



The Heartland Bulletin

Issue 11 - 18th July 2017



Loving God, as we in the Heartland Group of churches travel together, help us to remember how Jesus prayed that we all might become one. We know that the Spirit will be better able to work through us when we work together to further your Kingdom. May we be reminded that we have more in common than we think, and that we need each other, with all our strengths and weaknesses. Help us to build each other, up, supporting each other and working together to further your Kingdom of justice and joy.
Amen.

This bulletin has been collated by Gill Elliott of Trinity URC St Albans.

If you have news or notices that you wish to be included in the next Bulletin, please email gilldotelliott@gmail.com, or ask your Heartland representative to do so on your behalf.

Judy Hare of Bricket Wood wrote:

A big thank you to Anna Barrett and all her helpers at Chiswell Green URC for a really lovely time on Saturday, July 8th. - activities, BBQ and Songs of Praise.

From the moment we sat down in the shade of the trees - cool at last - my husband, Dave, and I enjoyed every minute of the "Heartland Event". The food was delicious, the organisation of the cooking and clearing away was (apparently) effortless, and the assembled company, from almost all the Heartland churches intermingled and chatted, at ease with each other.

I loved the "Songs of Praise". The Bricket Wood congregation is so tiny that we cannot make "a joyful noise unto the Lord" but we "lifted the roof off" on Saturday evening - that is how hymns should be sung, with joy and gusto. I was thrilled that my two favourite hymns were both sung - what a pleasure! Mike and Malcolm ensured that the necessary gaps between the hymns were filled with interesting anecdotes. Brilliant!

Such an event takes so much thought, preparation and worry. Our thanks and appreciation to you all again.

Joan Cazars of St Katherine's URC in Dunstable writes: Splendid day in the sunshine with games, relaxation, chatting and barbecue organised by Anna and her husband. Rev Heather Whyte dropped in in us and sang along with us all at the Songs of Praise afterwards. About 35 attended, and we all agreed it had been an excellent summer event in beautiful surroundings.





From Edward Street URC: At a recent service we discussed how we find God in Dunstable, how we find God ourselves and how we could help others find God.

The theme was displayed on the noticeboard outside and then some of our ideas were written on posters and put on the railings.

The final hymn was 'Walk, walk in the light'. Those who were able went outside singing and several neighbours could be seen watching us.



panshanger_church
Panshanger Church Following

panshanger_church So in Lazars on Sunday the group looked at Jonah and obedience, but how does Alphabetti-spaghetti and a giant Jannie Dodger come into it?? Come on, give us a clue Lazars?? 😊 #karenbloye #JammieDodger #Spaghetti #AlphabettiSpaghetti #Jonah #Obedience #Panshanger #panshangerchurch #LovePanshanger #churchesinwgcc #wgccchurches #Lazars

Panshangar has been playing with Alphabetti-Spaghetti!

Homewood Road URC has been exploring Communion with the More@4 group



From the **Trinity Community Project:**

We are holding a charity quiz night on the 4th August at 7pm! This will be to raise money for Mind in Mid Herts and Trinity Community Project - to provide support to those within Herts with a learning disability and/or mental health concerns.

It's £10 a ticket which includes a fish and chip, chicken and chips or veg option dinner. There will be a silent auction for prizes like spa treatments and family entry to paradise wildlife park!! It's also bring your own booze!!

It would be lovely to see you there!

From **Bricket Wood URC:**

On Sunday July 30th (being the 5th Sunday of the month) there will be a joint service of the St. Albans cluster at Bricket Wood URC, starting at 10.30am. The service will be led by Rev'd Brian Woodcock and his wife, Sheila, will be playing the piano. Brian and Sheila are well known to most of us and we are very grateful to them for making the journey from Bristol to be with us on this day and we are delighted at the prospect of being able to catch up on all their news.

News from the Links Meeting:

A **TLS Lite group** is being set up to run in the Spring. TLS Lite is a theology course organised by the URC, especially designed to be accessible for anyone. While there is some home reading and reflection to be completed, study groups offer an opportunity to explore the material in the units.

If you'd like to know about the course, please look at:
<http://www.urch.org.uk/more-about-tls-lite.html>

The group would be run by Dick Nunn of Homewood Road URC. If you are interested, please give your name to Anna Barrett of Chiswell Green URC.

It has been decided to hold a **Christmas Creativity event** on November the 25th from 10 - 12 noon with coffee at 9.30. People taking part are invited to participate in a bring and share lunch afterwards if they would like to. There will be an opportunity to create a Christmas flower decoration, amongst other activities. If you would be interested in attending, and if you would be interested in running an activity, please tell your rep!



Chiswell Green URC are starting a follow-on group to Messy Lunch, for older children, called Second Saturday - like a Messy Church for all ages.

Harpenden URC are planning a Praise Service in October

Trinity URC are starting a Messy Church which will held on the LAST Saturday of the month at 4 p.m.

Wigmore Church's Messy Church is held on the third Thursday of each month from 3.45 - 5.15. July's was a party on the beach!

From **Jackie Seller of Wheathampstead URC:**

WUC joined other churches in Wheathampstead to organise and serve the refreshments for the Village Day. We all had great fun working together serving hundreds of cups of tea and cake and raised around £700. This money goes to Churches Together and is used for Christian activities and we also donate to charity. Recently we donated £400 each to Grassroots in Luton and to the Watford And Three Rivers Refugee Project, whom we have helped for many years, usually with donations of food.

We are not having any services of our own in August, so look out for us as we may be joining one of your services.

Best wishes for a happy summer.

Jackie

Prayer Calendar		
23 rd July	Trinity	Messy Church Planning
30 th July	Welwyn Garden City	
6 th Aug	Wheathampstead	Continued guidance for ecumenical project meetings
13 th Aug	Bricket Wood	Strength and a way forward
20 th Aug	Chiswell Green	Second Saturday project
27 th Aug	Edward Street	future study opportunities
3 rd Sep	St Katherine's	prayerful support for the Elders and congregation.
10 th Sep	Harpenden URC	Messy Church planning for an October praise service.

Event	Date & time	Location
Steering Vacancy Committee meeting	Sat 3 rd August 7.30 p.m.	Homewood Road
Steering Committee meeting	Thu 7 th Sep 7 p.m.	Homewood Road
Links Meeting	Tue 12 th Sep 7.30 p.m.	Harpenden
Induction of the Revd Heather Whyte	Sat 7 th Oct 12 noon.	Wigmore Church
Induction of the Revd Jane Weedon	Sat 29 th Oct	Harpenden
Christmas Creativity	Sat 25 th Nov 10 - 12 noon (Coffee 9.30 a.m.)	TBA

A plea from Gill:

I have been producing this Bulletin for a year now! I hope that you have enjoyed reading it. At the Links Group meeting in September we will be discussing the Bulletin and deciding whether we are happy with the format or if it needs updating, and whether the content interests you - we really want to hear your opinions, so PLEASE talk to your rep or email Gill! Also, I will be on holiday later in the year, so I'm looking for a guest editor who might enjoy having a go themselves - I will give any training required. If you would like to share in this, please again, talk to your rep or email Gill. Thank you!