

Imagine!

APR
2018



I imagine the wide-eyed bewilderment of the apostles on that first Easter morning! Their Lord and teacher had been cruelly executed three days before and his body buried in a rock tomb. Now the tomb was empty and some women among Jesus' followers had come running with the unbelievable truth that he was alive again!

The Unbelievable Truth is the title of a panel game on BBC Radio 4 hosted by comedian David Mitchell. Each week four guests take turns to deliver a brief monologue on a given subject. Concealed among the many inaccuracies and lies are five true statements which the guests must identify in order to win points.

Imagine you are listening to a monologue entitled Good News. You hear that Almighty God was born as a human baby; water was turned into wine at a wedding party; a travelling preacher gave sight to blind people and forgave sins; so the religious leaders had him put to death on a Roman cross; and on the third day after being buried he was seen alive again! Which of those statements would you believe to be true?

I imagine Doubting Thomas is not alone in struggling to believe the *Unbelievable Truth of the Resurrection*; but the truth is, there are signs of resurrection all around us, especially in Springtime. Seeds buried in the ground burst into new life; bare branches are clad in fresh leaves and blossom, and birds prepare their nests. Wounds are healed, grief is eased, divisions are reconciled and despair is turned to hope. As a former URC Moderator put it: "Creative God, you turn the shadow of death into the brightness of a new morning."

Christ is Alive! He is Risen! This is *The Unbelievable Truth!*

Easter blessings to you all *Caroline*

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

Worship at Stansted Free Church

- 1st **9.30 am** Rev'd Roy Fowler - Easter Sunday Communion **Note Time**
8th 10.30 am John Banks
15th 10.30 am Rev'd Christine Fowler
22nd 10.30 am Rev'd Gill Hulme
29th 10.30 am Rev'd David Simpson

David was minister at Stansted Free Church from 2006 until 2008 and we are delighted to welcome him back to take our service

Other Activities

- Tue 10th 10.00 am Big Brew at 6 Wetherfield (*see opposite*)
Thu 12th 7.30 pm WEBS Bible Study at Newport URC (*see below*)
Thu 26th 9.30 am Church Oversight Group at 7 Blythwood Gardens

OTHER EASTER SERVICES

Maundy Thursday 29th March

Maundy Thursday Devotion 7.30 pm led by Roy (incl light supper) in Bishop's Stortford URC Hall. For catering purposes, contact Sarah tel 755610
Email: office@waterlaneurc.org.uk if you are planning to come

Tenebrae Service 8.00 pm led by Gill in Bishop's Stortford Methodist Church

Good Friday 30th March

Reflective Service 10.30 am led by Stuart at our church

Stainer's Crucifixion 2 pm Abbey Lane URC, Saffron Walden

Messy Church 3.30 pm St John's Church Hall

Lift High the Cross 6 pm St John's Church



WEBS BIBLE STUDIES

CHRIST OUR LIFE

Please join us as we look at the letter to the Colossians

Led by Rev'd Roy Fowler

Thursdays 7.15 for 7.30 pm - 9 pm Newport United Reformed Church

12th April *Christ - the image of the invisible God* Colossians 1: 15 - 20

3rd May *Fullness of Life in Christ* Colossians 2: 6 - 19

7th June *New Life in Christ* Colossians 3: 1 - 4, 12 - 17



Care Time



We pray for: Desiree; Arthur, that his house move will go though soon; the two Syrian families in Stansted; our Quaker friends Sue and Anthea who are unwell; Rev'ds Caroline Vodden and Paul Wilkin as they start their sabbaticals; those who come to The Place on the Hill; and any others known to us.



Join us at our Big Brew



**HIDDEN
ENTREPRENEUR**



...and help hidden entrepreneurs like Sahanara access the opportunities they need to leave poverty behind for good



Every pound you donate will be matched by the UK Government, which means that we can reach twice as many hidden entrepreneurs living in poverty.

Tue 10th April 10 am - noon
6 Wetherfield

Come and join us for tea, coffee
and cake and browse the Books
and Bric-à_Brac stalls
*(items for stalls also wanted
please call Brenda on 815819)*

Entry free - donations to
Fairtrade welcome

All Welcome

Quick!
£1 = £2
Your donation
doubled!



The Place on the Hill
@placeonthehill

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
**(including school holidays but
not Bank Holidays)**

9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Free Church, Chapel Hill

Everyone Welcome ~ No Charge

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk/theplace

Stansted Free Church (Methodist / URC)

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Part of the WEBS (West Essex & Bishop's Stortford) URC Pastorate
and the Bishop's Stortford Methodist Circuit

Contacts

Minister

Revd Roy Fowler (day off Monday)
Email: minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

WEBS Minister

Rev'd Caroline Vodden

Methodist Superintendent

Rev'd Gill Hulme

Church Secretary

Betty Francis
Email: info@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Church Notices

Marion Pretty

Lettings

Mike & Marion Dyer
Email: lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Newsletter Editors

Alan Wheeler Mike & Marion Dyer
Email: news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Treasurers

Alan Wheeler Marion Dyer
Email: treasurer@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Fairtrade

Brenda Veitch
Email: fairtrade@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Sunday Service

10.30 am Morning Worship
Some months we hold New Directions which is an informal service

The Place on the Hill Drop-In (Everyone Welcome)

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
Tel Marion & Mike, Catherine & Alan or Fran
Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk