

Weekly Meetings

Sunday	3pm	Prayer
	4pm	Afternoon Service (followed by tea in the lower hall ~ please bring some food to share) Both at the Salvation Army, High Street
Tuesday	7.00pm	Prayer at the Salvation Army with the worship team
	7.30pm	Worship practice Prayer continues in the lower hall

we went through them.

How well our God understands the situation we have faced, knowing that for some who have left us, the grass would seem to be greener elsewhere, knowing that we would be soldiers on the move, having to dismantle and take with us bare essentials, no superfluous equipment, knowing that we would be stripped down and left with just the foundations. Yet how encouraging He has been, reassuring us that he would never leave us, telling us that he would rebuild his church and send other precious stones and materials to help build up this new church, provide a fresh infusion of new blood. We thank God for his goodness and faithfulness to us, which have inspired us to persevere and see his purposes for us fulfilled.

In worship that afternoon we had praised God for his extravagant love and we wanted to respond with extravagant, indeed outrageous, worship! The heart to worship and 'space' for worship have been a part of what we're called to be, a distinctive of a church called to worship. We also need to have ears open to hear and receive God directing us in new, quite possibly unexpected ways ~ a new calling or a new gifting, something we may not have envisaged. Worship may be with or without music, but it engages the heart and draws us closer to God. People testified to the love and acceptance in the church, and whether through love or worship, the greatest aim is that people meet with Christ in our times together.

Monday evening: Looking at Colossians 2: 6-15 'Life in Christ' people felt very awe-inspired by verses 9 and 10 ~ *For in Christ all the fulness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fulness in Christ, who is the Head over every power and authority.* Are we living in this 'fulness in Christ'? There is so much we are not appropriating that would enrich, release, embolden, energise etc.

Mike read from 'The Reality is Christ' by Derek Tidball: *If there is fulness of deity to be found in Christ then we can find salvation in him For we 'have been given fulness in Christ'. So, how erroneous it is to think that Christ can only meet some of our needs or that to find protection from some authorities or to gain deliverance from some powers we need to turn elsewhere, as the Colossians were doing. There is nothing missing that we should need; nothing short that we should have to supply from elsewhere; nothing inadequate that we must supplement from another source. We need only to look to him and him alone.*

There was prayer *overflowing with thankfulness* for all that Jesus has done, dying on the cross so that **all our sins** have been forgiven, cancelling the legal case against us, and triumphing over all powers of evil. People felt humbled, realising afresh the magnitude of God's love for us.



The King's Church Swanage



Bulletin
January 6th-12th, 2008

*Let the peace of Christ
rule in your hearts,
since as members of one body
you were called to peace;
and be thankful.*

Colossians 3:15

Sunday, January 13th

A time to share what God has been saying to us
and what we've learnt during our
week of prayer and fasting

This week, next week and beyond

- Sunday, 20th January:
- Churches Together in Swanage and District: **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18th – 25th January**. ‘Pray without ceasing’. We are invited to lunchtime prayer, starting at 12 noon at the following venues: Monday, 21st: St. George’s, Langton; Tuesday, 22nd: St. Mary’s; Wednesday, 23rd: Emmanuel Baptist, Howard Rd; Thursday, 24th: Salvation Army; Friday, 25th: Methodist. These prayer times are followed by a soup and bread lunch. There is also a time of prayer at the Old Stable at 5.30pm on Wednesday, 23rd for anyone who cannot make the lunchtime schedule.
- **Saturday, 26th January, 2-4pm at the Swanage U.R.C.: a fun afternoon for children** aged 6-12 (though not excluding other ages) to make flags and use them in dance at the United Service. The afternoon is to be led by Ursula Doherty, member of King’s Centre, Aldershot. Ursula leads flag workshops ~ and among other things is a qualified shipmaster in the Merchant Navy and former captain of super tankers ~ a lady who knows her flags! Becky Meteau, children’s leader at the URC would like as many children as possible from the different churches to be involved and also requests help from children’s workers. Is there anyone at King’s who would like to help Becky?
- **Sunday, 27th January, 10.30am: Annual United Service at the URC.** Do come to this time of united proclamation of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is always good to see Christians from all the churches coming together.
- **Friday, 1st – Sunday, 3rd: Tim and Kim with us. Training for Healing Ministry** to be given by Tim and Kim on the Friday evening, 7.30pm -9.30pm and on the Saturday, 9.30am – 4pm. ‘You are anointed with Power!’ is a series of teaching on moving in the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit for healing. Leaflets available from Mike and Ann if you are interested in attending the course.
- **Saturday, 9th February, 7.30pm at the URC:** the first of the Churches Together Lent Course events entitled ‘Roots of Faith’. **‘Kingdom Come: The Life of Christ’** a one-man play performed by Eric Petrossian. Combining all four gospels, one actor brings the story to life and plays over 30 different characters. Admission: £5 each or £8 for two – bring a friend. Tickets available from churches in Swanage or from Swanage Christian Centre – the Old Stable.

