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February 2017



TEARFUND 
CHRISTIAN ACTION WITH THE WORLD'S POOR

"Pray without ceasing."
1 Thessalonians 5:17 

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Chinnor
Community
Church

God, his mission and - the poor

This woman - who had just anointed Jesus with expensive perfume - has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. Matthew 26:11

These words of Jesus have often been taken to mean that our chief concern should be our devotion to Jesus; concern with the poor and needy, who will always be part of our social landscape, is peripheral.

It does sound a bit like that, doesn't it? That is until you look at the context. A woman comes in (to a leper's house) with a jar of perfume. The perfume is highly expensive nard, typically used for anointing the dead. She then proceeds to anoint Jesus, just hours before his betrayal by Judas and consequent death. Some of the disciples give the woman a hard time for wasting such expensive perfume on Jesus: 'the money had better been spent on the poor'. And that's when Jesus rebukes them, as above.

Women in those days would never have led any formal expressions of worship, but Jesus defends her performing this act of devotion in front of a lot of self-righteous men. There is also the significant symbolism of her action: she is preparing Jesus' body for death and thereby proclaiming that he is the Messiah. He is both priest and sacrifice. Jesus thereby fulfils Old Testament themes. This is the focus in Matthew's Gospel, not mission to the poor.

But we must be clear, Jesus was not saying that the poor are peripheral; he was saying that the poor should not be used to rubbish this woman's prophetic act of devotion. In fact, in reminding his disciples that 'the poor would always be with them', Jesus was actually referring them to an Old Testament saying (Deuteronomy 15:11) *There will always be poor people in the land.* And by implication the words that immediately follow: *Therefore I command you to be open-handed towards your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land.*

The plain fact of the matter is that the poor play a highly significant part in Jesus' ministry and thus constitute a significant focus of God's mission. Nowhere more so than in the writings of Luke. *Blessed are the poor*, says Jesus in Luke 6. And he means those who are without financial means. This is illustrated by story after story in his Gospel, from the Shepherds near Bethlehem to the parable about Lazarus and the rich man. But we see the same thing in Acts too. Acts 6 records that caring for widows, by distributing food to them, was a basic role of the new church. A little later we are introduced to Dorcas (aka Tabitha) who we are told *was always helping the poor*. Cornelius likewise took care of the poor, as a matter of habit, as indeed did Paul himself, see Acts 24:17.

The poor are a focus of God's mission because they are outside the establishment: they are not considered by rich Jewish men, in this case, to be quite up to standard. Of course, the poor are not unique in this. In Luke's terms, women and Gentiles are also outside the Jewish establishment. What we catch a glimpse of here is God's passion to bring inside (into the Kingdom) those that others have placed outside. In other words, with God there are no outsiders. He includes everyone and, most especially, those who have been excluded by human institutions and traditions.

There is another side to this of course: the Scriptures are rich with challenge to those with power, with money and with knowledge. In fact, this probably consumes more words and time in Luke's Gospel than words directly about the poor. This critique of those who wield power is why Christians get, and arguably should get, involved in the political arena. Concern with the welfare of those that society excludes inevitably leads to confrontation with those whose actions, often unwittingly, do the excluding. How far we go in this is not prescribed; I am inclined to think it should however be a matter for healthy discussion within the church. This too is part of God's mission.

All this to say, concern for the poor is most definitely a focus in God's mission. It should therefore occupy our thoughts too. We find it easier to know who the poor are, the further away they are from us. I lived in Africa amongst some of the world's poorest, but it was often not obvious to me in situ what was the best or most effective way to help them. In the end, I believe helping community leaders to be trained both in matters of the faith and of the world has proved most effective in bringing long-lasting change. At CCC, we are aware of people being poor in Albania and have developed a few programmes to assist there. As a church we support TEAR Fund which explicitly seeks to provide relief and help to the poor. They movingly describe themselves as Christians passionate about ending poverty! This can be about helping provide clean water, sewage systems, health education or just better housing. All this is good.

But what about in our own community? Who are the poor? The elderly, the asylum seekers and new immigrants, the unemployed may all fall into that category. It is good that we have been able to distribute some financial assistance following the Carol Service. However very often, people do not want to be described as poor. It may well be a shameful category. Who is left outside the system? There are systems to take care of people, but who are the Daniel Blakes around us?

These are questions we should be asking as a church engaged in God's mission.

