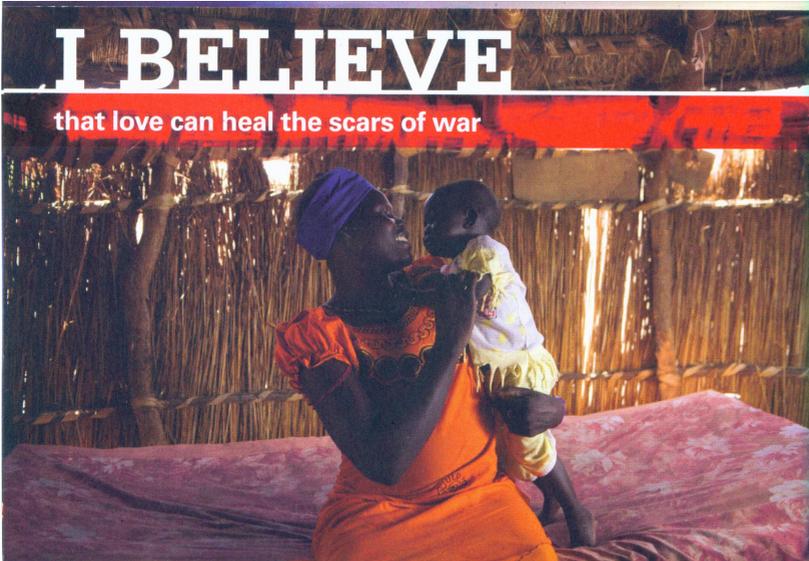


150 Years of Worship and Outreach

Central United Reformed Church Hove



May 2014

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

<i>Sunday Youth Ministry</i>	Mrs. A. Austen Mrs C. Vaughan
<i>Boys' Brigade</i> (Mondays)	Mr. C. Jukes
<i>Girls' Club</i> (Tuesday)	Mrs. S. Hill
<i>Tuesday Fellowship</i> (Alternate Tuesdays)	Mrs Celia Baines – Holmes
<i>Men's Fellowship</i> (Third Wednesday)	Mr. P. Gear
<i>Welcome Break</i> (Wednesdays)	Mrs. P. Macaulay
<i>Bluebird Parent & under 3s Group</i>	Mrs K. Hancox
Church Web Site	Mr John Brewster

Church Hall Tel: 01273 734162

Email: info@centralurchove.com

Dear Friends,

The Easter season in the Church calendar continues through May leading up to Ascension Day at the end of the month. This is one of the most important times in the Church year. Jesus appeared to many people after his resurrection - he was making absolutely sure that his disciples and other believers knew that he was alive. After all, they were going to turn the world upside down!

The significance of Jesus' resurrection was that it wasn't the end - it was just the beginning! Jesus wasn't going to go on appearing to his disciples - the time would come when he must return to be with his Father in another time and place - in another dimension - the Kingdom of God.

From now on, it was going to be up to Jesus' disciples, the womenfolk, and those who had come to believe in Jesus during his ministry (including those we know about such as Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Jesus' mother, his brothers - 120 people in all in Jerusalem [*Acts 1 v. 15*] - and we know from Paul that after the resurrection, Jesus "appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time" [*1 Cor. 15 v. 6*]). There was then something of a lull because although they were firm believers, they seemed to lack the ability or the drive to do anything about it (we know the feeling!)

Something had to give. Jesus had not yet ascended, and the disciples didn't know what was going to happen next. They still didn't understand what Jesus meant at the Last Supper when he had said: "I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you (*John 16 v. 7*)."

The stage was being set for something dramatic to happen. Part of this, certainly, was to be Jesus' ascension, but there was even more to come...

Wishing you God's blessing,

Roger

"...consistent element of life and forward motion, glorious ensemble moments, a wonderful sense of rhythm..."
Leicester Mercury 2010



