

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



April – May 2016

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

Chaplain

Ven Peter Potter

031 351 03 43

079 922 71 30 (emergencies only if no reply on the home number)

Honorary Assistant Chaplain Assistant Chaplain 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: 18.30 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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April - May 2016

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COPY DATE

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15 May 2016

Please send copy to magazine@stursula.ch

COLLATING DATE: 26 May 2016

Chaplain's Message

On Ascension Day, in the church where I was a curate, we would get up early and at 7.15 the choir would go up to the top of the tower to sing the hymn "Hail the day that sees him rise". Then after the Eucharist, we would go for breakfast together and finish in time to pack the choirboys off to school.

If the wind was in the right direction, the sound of the singing would carry quite some distance. A quaint and enjoyable custom? Yes, but also a means of witnessing to the Gospel message that although "the heaven its Lord receives, yet he loves the earth he leaves". At the Ascension Jesus gave the Great Commission to the Eleven ("go and make disciples" Matthew 28:19) precisely because God loves the world and its people. He gave the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to his Church so that Jesus, present in the Church, would still be with his people, even "though parted from our sight".

This Great Commission lies at the heart of our Diocesan Mission Strategy, which calls us to know ourselves as beloved children of God and re-affirm our commitment to loving God and our neighbour and sharing the Good News. It seems to me that the Good News is basically that God loves us. Unfortunately, however, this good news is often wrapped in a thick layer of gloom and guilt. Yes, we know that the news from elsewhere tells us that the world is in a mess and that people can do terrible things to the environment and to each other. That may seem to justify the frequent use of words like "sin", "wrath", "unworthiness" in much of Christian language. But, in so doing, are we colluding with the secular view that good news is no news?

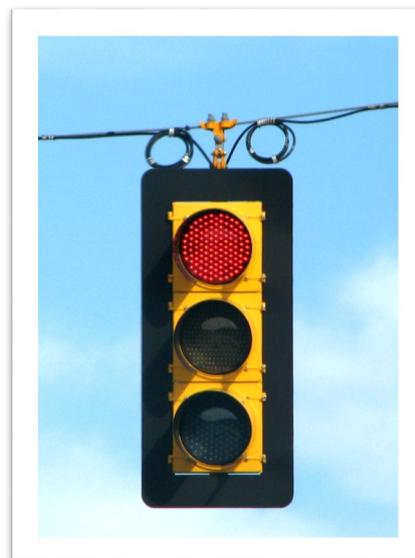
Christians are, after all, Easter people. We have stood at the foot of the cross on Good Friday but we have also been to the garden and seen the stone rolled away from the tomb. The Ascension might seem like a sad time of parting but it is actually a feast to be enjoyed because of its message that Jesus is with us everywhere and for ever. As disciples we should be looking for signs of the good news. These often go unnoticed but can be as simple as a friendly greeting or a helping hand. Or it can be the ability to recognise the "silver lining" to every cloud, seeing the possibility of good outcomes as well as bad.

The best way to share the good news is to live it joyfully, through faith in him who is "risen, ascended, glorified".



The Law and the Gospel

In Kirchenfeldstrasse, near St Ursula's, there is a set of traffic lights. They are there to allow pedestrians to cross the road safely on the associated zebra crossing, and at the same time to allow buses and other traffic to turn left into Jubiläumsstrasse when the oncoming traffic is heavy.



We all know that at many times the traffic is not heavy, and we can cross safely directly in front of the church. Of course, if there are children nearby, we dutifully walk down to the crossing and use that. But often we take a short cut, and in so doing we break the law, for section 47 of the Traffic Ordinance forbids anyone from crossing a road within 50 metres of the zebra stripes.

“Ah,” you may be saying, “I'd never do that.” But the same law applies to anyone who parks their car opposite the church gate and walks across, or who parks in Jubiläumsstrasse and does not use the crossings provided. Few are those who can claim never to have transgressed!

Zebra crossings did not exist in Jesus' day, but laws certainly did. The Romans brought laws with them, but for the Jewish population these were of secondary importance. More important were the commands of the Torah, which were seen as given by God to Moses during the time in the Sinai Desert, and if there was any suspicion that the Romans might introduce a law contrary to the Torah, then the threat of an uprising would make sure it would not come into force.

It is a bit of an over-simplification to see the law as being dictated line by line to Moses as he wandered through the desert. Parts of it (Leviticus 19, for example – indeed, the whole section to the end of chapter 26) seem to have had a life of their own, and some of the laws about the building of the temple envisage access to trade and resources that the nomads of Sinai would never have known about. But the commandments of the Law formed a single block, governing the relations between the people of God and their Lord.