David Morgan



Tearfund News

CHRISTIAN ACTION WITH THE WORLD'S POOR

Surviving the Storm

It took years for Anel* and wife Islande to build up their subsistence farm in St Jean du Sud, Haiti; and one night for it all to be destroyed.

Anel remembers vividly the events of 4th October 2016. 'Around 2am people started shouting that the hurricane was about to come. We were in the house, the roof was getting unstable - we went next door, and as soon as we went, the roof flew off.'

Although the family was safe, their entire livelihood was destroyed. 'We grow coconuts and plantains,' Islande explains. 'We normally keep half to eat and sell the other half. But ever since the hurricane, the garden is destroyed. Now we have nothing.'

Road to recovery

Although Islande and Anel plan to work on their garden once the land dries out, it will be several months before they can reap a harvest. The house too remains in a desperate state. 'The rain comes in and everything gets wet,' explains Anel. 'The children lost all their school materials, and now we don't know how we can pay their school fees.'

Islande is also worried about her children's health. 'I don't know if my kids will get sick because they got so wet the whole night and next day. I don't sleep much,' she adds, 'I worry about what I am going to feed the children.'

Kitted out Through World Concern, a Tearfund partner, emergency food kits were quickly provided to families in need. 'When I received the kit, I was finally able to cook for the family,' recalls Islande. 'I think I thanked you all about five times,' Anel adds. 'It was really a very big blessing!'

Your generous gifts have enabled us to respond quickly in some of

Haiti's most vulnerable and remote communities. As we conclude our emergency phase, and move into early recovery, we will continue to work in St Jean du Sud, supporting families like Islande and Anel's.

*All names have been changed

PLEASE PRAY

- Pray for Anel, Islande and their four children as they continue to work and rebuild their lives.
- Ask for wisdom for those working on the ground in Haiti in identifying how and where funds should be spent.
- Give thanks to God for the work of World Concern, and pray for all those working to bring hope and help to those in need.

This is the School that Rajab built

At first glance, Raichand Menghwar School in Mirpurkhas, Pakistan may seem like any other busy, vibrant and much-needed village school. But, at one time, its chances of survival looked bleak.

For 35-year-old Rajab Malik*, he is a man with a mission. Determined to give every child in his community the chance of an education, he set up a school in his local community hall. 'I don't want the children of my community to work all day in fields. I want them to be educated,' he explains. But despite 50 children enrolling, numbers quickly dwindled and many families were unable to pay the fees.

Pep talk

Rajab's mission looked destined to fail until, one day, Rajab discovered that two children from his community attended a different school, 12 miles away. This school was assisted by the Primary Education Project (PEP), a Tearfund-supported organisation. After finding out more about how PEP schools were run, Rajab decided to meet with them in the hope of finding a solution for his own failing school.

PEP helped Rajab establish a formal school within his community and, after completing their teacher training course, Rajab qualified as a PEP teacher in 2013. His qualification brought him new-found confidence from his community and financial support started flowing in. As a result, Rajab was able to build Raichand Menghwar School.

Mission complete

Today, Rajab has achieved his mission and more. Although his motivation was education, his school has had a far wider-reaching impact: in an area with many cultural and religious tensions, the school has united the village. ‘The landlord of my village has been very supportive,’ explains Rajab. ‘The landlord is proud of the school.’

*Name changed to protect identity.

PLEASE PRAY

- Praise God for visionaries like Rajab and the time, commitment and energy they give to transform their communities.
- Lift up Raichand Menghwar School and ask God for continued blessings.
- Pray that more of Pakistan’s children, regardless of religion, race and gender, would receive a quality education.

Beauty for Ashes

Anara* is a young woman full of hope, but it wasn’t always so. Born into a large family in the Central Asian States, she had a tough start to life. Her parents didn’t have permanent jobs, so there was no money for things such as good clothes or toys.

Throughout this challenging upbringing, Anara* dreamed of making more of her life. She hoped one day to start her own business, so that she could support her family.

Rock bottom

But then everything fell apart. When Anara was 16, her father left the family. Her mother had to work much more, and no longer had time for her children. This had a profound effect on Anara. She performed poorly at school, quarrelled with her mother, and even ran away from home. She’d hit rock bottom.

One day, Anara heard about some free courses being offered at a resource centre run by one of Tearfund’s partners. The manager of the centre saw huge potential in Anara, and so she was accepted onto a beauty treatment course. Anara threw herself into her studies and, despite being the youngest in the group, she quickly rose to the top of her class.