8 is Great

Conductor: Giles Turner

Kingfisher Chorale
showcase the best 8-part
music to enjoy and surprise

LOTTI | GABRIELI | BARBER | TALLIS | TAVENER

Saturday 28th June 2014 at 7.30pm

Central United Reformed Church, Ventnor Villas,
Hove, BN3 3YF

Tickets | 01273 881348 | Adults £8 (£10 on the door) Students £3

 Find us on facebook

www.kingfisherchorale.org

**For tickets and further information contact
Keren Hancox Tel:881348**

FAMILY NEWS FROM CENTRAL

It was with very mixed feelings that we heard the news of the death of **Rev. John Flack** on 10th April: sorrow at our loss of a trusted friend, beloved preacher and member of Central yet happiness in the faith that John, is now reunited with his beloved Elsie in heaven, and is with the Lord and Master he had served so faithfully all his life. We were honoured that John, upon his retirement from full time ministry, chose to worship with us and become a member of Central. We greatly benefited from his help, when called upon, in leading our worship at both morning and evening services, when his sermons were eagerly anticipated and gave comfort, reassurance and hope to many. Failing health and increasing pain over the past few years meant that John was unable to attend services; nevertheless he continued to be interested in the activities of all the churches with which he was associated. We extend our sympathy, love and prayers to his daughter, Jennifer, his son, Stephen, and all the family. (A fuller tribute may be found elsewhere in the magazine.)

Dale Marland, we understand, has been moved from hospital to Cravendale Convalescent Home. We hope that is the first step towards a recovery.

The good news is that **Barbara Woolvett** is now back home and has made a much better and swifter recovery from her stroke than was at first expected. She has regained her speech and mobility, though still tires easily, and every week manages to make some progress. Please keep her and Dale in your prayers. **John Gilson**, who is now back in his home, will be celebrating his birthday on Monday, so we join with his other friends from Tuesday Fellowship and Welcome Break in sending him our best wishes.

Peter Gear has caused us some concern as he has had a few little “turns” recently. However, he is being sensible and obeying orders – for once! **Kathy Dalley** is now home but is unable to come to church because of the condition of her legs.

We should also be grateful if you would hold **Jenny Flint** and **Sally Marteau**, Celia & Peter Elliott’s daughter in prayer. Jenny has begun a new bout of chemotherapy – hopefully, this will be her last – and it will be debilitating. It has been good to see her in church over Easter. Sally, is about to undergo a new treatment for her illness, which has flared up once more. Please pray for successful outcomes for both Jenny and Sally.

Over Easter, some very moving services were held in church. The Tenebrae Service, led by Peter Elliott, was, as ever, emotional and heart-searing, as we listened to the accounts of the last week of Jesus life. The Good Friday Service led naturally into the Walk of Witness, in which the churches of central Hove participate. We are assured that even more people joined in this walk than in previous years. Every year the walk grows in strength and numbers and is warmly received by passers-by.



Easter Sunday found the early risers of the congregation on the seafront well wrapped up to brave the elements and to celebrate the Risen Lord as they welcomed the good news that “Christ is risen!” What a contrast to last year when the seafront was calm and sunny! The early service was made even more special by having some of our young people back from university and college make the effort to join us.

After a short service, the worshippers regrouped with some later -comers in the church halls, where Masterchef Alan Ireland had organised his team into preparing a delicious Full English Breakfast. It was a very replete set of diners who retreated upstairs to the sanctuary to join the rest of the congregation and the friends of the Jennison-Saunders family to celebrate not just Christ’s Resurrection but also the baptism of Callum and Oscar, members of Bluebird. It was doubly joyful service, which Roger led with conviction and confidence.

Lynda Hulcoop’s leading of the evening service the following Sunday, 27th April was inspirational and multi-talented. The congregation may at times be small, but each left, with faith renewed, assured and blessed for having been there.

The Spring Supper was enjoyed once more by all who attended. They left well fed and well entertained. Our thanks to the Social Activities Committee and all who gave of their talents to entertain and charm. It is especially lovely to have so many young ones prepared to share their joy in music.

The fame of our Boys' Brigade Old Time Music Hall is spreading. We have it on good authority that it has been written about in the latest edition of the Boys' Brigade magazine. Recognition, at last!

Please remember that the **Boys' Brigade Awards Evening** will be held on **Monday 12th May at 6.30 pm**. It is only a short event but important to the Boys, so please come along and show your support for the Boys and Leaders for all they have achieved and contributed over the past year. There will be light refreshments served afterwards.

Apart from those mentioned in detail above, please remember in prayer the following dear friends:

Tebello Sibanda, Clive & Shirley Hamblin, Doreen & Gerry Simmons, John Gilson, Peggy McMillen, Paul King, Keith Austen, Sheila Rich's daughter, Debbie, and Mary Doo.



Seafront - Easter Sunday



The Hungry shall be fed.



**And then there is the
washing up!**

EASTER BREAKFAST.

**10th BRIGHTON (HOVE) BOYS' BRIGADE
COMPANY**

Warmly invite you to join them for their

AWARDS EVENING

Monday, 12th May at 6.30 p.m.

