



The HEATH



February
2022



News, Views & Comment from the
United Reformed Church, Chadwell Heath

50p

Dear Friends,

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.’ (John 3:16)

This month, as we mark St Valentines’ Day, we focus on the importance of love. In understanding the way God loves us, this verse shows us how we should love others.

God’s love is unconditional: God demonstrated His unconditional love for us by sending His Son into this world, to show us how we should love others, especially when it is undeserved! *‘There is nothing we can do to make God love us more. There is nothing we can do to make God love us less.’* (Philip Yancey).

God’s love is sacrificial: God’s love is not selfish or self-seeking, but selfless and self-sacrificial, putting the needs of others first. This is demonstrated by the cross, which is the supreme demonstration of God’s love. He died for our sins to give us access to God’s love, which is made real in our lives by the Holy Spirit.

God’s love is forgiving: According to the film *Love Story*, ‘Love means never having to say you’re sorry.’ Yet Jesus’ love for us enables us to forgive others, as we find His forgiveness through the gift of eternal life, available to all who put their trust in Him.

In this World Cup Year, we remember Bobby Moore describing the terror of receiving the World Cup from the Queen in 1966: *“I noticed that the Queen was wearing some beautiful white gloves. I looked down at my hands and they were completely covered with mud!”*

Although we approach God with dirty and spoilt lives, because of His love, we can shake hands with a holy God and share that love with others.



Church Diary February

6th February 11:15am	Morning Worship & Holy Communion	Revd Ann Woodhurst
13th February 11:15am	Morning Worship	Revd Christine Harding
20th February 11:15am	Favourite Hymns & Readings	Led by The Bakers
27th February 11:15am	Morning Worship	Roger Whipp

Worship Themes February

The Church will use the themes listed below .

February 6, 2022	<u>Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 15:1-11</u>	<u>Luke 5:1-11</u>
February 13, 2022	<u>Jeremiah 17:5 -10</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 15:12-20</u>	<u>Luke 6:17-26</u>
February 20, 2022	<u>Genesis 45:3- 11, 15</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42- 50</u>	<u>Luke 6:27-38</u>
February 27, 2022	<u>Exodus 34:29- 35</u>	<u>2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2</u>	<u>Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)</u>

Advance notice – we are restarting our quarterly Church Meetings with the first one booked for 20 March after the morning service. Tea/coffee & biscuits will be provided. This meeting will also be our AGM.

Churches prepare Platinum Jubilee plans

Churches, Christian charities and youth organisations are working together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the four-day Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June. A new website has been created – www.theplatinumjubilee.com – to provide ideas and resources for communities to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service.

The UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a four-day Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June 2022.

HOPE Together is working with a wide range of partners to help churches around the Commonwealth to mark this special occasion and, in particular, to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service. As with the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations, HOPE Together and partners will provide a range of ideas and resources for communities, schools, churches and youth organisations.

HOPE's Platinum Jubilee Highlights will include:

Our Faithful Queen - a gift book using rarely-seen prayers the Queen prayed as she prepared for the Coronation, will be published by HOPE Together and Biblica in January 2022 to buy and give away.

A Happylands animation and book 'The Girl Who Grew Up To Be Queen' for under-5s is to be published by HOPE Together in partnership with The Entertainer and Hope for Every Home.

A new anthem 'Rise Up and Serve' has been commissioned by HOPE Together and written by contemporary hymn writers Graham Kendrick, Mal Pope and Rend Collective for choirs to sing as part of the celebrations.

Churches prepare Platinum Jubilee plans Cont.

70 Acts of Service – an invitation to communities to celebrate by serving others with 70 community service ideas drawing on Stewardship's 40 Acts

On Her Majesty's Service for 11-14s – youth organisations, schools and uniformed organisations are involved (Pais, CofE, Youth For Christ, YouthScape, The Message, Prayer Spaces In Schools. Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade). Resources include ideas for action and videos to use.

Also – the following websites may be of use to you!

www.theplatinumjubilee.com - a dedicated website with all the ideas and resources you'll need to bring your community together to celebrate

Banners, posters and other Platinum Jubilee branded resources will be available from CPO - www.cpo.org.uk/queen-platinum-jubilee

The Platinum Jubilee – Celebration of Faith & Service logos can be downloaded from www.theplatinumjubilee.com

As the four-day Bank Holiday ends at Pentecost, our partners [Thy Kingdom Come](#) are also providing a Cheeky Pandas film, song and book for primary school children – with resource packs for home/church/school and community events.

