

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



October - November 2015

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 **Associate Priest** **Youth Coordinator**

Linda Bisig

Revd Mark Pogson

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 all-age.

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

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October - November 2015

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COPY DATE

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Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE: 26 November 2015

Chaplain's Message

Growth is being talked about a lot in church circles these days. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev'd Justin Welby, is spearheading a raft of reforms to make the Church more effective in its mission. These include identifying and training future leaders, channelling central funds towards projects



designed to produce growth and increasing the numbers of clergy. In our own diocese, Bishop Robert is promoting our mission strategy "Walking Together in Faith", which was featured in last month's magazine.

The Church needs to grow if it is to survive. This has been true since the days of the apostles and it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to find a Christian who did not want growth in the Church. The question is: what sort of growth?

A gardener will be pleased to see signs of growth in the spring but not if he discovers *a growth* on his prize roses. At this time of the year we might light a fire in our living room. If we have done it properly the flames will grow, giving us a cheerful light and keeping us warm. If we do not lay the fire carefully or put on too much fuel, the growing flames could spell trouble. Jesus has something to say about seeds that grow rapidly when they have no depth of soil: "since it had no root it withered away" (Mark 4:6). Church history is littered with movements that have sprung up, grown rapidly and then disappeared just as quickly.

If we want "our" church (in quotes because it's actually Christ's church first) to grow, then we need to think carefully and pray hard about it. We cannot be looking for quick fixes. We should beware of what a leading Anglican evangelical scholar, Prof Tom Wright, calls "that talk about the freedom of the Spirit [which] has been taken over surreptitiously by a kind of low-grade romanticism, colluding with an anti-intellectual streak in our culture". Growth also needs to take place in the whole body, whether we are talking about humans or the Body of Christ. People in the pews need to be open to have their minds changed and to see possibilities in things they are not familiar with. This why the Archbishop is looking to increase the numbers of clergy, to provide leadership and authoritative teaching. Growth in discipleship, which

means prayer, regular attendance at worship, service, self-discipline and mutual love (John 15:12), is essential before we can turn to growth in numbers.

Growth is hard work, and that is why Archbishop Justin is calling on the Church to divert millions of pounds towards achieving it. But, as the saying goes, hard work never hurt anyone.

Peter

Moving Events

Adam and Eve did it. Abraham did it. Jacob did it. Moses did it. David did it. And we are told that even Joseph and Mary did it. If you have read the title of this article, you will guess that it has something to do with leaving one place and going to another. More specifically, they were all forced to move.



They were not all forced to flee because of the threat of danger, from attack or oppression. David had been obliged to leave the country because Saul was out to kill him – he had to move from place to place, and hide in caves, to avoid capture. You can read the story in 1 Samuel 19-24. Joseph and Mary took refuge in Egypt from King Herod's fury – if they had stayed behind, the infant Jesus would have been slain. Like David, they were only able to return once the fear of attack had gone away.

The story of Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt differs only in the degree of danger. The Israelites had gone from being the honoured guests of the Pharaoh in the days of Joseph to being ruthlessly oppressed as slaves (Exodus 1). Their life had become intolerable, and when Moses' request to “let my people go” fell on deaf ears, they fled, pursued by their taskmasters as far as the marshes described as the Red Sea.

Today, thousands of people are being forced to flee and take refuge outside their own country. Many are not so fortunate as David, who had good friends to look after him, or Moses and the Israelites, who had a pillar of cloud and fire sent by God to lead them and manna to feed them in the wilderness. They deserve our sympathy and our support.

The same is true of the exiles – people who, like Adam and Eve, have been driven out and ordered not to return. They too need support, and it is not for us to judge whether their exile is their own fault or the fault of a particular regime.

Jacob is an example of a third class of people. He and the eleven sons who remained with him were not forced to move by persecution, but by famine. In Jacob's case he had the good luck that he could afford to send his sons to Egypt to buy grain, and the good luck that the governor who sold the grain was Joseph. (Look at Genesis 42 and 43 if you have forgotten what a moving story this is!) Today, we might call these people refugees, if the famine was intense, or economic migrants, if their life was not good but manageable.

Often we feel less supportive of economic migrants than of refugees. And often they need less support, having used their initiative to seek out a better life. But just as often, their expectation of a better life can turn to dust. Economic migrants can easily fall prey to people traffickers, to employers who exploit them in the weak position they are in. Such people too deserve our support.

Even when they do not need or deserve our support, they should have our sympathy. Moving elsewhere to seek a better life has been a feature of human existence since the beginning of history. From the farm labourer seeking a new life in Australia, the village boy heading to the big city in the belief that the streets there are paved with gold, the blacksmith's sons and daughters going to be apprenticed at the cotton mill or the iron foundry, this is the way things have been and probably always will be. True, the scale of migration today can pose problems but they are problems that we as children of God must face and solve.

Yet even more urgently, we must meet the needs of the most desperate of these displaced people: men, women and children, who are like us and whom we must never see as mere statistics. As recent events have shown, there is real hardship in the refugee camps, in the hands of smugglers, on the roads leading away from the fighting. These people are our neighbours, and in our approach to them, we see our approach to Jesus, who too had “nowhere to lay his head.”

- Hector Davie

FAQ: Shouldn't the Church concentrate on saving souls, not the rainforest?

Let's ask why the rainforest is in danger. Are the native people chopping down too many trees for their camp fires? Are they killing too many rare animals to put in their cooking pots? Or is the rainforest just dying of its own accord?

We know that the answer to all these questions is “No”. We have all seen pictures of vast areas of rainforest being cleared by burning or bulldozing the trees. This is not being done to benefit the local inhabitants but to produce a profit for large companies. Many of these are based abroad and they often avoid paying taxes on their profits in the countries where they operate. This looks like greed, one of the seven deadly sins.