And afterwards for light refreshments



You

are warmly invited to

A Coffee Morning

Organised by the members of
The Grocery Stall / Tuesday Fellowship

Saturday 17th May, 10.00 a.m.

War tears lives apart

Love can help piece them back together

‘The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer... in whom I take refuge.’

2 Samuel 22:2-3

For a growing number of people across the world, the horror of war is a part of daily life.

Right now, fuelled by the devastating violence in both Syria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the numbers of people driven from their homes by war is on the rise.

It stands at 42 million people – an appalling statistic and a stain on the conscience of humanity. We can’t turn our backs. We must act now.

The good news is that your church can make a real difference.

Last year, a magnificent 20,000 churches across the country helped raise over £12m for Christian Aid Week.

This Christian Aid Week (11–17 May 2014) we want to go even further. We want every church in Britain and Ireland to get involved – whether by giving, acting or praying.

Together we can send people living in fear this message: you are not alone. We’re with you, helping you to rebuild your lives, and working for peace.

Imagine what such an expression of love would mean to people searching for the strength to cope with the devastation of war, and how it could help to drive out their fear.

Demonstrate God’s love for those living in poverty and show how much good the church is doing in the world this Christian Aid Week.

Together we can reach the 42 million people caught up in conflict and help them live a life free from fear.

Could you provide the gift of hope?

£15 could provide blankets for refugee children to protect them from bitter night-time temperatures.

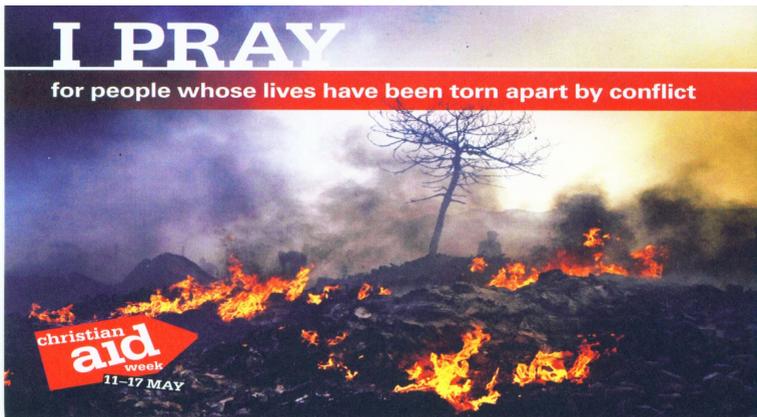
£40 could provide enough good quality and nutritious food for two refugee children for a month.

£150 could help us provide specialist emotional support for a child deeply traumatised by the horror of war that they've witnessed or experienced.

Be an instrument of God's peace

Give, act and pray this Christian Aid Week.

caweek.org



“Faith by itself, if not accompanied by action, is dead.” *James 2:17*

Prince of Peace,
We pray for the peace that
brings freedom out of fear
Hope out of grief,
Dignity out of violation.
Lead our sisters and brothers
Out of the valley of the shadow of death
To a place of still waters,
Green pastures and restoration.
And give us the fire to work
Tirelessly for Your justice,
So that we may all share in Your fullness of life.

CHURCH CALENDAR

MAY

SUN 4	Family Service – Holy Communion Rev. Roger Wood	10.30 am
	Evening Worship - The Junction	6.30 pm
Tue 8	Tuesday Fellowship – R.N.L.I Trish Penney	2.30 pm
SUN 11	Family Service Rev. Peter Elliott	10.30 am
	Evening Worship Rev. Lynda Hulcoop	6.30 pm
Mon 12	BB Awards Evening	6.30 pm
Sat 17	Coffee Morning – Grocery Stall	10.00 am
SUN 18	Family Service Rev. Graham Campling	10.30 am
	Evening Worship Mrs Keren Hancox	6.30 pm
Mon 19	Christian Book Club – Timothy (Carol Tyler)	8.00 pm
Tue 20	Tuesday Fellowship – My Poetry John Harries-Rees	2.30 pm
Wed 21	Men’s Fellowship Pitch & Putt, Kingsway, near Hove Lagoon (N.B. Early start time)	6.30 pm

SUN 25	Family Service Rev Roger Wood Evening Worship – Holy Communion Rev. Peter Elliott	10.30 am 6.30 pm
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JUNE

SUN 1	Family Service – Holy Communion Rev. John Du Bois Evening Worship – The Junction	10.30 am 6.30 pm
Tue 3	Tuesday Fellowship – Christ’s Hospital Bill Avenell	2.30 pm
Sat 7	Summer Fair	10.00 am

- All contributions for the **JUNE** edition of the magazine must be handed in no later than **SUNDAY 18th MAY.**
- Please inform **Mr Bill Maclean** by Wednesday of the preceding week of any calendar changes so that the calendar on the Order of Service may be altered.