Treasurers Report 2021

The figures.

Last year's normal income was derived from offertory, hall hire, manse rent and miscellaneous and totalled £36890. Of this offertory and gift aid accounted for £ 12327 (£320down). Offertory averages £1025/month and represents 33% of our income.

Our manse provided an income of £14044 with £560 expenses (38% of income) and £8625 loan repayments. We are on target to repay the manse loan by April 2022

Miscellaneous income (donation from Dorothee) totalled £409 (1% of income) after conversion from euros!

The remainder of the income came from hall hire and produced £10110 or 27% of income. This was £3600 up on last year.

The total income averages £3075/month

From this income we paid all our routine expenses including £2040 Ministry and Mission (£600 down on last year), £2200 cleaning (down by £350), and £4940 heating, water and insurance. We spent £725 on administration, and gave a total of £785 to various charities. We spent £300 on pulpit supply.

The total expenditure averages £2450/month

In addition to this we were able to claim on our insurance for loss of income due to Covid. The amount received was almost £16000 which gave a total surplus on Church account of £23500. However, this claim was received in 2021 but also covered 2020 and so distorts this year's figures.

Of this surplus, £10000 was transferred to Capital a/c and £13510 to Repair a/c

We did not hold a Gift Day this year.

Capital Account – with addition of bank interest and Covid transfer the account closed with a balance of £17430 having paid for the fire alarm system.

Repair Account. We spent £750 on electrical and gas work, £380 on plumbing, £360 on fire safety maintenance, £130 on garden-
ing, £145 on security and £310 on decorating. The balance stands at £21330

We gave £110 to Christian Aid Week this year, plus £325 from Christmas services

At the end of the year the Church assets stood at

Capital Account	£17433.28
Repair Account	<u>£21330.33</u>
Total assets	£38763.23

Our offertory income was only £320 less than last year despite closures due to Covid. In general, our income was very similar to last year and would have generated a surplus of around £7500 of income over expenditure.

The large difference arises from our insurance claim of £16000. The result of this has raised our total assets to £38763, some £20000 more than last year. These assets are split between Repair account (for regular property maintenance) and Capital account (our emergency reserve).

We are due for a quinquennial inspection on the Church and manse which could identify work to be done, but hopefully our Repair account should be sufficient to carry this out.

David Sagers

Treasurers Report 2021

The explanation

Having struggled through the Covid problems of 2020, we hoped for a more stable situation in 2021. However, it seems that Covid will continue to affect our lives for the foreseeable future, and it certainly had an effect on our Church.

Whilst our attendance has not recovered to pre-Covid numbers, offertory only fell by 2.5%. I am grateful to all who continue to support our Church since direct debit payments alone of £1050 go out each month, regardless of whether we are at Church and if you are able I would encourage you to give your offertory either by bank transfer or by sending me a cheque monthly. Of course I am still happy to receive cash or envelope giving.

Our regular manse rent of almost £1200 a month more than covers the loan repayments of £720/month for refurbishment and it is anticipated that the loan will be repaid by April 2022 leaving us to benefit from the full rent.

Our other source of income is hall hiring. Whilst the premises remained closed early in the year, the Prayer Group were permitted to use the hall as it was defined as their place of worship, which helped our finances. Whilst the total income fell by £6500 compared to 2019 (our last “normal” year) it was still £3600 more than 2020, with our hirers now all having returned. Our insurance policy allowed us to claim for loss of income due to Covid and after protracted negotiations we received £16000 compensation. This was the result of loss during both 2020 and 2021, so the addition of this amount distorts the figures for 2021, and resulted in a surplus of £23500, which was split between Capital a/c and Repair a/c and left us with total assets of £38750

Our Fabric Secretary's careful management of work, limited expenditure on repairs to £2075 leaving us with £21330 to start 2021, and with little activity on Capital account, we have an emergency reserve of £17450. The cost of the new fire alarm system (£2375) identified under our risk assessment in 2020 was met from Capital.

Our day to day Church running costs are funded by offertories, manse rent and hall hiring.

Last year the average weekly offertory including gift aid was £237, and the average total weekly income was £710. (When did you last review your giving?)

