

The Messenger

Autumn 2017



**Christ Church, Longridge “Living for Christ
at the heart of the community”**
www.christchurchlongridge.org.uk

Rev Ray Writes

As I sit to write this article I am confronted by the news of fighting in Virginia USA and of a car deliberately driven into a crowd, killing at least one person.

Contrast that with a text from St John's Gospel (chapter 15) in which Jesus told his disciples that he loved them so much, he was willing to give up his life for them. In the same way that God the Father loved Jesus the Son, so he in turn loved his disciples. Then he issued a command saying, "Love one another as I have loved you".

We see here a progression. Love starts with God who passes it onto his Son, who passes it onto his followers who are then commanded to pass it on to one another. Jesus knew that love cannot be hoarded like some commodity or it will achieve precious little. It needs to be passed on from person to person and as it circulates, it grows in quantity and depth.

So how do we end up with people fighting one another on the streets, on a football terrace, or on estates? I'm sure there are political and sociological explanations for in-fighting, but I'm not learned enough to cite them, explain them or comment on them. I am a man of faith and my observation is that perhaps we have taken Jesus' command to "love one another" and morphed it into something like "love those who... are like us... agree with us... stand for the same things... come from the same tribe... etc". We miss the conditional second half of the command - "Love one another as I have loved you". We are to love in a way that mirrors Jesus' love for everyone he met; people who

were not like him, people who didn't agree with him and people who didn't like him.

The challenge of the gospel is to love those who are like us and different from us, those who agree with us and those who oppose us, those we like and those we don't like, those who like or dislike us. Now that is a challenge!

Ray

Reverend Ray Borg | Methodist Minister | Ingol, Lea & Christ Church | 07734 229135

Holidays? What Holidays?

The summer holidays seem to have disappeared very quickly and we are about to return to 'normal service'. The Guild returns on the first Monday of each month; the Craft Group also restarts on the 4th of September and will meet every Monday morning. Another regular which returns is the Shoebox appeal. Some people have generously been donating boxes and gifts to put in them all through the summer. We have enough to make a prompt start at the beginning of September. This year we will be dedicating the boxes on October 29th at the morning service. We don't yet know exactly when the completed boxes will be collected but, we really need to get cracking at the beginning of September. If you could provide more boxes, these would be very much appreciated. If you could cover boxes with Christmas Wrapping paper, you could join us on Monday mornings at Craft Club; pop in and do some during Friday Coffee or see Carol Spencer who will happily provide you with boxes and/or paper as necessary, to take away and do at home.

DEMENTIA: Helping to put the pieces together

**A morning of practical and spiritual information
for those on the dementia journey**

A workshop led by Janet Jacobs and Louise Morse on behalf of the Pilgrims' Friend Society.

The workshop will be interactive, with time for questions and answers and will follow the format of 'Helping to put the pieces together', a dementia information pack produced by the Pilgrims' Friend Society.

Janet Jacob is a former psychogeriatric nurse and care home manager, with extensive experience from a career dedicated to older people.

Louise Morse is a cognitive behavioural therapist, with a Master's degree that researched the effects of caring for a loved one with dementia. She is author of books on dementia and other materials, and is a writer and contributor to Christian media.

The Pilgrims' Friend Society is a progressive Christian organisation specialising for 210 years in issues of old age, and care of older people.

The workshop will be held at Knowle Green Congregational Church (PR3 2YQ) on Thursday September 26th from 10am to 1pm.

For further information and to book, please contact the Rev Chris Okpoti on 01254 878394.

Fostering Further Fellowship...

On Saturday 22nd July, a small but enthusiastic bunch of us met at Franco's Italian Restaurant to build on our social activities at church. We had a really great time, enjoying friendship, fellowship and food, getting to know each other more, on a personal level in an informal setting. As friends in Christ we enjoyed the opportunity to get together, to listen to each other and to spend time in each other's company – outside the context of church services.



There was laughter and discussion on a whole range of topics about church and our personal lives, including how we might pave a way forward with further social activities as well as discussing holidays, flying, cruises and sunshine! We also were interested to hear about the new collaborative work with Inglewhite Congregational Church (Round the Table). We all went away wanting more! To this end we have planned another social activity, which will this time take place at our church.

Our next social event will be a Games Afternoon with Afternoon Tea on **Saturday 14th October from 3:30 – 6:30pm in the church hall**. Many of us will have grown up playing board games and will remember spending happy times playing these games in our families. We are thinking of games such as Scrabble, Cluedo, Monopoly, Ludo, Connect Four, chess, snakes and ladders, draughts,

playing cards to name but a few – please feel free to bring along your favourite and find like-minded souls to play with.

