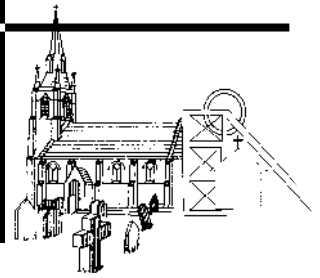


OUR COMMUNITY

www.st-thomas-keresley.org.uk



Holiday Club fun

A great time was had by all at our Pirate King Holiday Club in August. Through drama, bible stories and crafts they explored themes about God's presence with us.

Crafts were popular; here they are busy making money boxes

More pictures on page 4.



SEPTEMBER
2010

50P

*A wise man
will desire
no more than
he may get justly,
use soberly,
distribute
cheerfully
and leave
contentedly.
- Anon*

Back to Church Sunday, Sunday 26th September

We are holding a celebration service at 1030am on the theme 'Big Family of God'. All are welcome to join in. Please invite your friends and family.



Inside this issue:

St. Thomas' Calendar and Notice Board	2
Local news	3
Holiday Club	4
Working in God's garden	5
St Thomas' past	5
Keresley Village Community Church Calendar	6
Meet Andrew de Ville	6
Operation Shoebox	7
Mouse page	8
Remember and forget	8

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH CALENDAR

September

Sunday 5th

We welcome Rev Graeme Pringle from St Christopher's
Allesley Park to lead our services today.

9am Holy Communion and hymns.

10.30am Family Service and Baptism.

Monday 6th

1.30pm First Steps restarts

Thursday 9th

6pm Thursdays at St T's restarts

7.30pm Youth Essence new format begins

Sunday 12th

We welcome Rev Bob Earnshaw to lead our services today.

9am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion. Sunday School restarts

Monday 13th to Saturday 25th

Plastering and decorating work in the Galilee Room.

Regular groups will meet in Church

Sunday 19th

9am Holy Communion. Rev Pam Smith

10.30am Family Worship. Led by Pete Hudson with the
Ministry Team

Tuesday 21st

1.30pm Refreshment group restarts.

Sunday 26th

Back to Church Sunday

9am Holy Communion (and hymns?)

10.30am 'Big Family of God' celebration. Led by the
Ministry Team

October

Sunday 3rd

9am Holy Communion and hymns

10.30am Harvest Family Service. Led by Steve Medley
and the Ministry Team

Refreshment for all

Tuesday afternoons, 1.30-2.30pm in the
Galilee Room



Restarting Tuesday 21st September

Fortnightly

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.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

First Steps . . . with Jesus

For babies and pre-school children
with their parents and carers

Meets in the Galilee Room, weekly
in term time

Mondays 1.30-2.30pm

Thursday at St T's

For 5-11 years
Meets in the Galilee
On Thursdays
From 6pm to 7pm



Youth Essence
new flavour

Thursdays
7.30pm to 9pm,
Galilee Room,
School year 9 upwards

Uniformed Groups

Meet in the Church Hall :

9th Rainbows, Mondays, 6-7pm

13th Brownies, Mondays, 6.00 - 7.30pm

9th Brownies, Wednesdays, 6.00 - 7.30pm

9th Guides, Thursdays, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Meet in the Scout Hut:

41st Cubs, Mondays, 6.45 - 8.30pm

41st Scouts, Tuesdays, 7.00 - 9.00pm

41st Beavers, Fridays, 6.00 - 7.30pm
(for 6-8 year olds)

Sunday Morning Activities at St. Thomas'

10.30am (during term time)

1st Sunday Family Service in Church

2nd Sunday 3-11s, Sunday School in Galilee Room,
11+, Pathfinders in the Church Hall.

All join the service around 11.25am

3rd Sunday All ages start in Church

4th & 5th 3-11s, Sunday School in Galilee Room,
11+, Pathfinders in the Church Hall

All join the service around 11.25am

This pattern may change occasionally for special services.

Buildings news

Church Hall

The Church hall kitchen has now been painted by the Probation Payback workers in sky blue which compliments the new kitchen units fitted earlier this year. A new floor covering will be fitted shortly and complete the work. Thanks to all involved in the kitchen fundraising, a great effort by everyone!

