

150 Years of Worship and Outreach

Central United Reformed Church Hove

We will always remember...



in flanders fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row, that mark our places; and in the sky the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below. we are the dead. short days ago we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, loved, and were loved, and now we lie In flanders fields. take up our quarrel with the foe: to you from failing hands we throw the torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, tho poppies grow in flanders fields.

November 2015

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday Youth Ministry

Mrs. A. Austen

Mrs C. Vaughan

Boys' Brigade
(Mondays)

Mr. C. Jukes

Girls' Club
(Tuesday)

Mrs. S. Hill

Tuesday Fellowship
(Alternate Tuesdays)

Mrs H Brown

Men's Fellowship
(Third Wednesday)

Mr. P. Gear

Welcome Break
(Wednesdays)

Mrs. P. Macaulay

Bluebird Parent & under 3s Group

Mrs K. Hancox

Church Web Site

Mr John Brewster

Church Hall Tel: 01273 734162

Email: info@centralurchove.com

MISSED CHURCH?

You can listen to the Sunday Morning Service by going to our website:
www.centralurchove.com and hearing the recording.

AN ELDER SPEAKS.

Dear Friends,

When I agreed to write this letter (almost six months ago) I was fairly sure that the topic would be “Remembrance”! It may still turn out to be that but as time has passed and I now get down to actually writing it I find myself drawn in a different direction – looking more to the future than the past!

In recent months I have sat in on informal discussions with our friends from Hove Methodist Church regarding where we are being led in our Christian faith – and picking up on Clare’s letter last month – how we are spending our time and our resources! It emerged from these informal chats that both churches are forced to behave a bit like ducks on a pond – giving the outward impression that everything is going along “swimmingly” while beneath the surface vast amounts of effort (and money) is being expended on the maintenance of our premises.

There is no doubt that both congregations love their churches and the Christian Fellowship we feel when we meet together but are we ready to face the challenge of whether they meet the needs of the 21st century?

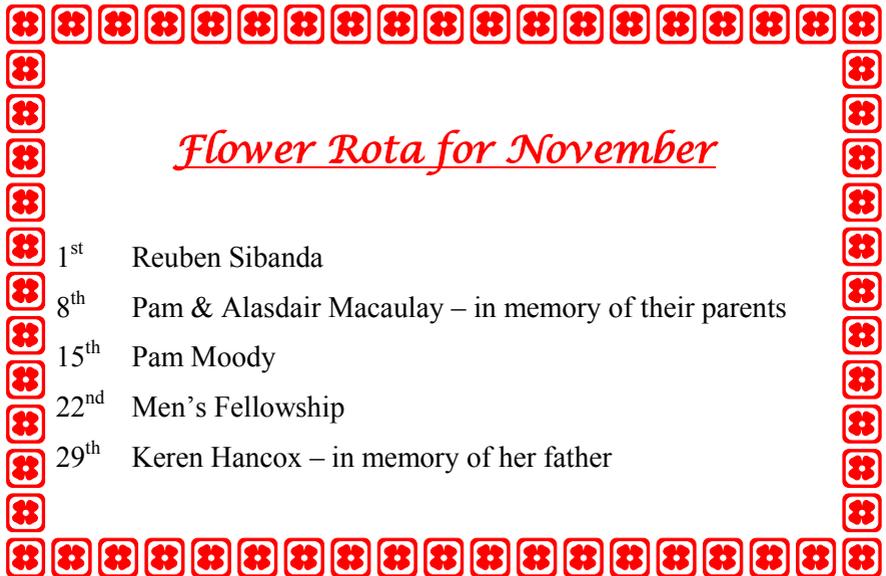
If we are to spread the word of God in our community we certainly need to be at the hub of that community but do not necessarily need the millstone of ageing buildings to detract from the task. Our faith will assure us that God will show the way! All we need to do is look for the signs – and follow them! “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.” (Psalm 32:8)

During this year we have been reminded of many significant dates in history – the signing of the Magna Carta (1215), the Battle of Waterloo (1815) and the D-Day Landings (1945). Will future generations look back on 2015 as a time when the Christian church became an irrelevance and failed to address the needs of a world threatened by civil and political disorder or will it record that Christianity was instrumental in restoring peace and stability?