FLOWERS FOR MAY

- 4th Miss Ruth Shepherd
- 11th In memory of Beryl
- 18th Mrs Doreen Fookes – in memory of her husband, Peter
Mrs Doreen Page – in memory of Coreen
- 25th Available

CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
HOVE

SUMMER FAIR

SATURDAY 7TH JUNE

10.00 am - 1.00 pm

Morning Coffee

Light lunches

Bric-a-brac

Grocery

Books

Cakes

Candles

Cards

Toiletries

Jewellery

& MORE

ALL WELCOME

REV. JOHN FLACK

“ If you take my funeral, don’t talk about me – Preach the Gospel!”

These were the instructions John Flack gave Peter Elliott in one of the last conversations they had before John died on 10th April. Their message typifies the man. Preaching the Gospel was the task to which John dedicated most of his life. But he did not just preach: John *practised* the Gospel message.

John was not always a minister. Before answering Christ’s call, John had served in the R.A.F. and then, after leaving the Force, worked as an electrician and grounds-man. So, he was not a stranger to hard work and craftsmanship – rather like Jesus in his early years. This enabled him to understand the hardships of others and to identify with their problems in a truly realistic, rather than scholastic way. This would have been part of the reason that he could fully empathise with those he cared for pastorally and speak to them as one who had been there.

After four years in college, John’s first congregation was in Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, where some of the innovations he made are still being continued to this day. From there he and Elsie with family moved to Derby and Repton before he came to serve in Hounsom Memorial Church. This was to be his last congregation before “retiring,” one which he loved dearly and in which he was very happy. We, in Central, felt very blessed that he found another home with us and eventually chose to become a member here. John’s explanation was that the car “always seemed to turn to the left rather than the right on a Sunday morning.”

At his funeral someone described John as “ A gentle giant of a man with the twinkle of the Holy Spirit in his eye.” And John was a great believer in the Holy Spirit and being led by it. How often we have enjoyed John’s preaching – for he was a charismatic and powerful orator – and been settling down comfortably for a twenty minute sermon, only for John to lay aside his notes/put them back in his pocket/ even throw them away and say, “We don’t need these: let’s just see where the Spirit leads us.” No one slept during a John Flack sermon! We were all too eager to hear the message and scared to miss out. He seemed to have the wonderful ability to home in on what was troubling you and his sermons often seem to have been written particularly for you.

At one evening service, which he and his beloved Elsie were leading together, with Elsie reciting some poetry and singing, John began his sermon and we could actually feel our worries being lifted and our shoulders relaxing as God took charge.

John was eager to bring people to Jesus as young as possible and used every aid he could to do so. His children's sermons were memorable. Popcorn, chocolate cake made in a microwave in front of the congregation and all not just edible but delicious.

He also found great joy in helping students for the ministry and kept in touch with many over the years. His example and work ethic were lessons in themselves. Boxing Day/ St. Stephen's Day is a day in which most would think the clergy might have a well earned rest and time to enjoy Christmas with their family but when a call for help came John would go to minister.

In many ways, John was blessed by his wonderful happy marriage and partnership with Elsie and then their children, Jennifer and Steven, grandchildren and great grandchildren, who must feel his loss even more than we, his friends do. However, the last few years of his life were very hard for John, with increasing pain and declining health preventing him even from gardening or coming to church. The death of Elsie, five months earlier, left him devastated and heartbroken.

We give thanks to God for granting us the privilege of John's friendship and ministry. We thank God too that John is now free from pain and, by His Grace, is reunited with his beloved Elsie in the presence of God, whose greatness John proclaimed to the very end.

Lord,

Our hearts are sad and yet joyful.

Sad at losing a very special friend and member of our church:

Yet joyful that for John, sickness and pain are now over and he lives for ever in your love and care.

We thank you for John's faith, for his inspirational preaching, for his pastoral care and friendship, for all he accomplished by Your Grace.

We give you thanks that Your love never comes to an end

And whether we live or die – we belong to You.

We give you thanks for all that John still means to us

And we pray for ourselves, that we may continue to grow in love, following John's good example, until we reach the full stature of Christ, in Whom all things are one.

We ask it in His Name. AMEN.

