

Irene Hanna

With regret we report the death of sister Irene Hanna, after a short illness, which she bore with dignity. Irene had been a ardent member of the Christchurch Memory Verse League and knew her verses word perfect. A posthumous award of a Gold Certificate for having completed a number of years learning of chapter and scripture verses. The certificate was presented to Barbara her daughter after the service. She was buried from Christchurch, The occasion was most moving, with the Choir and Caroline Martin singing.



Want a sermon on CD? If you have enjoyed a sermon at Christchurch, you may order a CD. Why not share it with a neighbour? To order please see Alan or Jonathan who will arrange it for you.

Weddings

31 August 2008
Clifford Irons to Tanya McGookin
12th Sept 2008
Lyle Weir to Joan Devenney

Baby Dedication

Sunday 31st Aug 2008
Jackson Owen
Sunday 14th September 2008
Katie Jackson
Chloe Jackson

Suffer the little children to come unto me...

Deaths

Irene Hanna
1941-2008
Edward Benson
(1929-2008)
Michael Brian Horner
(1956-2008)

Our prayers are with our bereaved families.

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Podcasts Please note we have placed new podcasts on our web site. Pastor's sermons on "Backsliding" and Hudson Taylor "The great missionary to China." Also Pastor Marie's sermon on "The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace." You may download these to your computer or to your ipod or MP3 player. You will also find our most recent newsletter there.

Powerhouse Prayer

Sunday 10.30 am & 6.30 pm.
Monday 7.45 pm.

Outreach We have just received a consignment of beautiful postcards from the printer to be used as part of our evangelical thrust for the autumn. We need workers to help us. Would you give some time to help? Why not volunteer today? It is hoped that many will agree to do their own area so that we share the responsibility of spreading the good news of Jesus Christ with others

Stewardship

We are now preparing church envelopes for 2009. If you would like to be included please see Ester or Jonathan. Your financial support for the church is greatly appreciated.
Give and it shall be given unto you good measure pressed down, shaken together and running over.

Christchurch Carrickfergus

(Oakfield Drive) Sunday 11.00 am & 6.30 pm

Everyone Welcome



-a church to come home to.....

NEWSLETTER Vol VIII No 4 2008



from the pastor's desk...

Pastor Laurence, who is the minister of the Lord Street Church, has recently written a new book "Did Jesus drink alcohol?" It clearly demonstrates his prophetic insight into a subject which is affecting almost every family within our nation. For the use and abuse of alcohol has thrown up a multitude of national problems. These are particularly visible on our city streets and especially at weekends causing our politicians, police and doctors to speak out. We have a national scandal on our hands with no sign of waning.

For alcohol has degraded our young men and women, led to the break up of family life, violence in home and on the streets. Our hospitals are filled with patients from car accidents, violence and major health problems. Christians are not immune!

Laurence has courageously written against this backdrop at a time when basic truths are watered down in the church and in a society where "anything goes". This is a timely book written with conviction and courage and it will cause you to think afresh.

In his own life Pastor Laurence has proved that Christ is the answer to the needs of every man and woman. He has sought to be faithful and true (Rev 19:11) following the model of his Lord and Master whom he loves. The book, which is published by Ambassador Press will be available at Christchurch price £4.95. This would make an excellent Christmas present why not buy one for yourself and a friend?

As we approach the Christmas season may I take this opportunity to thank all who have laboured with us this year in the service of the Lord and to all who have supported us financially and in prayer, our heartfelt thanks.

visit us at: www.christchurch.uk.com



Dr Sam Grant

**QUOTES
to make you think.**

"God isn't looking for people of great faith but for individuals ready to follow him."
- Hudson Taylor

"You have one business on earth - to save souls."
-John Wesley

"Some wish to live within the sound of a chapel bell; I wish to run a rescue mission within a yard of hell."
- C.T. Studd

"The best remedy for a sick church is to put it on a missionary diet."
- David Livingstone

"We can reach our world, if we will. The greatest lack today is not people or funds. The greatest need is prayer."
-Wesley Duewel,
Head of OMS
International

*A drop of ink
can make
a million think!*



Left: the Christchurch Computer suite.
Below: A computer class enjoying a Friday night at the computer classes.