Hope and belief

After the course finished, Anara got a job at a beauty salon. Receiving her first pay check was an unforgettable moment: 'When I went with my mother to buy food, I felt joy and even pride that I could now make a contribution to the family budget,' Anara recalls, 'and the main thing, my mother saw that I had become more serious and responsible. She began to trust me more.'

Unfortunately, because of an unforeseen technicality, Anara lost her job at the salon. But she didn't despair. Thanks to the confidence she'd been given by her training at the centre, and the encouragement of the staff there, she brushed off this disappointment with ease. Now she has regular customers whom she sees at home.

With a stable income and plans to train further, Anara looks into the future with hope and belief, trusting in the God who gave her 'a crown of beauty instead of ashes.' (Isaiah 61:3)

*Name changed to protect identity.

PLEASE PRAY

- Pray that Anara's fledgling business will continue to grow, and that her new skills will be a real blessing to her family.
- Ask God that through the work of our partners many more children like Anara will be given a fresh start in life.
- For God's blessing upon our staff in the Central Asian States, who are showing courage and resilience in the face of challenging conditions.

John Gravett

Tearfund Representative



The Twelve Disciples In 12 Months

These are the names of the twelve disciples: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. [Plus his replacement Matthias]

Although there are over twenty-five references to ‘the twelve’ within the New Testament, the ‘Twelve Disciples’ are only referred to three times in the New Testament and solely in the Gospel of Matthew. [Matthew 10:1; 11:1 and 20:17] So over the next 12 months we have the opportunity to look closer at ‘the twelve’ and maybe glean some insight into their lives that has not been apparent before. It will also give us the opportunity to understand the differences and similarities between disciples and apostles.

Disciples are followers of leaders, such as Moses or John the Baptist and even the Pharisees. [Mark 2:18] In our case, though, the twelve disciples were specifically the followers of Jesus.

Apostles are envoys or ambassadors, a person who represents the sender.

Our twelve disciples were also Apostles. Not only were they called and followed Jesus [disciples]; they had also seen the Lord and represented Jesus before the whole world. [Apostles]

The first disciple in our series is Simon. Not Simon Peter but Simon the Zealot, sometimes also known as Simon the Canaanite. The NIV always refers to Simon as a Zealot whilst the KJV refers to Simon as a Canaanite. The word Canaanite or Zealot is primarily used to distinguish him from Simon Peter, although Simon was a member of a

Jewish nationalistic party. Josephus, the Jewish historian, refers to the Zealots as 'the fourth philosophy' of that time. So what were the first three? It transpires that the Pharisees were the first, followed by the Sadducees and then, in third place, were the Essenes. The 'tail end charlies' for those of a military persuasion, were the Zealots. They were a group that was basically nationalistic and wanted 'home rule' for the Jews and for the Romans to return from whence they came. The party was generally, unorganised, unlike the other three parties. It is thought that Zealots first started to appear at the time of Quirinius, he who called for a census, [Luke 2:2] but the general opinion is that the party started as soon as the Romans put their foot in the land.

It is interesting that Jesus chose Simon the Zealot, a dissident, a political refugee, an anti-Roman and a Jewish patriot. Simon was also a person who had a devotion to God's Law and someone whose leaders thought 'that Heaven would be a zealous helper' in their struggles against the Roman oppressors. Josephus also wrote that the Zealots '... had a passion for liberty and were convinced that God alone was their leader and master ... and that they were willing to die for their conviction.'

Little is known of what became of Simon the Zealot after the first Easter. He stayed with the rest of the disciples and was with them when the Holy Spirit first came upon them all, and as the Scriptures say, "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." [Acts 2:4]

With his background and with his training from Jesus; with his belief in God's Word and being filled with the Holy Spirit gave him a good grounding to be an Apostle. Tradition implies that he was crucified and his full story is not known. At least, not until our final destination is achieved should we be a 'Child of God'. [1 John 3:10]

Peter Brown

READ, PRAY, BELIEVE...

At the beginning of a new year many people start a bible reading plan, with the goal of reading the bible in a year. Whether you have started a plan as such or not, I'd like to share with you with 3 key words...

Firstly **READ the WORD** - The Psalmist declares in Psalms 119:105 'Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path'. As you seek God's direction for this year, let His word be your foundation. Make sure you take time out regularly to read it - it is the **WORD** that will light up the way for you as God speaks to you through it.

