

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



December 2013 - January 2014

St Ursula's Church Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne, Switzerland

Chaplain

Ven Peter Potter

031 351 03 43

079 922 71 30 (emergencies only)

Honorary Assistant Chaplain **Youth Coordinator**

Linda Bisig

Mary McKinley

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals by arrangement with the Chaplain

Normal pattern of Sunday services:

8.30 Said Eucharist (2nd and 4th Sundays)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church and Crèche

Our services follow the Church of England's Common Worship Order One (2000)

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, the 10.00 service is usually less formal.

See Calendar of Services inside for details of the next few weeks.

Services in Thun: 19.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month: Eucharist and Bible study. Contact: church office 031 352 8567

ST URSULA'S BERNE

The church is one of the nine Swiss chaplaincies that have a resident chaplain (minister) and together form the Archdeaconry of Switzerland. This is part of the Anglican Diocese of Europe which stretches from the Canary Islands to Ankara, from Moscow to Morocco.

The church was built in 1906 on a site that had been given to the community by the British-Berne Land Co. An American lady, Mrs Castleman from St Louis, provided the bulk of the money for the building as a thank offering for the near miraculous recovery of her adopted daughter, who was treated at the clinic of the famous Professor Kocher.

The hall and the house were added in 1959. An English Missionary Society, the USPG, helped to support the church from its earliest days. Since 1977, however, the chaplaincy has been fully self-supporting, relying solely on its members and well-wishers for its financial support.

St Ursula's has a long tradition of ministry to all English-speaking people in the Canton of Berne and beyond. It also provides a home for Christians from many different denominations and cultural backgrounds. Regular worshippers are encouraged to add their names to the Electoral Roll and so play a full part in the life of the church. Details from the Churchwardens or any member of the Church Council.

See Calendar inside for details of this month's services

St Ursula's Church website: <http://www.anglican.ch/berne>

E-mail: berne@anglican.ch



St Ursula's Church Magazine

VOL 32/6

December 2013 — January 2014

Published & printed in Berne by St Ursula's Church/Hergestellt in Bern durch St Ursula's Church
Appears 6x a year/wird 6x jährlich herausgegeben

Annual Subscription Rates:
Fr20 including inland postage
Postfinance Account 30-4416-8 UBS Bern: IBAN CH41 0023 5235 9258 1510 0

Table of Contents

Chaplain's Message	2	Junior Church	17
Pictures of Christmas	3	Calling All Angels	17
Quotable Quote	4	Happy Birthday	18
FAQ: At what age should children stay in church?	5	Youth Confirmation Class	18
A Word for the Month - Emmanuel	6	Calendar of Services	19
Ad Clerum	8	Prayer Diary	20
Bishop's Advent Appeal	10	For Your Diary	22
Diocese of Europe Advent Appeal	11	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld	24
How much do you know?	12	Daytime House Group in Stettlen	24
Christmas Bazaar	13	St Ursula's Charity & Missions Team	25
Christmas Cakes	13	Mission Sunday and Potluck Meal	27
Chaplain's Notes	14	Thun Church and Neuchâtel Church	27
Church Library	15	Partners (Partner sein)	28
Money and 2014	16	Charity of the Month: Train-a-Priest	31
		Here to Help You	40

COPY DATE

for the February—March magazine is

12 JANUARY 2014

Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE: 23 JANUARY 2014

Chaplain's Message



Is the glass half full or half empty?

There is definitely a strain in Christianity that tends towards the half empty. Some Christians tend to dwell on the subject of sin or to suggest that, through sin or ignorance, other believers do not allow the Holy Spirit to work in their lives. This so easily leads to judgemental attitudes. In Nazareth, how many “holier than thou” villagers pointed to the pregnant but unmarried Mary and said with great smugness “She's obviously hindering the Holy Spirit”?

When people make statements like this, are they judging others by their own experiences and prejudices? Doubtless there are those who look at our services at St Ursula's and think the Holy Spirit is not there. Is this because they have their own checklist of what is required for Spirit-filled worship? Perhaps they imagine their own words are more Spirit-filled than the treasured prayers that have sustained and comforted believers over the centuries? Perhaps through ignorance they do not realise that bread and wine are being changed by power of the Holy Spirit; that Christ, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary, is present with us in Word and Sacrament? Perhaps, through ignorance, they do not see the continuous but unspectacular changes that are brought about in people's lives by their weekly receiving of the Word made flesh?

Or am I falling into the trap of being judgemental too?

Rather than looking at the world with hostile eyes, we should be using this Advent season in trying to see where the Holy Spirit is at work. In a recent interview, Papa Francesco told us “I see holiness in the patience of the people of God: a woman who is raising children: a man who works to bring home the bread; the sick; the elderly priests who have so many wounds but have a smile on their faces because they served the Lord; the sisters who worked hard and live a hidden sanctity. My grandmother Rosa, who loved me ...” If we look with eyes of faith, we are likely to see that the glass is more usually half full, not half empty.

*The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,
and she conceived by the Holy Spirit.*

The work of the Spirit today is to bring life, to conceive in us. In the Creed we call him “the Lord and giver of life”. The challenge to us is to see that gift of life, even when it is not what we were expecting – like a teenage mother with her helpless and homeless baby!

Peter

Pictures of Christmas

Any parent and any teacher can tell you – children are not always as good as gold. And I like to imagine a young woman in Ireland in the 1840s, Miss Humphreys, perhaps a little tired of the antics of some of the children in her Sunday school class, taking her pen and sitting down to write a song about Jesus for them to sing, including the lines:

*Little children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.*

Miss Cecil Humphreys published a number of her *Hymns for Little Children* in 1848. She married a young clergyman, William Alexander, who went on to become Archbishop of Armagh (and the last Irish bishop with a seat in the House of Lords in Westminster). Cecil Frances Alexander was a prolific hymn writer – and not only for children. But this hymn has fixed itself in people's affection, especially those who tune in to the BBC to hear the carols from King's College, Cambridge, and the lone chorister singing:

*Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
With a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.*



The city, the cattle shed, the mild and obedient toddler are figments of Miss Humphrey's devotion, and a careful reading of the text in the Gospels gives no hint that Bethlehem was anything other than a large village, that Jesus was born anywhere other than in a normal room, or that he was unusually obedient (almost the opposite, if we consider Luke 2:41-50!). Many of the other things we associate with Christmas are products of our own devotion, sometimes even taken over from pagan superstitions and reinvested with Christian meaning.

So the farm animals in mediæval art recalled the opening words of Isaiah: “The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib...” (1:3). And in the same way, the holly, with its red berries and prickly leaves reminding all of Christ's life-giving blood prevailing over the agonies of sin and death, the Yule log, with its reviving flame shining in the darkness of the darkest time of the year, the robin, whose red feathers again recall Christ's wounds on the cross (though its appearance on Christmas cards probably arose from the red coats worn by Victorian postmen, and thus stressed the bonds of family prevailing over

distance!), all of these heighten and enhance our experience of the coming of the Christ in human flesh.

It is very good that we can take these commonplace things – the winter's snow, the carolling children, the church bells – and hang our own ideas on them. They help us to see in our mind's eye the significance of God coming to meet our cold and prickly world, and the joy that the coming of the Christ-child brought. They bring the abstract theological concept of incarnation to life.

The writers of the Gospels do this too. Even John's account of the Word made flesh uses pictures to get the message across – the light that shines in the darkness, the rejection that lay before the incarnate saviour.

