

**The LINK**

**30p**

**October 2016**



**The Parish Church of St Michael Braintree**  
**[www.stmichaelsbtreetree.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelsbtreetree.co.uk)**

Dear Friends

Revelation 2 verse 1 starts, “To the angel of the church in ...” and for the rest of that chapter and chapter 3 “one like a son of man” makes comments about the 7 churches in Asia Minor (modern day Turkey). Like an enlightened father advising a beloved child, each message starts by praising the things they have got right but in most cases moves quickly on to say something like, “yet this I hold against you”. Only poverty stricken Smyrna and strength less Philadelphia are not admonished. Even so, the Spirit always ends with offers of hope to each church that remains faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Nobody likes to be rebuked, especially when we feel we are doing our best. In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5 to 7) Jesus starts with the encouraging words of the Beatitudes but quickly moves on to challenge all the religious preconceptions of His day. In verse 3 of chapter 7 He warns, “Why do you see the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?” In Revelation, the church at Ephesus has “forsaken your first love”. Perhaps it had fallen in love with religious ritual and forgotten the Saviour behind the apostles’ teachings. The church at Pergamum remained “true to My Name” but allowed others to follow the “teaching of Balaam” and in Thyatira they allowed the immorality of the so-called prophetess Jezebel to persist. The church in Sardis is called to “Wake up!” because they are living in “soiled clothes”. And Laodicea is lukewarm because it has been seduced by worldly wealth. Dear Lord, is there a message in all that for the church in England today?

But before we criticise others should we not find out what “one like a son of man” is saying to “the angel of the church in” Braintree? Are we listening? Will we heed the message? Pray that we do because there is so much hope for the future on offer to us if we stay faithful.

On a more personal note, I feel I must honour the passing of Phyllis Sayers. Many of you will know that she was for a long time an effective Sunday school teacher. For my part I will be forever grateful that for more years than I can remember she opened her home to our Bible study group. This was a link back to our days at Goldingham Hall. Phyl loved to read her Bible. In the latter years she had to use a large print study booklet to guide her daily devotions and she loved Wednesday evenings when we sat around in her living room looking into the Word of God in order to know Him more. Why was Phyl such a good Sunday school teacher? I believe it was because of that time she spent quietly each day, first praying for guidance, then reading the Bible passage and checking the study notes against her own personal knowledge of God. I can think of two fitting tributes to her memory. Firstly, if more of us signed up for daily Bible study notes and get into the habit of starting each day with a quiet time of prayer, Bible study and contemplation. Secondly, if someone living in the south side of our parish could open up their home on Wednesday evening so that God's Word will still be studied in all parts of our parish.

Yours in Christ our Saviour

*Cyril Bamforth*

## PCC Meetings 21 July and 8 September

### PCC Meeting 21 July

Cyril Bamforth led a time of prayer, based upon Luke 10:38-42 (Mary & Martha).

The **Treasurer's Report** was presented in David's absence. We have received another payment from the feed-in-tariff from the solar panels on Church House. Our CBF investment is growing. We can recover ministry fees paid during the interregnum from the Diocese except travel expenses.

The **Standing Committee** reported on ongoing maintenance and repair works. We also agreed to get a new lawn mower for Church House garden. The Quinquennial inspection has taken place and we await the report. We granted a donation towards Grace Hopkins mission to Serbia.

Our **Deanery Synod** reps reported that they discussed new ways of doing services that are effective elsewhere such as messy church. There are funds available from the Diocese for mission ideas. Tim Barnes is hoping to establish a "Hub" on the Glebe Estate.

There was a discussion on future governance and it was agreed to contact the Bishop of Maidstone with a view to him coming to speak to the PCC.

We also discussed the **Parish Profile**. We accepted that what we had was a good basis but further ideas could be put forward until 5 August when we would meet together for a time of prayer.

