

MINISTER

Rev Al Lowe

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(leave message/text and we'll get back to you)

MONTHLY NOTICES (& weekly when required)

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Website: <http://penncirrus.co.uk/Cornerstone/index.htm>

Cornerstone Church, Fore Street, Torpoint, Cornwall.



Cornerstone Church - Torpoint

NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2025



THE COVENANT SERVICE EXPLAINED

The Covenant Service, celebrated in the New Year, is at the heart of our devotion and discipleship, and our dedication in working for social justice. In the service, the Church joyfully celebrates God's gracious offer to Israel that "I will be their God and they shall be my people".

This offer is then extended beyond Israel to all women and men in Jesus Christ, who also provides the supreme example of what it is to live in such a relationship with God.

What God offers is a loving relationship. The Covenant is not a contract in which God and human beings agree to provide particular goods and services for each other! It is not something that we have to do to create a relationship with God. God has freely and graciously already made it possible. Rather, the Covenant is the means of grace by which we accept the relationship and then seek to sustain it. It is therefore not so much about getting into a relationship with God as it is about staying in it. It is not about acquiring a relationship with God, but living within the loving relationship that God has already offered us.

God's gracious offer to us is therefore simultaneously a challenge. If God is committed to us, are we prepared to accept that as reality and commit ourselves in return to God? Even if we do choose to accept it, how can we manage to live out our commitment adequately, frail and human as we are?

The New Testament suggests that as we join the group of those seeking to follow the way of Jesus, we respond to God's challenge with him and begin to share his relationship with God as Father. Within the group of disciples, this leads to his Spirit bubbling up in us as individuals, encouraging and enabling us to live out our side of the relationship (i.e. "writing God's ways on our hearts" as Jeremiah 31 describes the Covenant).

All are welcome to share in a Covenant Service. You will be welcome, whether you are sharing in a Covenant Service for the first time, have done it annually for many years, or simply want to watch what others do without taking part yourself.

The service is a gift not a demand! And God will give you the grace to do it all. You are not alone!

**CORNERSTONE COVENANT SERVICE will be held on 12th January
and led by Rev Darren Middleton**

ANSWERS FROM LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

- 1 Which French term means in a group or altogether? *En masse*
- 2 Which Welsh resort lies between Prestatyn & Colwyn Bay? *Rhyl*
- 3 Collectively, what term applies to geese on land? *Gaggle*
- 4 Rolling in the Deep was a 2010 hit for which singer? *Adele*
- 5 What is the name of the volcano which is the highest point of Japan? *Fuji*
- 6 What ingredients give Quiche Lorraine its flavour? *Cheese & bacon*
- 7 Which animated character lives on Mossy Bottom Farm? *Sean the Sheep*
- 8 In 1909 Louis Bleriot became the first person to fly over which body of water? *English Channel*
- 9 What is the capital city of Lebanon? *Beirut*
- 10 What is the focal point of an earthquake? *Epicentre*
- 11 Which is Indian's most sacred river? *Ganges*
- 12 Campanology is more commonly known by what name? *Bell ringing*
- 13 Which actor starred alongside Paul McGann in the film Withnail and I? *Richard E Grant*
- 14 What is fermented to make the Japanese drink sake? *Rice*
- 15 Every Breath you Take was a chart-topper for The Police in which year? *1983*
- 16 Which wide-angled lens used in photography has a curved front? *Fish Eye*
- 17 In linguistics what name is given to a describing word? *Adjective*
- 18 Which fortified wine takes its name from the Spanish town of Jerez? *Sherry*
- 19 Vince Clarke and Andy Bell formed which pop duo? *Erasure*
- 20 Which golfer won the Masters in 2017? *Sergio Garcia*



PATHFINDER PROJECT
Benefit Entitlement Check
Confidentiality Assured



Benefit Entitlement Checks are available three days a week at the Foodbank distribution centre in the Old Rowing Club. A quiet area is set aside for confidential enquiries, where trained staff will help you in a discreet manner.

(Full income details will be required for all household members.)