Against this, Ministry and Mission and heating alone accounted for £250/week, with total expenditure of £565/week. This does not leave much for cleaning, administration, pulpit supply, insurance, manse expenses etc.

A quinquennial survey on the condition of the Church and manse is imminent, costing at least £3000. This survey may well identify repair work to be undertaken during the next 5 years depending on the severity, so the insurance compensation will help to face whatever is required.

It is encouraging that our congregation are returning to some normality, and that our hall users continue to support us as without them we could not survive.

David Saggars

Christian Hope International.

A Harold Wood based organisation that we first started to donate to through Harry Skipp. We have supported them for at least 20 years. We sent £75 last year (to increase to £100 this year). The leaflet shows what our donations can achieve, and I hope you find this interesting.

**CHRISTIAN HOPE
INTERNATIONAL**

N-E-W-S



UPDATE - JAN '22

NEW YEAR, NEW SCHOOL?

Well, almost! Over the years Christian Hope has seen, time and time again, that educating the children is truly valued and helps a whole community. When visiting Uganda and Rwanda, the schools have often shocked us with



their leaking roofs, firewood and tools piled up in classrooms, and dirt floors harbouring foot burrowing creatures; sometimes there are no classrooms and the children have to deal with the elements, be they torrential rain or blistering heat. We have been blessed by the support from yourselves and been able to help refurbish many schools.

When Patrick sent photos of the school he went to as a child, and asked if Christian

Hope might be able to help them a little, we were once again shocked at the dilapidated buildings the children were learning in! Thanks to our supporters, funds were available and we are grateful to be able to support the refurbishment of this school in Kabanda. When the children get back to school in January the next challenges will be to find fees, uniforms, materials



The toilet block

and lunches for them. Covid-19 has brought even greater poverty to these small villages, and the needs are high. Work has already started on the school, bringing employment to the local community. We look forward to bringing you photos of happy children in brighter, safer surroundings in the New Year.

COULD YOU HELP? - DONATIONS TO OUR EDUCATION FUND WILL BE WELL USED AS THE CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL. EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO THEIR FUTURE.

PLEASE NOTE ...

We will be back in the office on Tuesday 4th January. We hope you have all had a restful break and are looking forward, if a little cautiously, to 2022!

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room at the inn." Luke 2:7

If you would like to help bring HOPE to those in need, donate by BACS, cheque payable to Christian Hope International, phone the office or visit our website www.christianhope.org.uk

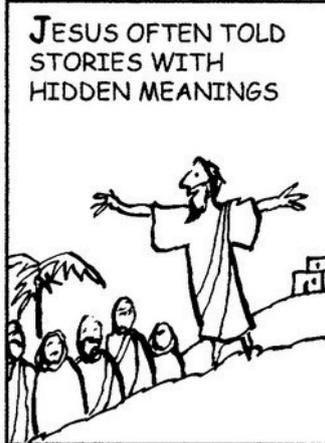


Christian Hope International, Hope House, The Elms Estate, Church Road, Harold Wood. RM3 0JU
www.christianhope.org.uk: info@christianhope.org.uk : (01708) 377795 : Reg Charity No. 1061526

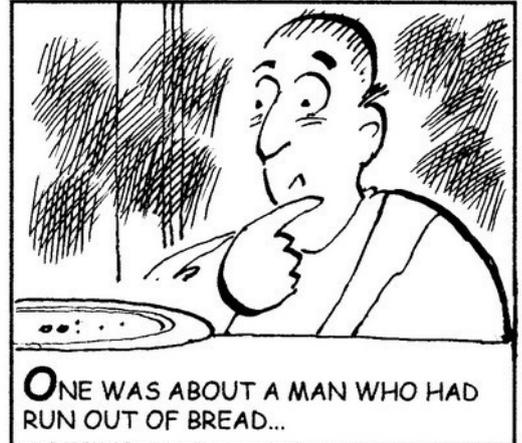




The Tale of 
The Friend
at
Midnight



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT A MAN WHO HAD RUN OUT OF BREAD...



...AND HE NEEDED PLENTY AS A FRIEND WAS COMING TO STAY.

EVEN THOUGH IT WAS MIDNIGHT...



... HE WENT TO HIS NEIGHBOUR'S HOUSE AND BANGED ON THE DOOR - LOUDLY!

BLAM!
BLAM!

WAKE UP!! I NEED SOME BREAD



PLEASE WILL YOU LEND ME THREE LOAVES?



