

OUR COMMUNITY



Holiday Club 2008 - Kim's Quest

**JULY / AUGUST
2008**

30P

Kim's life had never been very exciting.

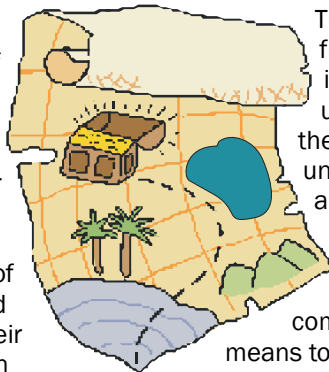
She had read long stories of the intrepid explorers who had made their way through the freezing cold and eventually reached the North Pole. She had read with jealousy the stories of people who were the first to climb Mount Everest, and with even more jealousy of those who later canoed down the mighty mountain rivers.

She longed to be like one of the missionaries she heard of in church, who made their way through dark jungles in search of people to tell about Jesus.

In short, she longed for an adventure.

- ☛ **If you were told the future of the world rested with you ...**
 - ☛ **If you were told you could only ask two friends to help ...**
- ...would you accept the challenge?**

Over the five days of the holiday club, we will be looking at the life of Jeremiah and working through the story of three friends and their adventure. Each part of the story will involve a precious stone.



The adventure will see the friends recognise their importance and ultimately their value. As the three friends come to understand their self-worth and how valuable they really are, it is my prayer that the children who hear this story will also come to understand what it means to be loved and be given a destiny by the creator of the universe.

Steve Medley

**Monday 4th to Friday 8th August
10.00 am until 12 noon
ages 5 to 11
£1.00 per day
St. Thomas' Church Hall
Fun, games and crafts**

If you're going on your Summer Holidays ...

Have a safe journey!

Schools break up for the summer on Friday 18th July (Whitmore Park on Thursday 17th) and the Autumn term starts on Tuesday September 2nd.

If you're around on Sunday 27th July and feel like some air, meet at Allesley Hall Drive car park at 3pm for a family walk on the Wedge. Sign up on the list in church or see Gary Owen.



*Life is
10% what
happens
to you and
90% of
how you
respond to it*

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ST. THOMAS' CHURCH CALENDAR

July

Sunday 6th

9.00am Holy Communion & hymns - Peter Walker
10.30am Family Service - Peter Walker

Sunday 13th

9am Holy Communion. Peter Walker
10.30am Family Communion. Peter Walker

Tuesday 15th

1.30pm Refreshment Group

Sunday 20th

9am Holy Communion & hymns. Ruth Walker
10.30am Family Worship and Baptism. Peter Walker

Tuesday 22nd

8-8.45pm Prayers for St Thomas' Galilee Room.

Sunday 27th

9am Holy Communion. Ruth Walker
10.30am Family Communion. Peter Walker

Tuesday 29th

1.30pm Refreshment Groups

August

Sunday 3rd

9am Holy Communion & hymns. Ruth Walker
10.30am Family Communion and Baptism. Peter Walker

Monday 4th to Friday 8th

Holiday Club week

Sunday 10th

9am Holy Communion
10.30am Holiday Club Service. Steve Medley

Tuesday 12th

1.30pm Refreshment Group

Sunday 17th

9am Holy Communion & hymns
10.30am Family Worship. Pete Hudson

Sunday 24th

9am Holy Communion. Dan Connolly
10.30am Family Communion. Dan Connolly

Sunday 31st

9am Holy Communion. Ruth Walker
10.30am Family Communion. Peter Walker

September

Tuesday 2nd

1.30pm Refreshment Group

Sunday 7th

9am Holy Communion & hymns
10.30am Family Service

Daily Prayer

8.30am Monday, Wednesday and Friday at St Thomas' Church, Tuesday at Keresley Village Community Church.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Sunday Morning Activities at St. Thomas'

10.30am (during term time)

1st Sunday

2nd Sunday

3rd Sunday

4th & 5th

This pattern repeats

For bookings
write to
Meetings

Regular activities take a break over the summer

Children's Holiday Club

Monday 4th to Friday 8th August

10.00 am until 12 noon

ages 5 to 11

£1.00 per day

St. Thomas' Church Hall

fun games and crafts

Mondays 1.30-2.30pm

Youth Essence

Galilee Room

Contact Steve
(tails)

at St T's



Refreshment for all

Tuesday afternoons, 1.30-2.30pm in the Galilee Room

We will be meeting during the summer on July 15th and 29th; August 12th and September 5th



If you need transport or would like to request prayers, please contact Margaret Bosworth on 7633 7932 leaving a message if necessary with your name and telephone number and she will ring you back.

