
The **Outlook**

from **Hope** November 2004

Prayer Focus

BUILDINGS: A CALL TO PRAYER

I am greatly encouraged by people's generous giving towards the building project. At the time of writing we have received £51,000 and there may well be others who are still planning to give. We are not a large or a rich congregation and I know that many have given sacrificially to this project. Thank you!

However, we do now face a problem. We have a clear vision for the future but not all the resources to fulfil it. The estimated cost of the development was £250,000. We are short on the £70,000 target for our giving and also £60,000 short on what we hoped to receive in terms of grant funding. Problems, in God's economy, are often occasions for learning and growing in faith. Perhaps that is what is happening for us now.

The testimony of Christians through the ages has been that where God leads he also provides. I remember the verses with which we launched the thank offering:

*Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendour,
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.*

Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

Wealth and honour come from you; you are the ruler of all things.

In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

The situation of deficit humbles us before God. We realise that we cannot do this ourselves. It brings us to our knees in prayer to seek the Lord in whose hands are wealth and honour. Deuteronomy 8 vs2 was read at our Deacons prayer breakfast:

Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

As we have pondered this Andrew and I have felt it right to call the church to a month in which we give more time to prayer and fasting. We sense that we need to come together before God, recognise our dependence on him and pray for his provision.

The project was born out of prayer and a heart for mission. Often, as we step out on a new venture for the Lord, obstacles and challenges arise. They are not signs that we are doing the wrong thing but opportunities God uses to test, strengthen and train us. What does He want us to learn in this situation? Over the next few weeks opportunities for meeting together in prayer will be advertised. Please support them. It is in coming together before God that there is power and discernment. Please also set aside times for prayer and fasting yourself.

Andy Saunders

Sunday Morning Rotas November

Coffee

7th Nick Beard & Kate Hatherell
14th John & Judith Pinch
21st Ray & Cindy Hedges
28th John & Carole Eascott

Transport

Bill Wonnacott
Mike Munson
David Brown
Peter Brown

Crèche

7th Miranda Crowley & Claire Knight
14th Gerry Harris & Sarah Aldersley
21st Pat & Steven Dodd
28th Family service

After Church Care - Under 8' s only in Thee Bar

7th Ray & Cindy Hedges
14th Judith & John Pinch
21st Paul Sumner & Jenny Saunders
28th Family service

Flowers

7th Wilfred and Thelma Smale.
14th Remembrance Sunday.
21st Mary Simpson - In loving memory of her mother, Joyce.
28th -

Communion

Set-up

21st Ray and Cindy Hedges

Wash-up

Jenny Weeks

Stewards

7th Wilf Smale, Pat & Graham Dodd & Margaret Underdown
14th Marian Brown, Margaret Tripp, Peter Man & Judith Pinch
21st Ron Dalton, Estelle Robertson, Andrew Jones & Pat Taylor
28th Nick Beard, Sheila Boddington, Trevor Fray & Sheena Kingdom

I Like Hugs

*It' s wondrous what a hug can do,
A hug can cheer you when you are blue,
A hug can say, "I love you",
Or "I hate to see you go",
A hug is "Welcome back again",
And "great to see you",
Or "where' ve you been?"*

*A hug can soothe a small child' spain,
And bring a rainbow after rain,
The hug...there' s no doubt about it,
We scarcely could survive without it.*

*A hug delights and warms and charms,
It must be why God gave us arms,*

*Hugs are great for fathers and mothers
Sweet for sisters, even for brothers;
and chances are some favourite aunts
Love them more than potted plants.*

*Kittens crave them, puppies love them,
Heads of state are not above them,
A hug can break the language barrier
And make the dullest day seem merrier.*

*No need to fret about the store of ' em
The more you give the more there are of ' em,
So stretch those arms without delay,
And give someone a hug today.*