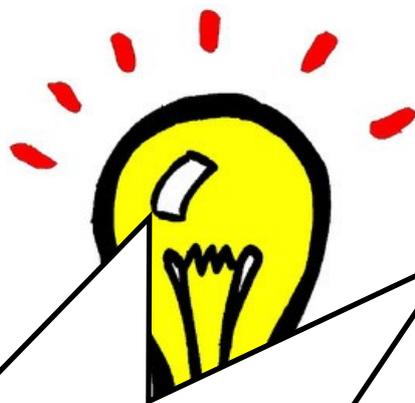
So Jesus told his hearers on the Mount, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke

of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.” (Matthew 5:17-18). But at the same time, he looked behind the law to its true purpose.

And thus in Mark, we find Jesus defending his disciples when they pick grain on the sabbath and eat it, although the law forbade this. The sabbath was made for us, not we for it. (Mark 2:27) The early church took this further, especially after Gentiles started being accepted in the church. Most of the ritual parts of the Law were dropped. Paul even went so far as to tell the Corinthians that “the letter kills, but the spirit gives life.” (2 Cor 3:6).

Like the zebra crossing, the Law of Moses had a purpose. In Galatians 3, Paul describes it as a tutor or guardian (the NRSV says “disciplinarian”), to lead us to Christ, rather in the way that the stripes in the road are a tutor in the art of crossing safely. In Christ, we follow the spirit of the Law, and in him is our safety.

- Hector Davie



Any Bright Ideas?

As many of you are aware, the Appeal for April will be the “launch” of our church and building project. This will mean replacing the old heating system with a more energy efficient one to improve our environment.

In order to complete our appeal, we need to raise 250,000 francs from an American woman in Bern (who wishes to remain anonymous), we now have the funds to go ahead with our project to improve the heating in our church buildings and to drastically reduce our energy usage.

Thanks to an incredibly generous donation of 250,000 francs from an American woman in Bern (who wishes to remain anonymous), we now have the funds to go ahead with our project to improve the heating in our church buildings and to drastically reduce our energy usage.

Alleluia!

by 8 April.

Making the sign of the cross – isn't that for Catholics?

Anglicans are allowed to make the sign of the cross (but you don't have to).

Anglicans feel free to raise their hands when they sing (if it helps).

It's OK for Anglicans to bow at the name of Jesus (to show our respect).

Anglicans have authorised forms of ministry (to give assurance to the people).

Anglicans respect and celebrate Mary and the saints (but don't pray to them).

Anglicans cherish the Bible (that's why it's OK to kiss it).

Anglicans are allowed to go to confession. (All may, nobody must but some should).

Anglicans acknowledge a variety of beliefs about the presence of Christ in the sacrament ("And what His word did make it; That I believe, and take it." Queen Elizabeth I).

It's OK for Anglicans to pray for the dead (but not to try to contact them).

Some Anglicans are creationists (but it's a minority opinion).

Anglicans prefer a set form of service (so that everyone can take part).

Anglicans are allowed to use incense (it's in the Bible).

Anglicans believe God has given us minds to think about our faith, a Church to teach it and Scripture to prove it.

Anglicans can have statues and holy pictures in church and at home (but not worship them).

It's OK for Anglicans to call their priest "Father" (but you don't have to).

Anglicans can believe in substitutionary atonement (but it's not a mainstream belief).

Anglicans can bless objects and animals (that's in the Bible too).



Anglicans can use real bread for communion (but it's less messy to use wafers). It's OK for Anglicans to call Holy Communion “the Lord's Supper” or “the Mass” (if that's what you prefer).

Queen Elizabeth I, who was in many ways the author of the Anglican Settlement, famously said that she had no wish to “open windows into men's souls.”

All this goes to show that Anglicanism is inclusive in its beliefs and practices. It can tolerate variety and recognises the need to be sensitive to the fact that everyone comes from a different background — some things that are not meaningful to you have a high significance to others.

- PMP

A Word for the Month – Blessed

Between 1604 and 1611, 47 scholars worked on what was to become the Authorized Version of the Bible. One of their weaknesses was to use different English translations – for example, *garments*, *vesture*, *raiment* or *clothing* – for a single word. This could lead to misunderstanding the text – being just and being righteous are not the same thing.

With *blessed*, the opposite occurred: one word was used in two senses. While German has *gesegnet* and *selig*, while French has *béni* and *heureux*, while Latin has *benedictus* and *beatus*, while Greek has *eulogitos* and *makarios*, English uses one word – *blessed* (though in the distant past, this word had two different origins!).

The first word in each pair comes from a verb, to bless. The Greek word means to say good things, the English means to mark something as holy. German has to use two words, *gesegnet* or *gepriesen*, depending on whether the word is applied to God or to human beings, for we cannot bless God in the same way as God can bless us. We bless God with our praises, and in the New Testament, this first word is nearly always used to describe God in person, or God's kingdom. “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!”

God can bless us too. The blessing Aaron is commanded to give in Numbers 6 begins: “The Lord bless you and keep you.” In the tale of the sheep and the goats, the king says to the righteous, “Come, you that are blessed by my

Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world". God can bless things – Jesus blessed bread and broke it. And we can bless each other. Just as, God blessed Abraham, so Abraham blessed Isaac and Isaac Jacob. (Jacob even blessed Pharaoh (Gen 47:10)).