Bill Maclean



FILM NIGHT AT CENTRAL
COME AND ENJOY
THE DELIGHTS OF INDIA
 at
The Second Best Marigold Hotel
Friday, 13th November 7.00 pm
In
The church lounge.



Flower Rota for November

1 st	Reuben Sibanda
8 th	Pam & Alasdair Macaulay – in memory of their parents
15 th	Pam Moody
22 nd	Men's Fellowship
29 th	Keren Hancox – in memory of her father

FAMILY NEWS FROM CENTRAL

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of **Miss Ruth Shepherd** who had been a regular and committed member at Central and, previously at St Cuthbert's.

She became deeply involved at St Cuthbert's through FOY (Fellowship of Youth), the choir and Sunday School, where her teaching background was used to good effect. She continued her choir involvement at Central for a number of years.

Ruth had been a primary school teacher and, such was her dedication, that even after she retired she returned voluntarily, for many years, to help children with their reading and to introduce them to the world of books.

Ruth has been a member of St Cuthbert's Housing Association since its inception and, although she did not take an active part, she maintained a very keen interest in its affairs.

A keen correspondent, Ruth kept in touch with friends world wide. She had a prodigious memory about people and events in both churches and was unfailingly generous in remembering birthdays and anniversaries with cards.

A very faithful church member, and, although was a very private person, she will be sadly missed. We extend our sincere sympathy to her family and friends.

Ruth's funeral will be on 19th November at 11.00 am at Downs Crematorium followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at 12.00 noon at Central.

We were pleased to learn of the safe arrival of a third great-grandchild to **Jim and Sheila Lyall. Annabel Rose** was born on 17th October. We pray that she will bring much joy and many blessings to all her family.

Another cause for celebration is the birthday of **Ann Beach** on 26th November, when she will be 90. Congratulations, best wishes and every blessing to her on her special day.

Tebello Sibanda is finally home again after her prolonged stay in hospital. We hope she and Reuben will have the help they require to care for her in her illness. Good news for **Shirley** and **Clive Hamblin** too. Shirley is now out of hospital in a nursing home, which can tend to her needs. We are told that, so far, she has settled in well and trust that she will be comfortable.

Betty Briggs is now undergoing tests and treatment after she became ill in church. We wish her a speedy recovery and hope she will soon be back amongst us.

As many of you will now know the **Rev. Sue Chapman**, has accepted the call issued by the Joint Pastorate Meeting on 23rd October to be the minister of the Hove Pastorate. Both Synod Moderators have been informed and the process of arranging her move has begun.

We have just learned that Sue will be inducted into her new charge on Saturday 13th February 2016. Please keep this date clear, even if you have not bought your new diaries yet.

We will do our best to keep everyone informed about future dates and developments, as best we can.

So, as 2016 promises to be a new beginning for the pastorate, we ask you to continue to hold the three churches before God in prayer along with Sue and her husband as they begin a new and different chapter in their lives.

May we remind you that **BB Week** is this month. Please support the Company and its leaders both financially and prayerfully as well as by coming to its Coffee Morning on 21st November.

We have also learned that **Edith** has safely arrived in Central and has been seen in the kitchen. Do please give her a warm welcome should you encounter her.

Fellowship of Prayer:

Tebello Sibanda, Peggy McMillen, Clive and Shirley Hamblin, John Gilson, Ros Ayling Jan Owen, Muriel Lewis & Ivy Newell

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Welcomes you all:

3rd November Paul Green - The Argus

17th November Bryan Moody - Tales of Brighton

1st December Cynthia Tudor - Japan

10TH BRIGHTON (HOVE) BOYS' BRIGADE
COMPANY



COFFEE

MORNING

21st November

10.30 am - 12 noon

BB WEEK

16th - 22nd November

CHURCH CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

SUN 1	Family Service – Holy Communion Stuart Dew	10.30 am
	Evening Worship – The Junction Special guest: Rev Darryl Sinclair	6.30 pm
Tue 3	Tuesday Fellowship - The Argus Paul Gree	2.30 pm