We have received a letter from the Diocese about looking after the Vicarage whilst it is empty. Cyril will be checking the house once a week.

We are keen to continue the fortnightly prayer meeting after the 6.30pm service. We will probably have to suspend Parish Visiting as only 2 or 3 are attending. We hope this can be revived after the summer holidays.

There will be a united service at the Salvation Army on 2 October at 4pm and a Deanery evensong at St. Michaels on 16 October at 6.30pm.

### **PCC meeting 8 September.**

This meeting had been convened with the sole purpose of discussing the future of St. Michael's in the light of Charles' departure. Present were Bishop Roger of Colchester; Archdeacon Robin of Stansted, Rural Dean Rev. Beth Bendry and Rev. John Dunnet of CPAS. As is our custom we started with a Bible reading (Acts 15; 1-21 The Jerusalem Council) followed by a time of prayer. Then the meeting was handed over to the Bishop.

The Bishop started by laying out several pictures of angels and asked each one present to pick out one that represented what they wanted St. Michaels to look like in the future. I think we started off sceptical but once we had discussed our opinions it was generally accepted as a useful exercise.

We went on to discuss the parish profile which will be sent out to all applicants for the vacant post. The consensus from our visitors was that it was not up to scratch and we would need to do quite a bit of revision before it could be sent out, which we agreed to do.

We were disappointed by what was on offer as the description of the post as envisioned by the Diocese but discussions are ongoing. Generally speaking those present were satisfied that this meeting had been a reasonable start to the process.

*Cyril Bamforth*

## **MISSION OF THE MONTH** **LANGHAM PARTNERSHIP**

What do Darion Lopez, Elizabeth Sendek and Igor Amestegui have in common?

They are all Colombians. No, they are not drug barons. They are bible teachers.

Recently they contacted around 300 pastors in their country to establish a school of preaching to equip the churches of that South American republic to hear the word of God in its fullness.

### **PAKISTAN**

Likewise Qaisar Julius and Asif John have done the same in Pakistan. Across the world the growing church wants good bible teaching and able men and women are training in others to preach and teach the bible under the inspiration of Langham Partnership.

### **OUR FAVOURITE COUNTRY OUTSIDE UK!**

Kenya has enjoyed the work of LP for many years. The product of the work of LP is preaching clubs. Among the organisers of these clubs are Ignatius Mainibu and Nduhio Nyoike. They gather pastors together from time to time to preach their sermons to each other, to get a clearer understanding of the Scriptures, encouraging one another in this work of renewal of the church in Kenya.

### **ST MICHAELS ROLE IN OCTOBER**

At our services in October we shall be praying for these able men and women, and many like them. May the Lord Jesus Christ develop able preachers in the churches across the world so that the growing churches will be built up by the word of God.

*Stephen Bailey.*

## LADIES GROUP

Sister Anne-Marie was our first speaker of this new year. She was born in the west of Ireland and is a member of Franciscan Missionary Society of the Immaculate Conception. The society was founded in 1873 by Elizabeth Hayes to bring education and better health care to the poorest and most marginalized people in the world. The society has bases in many parts of the world including Canada and Australia, where they work with the original native populations.

Sister Anne-Marie joined the order in 1958 and has worked in the deep south of the USA where racial prejudices are still present. She has worked with the native populations of Papua New Guinea and South Sudan, in Northern Ireland during the troubles, in Bolivia and Egypt. Twice their bases have been deliberately wrecked and she has been threatened with shooting and dog attacks. Despite now being 77 years of age with back problems Sister Anne-Marie is resolute in her faith and work, she is a truly inspirational woman.

Next month will be our AGM followed by board games.

*Helen Kemp*

I Cross + 3 Nails = 4 Given

*Anon*

## LICENSING OF REVEREND CHARLES MASON 23 AUGUST 2016



A small contingent of St Michaels folk attended Charles' licensing at his new church of Waltham St Lawrence. It was a gloriously hot day and, unfortunately, many of us sweltered in the heat and traffic on the M25 and M4. However, the journey was worth it as the village of Waltham St Lawrence is charming. The church was rebuilt in the 13th century and restored in 1847. It still retains its 19th Century reredos and the pulpit bears the date of 1619.