The second meaning of "blessed" has to do with bliss – happiness. In classical Greek, the *makares*, or blessed ones, were their immortal gods, living in rest and comfort on the Isles of the Blest. This bliss is a total happiness, the greatest that this world can know.

The Beatitudes describe some of the people who share in this happiness – the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the peacemakers, those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake. This kind of blessedness has to do with inner happiness, and not with praise or approval, even from God.

So Jesus' saying, recorded in Acts 20:35, that it is more blessed to give than to receive does not mean that it is more praiseworthy, it does not mean that people will have a better opinion of you if you are generous than if you are miserly (even if, perhaps they will!). It means that giving is a source of deep inner delight.

We can share in the delight of others as well. Luke records Mary's song of praise, the *Magnificat*, where she thanks God for doing great things. "Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed." She is blessed in the sense of filled with joy (and it is important not to confuse "blessed virgin" ("happy") with "blessed Lord" ("praised")!).

This happy state is within the reach of all of us. Mary reached it through her total obedience ("Let it be with me according to your word." (Luke 1:38)). But if we share the attitude of the poor in spirit, if we are meek, if we thirst for peace and righteousness, we too can share in God's work, and bring closer that heavenly kingdom where suffering is no more and only bliss remains.

- *Hector Davie*



The English Church of Interlaken

Collecting old postcards is an interesting hobby. It opens up a window to the past, and sometimes I discover unexpected views. This was the case when I found a card that said “St. Beatenberg, English Church u. Hôtel Silberhorn”. I know there is a long history of Anglican worship in Switzerland, especially in the regions favoured by English tourists. What might I find if I searched specifically for postcards of “English churches in Switzerland”? Would readers of this magazine be interested in my discoveries and the stories that go with the images? Here is a first offer, Beatenberg may follow later.

Interlaken was a favourite of British tourists in the 19th century. As devout Victorians did not want to miss out on their Sunday church service, they obtained permission to worship in the old church that is part of the former monastery founded around 1130. Secularized in 1528 due to the Reformation, the monastery’s buildings and extensive lands were taken over by the Republic of Bern. (We owe the “Canton” to Napoleon.) Some of the buildings were torn down in the 18th century, and the ones built in their place were called “Neues Schloss”. Consequently, the old monastery church became the “Schlosskirche”. This is where the first Anglican seasonal chaplaincy was founded in 1844 by the Colonial Church Society (today the International Church Society). This is a Church of England agency serving “English-speakers who live, study, work or holiday abroad, in countries where English is not the main language”. It still sends out ministers who serve on a voluntary basis to holiday chaplaincies in Switzerland, including Interlaken.

In 1863 Thomas Cook’s first conducted tour of Switzerland reached Interlaken via Geneva, Chamonix, Sion, the Gemmi Pass (which they mastered on foot), and Spiez. Miss Jemima Morrell, a member of that courageous group, noted in her “Swiss Journal” for Sunday, 5th July 1863:

The sermon was pretty good, although the doctrines were slightly too much in harmony with human nature to arouse the hearers to severe self-scrutiny. It was rather religion presented walking in silver slippers. ... The English services have a charm of their own, that no traveller who is wise will omit to realize. How refreshing it is after wandering for days amongst foreigners to meet again with fellow countrymen and join them in prayer for dear old England, in the familiar language of home.

Today Sunday Services in English are still held regularly in the “Schlosskapelle”, the chapel beside the church, from May to August.

- Ruth Freiburghaus



The postcard dates from about 1900. It was produced by H. Guggenheim & Co., Zurich, for local publisher Paul Gertsch, Interlaken.

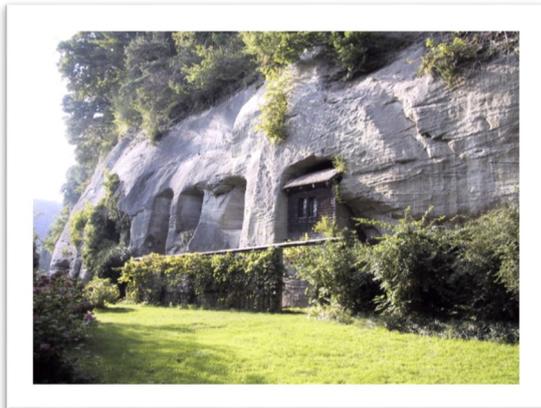
Chaplain's Notes

The first half of April is fairly quiet, giving us a chance to catch our breath after Easter and all the events leading up to it. Thank you to everyone who helped with our Easter celebrations in any way – doing the flowers, providing the music, serving refreshments etc, etc.