Secondly, **PRAY the WORD** - as you read the word this year, be sensitive to the Holy Spirit as you do so. Listen for that quiet gentle nudge as you read a certain phrase - you know the one that sometimes jumps out at you even though you've read it a hundred times before. Pray through the **WORD**. Use the word to pray over your situation, for your healing, for your provision, for whatever your need may be.

Thirdly, **BELIEVE the WORD!** Romans 10:17 says 'So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God'. As you read the word, and pray the word, believe God's word - God's word is powerful, its everlasting, is truth, is mighty, and has authority! Give thanks to the Lord for His wonderful and amazing promises - and be assured His promises to you **WILL** be fulfilled as you stand in faith!

Steve Mullins
Dry Bones Trust

***"Pray without
ceasing."***

1 Thessalonians 5:17



This month's guide to encourage our partnership in prayer

Through February...

On a SUNDAY pray for:

- Those preaching, The Worship Group
- The Sunday Youth Groups: Pebbles, The Rock, Rock Solid

On a MONDAY pray for:

- Bruce & Gisela, The Leadership Team, The Trustees
- Our Fellowship, The Other churches in Chinnor

On a TUESDAY pray for:

- Those who work in mission
- Rainbow Tots, Ladies and Men's Groups and their leaders
- The Chinnor Schools, the Doctors Surgeries

On a WEDNESDAY pray for:

- Our small-groups, and their leaders
- Those living away from home

On a THURSDAY pray for:

- The older members of the fellowship
- Coffee Pot, Those living in Hempton Field

On a FRIDAY pray for:

- The children of the fellowship
- Girls Group, Older Teens Group, After School Group
- Friday Night Clubs and their leaders

On a SATURDAY pray for:

- Chinnor
- Your neighbours
- Your friends, family

So you think God can't use you?

The next time you feel like God can't use you, just remember...

Noah was a drunk.

Abraham was too old, Isaac was a daydreamer, Jacob was a liar, Leah was ugly, and Joseph was abused.

Moses had a stuttering problem, Gideon was afraid, Samson had long hair and was a womanizer, and Rahab was a prostitute.

Jeremiah and Timothy were too young, David had an affair and was a murderer, Elijah was suicidal, Isaiah preached naked, and Jonah ran from God.

Naomi was a widow, Job went bankrupt, Peter denied Christ, the disciples fell asleep while praying, and Martha was worried about everything.

The Samaritan woman was divorced (several times), Zacchaeus was too small, Paul persecuted Christians and put them to death, Timothy had an ulcer, Thomas wanted evidence before he could believe - AND - Lazarus was dead!

So, what's your excuse? In truth, God can use you to your full potential whatever your past.

Why?

Because you are just the messenger...

Come, Dine with Me

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me." Revelation 3:20, NKJV

For those who live in the UK, you might be familiar with the TV programme 'Come dine with me'. The concept of the programme is that someone invites a few people, hosts them for dinner, and then they have to rate how it went. It's amazing that in the bible we also have an invitation, or, rather, a request to be invited. Jesus says, *"Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears my voice and opens it I will come in and dine with them"*.

Most of us could say "Oh yes, I've already invited Him into my heart. So, maybe this message is for someone else". But I believe that this call applies to all people everywhere, for ever. It's for Christians, for pastors, for leaders, and for every single human being. It was a call right from the beginning when Father God came into the garden in the cool of the day. He was walking in the garden and calling for Adam, *"Where are you?"* This call has resounded to mankind over the years, from Genesis to revelation, where He says again *"I stand at the door"*.

When someone welcomes you to dine with them, it means they value your presence, and your fellowship. They want to spend time with you, and they want to know you better. Rarely will anyone get invited to dine for any other reason.

The Creator of the world wants to come and sit at your table. He wants to fellowship with you DAILY. He wants to enjoy your company and for you to know Him better. He wants everyone to come for dinner. What an honour to have Him in your daily life, not just as a visitor who comes and leaves after the meal, but as part of your family, your best friend.

But He doesn't just want to sit and dine with you. He also wants you to allow Him to go through the other doors in your life, which you haven't yet opened to Him, places that you would rather keep shut. He wants to come in and make a difference. But because He's so gentle, He'll only come where He's welcomed. Will you let Him in? It's something we are to do every day. It's a lifestyle. He wants to fellowship with you, to go to work with you, to have fun time with you, to be included when you make decisions, to help you in time of need, to wash your feet when you're weary, dry your tears, comfort and provide. Whatever you need, He's got it.

'Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone here's my voice and opens the door, I will come in and dine with him'.

Joan Rono

Ellel Ministries International, Ellel Grange, Bay Horse, Lancaster, Lancashire LA2 0HN

CCC Services for February 2017

Theme for the Year 'Knowing God'

Sunday 5th February

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Loving & Caring for One another
- Bruce Crawforth

Sunday 12th February

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Abraham - God's Way of Faith
- David Morgan

Sunday 19th February

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Isaac - God's Providence
- Steve Ludlow

Sunday 26th February

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Jacob - The Blessing is in the Wrestling

Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths straight.
Proverbs 3:5-6

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sunday Services

Café Church 9am - 9.45am
Morning Service 10.45am to 12.15pm

Chinnor Community Church
High Street, Chinnor, Oxon OX39 4DH

Rainbow Tots

Tuesdays (Term Time)

9.45am at CCC

FN@6 and 7

February 10th and 24th

Coffee Pot

February 9th and 23rd

At the Village Centre
from 10.30am

Small Groups

February 8th and 22rd

If you have any articles
for the next Connect they
need to be in by
19 February 2017

Dates for your Diary

- Feb 02 After School Club 3.15pm
Older Teens Group 8pm
- Feb 06 Parenting Course (5) 10am
Girls Group 4.30pm
Church Meeting 7.30
- Feb 07 The Bridge 7.30pm
- Feb 08 Small Groups 8pm
- Feb 09 Mums Bible Study Group
9.30am
Coffee Pot
Older Teens Group 8pm
- Feb 10 FN@6 and FN@7
- Feb 16 After School Club 3.15pm
- Feb 20 Parenting Course (6) 10am
Girls Group 4.30pm
CLT 8pm
- Feb 21 Girls Group 4.30pm
The Bridge 7.30pm
- Feb 22 Small Groups 8pm
- Feb 23 Mums Bible Study Group
9.30am
Coffee Pot
Older Teens Group
- Feb 24 FN@6 and FN@7
- Feb 25 Fun Quiz in Aid of Albania
Radio 6.30pm Village Centre
- Feb 27 Parenting Course (7) 10am
Girls Group
- Feb 28 The Journey 11am
Pancake Party

See www.chinnor.org.uk for more info

More Dates For Your Diary And things for you to pray for ...

Church Meeting Monday 6th February 2017 at 7.30pm

Fun Quiz Night Saturday 25th February 2017 6.30pm - Village Centre
In aid of Radio Emanuel and Chinnor Passion Play

Chinnor Passion Play Saturday 1st April 2017

Two performances 11am and 2pm

Contact Ralph Westby or Jean Sutcliffe if you can take part or help in any way

HOUSE OF PRAYER

Prayer moves mountains and there are a few to move!
Pray continuously, gather together and seek the Lord.
If we are going to change things we need to pray
Our revival opportunity is now so let's pray
And see how the Lord works sovereignly

The Bridge - Encountering the Presence of God
Alternate Tuesdays 7.30 - 8.45pm

Prayer for Israel

Thursdays

9.30 - 10.30am at 14 Hill Farm Court

Chinnor Passion Play

Four years ago, Jean Sutcliffe, had a dream/vision to take the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ out to the people in the village of Chinnor in the form of a passion play. Jean started to write the script and at the beginning of 2016, this vision started to become a reality with support being obtained from all the churches in the village. As more people became involved the scope widened to include people of different ages, backgrounds and social groups to be part of this exciting event. It will be providing great opportunities for skills and talents to be shown in the areas of organisation, theatre, acting, dance, sound, lighting, web design, music, costumes and much more. It encourages new skills to be learnt in a non-threatening atmosphere but one of the main criteria is for everyone to enjoy themselves. All this without losing sight of the main objective of the play – to present the Gospel to the people of Chinnor.

In the lead up to Easter 2017, two performances of the Chinnor Passion Play, depicting the last week of the life of Jesus Christ, will be staged at White's Field, Mill Lane, Chinnor, on Saturday 1st April 2017. Based on the medieval passion play model, this will be a huge pre-Easter community event and a first for Chinnor and the surrounding areas.