People in rich countries are often happy to use products obtained in this way, or to buy cheap clothes or electronic items manufactured in sweat shops abroad, without questioning these harmful and dangerous methods. That looks like sloth. Not the animal from the rainforest but another of the seven deadly sins. Although we have plenty, people always want more. Gluttony? We might also consider the advertising used to promote these products. “Because you're worth it.” Pride? “Pester power” Envy? Suggestive images and slogans also sell. Lust? That's six of the seven already.

The final one is anger, a sin that quickly boils over into conflict. As resources like oil, land or water become scarcer they are likely to lead to more conflict.

Actually, there are two more sins I could mention – just as deadly. Some people have got the idea that having church services about animals and the environment is “Catholic”. Perhaps because of St Francis or the recent statement by Pope Francis. This is ignorance. Look at the websites of all the mainline Christian churches and you will see that they have something to say about the environment. The other sin is the ugly sister of ignorance. It is called bigotry. We think it is terrible when it goes on in Northern Ireland but it is just as bad when people say these things in Switzerland.

Of course, all these sins are committed by people, whether producers, investors or customers. They all have souls that need saving. And so, by pointing to the changes in our attitudes and habits we have to make to save the rainforest, the Church will also be saving our souls.

- PMP

A Word for the Month – Leaven

Saccharomyces cerevisiae is a fungus that lives in many places. It abounds on grape skins. At 30°C, it reproduces in less than two hours. It feeds on sugar and starches, and gives out alcohol and carbon dioxide. It has been used for brewing for over 8000 years. In English, we call it yeast (from an old word meaning froth).

In brewing and winemaking, the alcohol was used and the carbon dioxide bubbled away into the atmosphere. At some stage, nobody knows when, someone discovered that when flour and water were mixed together and yeast was added, the reverse would happen. The resulting carbon dioxide would swell the glutinous mixture, while the alcohol would evaporate naturally when the dough was baked. Our word leaven (like the German word *Hefe*), recalls this “lifting” activity.

One of Jesus' parables uses this baking process to give an insight into the coming of God's kingdom (Matthew 13:33, Luke 13:21). Just as a small portion of yeast can raise a large volume of dough, in the same way small beginnings among a few people in Galilee, or a single word planted in the right place, can grow into something that can embrace the whole world, that can occupy the whole heart, mind and soul. As with the parable of the mustard seed, the idea is that the arrival of God's kingdom will be not only transforming, but overwhelmingly so.

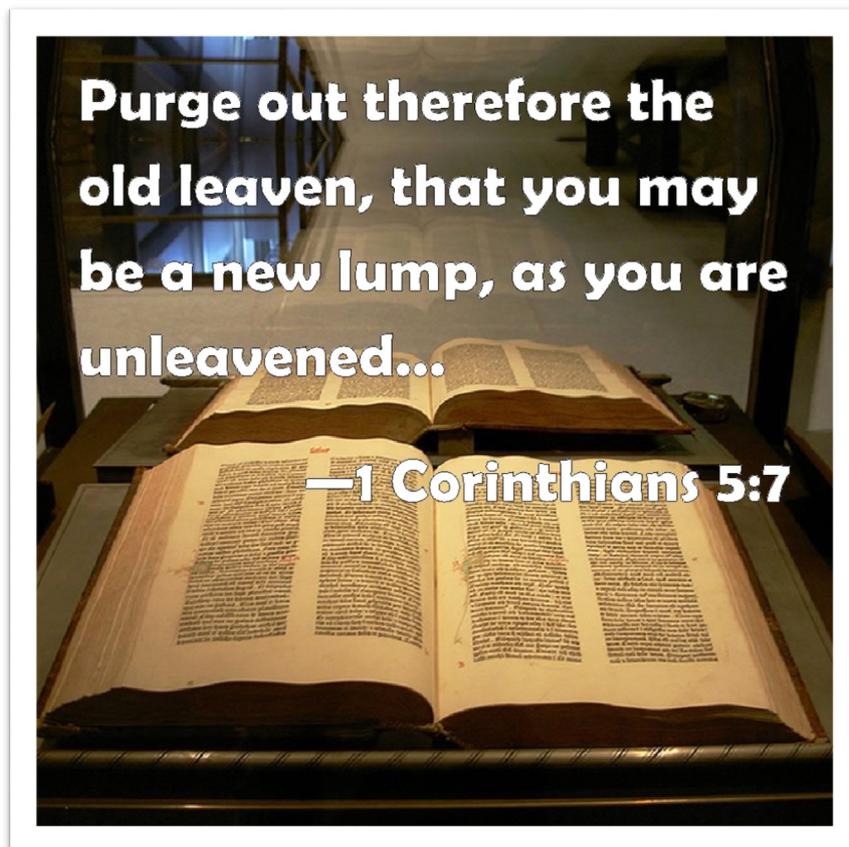
Elsewhere in the New Testament, leaven gets a far worse press. The way it spreads is like the way corruption spreads – for the bacteria accompanying wild yeasts can often turn food mouldy. So Jesus warns the disciples (in Matthew 16:6, a rather puzzling episode) to “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” Their corrupt ideas could too easily insinuate themselves into people's minds.

There were two reasons for this rather negative attitude to leaven. The first was the idea that dough rises best when nobody is watching it – and in the same way, evil spreads unnoticed. Jesus is in effect telling his disciples to keep their eyes open. The second was the idea that leavened bread was somehow impure – an idea that Paul takes up in 1 Corinthians 5:7-8. This idea goes back to Leviticus 2:11: “No grain offering that you bring to the Lord shall be made with leaven, for you must not turn any leaven or honey into smoke as an offering by fire to the Lord.”