Sing to God's glory

This year we are hosting the Archdeaconry Choir Festival. Our own choir have been hard at work for several weeks rehearsing the music and they will be joined by choirs from the other chaplaincies. It is a great opportunity to hear some fine music and meet people. Don't miss the Evensong on Saturday 23 April and the Choral Eucharist the next day.

Ascension Day (5 May)



We are planning to have a church outing again this year. We hope to go to the Madeleine Hermitage near Düdingen. It is a series of rooms cut into the cliff face dating back to the late 1600s. More information at:

<http://www.duedingen-tourismus.ch>.

It is something for everyone. Please join us. Look out for times and travel

arrangements in the weekly notices and in the hall.

Welcome

The Rev'd Nigel Gibson is to be the new chaplain at St Edward's, Lugano. Fr Nigel is coming from Hong Kong, where he has been on the staff of the Cathedral. He is no stranger to the Diocese in Europe, having previously been chaplain in Milan. He will be licensed on Thursday 11 May, just in time for Pentecost. Please pray for Fr Nigel and also for the people of St Edward's as they start this new chapter together.

Pray at Pentecost

The Archbishop of Canterbury has issued a call for nine days of prayer for evangelisation at Pentecost (6 to 14 May). His hope is

1. for all Christians to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ
2. for all of us to have confidence to share the Gospel

3. for all to respond to the call of Jesus Christ to follow Him as disciples, to live out the Gospel and to seek God's Kingdom from day to day.



A booklet is available in the Church Hall and online at www.thykingdom.co.uk. The site also contains more information about the Archbishop's call. You could use the prayers on your own or you could invite others round to join you. In addition, Council liked the suggestion of a prayer walk. Details to follow soon.

Prayers for healing

On Trinity Sunday we shall again have prayers for healing at the 10.00 Eucharist. During this time you are invited to come forward for anointing and prayer for yourself or someone known to you.

- PMP

Archdeaconry Choir Festival at St Ursula's Church

The traditional annual Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2016 will be held at St Ursula's Church over the weekend 23-24 April 2016. Gordon Appleton will be our Festival Director of Music, with Mark Charles at the organ.



On Saturday there will be a Choral Evensong at 17.30 with the Magnificat and the Nunc Dimittis by C.V. Stanford, the Responses by J. Reading, an Anthem by E. Elgar, and a sung Psalm.

On Sunday the Communion Service at 10.00 will be sung to the setting by C. Wood (Mass in F), an Anthem by O. Gibbons and a Motet by C. Saint-Saëns.

The first Joint Choir practice with all choirs present will start in the Evening of Friday 22 April.

The Choir of St Ursula's has started practising the music on Saturdays at 9.30 in the church. Singers would be welcome to join the choir at the practices for this event.

For information please contact Hans-Karl or Elisabeth Pfyffer 026 492 0326.

- Hans-Karl Pfyffer

St Ursula's Summer Fête

4 June 10.00 – 15.00



This year's summer fête will be a celebration of the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II with a special exhibition about her life and reign, musical contributions from our choir as well all our usual traditional summer fête fun.

This will be an event for ALL with lots of adults' and children's activities and games, bric à brac, tombola, our fabulous "Pimms on the Lawn" and of course, a barbecue outside - whilst not forgetting our usual sales of second hand books and British food including a special selection of fine British Cheeses for sale.

However, to make this day a success we'll need lots of help, from helping to "set the scene" on Friday evening, during the sale itself and of course the clear up afterwards.

The restaurant also needs volunteers not only to help on the day but also to bake our usual scrummy selection of cakes.

Anyone wanting to sell their own bric à brac or crafts is welcome to book a space.

New and in perfect condition (please check the sell-by date on any food items first though!) tombola items are also needed – just leave them in the red box in the Upper Hall.

Please use the flyer with this magazine to advertise this event widely, more flyers are available in the Upper Hall or you can print some from our website, www.anglican.ch/berne

For further information or to volunteer please contact the Church Office (031 352 85 67) or email berne@anglican.ch

- Jana Kutesko, Church Office

St Ursula's – the Church for the future

As you will know from the flyer in the previous issue of the magazine, the Council had agreed to launch an appeal to raise FR 250'000 in order to bring the Church premises up to date with new windows, heating, insulation and a new roof on the house. We will cut our use of resources considerably, and save 75% of our energy costs annually, which is amazing.

Even more amazing is the promise of a generous donation to cover the whole cost of this project.



In planning for the appeal, we had masses of ideas to raise money and we don't want to lose this momentum - there are still many other things that need to be done and we intend to carry on fundraising.

As we go to press, we have not had time for the news of our great good fortune to sink in. The immediate priorities for the Council will be to get started on the work we have identified. We need to draw up specifications, get quotations, sign contracts etc. In addition we shall be discussing what other work is to be done to develop our mission to serve the English-speaking community and others.

Watch this space. And please pray – first to give thanks for this wonderful gift and second for guidance as how best to build up our church in God's service.