The Liturgy of Licensing itself involved the Area Dean (Reverend Margaret Bird); the Bishop of Reading (the Right Reverend Andrew Proud); the Churchwardens and the congregation itself. It was a very inclusive and solemn service emphasising the role of the new minister. Charles pledged himself to "Care for the community that gathers here; to share with them the Word of God and the work of ministry; to celebrate with them in the sacraments of the new covenant, and to encourage them in their discipleship." He also affirmed his faith; swore allegiance to the Queen and swore an oath of canonical obedience to his new Bishop. The Bishop then entrusted to him the cure of souls and anointed Charles with oil. At this point the congregation greeted their new Priest-in-Charge with a round of applause.

At the end of this service excellent refreshments were provided at the Neville Hall (our equivalent of Church House) and our group – having said their farewells to Charles and Harsha – left for the journey home.

*Lesley Davey*



Jill Jackson and Julia Allen are having a coffee morning in aid of

'Stand up to Cancer'

Saturday 15 October

Small hall - Church house

Between 10am to 12pm

We would like any able cook to bake us some cakes and bring them on the day.

Please speak to Jill if you want any more information

### **GARDENING TIPS**

October is the almost the end of the year for harvesting. Now the apples are in and last of the tomatoes are being gathered, I turn my time to a tidy up.

It is time for a good prune and a clearing. I would cut back autumn fruiting raspberries and gently trim the trees. The lawn I would give a good raking to remove the dead thatch then head towards giving it the final cut of the year.

*Dave Marriott*

## BELFRY BULLETIN

We have had a busy and interesting time in the Tower of late, with visitors, a Peal, a Quarter Peal and progress amongst our ringers.

We had some non-ringing visitors: Katie Wade from Seattle America who is a friend of the Hill family; Ellie brought along her Grandma Nana Mo to see what this Bellringing is all about; Carl Finlay from Ireland and Nina Augustine, a Slovakian heard the bells ringing and thought they would like to see how it was done. They all had a go and seemed to enjoy the experience.

Learners from Towers in the District have joined us on practice night to widen their knowledge. We have been pleased and able to help with their progress.

We had the pleasure to ring with five members of The Whiting Society, they are very good ringers drawn from all parts of the United Kingdom. A very pleasant Evening.

Some members of The Yorkshire Association had a peal ringing holiday in our area towards the end of August and on Friday 26th they came to St. Michaels and rang an excellent Peal; 5040 changes of Yorkshire Surprise Royal in 2 hours and 44 mins.

We rang a Quarter Peal on Saturday 3 September to celebrate Rod and Lesley Davy's 50th Wedding Anniversary. Earlier this year Tear Fund held an auction of promises for "The No Child Taken" appeal and with a very handsome bid, Rod and Lesley won the Quarter Peal we had donated. Following the service to celebrate their Golden Wedding and renewal of their vows, with our best wishes we rang a very good Quarter Peal. 1260 changes Plain Bob Doubles in 46mins, Gareth Davies 1, Elliss Whitehouse 2, Lin Ould 3, David Learmonth 4, Peter Smith [c] 5, Richard Ould 6. Congratulations Rod and Lesley

Recently some of our members have started to progress to different methods: Phil has gone on to ring Grandsire; Ellie is ringing the Treble to plain method; Gareth has rung Reverse Canterbury, and Ellis is practicing St. Clements Bob Minor. Keep it up.

This is a note in the Guild Log Book for Sunday 14 August: Peter did as he was told! What is the chances of him doing that again?