Matthew and Luke each select their own pictures to bring out the meaning of what happened on that night of nights. For Luke, it is the humble shepherds, and the tale of Mary's realization of the part she was to play in God's plan. For Matthew, it is the visitors following the star – the salvation of the world is not simply through a line passing from Adam to Abraham, from Abraham to David, and from David to Jesus, but it is something for people in unknown reaches of the globe to marvel at and to worship.



So let us enjoy the tinsel and the fellowship, the Yule log and the kings on camels, even perhaps the red-nosed reindeer, but as we do so, let them lead us closer to the true spirit of Christmas. Not just feasting and fun, but true joy: that the incarnation revealed God not as a distant heavenly being, but as someone ready to share our full humanity with us – in Jesus. Ring out, those bells!

- Hector Davie

Quotable Quote

Si libentes crucem portas portabit te

If you bear the cross gladly it will bear you.

Thomas à Kempis

- Dorothy Beriger



FAQ: At what age should children stay in church?

How about – *from birth?*

At St Ursula's we are fortunate to have a dedicated team of helpers in the crèche and Junior Church. We are grateful to them for all that they do to help the children grow up in the faith of the Church. Nevertheless it is up to



parents to decide if they would prefer to keep their children with them during the service. Not everyone agrees with this, however, and some people find children a distraction. Parents can be intimidated by “tut-tuts” and disapproving looks.

I am not talking about children who are being deliberately naughty. When that happens, parents do need to take action. On the other hand babies do cry and toddlers do get restless. Usually, though, this need not be distracting. I usually reckon I can talk louder than them anyway. Something to occupy the little ones can help; parents can bring a goody-bag to church, with a soft toy or picture book (preferably with a bible story or prayers). Even if a toddler wanders about a bit, it shouldn't cause a problem.

In fact, adults can be more of a distraction sometimes – like the people who insist on chatting to their neighbour during the distribution of Communion. Fortunately in St Ursula's we don't seem to suffer from whistling hearing aids, which I have experienced in other churches.

If little children are made to feel uncomfortable and their parents feel they have to take them out, then the children will not be happy in church and may well start to misbehave. On the other hand, if a child is in church frequently, he or she will soon learn that there is something special going on and that there are ways of behaving appropriately. We should not underestimate children's spirituality and capacity for wonder. We need to give them the opportunity to develop these as part of the church family.

As we prepare to welcome the Baby Jesus, perhaps we should ask ourselves how we would react if Mary and Joseph brought him along to St Ursula's one morning.

-PMP

A Word for the Month – Emmanuel

It's not a difficult word. Well, a bit difficult, because it is in Hebrew, but Matthew's Gospel gives its readers a perfectly good translation: *emma*, with, *nu*, us, *el*, God – God is with us.

It's not a word that we use very often, though. Despite the angel explaining to Joseph that “they shall call his name Emmanuel”, we don't. We call him Jesus – a Greek form (for the Gospel was written in Greek) of the Hebrew name Joshua – God saves. We reserve Emmanuel for hymns and carols, because it rhymes nicely with Noël (an old French word for birthday) and Israel (another name of Jacob, whose twelve sons, according to the Old Testament, were fathers of a nation).

Matthew recalls the angel's message to Joseph for two main reasons. The first is that in the birth of Jesus, God is indeed really “with us”. The first gospel does not get into the same poetic detail as the fourth: “The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory”, but the idea is the same.

But the second is one of Matthew's distinctive themes. In Jesus, Old Testament prophecy is being fulfilled. Not so much the idea that the Old Testament writers predicted in detail the things that would happen in the course of Jesus' life. But far more, that the Old Testament writers had a deep insight into God's relationship with the human race. And from this insight there emerged themes and ideas that the early church recognized as being fulfilled in things that Jesus did or experienced.

The book we know as Isaiah is rich with many of these themes – most notably the idea of God's suffering servant, “wounded for our transgressions”, “by whose stripes we are healed” - the prophet doubtless had the sufferings of God's people, Israel, in mind, but it is easy for us to see that the theme applies much more powerfully to Jesus, the true representative of Israel, and his sufferings for us on the Cross.

Matthew makes use of a prophecy in an earlier part of Isaiah – Isaiah 7. Here again, the theme is God's love for the people of Israel, but the message is far more political, and tied up with the complex threats to the balance of power in the Middle East. (Is nothing new under the sun?) Basically, the dominant power in the region is Assyria. The king in Jerusalem's strategy is to form an alliance with Samaria and Damascus to oppose this. Isaiah's message is that this will not work. The Assyrians will feel threatened and will attack. Israel will be overrun.

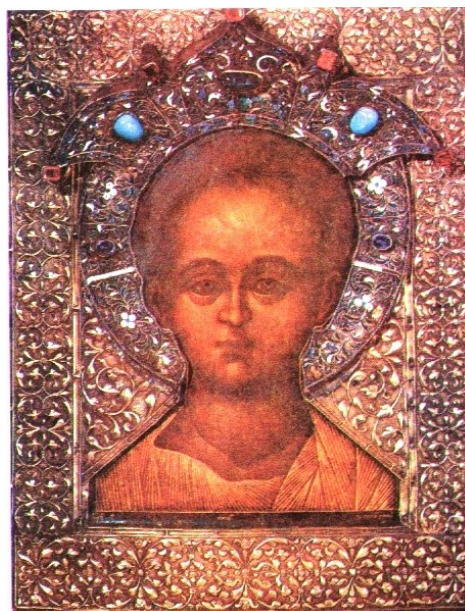
Isaiah brings the point home with three stories. All three involve children with symbolic names. Firstly Isaiah takes his son, Shear-jashub (“a remnant shall return”). He goes to meet Ahaz, the king of Judea, and tells him that his prospective allies in Samaria and Damascus are simply out to invade Jerusalem for themselves. Then Isaiah draws a picture of a solution. Judea stays out of the alliance, Assyria invades Samaria and Damascus, and two birds are killed with one stone – Judah remains unharmed, and the threat of invasion from the false friends in the north is lifted.

Ahaz is not convinced, so Isaiah tells him to ask for a sign that Isaiah's words are true. But Ahaz refuses, and Isaiah tells him that God will provide a sign: “the young woman” (the Greek text says “the virgin”) will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. God is with Judah. And before the baby becomes a child, the lands governed from Samaria and Damascus will be laid waste.

Ahaz is still not convinced, though, and still wants to proceed with his alliance. Isaiah warns of the consequences, by acting out a further prophecy: he fathers a son, and names him Maher-shalal-hash-baz – the most contrived name of the lot, meaning “The spoil speeds, the prey hastens”. Before the baby learns to speak, the gentle streams of Shiloah will turn to a raging flood from Assyria and will almost destroy Judah.

Isaiah's message was directed at the rulers of his time, caught up in the politics of the region seven hundred years before the birth of Jesus. But again, seven hundred years after Isaiah, a son would be born who would break the power of our own enemies – of sin and death. This son, Jesus, would come among us, share our own nature, and stand beside us - in every sense, he would be “God with us.”

- *Hector Davie*



*Christ Emmanuel, icon with riza
by Simon Ushakov, 1668.*

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



AD CLERUM

On this, the last day of my ministry as Bishop in Europe, I write to you – and through you to all the chaplaincies of the Diocese – to thank you for your love, prayer and support over the twelve years I have been privileged to serve you as your Bishop. In particular I must thank all of you who so generously subscribed to the marvellous ikon of Our Lady with the Patron Saints of Europe, which was presented to me at the Eucharist at St Margaret's, Westminster, on October 23rd. This Ikon is a wonderful and generous gift, ('written' by my former pupil, Ian Knowles, who runs the Bethlehem Ikon School), which was hallowed by Archbishop Gregorios of Thyateira and Great Britain. Archbishop Gregorios represented the Ecumenical Patriarch at my enthronement in Gibraltar Cathedral on All Saints' Day, 2001, and is a long-standing friend. It was very good that he could be there at the end of my ministry in the Diocese in Europe as well as at the beginning.