On the subject of thanks, I should like to express my appreciation (and ours) to Sue Higson and others for the work they put in to develop our planned appeal, as well as to Hans Goepfert and his group for their painstaking efforts to identify how we can best be more energy efficient at St Ursula's.

- PMP

Archdeaconry Synod 6 February 2016

The principal speaker at the Archdeaconry Synod held on 6 February in Berne was Canon William Gulliford, Diocesan Director of Ordinands. He took us through the very thorough process of selection and training of ordinands for Church of England ministry. This covers, for example, examination of a candidate's vocation, spirituality, personality, qualities of leadership, educational criteria, family relations, with interviews at various levels to assess the suitability of a candidate. Then follow vocation seminars, theological courses, possible internship, curacy placement. The aim of the diocese is to attract 50% more ordinands under 32 by 2020. Not all candidates in our diocese are of C of E or British background. This can present special problems on both sides, but the fact is that we are the Church of England with the sovereign at the head and that is what candidates and congregations have to accept.

Financially everything balanced well in 2015 with income and expenditure mostly within budget. Only minor adjustments are being made in 2016. We continue to contribute to the Anglican church in Athens, which actively supports the many refugees there. Also the aid agency of the Old Catholics Partner Sein. Various amounts were paid out of the SAMT Fund (supporting ministry training) to clergy and lay people in the Archdeaconry for further education.

Several SACEP (Swiss Archdeaconry Christian Education Programme) events are planned for 2016, two of which focus on the refugee/migrant problem.

Our Bishop has drawn up a Diocesan Strategy Plan, which all chaplaincies have been asked to work on. This will be the subject of his address at our Synod in Geneva on 25 June 2016. In Berne we split into groups to discuss how our own chaplaincies are approaching the aims.

Other agenda items included reports from Partner Sein, AGCK (Swiss Council of Churches), Willibrord Society. Revd Ulrike Henkenmeier of the Old Catholic Church in Zurich is very ready to visit Anglican communities in Switzerland to talk about the Old Catholics. There is often good understanding at the higher levels, but ignorance at the lower levels about what they do. We could do much more together on a practical basis.

Altogether this was an interesting Synod and St. Ursula's looked after us in their customary hospitable way.

- *Miriam Keller, Zurich*

Services and Readings

April and May 2016

3 April Easter 2

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Acts 5:27-32
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

10 April Easter 3

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)
Acts 9:1-6
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:15-19

17 April Easter 4

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Acts 9:36-43
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

23 April Choral Evensong for the Feast of St George (Choir Festival)

Isaiah 43:1-7
John 15:1-8

24 April Easter 5

No service at 8.30
10.00 Choral Eucharist
Acts 11:1-18
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35



1 May Easter 6

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Acts 16:9-15
Revelation 22:1-5
John 14:23-29

5 May Ascension Day

see the weekly notices

8 May Easter 7

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)
Acts 16:25-34
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26

15 May Pentecost

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Genesis 11:1-9
Acts 2:1-21
John 14:8-17

22 May Trinity Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 ACT (All in Church Together)
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

29 May Corpus Christi

(Thanksgiving for Holy Communion)

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Genesis 14:18-20
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 6:51-58

Prayer Diary

April 2016

- | | | |
|----|---------------|---|
| 1 | Friday | “The foolishness of God is greater than the wisdom of men” |
| 2 | Saturday | embassies and their staff in Berne |
| 3 | Sunday | Christians in the Middle East |
| 4 | Monday | <i>The Annunciation to Mary</i> : obedience to God's call |
| 5 | Tuesday | Swiss Archdeaconry Christian Education Programme (SACEP) |
| 6 | Wednesday | Thanks for the generous response to our heating and energy appeal |
| 7 | Thursday | all who volunteer time and talents at church |
| 8 | Friday | the people of Syria |
| 9 | Saturday | the Berne Charity Fund |
| 10 | Sunday | our AGM today |
| 11 | Monday | Christians in sport |
| 12 | Tuesday | family members far away |
| 13 | Wednesday | making our church premises attractive |
| 14 | Thursday | the Thun group |
| 15 | Friday | people with long-term illness |
| 16 | Saturday | our family doctors and their staff |
| 17 | Sunday | Partner Sein |
| 18 | Monday | the Diocesan Mission Strategy |
| 19 | Tuesday | the Archdeaconry Clergy Chapter meeting |
| 20 | Wednesday | our neighbours and work colleagues |
| 21 | Thursday | women in labour |
| 22 | Friday | the Archdeaconry Choir Festival this weekend |
| 23 | Saturday | church musicians and music groups |
| 24 | Sunday | composers of music for worship |
| 25 | Monday | <i>St Mark</i> : our witness to the Gospel |
| 26 | Tuesday | safeguarding children and vulnerable adults in church |
| 27 | Wednesday | the work of Tear Fund |
| 28 | Thursday | people serving on peacekeeping operations |
| 29 | Friday | local schools |
| 30 | Saturday | the housebound |