Computer Suite

Our Autumn Classes have taken place at the Christchurch Computer Suite. These classes have been very successful with all students taking a great interest, some of which are new to computers and are making great progress. One of the highlights was



when they were able to take away a copy of the Holy Bible, load it on to their home computer and read for themselves.

In these days of technical innovation we are delighted that our church is able to reach out to our community with the expertise we have and so help fulfill the spiritual needs and also the social needs of our area. Our thanks to Jonathan Grant, our highly trained I.T. engineer, for all his efforts in the service of the Lord.



Associated Ministers' Fellowship

In October the Associated Ministers' Fellowship celebrated its fifteenth year together. It has been fifteen years of fellowship, encouragement and strengthening the pastors for the work which God has called them to do in their local churches. A vote of thanks was recorded to the founding Chairman for his labours over the fifteen years. The Pastors also enjoyed their annual dinner at the Lord Street Church at the end of November.

The new welcoming banner which is located in our Great Hall, warmly invites people to come back to our Sunday services.



Working for God in Far Away Places....

Joyce Hyslop

in Nigeria.



When I arrived I spent the first night in Abuja, the capital of Nigeria. At 3 am I was woken up by what sounded like gun shots, shouting and great commotion. In the morning I discovered it actually was gun shots but thankfully nobody was hurt. Someone was trying to get in and claimed to be one of the guests. He was arrested. Since then, in my house, I have killed three scorpions and a snake was discovered in our outside toilet. Then one night the house was invaded by driver ants in the bedroom and bathroom. Thankfully the Bible School was in session, so I went for the teachers and some students came to help. We sprayed inside with insect repellent and outside we had to make a fire.

One night after the generator was out I was working late and went into the garage area to fill my lamp with kerosene, the kitchen door slammed behind me and I was locked out of the house. I was able to get out of the garage door and go for the teachers who came to help. They bent the bars on the window and one of the small students got in and opened the door from the inside. So, never a dull moment.

Agodo Village (our first village church) One of our young men from Odenyi just graduated from Bible School outside of Bassa and was sent for his practical work and posted to Agodo where the church was built last year. He was there six weeks and thirteen people repented and accepted the Lord. Also, since I returned, the new building has had the doors and window shutters put on .

Ugbubolubo Village (our second village church) The new church building at Ugbubolubo is going well, they are up to lintel level and the village people are co-operating well and so happy. The zinc for the roof has been purchased but we are waiting for the wood for the roof trusses to be delivered and we are hoping to have the roof on very soon.

Since we received this news Sister Joyce Hyslop had returned to Carrickfergus and we are hoping to publish some of her pictures in our next newsletter. We thank God for His hand of blessing upon our missionary endeavors and we know that the new church buildings will be a real help in the development of the village churches in Nigeria.

Service Appreciated Just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the service on Sunday. Would you please, tell Sister Isobel that whatever she is doing with the choir is really working!! - I see a real improvement in their singing & they all seem a lot more confident & are smiling when they are singing. They were just great!!! Thanks for the lovely service. God Bless.

Janet Reid

CHRISTCHURCH - a church to come home to...

Sunday Club

Do you have any children in your family circle who do not attend Sunday School? Do you know neighbouring children who may benefit from the Sunday School? Why not pay them a visit and invite them to our Sunday School/Club?

Children are possibly the most neglected in our society in the teachings of the Christian way. You can play your part in bringing these children to God's House and encouraging them in the things of Christ. One hour in the week will pay families big dividends.

To the Glory of God

This Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of
Thomas Apsley
Always remembered by his loving brother Alex, sister-in-law Hester and family
also by his sister Eleanor and family.

Greetings to Canada. We cordially send our greeting to our Canadian readers. To Lynn and Mike and family and to Lynn's mother Irene who is there. May God keep you all in His care. You are in our prayers.

The Bassa Bible (left)

The Bassa people in Central Nigeria have never had the full Bible until November when it was officially dedicated. It is known as The Rubassa Holy Bible and the translation has been carried out by the Bassa Bible Translation Working Committee in collaboration with the Bible Society of Nigeria.

The Bassa Bible has been received with great joy and will be a treasure to all who have it. You can read further news of our **Work in Far Away Places** in this newsletter. Please remember to pray for our missionary vision and work that God may protect it and provide for it as we seek to play our part in the Great Commission.