I have been deeply touched by the many greetings, gifts and messages of goodwill that I have received as I leave my responsibilities as Bishop in Europe – but not my responsibilities and calling as a Bishop in the Church of God – and I thank each and every one of you for them all. As I will continue to pray for you, so I ask that you will continue to remember me in my prayers for this new phase of my ministry. Pray also for Bishop David as he takes pastoral care of the Diocese during the Vacancy-in-See, and for those who will have the responsibility under God of choosing my successor as Diocesan Bishop.

Following the wonderful celebration in St Margaret's was an equally special Eucharist on All Saints' Day in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Gibraltar. In both churches my episcopal ministry in the Diocese began – St Margaret's for my Commissioning

on St Luke's Day, 2001, and Gibraltar for my enthronement on All Saints' Day. As T. S. Eliot wrote in the *Four Quartets* – *In my beginning is my end and no less in my end is my beginning*. As Eliot also wrote: *The hint half guessed, the gift half understood is Incarnation*. And so:

With the drawing of this Love and the voice of this Calling

*We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.*

We live in changing and challenging times, which demand of each and all of us a deep faithfulness in our Christian discipleship, and a waiting on God in prayer. We need to go deep if we are to speak the truth of God about the meaning and purpose of our human lives, and resist the glib attractions of a superficial secularism. Be assured – God holds us deeply and securely in His love and care. As the Psalmist reminds us: *Fret not yourself because of the ungodly*. The temptation of fretfulness is all too easy, and there is too much fretting in the Church today. *In quietness and confidence shall be your strength*. The Lord Jesus encouraged His disciples on the eve of His Passion with the promise of His peace. *Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid*. And so, as I bid you farewell, *May the peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ Our Lord, and the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you, always*. Go, therefore, in that Peace of Christ to love and serve the Lord.

+GEOFFREY,
Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe,
8th November, 2013

The Feast of the Saints, Martyrs and Doctors of the Church of England

BISHOP'S ADVENT APPEAL 2013

As one of my last duties as Bishop of the Diocese I write to commend the Bishop's Advent Appeal to you all. This comes with the endorsement of Bishop David and the Archdeacons and Senior Staff of the Diocese.

The Diocese has a number of twinning links – with the Diocese of Visby and the Swedish Church Abroad, with the Diocese of Luweero in Uganda (linked particularly with the North-West Archdeaconry) and the Diocese of Peru (linked particularly with the Gibraltar Archdeaconry). Bishop Bill Godfrey of Peru, whom I know well, has visited the Gibraltar Archdeaconry Synod on a number of occasions, and this year's Advent Appeal is for a project in his Diocese. It is focussed on the San Mateo Mission and School on the edge of a shanty town on the north-east of Lima. As you will see from the attached information this is a clearly practical project which will make a real and significant difference in a place of real need, and assist the educational and spiritual development of children. I need not say how important this is as part of Christian witness and service. As we prepare for Christmas, and remember with awe and wonder the love of God shown in his coming among us in the fragility and poverty of the child born in a cow-byre at Bethlehem, I commend this project to you for your support this Advent. Please give generously, and find imaginative ways of raising money for this.

With every blessing,

+ GEOFFREY

November, 2013

Diocese of Europe Advent Appeal 2013

This year's Diocesan Advent Appeal will be for the Anglican Diocese of Peru for a project in the San Mateo School and Mission in Lima.



The Anglican Church of Peru is a missionary diocese with growing churches, forming part of the Body of Christ in South America's third largest country. There are parishes and missions in Lima, Arequipa, Juliaca, Ica and Cabanaconde as well as numerous social outreach and development programs so desperately needed in this poor country. As a missionary diocese, it still relies on support from overseas mission personnel, mission organizations, and direct support from churches and individuals.

The Anglican Church of Peru is a diocese, which is clearly both Peruvian and Anglican in its identity. Its roots and history go back to the first half of the nineteenth century with the arrival of English and N. American immigrants. But Peruvian congregations are now the overwhelming majority, even though there is still a live English-speaking congregation at the Cathedral. National clergy and lay ministers make the Church and its worship relevant to the people they serve in Christ's name and in many of our congregations Latin American Christian music enhances the worship.

San Mateo is a mission and school existing since the year 2000 in the north east of Lima, on the edge of a shantytown. The school provides education, nutrition and medical care for children from nearby shantytowns in northeast Lima (Peru).

The school has approximately 250 pupils. Most of the children come from the surrounding poor areas. Besides formal subjects, it cares about the all round development of the children, and offers art, music, dancing, physical education, sport – not available in state schools – and the life of the school is centred on Christian faith and values in a family atmosphere.

Because of poverty, many of the children arrive at school without breakfast, so one of the support projects is to provide them with both breakfast and lunch. This has had the added bonus of creating a family atmosphere as children and

teachers sit down to eat together. A good diet is part of the health that we believe is vital for good learning; and besides this, each child receives regular check-ups from the diocesan doctor and medical team.

The school is part of St Matthew’s Mission and the priest, Padre Ruben, runs the mission church and offers pastoral care to the school, its children and families, and the school has a regular weekly Eucharist; and the life of the mission is like that of any normal parish.



The project is to work with the San Mateo Mission and School in Lima to build two new classrooms and a mission church (which will also be used as a chapel for the school) on a piece of land adjacent to the school.

The mission and school have started raising funds for the buildings but need the boost of help from their Christian partners. The classrooms will cost approximately US\$15,000 and the chapel US\$30,000.

How much do you know?

1. How did Mary travel to Bethlehem?

- a. on a camel
- b. on a donkey
- c. on foot



3. And how did the wise men travel?

- a. on camels
- b. on donkeys
- c. on foot

2. How many wise men were there?

- a. One. The rest were all women.
- b. Three – Caspar, Melchior and Bathazar.
- c. At least four, each with their attendants.

4. Where was Jesus born?

- a. in a cowshed
- b. in an annexe to an inn
- c. in a manger

Answers below

Of course we have no idea – the only impossible thing is Mary giving birth in a feeding trough! We know only what the Gospel writers want to tell us – otherwise, we can only make intelligent guesses.



Christmas Bazaar 2013



This magazine was printed shortly before the bazaar took place. However even though at the time of writing we haven't a clue how financially successful we were (or weren't!) and haven't any photographs to display, we do know that the Christmas Bazaar can't happen without an inordinate amount of help from dozens of people, so - a HUGE thanks to all the many, many people who dedicated hours of their time and skills both behind the scenes and on stalls - before, during and after the bazaar.

Special thanks to all those who undertook to organise and run a stall/event.

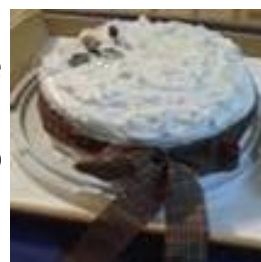
I hope everyone who helped and attended the bazaar had a wonderful and joyous start to the Christmas period.

A full report with photographs will be in the February/March magazine.