May 2016

1	Sunday	Day of work
2	Monday	Partner Sein, our charity of the month
3	Tuesday	The Council meeting
4	Wednesday	(Rogation Day) Farmers, here and abroad
5	Ascension Day	Our church pilgrimage
6	Friday	Israel and its neighbours
7	Saturday	The Willibrord Society
8	Sunday	Making Christ's love known
9	Monday	The Charities and Mission Team
10	Tuesday	People recently arrived in the area
11	Wednesday	Clean water for all
12	Thursday	St Edward's, Lugano
13	Friday	The housebound
14	Saturday	People taking part in the Berne Grand Prix
15	Pentecost	Seeing Christ in others
16	Monday	People having to work today
17	Tuesday	The work of Rega
18	Wednesday	All who help produce the Magazine
19	Thursday	Care for the environment
20	Friday	Our Christian heritage
21	Saturday	All in need of healing
22	Trinity	Entering into the mystery of God
23	Monday	Today's troublespots
24	Tuesday	Groups who use our Hall
25	Wednesday	The Church's work in society
26	Thursday	Medical research
27	Friday	Our Old Catholic sister churches
28	Saturday	The churches' work with migrants and refugees
29	Sunday	(Corpus Christi) Meeting Christ in the Eucharist
30	Monday	English-speaking clubs and societies
31	Tuesday	The Diocesan Communications Team

For Your Diary

April & May 2016

Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.00-09.30	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15-11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork
Saturdays	09.30-11.30	Choir Practice

Other Events

Sunday 3 April	08.30	Church Breakfast
Sunday 10 April	12.00	St Ursula's AGM
Friday 22 April - Sunday 24 April		Archdeaconry Choir Festival in Bern
Friday 29 April	09.00	Book Sorting
Sunday 1 May	08.30	Church Breakfast
Tuesday 3 May	19.30	Church Council
Sunday 15 May		COPY DATE
Friday 20 May		Swedish Evening
Thursday 26 May	09.00-11.00	Magazine Collating

Future Dates

Saturday 4 June	Summer Fête
Saturday 3 September	Book and Food Sale
Friday 25 & Saturday 26 November	Christmas Bazaar



Happy Birthday

Congratulations to our Junior Church Children with birthdays in April and May:

Anna Batley 13 on 1 April

Samuel Eze 3 on 2 April

Rebecca Shergold 10 on 11 April

Lily Janssen 8 on 15 April



Swedish Evening



SAVE THE DATE!

Friday 20 May

We'll be having a social evening at church with evening meal and entertainment to raise money for St Ursula's.

More information will follow on the website shortly but in the meantime:

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY!

Misplaced Jackets at the Christmas Bazaar

...and then there were two. After our appeal in the last magazine, a jacket was brought in BUT it was the wrong one! So, did you come to the Christmas Bazaar wearing either a size 38 dark navy "Kingfield" ladies long jacket or a size 56 black "Kingfield" male casual (bomber style) jacket? If so please check to see if the jacket you now have is actually the one you arrived at the Christmas Bazaar in. If you have ended up with the wrong jacket, please contact the Church Office (031 352 8567) to arrange a coat exchange.

Junior Church News



Meeting times

Junior Church meets every Sunday, except for All-Age services, which are on the second Sunday in the month. It begins with a time of worship with the whole congregation in church. After this, all the children and teachers meet together in the hall for a brief introduction, prayer and to collect our gifts for Tear Fund. We currently run three classes for children aged between 3 and 14 years. Teens have a separate meeting schedule.

Lessons

As 2016 continues, we have seen Epiphany is not a single event, but a journey of revelation, of moments when God's glory is glimpsed in a new way. The Magi saw it and made a journey to see Jesus. It was revealed at the baptism of Jesus as heaven opened and the Spirit witnessed: This is my son, the Beloved. The disciples saw it at the wedding feast and believed. Jesus is anointed to bring good news. The glory of the Lord was seen also on the mountain on transfiguration as it was in the time of Moses. There is also a time of darkness and destiny which is coming but the Lord has promised to gather and to shelter us as a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wing. As we tread the road of 2016 where we have never been before, we may face scary situations, feel lonely but let us remember He is Emmanuel, God with us, always there to love, encourage and protect. We will celebrate the end of the year with a testimony of the Lord's goodness and favour.

Activity Club (7-13 year olds): past and coming up

We have an active Activity Club for children 7-13 years old in St Ursula's Church. We generally meet every two months for an outdoor activity together in the region. If you are interested in joining the Activity Club and would like to receive our mails, please contact Sharon Batley (079 482 29 72) or Françoise Hänggi (fhaenggi@swissonline.ch).

Nursery

All children under 3 are welcome in the nursery (crèche). A reminder to parents: please collect your child immediately after the service; you may also fetch your child before communion, if you would like him/her to receive a blessing.