The Probation payback workers are also busy with tidying the area around the outside of the Church hall. Bushes have been cut back, weeding and hedge cutting and they plan to wood stain the outside entrance porch area this weekend. All materials are supplied by St Thomas'

Pathways

Approval has now been received from the DAC for work to be done on the paths in the churchyard. I have posted Public notices in the Galilee room and also in the notice board in the churchyard which have to be displayed for 28 days minimum. I will then proceed with full Faculty application in mid September.

Galilee room refurbishment

The Insurance Loss Adjuster has now written to us and agreed to allow us to proceed with plastering and redecoration work in the Galilee Room. This work will start on 13th September and should be completed by 25th September. The Galilee Room needs to be completely cleared and groups will not be able to meet there for the fortnight of the work. There will be information on the notices sheets regarding working party times for the removals. If you are able to help we would welcome your assistance in this. Many hands make light work!

Future plans

The following projects are planned for the Probation payback workers to complete over the next few months.

- Galilee room external gutter down pipe refurbishment
- Staining to external woodwork on church; painting churchyard gates
- Laurel bushes on side of Church hall to be cut back
- Churchyard- banked area behind Vestry to be redone; continued tree pruning and opening up of concealed areas; creation of compost bins within the banked area at the east end of churchyard.
- Painting of main room in church hall, which could be undertaken over specified weekends during the winter months.

All materials for this work are supplied by the church.

I have expressed thanks on behalf of the PCC to Jackie Lowndes of the Probation service for the excellent work they have been doing for us over the last 18 months or so.

Gary Owens

Come as you are – Back to Church Sunday

The last Sunday in September is a very special one for this church – when we hope to welcome many of the friends and neighbours of members of our church to our special Back to Church Sunday service.

At 10.30am there will be a Family Celebration service for all ages; there will not be communion at this service. For those who are more comfortable with traditional liturgy there will be a communion service at 9am.

Last September, in 2009, 82,000 people across the country came 'back to church' at the invitation of their Christian friends and neighbours. This year the churches are hoping to attract even more.

Our congregation on 'Back to Church' Sunday is based on the personal invitation of one church member to one friend. If you are a member of this church, keep thinking and praying about whom you will invite. The neighbours on your right, or your left? Someone you haven't seen at church for a while? Someone in your family?

There will be invitation cards available in church from Sunday 12th. Please take one and consider giving an invitation to someone you know.

Youth Essence

This group has moved from Monday evenings to Thursday evenings and is open to anyone of school year 9 (age 14) and upwards.

The group will be arranged in a new format, with some alternative meetings for those over 16 and special events and social evenings arranged for the whole age group.

Our start date will be advertised in the news sheet, awaiting confirmation due to the work to be done in the Galilee Room during September.

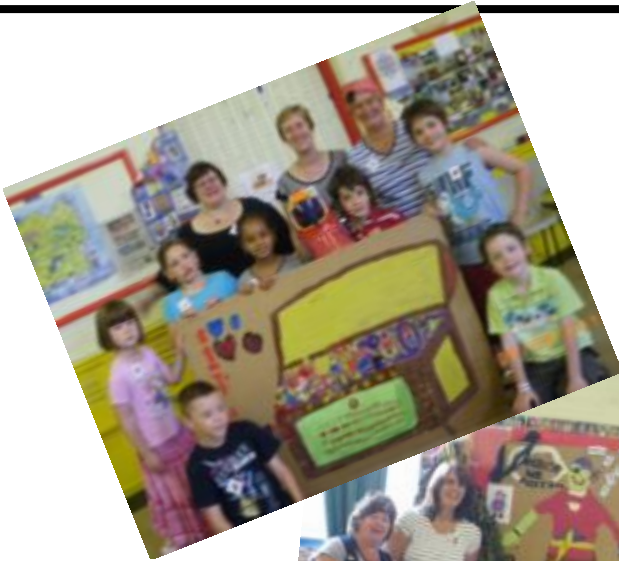
Steve Medley, Jo Wilson, Heather Hudson, Nik Stevenson

First Steps

First Steps restarts after a short summer break on Monday 6th September at 1.30 p.m. We are really fortunate to be welcoming to the team Jo Wilson who will be helping myself and Jo run the craft and worship part of this weekly group. At the end of last term our tea/coffee lady Rachel left to return to work, so we now find ourselves with a vacancy. If you feel you could come either weekly or on a rota basis, to come and prepare tea and coffee, wash up and put a few toys away (1.15- 2.30 pm) then please speak to any of us as we would really appreciate your help.