Prayer by Peter Elliott



**Christian Meditation
Hove Methodist Church
Tuesday 10th June
& Monday 14th July
7.30pm for 8pm Start**

**Christian Meditation (Centering Prayer)
including Lectio Divina
Taking place here in the Fellowship Room
Come to the St. Patrick's Road Entrance
Further details from Church Office:
01273 324600**

Also Tuesday, 13th May at 17 Park Avenue BN3 5RF

Cause me to Hear Thy loving kindness
In the morning
For in Thee do I trust
Cause me to know the way
Wherein I should walk;
For I lift up my soul unto Thee.

Psalm 143:8

BRIGHTON FESTIVAL FRINGE 2014

St Bartholomew's Church, Brighton

Tuesday 6th May 2014

at 1.10 p.m.

Organ Recital

by

Alan Ireland

Postlude in D minor (Op 105) CV Stanford (1852-1924)

Prelude on "Passion Chorale" W Lloyd-Webber (1914-1982)

Aria W Lloyd-Webber (1914-1982)

Processional W Matthias (1934-1992)

Two Fantasies (Op 72) Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

"Lumetto"

"St Columba"

Postlude on "Martyrs" Harvey Grace (1874-1944)

Adagio in E F Bridge (1879-1941)

Fantasia & Fugue in G C H H Parry (1848-1918)

Alan Ireland began his organ studies at the age of 13 in Scotland. Over the years he studied with Philip Sawyer in Edinburgh, Peter Goodman in Hull, James Lancelot in Winchester and Kimberley Marshall in Oxford. He managed to find time during his medical studies to obtain an ARCM performers diploma. He gives occasional recitals in the Brighton area, and is organist of Central United Reformed Church in Hove. He is a past-president of the Brighton and District Organists' Association.

Notes on the music

This recital is designed as a trip round the British Isles, with music from the last hundred or so years. This style of music is particularly suited to the organ in St Bart's.

This is the second of three lunchtime recitals given by members of Brighton and District Organists' Association. Membership of the Association is open to all those interested in the organ and its music. The Association organises organ visits, masterclasses, recitals, newsletters and other events.

Enquiries are warmly welcomed – please contact the Secretary, John S Smith, telephone 01273 270870 or visit our website: <http://www.iao.org.uk/bdoa/index.html>

There are further recitals in this series on 13th & 20th May

There is also a recital here on 27th May by David Bell, commencing at 13.00

There will be a retiring collection towards the expenses of the recital.

There are forthcoming recitals at St Mary, Rock Gardens, Brighton, on 17th May, 14th June, 12th & 26th July, 9th August, 13th & 27th September & 11th October. All start at 18.00.

CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB

Perhaps our expectations were unnaturally high when we began to read “Bolts from the Blue” by Rabbi Lionel Blue because, unfortunately, they were soon dashed. Perhaps we had been lulled into a false sense of security having enjoyed the books of choice for the previous two meetings. Rabbi Blue failed to send out any bolts and turned out to be a rather damp squib.

All of us had heard his talks on the radio at some time or other and enjoyed them for those brief two or three minutes in the early morning but, when it came to reading them one after another, the kindest thing that can be said is that they did not translate well from the aural/oral perceptions to the written word.

Occasionally a talk would induce a small smile but more frequently than not his anecdote or joke simply passed our understanding. We could recognise that he had recounted something humorous because of its place in the talk/chapter – that is where they nearly always appeared – but too frequently we did not get it. Perhaps we are more akin to his fellow Jews and unlike the ancient Irish nun in “One Lost Soul. Finder Rewarded” and never got the key of the story.

Sometimes a chapter resonated with us, for example, “It’s the Real Thing.” This is one of the rare ones in which the author is serious. There are no jokes, anecdotes or mock accents. He seriously writes about the ways to God, which are legitimate, and those that we pervert for our own ends. To make us seem bigger more important in our eyes or men’s eyes rather than God’s. We diminish Him instead of trying to grow towards God. Become more God-size, be kinder, more patient, do more than strict duty or self-interest requires. In other words, we make ourselves more generous and more loving.

The illegitimate way is for “religious ‘committees’ to be so absorbed by the small print” that the great print of generosity is lost. We all could identify with and understand the point he was so clearly making.

The sad thing about this style of book, which is, after all, not a book but a collection of short talks, is that we all recalled his talks on “Thought for the Day, “ with pleasure but in an anthology like this they became almost repetitious in style. We knew roughly how long each would be and where the joke would come and then there would be a sentence or two – no more than 4-5 lines to summarise. It became boring. Easy to read; easy to lift up for five minutes and then put down without any desire to read

more and easily forgotten.