- Janiffer Kingori



Lessons I've Learned from my Time as Youth Coordinator

I first joined our church as the Youth Coordinator, a member of the church council, and a new member of the congregation in the autumn of 2010. After taking a break following the birth of my son, I returned to Youth Group in 2013 to a whole new generation of teenagers. I feel blessed to have gotten to know our



fantastic teens, some of whom are teens-no-longer, and I appreciate the time I have been able to spend with them. At the end of April, I will step down from my official role within our youth programme, but I know I will maintain my relationships with them and I am excited to see how our youths will contribute to the church as they grow into adulthood.

Before I step down, I would like to share some of the lessons I have learned from my time with our younger church members:

1. **Relationships, relationships, relationships.** A church isn't a group of strangers who sit near each other on Sundays, it is a family that comes together in the house of God. How can we break down barriers and make the teens feel part of the church family? Only through building relationships. They won't care to try until we learn to care.
2. **Set goals.** Without a goal, we're just individuals meandering down the river of life paddling for the sake of paddling. If we don't know where we're going, we'll never know when we get there, and we'll be awfully tired and grumpy along the way. Yet with a common goal, we join together and form bonds that otherwise mightn't exist. The bake sales, the Chili Cook-Off, and the Nativity Plays have all strengthened our connections to one another.
3. **Always strive to be a better you.** The teens are constantly discovering who they are as individuals and who they are as members of the church. As adults, we must be role models and show them that this journey lasts a lifetime!

- Mary McKinley

Treasurer's Notes

Many thanks to those of you who have paid your magazine subscriptions on time, and a nudge to your memory if you have not yet paid! If you have lost the letter that came with the last issue, it is enough if you make a payment to our Postfinance account, 30-4416-8, marking the payment "Magazine". Fr20 does not just get you a year's reading – it helps the church in its work too.

Our Sustainability Appeal is getting under way, and here we are looking for more than the odd Fr20 or so. Every little helps, but our target is Fr250,000, which will help us to deal with the potential for saving us many thousands of Swiss francs in the better use. As a result, we will be able to provide a better service to our customers.

A group of people who are looking for a way to put a little more money into the church, and who hope that their contribution will brighten the lives of those who have already come in!

STOP PRESS!
See page 4



- The Treasurer

The British Government wants you to know

Have you ever worked in the United Kingdom as well as here in Switzerland? Anyone who has done so, and is over 65 (male) or 61 (female), is entitled to a British pension as well as a Swiss one. If the AHV here has not already reminded you of this, you should contact one of the addresses at www.gov.uk/international-pension-centre, or fill in the online form there.

And if you are British, you may have noticed that there is a poll on 23 June about EU membership. Just because you are living in Switzerland doesn't mean you cannot vote – it depends how long you have been out of the UK.

To register as an overseas voter, you must have been registered in a UK constituency within the last 15 years. All you have to do to register is visit www.gov.uk/register-to-vote with your passport details and National Insurance number to hand, and the postcode of where you last lived in the UK.

Ecumenical House Group in Liebefeld

We cancelled house group for Lent and some of us attended the Lent Devotional Course held at St Ursula's. Restarting on 30 March, the Ecumenical House Group meets on the following dates at 19.30:

Wednesday, 13 and 27 April 2016

Wednesday, 11 and 25 May 2016

We are nearing the end of our study of "Unshakable Faith" by Rick Joyner, a devotional based on the Book of Genesis.

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 Hessesstrasse and then just a short walk down Hessesstrasse). Please contact us in advance, in case there is a change of location.

Archdeaconry Choir Festival – Catering

As you know, this year's archdeaconry choir festival is being held at St Ursula's on 22 - 24 April. All being well, there will be around 40 singers – and they need feeding. So we need help with providing food, in particular with setting up, serving and clearing up. If you can help, even if just for an hour, please sign up on the sheet in the hall or contact Lynn or Tricia. The food to be provided is:

- Friday evening – buffet supper
- Saturday morning – coffee and cake
- Saturday lunchtime – lunch
- Saturday afternoon – coffee and cake
- Saturday evening – dinner

In addition, we need home-baked cakes for the breaks on the Saturday. If you can make something, please sign up on the sheet in the hall or contact Lynn or Tricia.

Charity of the Month:



PARTNER SEIN

Partner Sein was brought into being in 1970 and is an aid organization arm of the *Christcatholische Kirche* (Old Catholics). Their aim is worldwide solidarity and they have projects in Europe, Africa and Asia. They place emphasis on giving help to those who want to help themselves, feeling that developmental work should lead to independence and not dependence. They work with local people towards their independence and then draw back, subsequently seeking to become involved in new projects.

In 2015 Partner Sein supported 34 different projects, always in conjunction with local churches. They aspire to help those who don't receive aid from other organizations and are therefore especially needy. In Switzerland they work closely together with other organizations which express similar goals such as *Brot für Alle* and *Fastenopfer*.