- Jana Kutesko, Church Office

Christmas Cakes

My grateful thanks to Jana, for making our job so much easier by preparing all the ingredients, to Joan, Jane, Anne and, again, Jana, for making the Christmas Cake preparation day go so smoothly. Special thanks also to the kind folk who have baked, iced and decorated the cakes. I feel sure we will again have a successful sale!



- Libby Stewardson

Chaplain's Notes

WORDS FOR PRAYER

We are often told that we can just use our own words when we pray and that we don't have to use formal language. That is true – sometimes – but when Jesus' disciples asked him, he gave them a form of words to use.

The Church has a huge treasury of prayers, built up and crafted over the centuries. There are ones for every occasion, especially when our own words fail us. On Fridays in Advent, we shall be looking at some of these. We shall meet on 29 November, 6, 13 and 20 December. Please see the poster and sign-up list in the hall for further details.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES



The pattern established in recent years has proved to suit most people and we shall continue it this year. We shall have our children's service on Christmas Eve, an earlier start to "Midnight" Mass and a Carol Service on Christmas morning.

Please remember that the services on 22 December are for the fourth Sunday of Advent. We shall have some lovely music but it won't be Christmas carols!

Because some of the regulars are away for the holidays, our rotas can get rather stretched for these services. If you are going to be here, please see if you can help – even if it is not a job that you usually do. We get a lot of visitors and it is important that everything runs smoothly for them.

Details of the services are on the greetings card included with your magazine.

JANUARY DATES

Our next service with prayers for healing will be on **12 January**. The busy-ness of Christmas and New Year can cause stress and anxiety. For some people, memories and anniversaries can make this a difficult time of year. Our service will be an opportunity to offer all these mixed emotions to God in prayer.

The ecumenical service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be on **19 January**. It will take place at the Münster as usual. **Please note that there are no services at St Ursula's that day.**



St Ursula's will be hosting the Archdeaconry Synod on Saturday **25 January**. Help with serving refreshments would be appreciated.

Our annual Missions Sunday is on **26 January**. This year the focus will be on the work of Partner Sein and the speaker will be Robert Amstutz, who is the Archdeaconry's representative on the Partner Sein committee. Please come and find out more about this mission agency run by our sister church. The service will be followed by a bring and share lunch, at which all are welcome.

A GREENER CHURCH?



Thank you to everyone who contributed suggestions at our Creationtide service. Quite a few related to changing our personal behaviour – recycle, re-use, replenish. Others were about setting an example. Some suggested ways of saving energy at church (and the Council is currently looking into this). Other ideas included assessing the mission projects we support for their environmental effectiveness and changing the time of the Sunday service to make it easier to come by public transport.

Church Library

Attention readers: St Ursula's has an extensive library which is open most Sundays. If you like the feel of paper in your hands as you read, then come over to the library corner and see if you can find a book of interest to you. The library has books on spirituality, family and Christian living, and history plus biographies, adult fiction reference books, and books for children and youth. There are even a Bible Trivia game and a few DVDs. And if there is a specific Christian book you would like to read but which we don't have the librarians are willing to considering purchasing it and adding it to the stock. Come one, come all!!



- Donna Goepfert

Money and 2014

Today we can read the Bible on our computer or smart phone. Five hundred years ago, a revolution occurred in the church, at least partly because of the invention of movable printing type and an abundance of paper for the printing presses. Before that, monks laboriously copied the Scriptures (as the name implies) by hand on to dried leather, and before that used fabric made from papyrus reeds. Have you ever thought what would have happened if the supply of papyrus, of parchment, of paper or of internet data suddenly dried up?

The work of the Bible is to convey the Good News of God's salvation. But without the humdrum jobs of reed-cutters, scribes, printers, typists, or software technicians, we would not be able to receive the Good News. The work of the church is the same – proclaiming the Gospel, living it out in deed and worship. But again, without the buildings, the musical instruments, the candles, the coffee after the service, the same would be true. And reed-cutters and organ tuners need money to live on.

Each year, we ask you to consider the church's needs and to pledge, or promise, to contribute towards them. We like to know how much we can rely on, so that we can plan our spending efficiently. That is why it is important to return your pledge form (either by post, or through the collection plate, or just by making the promised payment there and then).

In the meantime, we are striving to use our resources wisely. The council has set up an energy group to use the resources God has given in a responsible way – and you can help by adding your suggestions. In time, the group will be formulating particular projects, which individuals may wish to sponsor (whether with a few francs for an economy shower head, or with a contribution towards a fundamental redesign of our heating system.) And of course you can help too, by ensuring lights are not left on or doors left open unnecessarily, or that the heating is not tampered with.

We are on track towards a year of serving Gods purposes more effectively. But we are not there yet. Please remember our needs, in your prayers, your consideration for others, your respect for God's creation, and in your giving.

- *The Treasurer*

Junior Church

The Junior Church (Sunday School) provides Christian teaching for children aged 3 upwards. Children under 3 are welcome in the crèche/nursery which meets every Sunday in the lower hall.



Calling All Angels



We need angels of all ages for this year's **Nativity Play** on
Sunday 8 December

The youth group are performing a short sketch, after which the heavenly host will tell the traditional Christmas story. Prophets, shepherds, wise men, and, of course, Mary and Joseph are all caught up in God's plan.

Come along and join in!

If you would like to take part,
please contact the church office or Tricia Carrick.

Up-to-date information is available on our web-site:
<http://www.stursula.ch/Junior/nativity.html>

- *Tricia Carrick*

Happy Birthday!

Congratulations to the Junior Church Children with birthdays in December and January:

Giorgio Pagano 6 on 10 December

David Eze 5 on 12 December

Anabelle Hebeisen 12 on 12 December

Samuel Klein 13 on 17 December

Aydon Kuruvilla 2 on 4 January

Sebastian Hargrave 7 on 9 January

Kilian King 9 on 24 January

Jonathan Hebeisen 15 on 28 January



Youth Confirmation Class

The new youth confirmation class has got off to a good start. All ten members are very committed and seem to be enjoying the meetings so far. They all contribute which leads to interesting discussions.

As Christians, we are all on a journey and I appreciate being able to travel a few steps together with these young people, learning more about God and aspects of the Christian faith on the way.

The class will run for about 18 months, with hopefully an opportunity for confirmation in June 2015. The meetings are held on Sunday mornings, normally on the first and third Sunday of each month – you can find the dates for December and January on the “For Your Diary” page. There will also be a weekend away, probably in May / June 2015.

This new venture needs the prayer and support of the whole church family. Please pray for all those involved in this group: the young people, their families and the leaders. If you would like to know more about it, please contact the chaplain or Tricia Carrick.