SUN 8	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	
	Family Service	10.30 am
	Rev Peter Elliott	
	Evening Worship	6.30 pm
	Rev. Lynda Hulcoop	
Wed 11	Elders' Meeting	7.30 pm
Fri 13	Film Night - The Second Best Marigold Hotel Church Lounge	7.00 pm

SUN15	PARACLETE DAY	
	Family Service	10.30 am
	Roger French	
	Church Meeting	12 noon
	Evening Worship	6.30 pm
	Roger French	

BOYS' BRIGADE WEEK 16TH - 22ND NOVEMBER

Mon 16	BB Enrolment Service	7.00 pm
Tue 17	Tuesday Fellowship – Tales of Brighton Bryan Moody	2.30 pm
Wed 18	Men's Fellowship	7.45 pm
Fri 20	Central Elders & Hove Methodist Stewards Meeting at Central	7.30 pm
Sat 21	Boys' Brigade Coffee Morning	10.30 am

SUN 22	Family Service – Church Parade	10.30 am
	Chris Butler – Gideon Society	
	Evening Worship – Holy Communion	6.30 pm
	Rev Peter Elliott	

SUN 29	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	Family Service	10.30 am
	Rev Michael Davies	
	Evening Worship	6.30 pm
	Rev. Lynda Hulcoop	
Mon 26	Christian Book Club	8.00 pm
	“ A Street Cat named Bob”	
	(Clare Popley)	

DECEMBER

Tue 1	Tuesday Fellowship – Japan	2.30 pm
	Cynthia Tudor	
Fri 4	Preparations for Christmas Fair	
Sat 5	Christmas Fair	10.00 am
	(See separate notice)	

SUN 6	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	GIFTS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE	
	for Brighton & Hove City Mission	
	Family Service – Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Naomi McBain	
	Evening Worship – The Junction	6.30 pm
	Special Guest: Geoff Harrington	

All contributions for the DECEMBER+JANUARY edition of the magazine must be handed in no later than **SUNDAY 22nd November.**

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.

Christmas Fair

5th December
10.00am - 1.00pm

Books

Cards

Cakes

Coffees



Jewellery

Bric-a-

Brac and more

Light lunches

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The last two weeks of October proved to be busy ones for the members of the Men's Fellowship and their friends.

Aside from the activities associated with the visit of Rev Sue Chapman and her subsequent call to ministry in Hove, the men organised a quiz night and a morning service.

The Quiz Night on 21st October was well attended and what rules there were, were obviously there to be broken!

Rule 1. The quiz master, aka Clive Hamblin, is always right. (Only one slip up but one is enough to evoke howls of protest, if not derision.)

Rule 2. Thou shalt not eavesdrop on your neighbours' answers. (Don't argue too loudly then.)

Rule 3. Think everything through carefully. (Might be good advice for exams but first thoughts and gut reactions are often right. It's amazing what can be plucked out of seemingly nowhere!)

Rule 4. Thou shalt listen to thy better half. (We told you so!)

Rule 5. Do not utter the words, "I told you so!"

In a wide ranging quiz, covering music, films, geography, history, broadcasting, literature and many other topics our "brains" and memories became somewhat frazzled, while the banter between competing tables was a light relief. New stars emerged and the final scores were amazingly close. All in the seventies! 79 was the highest and two tables tied for the wooden spoon with 71.

A most enjoyable evening, ably chaired by Clive Hamblin, who had obviously done a great amount of preparation, not only thinking up questions but in producing photographs and pictures with which to tease our minds.

The following Sunday morning the Fellowship undertook to lead our worship. This is becoming a much anticipated annual event, whose highlight is the anthem. This year it was "Great is Thy Faithfulness", with Graham Smith as soloist.

The theme of faith and faithfulness throughout the service epitomises much of the Men's fellowship. They share a common faith, between themselves and their friendship encourages them to share it with others.

GIFTS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Please remember to bring your gifts to place under the Christmas Tree in church on 6th December, so that they may be taken to Brighton & Hove City Mission in time to be sorted, allocated and distributed for Christmas.