As well as playing games, we will have afternoon tea – sandwiches, cakes and scones. There will be a sign-up sheet for people to offer to help with providing some of the food or helping to serve.

I look forward to the development of this wider work and witness to each other.

Whilst the initial activity (Franco’s meal) was my attempt to get the ball rolling, I am keen to receive other people’s ideas and suggestions for things we might do together in the future. Please do speak to me at church, email me at jason.mcmahon@live.co.uk or ring me on 07871 273721 if you have any ideas for a social activity in the New Year.

Thank you,

Jason McMahon
Social Secretary

Friday Coffee Rota September - November 2017

Sept 1	Margery Cook	Oct 20	Sandra Ashcroft
Sept 8	Sandra Ashcroft	Oct 27	Linda Grange
Sept 15	Linda Grange	Nov 3	Sue Lawson
Sept 22	Sue Lawson	Nov 10	Liz Marven
Sept 29	Claire Tuffin	Nov 17	Claire Tuffin
Oct 6	Liz Marven	Nov 24	Margery Cook
Oct 13	Margery Cook	Dec 1	Sandra Ashcroft



*Creative Worship
Preparation
Fridays at 7pm*

*'Sing Joyfully, Play skilfully
and shout for joy! ' (Ps 33)*

Exploring Advent & Christmas soon!!

*Please check weekly notices for any time changes.
For more information see Carol Rose*

Sierra Leone

You will have heard on the news about the latest disaster to hit Sierra Leone. John Spencer has spoken by phone to Sarah Moiwo who runs the Skills Training Centre in Kailahun and Ali who drives Albert Beah, the president of the Methodist Church around the country and they tell us that the rain is heavy in the East of the country but nothing like as bad as in the area of Regent on the outskirts of Freetown. There have been no reports of deaths or injuries amongst church members. However, there are two Methodist denominations in Sierra Leone and the United Methodist Church which was founded by American Missionaries, has suffered losses including some deaths and many made homeless. In Britain we will be supporting fund-raising for those in need and this will be distributed by the church in Freetown. More details should be available in the next few days and weeks.

Pastoral Care at Christ Church

Thank you to all those people who contributed to the meeting in June when we discussed how to provide pastoral care at Christ Church. We are fortunate that our membership numbers are currently on the increase but there are fewer of us who are able to undertake regular pastoral visiting. As a result, visiting has been somewhat irregular over the last two or three years, although we have been able to maintain the delivery of The Messenger to those living in the immediate area of Longridge.

As a result of our meeting, we have decided that we need to audit our current pastoral lists and check again if everyone on them actually do want to receive the magazine. We are recruiting and training some new visitors and we think we might in future use the telephone more often to help us keep in touch with people. You may therefore see changes in the coming months, but we will endeavour to keep you in touch with how these may affect you.

Much pastoral care is exercised informally through our regular contacts at services; the Guild; the rambling group; craft Group and Friday coffee or meeting our neighbours in the regular rhythm of life around the town. We would be delighted to see more people at church events so we can get to know you better.

Carol Spencer
(01772 782829)

CHRIST CHURCH LONGRIDGE

**‘MUSIC & MISSION
IN THE AFTERNOON’**

(EDITION 14)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH

2.30PM

‘MUSICAL MOMENTS’

PERFORMED BY CAROL ROSE, IAN WILLIAMS,
JASON MCMAHON & DAVID ROSE

‘WITH LATEST UPDATES FROM JOHN SPENCER AND
MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT MISSION TEAM

TICKETS: £5 (OR PAY AT THE DOOR)

ALL PROCEEDS TO DISTRICT MISSION PARTNERSHIPS
IN SIERRA LEONE & PAPUA NEW GUINEA

CONTACT: CAROL ROSE 01772 783680

Music Messaging for The Brain: A Study in Semantic Retrieval with Music Distraction

Music is part of all our daily lives. Music can change our emotions and it has the power to transform us. The aim of this study is to understand how the brain stores music and



lyrics to support communication for people with Alzheimer's. You will be asked to retrieve from your memory the lyrics of nursery rhymes from the title, visually presented via a computer, in quiet conditions and with



the distraction of melody, song or speech. The study requires that you have normal or corrected to normal hearing. The task will take about 60 minutes. We require both male and female participants aged 50+ and 18-39. If you would like to participate or have any

questions please email RDLinklater@uclan.ac.uk or contact Carol Rose.