*Peter Smith*



**Quiz Night**

Wednesday 26th October 2016

7.30pm

at Rayne Village Hall

3 Gore Rd, Rayne, Braintree CM77 6TX

Raffle

Prize for the winning team

Bring your own drinks, nibbles & glasses

**£3 per entry (max six per table)**

Call 01376 330694 for tickets

Want to flex your DIY skills?

Want to make a difference?

Want to share with a great spirit?

Join in the

## **Church and Church House Working Party**

Saturday 22 October

Please let Cyril Bamforth know if you want to make that  
difference.



Come and join our  
**CELEBRATION OF  
LIGHT**

Food, crafts, games, Bible  
stories, songs and more!!

**ON:** Saturday 29 October  
5:30 pm

**AT:** St Michaels Church House

For details call Joel Wicks on:  
01376 321248

[www.lightparty.org.uk](http://www.lightparty.org.uk)

Scripture Union is a registered charity in England & Wales (no. 213422)

## OCTOBER DIARY

### **1 Saturday**

9.30am Women@St. Michaels

### **2 Sunday 19th after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion – Revd Stephen Bailey

10.00am Church Family Worship

4.00pm United Service - Salvation Army

7.30pm Focus

### **3 Monday**

12.15pm Spotlight

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers

7.30pm Bell Ringing

7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

8.00pm Badminton

### **4 Tuesday**

1.15pm Tiddlywinks

7.00pm Christianity Explored

### **5 Wednesday**

10.00am Holy Communion – Revd Stephen Bailey

7.25pm Elders Meeting – Church House

8.00pm Bible Study Groups: Lifebuilder, Notley Road

### **6 Thursday**

2.15pm Women's Fellowship

3.30pm ASK

8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study (please check with Lin first)

### **7 Friday**

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

6.30pm Parish Surgery – Church House

### **8 Saturday**

10.30am A Hymn Jam – Church (See P24)

### **9 Sunday 20th after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion – Revd Sarah Hayward

10.00am Morning Worship – Grace through Faith – Roger Cooke

6.30pm Holy Communion – Salvation is for all people –  
Canon John Turton

7.30pm Focus

8.00pm Prayer Meeting – Jesus Chapel

### **10 Monday**

12.15pm Spotlight

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers

7.30pm Bell Ringing

7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

8.00pm Badminton

### **11 Tuesday**

1.15pm Tiddlywinks

7.00pm Christianity Explored

8.00pm Ladies Group

### **12 Wednesday**

6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts

8.00pm Bible Study Groups: Lifebuilder,  
Notley Road, Chestnut Grove

8.30pm SuMMiT – Beer, chat and curry – Wetherspoons,  
Fairfield Road

### **13 Thursday**

2.15pm Women's Fellowship

3.30pm ASK

7.30pm PCC

### **14 Friday**

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

6.30pm Parish Surgery – Church House

### **15 Saturday**

10.00am Stand up to Cancer coffee morning (See P10)

10.00am CABC 16

### **16 Sunday 21st after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion – tbc

10.00am Morning Holy Communion - One in Christ –  
Revd Stephen Bailey

6.30pm Deanery Evensong – Canon John Turton

7.30pm Focus

## **17 Monday**

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House
- 8.00pm Badminton

## **18 Tuesday NOVEMBER LINK SUBMISSION DUE**

- 7.30pm Christianity Explained

## **19 Wednesday**

- 6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
- 7.25pm Elders Meeting – Church House
- 8.00pm Bible Study Groups: Lifebuilder, Notley Road,

## **20 Thursday**

- 8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study (please check with Lin first)

## **21 Friday**

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
- 6.30pm Parish Surgery – Church House

## **22 Saturday**

- 9.00am Church and Church House working party (See P13)

## **23 Sunday 22nd after Trinity**

- 8.00am Holy Communion – (tbc)
- 10.00am Morning Worship – Mystery of the gospel revealed – Canon John Turton
- 6.30pm Evening Worship – Pardon to all who repent – Cyril Bamforth
- 7.30pm Focus
- 8.00pm Prayer Meeting – Jesus Chapel