Steve Medley

Pirate King Holiday Club



Three teams:
the Jolly Rogers,
the Buccaneers,
and the Bounty
Hunters



Each day there was an instalment of a story set in the age of pirates. Kristy, our heroine, was the daughter of a wealthy mine owner, and she had given up everything to try to rescue her brother, Cameron, who had given up his inheritance for a life of adventure as a sailor, only to be captured by cannibals. During her adventures Kristy has had to become a servant and was used as tiger bait by the evil Captain Trew. Luckily she was rescued in the nick of time by the Pirate King. The Pirate King brought her to the island where her brother was a prisoner and she was finally reunited with him. But then the cannibals decided to eat Kristy! But the Pirate King came back and saved them both from the cooking pot and took them home.



Above: One of the makes—telescopes!
Games, stories and drama



The teenagers helped too—more fun than worrying about exam results!



St Thomas' Keresley and Coundon

Development of the building seems to rear its head every few years. Here is a report from 80 years ago, July 1930, when the PCC were making some changes

Parochial Council

A meeting of the Parochial Council was held in the Infant School on July 22nd. Mr Glover kindly offered to provide some new vases for the War Memorial.

A report on the Church boiler was received from Messrs Matterson. The boiler has been in use for about twenty years, and is not worth repairing. It was agreed to accept Messrs. Matterson's quotation to supply and fix a new and larger boiler for £36.

It was reported that the electric light was now installed in the Church, but the bill for it had not yet been received. The lights at the West End of the Nave have been found to be glaring in the eyes of the Choir. It was agreed that steps be taken to remedy this. It was also agreed that the lamps and brackets be removed from the walls of the church and that we should dispose of them if possible to some other Church.

Mr Craner raised the question of taking down the Corona in the Chancel, which obscures the windows. This point was not settled, and must be discussed next time.

The difficulty of getting water from the cistern at the back of the Church was discussed and it was decided to get a chain by which a bucket could be lowered. Mr Glover kindly offered to supply this. The Vicar said that it was very distracting when people went to draw water from this cistern during Service time, as the noise was easily heard in the Church. Others agreed with this and it was agreed to request that no one should go to the cistern when a Service was being held in church.

Miss Rotherham proposed that an application for a grant be made to the Diocesan Finance Board, and that a Sale of Wrok should be held early in November to meet the additional cost of the new boiler and the balance needed towards the electric light fund. It was decided to discuss this proposal at the next meeting of the Council.

Ted Peabody

After a long period of ill health, Ted Peabody sadly died in August. A few years ago he passed the following item to the magazine, and it seems fitting to print it again in memory of Ted.

Working in God's Garden

The founder of an International Motel chain quoted some advice for planting a 'garden' that would enhance our work skills.

Five rows of 'Peas':

Prayer
Preparedness
Promptness
Perseverance
Politeness



Three rows of 'Squash':

Squash
 gossip
 criticism
 and indifference

Five rows of 'Lettuce':

Let us love one another
Let us be faithful
Let us be loyal
Let us be unselfish
Let us be truthful

Three rows of 'Turnips':

Turn up for church
Turn up with a new idea
Turn up with the determination to do a better job today than you did yesterday

Today let's evaluate our attitude towards our work and use it as an opportunity to serve God. Do it heartily, as to the Lord and not men.

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mum, look what I found!" the boy called out, turning the leaf over and over. "What is it, dear?" asked his mother. With astonishment in his voice, the young boy ventured: "I think it's Adam's underwear."



KERESLEY VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH SERVICES

September

Sunday 5th

10.30am Family Service

Sunday 12th

10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 19th

10.30am Morning Service. Mrs Margaret Sedgwick

Sunday 26th

10.30am Holy Communion. Ven Maurice Rodham, Archdeacon.

October

Sunday 3rd

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 Andrew de Ville – New Minister at Keresley

I'm pleased to introduce myself as the new Minister at Keresley Methodist Church following Rev David Hunter who retired in the summer.

As the senior Methodist Minister (Superintendent Minister) in the Coventry & Nuneaton Circuit I have pastoral care for our churches at Keresley, Arley, Fillongley, Ridge Lane and Radford, Coventry. In addition I have overall responsibility for the other 20 churches in the area and the ordained and lay staff who work in the Circuit.