The reasoning behind this takes us back to the Exodus, when the people needed to leave Egypt in haste. "So the people took their dough before it was leavened, with their kneading-bowls wrapped up in their cloaks on their shoulders." (Exodus 12:34) And so in remembrance, every Passover, the Jews celebrated (and still do) a week of unleavened bread.

This memory of the Passover lives on, along with Paul's words to the Corinthians, "Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." For the tradition of the Western Church has been to use unleavened bread in the Eucharist. The Eastern churches, on the other hand, used leavened bread, to show the freshness of the Gospel. In the eleventh century, this led to bitter controversy. It all goes to show, a little leaven can go a long way!

- *Hector Davie*



God and Mammon

*God doth not need
Either man's work or his own gifts, who best
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best, his State
Is Kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed
And post o'er Land and Ocean without rest:
They also serve who only stand and wait.*

So wrote John Milton back in the 1650s, stressing a point sometimes forgotten. We do not earn a higher place in heaven by piling up more good works than our neighbour. We earn a higher place by doing what God wants us to do. It may be zooming off to Greece to help the refugees, it may just be “standing and waiting.”

For God's mercy is absolutely free. We cannot earn it, and there is nothing we can give in exchange beyond our acceptance, our worship and our following God's ways. And although the New Testament often uses the imagery of redemption, which was a commercial transaction for freeing slaves or hostages, this is just a feeble way to put the significance of God's salvation through Christ into words.

The Old Testament also describes the relation between God and God's people in terms of redemption. It was the job of a loving father to look after his kinsmen, to help them when they were weak, to protect them from danger, to deliver them from their enemies. God's protection and God's forgiveness are described in words like ransom, propitiation, atonement, which can mislead us into thinking that we have to do something to earn God's favour.

In the Old Testament, atonement came to be connected to the system of sacrifice. In Isaiah 1:11, God tells the people, “I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.” While this is primarily directed against the people who imagined they could carry on lying, exploiting, cheating and quarrelling as long as they made the right sacrifices required by the Law, it also questions the whole basis of the sacrificial system, and as Christians, we believe that Jesus made the final sacrifice to end all sacrifices on the Cross.

What was the point of sacrifices? God does not eat or drink. And what was (and is) the point of giving money to God? God has no bank account. God cannot spend it. The people of Israel paid a tenth of their income – to whom? And why a tenth? Surely not because God had a balance of payments problem!

The answer lies in the idea that “God has no other hands but ours.” God did not eat the animals, the birds or the flour that were brought for sacrifice. God did not spend the rich man's tithe or the widow's mite. The Levites, the priests ate the food (unless it was a “holocaust” - a burnt offering) and used the money.

This was because, at least in theory, the descendants of Levi had been missed out when Canaan was divided between the sons of Jacob. Having no land, they were to devote themselves to the service of God, and the remaining eleven tribes were to support them.

Today, there are also people who devote themselves to the service of God. They may be full-time clergy, active in teaching, in caring, in counselling, in prayer and in leading worship. They may be religious organizations, active in mission, carrying out the many social tasks the monasteries and convents performed in past centuries. Society has changed, but these people still exist, working for charities and church organizations. They need our support, for this is the way God works in society.

“The labourer is worthy of his hire” (1 Tim 5:18, quoting Jesus' words in Luke 10:7), and the same is true of the supplier who provides oil to heat our church, the cleaner who tidies it and makes it fit to use, the postman who delivers this magazine, the people who produce the material used in Sunday School. In the case of St Ursula's, all of these cost us some Fr20,000 each month. God's grace is free and overflowing. Our response involves giving our time and talents in God's service, and where we have no time or no talents, in giving money so that others can do God's work. We give that money not “to God”, but to serve God by serving others, and enabling them to serve the needs of the Kingdom. Every little counts!

- *The Treasurer*



Chaplain's Notes

Welcome

On 2 October the Rev'd Paul Brice will be licensed as the new chaplain in St Andrew's Zurich. Paul comes to us from a university chaplaincy in Cambridge. Please pray for him and his wife as they settle into their new surroundings.

Harvest Thanksgiving

This year we have a guest preacher at our Harvest Thanksgiving service on 11 October. The Rev'd Elizabeth Bussmann is the Environmental Officer for the diocese and we are fortunate that she and her husband Edi have recently moved to Aeschi. She has a wealth of knowledge and experience in environmental matters, so it will be something to look forward to.

As is our custom, you are asked to bring harvest items to the service and they will be auctioned for charity afterwards.

Prayers for healing

Sunday 18 October is the Feast of St Luke, "the good doctor" and we shall be offering prayers for healing at the 10.00 Eucharist. Please come forward in the usual way to ask for prayers for yourself or someone known to you.



Stewardship

We keep the last Sunday in October as our Pledge Sunday. This year it is also the Sunday nearest the Feast of our patron, St Ursula, as well as being the Feast of Dedication in the Anglican calendar. All in all, a good day to turn our attention to the needs of our church. Please remember to bring along your pledge returns to present at the service.

Services in November

There are some changes to our monthly pattern of services in November every year. As the second Sunday is always Remembrance Sunday, it will not be an All Together in Church (ACT) service. It will include the laying of the poppy wreaths and the act of remembrance.

On 29 November, which is the first Sunday of Advent, we shall be admitting some children to Communion and it will be an ACT service. Please keep the children in your prayers as they prepare for this important step of commitment to Christ's Church.

- PMP

Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2016

Continuing the tradition of annual Archdeaconry Choir Festivals, St Ursula's Church has agreed to host next year's festival at the weekend of 23 –24 April 2016, starting with a choir practice on Friday Evening 22 April. Singers are welcome to join the choir at our Saturday practices and to participate at the event. The choirs from the other Anglican Chaplaincies in Switzerland will be joining us here in Berne over this weekend.

Please make a note of the date.

For information please contact Hans-Karl & Elisabeth Pfyffer (026 492 03 26).