Prayer: are we a people of prayer? Let’s pray:

For our family here in Swanage, also in Peru (William still there, Christine with us here in Swanage) and Central Asia (Jonathan, Matty and family). For family and friends who don’t know the love of the Lord in their life.

Sunday, 6th January

New songs (interspersed with songs we know) made a good start to the New Year in worshipping the Lord together. After Mike’s talk there was further worship when people were really touched by God. And although there was no activity planned for the children, they were great throughout.

Mike continued the series on Colossians, this time focusing on Col.1:24 – 2:5 **‘The Mystery and the Message’**. He read the verses from the CEV (the

Contemporary English Version). Paul, the apostle, was writing from prison; he was suffering, but his concern was not for himself but for others. Vs 24-25: **Suffering and Service for the Gospel** ~ Paul had endured riots in Ephesus (Acts 19); he had fought with beasts at Ephesus (1 Corinthians 15:32). In 2 Corinthians 6:1-11 and 11:23-29 Paul speaks of his suffering. This is no way detracts from the suffering of Christ on the cross. Christ’s suffering on the cross for our forgiveness and atonement with God is complete. No one can add to that. But his body on earth is the church and every day somewhere in the world, Christians are suffering, being persecuted for their faith in Jesus. *“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me (Jesus) first.”* John 15:18.

Paul, a servant (Greek: diakonos ~ deacon) of Jesus Christ was commissioned by God to present the Word of God in all its fullness. Paul strove to fulfil this calling. Have we found our calling in God? Our week of prayer and fasting may be a time to find out, may result in a time of change to a new calling. Vs 26-27: **The Mystery Disclosed** ~ the mystery that had been kept secret throughout previous ages and generations, (Ephesians 3:1-9) was now revealed and this revelation was extended to the Gentiles ~ *to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you the hope of glory.* This hope, a confident expectation, is a deposit in our lives through the Holy Spirit, a foretaste of the glory to come.

Vs 28-29: **Proclaiming the Message** ~ making Jesus known clearly and boldly. Admonishing ~ making sure someone’s on the right track.. See Galatians 5: 7 ~ *You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? We can sometimes get off track, like a model train that takes a bend too fast.* Teaching ~ in Colossae, where there was potential to go off course, sound teaching was essential. We, too, need to ground ourselves in the word of God. We need to beware any teaching that does not recognise Jesus’ divinity as the Son of God, that does not give him centrality and supremacy. Paul’s aim in all this? *To present everyone perfect in Christ.* This word ‘perfect’ may give the wrong impression. The Greek word ‘teleios’ does not imply ‘sinless’ but equipped, mature, fully qualified in Christ. God gives us energy and power to do his work. That doesn’t mean we don’t get tired, but if we are continuously worn out, something isn’t right.

Chapter 2: 1-3: **Spiritual Objectives** ~ Paul struggled for the Christians in Colossae, Laodicea and Hierapolis although he had never met most of them. His concern was that the whole area was being infiltrated by wrong doctrine, mysticism, Judaistic legalism and paganism. He wanted for them the full revelation of the mystery of God, namely, Christ. Vs 4-5: **Standing Firm in the Faith** ~ Paul encouraged them not to be deceived by fanciful talk and expressed delight that like an army they were so orderly and firm in their faith in Christ. Could Christ say the same of us at King’s Church?

Week of Prayer and Fasting:

Sunday evening: A time to review the words from God we have received over the past year or so. These are recorded in the bulletin, as we take them very seriously, not wanting to miss what God says to us. Veronica kindly collated them all and