I have been a Minister since 2002 when I came to Coventry from theological training college in Birmingham. Prior to ministry I worked within the financial and retail sector for over 20 years.

I was born just up the M69 in Leicester, went to school there, then left at 16 to work for a firm of accountants for four years. Then I spent 14 years with the Alliance & Leicester, then 6 years with Boots the Chemist, working on security and internal investigations.

In 1998 I began part-time studies to be a local preacher in the Methodist Church and in July 2001 I left work to study full-time at the Queen's Foundation in Birmingham, an ecumenical theological college completing a Degree in Theological Studies.

I married Helen, also from Leicester, in 1986 and we have two sons. James, 21, is studying at Birmingham University and Sam, 18, is about to start at Lincoln University. To complete the family we have two dogs, Oliver (Cocker Spaniel) and Maisie (Border Collie) and two guinea pigs (Pepsi and Max).

I don't see my role as a job but as a way of life and I'm looking forward to getting to know folk in Keresley.

Every blessing,

Andrew



Christmas Shoebox Appeal

This year we will be launching our Christmas shoebox appeal at our Harvest Family Service. So it may seem a little early but start planning the goodies that you're going to fill your shoebox with. Once again we are filling Family Shoeboxes and sending them via Link Romania, so here's a little bit about them and what they do:

Fill a Family Shoebox and deliver smiles

Our annual Family Shoebox Appeal has been running since 1992 and has delivered smiles to thousands of people in Eastern Europe over the years. In fact, we have sent over of 450,000 shoeboxes to over 80 different locations!

It's a really simple idea, anyone can get involved, and we are always keen to have more people join our national network of supporters. Your Family Shoeboxes of gifts are given to families who often have to make a choice between buying food or fuel at Christmas time - buying presents is just not a priority. Many of these families do not have running water, heating or electricity. Some live in appalling conditions, often living in just one or two rooms, and life for them is a real struggle to survive.



A Family Shoebox is a small way to show these communities that they are not forgotten and that they are loved and cared for.

Because many people live in extended family groups, with grandparents, parents, children and perhaps even aunts, uncles and cousins living in the same home, we want each shoebox to have a small gift for all age groups.

Shoeboxes are collected from all over the UK and are brought to our head office, in Worthing, where we load them into trucks. Then every single box is transported to various depots, where they are distributed to all sorts of locations.

And finally, your Family Shoeboxes are delivered by horse and cart, often through snow on mud roads, to under-privileged families in remote villages or shanty towns, patients in hospitals and to kindergartens - each shoebox delivering smiles and more.

PARISH REGISTER
Entries for July and August will be included in the October issue.

Examples of the sorts of things you might include:

.. toothbrush, shampoo, deodorant, safety razors, a bar of soap, flannel, plasters, socks/tights, calculator, crayons, felt tips, colouring book, balloons, pens, pencils, ...

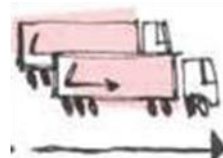
a pair of scissors, a toy car, gloves and hats, a small bouncy ball, sweets, small travel games, a small soft toy, some felt pens, school items.....

Join in with the Shoebox Appeal and bring smiles to the faces of poor families.



You pack the Shoebox with gifts. Seal, gift-wrap and attach your details as on the leaflet plus x2 £1 coins to the outside

Deliver your shoebox to the Galilee Room, where we collect them and take them to an area collector.



Link Romania pack your shoebox in a carton and take it to Eastern Europe where...

... your shoeboxes are given directly to needy families



Please note when wrapping your shoebox please wrap box and lid together **not separately** and make sure it is well sealed as the boxes are not opened, and make sure the contents list and your pound coins are attached to the outside **not inside the box**

If you would like to take part then please collect a leaflet from the Galilee Room, or speak to Steve or Jo Medley for further details.

Shoeboxes need to be brought to the Galilee Room before Thursday 4th November as we have to deliver them to an area collector.

Fill a shoebox full of smiles

-
- **Regular Activities in the Church**
- **Hall**
- NB the Church Hall is not usually available for late night Discos
- Pre-school Playgroup:
- Mondays to Fridays, 9am - 11.30am and 12.30pm - 3pm
- Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts meet on weekday evenings. See page 2 for details.
-