NHS at 60

Coventry Teaching PCT is marking this historic milestone with a special celebration event for patients and the public on **Monday 7th July, 10am-3pm at the Central Methodist Hall, Warwick Road.**

The event will feature a wide range of health advice and information on NHS services in the city, and taster sessions of the popular Expert Patients Programme (EPP) for people with long term conditions.

The PCT has teamed up with the Herbert Art Gallery to put together a display of nostalgic items relating to the rich history of the NHS in Coventry, together with images from the Coventry Evening Telegraph image archives.

There will be a chance to share your views on experiences of the NHS.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF KERESLEY VILLAGE NEED YOUR HELP!

Every Wednesday evening for the last 8 years a group of people have opened the doors of the Village Church to the young people of Keresley. The 'Drop-In' centre offers an informal meeting place for a many. It's not a Christian Youth Club, but definitely a club run by Christians and the only link with Christianity most of the young people have.

If you can spare a Wednesday evening on a regular basis between 7.15pm and 9.00pm, if only once a month, please let me know.

Many thanks to those who have already expressed an interest in helping. However, more volunteers are always welcome, so please do speak to me if you would like to consider being involved.

Steve Medley

**Prince Caspian**

The second film based on C S Lewis' Narnia series comes to the big screen this summer and will be showing at local cinemas. It follows on from *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. You might enjoy seeing it over the summer holidays with your children (or even on your own if you enjoyed reading the books when you were young!).

There have been mixed reviews, but here is one of from the Evangelical Alliance website, eauk.org.

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN (PG) is the most martial of the 'Narniad', and director Andrew Adamson has even added another battle for good measure.

It's a kind of cut-down Lord of the Rings for the younger set, and as in Tolkien's Christian-inspired fantasy (though this is less evident in Jackson's film versions) Grace abounds: salvation is never entirely about heroism and courage, but about (for our part) being disciplined, obedient and faithful and able to grow through the setbacks and tragedies.

With a darker tone, set early on by the haggard and suspicious Narnians who have been in hiding from cruel oppressors under an evil king, the film is more knowing, less innocent, even wittier than its predecessor. This is thoroughly enjoyable and accomplished filmic storytelling.

With the best Aslan yet, Christian symbolism and metaphor abound, but beyond the battle against evil, you have to be looking for it, and as always, you have to be careful in drawing Biblical parallels and moral points not to destroy the poetry of the story (as Lewis himself said).

Geoffrey Stevenson

Geoffrey Stevenson is a popular speaker and trainer of preachers. He writes, teaches and speaks on theology and the practice of communication today. Co-author of new book Preaching with Humanity.

STOP THE TRAFFIK

PEOPLE SHOULDN'T BE BOUGHT & SOLD



July 1st was a very important day around the world. It was the day when the chocolate industry promised to make sure that no children were being used as slaves on cocoa farms.

It was the day when we could eat a bar of our favourite chocolate such as a Mars, Kit Kat or Dairy Milk knowing that no child has been used in the harvesting of the cocoa beans that went to make the chocolate we love to eat.

Sadly, the deadline was not met. Industry has failed to keep its original promises.

Today, children as young as 12 are still being used as slaves on cocoa plantations. Here are the words of one child after being rescued from a farm. "I will tell you how I lost my arm. I tried to escape, but I could not. They caught me and tied me to a papaya tree and they beat me and broke my arm. I used to dream horrible dreams that they were beating me and about many other things: the hard work, my family . . . I still have these dreams today".

Although the majority of farmers would not treat children in this way, there are some who do, and

there are an estimated 12,000 children trafficked onto cocoa farms in the Ivory Coast into a life of slavery. In our community, thousands of people are buying chocolate without knowing that these children are suffering for our sweet tooth to make fat profits for an industry that hasn't delivered on its promises.

In 2001 they said they would certify that farms were slave free. Now they are saying that they are gathering data on some of the areas where cocoa is harvested. This is not what they promised. This is not good enough after 7 years of waiting for the freedom, safety and protection of these children.

We have to choose which chocolate bar to buy, at little cost to us when our chocolate is costing some children their lives.

Buy Fairtrade chocolate: to be labelled as fair trade chocolate has to guarantee that no trafficked labour has been used in its production although it doesn't state it on the wrapper.

For more information visit www.stophetraffik.org



Don't look back, look forward ...

"He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep water... He brought me out into a spacious place."
Psalm 18: 16,19

A preacher was on the golf course, playing the worst round of his entire life.

"I quit! I quit!" he suddenly screamed.

His friends were horrified. "George, just because of one lousy day, you wouldn't give up your golf altogether?"

"Not my golf," he heaved, "the ministry!"

We all need perspective. Mentally we need to climb a tree and study the whole view of life, horizon to horizon. Looking to Jesus should give us cause for optimism.

