

# For your information...

4 November 2018

## Coffee Clean-up Rota

Many thanks to today's teams -

- June Smith's Group @ 11am
- Hannah Bunting's Group @ 6pm

Next week

- The Newquay Group @ 6pm

## Mones says...

As I write, we are just waking up in the village of Kiryat Ye'arim. It is about 720 meters above sea level, sitting on top of one of the hills on the mountainous road between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

This village has been identified as the town of Kiryat Ye'arim, 'the village of the woods', and it is the place where the Ark of the Covenant was left with Obed Edom the Gittite. The Ark was left with Obed for 20 years and it said that its presence has blessed Obed and all that he had.

The choir and our pilgrims group have been here for two nights after coming down from Galilee. On the way to Jerusalem we stopped at the traditional site of Baptism, not far from Jericho and Qumran, where five of our members were baptised, or renewed their baptismal vows, by full immersion and the rest by sprinkling of water and the sign of the cross on their foreheads, a glorious experience and witness to so many onlookers especially as we sung 'Guide me O thou Great Redeemer', twice!

But let me go back to share with you about the presence of God. David was desperate to have God's presence at the heart of his city, and was willing to be extravagantly generous in the pursuit of the Ark and the Lord's presence, as he sought to bring it from Obed Edom's house where he left it the previous time. He did so with the utmost care but with even greater rejoicing and generosity. It is at the end of the biblical section in 2 Samuel 6 when the Ark has arrived in Jerusalem that we hear David saying "and I will be more undignified than this".

David's heart-felt worship says to me, as it has done for years, do not be worried about how others express their worship, stop judging the rightness of the expression of their worship, but instead focus on your heart and its response to God. It is so dangerous to judge the rightness of others' worship of Jehovah, whether it's right or dignified or ..... , as this judgmental attitude seems to bring severe judgment on the one who judges. Go on read all about it in 2 Samuel 6 or in 1 Chronicles 13:5-8.

**Daily prayer meetings:** 8am-8.50am Monday to Saturday at The Well (11 Baker Street). Wednesdays, 7.45am @ St Mike's (no prayer meeting in The Well on Wednesdays). Don't forget we also have a weekly Friday evening prayer meeting at 5.45pm (except the evening before Nightwatch).

We have a church **Pastoral Team**, if you need or would like a visit from someone in church please do contact the office. The team is a lovely bunch made up of our congregation members.

**Testimony board:** We have a notice board at the back of church for people to share what God has been doing in their lives. Write a testimony on a piece of paper provided and pin it to the board as a way of telling people the praise worthy deeds of our God!

**Children's and youth activities:** On Sunday mornings our church has activities for young people aged between 2 and 14. There is also a creche available for under 2's in the tower room & baby changing facilities in the toilets. Please ask if you're not sure where these are.

**Coffee rota:** is God calling you to serve in a servant ministry on the coffee serving and washing up rota? If we don't have enough volunteers we will need to go down the route of disposable cups. If you'd like to get involved, please contact the office.

**Bonfire & hot dogs:** after the service this evening 4.11.18. All welcome.

**Remembrance:** The BBC are coming to do some recording in St Mike's for a Remembrance Service on 6th November at 10am and are in need of people to be in the congregation. Please come along if you can.

**Remembrance Sunday** is on 11.11.18. Please be in church by 10.50am as we will be joined by many guests and representatives from the services.

**Winter Joint Small Groups: Getting more out of prayer.** From Tuesday 13th November to Tuesday 11th December we will be joining together to learn more about prayer. The evening will be in church, starting at 7pm with food. All welcome. For catering purposes, please sign up at the back of church or let the office know.

Have you seen our new **Welcome area?** (next to the testimony board at the back of church) If you're new to St Mike's, or would like to know a bit more about what's going on, and find out how you can get involved, this is a great place to start.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Please place your gifts in wrapped shoe boxes and return to St Mike's by 8.11.18. Leaflets are available from the back of church.

**Stamps:** Lineke is collecting used stamps for the Leprosy Mission. If you have any please drop them off in the office or give them to her.

**Boys' Brigade Taster Session:** 12.11.18 in Buarth Hall: Anchor Boys (age 4-8) 6-7pm; Juniors (age 8-11) 6.30-8pm.

**Date for your diary:** Town and Gown Carol service in partnership with churches from across town and the CU on the 5.12.18 at 7pm.

**Town & Gown Carol Service:** singers wanted for a choir made up from churches in town. First practice 8.11.18 at 6pm in Elim.

**New album:** Richard has released a new album, "Parabolic". Free to download at richjens.bandcamp.com

**4Women Conference:** Holy Trinity Church Hall, Aberaeron, 1.3.19: An Evening of Worship, 7-9pm. 2.3.19: Day Conference including refreshments, lunch and a fish & chips supper. 10am-9pm. Cost: £20. For further details and to book a place (£10 deposit required), contact Sharon on 07530213645 or sharon.george3@btinternet.com.

Next week...

Sunday 11 November

11am: **Remembrance Service.**

6pm: **Holy Communion** with Mones Farah speaking on James 3.

Dates for your diary:

November

4.11.18: Bonfire and hot dogs.

11.11.18: Remembrance Sunday.

13.11.18: Winter Joint Small Groups.

15.11.18: Mature Munch.

29.11.18: Mature Munch.

December

1.12.18: Christmas Light Switch On.

5.12.18: Town and Gown Carol service.

8.12.18: Stable Trail.

16.12.18: Carols by Candlelight.