November Diary

Mon	1	7.30-8.30	Prayer in the Guild Room
Tues	2	10.00	Mums and Baby Group**
		1.00	Parent and Toddler Group *
		1.30	Prayer Group* venues vary, please ask
		7.30	Celebration - Forgiveness
Wed	3	10am & 1pm	Parent and Toddler Groups *
Thurs	4	10.00	Coffee Morning**
		6.30-8.00	H-Y-Powered, years 3-6 *
Fri	19	7.00-8.30	The Hype, youth group, years 7 to 9*
		8.15-10.00	Re:Act, youth group, years 10 to 12*
Sun	7	10.00	Prayer in the Lower Guildroom**
		10.30	'Loving your enemies' Luke 6 ²⁷⁻³⁶
Sat	13	10.00	Women's Rendezvous Christmas Craft Fair
Sun	14	10.30	'The Fruitful Life' Luke 6 ³⁷⁻⁴⁵
Mon	15	7.30-8.30	Prayer in the Guild Room
Tues	16	7.30	Church members meeting
Sat	20	7.00	Barn Dance- all proceeds to the building fund
Sun	21	10.30	'Surviving The Storm' Luke 6 ⁴⁶⁻⁴⁹
Mon	22	2.15	Open House – flower demonstration, by Thelma Davey
Wed	24	7.30	Women's Rendezvous, talk by Cancer Care Support Group
Sat	27	10.00	Nutkins Christmas Table Top Sale
Sun	28	10.30	Family service 'Super-Heroes II', including dedication of Isabel Grace

Underdown

Mon	29	7.30-8.30	Prayer in the Guild Room
Tues	30	7.30	Celebration - Mission

*These meetings are held weekly **during term time only**
These meetings meet weekly **all through the year

Fellowship groups now meet on various nights and in different weeks so check with group leaders when yours is meeting.

December

4 th	10.00	'Shopping in Little China'
12 th	10.30	Toy Service
17 th	6.30	Carol singing in the streets
19 th	6.30	Carols by candlelight
25 th	10.00	Christmas Day family service

January

New Year's Day walk – a family walk, pushchair-friendly of about 4 miles

BMS Birthdays for November

16 th	Mr David Brown
21 st	Mrs Sandra Brown
21 st	Mr Mike Holland
24 th	Mr C Crofts

Prayer

Monday nights 7.30 - 8.30, meeting in the Guild Room on the weeks that fellowship groups do not meet – see specific dates for this month on opposite page.

Open House

As Christmas seems to be coming headlong at us once again, we thought it would be a good idea to have a Christmassy theme at this month's Open House.

Thelma Davey has kindly agreed to come along once again to give us a flower demonstration, to give us inspiration so we can have a go ourselves at Christmas time.

We will be meeting on Monday 22nd November at 2.15pm in the hall and usual we will be having afternoon tea consisting of various sandwiches and cakes, with a cup of tea or coffee and plenty of chatting. The suggested donation is £1.50 and all proceeds will go to the church building fund.

We are close to finalising the venue of our Annual Christmas lunch in December, so watch out for more information on the Sunday notice sheets.

Everyone is welcome to join us, either at Open House or on our outing for Christmas lunch. Hope you can join us.

Should you require a lift to Open House, please don't hesitate to call me, Pam Smith, on 219844 to arrange a pick up time.

Harvest Thanks

I would like to thank all the good friends of "Hope Baptist" for the lovely "Harvest Gift" of flowers I received. They will give me lots of pleasure believe me. Thanks again and God Bless. Yours sincerely,
Mrs W.M. Shelton.

Thank you very much for my Harvest gift, it was very much appreciated Viola Woodward

Nutkins Pre-school Christmas Table Top Sale 27th November 2000 10am – 12

Hope Baptist Church Hall

Refreshments available, including pasties, cakes, tea and coffee

Tables available - £3 each, please contact Clare on 310255 Come along with the family and find yourself a bargain

News from Africa

I am here in sunny Africa alive and well! The plane journey was fun although I didn't sleep. The first week was spent on introduction, we had a tour around the site with Jorn – you gardeners would love him – he named all the plants for us! It seems like paradise, all green inside the walls and all sandy, dirt roads and sparse trees outside. We had a chance to speak to the local pastors of the local churches. On the Sunday I went to Ndeki where Pastor Pirri (meaning hill) preached. In total the service was 2 hours long, I will never complain that our services at Hope are too long again! Pastor Pirri was very good though, role-playing with a man translating into Bemba, the local language while telling us about his driving lesson, and how he almost crashed the car. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday we run 3 kilometres and it's very tiring. Monday was our first day on the job, we are building toilets, and I was chosen to dig the cesspit with 2 others. Basically it is a huge hole! Still, all in good fun. How is life back in England? Peace 'n' pancakes **James B.P.**

Into the wilderness

There are many references in the Gospels to Jesus going into the wilderness or desert to pray. In all these places He would have been isolated from His disciples and followers and able to find solace and peace. In these places He would have been able to have true communion with God His Father.

