

Warsash "Jesus is Lord" Church

Warsash United Reformed Church
www.warsashurc.com

1811

2011

200 years of walking with Jesus

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the church or the leadership team

Diary

May

- 1 Hawthorn Court
- 7 HOTS
- 8 Prayer meeting
- 9 Christian Aid commissioning
- 15-21 Christian Aid week
- 21 HOTS

Welcome

We hope that you enjoy meeting with us, following the service refreshments will be served downstairs, please do join us..

Rachel Mays is preaching this morning

Kay Braden is preaching next week

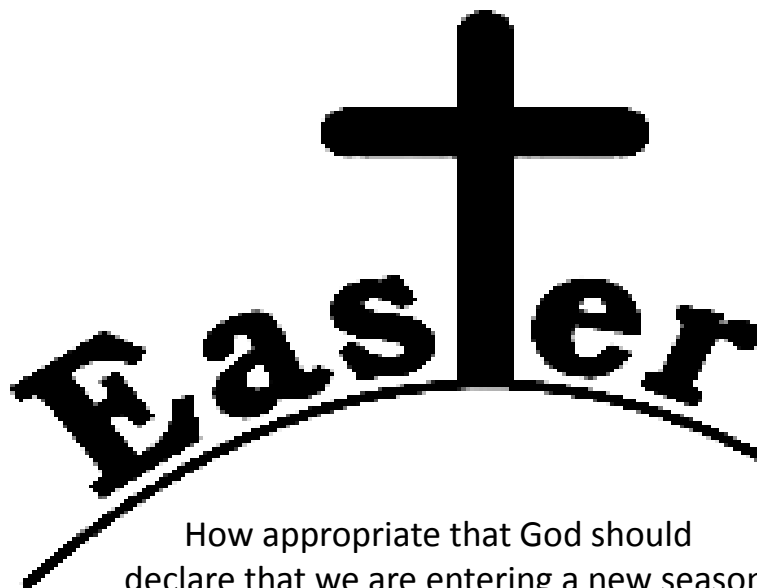
This is a NEW SEASON!

For lo, the winter is past, The rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; The time of singing has come, And the voice of the turtledove Is heard in our land.

See page three for more!



Happy Easter



How appropriate that God should declare that we are entering a new season as we celebrate Easter and the new life He has given each and everyone who accept Him as Lord and saviour.

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Special Church meeting

At a special church meeting held last Sunday 17th April the following proposal was put:

The church give Lee & Lyn Swartz a gift of £1000 and £100 per month until their situation is sorted or for one year at which point it would be reviewed.

This was agreed unanimously.

Thank you from Lee & Lyn

I felt on Sunday that I had let you all down by losing the plot and feeling as if I was waffling (too caught up in my own problems), and yet I felt such a peace that it didn't matter, that I was among friends, and that there was room in your hearts to cover my mistakes, and an openness, that left me feeling that I hadn't disqualified myself, you hadn't disqualified me and that there was still an invitation to return again and continue till I get it right.

I can't say I've felt such acceptance anywhere else to this extent. One of my favourite choruses has the line 'in the safety of this place' I can honestly say that Warsash URC is that place!

Thank you very much, for helping me and walking with me on my journey!

The above was my sentiment before I found that you as a 'Family' had decided to show your support in a very practical way as well. To say we are overwhelmed is an understatement! You have moved us immensely, and we wish we could do more than simply say thank you, so we will be looking for ways to show and return the appreciation we feel and have for you all.

May the Lord continue to richly bless every one of you

Love *Lee & Lyn*

Western Wards Church Network

Job vacancy

Chaplaincy to Shops and Businesses at the Locks Heath Centre

- Are you a good listener?
- Do you have a heart to show the love of God to others in practical ways?
- Have you got pastoral experience either within your church or your secular work setting?

You may be just the person for this new role. The Western Wards Church Network is seeking to establish a chaplaincy to serve the shops and businesses in the Locks Heath Centre. The person appointed will need to be a committed member of one of the churches in the Western Wards. The post is voluntary and is subject to an Enhanced CRB check.

If you are interested the Job Description can be downloaded from the Western Wards Church Network website at

<http://wwcn.info/chaplaincy>

or by contacting Martin Lloyd.

Anyone interested is asked to provide a CV to Sandy Matheson by the 31st May 2011.