Humanism tells us we're shaped by our past, that however our mother buttoned us up determined how we are today. How discouraging! How damaging! Humanism says that our past – our ancestors, our history, our early environment, everything people did to us when we were young and helpless – all that past has determined our "script" and it's the only script we have. Charles Wilson puts it, "It's futile to

talk too much about the past – something like trying to make birth control retroactive!"

Think about Job. He could only look backward: *"How I long for the months gone by, for the days when God watched over me...! Oh, for the days when I was in my prime...when the Almighty was still with me. And my children were around me.* (Job 29: 2-5)

Maybe Job pictures us all more than we have realised. We all suffer, we all struggle, we all ask why – and when we see God, we will all come out in a 'spacious place free from restriction, to the comfort of a table laden with choice food'.

In the midst of struggle, when we remember what's coming from God, we feel hope. Hope lifts and exhilarates. It expands our lungs and redoubles our energies. The hassles of the present seem easier.

The Israeli scientist Shlomo Breznitz, asserts: "People with a strong faith, whether from religious beliefs or just good experience with trust, are the ones who stick it out in the worst circumstances."

Hope is God's gift to keep us healthy and positive and persevering. And in our immediate life on this earth, our dreams, our projects, our goals, our longings – or lack of them – are strongly influencing the present.

If we are reminiscing too much, we're dying! If we're moving forward looking at Jesus, we're living!

St Thomas' Keresley and Coundon

What were the local events and cares of the parish many decades ago?

Ah summertime - outings, parties and fetes.
In 1908 a flower show . . .

The Allesley and Coundon Annual Flower Show will be held at Keresley Grange on Tuesday August 4. The exhibits, sports, variety of entertainments, silver band, and not least the beautiful gardens, should attract large numbers.

In 1918 the Sunday School party . . .

Sunday July 13th was a fine interval in a series of wed days, and many remarked that it seemed sent on purpose for our Sunday School Party. This was held in a field kindly placed at our disposal by Mr Whittem, and proved very enjoyable. The catering arrangements were left in the hands of Miss C Clark, and, in spite of war difficulties, and excellent tea was provided. The children's sports caused much amusement, the sack race for girls being a novel feature. Miss Rotherham, who had provided hot water for the tea, kindly distributed the prizes, which brought to a close the proceedings of a very pleasant afternoon.

Unfortunately we have very few issues from 1928, but in June the Sunday School outing was publicised . . .

The date for the outing of the Parish Church Sunday School has been fixed for July 5th, Thursday. This year we shall go to Arbury Park, by kind permission of Sir Francis Newdegate. There will perhaps be room for some parents who may wish to go with the children. The charge for these will be 3s 6d a head, including tea

. . . and the Communicants Guild were manning a stall. What culture have we lost with paper tissues?

The Guild has undertaken to organise a Handkerchief Stall for the Garden Fete, which will be held at Coundon Lodge on July 14th. The Secretary will be glad to receive gifts of handkerchiefs from members of the Guild.

In 1938 there is a wonderful list of those to whom produce for the Garden Fete could be taken, including the late Mrs Grace Martin, who died in June 2005 aged 101. It gives an interesting insight to the geography of the area 70 years ago. I have omitted house numbers.

A Garden Fete will be held at "Queenswood", Tamworth Road by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Tabberer on Saturday, July 9th from 3pm. It will be possible to obtain tea from a Buffet; the dancers who gave such a charming display at "The Spinney" on June 11th will be present again and there will be three stalls. In the early evening some lads of the CLB will give a demonstration of Physical Training and the Whist

Drive which commences at 7pm will be indoors. We hope to have a dozen side shows to amuse you. Gifts for the Produce stall will be gratefully received at any of the addresses below:

For Keresley Village: Miss Flowers, Post Office; Mrs East, New Road; Mrs Caulfield, Greens Road

For the New Estates: Mrs Chronicle, Keresley Road; Mrs Lord, Stevenson Road; Mrs Shipley, Keresley Road; Mrs Green, Dickens Road; Mrs Silbey, Addison Road; Mrs Martin, Addison Road; Mrs Leslie, Wallace Road; Mrs Haines, Chesterton Road; Mrs Styles, Brackenhurst Road.

For Coundon: The Vicarage, Brownhill Green Road

For Springhill: Mrs Sykes, Penny Park Lane, Miss Hands, Springfield Cottage, Bennetts Road.

For the Parkville Estate: Mrs Brisbane, Edward Road; Mrs Walton, Farm Close.

For Brownhill Green: Mrs Allen, Ivey House, Hawkesmill Lane.

For Keresley Newlands: Mrs Swinnerton, "Hatherleigh", Bennett's Road; Mrs Raynor, The Crescent; Mrs Webber, "Ewden", Bennett's Road; Mrs Walker, Bennett's Road.