This year's Christmas Bazaar promises to be as good as ever. However as always, the Christmas Bazaar is a team effort and all help offered is gratefully received!

PRESERVES AND PICKLES

The home-made jams, marmalades and pickles are always very popular, so if you can spare a few jars of your home-made preserves, please leave them - clearly marked - in the Church Kitchen.

CAKE BAKING

Please join us to help make this year's Christmas cakes. All the ingredients are provided but please bring along any small cake tins that you have. Baking day is Wednesday 21 October from 09.00.

CAKE DECORATING

If you can help in decorating the Christmas cakes, please collect one (or more!) from the Church Kitchen after Thursday 22 October. Cakes should be iced in the traditional way with marzipan and white icing, if you need icing ingredients, please contact Jana Kutesko 031 809 4737 or 031 352 8567.

TOMBOLA

The tombola is a wonderful “catch all” stall – we all receive gifts that aren't quite right for us but could be perfect for someone else, or perhaps you've over stocked on some food items or have some other extra goodies that you're happy to donate! Everything, as long as it's brand new, in perfect condition and not past its sell by date, is welcome. Please deposit any suitable tombola prizes in the Red Tombola Box in the Upper Hall.

RAFFLE

The raffle is very popular but we rely on our congregation to provide the prizes - if you can think of any potential donors or can donate a prize yourself, please contact the Church Office: 031 352 8567 or just bring the prize along to church.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION WORKSHOP

We are hoping that this will take place on Thursday 19 November at 09.00 to help make the lovely Christmas Wreaths and Decorations that we sell at the bazaar. Please check with the Church Office: 031 352 8567 nearer the time that this workshop is taking place.

BAZAAR RESTAURANT

Help is needed throughout the whole of Friday and during the bazaar itself. We'll need plenty of cakes, scones, biscuits or mince pies baking too! All help, even if it's just for an hour or two, will be gratefully received – please contact Lynn Morgan: 031 971 1336.

TOY STALL

New or second hand toys in excellent condition are wanted for the Toy Stall – please bring your donations into church on Sundays and put them in the Red Tombola Box in the Upper Hall.

BRIC À BRAC

Please check out your cupboards, drawers, cellars or attics for any “no longer wanted” crockery, ornaments, china & any other items suitable for this stall – please note that we can not accept clothing or items of furniture - please bring

your donations into church on Sundays and put them in the Red Tombola Box in the Upper Hall.

NEW STALLS?

If you have an idea for a new stall and are willing to help run it, please contact Jana Kutesko: 031 809 4737 or 031 352 8567 – we'd love to hear from you!

HELP ON STALLS

If you can help on a stall during the bazaar, please either contact the stall holder directly or write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Upper Hall. A list of stall holders is available in the Upper Hall or ask the Church Office: berne@anglican.ch or 031 352 8567 for contact details.

SET UP

Calling anyone who can spare a couple of hours on Thursday 19 November from 17.30 to help set up the stalls – please write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Upper Hall.

CLEAR UP

Please join our clear up team on Saturday 21 November from 15.00. and help make the church and halls ready for Sunday. If you can help, please write your name on the sign-up sheet in the Upper Hall.

FLYERS

Please use the flyer with this magazine to help advertise the bazaar. If you'd like more flyers, please either pick them up from the Upper Hall or print them yourselves from our website www.stursula.ch. Flyers are also available in German.

- Jana Kutesko, Church Office

Church Breakfasts

The Church Breakfasts resumed in September. They will be on the first Sunday of each month. The dates for the rest of 2015 are:

4 October

1 November

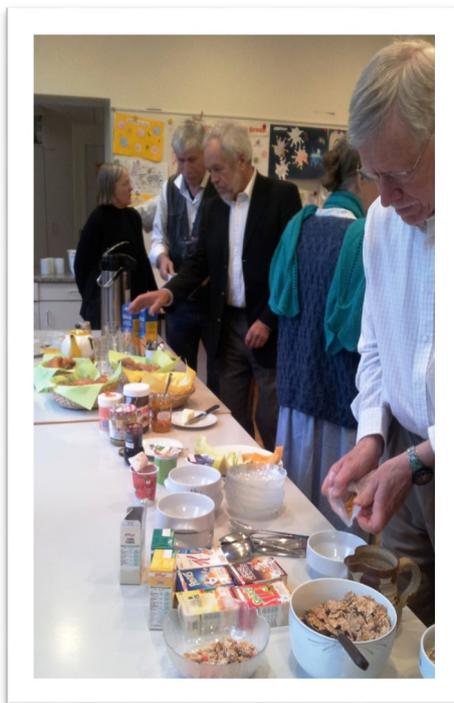
6 December

Put these dates in your diary now.

Everyone is welcome. Just come along any time between 8.30 and 9.15 – no need to sign up or bring anything. Cereals, fruit, bread, butter, jam, marmalade and croissants together with tea, coffee and juice will be there waiting for you.

And you can meet people – those you know and perhaps even some you do not know.

- *Tricia Carrick*



Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld

We welcome you to walk with us on our journey of faith.

“Understanding the beginning is the beginning of understanding”

We are studying “Unshakable Faith” by Rick Joyner, a devotional based on the Book of Genesis.

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

Wednesday, 14 and 28 October 2015

Wednesday, 11 and 25 November 2015

Please contact Brian or Lynn Morgan

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

Address: Falkenstrasse 2, 3097 Liebefeld

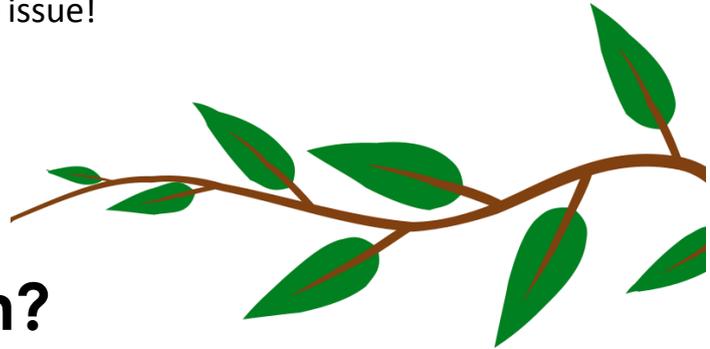
(No.10 bus to Hessestrasse and then just a short walk). Please contact us in advance, should there be a change of location.