Rubassa Holy Bible

Jesus said, "Except a man be born again he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3

STOP PRESS

Rev James McMaster, Rector of St Nicholas' Church has retired. His church gave him a very warm celebration which was attended by ministers, church members and friends. We, at Christchurch, wish him every blessing in his retirement.

India

Dear Pastor Sam and Christchurch Members, Heather and I want to thank you for the opportunity to come and share with you what we have been involved in with India over the last couple of years. I really felt at home with you and enjoyed the fellowship. We always thank God and the church members for the very generous gift you gave us. We really appreciate and value your love support and continued prayers for us.

With love,

Johnny and Heather.



Veterans Day 2008



An address given to the Veterans by the Chaplain, Dr Sam Grant, at the Marine Gardens, Carrickfergus

Greetings. Welcome to Mayor, Council and to all distinguished guests but particularly so the Veterans. You are the subject today. You are what our conversation is all about.

Thank you for your service to our country. You were born to make this land of hope and glory "mighty" may you continue to make it mightier yet.

You have served under our beloved sovereign Queen Elizabeth. You have went through times of peace and war. You have executed your duties with diligence and courage and you have defended our beloved land with dignity and determination.

We thank God for you today. For your courage and your bravery and for being there when you were needed. Some of you have travelled to the furthestmost parts of the earth to defend the weak and the needy and you have returned victorious. Others have risen to the call of duty to stand against the onslaught of terrorism at home and you have been suitably decorated by the government and honoured by our sovereign

lady. So we thank God for you and your service to our country.

The cost to our servicemen and their families can never be overestimated as so many have laid down the lives in service as they have fought on the land, in the sea and in the air.. Today we thank all our service personnel both on active service and our beloved veterans for their contribution to our wonderful British society. You are the admiration of people the world over.

You have furthermore, brought those skills , talents and disciplines into civilian life which you have learned in the services and our society has been greatly enriched by your contribution to our local communities. You have learned to stand firm in times of distress and you have learned never to give up. Consequently, our Veterans associations make a most valuable contribution to our society not only in industry but in the welfare of our ex service men and women.

You are rewarded by our community in their great outpouring of love to you every Remembrance-time in the contribution of millions of pounds to help in your welfare work. Today may I remind you all that you are loved, appreciated and are valued perhaps more that you will ever realize, and on behalf of our country and our local community we thank you

Today we think of our servicemen and women on active service. Particularly so, those still in Iraq and Afghanistan. We remember the families of all service personnel who have fallen in battle and we pray that God may comfort their hearts.

I am glad to say here, that there is coming a day when the present weapons of war will be no longer required for the Captain of our Salvation will come and our society will be changed. All evil will be overthrown and there will be peace. So we pray today, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Today it costs £20,000 to recruit one person into the services. There is another recruitment in which all chaplains, padres, pastors and missionaries, are working to encourage men

Ministry to the ex-service Community
Dr Sam Grant has taken a Service of Remembrance in August for the **Burma Star Association** at the Cenotaph at Belfast City Hall. He was warmly received by the veterans.

British Legion Service
The Annual Divine Service was held at the end of October. It was a well attended service. The music was provided by the 3rd Carrickfergus Old Boys Silver Band and the popular Sea Cadets were in attendance.

Other services were held for the ex

and women into another army. It is the army of the Lord. It is my prayer that you will come to know Our Lord Jesus Christ who is the Captain of our Salvation and the greatest and noblest soldier who have ever walked on this earth, so that we may be part of that great and innumerable company of the redeemed, that other great ex-service company, who have served in the army of the Lord.

May you enjoy your day. It is Veterans Day 2008 and we salute you, honour you and appreciate you. I pray that God will bless you, your homes and your families. Finally our thanks to the band of the Royal Irish Regiment; to the Mayor and our Borough Council, the Veterans Committee and to all who have made this day possible.

service community: the opening of the Gardens of Remembrance and a wreath laying service for the UDR RA at the new UDR Memorial. The Annual Armistice Service was again well attended with a very dignified service and parade of which Carrickfergus can justly be proud. We record our appreciation to all who make this possible especially the Borough Council who are always supportive throughout.

Dr Sam Grant has been the Chaplain to the RBL since May 1985.



The Dedication of New Memorial Ulster Defence Regiment QGM. Garden of Remembrance June 2008.