## **24 Monday**

- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House
- 7.30pm Standing Committee
- 8.00pm Badminton

## **25 Tuesday**

- 7.30pm Christianity Explained

## **26 Wednesday**

- 7.30pm Braintree Area foodbank Quiz – Rayne Village Hall  
(See P12)
- 8.00pm Evangelism Group
- 8.00pm Bible Study Groups: Lifebuilder, Notley Road,  
Chestnut Grove

## **27 Thursday**

- 2.15pm Women's Fellowship
- 8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study (please check with  
Lin first)

## **28 Friday**

- 6.30pm Parish Surgery – Church House
- 7.30pm Flower Club

## **29 Saturday**

- 5.30pm Celebration of light – Church House (See P14)

## **30 Sunday 23rd after Trinity**

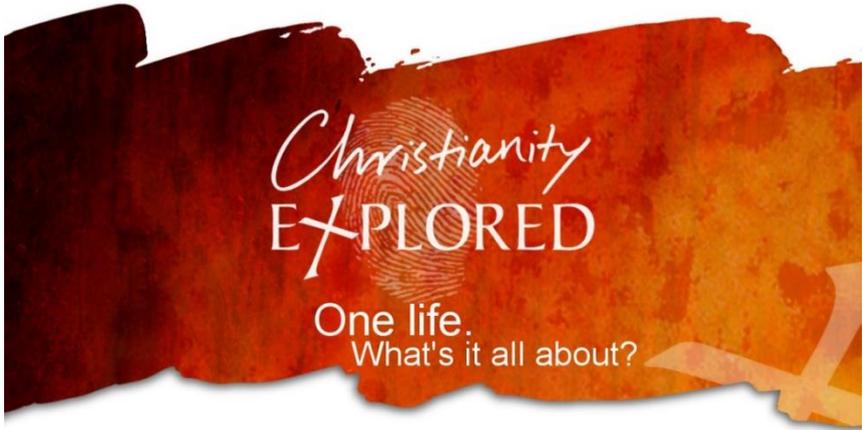
- 8.00am Holy Communion – Revd Sarah Hayward
- 10.00am Morning Worship – Thanksgiving and prayer –  
Canon John Turton
- 6.30pm United Service - Great Notley Cornerstone
- 7.30pm Focus

## **31 Monday**

- 12.15pm Spotlight
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House
- 8.00pm Badminton

## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

**No Entries**



**Tuesdays from 4 October  
7- 9 pm  
St Michaels Church House**

- An informal course to discover what being a Christian is really all about.
- Starts with a free hot meal
- Babysitting available - please ask
- Also ideal for new Christians
- Last session 15 November

To book or for more information, please contact:

Lin Terris  
Joel Wicks

# **SHOEBOX APPEAL FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

## **Part of SAMARITAN'S PURSE**

October is the month to pack shoeboxes! For many years our church has supported Operation Christmas Child by filling shoeboxes to be sent around the world to children in need, particularly in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. In order that the majority of these arrive in time for Christmas the boxes are collected during October and early November for checking and dispatch during November. This is a practical way of showing God's love to children who have very little and for whom this is their only gift.

Can you join in filling a shoebox this year? There will be a display of sample boxes in church during October together with information sheets on what can be sent. It is helpful if all boxes can be in church by Sunday 6 November.

I know a number of people are already busy knitting, making things and collecting other items. We are also delighted to have 'fillers' which can be added to boxes with little in or put together to create boxes. Several members of our congregation help in the warehouse checking boxes and are glad to take extra fillers.