- *Tricia Carrick*

Calendar of Services

1 December – Advent 1

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 2:1-5
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:26-34

8 December – Advent 2

8.30 Holy Communion
Isaiah 11:1-10
Matthew 3:1-12
10.00 Nativity Play

15 December – Advent 3

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 35:1-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

22 December – Advent 4

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 7:10-16
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:8-25

24 December—Christmas Eve

16.00 Crib Service
Luke 1:26-31,38
Luke 2:8-16
22.00 First Eucharist of Christmas
Isaiah 52:7-10
John 1:1-14

25 December—Christmas

9.15 Holy Communion
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:1-7
10.00 Carols
Luke 2:1-16
Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

29 December – Christmas 1

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 63:7-9
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23



5 January—Epiphany (All Age service)

Matthew 2:1-12

12 January—The Baptism of Christ

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Eucharist with prayers
for healing
Isaiah 42:1-9
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

19 January—United Service at the Münster, 10.00

No services at St Ursula's

26 January – Epiphany 3 and Missions Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 9:1-4
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Prayer Diary

Praying with the Collects

December 2013

1-7 December, First Week of Advent

"Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness"

- strength to resist temptation
- discernment to see the light of Christ in the faces of others

8-14 December, Second Week of Advent

"Give us grace to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming"

- a spirit of penitence and a desire to amend our ways
- the ability to recognise Christ-like qualities in the lives of others

15-21 December, Third Week of Advent

"You sent your messenger to prepare your way"

- for the clergy, lay readers and all who teach the faith
- for the aid and mission agencies we support

22-28 December, Fourth Week of Advent, Christmas

"You prepared the Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son"

- readiness to serve God and obey his will
- those travelling at this season

29 December – 4 January, First Week of Christmas

"As he came to share our humanity, so may we share the life of his divinity"

- those who find Christmas a difficult time
- all who keep essential services going

January 2014

5-11 January, Week of Epiphany

“By the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth”

- the trouble spots of the world today
- that the powerful may be guided in God's ways

12-18 January, First Week of Epiphany

“At the baptism of Jesus, you anointed him with the Holy Spirit”

- that we may be faithful to our baptism promises
- for humility to stand alongside those in need

19-25 January, Second Week of Epiphany

“In Christ you make all things new”

- faith to see where God is at work in the world today
- opportunities for churches to work and worship together

26 January – 1 February, Third Week of Epiphany

“Your Son revealed in signs and miracles your saving presence”

- the ability to discern the miraculous today
- thanksgiving for God's sustaining power



For Your Diary

December 2013 & January 2014

Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.30-10.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots not 25 December & 1 January
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork not 27 December & 3 January
Saturdays	09.30-11.30	Choir Practice not 28 December & 4 January

Other Events

Sunday 1 December	10.00	Confirmation Class
	11.30 - 14.30	Nativity Service Rehearsals
Friday 6 December	12.00 - 14.00	Advent Study Course
	19.30 - 21.00	Advent Study Course
	19.30	Benefit Concert at St Ursula's for Fragile Suisse
Sunday 8 December	10.00	Nativity Service
Tuesday 10 December	13.30 - 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
Wednesday 11 December	19.30 - 21.00	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Thursday 12 December	19.30	Carol Service at Heiliggeist
Friday 13 December	12.00 - 14.00	Advent Study Course
	19.30 - 21.00	Advent Study Course
Sunday 15 December	10.00	Youth Group
Tuesday 17 December	19.30	Church Council
Thursday 19 December	19.00	Thun Carol Service at Göttibach
Friday 20 December	12.00 - 14.00	Advent Study Course
	19.30 - 21.00	Advent Study Course

Christmas Eve	16.00	Crib Service at St Ursula's
	22.00	First Eucharist of Christmas
Christmas Day	09.15	Said Eucharist
	10.00	Christmas Carols
Tuesday 7 January	13.30 - 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
	19.30	Church Council
Wednesday 8 January	19.30 - 21.00	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Sunday 12 January		COPY DATE
	10.00	Youth Group
Sunday 19 January	10.00	Ecumenical Service at the Münster
		NO SERVICE AT ST URSULA'S
		Confirmation Class
Tuesday 21 January	13.30 - 15.30	House Group in Stettlen
Wednesday 22 January	19.30 - 21.00	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Thursday 23 January	09.00 - 11.00	Magazine Collating
Friday 24 January	09.00 - 13.00	Book Sorting
Saturday 25 January	09.00	Archdeaconry Synod
Sunday 26 January	10.00	Youth Group
	12.00	Missions Sunday –Bring & Share Lunch

Future Dates

Sat 1 March 2014	10.00-14.00	Spring Book and Food Sale
Sat 15 March 2014	10.00-12.00	Children's Toy and Equipment Sale



Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld

While the role that the Holy Spirit desires to have in our lives is enormous, many believers do not begin to allow Him to work. Whether through fear, ignorance, or sin, they have effectively hindered Him. Most of us have only begun to explore the works God yearns to do in our lives by His Holy Spirit! Don't be afraid to give Him freedom to work. Your life will never be the same!

We will be continuing a Florence MacKenzie Scripture Union bible study – *The Gifts of the Spirit*

The Ecumenical House Group meets on the following dates at 19.30:

Wednesday, 11 December 2013

Wednesday, 8 January 2014

Wednesday, 22 January 2014



Please contact Brian or Lynn Morgan

(031 971 13 36, 079 415 26 19 or bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch) for more information.

Daytime House Group in Stettlen

The Daytime House Group will meet on the following dates at 13.30:

Tuesday, 10 December 2013

Tuesday, 7 January 2014

Tuesday, 21 January 2014

We will be starting a new study in December as yet to be decided.

Please contact Brian Morgan (Leader) (031 971 13 36) or Linda Bisig (Host) (031 931 63 86) for further information.



- Brian Morgan

St Ursula's Charity and Missions Team

For many years St. Ursula's church has set aside 10% of the pledged giving for charitable and missionary work.

The task of the Charity and Mission team is fourfold:

- To draw up a proposal towards the end of each year for council as to how to allocate these funds
- To keep in contact with the organisations we are supporting
- To pass on news to our church family about the organisations through articles in the church magazine, displays in the church hall or by direct contact
- To help our church family pray faithfully for the people we support with our gifts

Our aim is to update you about one of our missions through our bi-monthly magazine articles as well as displays on the hall notice board. We very much encourage and appreciate the prayer support of our church family. We also encourage groups or individuals in our church congregation to specifically support one of our church charities or organisations. For example, we have an active Friends of Cecily's Fund team here at St Ursula's, which organises events such as the Pumpkin Lunch for additional fund raising and information. We are happy to see that the Youth Group is working to help raise funds for Ruby Wildhaber to go to Africa next year on a work project with a charity organisation.

The last 3 years we have helped plan a Missions Sunday worship service with a focus on our Missions with guests or a speaker. Our next Missions Sunday and Pot Luck meal will be **26 January 2014**.

Prayer focuses to help you pray specifically are sometimes included in our magazine articles. You will find more information and updates on the Charity and Missions notice board in the church hall about the various charities and organisation we support.

If you would like more information about any of our charities or missions please do contact one of the Charity and Mission team members (Peter Potter, Esther Funkhouser-Hutchison, Donna Goepfert, Cecily Klingler, Hector Davie and Pieter Perrett).