No matter what the demands were upon His time, even after days of incessant toil, Jesus always found time to be with His Father in prayer. In Mark 1 v 35 we see Jesus rising early in the morning, long before daybreak and going alone into the wilderness to pray. When He knew there was a busy time ahead of Him, He made time for privacy and intimacy with God.

Finding time to pray is not easy for us. Our days become so crowded and full that busy-ness takes over. During Christ's ministry here on earth His days were emphatically more busy and full. Travelling from place to place on foot, preaching, teaching, healing the sick, people clamouring for His attention the whole time (often far into the night) – yet all were sent away enriched and happier. The harder the days were for Him, the more time He made for prayer.

Like Jesus, we must break away and remove ourselves from our every day involvement with others, put aside the hustle and noise, the distractions and claims upon us, and find a place where we can become close to God; to speak with Him and listen to what He has to say to us.

Jesus did not have to go far to find a place of peace and solitude. The desert or wilderness was ever near.

Our wilderness or place of prayer may not be so easy to find. We cannot always go off to the wilds of Dartmoor amongst the lonely tors and rocks to speak with our God – ideal though that would be.

Sometimes we can achieve that sense of peace and quiet in a garden or parkland where we are surrounded by the beauty of our Creator's handiwork. Occasionally the solitude we seek can be found in a church where the atmosphere is conducive to concentration and prayer. Perhaps there is a place in your home where you can go and close yourself off to be with God.

Like Jesus, we all need to take time and isolate ourselves so that we can spend time with our Father and refresh our souls.

When was the last time you went into the wilderness to pray?

Jenny Weeks

Building with cakes

If you are thinking ‘ wouldn’ t it be great to have a nice homemade Christmas cake but I just don’ t have the time or energy’ then here is your answer ..Lynda Henagulph has offered to make Christmas cakes for anyone who wants one, with all the profits going to the Church Building Fund. So not only could you have your cake and eat it, but you could help rebuild the church at the same time.

For Sale

Yamaha EL60

5 years old, cost £5000, will sell for £950 This instrument is in perfect working order; it can be viewed and / or played by anyone interested in buying it.

For more information, or to arrange a viewing please speak to Peter Brown who will be able to put you in touch with Mrs Joyce Reeve, the seller of this organ.

‘Shopping in Little China’

Saturday December 4th 10am – 2.30pm

In supporting Hope Baptist Church’ s Building Project, our Chinese Fellowship will be hosting a Chinese Day – ‘ Shopping in Little China’ on Saturday December 4th.

Come and experience the Chinese culture, the Chinese way in your local community. Here is a short list of the planned items: -

- Craft work
- Food and drink, the Chinese way of course!
- Chinese lucky dip
- Nail painting, that includes artwork
- Write your name in Chinese, and tell you what animal sign your name represents!
- Chinese soft furnishings
- AND MUCH MORE!

All money raised will go to the Hope Building Fund.

Please come along and support this most interesting event.

See you there

Karine Yuen

Women’ s Rendezvous

On Saturday 13th November, from 10am to 12 noon, Women’ s Rendezvous will be holding a Christmas Fair to raise funds for local cancer care and support. We hope to have stalls selling various crafts and gifts suitable for Christmas as well as the usual bookstall, cakes, home made produce, bric-a-brac and plants.

If you can contribute anything for us to sell, perhaps bake a cake, knit or sew a few items, turn out unwanted books etc we would be very grateful.

Last year our Christmas Fair raised in excess of £300 for charity, so let’ s see if we can exceed that amount this year.

Women’ s Rendezvous welcomes all ladies in the church as well as their friends to join us at our monthly meeting. This month we shall be having a talk by a representative of The Cancer Care Support Group on Wednesday 24th November.

Latest news from Jane, David, Isabelle and Scarlett Parsons

'David and I have now settled near Perth. We've managed to rent a nice house with a large garden for the children and have them settled into toddler groups, state swimming programme and crèche. David has a good job in the city as an engineering manager. Seems good so far and all easing in to Ozzy life. Hello to all at Hope'.