One project that is currently being supported by Partner Sein is the construction of a new school building in Kanoni in the Democratic Republic of Congo - education is of vital importance! The building will have six classrooms and be able to accommodate 300 students. Wells are being dug and solar panels installed. Christoph Schuler and Robert Amstutz were part of a delegation from Switzerland that went to inspect the work.

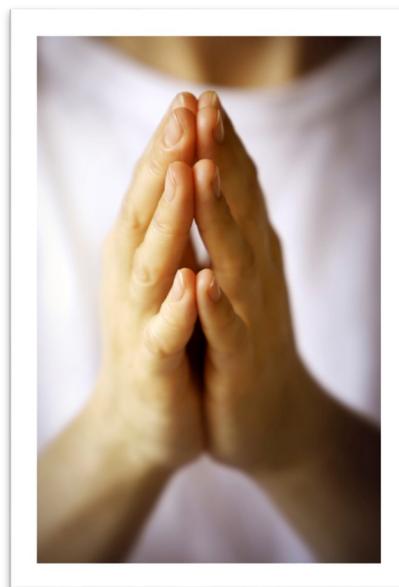
In Sayuni, Tanzania, money goes towards a health centre which is being enlarged to include, among other things, a walk-in AIDS clinic. Great emphasis is also placed on the further education of those working in the fields of nursing, midwifery and laboratory technicians.

Partner Sein is responding to the great need in the refugee crises. They have contacted all Swiss church communities suggesting that a contribution of 2 CHF per member would raise a substantial sum for relief work. Fifty percent will be used in Switzerland and fifty percent in countries neighbouring Syria where Partner Sein will work with recognized relief organizations. Over Fr35,000 has already been raised.

Continuing work is also being done in Uganda, Hong Kong and the Philippines.

Prayer requests:

1. That cooperation between Partner Sein and people carrying out the programs they support will be profitable for all.
2. The goal of helping projects become independent will be realized.
3. Effective ways will be found to help refugees.
4. Not only financial help but also prayer support will be offered.
5. Cooperation between Partner Sein and other relief organizations will be harmonious and effective.



- Donna Goepfert



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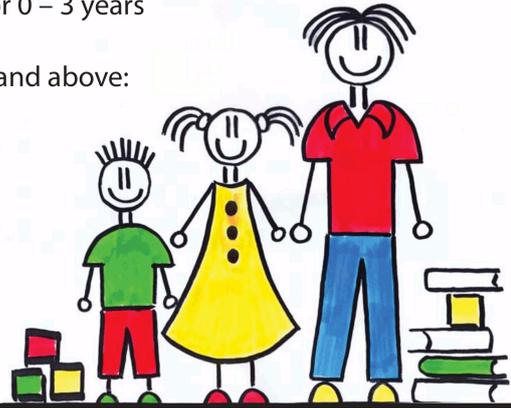


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Tel: +41 31 952 7557

Fax: +41 31 952 7557

E-mail: britishschool@bluewin.ch

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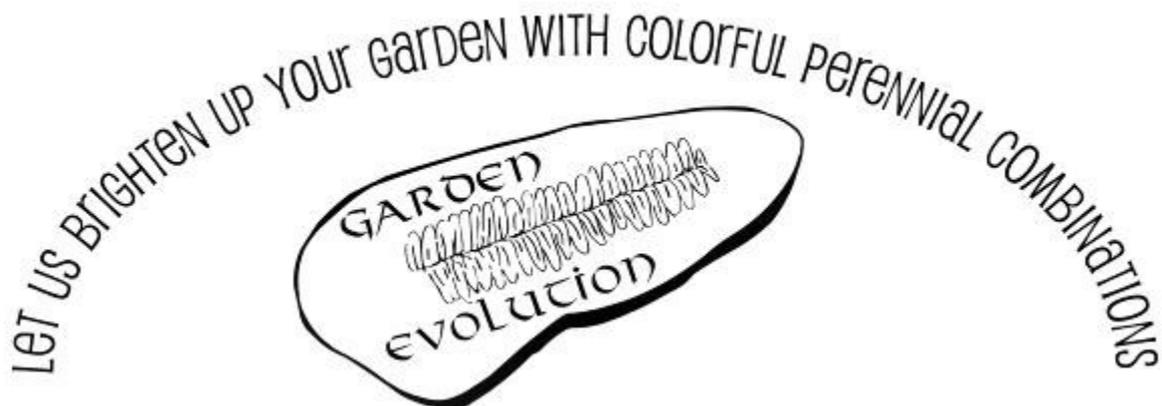
We are looking forward to meeting you

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

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 140 members (including families) from some 30 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. In 2016 the club celebrates its 25th anniversary with several special events. We are waiting to welcome you !

Nazanin Kupferschmid, President
Tel. 078 905 5743, email nkschmid@gmx.net
International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, www: icberne.ch
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Contact: President: Chris Warren

Email: cuwarren@zapp.ch

Here to help you

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Donna Goepfert 031 931 27 42

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 - *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."*