The Green Corner

We shall be welcoming (back!) Elizabeth Bussmann, who is the diocese's Environmental Officer, at our Harvest Festival. From growing herbs and encouraging bees in the church grounds to insulating the church premises more efficiently and replacing existing light fittings with LEDs, things are moving.

There is a wealth of on-line advice, from the theological to the practical. Start with <http://acen.anglicancommunion.org/> - the Anglican Communion Environmental Network. Or be practical – as a church, we get our ideas from <http://www.churchcare.co.uk/shrinking-the-footprint>. More suggestions for good ideas will follow in the next issue!

- Hector Davie



What's in Season?

We are very lucky to live in Switzerland, and especially around harvest time!



The Laughing Lemon is a great website to find out what's currently in season in Switzerland (and maybe a recipe or two). Right now, it's the time to grab some good apples along with the first of the seasonal Brussels sprouts, kale, parsnips, pears, pumpkins, quince, and sweet potatoes. Obviously, these are classic veggies for Sunday roasts as well as soups, but they can be so much more! On the next page, to whet your appetite and inspire your imagination, is a recipe for pumpkin waffles with apple-cranberry relish.

- Mary McKinley

Pumpkin Waffles with apple-cranberry relish

Ingredients:

Pumpkin Waffles

3 eggs
350ml buttermilk
100ml rapeseed oil
125g homemade pumpkin puree
135g wholemeal pastry flour
2 tablespoons caster sugar
2 teaspoons baking powder
3/4 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves

Apple-Cranberry Relish

3 large Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and chopped into quarter-inch pieces
50g butter
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
4 tablespoons orange juice
1 teaspoon grated orange zest (optional)
200ml maple syrup, divided
80g fresh cranberries, crushed and chopped
50g chopped pecans

Method:

- 1) To make the Apple-Cranberry Relish: Combine the chopped apples, 50g butter, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, vanilla, orange juice, zest and 3/4 of the maple syrup in a saucepan. Cook over medium heat for about 2 minutes. Add the cranberries and cook 7 to 10 minutes until apples are tender and cranberries have softened.
- 2) Remove apples and cranberries using a slotted spoon and set aside in a bowl. Simmer the apple syrup mixture until thick, about 8 minutes, stirring frequently. Remove from heat and stir in the remaining maple syrup. Add the pecans to the apple-cranberry mixture.
- 3) Preheat waffle iron according to manufacturer's instructions.
- 4) Mix the eggs, buttermilk, oil and pumpkin puree in a bowl, beating well. Combine the pastry flour, sugar, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and ginger. Stir the flour mixture into the pumpkin mixture and mix until thoroughly combined. The batter should be pourable; add a tablespoon more buttermilk if necessary.
- 5) Cook waffles according to manufacturer's instructions. Serve hot, topped with a dollop of crème fraîche and apple-cranberry relish, with spiced syrup on the side.

Prayer Diary

October 2015

- 1 Thursday emergency service workers
- 2 Friday licensing of the Rev'd Paul Brice in Zurich
- 3 Saturday our outreach to students in Bern and Olten
- 4 **Sunday** all who lead our music in worship
- 5 Monday this year's Pledge Appeal
- 6 Tuesday today's Council meeting
- 7 Wednesday interchurch and interfaith marriages
- 8 Thursday fair trade in food items
- 9 Friday farmers
- 10 Saturday the Rev'd Elizabeth Bussmann, Environmental Officer
- 11 **Sunday** Harvest Thanksgiving
- 12 Monday Walking Together in Faith – the diocesan mission strategy
- 13 Tuesday Tear Fund, our charity of the month
- 14 Wednesday Alcoholics Anonymous
- 15 Thursday the provision of safe water supplies
- 16 Friday refugees from conflict areas
- 17 Saturday conflict management in churches
- 18 **Sunday** *St Luke*, the Federal elections
- 19 Monday local hospitals and clinics
- 20 Tuesday all who care for sick relatives at home
- 21 Wednesday the Friends of the Diocese in Europe
- 22 Thursday our offering of time for the Church
- 23 Friday our offering of our talents for the Church
- 24 Saturday our offering of money for the Church
- 25 **Sunday** *St Ursula*, Pledge Sunday
- 26 Monday people in the news
- 27 Tuesday all who suffer for their faith
- 28 Wednesday children and young people in church
- 29 Thursday victims of natural disasters
- 30 Friday our church library
- 31 Saturday Deliverance Ministry in the Diocese