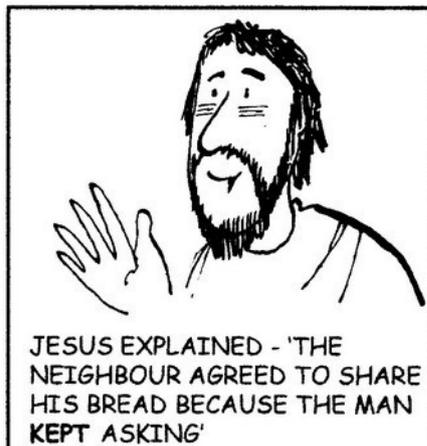
GO AWAY!! WE'RE ALL TRYING TO SLEEP!



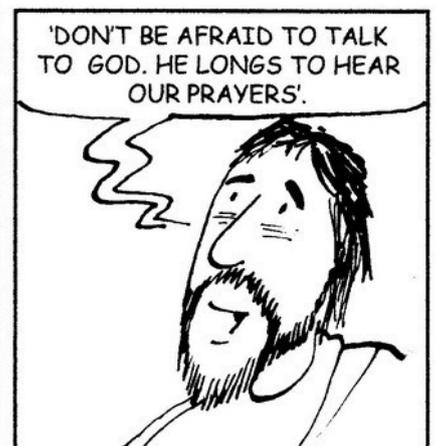
OH GO ON... PLEASE I REALLY DO NEED SOME!



ALRIGHT THEN! BUT I'M ONLY DOING THIS BECAUSE I WANT SOME PEACE AND QUIET!



JESUS EXPLAINED - 'THE NEIGHBOUR AGREED TO SHARE HIS BREAD BECAUSE THE MAN KEPT ASKING'



'DON'T BE AFRAID TO TALK TO GOD. HE LONGS TO HEAR OUR PRAYERS.'

God's Valentine

For God so loved the world
He sent His Son
There was no other way to let
us know,
So Jesus came to us from
heaven's realm
To bring God's love to all of
us below.

He took on flesh, became like
one of us,
Taught and healed and loved
wherever He went
Showing the Father's love for
all to see
He truly was a gift from heav-
en sent.

The Bible is God's precious
Word of Life
A living breathing word like
no other,
It is a heavenly letter of love
to us
Sent 'From your God the
Everlasting Father'.

By Megan Carter



A Prayer at Candlemas

Dear Lord God,

February can be a difficult, cold month, and this year there is much to be concerned about, with the pandemic still affecting our lives in so many ways. But thank you, Lord, that February can also be a month of wonderful signs of hope.

Help us, when we look down, to see the snowdrops – sometimes known as Candlemas Bells – and other bulbs pushing through the dark earth, showing the promise of Spring and brighter days ahead.

And then, help us to look up, to see the light of Jesus, Your revelation to all the world, in that baby who grew and died and rose again to offer salvation, hope and life to all who put their trust in Him.

Thank you, Father, for Jesus and that, because of Him, nothing – no pandemic, no circumstance – can ever separate us from You.

Thank you for Your Holy Spirit, living in all who trust in You, giving us strength for each new day of this and every month.

In Jesus name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Diary/Noticeboard:

Chadwell Heath + Heath & Havering Group of Churches

Foodbank: Thank you for your continued support. We are short of cereals, milk, tinned fruit, sweets, ketchup & pet food. We are very grateful to receive any non-perishable food items, as well as general items e.g. washing powder/liquid, washing up liquid, tin openers – plus all important personal/ female/toiletries including soap, toothbrushes & toothpaste/toilet rolls & baby nappies, sizes 5/6.