Local Charity or Mission Organisations supported at St. Ursulas

- Partners (Partner Sein, Old Catholic Relief Organisation) with whom we work together closely
- AKIB Passantenhilfe, Heilsarmee (Seev Levi) is run on behalf of the Bernese churches by the Salvation Army, offering advice and support to people locally without fixed homes
- Zentrum 5, a meeting and self-help centre for immigrants and others, run with the support of the Bernese Council of Churches
- Discretionary (to be used locally by Chaplain)

Regional Charity or Mission Organisations

- Family Life Mission: Piotr and Mariola Wołochowicz and their team train men and women in Christian family life in Warsaw, Poland
- Church Times 'Train a Priest Hardship Fund' which supports people in training for ministry who are in need

International Charity or Mission Organisations

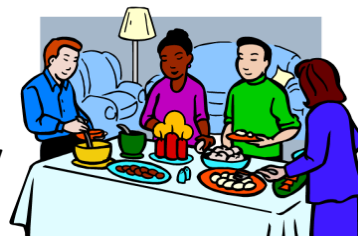
- Church Mission Society
- Us (was known to us as USPG!) whose projects cover everything from wells for villagers to bicycles and books for evangelists
- Refuge Egypt: All Saints Cathedral Cairo, Egypt, the Anglican community in Cairo and their "Helping Program", now called Refuge Egypt, work with the refugees there who have fled from persecution in Sudan and elsewhere
- Child Development Centre founded by Professor da Silva in Talagolla, Ragama in Sri Lanka
- HLID, Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Salt, Jordan
- Cecily's Fund supports and educates Zambian children who have been orphaned by AIDS
- Life Skills Project (Sakh'ulutsha), run by Scripture Union, South Africa
- TearFund Schweiz (Junior church project)

Charity and Mission prayer focuses for December/January are:

- Prayer for the local charities or missions we support around Bern
- Prayer for the regional charities or missions we support in the UK and Poland
- Prayer for the various international charities and projects we support in Cairo, Jordan, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Zambia, South Africa or globally
- Pray that our church family may provide generous financial support as well as active and regular prayer support

- Cecily Klingler on behalf of the Charity and Missions Team

Mission Sunday and Pot Luck Meal 26 January 2014



This is an early notice about our next **Missions Sunday with Pot Luck Meal** on **26 January 2014**. Our service of worship will be focussing on the various charities and organisations we support at St Ursula's. This year we will be having a special focus on Partners/Partner Sein, the Swiss Old Catholic relief agency, with whom we work closely together. Robert Amstutz will be our speaker and he will give a presentation on Partners during the Pot Luck Meal. More details will follow in the Sunday notices nearer to the event.

Thun Church

There is a fortnightly service (normally a eucharist) at the Reformed Church Hall in Bubenbergstrasse in **Thun**. This is held at 19.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month, usually combined with a Bible study. (It's best to check with the office first!)

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

Neuchâtel Church

The Neuchâtel Church is now linked with Christ Church Lausanne. For information contact Mrs Jenny Veenendaal (tel 032 841 64 32) or see the website www.neuchatel-church.ch

Partners (Partner sein)

Partners (Partner sein) is the Swiss Old Catholic church charity which is supported by the Swiss Synod of the Anglican church and by individual Swiss chaplaincies.

Report on On-site project inspection in Uganda and Congo

In 2013, 14 projects for a total of CHF 105'000 are being supported in Uganda and Congo by Partners (Partner sein). In the summer of 2013, a 3-strong Swiss delegation travelled to Africa. They reviewed the appropriate use of the funds.

Clean drinking water in every house, free education, the provision of medical services, everyone insured against sickness and injury, the right to an old age pension – in our part of the world we take most of these things for granted. For millions of people in the Third World, even in Uganda and Congo, they do not, or only partially exist. Both countries are target countries for Partners which deliberately concentrates its development cooperation to a few countries. Partners must use its, in comparison to the larger charities, limited strengths and resources in a targeted manner.

The trademark Kanoni

The area of Kanoni in Uganda has become their trademark over the last 20 years. With support from Switzerland, functional school buildings of a good standard could be erected and the general infrastructure improved. Wells have been bored, solar power installed



where required, a new rectory is under construction and, since 1993, the schooling costs of aids orphans have been subsidised. The Kanoni School warmly welcomed the delegation. Partners delegation members were Rev. Christoph Schuler, Director of Projects, Robert Amstutz, Anglican delegate to Partners, and Urs Müller, Board Member. In the presence of Bishop Godfrey Makumbi a ceremony was held to recognise the end of the construction and the official handing over of the school to the local community.

The value of on-site inspection

Bishop Godfrey Makumbi of the Church of Uganda is responsible for the Diocese of West Bugunda. He is the primary contact person for all projects of Partners in Uganda. For the visit of the Swiss delegation he had arranged a very “sportive” programme. Eight days long the delegation travelled with him from morning to evening. They visited completed as well as current programmes, reachable partly over bumpy and very dusty roads. In the villages he listened to the challenges, worries and hardships of the schools, the parish and the local people. An on-site inspection is ten times more valuable than presentations and photographs. For this reason, it is important to Partners that projects are not only accompanied by a reliable local project manager but also visited regularly by a trustworthy person from Switzerland who can, if necessary, provide constructive criticism. Partners owes this to their donors. Not least, our visit will help us going forward. Which of the (multitude of) needs of the people in this part of the world are suitable for a project of our charity? Where can our principle of helping people to help themselves best be applied? In which persons and organisations do we sense initiative and creativity? We do not simply wish to dole out aid but specifically invest our funds in a manner which will improve the long term living standards of the local people. That, in the process, a little of our prosperity is transferred to less privileged areas does not make us any the poorer.

The difficult position in eastern Congo

For years eastern Congo has been counted as one of the unstable regions of the world. The area has not only been negatively influenced by inner Congolese problems but also by political interference from both Rwanda and Uganda. Despite the difficult conditions, Partners has been engaged for a number of years in this oppressed area. The charity works closely with the Anglican church in Congo. For ten years it has worked successfully together with S.I.B.A.P. (*Soutien aux initiatives de bases pur l'autofinance paysanne*), an association assisting small farmers to obtain credit.



The Swiss Foreign Office strongly advised the delegation not to enter eastern Congo. For this reason, after an impressive tour of their projects in Uganda the delegation travelled by road through Rwanda to the Congolese border. In the Rwanda border towns of Cyangugu and Gisenyi delegates from the Congolese cities of Bukavu and Goma crossed the border to present their projects and needs to the delegates of Partners. Although the projects could not be inspected on-site, it was a valuable opportunity to meet and engage in intensive discussion with our Congolese partners. In addition to the construction of a school, the financing and delivery of medicine and the tapping of further fresh water springs, much emphasis is placed on projects to help people to help themselves. A small credit programme for women will enable them to get a foothold in business. The project, a cow for a poor family, will be continued. In 2014 it is planned to create a pool of sewing machines to increase the earnings possibilities and self sufficiency of women



in Goma. Whilst the situation in the Bukavu area has quietened down in recent years, the area around Goma is a potential war zone. Our reliable local partners provide assurance that, despite these difficult circumstances, our charitable payments are being used responsibly and for the right purpose.

A glance over the fence

When one in Switzerland thinks, reads or talks about Africa, very soon the subjects of war, refugees and poverty arise. However this sells Africa short and is not fair to the continent. Of course, the major problems of population growth and the tendency to cronyism in the economy cannot be denied. However, whoever visits these countries with open eyes, and meets their people, will recognise quality in the smallest things. For instance, the warm hospitality, the importance of gifts irrespective of value, the desire to appear well dressed if affordable, their zest for life. It is also impressive with what intensity and matter-of-course that they live their religion in everyday life and during church services. We all could benefit from a pinch, or even a handful, of this sensuousness, light heartedness and cheerfulness in everyday life..

- Robert Amstutz

Anglican Synod delegate to Partners

Charity of the Month: Train-a-Priest Fund



Are you familiar with the Church Times, an Anglican newspaper? The Church Times contains articles about many things (church news, a prayer diary, book reviews, etc.) and it is also a vehicle for raising money for chaplains in training which is channelled into the Train-A-Priest Fund.

The TAP Fund was begun by Rosamund Essex, in response to stories of hardship from ordinands unable to support their family on meagre diocesan grants. Church Times readers' response was immediate and generous. Since the TAP Fund started 60 years ago, £4,358,117 has been raised by its readers.

Those readers are asked, "Will you help to train a priest?"