November 2015

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|----|---------------|--|
| 1 | Sunday | <i>All Saints'</i> – thanksgiving for their witness |
| 2 | Monday | <i>All Souls'</i> – the faithful departed |
| 3 | Tuesday | clergy in the Archdeaconry |
| 4 | Wednesday | AGCK – the Swiss Council of Churches |
| 5 | Thursday | the groups that use our hall |
| 6 | Friday | all who help with catering at church |
| 7 | Saturday | interfaith relations |
| 8 | Sunday | <i>Remembrance Sunday</i> – the work of the Earl Haig Fund |
| 9 | Monday | people serving in peacekeeping missions |
| 10 | Tuesday | vocations to the ordained ministry |
| 11 | Wednesday | victims of conflicts today |
| 12 | Thursday | the work of the UN |
| 13 | Friday | Tear Fund's water project in Uganda |
| 14 | Saturday | today's Council quiet day |
| 15 | Sunday | the children and Communion classes |
| 16 | Monday | the Old Catholic Church, our sister church |
| 17 | Tuesday | opportunities to serve our neighbours |
| 18 | Wednesday | St Ursula's - a caring church |
| 19 | Thursday | all who lead intercessions in church |
| 20 | Friday | our outreach to the English-speaking community |
| 21 | Saturday | the Christmas Bazaar |
| 22 | Sunday | <i>Christ the King</i> – may we serve him faithfully |
| 23 | Monday | the charities we support |
| 24 | Tuesday | newcomers to our church |
| 25 | Wednesday | the clubs and societies we belong to |
| 26 | Thursday | Americans celebrating Thanksgiving in Berne |
| 27 | Friday | this year's Advent course |
| 28 | Saturday | shop workers |
| 29 | Sunday | children being admitted to Communion |
| 30 | Monday | service for the Federal Parliament at the Münster |

For Your Diary

October & November 2015

Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.00-09.30	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork – not on 20 November
Saturdays	09.30-11.30	Choir Practice – not on 21 November

Other Events

Sunday 4 October	08.30	Church Breakfast
	10.00	Youth Group
Tuesday 6 October	19.30	Church Council
Saturday 10 October	11.30	JC Activity Club Event
Sunday 11 October	10.00	Harvest Festival
	11.30	Auction of Harvest Offerings for the Tear Fund
Wednesday 14 October	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Saturday 17 October	10.00-15.30	SACEP training course on Conflict Resolution
Sunday 18 October	10.00	Youth Group
	11.30	Children and Communion Course Information Meeting
Wednesday 21 October	09.00-11.00	Christmas Cake Baking
Friday 23 October	09.00-13.00	Book Sorting
Saturday 24 October	10.00-12.00	Second Hand Children's Toy and Equipment Sale
	10.00-15.00	SACEP Training Event in Montreux
Sunday 25 October		Pledge Sunday
	10.00	Children and Communion Course
Wednesday 28 October	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld



Sunday 1 November	08.30	Church Breakfast
	10.00	Children and Communion Course
Saturday 7 November	18.00-23.00	Night of Religion in Bern
Sunday 8 November		Remembrance Sunday
	10.00	Youth Group
	10.00	Children and Communion Course
Tuesday 10 November	19.30	Church Council
Wednesday 11 November	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Saturday 14 November		Church Council Away Day
Sunday 15 November		COPY DATE
	10.00	Children and Communion Course
Thursday 19 November	10.00-16.00	Christmas Decoration Workshop
	17.30-20.00	Bazaar Set-up
Friday 20 November	09.00-16.00	Bazaar Set-up
	17.00-19.30	Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 21 November	10.00-15.00	Christmas Bazaar
	15.00-17.00	Bazaar Clear Up
	15.00-19.00	JC 7 – 11 Activity Group Event
Sunday 22 November	10.00	Youth Group
Wednesday 25 November	19.30	Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld
Thursday 26 November	08.30-10.00	Magazine Collating
Friday 27 November	11.30-14.00	Advent Course
Saturday 28 November		Children and Communion Course
Sunday 29 November		Admission to Communion Service

Future Dates

Fridays 4, 11 & 18 December	11.30-14.00	Advent Course
Sunday 6 December	11.30-13.30	Nativity Service Rehearsals
Sunday 13 December	10.00	Nativity Service
Thursday 10 December	19.30	Heiliggeist Carol Service
Thursday 17 December	19.00	Thun Carol Service
Christmas Eve	16.00	Crib Service
	22.00	First Eucharist of Christmas
Christmas Day	09.15	Holy Communion (Said)
	10.00	Carol Service

Services and Readings

October and November 2015

4 October – Trinity 18

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Genesis 2:18-24
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

11 October – Harvest Thanksgiving

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)
Amos 5:18-24
Mark 8:1-11

18 October – Trinity 20 (St Luke)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with
Prayers for Healing
Isaiah 36:3-6
Acts 16:6-12a
Luke 10:1-9

25 October – St Ursula, Pledge Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Eucharist
Genesis 28:11-18
1 Peter 2:1-10
John 10:22-29



1 November – All Souls

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Wisdom 3:1-9
Revelations 21:1-6a
John 11:32-44

8 November – Remembrance Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Eucharist and Act of
Remembrance
Isaiah 57:14-19
James 3:13-18
John 14:23-27

15 November – 2 before Advent

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Daniel 12:1-3
Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25
Mark 13:1-8

22 November – Christ the King

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Eucharist
Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
Revelations 1:4b-8
John 18:33b-37

29 November – Advent 1

Admission of children to Communion
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)
Jeremiah 33:14-16
Luke 21:25-36

Junior Church News



Groups and Meeting Times

Junior church meets on most Sundays during the 10.00 service. Please note that there will be no Junior Church on 11 October.

The children start the service with the congregation and then leave together after the welcome. Classes are divided into three age groups - Sparklers (3-6+), Trailblazers (7 -10+) and Pilots (11-14+). The second Sunday of the month is an all age service when the children remain in church. On the fourth Sunday of the month the junior church groups meet together for songs and praise.

Crèche

For children younger than three there is supervised crèche. The crèche is in the lower hall. Parents can bring their children before the service. Pick up is immediately after the service or alternatively before the Eucharist where children are welcome to receive a blessing.

Activity Club

The Junior Church Activity Club is for children 7-13 years old and organizes fun group activities several times a year.

On 10 October the Activity Club is going to make fruit cup cakes and syrups for the harvest festival to raise money for their Tear Fund project in Uganda.

The Activity Club's end of the year event will be held on 21 November. After the Christmas bazaar the Club is going to the Bowling Centre Rubigen for dinner and an evening of ten-pin bowling.