The types of items we need are stationery (pens, pencils, rubbers, pencil sharpeners, paper, note pads), hats, gloves and scarves, bags, jewelry, small balls, small games, toy cars, clean manufactured soft toys, sweets (but not chocolate), flannels, bars of soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

If you would like further information please contact:

Jenny Chapman, Frankie Winning, Sue Marriott

## REMINISCENCES OF OUR TIME AT ST MICHAEL'S

When we decided to move here from Bishop's Stortford in 1995 we didn't know too much about where to live in Braintree but were persuaded by the estate agents' details of "in the popular St Michaels School catchment area" and so our journey with this church began.

Up until moving to Braintree we hadn't gone to church really at all, we weren't opposed to it but didn't see it as something that interested us. However we'd both grown up being taught the basic bible stories in school. We were married in church and had had both Mary and Kate "Christened". In all honesty Louise saw pram service as a way of meeting other mums and giving us an extra "foot in the door" at the school! At this point Oliver wasn't really interested and we still didn't attend on Sundays! The details are hazy but Louise, pregnant with Esme and friendly with Pippa (Curate's wife), embarked on a Christianity Explored course at the McHaffie's home. It was fantastic – she was able to ask questions of Alastair and things started to click, she only missed one week to give birth and then went back with Esme in the baby carrier! Louise started attending on Sunday and Oliver came to the family services – one of Oliver's earliest memories is spending the service in the crèche with Kate, screaming for her Mummy! Some of you will remember that Esme spent her first Christmas in hospital with whooping cough at only 3 months old. The church family were so kind, flowers, cakes and casseroles left on our doorstep and Oliver, snoozing by Esme, was woken by Barney who had come to visit and pray for her. These acts of kindness got Oliver thinking.

We then departed for Singapore in February 1997 after having Esme baptised and attended a British church there. Two years later we returned to Braintree, with Mary and Kate going to St Michaels school we soon settled back into church life with

Oliver attending regularly. Louise started at the Life Builder home bible study and her faith grew stronger and her knowledge wider, she did attend some other great home groups as the timings suited more but returned and is still there and is going to miss it very much. She also attended Meeting Point, Pram Service (Esme was convinced Suresh was Jesus!), helped run a parenting group with Jill Stuchfield, helped out in Sunday school and SMASH club and helped Greg and Margrit run Junior Club. Louise has liked playing her small part in Women @ St Michael's and the Evangelism group and Oliver has been part of SuMMiT, for the men of St Michael's which he too has really enjoyed. The girls went from Pram Service to Friday night Junior Club and Thursday night Lazars and attended the various Sunday school groups. Jonathan once said what a great evangelist Kate was as she always brought lots of friends as did Esme. Meanwhile Oliver was thinking that he needed to do more to cement his faith, he planned to talk to Malcolm Peters about it but before he could Malcolm approached him about a Men's Bible study he was starting up and whilst attending that, under Malcolm's guidance, Oliver's faith grew. When Mark Heasman suggested a men's weekend away called LionHeart and along with Paul, Andy, Richard and Steve the six of them formed Band of Brothers to encourage and grow men's faith in the church.

Some of our happiest memories are of when the girls were primary age and really involved in all the weekly activities for kids that St Michaels used to offer (we seemed to be always in Church House!)- with "cool" teenagers (namely the Mahoods, Strathearns, Clarks and Cookes) for them to look up to and as a family we were very much involved. We enjoyed the Hengrave Hall weekends and Louise was able to attend groups in the week before she started working again. However as they grew up Mary and Kate were pretty much on their own in St Michaels age wise and once they were teenagers Mary, through a school friend who was also a Christian, was introduced to Kings Church

and Kate soon followed – with a large teenage contingent they made life long Christian friends and their faith continued to grow. In particular Kate and Esme enjoyed helping in SMASH. It was wonderful to see Kate marry Josh last year in the Church in which her Christian faith is rooted.