Email sandy@mathesonuk.com

Post: 149 Bridge Road,
Sarisbury Green,
Hampshire,
SO31 7EN

Origin of Easter Observance

Prior to the fourth century, Christians observed **Pascha**, Christian Passover, in the Spring of the year. Adapted from Jewish Passover, Pascha was a festival of redemption and commemorated both the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus as the vehicle for God's grace. While historical records are not clear, it is likely that early Jewish Christians observed both Passover (Pesach) and Pascha. However, many Gentile converts were hesitant to adopt the Jewish festival, especially since the Jerusalem Council had decided that Gentile converts to Christianity did not have to observe Jewish religious practices (Acts 15). Gradually by the fourth century, with an increasing emphasis on Holy Week and Good Friday, Easter moved into a distinctively Christian celebration of the Resurrection, with Good Friday commemorating Jesus' crucifixion and death.

There is little question that many symbols of Easter have been adopted from various cultures. But this is true for almost all Christian symbols, including the cross (the sign of the fish is the most unique and original Christian symbol). But this has always been the case since the days of Abraham and Moses. That is, God's people have always used symbols with which they were familiar from the surrounding culture, and then infused them with new meaning to commemorate and worship God.

A word for the church & each of us!

Based on Song of Solomon 2:1-17 NKJV

(This is a prophetic word Lyn Swartz brought to the church which applies to all of us, both corporately and individually.)

The seasons are changing, the season are changing.

*I am the rose of Sharon, And the lily of the valleys.
Like a lily among thorns, So is my love among the daughters.
Like an apple tree among the trees of the woods, So is my beloved among the sons.
I sat down in his shade with great delight, And his fruit was sweet to my taste.*

Now these words might be confusing and you think "what is she talking about" but this is God's word to us and He wants us to understand it and He is so good and kind into getting into our everyday life and to the detail of our lives that He will break it down that He will break it down in a way that we can understand it. How amazing is this to sit down in His shade that means that He is going to come and cover us when that boiling hot sun, when our circumstances are so painful He is our shade He's right there over us. That's how much He loves us that's how intensely He cares about us, He's our Father.

He brought me to the banqueting house, And his banner over me (and you) is love. Sustain me with cakes of raisins, Refresh me with apples, For I am lovesick. His left hand is under my head, And his right hand embraces me. I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, By the gazelles or by the does of the field, Do not stir up nor awaken love Until it pleases.

Sometimes we are in such a rush that we want to be on to the next season because we have had enough of this but there is a time of learning, we have to learn what it is that He is trying to teach us.

The voice of my beloved!

Recognise His voice in your everyday life. You think but I've never heard God's voice, but believe me it can be on a noticeboard in a shop, it can be on a TV advertisement, it can be, that's the way our Father has to use everything because now days our lives are so busy but it is still going to be His voice.

The voice of my beloved! Behold, he comes Leaping upon the mountains, Skipping upon the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Behold, he stands behind our wall;

Sometimes we can't see His face.

He is looking through the windows, Gazing through the lattice.

We catch glimpses, but not completely of what He is doing.

My beloved spoke, and said to me (and to you): "Rise up, my love, my fair one, And come away. For lo,

Here it is.

the winter is past,

Can you say that with me?

For lo, the winter is past,

It's like a declaration, think of the things going on in your life good and bad "For lo, the winter is past"

The rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; The time of singing has come, And the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.


It makes me think of when Noah was stuck in that ark for such a long time with all the animals and all the people then suddenly a bird was sent off and it came back and then it went off and it didn't come back. The voice of the turtledove it's like hope is being restored to him. Oh we're going to get out of the ark, we are going to have our new beginning.

The fig tree puts forth her green figs, And the vines with the tender grapes Give a good smell. Rise up, my love, my fair one, And come away! "O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, In the secret places of the cliff, Let me see your face, Let me hear your voice; For your voice is sweet, And your face is lovely." Catch us the foxes, The little foxes that spoil the vines,