If you'd like to take part, please contact Françoise Hänggi (031 802 10 05) or Sharon Batley (079 248 19 89).

Nativity Service, 13 December



This year's nativity service will be based on a traditional reading from Luke with songs to help tell the story and artwork from Junior Church and Youth Group. Junior Church will practice the songs during their regular Sunday classes and there will be one rehearsal the week before (11.30– 13.30).

Contact Mary McKinley for more information (mary.mckinley@gmail.com).

- *Querida Long*

Children and Communion



There will be a new course starting in October for families who wish their children to be admitted to communion before confirmation.

This course is intended for children aged 10 or older who are ready to take a first step themselves on their Christian journey and make a public commitment to belonging to the church family.

There will be a short introductory session for parents and children, after church on Sunday 18 October. This will be followed by four teaching sessions during the regular service. Then there will be a Saturday all-day event for children and parents. The admission service will be on Sunday 29 November (Advent Sunday).

If you would be interested in taking part, please contact Father Peter or Tricia Carrick.

This is an important part in these children's growth in faith and as part of a Christian community. Their parents and the wider congregation will therefore be involved in their preparation through encouragement of the children and prayers for them. The intention is that the children's Christian journey in the Church will then continue to their profession of faith as a young adult at confirmation and beyond. So please pray for the course, its leaders, its participants and their families.

- Tricia Carrick

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the Junior Church Children with birthdays in October and November:



Amélie Sims 13 on 1 October
Matthew Batley 15 on 10 October

Takura Wyler 12 on 11 November
Joana Agoba 12 on 13 November
Gabriela Cintron 7 on 19 November
Karl Gertsch 8 on 26 November
Naomi Kingori 14 on 28 November

Charity of the Month: Kigezi Diocese Water & Sanitation Programme

Update for St Ursula's Church from Rev Reuben Byomuhangi

Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Programme (KDWSP) appreciates the partnership with development and various Church partners over the years. Thank you for the support in different ways. KDWSP has continued with its rural water supply and sanitation services, which include gravity flow construction, rainwater harvesting, springs protection, promotion of hygiene and sanitation, engaging in Church and Community mobilization.



Ulrich Bachman & Bishop George commissioning gravity flow scheme tapstand at Maziba Health Centre (April 2015)

For the period from March 2014–April 2015, KDWSP worked in 3 gravity flow scheme communities and constructed 91 public tapstands (water collection points), serving 9,017 people; protected 21 springs serving 5,613 people; constructed 6 institutional rainwater tanks of 20,000 litre capacity serving 1,800 people; 205 ferrocement rainwater tanks of 4,000 litre capacity serving 1,417 people; 20 ferrocement rainwater tanks of 4,000 litre capacity specifically for people living with HIV/AIDS serving 122 people; 300 rainwater jars of 420 litre capacity serving 1,551 people and 20 rainwater jars of 1500 litre capacity serving 116 people.

Services to Special Interest Groups

Forty-two-year-old Generous is the tenth of 14 children born to Georgina (aged 85) with her late husband Cosia. Generous is disabled. She was born armless and without legs. Later on she developed very short and small legs only one foot long. She could not get married but two unknown men took advantage of her situation and out of that she bore Gordon (age 6) now in Primary one and Deniez (age 2 1/2). She lives in her mother's home with her two children and has raised these children despite her difficulties.



L-R: John (community Chairperson), Georgina, Gordon and Generous stand by the newly constructed tank.

Amazingly, she can wash her clothes and can also wash herself and she thanks God for providing for her in ways she could not have done by herself. She is thankful to KDWSP and development partners for providing clean water which is now easily accessible to their home. Generous is so happy that Gordon, who started fetching water for the family at the age of 4, can now bring water so easily to the kitchen for her and his

grandmother. Generous says, “We use three jerry cans a day for washing clothes and food preparation. We are happy, we can wash sweet potatoes, and clean the house and we thank the local church and the community for identifying us and recommending us for these facilities.”

Georgina is very old and needs help to walk around the compound. She is a God loving granny who appreciates the love of God through supporters of KDWSP that has enabled them to get clean water at home. She recalls the bad days when they would cook sweet potatoes for supper without washing them and going to bed without washing the dirt on their feet from the garden. She remembers how hard it was to get clean water to drink at her old age because she had to rely on kind people to draw water for her.

Other interventions

KDWSP has engaged with different churches in envisioning communities around them and analyzing challenges they face, ranking them and forging the way forward. Church and Community Mobilisation (CCM) Churches have demonstrated and taught Christian values and this is bearing fruit. Buhangizi Church has realized her role as light and salt to the community and has mobilized support for someone who was to undergo an operation and an orphan who needed school fees. This was after a Bible study that was conducted in form of drama about relationship building - the Good Samaritan.

Lydia Katabaazi, a member of CCMP Buhangizi, is married to Peter. As a result of CCMP intervention, her family has been transformed; they work together in their banana plantation to improve the family’s income. They are growing new species of bananas and planting with manure to increase the yield. Because of CCMP, the sanitation and hygiene has improved in their home - Lydia’s home is clean and she has even constructed a new toilet. She has grown spiritually

because of CCMP and can now boldly stand before a congregation and preach and teach people about the kingdom of God. She recently participated in Easter mission and 10 people came to Christ.

In Kyogo, the Church is demonstrating being salt and light to its immediate community; they are currently raising funds to construct a house for a widow whose house had collapsed. They are also carrying out a healing and deliverance ministry and testimonies are that people are being delivered.

Health and hygiene practices are improving. Although there are still isolated cases of homes without pit latrines, through the CCMP, Mwongyera who was using the bush around the home for defecation has constructed a pit latrine for his household. He has also bought a Bible and is learning on how to read it and apply the messages.