We have attended St Michaels for over 20 years – seen 2 Vicars, 4 Curates and various friends come and go – we have always felt at home here and enjoyed good fellowship and are thankful to God for guiding us to St Michaels where He knew we would grow in our faith and to the people who work so hard to keep the church running and serving the congregation. We really pray that St Michaels grows and that God's chosen person for you is found soon. If we could recommend anything to people reading this it would be to firstly try and attend a home study group and if the current ones don't suit your timings then speak to someone about starting a new one, also get involved, volunteer and serve with as much as you can in church life, especially outreach initiatives as it will help in bringing God's kingdom to Braintree!

Although it is difficult to say goodbye to our life here we are confident that God has prepared the way for us:

Jeremiah 29:11: “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

We are going to miss everyone so much and please if you ever visit Cornwall come and see us!!

God bless you!

*Louise and Oliver Trevelyan*

# A Hymn Jam

Saturday 8 October

10.30 - 12.00 in Church



## Who is it for?

All beginners and learners of any instrument, including your voice, and of any age are welcome.



## What will we do?

We'll play and sing songs with simple chords and melodies, and make a joyful noise to the Lord, as tunefully as we can.

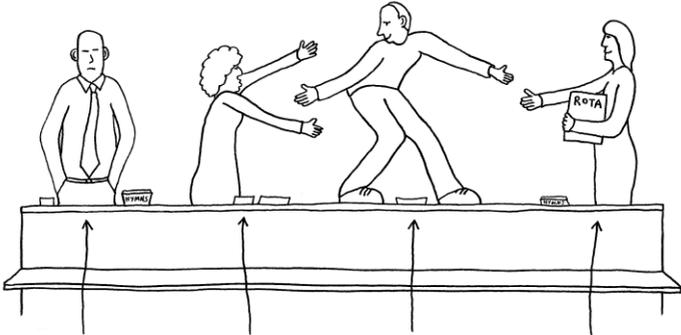
Any questions contact Jonathan Wicks



# A LITTLE HUMOUR

## THE PEACE

THIS IS A TIME DURING THE SERVICE WHICH IS SET ASIDE FOR PEOPLE TO BE NICE TO ONE ANOTHER. DIFFERENT PEOPLE SHARE THE PEACE IN DIFFERENT WAYS:



THE NON PARTICIPANT. TRIES TO AVOID EYE CONTACT IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT SOON THIS INDIGNITY WILL END

THE PERSONAL SPACE INVADER. PURVEYOR OF UNWANTED HUGS AND KISSES

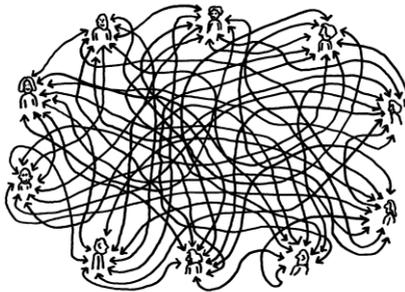
THE OLYMPIC PEACEGIVER. AIMING TO GREET ENTIRE CONGREGATION. EYES ALREADY ON NEXT VICTIM

THE CHURCH BUSINESS CONDUCTOR. WILL BLESS YOU WITH MANY MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

## THE PEACE

IT IS TRADITIONAL FOR EVERYONE IN THE CHURCH TO SHAKE THE HAND OF EVERY OTHER PERSON IN THE CHURCH

THIS DIAGRAM SHOWS THE 45 PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS THAT TAKE PLACE WHEN EVERYONE IN A CONGREGATION OF TEN SHAKES HANDS WITH EVERYONE ELSE



IN A CONGREGATION OF 20 THERE WILL BE 190 PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS

IN A CONGREGATION OF 50 THERE WILL BE 1225 PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS

IN A CONGREGATION OF 100 THERE WILL BE 4950 PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS

FORMULA THAT CAN BE USED TO IMPRESS PEOPLE AT PARTIES:

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PEACEFUL INTERACTIONS IS  $N \times \left(\frac{N-1}{2}\right)$

WHERE 'N' IS THE NUMBER OF CONGREGANTS