

things. We are in a higher place with him and able to look at a situation from this perspective rather than the world's.

Referring to the book of Job, Mike said: **there is restoration for those who remain faithful in times of trouble.** Mike recounted the sad loss of his eldest son. Through this difficult time Mike testified to three verses from Job that gave him solace and strength:

1. Job *fell to the ground and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised."* Job 1:21
 2. *Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him;* Job 13:15
 3. *In all this Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.* Job 1:22
- John 6:60 ~ many disciples deserted Jesus because they found his teaching about eating the flesh and drinking the blood of the Son of Man too hard to accept. When Jesus challenged the Twelve, Peter answered, "*Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.*" There is nowhere else to go. Jesus is life; the rest is detail.

Word for the nation

While we were away the following letter arrived:

Please may the following go in your church paper or magazine? I really feel God wanted me to send this letter to all the churches as soon as possible!

Whilst seeking the Lord with all my heart for insight, direction, guidance and wisdom how our land can overcome the present devastation and destruction financially, in families, in homes, in war, on our streets I strongly believe that our Lord is suffering too. When I sought wisdom how to help in all this I was reminded strongly of the verses from Scripture ~ 'If my people called by my name humble themselves, turn from their wicked ways and seek God, He will hear and heal their land. That means us here in this country. People who profess to be Christians, Jews, in humility turn away from anything not of God ~ take time out to pray. He will hear and heal our land. Please act according to your faith ~ please for the sake of our children, our forbears who have gone before ~ that our land can once more become God-fearing and have respect for authority again because it will be good and worthy and true.

God bless you in your ministry. Yours faithfully, Jeannie Cobbold

Mike phoned Jeannie. She is contacting churches through the website www.findachurch.co.uk on which we are listed. She was delighted to hear that we have the same concerns for our nation.



The King's Church Swanage

Bulletin
March 14th-20th 2010

***Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.***

Psalm 139: 23-24

Sunday, March 14th
Mothering Sunday
Informal gathering at the Salvation Army
'Waiting on God'
An afternoon of prayer led by Veronica
Please meditate on the verses above.

There will also be Breaking of Bread

For your diary:

- **Monday, March 15th, 7,30pm:** Praise and Worship Evening at the SA
- **Sunday, March 21st:** Mike and Ann sharing about the Mission Trip to Sri Lanka. 4pm at the Salvation Army.
- **Sunday, March 28th:** Derek sharing about the Mission Trip to Uganda and Kenya
- **Thursday, April 1st:** Maundy Thursday United Service, 7.30pm at Swanage Methodist Church
- **Friday, April 2nd:** Good Friday Walk of Witness. Assemble 10.15am at the Health Centre for departure at 10.30am
- **Sunday, April 4th:** Easter Sunday Sunrise Service on the beach near the clock tower

Swanage Christian Centre

Requests from Alan Dominy, Manager of the Centre:

The Old Stable needs some extra volunteers:

- To act as cashiers for the *Credit Union Service Point opening in April (a couple of Tuesday mornings a month). Find out more at an introductory meeting at 10.30 on Tuesday, 16th March – or ring us on 424544.
- To make one or two cakes a month for us to sell with drinks (costs refunded). Sign the list or give us a ring on 424544.

*For further information about the Credit Union Service, please see the attachment with e-mail (or hard copy with printouts)

The Swanage Oracle

A whole page is usually allocated each month to Churches News. This month there is a very good write-up about the youth work 'Impact'. If you haven't heard much about 'Impact', then this article will put you in the picture of a very strategic work in our town.

Why Good Friday?

A musical drama of the Easter story for today.

Performances at The Lighthouse, Poole, 18th, 19th & 20th March

For further information, see the attachment with e-mail.

For details of a discount ticket offer, contact Brian Harries on 01929 475619 or e-mail: whygoodfriday@aol.com

Sundays

It was good to hear things have gone well over the past 2-3 weeks. Our thanks to Terry and Jan, Ray and Anne who came over on Sunday, 21st February to give a lead. Veronica took some notes and it seems to have been an afternoon of pictures. The journey of a seed: if a seed is left on the surface or planted too deep, it won't grow. But in the right conditions it will grow. (Luke 8: 8 ~ ...other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.)

The dandelion clock presents the picture of storehouses of seeds, some not claimed. We need to water and bring to life seeds that have been forgotten. Several people recalled promises that had been forgotten and needed to be released. There was prayer for them and they felt encouraged to get together to pray regularly.

A further picture was one of a honeycomb. The empty cells were being filled but then capped off and unable to release the honey. God wants to release the honey. A very different picture but with some similarities of meaning was Darrell's picture of a dam preventing the flow of water. Who or what is the dam? Everyone stood together and prayed for the dam to burst.

The following Sunday, 28th February, Bali came across from Poole. God had told him at the beginning of the year that 2010 would be a year of catastrophes a warning that we need to pray and intercede that people will turn to God.

Micah 6:8 ~ What does God require of us?

1. *To act justly:* doing what is right in God's eyes and not conforming to the shifting values of the world. To the woman caught in adultery Jesus showed justice (John 8: 1- 11)
2. *To love mercy* when a person doesn't deserve it. *Mercy triumphs over judgment.* (James 2:13) We need to *love* mercy, not just show it.
3. *To walk humbly with your God:* remembering we are what we are because of Jesus, because of the cross.

Thank you Bali and thank you Veronica for the notes.

On Sunday, March 7th a few of us joined King's, Poole and had the great pleasure of meeting Mike and Susan Warnke again.

Susan drew our attention to Isaiah 65:8 ~ *new wine is ... found in the cluster (of grapes)..there is blessing in it.* Loose grapes quickly loose their juice and, as Mike (W) put it, become raisins, dry and wrinkly! When we take or give offence, when we get upset, division sets in and the enemy is quick to take advantage of the cracks and barriers. The juice is found in the cluster, where the grapes are together. As Mike pointed out, Jesus sets us free as individuals but places us in clusters as part of the vine.

Jesus ... is passing by ~ words from the story of blind Bartimaeus (Luke 18 and Mark 10). Do we get excited as Bartimaeus did when Jesus draws near and passes by? When Jesus passes by, he wants us to get excited. The baby in Elizabeth's womb leaped for joy, when Mary arrived at her home.

We had had a good time of worship. Mike (W) made the point that God enjoys hearing us singing praises. However, **he also expects us to live by the words we sing.**

The Lord is above all else but has seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:6). In Christ we have a different **perspective** on