As we were all agreed on our reactions it was difficult to initiate any deep or long discussions so we regaled ourselves with coffee and chocolate cake, courtesy of Pam Moody's daughter, |Jo, and fruit cake courtesy of our hostess, Clare Popley. Both were delicious.

Clare's cake is so simple that even Chip Dunn is thinking of attempting it. So, we pass it on to you, because we can remember it easily:

Clare's Fruit Loaf

1 cup All Bran

1 cup mixed fruit

1 cup sugar

1 cup milk

1 cup self raising flour

Method:

Mix All Bran, fruit, sugar and milk in bowl.

Leave for 30 minutes.

Add flour. Stir. Pour into lined 1lb loaf tin. Place in heated oven Gas mark 3 for 30-40 minutes.

Cool. Serve, spread with butter. Eat.

Our next meeting will be on 19th May at 8.00 p.m. at Carol Tyler's home, when we will be discussing the two Epistles to Timothy. Please feel free to join us. You will be most welcome.

Gift Day

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our annual Gift Day.

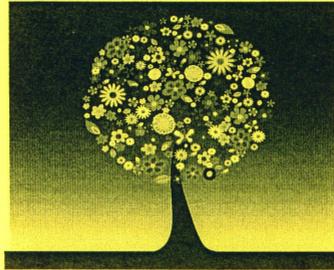
The total sum raised to date is £3145, which, although a little lower than last year (£3280) has still managed to make the Treasurer smile.

(He is still happy to accept any further contributions!)

BRIGHTON & HOVE FLOWER DECORATION CLUB

**FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP
WITH A *SUMMER* THEME**

SATURDAY 28TH JUNE 2014



Why not come and join us for a day of fun & learning

**FROM 11.00am UNTIL 3.30pm
in
ST PETER'S CHURCH HALL
PORTLAND ROAD
HOVE**

for more details please contact:
Anne Waite, Chairman: 01273270928
Email: bandhflowers@gmail.com
Website address: brightonandhoveflowerclub.co.uk

CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HOVE

Corner of Ventnor Villas and Blatchington Road, Hove

Church Hall Telephone: 01273 734162

www.centralurchove.com

MINISTER

Rev. Roger Wood

(Day off: Thursday)

TREASURER

Mr. C. Hill

COVENANT & FREEWILL OFFERING SECRETARY

Refer: Secretary/Treasurer

ORGANIST & CHOIR MASTER

Dr. A. Ireland

BUILDING HALL(S) HIRE

Mrs Celia Elliott

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Mrs. R. Brice

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30 a.m.

MORNING WORSHIP

with Youth and Children's Ministry

6.30 p.m.

EVENING WORSHIP

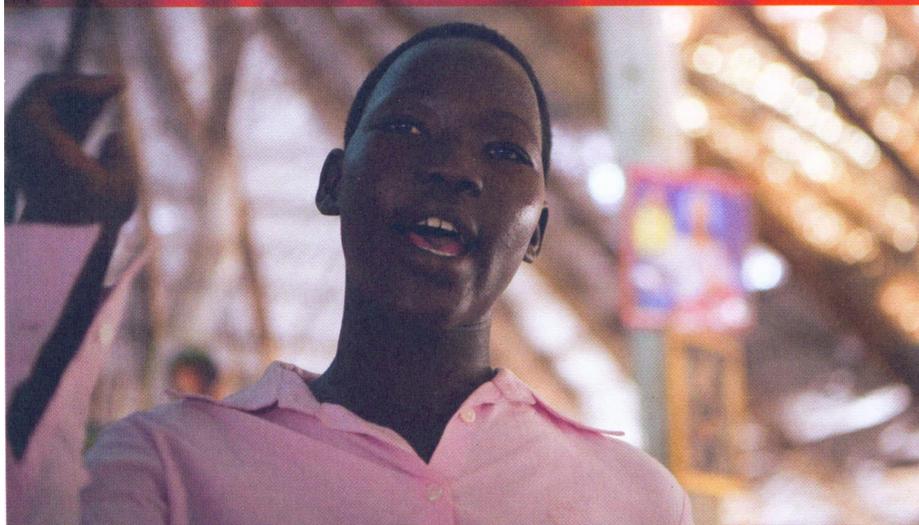
HOLY COMMUNION

First Sunday of the month at 10.30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of the month at 6.30 p.m.

I ACT

in the love of God, to demand justice
and peace for the world's poor



christian
aid
week
11-17 MAY