Every ordinand, married or single, is eligible to apply for a TAP grant if he or she is in full-time training for the priesthood in the Church of England.

In addition, ten per cent of every donation goes into the Special Hardship Fund, which exists to help any ordinand training for the priesthood in the Church of England in a college, on a course, or on another scheme, whose training is jeopardised by financial difficulties.

Candidates may apply to the Fund at any time during their training.

At present, TAP grants to ordinands in full-time college training range from £355 to £1050 p.a. Thirty-five emergency hardship grants were made in the past year.

Nothing is lost

TAP giving is ring-fenced for the support of tomorrow's ordained ministry. The Church Times has never deducted any administrative costs. This means that every pound one gives goes straight to the support of the priesthood. The Ministry Division of the Archbishops' Council disburses the grants.

The Bishop of Norwich, who chairs the Ministry Division of the Archbishops' Council, has written to the Editor:

"Sir, - I am delighted that the Church Times is running its Train-a-Priest (TAP) Fund appeal again this year. We can give thanks that, owing to the generosity of Church Times readers, more than 5500 clergy have benefited from grants made available from the Fund. Last year, £92,733 was raised, every penny of

which went to deserving recipients, since the Ministry Division does not take any of the funds given for administration”.

The primary purpose of the TAP Fund is to help married candidates for ordination who have children to support, and the average grant to them is around £1000. The TAP Special Hardship Fund, to which some of the money is devoted, makes special grants to those who find themselves in unavoidable and unforeseen financial difficulties. It has been a lifeline to many. The Church Times expresses gratitude to everyone who has donated in the past and hopes that readers will continue to be generous.

Pray

- that Church Times readers, and others, will continue to generously contribute to the Train-a-Priest Fund
- that priests in training will be made aware of the fund if they need financial assistance
- that St Ursula’s church will be interested in and informed about its charity and mission partners

It’s interesting to ask chaplains at what point in life they felt called into ministry. Very often they come into the ministry after having been in business, having taught, or been engaged in other professions. That means when they go into training that they have no fixed salary for several years. Therefore, the TAP Fund grants can make a substantial difference to them until they complete their studies.

- Donna Goepfert for the Charity and Mission Team

Gratis:



2 solid wooden bookcases 132cmX180cm

1 wooden filing cabinet.

Must be collected before 31 December.

Please contact Sheila Berger 031 951 42 71



Preschool – in German and English

- > for children aged between 3 and 7 years
- > playful development of language, art and music skills
- > nurturing of each child's individual development
- > dynamic team of young international women
- > children may join at any time during the year

We also offer daycare facilities for children aged between one to three years.
Please contact us to arrange a meeting at the school.



Feusi Bildungszentrum | Preschool
Jubiläumsstrasse 95 | 3005 Bern | Phone 031 537 33 50
kitapreschool@feusi.ch | www.feusi.ch

Kita Preschool ;feusi

English Speaking Club of Bern

Official Invitation

Since 1978, we have been Bern's one and only English Speaking Club. We offer you a reasonably priced bar, free billiards and a free round of darts. Visit us and get in touch with our English speaking members from all over the world. Just present this invitation at the bar. If you enjoy the experience, you can become a member - Basic Membership is free!

We are looking forward to meeting you

Mittelstrasse 55, 3012 Bern | Open every Thursday & Friday from 8pm | www.englishclub.ch

St Ursula's thank



*for their assistance in producing this newsletter
and for their efficient planning, supply and maintenance
of our office printing, scanning and photocopying systems.*



Maler Prince

**Malen, Gipsen, Tapezieren
Painting, Plastering, Wallpapering**

Mark E. Prince

Gutenbergstrasse 48, 3011 Bern

Telefon 031 381 33 28

Mobile 079 408 38 45

E-Mail: m.prince@bluewin.ch



Zysset + Partner

AG Gartenbau +

Hauservice

Gardening work and landscaping

Schlossmattstrasse 1, 3600 Thun

Tel 033 222 05 05, Fax 033 223 50 25

Landscape gardening, lawn mowing,
hedge cutting, seasonal work etc. etc.

Agentur für *i&f* GmbH
insurance & finance

Toni Bachmann
Postfach 89
CH-3800 Interlaken
Switzerland
Tel: +41 (0)33 336 9394
Mob: +41 (0)79 652 6619
e-mail: t.bachmann@agif.ch

Your local contact for International and Swiss:

- **Health- & Life-Insurance**
- **Car- & General-Insurance**
- **Pensions (private and employer)**
- **Savings, Investments**
- **Financial planning**
- **Retirement planning**
- **Tax advice, Tax-declarations**
- **Assistance property purchase**
- **Mortgage arrangements**

Many years experience advising international clients, firms & individuals

English Speaking Playgroup/School

Enjoying English from 0-18

The English Speaking Playgroup/School offers a stimulating learning environment aimed at developing English language skills.

- o Parents & Tots Group in English for 0 – 3 years

There are 5 types of classes for ages 3 and above:

- o Playgroup
- o Reading and Writing
- o English as a Foreign Language
- o Examination Classes
- o Private Classes



Weissenbühlweg 26 - 3007 Bern
www.esp-bern.ch

Tel: 031 332 9292
info@esp-bern.ch

Coiffure Dieter

Phone 031 941 42 22

**LADIES - AND
MENS HAIRDRESSING-SALON**

Your Hairdresser in the Wittigkofen Centre

Adress:
Jupiterstrasse 15
3015 Bern

Mon. 14.00 – 18.30 Uhr
Tues.–Fri. 08.00 – 18.30 Uhr
Sat. 08.00 – 16.00 Uhr

We are looking forward to seeing you soon!

The British School, Bern

www.britishschool.ch

Hintere Dorfgasse 20
3073 Gümligen, Switzerland

Tel: +41 31 952 7557

Fax: +41 31 952 7557

E-mail: britishschool@bluewin.ch

- Established in 1988 for pupils aged three to eleven years
- 80 pupils of all nationalities
- Members of the Swiss Group of International Schools, affiliated with the European Community of International Schools and registered with the Bern Education Authority.
- Staff trained in Schools Attuned/All Kinds of Minds program



- Small class size with flexibility to meet the unique needs of individual students
- British and International curriculums taught in English, including classes in German as a second language, skiing, ice-skating and swimming
- Qualified teachers and learning support teachers
- English as a Second Language Groups
- Friendly, family-like atmosphere

Early registration is recommended!

WEIGHT ROOM

step machine - stationary bicycles - special back strengthening program

AEROBICS

beginners to advanced - step aerobics - morning, noon and evening classes

BABY SITTING

monday-friday 9.00-11.45 - sfr 4.- per child - english and german spoken

SOLARIUM

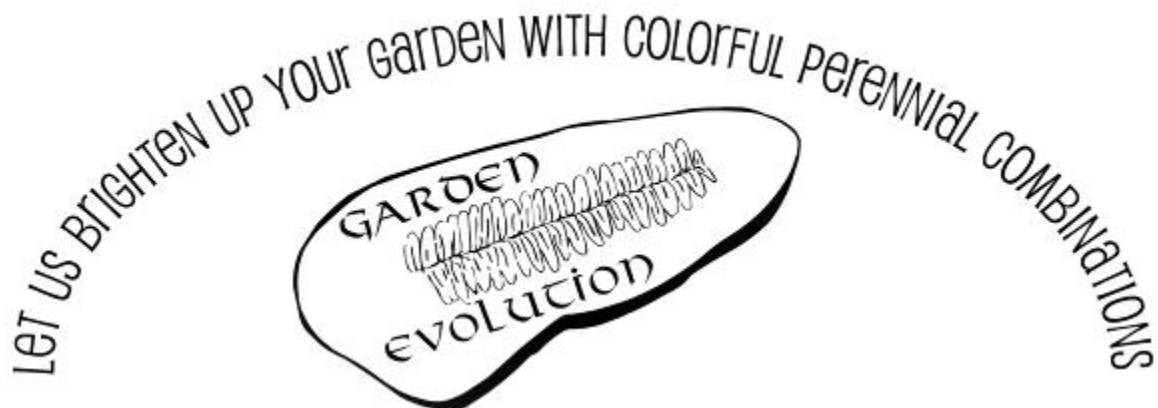
GYMLINE

FITNESS FOR WOMEN
SCHWARZTORSTR. 87
3007 BERN
TEL. 031 382 23 24

Why not join the International Club of Berne ?