Church Flowers - Autumn 2017

Sept 3	Margery Cook	Nov 5	TBC
Sept 10	Church Flowers	Nov 12	Carol Rose
Sept 17	Linda Grange	Nov 19	Jason McMahon
Sept 24	Carol Rose	Nov 26	Church Flowers
Oct 1	Sue Lawson	Dec 3	TBC
Oct 8	Claire Tuffin	Dec 10	Claire Tuffin
Oct 15	Hazel Scott	Dec 17	Beryl Murrant
Oct 22	TBC	Dec 24	Church Flowers
Oct 29	Brenda Head	Dec 31	Church Flowers

A few dates for the coming season remain to be confirmed at this point, following the recent message in the church notices.

Thank you to all who continue to kindly provide, arrange and distribute flowers. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please see Claire Tuffin.

Donations towards the cost on 'Church Flowers' weeks are most welcome. Please use the flower fund tin. Thank you.

Christ Church Worship and Events

(Sundays 10.45am & 6.30pm unless otherwise stated)

Friday September 1st

7.30pm Circuit Welcome Service at Fulwood Methodist

Sunday September 3rd

AM Mr John Irwin

PM Mr Mike Prendergast

Monday September 4th

10am Craft Club restarts

7pm Christ Church Guild: Coffee Evening & Bring and Buy Stall

Sunday September 10th

AM Mrs Carol Rose **(Guild Service)**

PM Rev Elizabeth Hodgkiss **(Holy Communion)**

Sunday September 17th

AM Mr Henry Rose **(Harvest Celebration)**

3pm Rev Ray Borg **(Plessington Court)**

Monday September 18th

7.30pm Christ Church Council Meeting

Tuesday September 19th

7.30pm Circuit Meeting

Thursday September 21st

10.30am – 3.30pm Preparation Day for 2018 **Women's World Day of Prayer**. If you are able to come, please see Carol Spencer

Sunday September 24th

AM Rev Ray Borg **(Holy Communion)**

2.30pm **Music & Mission in the Afternoon (Ed 14)**

Please see notices for details.

Tuesday September 26th

10am–1pm ‘Dementia: helping to put the pieces together’ -- a workshop at Knowle Green Congregational Church. More details on page 3.

Thursday September 28th

CTLD Harvest Meal. Please see notices for details.

Sunday October 1st

AM Rev Elizabeth Hodgkiss

PM Rev Mark Slaney

Sunday October 8th

AM Rev Michele Jarmany

PM Dr Carol Spencer

Sunday October 15th

AM Rev Ron Lewis **(Holy Communion)**

3pm Rev Ray Borg **(Plessington Court)**

Sunday October 22nd

AM Prof Alan Gillies

PM Rev Jane Wild

Sunday October 29th

AM Dr Carol Spencer **(Shoebox Service)**

4pm Circuit Service for Healing and Wholeness at Christ Church

Saturday November 4th

Study Day at Leyland Methodist Church on ‘New Ways to Read the Bible’. This day was planned for Local Preachers and Worship Leaders but is open to anyone who is interested. Further details are available on a flier in the foyer.

Sunday November 5th

AM Rev Ray Borg (**Holy Communion and Loved & Lost**)

PM Mr Les Kelsall

Sunday November 12th

AM Mr Henry Rose (10.15am – 10.45am)

**Followed by CTLD Act of Remembrance
at Towneley Gardens**

PM Rev Elizabeth Hodgkiss

Saturday November 18th

10am - 3.30pm **Christ Church Crafts Fair (Please see notices)**

Sunday November 19th

AM Mr Mike Prendergast

3pm Rev Ray Borg (**Plessington Court**)

Sunday November 26th

AM Mr Steven Gregory

PM Rev John Fisher

ADVANCED NOTICE

This Year's 'Lancashire Sings Christmas' will be on December 14th.
Further details in notices and next Messenger nearer the time.

Please watch out for dates for coffee days at the Civic Hall.

Services Festival Activities

SUNDAY

10.45am Morning Worship &
Junior Church

3.00pm Afternoon Worship*

*Normally 3rd Sunday at Plessington Court

6.30pm Evening Worship

MONDAY

10.00am Craft Club

7.45pm The Guild*

*1st Monday of month

FRIDAY

7.45am CTL Morning Prayers*

*At St Wilfrid's in 2017

10.00am Coffee Morning

7.00pm Music Makers

SATURDAY

9.30am Christ Church Ramblers*

*As announced – please see notices

MINISTER: Rev Ray Borg 01772 768112

(Church Secretary) Mrs Mel Watson 01772 783581 or

(Senior Steward) Mrs Carol Rose 01772 783680 or

(Pastoral Secretary) Dr Carol Spencer 01772 782829

EDITOR: Robin Spencer
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