Traditionally a passion play features the events of the last week in the life of Jesus. Our play will include a contemporary twist on the traditional approach hopefully showing its relevance to today's world.

There is still plenty of opportunity for everyone reading this article to be involved in some way – on stage, off stage, behind the scenes, acting, dancing, musicians, prayers and more. Don't miss the opportunity to reach Chinnor for the Lord.

Contact: chinnorpassionplay@gmail.com

Or call/text 07790 498718



CCC Coffee Pot Asks the question:

Who told you about Jesus?

The CCC Coffee Pot Christmas Nativity, focused on the shepherds as they spread the news that the Christ Child was born. After their visit to the manger they proclaim the great news, "The Christ Child is born!"

The shepherds told others about Jesus.

The shepherds listened to the Angel and visited the Baby Jesus and they found the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And when they had seen the babe, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Who have you told about Jesus?

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. The angel said, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy."

Do you know the joy that Jesus brings?

Ponder these things in your heart

In the end there is a challenge for us to keep on telling the Christmas story.

Tell your friends and neighbours. Don't get discouraged and stop telling anyone about the Good News of Jesus. You don't know the impact your Christian testimony can have on another person's life.

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

“The Little Bag”

Some young friends gave to me a special Christmas Gift.
It was a little bag of Happiness so that I would not have to worry.
It contained an Eraser to rub away life’s little mistakes.
A candle to give me a light at the end of the tunnel.
A marble for when I loose mine.
A five pence coin so that I will never be broke.
Twine, to bind things together when things start to unravel.
Some Glamour Dust to add a little sparkle to my day.
A Chocolate to make the day a little sweeter
.... and to show that someone cares. Xxxx

Peter Brown



CHINNOR CHRISTIAN AID



PANCAKE PARTY

with children’s craft activities

TUESDAY 28th FEBRUARY

Chinnor Community Pavilion

2:30pm to 4:30pm

**Come and have fun, enjoy some delicious
pancakes and help Christian Aid in the
fight against global poverty**



Emanuel Radio Station in Albania

On Saturday, 25 February, 'A Fun Quiz Night (with a difference)' in Aid of Albania Radio Emanuel and Chinnor Passion Play, will take place at the Village Centre; doors open at 6.30 pm, with a prompt start at 7pm. Tickets will be available from Ian Swaffield on 07920 567135 or John Haywood on 07974 442965. The ticket price of £12.00 per person includes supper (please see ticket for alternatives). Various delicious desserts will be available to purchase. Please bring your own soft drinks and or alcoholic beverages and remember the glasses.

There are only 10 tables of 8 available. To ensure you do not miss out on an enjoyable evening, contact Ian or John ASAP.

Radio Emanuel can be heard around the world on digital radio via the internet. The money raised from the previous three quizzes has paid for two new aerials which has enabled Radio Emanuel to transmit to the Albania peoples in remote southern areas. Originally, Radio Emanuel was housed in rented accommodation but has now purchased a derelict building. They have raised 60% of the renovation costs but still need further funds to complete the work. Chinnor Community Church has already made a sizeable donation towards these costs. All the money raised by the quiz night will also go towards completing this work and help with running costs.

Please come and have an enjoyable evening whilst helping support this worthwhile cause.

John Haywood

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 3rd March 2017

This year we will be celebrating Women's World Day of Prayer with a service prepared by Christian women in the Philippines. The theme is **"Am I Being Unfair to You?"** the informal service focusses on the Bible story of the workers in the vineyard: Matthew 20 v 1-16 and includes a time for meditation/reflection on artwork designed by Rowena 'Apol' Laxamana-Sta.Rosa.

Over 5000 services will be held in the British Isles. The Christian women of the Philippines wrote the service and it has been translated into 1000 different languages and dialects, to be used throughout the world on Friday 3rd March, starting at sunrise over the island of Samoa and continuing round the world until sunset off the coast of American Samoa.

In 2013 Typhoon Haiyan, named locally as Yolanda, struck the Philippine islands in the western Pacific Ocean. This is mentioned in the service but you will also hear the stories of a girl, a mother and an older woman recounting their situations and their hopes and fears.

To find out more about the theme, the Philippines and the service visit the WWDP website www.wwdp.org.uk

The Day of Prayer is not just for women, everyone is welcome so please come and join us at:

**St Andrew's Church
Church Road, Chinnor
at 10.45am and again at 7.30pm**

And stay afterwards for refreshments and a chat; we look forward to seeing you....