Mrs Tabberer or Mrs Hodgekins, Yew Tree Cottage, Long Lane, or Mrs Day, Queenswood Cottage, Tamworth Road.

And finally, a report on the consecration of the Churchyard extension in June 1938

The service was a memorable one. Over two hundred people attended and the Church was beautifully decorated. We were most grateful to the Bishop for his most appropriate address. The Church Officials helped with the ordering of the lengthy procession and the Youth Organisations were on duty on the Churchyard paths. Unnoticed perhaps by some was the guard mounted on the Cross of Consecration by two lads of the CLB, a Scout and a Guide, while the Bishop, preceded by the Clergy and Choir, moved through the Churchyard. When the Service was concluded the Bells pealed out as the flag bearing the arms of the See fluttered from the Tower. The occasion will long be remembered as being outstanding in impressiveness and an intensity of Christian Witness.

The Vicar's thanks the following Sunday covered all those who had worked hard, and mentioned all those who were represented at the service, including Magazine distributors(!), and "the Police Sergeant who looked after the cars outside."

Do any readers remember these events or people? If you have a story to tell do please contact me.

KERESLEY VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH SERVICES

July

Sunday 6th

10.30am Family Service. Ruth Walker

Sunday 13th

10.30am Holy Communion. Stuart Jenning

Sunday 20th

10.30am Morning Worship. Rosemary Clemo

6pm Holy Communion. Ruth Walker

Sunday 27th

10.30am Holy Communion. Ruth Walker

August

Sunday 3rd

10.30am Family Service. Ruth Walker

Sunday 10th

10.30am Holy Communion. David Hunter

Sunday 17th

10.30am Morning Worship

6pm Methodist Holy Communion

Sunday 24th

10.30am Holy Communion. John Horsler

Sunday 31st

10.30am Holy Communion. Ruth Walker

September

Sunday 7th

10.30am Family Service

Regular Meetings

"Children's Club" Mondays Trailblazers 5-6pm

Tuesday mornings 9.30-10.30am First Steps for babies and pre-school children with their parents and carers, during term time

Wednesday 7.30-9pm – 'Drop-in' Centre for teenagers

Mondays and Thursdays

9.30-11.30am Coffee

mornings The Church is open for anyone to drop in for a drink and a chat.



Rev Paul Hardingham, Rector of Bolton

Christian Basics: What does the Holy Spirit Do?

This month we finish looking at what the Holy Spirit does in our lives as we consider the way he develops our ability to serve. Somebody once defined football as 'twenty two men on the field desperately in need of rest watched by fifty thousand people in the stands who desperately need exercise! It reminds us that church is not a spectator sport! The Holy Spirit equips us to serve God in the church and daily life by giving us the tools for the job, the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

These gifts are variously described in the New Testament as spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 12:1) or grace gifts (1 Cor. 1:7), the latter word being used in modern Greek to describe a birthday present! They are love gifts from God that we cannot earn or deserve, open to everybody. As Paul writes, 'Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good' (1 Cor. 12:7). Notice what he says here about gifts:

- 'to each one': the gifts are available to every Christian. Each one will have a different 'gift-mix', with their own particular contribution to offer.
- 'the manifestation of the Spirit': the gifts of the Spirit enable an invisible God to be real and visible. As we exercise the gifts, in our speech or service, people will be able to say, 'God is at work here'!
- 'for the common good': the aim of the gifts is to build up the body of Christ as well as extending the kingdom of God in this world. They are not

given to meet our own needs or establish our reputation, but simply to serve and encourage others.

With the gifts given to us by God we are able to fulfil his purposes here on planet earth. Paul urges us to 'eagerly desire' the gifts that God has for us (1 Corinthians 12:31). Is this true for me? An apocryphal story tells of a Christian arriving at the gates of heaven. He was warmly greeted by the archangel Gabriel who took him on a guided tour of heaven. The first building they visited was a vast hanger lined with narrow shelves. Each shelf was

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Olympic determination

The Olympics, Mexico, 1968: a ground of die-hard spectators lingered in the Olympic stadium, watching the last finishers of the marathon. An hour before, Mamo Wolde of Ethiopia had won. It was getting cold and dark and the remaining spectators were beginning to leave when suddenly they heard the sound of sirens and police whistles coming into the stadium. As they watched in amazement, one last runner made his way onto the track for the last lap of the 26 mile race. It was John Stephen Akhwari of Tanzania.

As he ran the 400-metre circuit, people saw that his leg was bandaged and bleeding. He had fallen and injured it during the race, but he refused to let it stop him completely. Suddenly the people remaining in the stadium rose (some in tears) and applauded him until he crossed the finishing line.