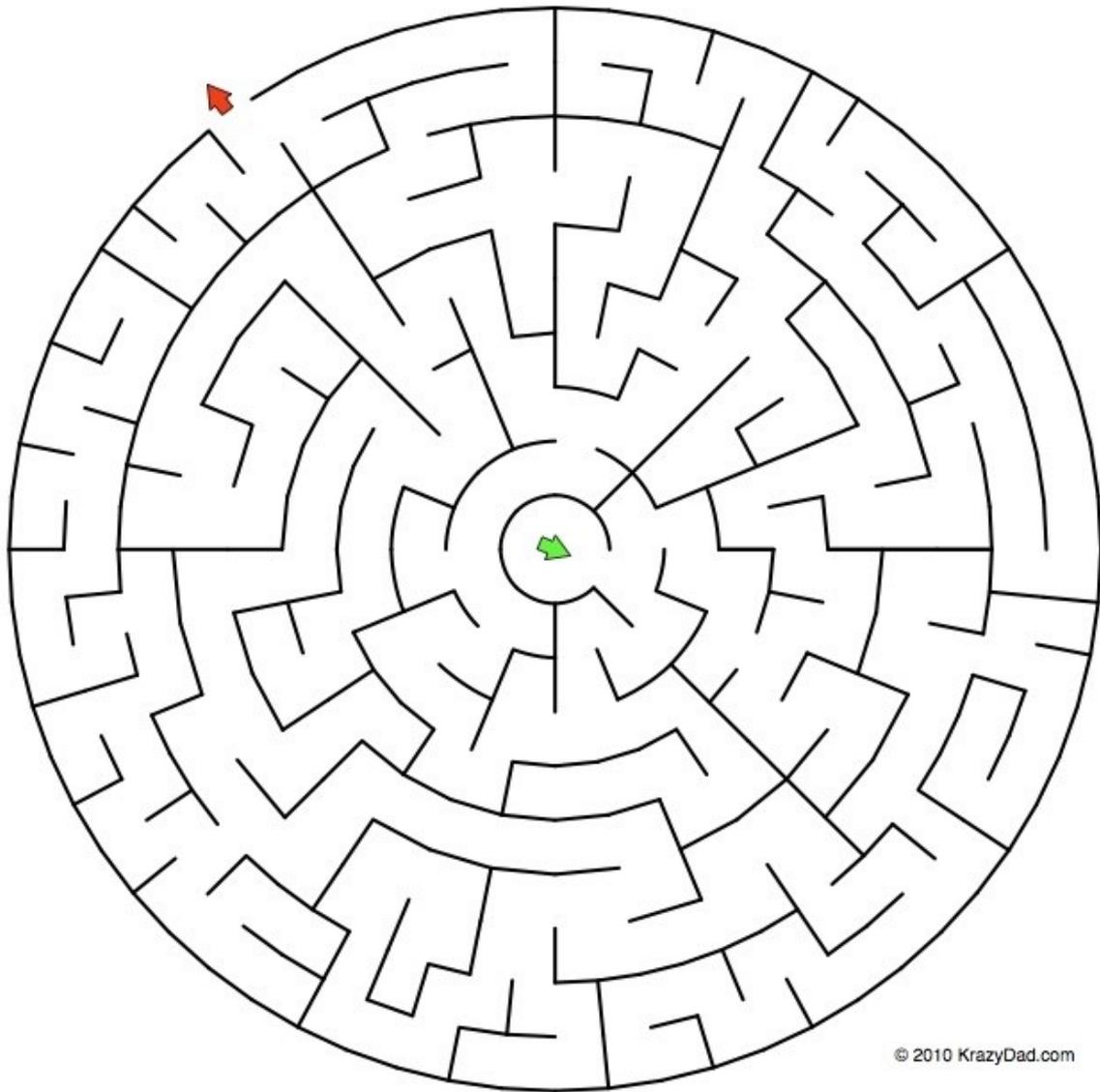


Happy Birthday's in February

Today I ask God
to bless you with
every kind of joy
on your birthday
and always.
Happy Birthday!

Dot Lambert 7th,
Sam Campbell 12th,
Diana Bailey 25th,
Tim Marshall 29th.





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Say it with flowers

A man stopped by his local florist shop to buy flowers for his new girlfriend on Valentine's Day. He asked the proprietor, "You know the expression, 'Say it with flowers'?"

"I do indeed!" the florist enthused. "How about three dozen of my finest roses?"

The man hesitated. "No, make it just a half dozen roses. I'm a man of few words."



WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES
Foodbank, Tuesday &
Thursday 10:00am - 12
noon.



Web site: [http://www.heathandhaveringurc.co.uk/
chadwellheath.html](http://www.heathandhaveringurc.co.uk/chadwellheath.html)

Chadwell Heath URC is part of the Heath and
Havering Group



**Please send any news, information or an article
for the Heath to Dianne Crisp.**

**Email Dianne.crisp@ntlworld.com The deadline is
Monday 21st February for the joint March/April
issue.**

Thank you