Sarah Basiime is a resident of Nyakihanga community and attends the Roman Catholic Church. She is one of the people who took the teachings of CCMP seriously. She had a small piggery project with two animals before the KDWSP intervention. After training in resource mobilization, she increased the number and size of her project; she realized that she could still use the same space to increase and expand her project. Sarah,



Sarah's piggery project

who started out with 2 piglets, has already sold 10 from which she earned about \$240 that she used to pay school fees for her children in private school.

In an effort to increase family income, Jackson has set up 100 bee hives; he extracts 200kgs of honey in one harvest and earns about \$467 per harvest.

Bible studies in Nyakihanga have continued to impact its church members spiritually. Sarah narrates her story, "As a born again Christian, I joined a Bible study group just to be with others. This was because of my Catholic background where Bible reading was not common. Later, I developed a lot of interest in reading the Bible and during the Lent season, I have been engaged in reading lessons, even standing at the altar.

"This has caused other people with a Roman Catholic background to learn from me and they are now demanding also to have Bibles," narrates Sarah. "I am happy that some people can learn from me, I have had time to read and study the Bible. Thirty people have formed a group to save money and buy Bible, so 13 people have so far bought the Bibles and are reading them."

Farming God's Way (FGW)

Increasing population growth in Kabale District has put pressure on the land, leading to soil fertility depletion. FGW technology, once it is embraced, will go a long way to improving food security status and livelihoods of the people of the District.



The Bishop of the Diocese of Kigezi launched and blessed FGW at a demonstration garden near his Office with some labels, showing the 'whys' and 'hows' of FGW. This methodology will be rolled out to targeted communities of Kigezi Diocese.

Hope revived

Emily, a 31-year-old mother of three children aged 15, 12, 10 years married Vann 15 years ago after he had lost his first wife to HIV/AIDS. It was only later that Emily learnt (through rumor) that her husband had lost his first wife to the deadly HIV - something that threatened her marriage for a long time and caused her to live under a stigma. "Never take our children for HIV/AIDS testing because I don't want to hear that they are HIV+ like us or else I will commit suicide if you do." Vann cautioned the wife during the days when this stigma was very obvious.

KDWSP was offering HIV/AIDS training when hope for the family was almost lost. Emily attended these trainings, which reduced her stigma and sadness. "I was living in darkness and ignorance of HIV/ AIDS but after training, I was able to smile again realizing that there is still a life to live. After the trainings, Emily shared with her husband and convinced him that their children needed testing. There was a smile on the face of Emily and Vann when the children tested HIV negative.



Vann and Emily stand by their 4000 litre tank

The family was supported with a ferro-cement water tank of 4000 litre capacity by the Diocese of Kigezi and today the family has access to clean water for drinking and domestic use. "I am not worried about water borne diseases because the Diocese of Kigezi has met our domestic need for a hygienic home." Access to safe water and sanitation is crucial in keeping their weak immune systems healthy.

Prayer requests:

1. The people served through the intervention of KDWSP may see the love of Christ
2. Political environment in the country will continue to be conducive
3. Responsiveness of communities continues to be good
4. Pray for the communities that are going through strife – political turmoil, floods
5. Pray for people whose lives have been touched by Kabale Convention that they will continue to grow in faith, and register behavior change (I am hopeful that many people will receive Christ as Lord and Saviour)
6. We appreciate the love and commitment of all our development partners
7. God’s protection – road accidents are rampant, cancer cases are on the increase
8. Unemployment and poverty levels are still a challenge in our country

- Cecily Klingler for the Charity and Missions Team



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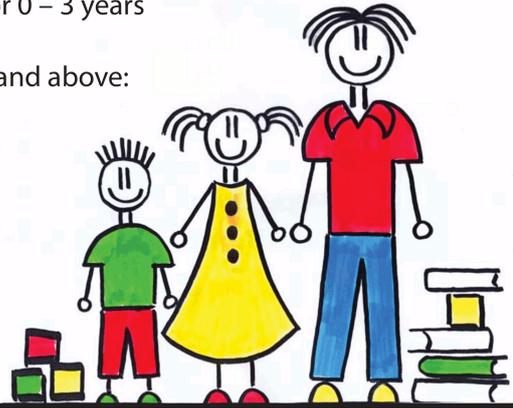


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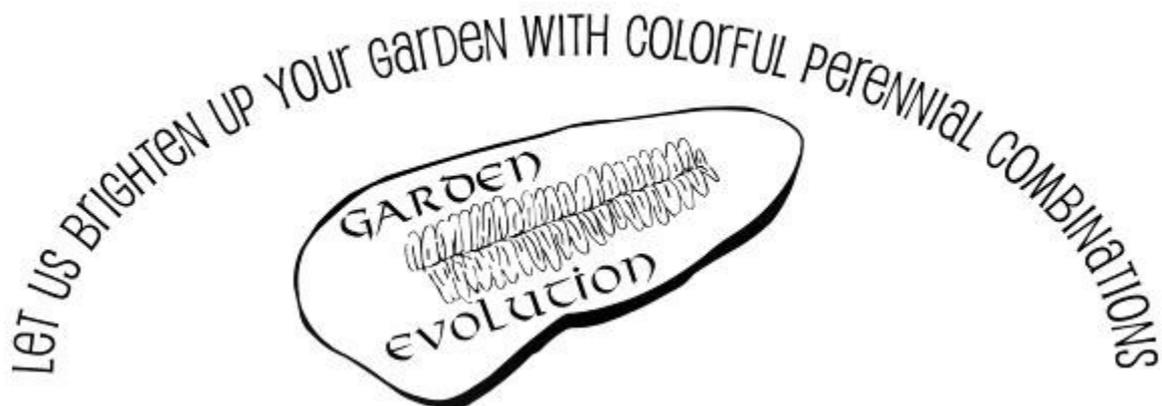
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Contact: President: Chris Warren

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