The following are examples of some of the items the Mission finds most helpful:

Children's Toys and Gifts - These are required for all ages from 1 to 14. All items are appreciated including educational toys, games, cuddly toys, painting and drawing sets including felt tips etc.

Seasonal Gifts for Elderly Folk - In addition to smellies, writing sets, purses, wallets, men's socks ladies scarves etc are welcome.

Toiletries - At Christmas, seasonal smellies of all kinds including gift packs for both males and females, deodorants and shaving foam are particularly helpful.

Food - The Mission likes to be able to make up some hampers that include "Christmas Goodies". Just imagine what goes into a Christmas hamper.

Christmas Paper for wrapping is always acceptable **BUT**

Please remember that the Mission's policy is to only give out new toys to children. Also, *please do not wrap your gifts*. The Mission will wrap them but first needs to know what they are in order to allocate them properly.



CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB

“Elizabeth is Missing” by Emma Healey was our book of choice this month and it provoked many varied reactions amongst our readers.

It is not a book to be taken lightly and, if you are looking for a holiday read, this is not for you. It seems to fall between two genres. Is it just a mystery / detective / murder story or is its purpose something more serious? Well, the answer would appear to be both or all.

The “story” behind Elizabeth’s disappearance is one level of the book. Who was she? Did she disappear? Was she murdered? Where is the body? Who dunnit?

And all this through the befuddled mind of Maud who is convinced Elizabeth *is* missing because there are notes about it around the house, in her pocket etc.

Unfortunately, Maud also posts notes about many other things around the house as memos to herself and others. Maud is elderly and very forgetful and becoming a burden to both herself and her family.

This is where the second level of the book comes in. It is at this level that the book really hit our members and in many personal ways. Alzheimers or Dementia in the elderly and their associated problems is featuring increasingly in newspapers and government reports, especially as the life expectancy of an ageing population grows.

As we come to realise that Maud is suffering like this, we become a bit like her family and wonder if Elizabeth has really disappeared. However, what provoked the greatest discussion and the most personal at times, was the way in which practically everyone could relate in some way to the frustrations yet comedy and pathos behind the lives of those dealing with dementia. Some could relate to her daughter’s anger and subsequent remorse. Others offered ideas, which are being researched at present. Ultimately we all acknowledged the heartbreak behind it all.

It is a very well-written and constructed book, with the inevitable red herrings and twists of a mystery novel but it is at the second level at which it is the most poignant. Our greatest admiration was evoked by finding that this was the author, Emma Healey’s, first book and that she is under 30 yet she has managed to become, in her writing, the 80 year old Maud.

“Harrowing, touching and hugely memorable” was the cover “blurb”

which most adequately summed up this book.

As to the mystery, is Elisabeth missing? Maybe not but someone is?

Next month's book is "A Street Cat named Bob."

We will meet at Clare Popley's home, at 8.00 p.m. on Monday 30th November.

Please feel free to join us; you will be very welcome.



Rock choir concerts
10th & 11th DECEMBER
At Central URC

Their last concert was so successful that this Christmas period the **Rock Choir** has decided to hold **TWO** concerts so everyone can get in!

Book the date: enjoy a larger than ever choir and enjoy the music.

Helping Others:

Please remember the collection containers in the Upper Vestibule.

Canned foods for the Brighton & Hove City Mission Food Bank

Men's deoderant sprays for Off The Fence.

CENTRAL'S COPYRIGHT LICENCES

This is key standard information, like telephone numbers - don't forget what you have to do if you are:

- (a) ...reproducing (by typing) song words (eg in notices, separate song sheets or for the overhead projector) you need to include at the foot of each song the following details:

Author, © year ©owner, CCL licence number 12011

... and inform Chris Hill for the records. If you don't have some of the information, try Chris - he may be able to help!

- (b) ...photocopying words out of a book then you have to acknowledge at the foot of the photocopy the following details:

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CENTRAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HOVE

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www.centralurchove.com

MINISTER

Vacancy Advused

CHURCH SECRETARY

Mrs K. Hancox

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.