Anne Marie Lord, Monica Bartlett, Sue Marshall, Sheila Hazell and Barbara Francis. Women's World Day of Prayer Committee in Chinnor.



Endenette clearly explained the gospel to the 60 children gathered in the local Church in Havana - a place where many are unemployed, and all are living in makeshift corrugated metal homes with no electricity and no running water. The children listened intently and many accepted Jesus as their Saviour that day. Later the children received a shoebox from Operation Christmas Child, and Endenette remembered how 5 years ago she had been the one receiving a box - her first ever present - a box filled with all the little things we collect every month. Her mother had died when she was a little girl and she'd never known her father, but as a result of receiving that shoebox she'd found Jesus and accepted Him as her Saviour and loving Heavenly Father. She now devotes herself to actively serving God in her Church, sharing the gospel and leading outreach events for Operation Christmas Child.

This is just one of so many testimonies of how God uses these simple gifts to further His kingdom. Whole villages are turning to The Lord and lives are being changed forever. Since 2012 over 120,000 children have discovered Jesus whilst on the Greatest Journey bible course. Praise the Lord!

We're still helping this work by sending boxes - 200 last year went from CCC I wonder how many will go in 2017? In February we'll continue collecting erasers and sharpeners but also add in colouring pencils (the long kind as they last longer)

Thank you for all you are doing in God's name,

Love from
Pam Dunn. X

THE FUN PAGE

Sudoku

Fill in the blanks so that each row, column, and each of the nine 3x3 grids contain one instance of each of the numbers 1 to 9.

4		7		9	1		2	8
	9	8		4		5		
6					5			
9			8		2	1		
					6	2	4	3
7	2				4	9	8	6
	1	4		6	8			2
5		2				8		
8	7			2	3	6	1	

Last Month The Answer:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 01. <i>God Rest ye Merry Gentlemen</i> | 02. <i>Psalm98</i> |
| 03. <i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i> | 04. <i>Good King Wenceslas</i> |
| 05. <i>Philadelphia</i> | 06. <i>Ding Dong Merrily</i> |
| 07. <i>Germany</i> | 08. <i>In Sweet Rejoicing</i> |
| 09. <i>Shepherds</i> | 10. <i>Christina Rossetti</i> |
| 11. <i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i> | 12. <i>Guitar</i> |
| 13. <i>Three</i> | 14. <i>Joy to the World</i> |
| 15. <i>17th Century</i> | 16. <i>O Come All Ye Faithful</i> |
| 17. <i>Nahum Tate</i> | |

Who's Who at



Chinnor Community Church

Our Leadership Team:

Janine Adams
Will Austin
Bruce Crawforth (Elder)
Tabby Crawforth (Youth Leader)
Viv Haywood (Church Administrator)
Peter Hopgood
Ann Long

Small Group Leaders:

Will Austin
Karen Dewar
Barbara Francis
Sheila Hazell
Peter Hopgood
Ann Long
Pete Merrow-Smith
Susie Kelsey
Sheila Tipping
Steve Tipping

Youth Work: Sundays:

Pebbles: Barbara Francis
The Rock (Yrs 2-6): Anna Chalk
Rock Solid (Yrs 7-9): Sarah Mak

Fridays:

FN@6 6-7.15pm
(Yrs 2-6): Viv Haywood
FN@7 7-9.00pm
(Yrs 7-9): Tabby Crawforth

Men's Own: Peter Hopgood

Coffee Pot: Peter Brown

Ladies Nights: Kim Hopgood,
Sarah Mak, Anna Chalk

**Meadowcroft Residential Home
Services: 2nd Sunday**

Gail Roberts

Tear Fund Rep:

John Gravett

Evangelical Alliance Rep:

Janine Adams

Christian Aid via Church Office
01844 352938

Samaritans Purse – Pam Dunn

Health and Safety:

Bruce Crawforth

Child Protection: Fiona Ludlow

Connect Editor: Barbara Francis
b.francis@btinternet.com

Contact Details:

Church Administrator:
Viv Haywood 07974442967
secretarychinnorcc@gmail.com

CCC Prayer Chain operates 7 days a week from 9am – 9pm. If you have a prayer need and want it to go onto the chain, contact Angela Martin on 01844 344945, Viv Haywood on 01844 355935 or Sheila Gravett on 01844 353138.