The club was formed in 1991 as a non-political, non-religious organization open to all men, women and their families, interested in meeting for social and cultural activities. Our aim is to facilitate a better understanding of - and integration into - Switzerland, through a variety of services, programmes and joint explorations of this country and its people. We welcome members from all over the world, and currently count nearly 200 members and their families from more than 40 nations. Our common language is English, but among our members many other languages can be heard. We hold a monthly meeting with guest speakers and presentations on a wide range of topics, and publish a monthly Newsletter. We are waiting to welcome you !

Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net
International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, [www: icberne.2ya.com](http://www.icberne.2ya.com)
Annual membership: CHF 35 for singles, CHF 45 for families.



BIOLOGICAL LAWN AND GARDEN CARE

GENERAL GARDEN CLEAN-UP, HEDGEROW CUTTING AND MUCH MORE...

JAMES CONSLER & BARBARA MEYENBERG

3665 WATTENWIL 033 356 29 47 GARDENEVOLUTION@HOTMAIL.COM

Andy Prior

Hinterdorf 72, 3647 Reutigen
Tel. 033/65714 93 Mobile: 079/204 87 90

**For All Your
Flooring Requirements**

**Quality Products at
Competitive Prices**



The Swiss British Society, Berne organises a number of cultural events including visits to exhibitions, concerts, a Christmas dinner, Burns supper and musical evenings. We also invite guest speakers to address our members on a range of literary, musical or political topics. Usually our events have a social element - we try to combine dinner or lunch together with our lectures and outings, or at least a chat and a cup of tea! New members are always welcome. Our website (and circular) is hosted by the Federation of Anglo Swiss clubs at www.angloswissclubs.ch

Contact: President: Chris Warren

Email: cuwarren@zapp.ch

Share your burden.....

If something in your life is disturbing you and you would like some independent advice, you may like to make confidential contact with me at bmorgan@bcmconsult.ch. Alternatively you can ring me on 031 971 13 36 or 079 4152619. My service is gratuitous.

Brian C Morgan, Clinical & Pastoral Counsellor

*Falkenstrasse 2
3097 Liebefeld*



Here to help you

BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

Claire Morgenthaler 031 351 57 29

BOOK TABLE

Rosalind Richards 026 401 14 21

CARETAKER

Rolf Klingler 031 302 48 59

CATERING COORDINATOR

Lynn Morgan 031 971 13 36

CHARITY AND MISSIONS TEAM

Cecily Klingler 031 302 48 59

Church Council

Lay Members:

Jonathan Carrick 031 535 53 28

John Eze 079 489 58 46

Donna Goepfert (*secretary*) 031 931 27 42

Hans Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Chloë Holder 031 951 40 57

Tony Read 033 243 34 32

Edi Wildhaber 079 460 61 15

Lay Representatives to Archdeaconry Synod:

Hector Davie 031 971 27 71

Donna Goepfert 031 931 27 42

Janet Wenger 031 839 46 53

CHURCH OFFICE 031 352 85 67

Administration: Jana Kutesko

Normally open Tuesdays & Thursdays

Church Hall 032 510 22 12

CHURCHWARDENS

Archana Jacob 031 859 64 12

Maxine Wildhaber 076 349 40 42

CRÈCHE

Maxine Wildhaber 076 349 40 42

ECUMENICAL CONTACT

Esther Hutchison Funkhouser 031 351 73 47

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Patricia Carrick 031 535 53 28

ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

Walter Bisig 031 932 41 69

FLOWERS

Vreni Hawker 026 670 62 21

JUNIOR CHURCH

Contact the Chaplain 031 351 03 43

Françoise Hänggi 031 802 10 05

LIBRARY

Donna Goepfert 031 931 27 42

MAGAZINE COLLATION

Annemarie Walthert 031 331 03 72

MUSIC

Organist

Hans-Karl Pfyffer 026 492 03 26

Choir

Elisabeth Pfyffer 026 492 03 26

Music Group

Tony Read 033 243 34 32

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Querida Long 031 331 41 07

NEUCHÂTEL CONTACT

Jenny Veenendaal 032 841 64 32

PARENTS AND TOTS

Lori Hughes 078 629 92 98

PASTORAL GROUP

Shareene Potter 031 351 03 43

PATCHWORK

Elisabeth Pfyffer 026 492 03 26

ROTA COORDINATOR

Ruth Freiburghaus 031 992 56 15

Chalice Bearers:

Ruth Freiburghaus 031 992 56 15

Intercessions:

Esther Hutchison Funkhouser 031 351 73 47

Readers:

Allison Masciadri 031 829 18 69

Servers:

Ruth Freiburghaus 031 992 56 15

Sidespersons:

Käthy Hoag 032 377 32 02

Audio and Video:

Tricia Carrick 031 535 53 28

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Cecily Klingler 031 302 48 59

TEA AND COFFEE

Mary Mead 031 982 00 37

THUN CONTACT

Rachel Huguenin 033 336 29 54

TREASURER

Hector Davie 031 971 27 71

VESTRY

Sue Faillettaz 031 832 42 45

WEBMASTER

Hector Davie 031 971 27 71

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Mary McKinley 078 921 15 50



International
School
of Berne

Education for life in the heart of Switzerland

The International School of Berne has been providing an international education in English since 1961 and offers the International Baccalaureate curriculum for all age groups.

- **IB Primary Years Programme, ages 3 - 11**
A warm, child-centered environment fostering each student's curiosity and enquiry skills
- **IB Middle Years Programme, ages 11 - 16**
Encouraging a student-centered, inter-disciplinary approach to learning, focusing on intercultural awareness
- **IB Diploma Programme, ages 16 - 19**
A rigorous academic programme offering students access to the best universities worldwide. Our students regularly attain exam results above the world average.

ISBerne students benefit from small class sizes, a highly-qualified faculty and French and German programmes across the age-range.

The IB programmes, taught in more than 3,000 schools worldwide, ensure a smooth and easy transfer for ISBerne's students to and from schools anywhere in the world.

For further information or a visit please contact us at:
ISBerne, Mattenstrasse 3, 3073 Gümligen, Switzerland
Phone +41 (0)31 951 23 58, office@isberne.ch, www.isberne.ch



Accredited by the Council of International Schools and
the New England Association of Schools and Colleges

A New Year's Resolution for Church members

"I commit myself to live this year
as a disciple of Jesus Christ
guided by the Holy Spirit,
to the glory of God the Father;

I promise to

- pray every day
- read the Bible regularly
- attend the Eucharist faithfully
- commend the Christian faith,

fashioning my life according to the example of Christ

- give generously, as God has given to me."