Pasty and Punch Barn Dance Saturday 20th November 7pm

Tickets available from Janet B.P. £5adults £4 Children All proceeds go to the building fund. Peter Brown has promised to 'strip the willow' if we raise enough money, so dig deep and let's see what Pete is made of!

Sunday

10.30 a.m. Morning Worship

Visitors are always welcome to join us.

On the 3rd Sunday of the month we join together in taking communion, as we remember that the Lord Jesus Christ died for us

Every Sunday morning coffee and tea are served at the back of the church after the service.

Youth@Hope

Activities for children and teenagers take place on Sunday mornings and weekday evenings. Full programmes of activities are available.

For more information contact Andrew Gardiner on 791993

Crèche

A crèche is provided for children under 3 during all morning services except all-age (family) services, which are on the last Sunday of each month.

Toys are available at the back of the church for any children who are getting restless. Parents may like to play with their children in that area.

Prayer groups meet regularly on Tuesday afternoons, before Sunday morning services in the Guildroom and on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7.45pm.

Prayer chains are used extensively.

Contact Margaret Tripp on 768957

Discussion Group

Thursday mornings 10.00– 11.30.

Contact Lin Pringle 788466

Coffee Morning

Thursday's 10.15– 12 noon

In the Church Hall – all welcome.

Parent & Toddler Groups

Meet for 2 sessions each Wednesday and on Tuesday afternoons, term time only.

Contact Jenny Saunders – 772809

Women's Rendezvous

An informal gathering of ladies from the fellowship and their friends who meet monthly. Jenny Weeks – 777416

Men's Group

A group for all men in the fellowship and their friends, meeting for social events. David Brown – 707577

Open House

In the Church Hall on one Monday of each month at 2.15 – refreshments included £1.50 - all welcome

Mums and Babies

(0 - 8 months) Tuesdays 10 – 11.30

Kate Brown – 216868

Lee Abbey

30th September – 2nd October 2005

Hope has 75 places reserved for this relaxing weekend of teaching and fun at Lee Abbey, which is in a beautiful setting near Lynton in North Devon.

The cost is likely to be £100 per adult (currently it is £94 but Lee Abbey have warned us that there will almost certainly be a price increase). This includes all meals for the weekend.

We are limited to a maximum of 25 children and prices are a proportion of the adult cost depending on age. However the church has agreed to offer a subsidy so that they would cost no more than £50 each. (This subsidy is of course optional!!)

We are also offering people the chance to pay in instalments, as we did last time, so to book a place, or just for more information please speak to either Debbie Houston or Nicky Hatherell
Remember places are limited so don't leave it too long.



www.leeabbey.org.uk

Thursday Coffee Mornings

We are desperately short of volunteers to help serve the teas and coffees on Thursday mornings. If you feel able to join the rota, it will take approximately two and a half hours of your Thursday morning every six weeks.

If you are interested, or would just like more information about the Coffee Morning please contact me. Thank you Pam Walters Tel 01752 562760

Prayer Focus

Please continue to pray for the many **members of the fellowship** with ongoing health problems, and those who are caring for them.

Pray for the **Buildings Development Committee** as they consider the financial situation and the way forward.

Give thanks that **Jan Doyle** has started work as our Church Administrator. Pray for her as she gets to know us and all our peculiarities!

We need a **new Family and Children's Worker** Please make this a matter of prayer.

The **Chinese Fellowship** are holding a Chinese Market on 4th December. Please pray for that event and support them if you possibly can.

Julie Redding and James Cross are to be married on 17th November. Pray for them as they begin their new life together.

November 7th has been designated a world-wide day of prayer by **Open Doors**, who pray for and support persecuted Christians in many countries. We shall be marking the day at Hope.

Remembrance Sunday falls this month. Pray for those who still suffer as the result of war, for those serving in the armed forces and for their families.

Preparations are under way for **Christmas activities and services**. Pray for all those involved; the ministers, the youth choir and especially those working on Sundays with the children and young people.

This edition of the Outlook was compiled by Nicky Hatherell and photocopied and assembled by Jan, our new administrator 'Welcome to Hope, Jan' December's edition will be compiled by Claire Worrall, who will need your articles as soon as possible, but no later than 18th November please.

Email: claire@worrall228.fsworld.co.uk Thank you