

Imagine!



SEP
2019

Imagine you were at a meeting in the most Conservative place around, in came the speaker in a red coat, and his opening words were “I know where the fire escape door is and I can reach it quicker than you can!!” So little ‘red’ in so much ‘blue’. He was a Trade Union shop steward. He had come to invite us to get into politics; not into his party, necessarily, but our own. “Bad things happen when Good People do nothing” goes the saying.

You might well have noticed that we are living in a time of great political turmoil. Oh for four years back when all was quiet and predictable. Now no-one can paint a clear and certain picture of our futures. But what an opportunity? Opportunist politicians should be having a field day; but what about the non-politicians? Do you feel like hibernating from the torrent of news time devoted to the turmoil that has become our daily political bread?

Yet what an opportunity for us, those not normally involved in politics, those who often said it was all a bit irrelevant to us. What difference can we make? At present our government has a majority of one. Don’t tell me small numbers don’t matter. In my view we have, as a society, lost our sense of values; Christian values we might well say, although they are pretty common across all the world’s major religions. Respect for life, wholeness, fairness for all including the poorest, compassion for the weak, and an opposition to all that denies all humanity its fair and rightful place in our world; and for Christians, an acknowledgement that the almighty God is our creator, redeemer, lover and friend. Don’t be cowed by your insignificance. Greta Thunberg, the young Swedish girl was one tiny person. We all count. Inject into the political debate your Christian values. The world badly needs them.

My best wishes. Stuart



Care Time



We give thanks for Sue's full recovery from surgery on her foot, and for Arthur now home from hospital following a fall. We continue to remember all those who are unwell, going through stressful times, or in pain, especially Valerie, Roy with his broken arm, and those who come to *The Place on the Hill*.

For requests to be read during Sunday worship, please use the prayer slips in the foyer or contact Betty

WEBS PASTORATE 5th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Sunday 6th October 11 am (note time)
Abbey Lane United Reformed Church, Saffron Walden

A celebration of Faith, Family and Fellowship

led by our ministers Rev'ds Caroline Vodden and Roy Fowler
with members of the WEBS pastorate
Activities for all ages and Family Communion



Bring & Share Lunch and Birthday Cake to follow!

There will be no morning service at Water Lane or Stansted on that day

The next edition of *Imagine* will be available on 29th September. Please submit articles by Friday 20th September to: news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk. Alternatively, please pass to one of the editors, or send to: 23A Bentfield Road, Stansted CM24 8HP.

Editors: Alan Wheeler and Mike & Marion Dyer

Copies of this and previous editions of *Imagine* can be found on our website
www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

Worship at Stansted Free Church

- 1st 10.30 am Denis Walker - Church Anniversary
8th 10.00 am Circuit service at B S Methodist (**Note time**)
15th 10.30 am John Banks
22nd 10.30 am Rev'd Roy Fowler - Communion
29th 10.30 am Rev'd Caroline Vodden

Other Activities

- Wed 4th 8.00 pm LPWT Meeting at B S Methodist Church
Sat 14th 10.00 am WEBS Outing
Sun 29th 11.30 am Fairtrade Goods on sale after the service
3.30 pm Messy Church at St Mary's School

METHODIST CIRCUIT SERVICE Sunday 8th Sept 10 am (note time)

We are joining the other churches in the circuit for a special service to commemorate Karen Quelch's recognition as a fully accredited local preacher. Karen has often preached at our church and we are delighted to share this special service with her. There is no service at our church on that day.



STANSTED MESSY CHURCH

Sunday 29th Sep 3.30 - 5 pm
St Mary's School, Foresthall Park



You can see photographs of our previous Messy Church events at www.stanstedchurches.com/messychurch. A very big thank you to all those who have helped or provided food at our previous events. Sue will be looking for people to provide sandwiches and cakes for 29th September (please call Sue if you can help). For general information call Marion & Mike .



Village Harvest Supper

6.30 pm Sun 20th Oct St John's Hall

Fish / Chicken / Sausage / Veggie & Chips followed by entertainment from the churches

Tickets: Adults £7.50 Schoolchildren £5 - advance booking essential
from Catherine ~ Bring your own drink & glass ~ All welcome

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

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Brenda Veitch
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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)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday (not Bank Holidays)

9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Tel Marion & Mike , Catherine or Fran

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

