to their meeting on Tuesday **2nd Feb** 2pm at St Peter & St Paul. Their guest speaker will be Mollie Bradshaw with a talk entitled '*Longhouses of Borneo*'.

For more details please call Nanette on tel. 01732 354304.

*God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the
poor, release to the captives, and
freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set
all your people free to praise you in
Christ our Lord.*

St Peter & St Paul

10am Holy Communion with
Baptism Service

'Love at first sight' Gen 29: 1-30

Lead: Revd Gary Townsend

Preach: Revd Mark Brown

7pm Town wide Evening Service to
be held at **St Stephens Church.**

**No Service to be held in our Parish
tonight**

St Andrew's

10am Morning Service

'Love at first sight' Gen 29: 1-30

Lead & Preach: Jenny Macpherson

St Philip's

10.30am Morning Service

'Love at first sight' Gen 29: 1-30

Lead: Norman Whitfield

Preach: Revd Peter Goodridge

St Saviour's

8am Holy Communion

Lead & Preach: Revd Gary Townsend

10am Morning Service

'Love at first sight' Gen 29: 1-30

Lead: Terry Collins

Preach: Carrie Walshaw

*God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the
earth and your messengers to every
nation: send your Holy Spirit to
transform us by the good news of
everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

St Peter & St Paul

10am Morning Service

'The Great Escape' Gen 31: 17-37

Lead: Revd Gary Townsend

Preach: Jeremy King

6.30pm Evening Service

'Daily Discipleship ~

A Precious gift'

Lead: David Balcombe

Preach: Helen Longley

St Andrew's

10am Morning Service

'The Great Escape' Gen 31: 17-37

Lead & Preach: Terry Collins

St Philip's

10.30am Morning Service

'The Great Escape' Gen 31: 17-37

Lead: Jacky Wright

Preach: Alex Bonarius

St Saviour's

8am Holy Communion

Lead & Preach: Revd Gary Townsend

10am Morning Service

'The Great Escape' Gen 31: 17-37

Lead: Carrie Walshaw

Preach: Brian Buck

St Saviour's Guild News...

The St Saviour's Guild will be meeting on Thursday **4th** February 9.45am at St Saviour's to clean and polish. This is a new date as they were not able to meet recently because of the bad weather. Jean, Betty and the rest of the team would really love for you to come along and help them if you have some spare time, as many hands make light work. For full details of what the Guild does or for more information, please contact Jean tel. 352910.

**'The Cycle of Lust in the Film,
Beowulf'.**

All men from across our churches are invited to this evening of clips from

the film & discussion on the subject of 'lust' at the St Philip's Men's Forum on the **8th February** at 8pm to be held at St Philip's Church. Revd Gary Townsend will be leading the evening.

Thank you from Anne...

Thank you so much to those who have been praying for John Uwins. He has now had the frame removed from his leg and the bones are healing. He has to return to the hospital in 4 weeks to make sure that all is well.

Anne Uwins

Family Pancake Party

16th February at St. Philip's Church

5.30 pm – 7 pm

Advance News! – forget all about the snow and cold weather. This is a very warm invitation to all members of the church family to come and join us at a Pancake Party on Shrove Tuesday. There will be refreshments, some great games for the children (of ALL ages!), a short informal talk by Mark Oden the guest speaker at the Lent Course, AND last (but not least), some delicious pancakes!

Signing-up lists will soon be available in all the churches (for catering purposes), and do invite your friends and family along as well. It will be a great opportunity to meet up together over a cuppa and pancakes, and join in the fun for all the family. There will be no charge, but a voluntary donation box will be available on the night.

We look forward to seeing you there, do please come!

from the "pancake-makers"



Let the Children Sing...

National Storytelling week Jan 30th—Feb 6th

Come and join us at St Saviour's 10am—10.30am on Wednesday **3rd February** for 'The Story of the three trees'.

Hilden Oaks Reception class will be singing some songs, and there will be refreshments served afterwards.

Everyone is welcome!

Lunchtime Concert...

Our next Lunchtime Concert will be on Wednesday **10th March** 12.30pm at St Peter & St Paul.

The concert will be followed by a light lunch.

Please put this in your diary now

The God Confusion

Are there answers to the big questions of life and eternity?

Speakers Tim Keller, Al Stewart & Rico Tice

Saturday **13th March** 10.15am—4pm Excel London.

Cost is £30 (*£25 for concessions*)

The aim is to equip Christians for their mission by talks, testimonies, seminars and by answering questions that unbelievers ask.

Please pick up a flyer at the back of the church now for more details.

If you would like to attend please call Sara who is going to try and get a group together from the parish.

Please call her on tel. 01732 356430.

As we start a new school term we thought it may be useful to give you details of some of the children's groups that meet within our Parish.

Tots & Co

Tots & Co is a toddler group that meets **every Wednesday** (term time) from 1.15 - 2.45pm at St Philip's Church, Salisbury Road. If you would like more details please telephone Liz Wood on tel. 01732 770955.

Let the Children Sing

This is a special service held on the **first Wednesday** of every month at St Saviour's Church starting at 10am. This is open to all children, their carers and anybody else who wishes to attend of any age, with refreshments served after the service. For more details please contact Helen tel. 352580.

Stepping Stones

Pre-school children and their parents or carers are very welcome and they meet **every Thursday** during term time at St Peter & St Paul from 10am. For more details contact Sara Thomson tel. 01732 356430.

Musical Bumps

Music & Movement for babies & toddlers and their parents or carers. Held at St Peter & St Paul every **Monday** morning from 9.30am. For full details contact the Church Office tel. 01732 770962 x20.

GYM & SOS

GYM (God You & Me) and SOS are our Parish Church based Sunday school & youth groups along with REFRESH for the older members. For more details about the groups and their activities please contact Revd Gary Townsend, or Jane Higgs at the Coach House Office.

Kids Club & Building Blocks Crèche

These are St Philip's based children's Sunday groups, that meet at St Philip's Church. For more details of the groups and their activities please contact the St Philip's Church Office tel. 352416.

Baby Space (formerly NetMums)

This is a time for mums and dads to meet together and chat over a cup of tea or coffee & biscuits, while their children play. This is held every **Monday** from 12.30pm-3pm at St Peter & St Paul lower lounge. A donation of £1 is requested to cover cost of refreshments. Offers to help always welcome. Please contact Jenny for more details. tel. 352703.

Teddies Playgroup

The Teddies Playgroup is a Mum/Dad and Toddler group that meets in the upper lounge of St Peter & St Paul Church **every Tuesday** (term time) from 9.30am.

New members are always welcome. Tel. 01732 770962 x25.