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD & OTHER ITEMS: (as at 19 December)

- DRY CAT FOOD
- NAPPIES, SIZE 6 & 7
- WASHING POWDER
- WASHING UP LIQUID
- WOMEN'S DEODORANT
- FRUIT JUICE
- TEA & COFFEE
- TINNED CARROTS
- BISCUITS



ALSO NEEDED (FOR COOKING PACKS): MIXED HERBS, CURRY POWDER, CHILLI POWDER, GARLIC GRANULES & PLAIN FLOUR.

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF:

- CHICKPEAS, CANNELLINI, BAKED, KIDNEY & BUTTERBEANS.
- PASTA
- TOOTHPASTE
- TINNED TOMATOES
- TENA STYLE PADS AND BARS OF SOAP

THANK YOU

Food is distributed from the ground floor of the Old Rowing Club. Sessions are from 09.30-12.30 on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays.

Anyone wishing to volunteer would be most welcome and should pop into one of the sessions for further information.

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

Hi,

A good friend of mine was sharing a concern that his father (who was in his eighties) was spending more and more time reminiscing and my friend was concerned that his father no longer had a positive outlook to the future. I pointed out that at his stage in life, he had more to look back on than he had to look forward to, not just in the number of years, but as health deteriorates, the quality of life can seem to diminish too. There is difference in perspective. For some of us, life is still young, there are still so many options and opportunities for the future. New job prospects, new families, new holiday destinations. For others, the options are reduced, and still for others, they have seen all that they want to see; it's not that one is right and the other wrong, it is just a different perspective.



As we enter a new year, so we may also have different perspectives about the future. Some of us will see this next year as one of opportunity, of new starts and new resolutions. Others will be more pessimistic, looking at news headlines, thinking the world is in turmoil, and despite the increases in technology, feeling that progress is detrimental and things are not as good as they used to be. Those conflicting views are also present in our churches. Some see opportunities for growth and renewal, others see decline and closure.

No matter our perspective, the reality is that the future is not ours to hold. One thing is for certain, whatever plans we have for this next year, next December we will look back and think, 'it didn't really work out that way'. The past has gone and cannot be recovered but the future is God's. Only God knows what the future will be like, only God has plans that will prevail and it is only when we surrender our own plans to God, do we begin to gain fulfilment in what we do.

Blessings

Al



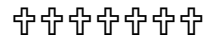
NOTICES FROM SANDRA:



A donation of £500 was made by the Waitrose Store in Saltash under their Community Matters scheme, to Churches Together in Torpoint, and was used for the Home Alone Christmas Meal. Linda Myles from Maryfield, Lizzie Pope from St James', and I, went to the presentation of the cheque to offer our sincere thanks.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 19th January

United Sunday worship is to be at Cornerstone this year at 10.30 led by Rev Terry Higgins



Please note my landline number is no longer active. I am only reachable by mobile. I will pass my mobile number to anyone at church asking for it. Please don't pass it on to others yourself but direct them to me.

Thanks, Sandra

JANUARY SUNDAY SERVICES (10.30am unless otherwise stated) AND DUTY HELPERS

DATE	PREACHER	WELCOMER	VESTRY	OPENING PRAYER
5th	Local Arrangement	Margaret Harrison	Brenda Noone	BN
12th	Rev Darren Middleton—CS	Lynn Rundle	Eve Oates	EO
19th	Rev Terry Higgins (united service for Christian Unity)	Ann Dean	Chris Cross	June Stockton
26th	Marion Wilkinson	Marie Luscombe	Steve Martin	SM



Quiz sheets are still available and plenty of time to take part:

The closing date is 12th January and results will be in the February newsletter

The quiz theme is 'Fun & Games'

HOUSE GROUP



Wednesday, 29th January, 3.00pm
All are welcome to our informal gathering.
(Please see Sandra for venue.)

And at Stoke Christian Centre, 10.30am on
9th & 23rd January

DUTY LISTS

As with all the duty rosters, if any date is inconvenient please arrange your own swap. Thank you / BN

FLOWER ROTA - JANUARY	
5th	Sandra Pratt
12th	<i>Vacant</i>
19th	<i>Vacant</i>
26th	<i>Vacant</i>



PLEASE see Marie if you would like to make a donation towards the flowers displayed in church.

SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA - JANUARY	
5th	June Stockton & Paulene Smith
12th	June Stockton & Jan Hall
19th	June Stockton & Paulene Smith
26th	June Stockton & Jan Hall



Assistance is always required to make things easier for our few helpers, so please speak to June Stockton if you can help with teas/coffees/washing up. Even the odd occasion will be much appreciated *by June, Jan & Paulene.*
Thank you

House Group – Resumes Meeting in Torpoint

Wednesday 3.00pm (NB change of time)

29th January and 12th & 26th February

See Sandra for venue

Bible Study at Stoke Methodist Church continues: *open to all*

Thursday 9th & 23rd January

from 10.30 – 11.45

Starting with tea/coffee and chat

with the Rev Edgar Daniel

RESULT OF QUESTIONNAIRE AND AL'S AVAILABILITY

- ✦ There are no planned Sunday afternoon or weekday services in the coming quarter, apart from the World Day of Prayer service on the first Friday afternoon in March.
- ✦ We will have Sunday Morning Worship every week as normal at 10.30.
- ✦ Al will lead worship once a quarter,
- ✦ We will have a Communion Service each month, led by a minister.



“The Work of Christmas” by Howard Thurman

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,*

The work of Christmas begins:

*To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others,
To make music in the heart.*



- 1 What are Canterbury Bells?
- 2 What is the everyday term for the tibia?
- 3 According to which song title in which London Square is a nightingale said to sing?
- 4 Who is Jack Worthington's alter ego in a famous Oscar Wilde comedy?
- 5 An Australian rugby union player is given the name of which marsupial?
- 6 On which continent would you find the country of Lesotho?
- 7 Which fairy tale character pricked her finger on a spindle?
- 8 Which is the largest of Italy's lakes?
- 9 What is Latin for "and the rest"?
- 10 Which archaeological period followed the predominance of bronze?
- 11 Who starred in the film Ghandi?
- 12 What type of creature is a wrasse?
- 13 What is the title of dignity in Portugal and Brazil?
- 14 In ice hockey what shape is a puck?
- 15 Who founded the Boy Scouts?
- 16 Who had a 1984 hit with 'I Feel for You'?
- 17 Of which Scottish island is the largest town Portree?
- 18 What is an irrational fear of open places called?
- 19 What nickname is given to the southern states of the USA?
- 20 From which Biblical paradise was Adam and Eve expelled?



Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come!
 Darkness covers the earth and its people,
 but the radiance of God's Light
 burns away its shadows,
 illuminates the smallest corner,
 and heralds in the start
 of a new dawn,
 where hearts no longer fear,
 souls might be set free,
 and sister shall follow brother,
 nation shall follow nation,
 and kings and princes bow down in awe
 before the one who comes to reign.
 Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come!
 Alleluia!

Prayer from Faith and Worship.com



STREET PRAYERS

January's streets for our leaflet drop and prayers are:
 Clegg Avenue & Hamoaze Road.

Please remember the people there in your prayers.

Thank you / Chris & Lynn



Finance

	OFFERTORY	BENEVOLENT FUND	TUESDAY & SUNDAY COFFEES
November 24th	£330.30		£7.58
December 1st	£310.50		£10.50
December 8th	£136.00		£14.40
December 15th	£330.90		£13.15

OTHER FINANCE

Our Christmas Fayre raised £295.10, plus £3.00 has been added since then. Many thanks to all the willing helpers, and those who supported.

The Ferryboat Entertainers' Concert raised £189.20. Grateful thanks to Betty who arranges all these concerts and to all those performing, and for all the Raffle Prizes the group provided for us. Ralph kindly put photo's on our Facebook Page of some of the costumes worn that evening. Their next concert is planned for July 17th

The Tommy Carp Coffee Morning raised £130.90 when the Ukulele Band kindly visited us. The Saturdays this month have been greatly enjoyed by everybody singing along to the Band and the Lady Singers the previous Saturday.

Lastly thank you to all who buy birthday cards etc This year I raised £88.50.

Many thanks, Liz

CALENDAR REPRODUCED IN SEPARATE DOCUMENT