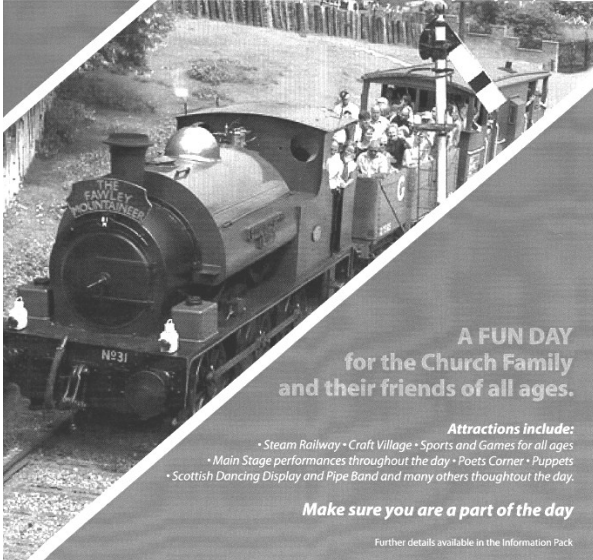
Do you recognise the foxes in your life. Round about us there are lots of little things that come nipping at our heals. I have had to stand up in my living room and just declare "I choose you God, I choose you God, I choose you God," like some mad woman running up and downstairs and I don't really care because somehow I'm listening to what I'm saying and faith comes by hearing doesn't it and suddenly I am yes God I choose you and all this mountain of stuff wants to overwhelm me and I choose you, I choose you, I wake up in the morning and I'm there and I'm a morning person but the inside of myself is coming up and I'm choosing you God, I'm choosing you God, I'm choosing you, because I want to wake up here and not there. It's not always working but I'm declaring and there is something valuable there is something valuable about declaring.

For our vines have tender grapes. My beloved is mine, and I am his. He feeds his flock among the lilies. Until the day breaks And the shadows flee away, Turn, my beloved, And be like a gazelle Or a young stag Upon the mountains of Bethel.

I declare a new season is coming here for you guys.


 The United Reformed Church
 Saturday 18th June 2011
 at Fawley Hill, Henley-on-thames

STEAMING AHEAD
 WITH WESSEX SYNOD



A FUN DAY
 for the Church Family
 and their friends of all ages.

Attractions include:
 • Steam Railway • Craft Village • Sports and Games for all ages
 • Main Stage performances throughout the day • Poets Corner • Puppets
 • Scottish Dancing Display and Pipe Band and many others throughout the day.

Make sure you are a part of the day
 Further details available in the Information Pack

Full details are on the noticeboard downstairs. Tickets are available from Martin — £5 for adults and £2 for children 5 –15; children under 5 are free. **Tickets will not be available after the 28th April.** If finance is a difficulty then please speak to one of the elders.

Bric-a-brac

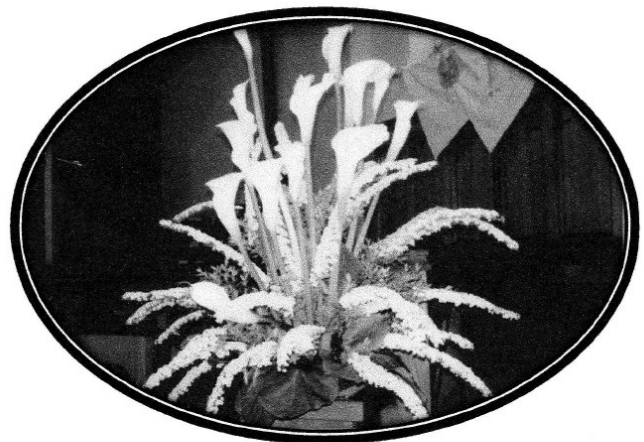
If you have any bric-a-brac, please give it to Brian Braden for “Park Place” where he is working as they need it to raise funds.

Christian Aid Week

15—21 May

If you can help with door to door collecting please put your name on the list by the coffee bar.

**UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
 SARISBURY GREEN
 EASTER FLOWERS**



WELCOME to VIEW

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY 24th April
 EASTER MONDAY 25th April**

Refreshments – Admission Free

Regular Activities		Contact Details		
Sundays	10:15am		Prayer in the vestry	General enquires and finance Martin 01489 581009
	10:30am		Morning service with children & young people's work Communion 1st Sunday in the month	Worship & Puppet Ministry Brian 01489 584317
	6:30pm		Prayer meeting 2nd & 4th Sundays	Youth
	6:30pm		Prayer meeting for HOTS @ St Paul's 3rd Sundays	Craft Isabel 01489 584317
Monday	7:30pm		Puppet ministry	Coffee Morning Charlie / Sylvia 01489 600523
Tuesday	1:00pm	Craft Afternoon	Home Groups & Children Linda 01489 581009	
Wednesday	10:30-11:30	Prayer/Coffee morning House groups - various locations & times		
Thursday	10:15am	Coffee Morning		
Friday	2:00pm	House group - alternate weeks		
	7:30pm	Worship Practice		