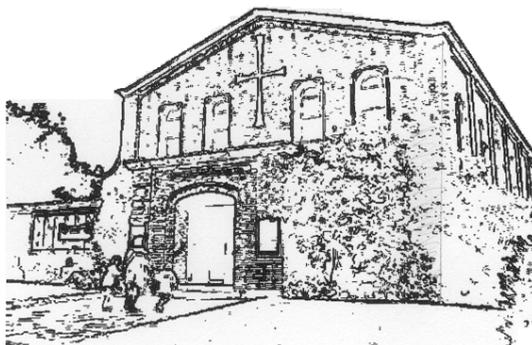




FOCUS



**ISSUE NUMBER 112
DECEMBER 2014 & JANUARY 2015**

www.st-georges-urc-hemel.org.uk

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2014 & JANUARY 2015

Tues. 2nd Dec.	7.30 p.m.	Elders' Meeting
Fri. 5th Dec.		DENS Sleepout
Fri 12th Dec.	5.30 – 7.30 p.m.	Carol Singing At Hemel Station – see separate announcement
Sun. 14th Dec.	10.30 a.m.	Junior Church Play & Gift Service
Wed. 10th	12.00 noon	Wednesday Welcome Christmas Lunch
Sun. 21st Dec.	10.30 a.m. 3.30 – 6.30 p.m.	9 Lessons & Carols Service Messy Church Christmas Celebration
Wed. 24th Dec.	6.30 p.m. 11.30 p.m.	Candlelight Service Midnight Communion
Thurs. 25th Dec.	10.30 a.m.	Christmas Day Service "Jesus Light of the world"
Sat. 3rd Jan	8.00 – 9.30 a.m.	<i>Pray Hemel</i> , Adeyfield Free Church
Tues. 6th Jan.	7.30 p.m.	Elders' Meeting
Wed. 7th Jan.	10.15 – 11.30 a.m.	Wednesday Welcome Spring Programme starts
Sun. 18th Jan.	3.30 – 6.00 p.m.	Messy Church
Sun. 25th Jan.	11.45 a.m.	Church Meeting

DIRECTORY

ST. GEORGE'S URC

Minister:	-
Secretary: Jeremy Flynn	Tel: 215268
Treasurer: Brian Hardy	Tel: 266337
Focus Magazine: Judy Watson Ai Ling Chang	Tel: 261056 or Watson@melsted16.co.uk
Junior Church co-coordinator Sharon Boyall	Tel: 213538
Pilots: Captain: - Deckhands (Years R-2) Andrew & Yvonne Masters Adventurers (Years 3-6) - Voyagers (Years 7-9) -	Tel: 389278
Toddlers Group Carol Edgeworth	Tel: 392389
Wednesday Welcome Jo Taylor	Tel: 862754
Home Groups -	
Music Group Co-ordinator: - Music Director: Dan Hobbs	248427 or 07717201775
Prayer Co-ordinator Penny Crosswell	Tel: 211457
Prayer Chain Dan Hobbs	e-mail at: dan@thewadetribe.co.uk or Text on: 07717201775
Hall Bookings (<i>Church Activities</i>) Dave Greenwood	Tel: 258757
Transport Co-ordinator Denise Chennells	Tel: 246277
Table Tennis Leaders Dennis Chang & Gill Griffin	Tel: 243267 (Gill Griffin)
Women's Ministry Angela Such	Tel: 07941 534123

The Minister's message

Dear Friends,

As most of you are aware I have received a call from Abington Avenue URC - Northampton (with 10% oversight of Paulerspury URC) and so it's time for Mark and I to say goodbye having served St. George's for over 17 years. It will be a hard adjustment to make, especially as all our immediate family live in Hemel, and we have made some very close friends here. I take up my new role on the 1st January and there will be an induction service at 3 00 p.m. on the 31st January at Abington Avenue URC which you are invited to attend. My last service here will be on Christmas Day.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you. **Thank you**, it doesn't seem like enough! When I consider the hours you've spent, the tears you've shed, the frustrations you've endured, the challenges you've faced, the money you've sacrificed for the sake of the Kingdom. Somehow 'thank you' just doesn't seem enough.

Maybe as you read this letter you're feeling deeply grateful to God because you've experienced His love in a deeper way, or perhaps you have felt His guidance and leading, or you are grateful for the new people we have seen come to faith or start upon their journey of faith in the last year and you're excited about all that lies ahead in the coming months.

Maybe as you read this you're feeling quite the opposite. Perhaps 2014 was a tough year for you. Full of heart ache and hurts, frustrations and dead-ends, darkness and despondency. So you enter 2015 feeling disappointed that you haven't seen God move in way you had wanted him to or that you haven't seen the Kingdom fruit you've been longing for.

Maybe as you read this you've not been directly involved in the work of mission, outreach and service here at St. George's or in the local community but you've taken time to pray or give.

And maybe, sometimes, you've experienced the joys of prayers answered and yet at other times it's felt like you were simply speaking

to the ceiling. THANK YOU ... Thank you for not giving up. Thank you for taking a deep breath and getting ready to 'go again' for another year. Thank you for daring to believe (and please never stop believing) that things can change – that God can still do immeasurably more than you can ask or imagine – and He wants to do it THROUGH YOU.

And as you look back – and as you press on – remember these wonderfully encouraging and inspiring words from Paul from 1 Corinthians 15:58.

“My dear, dear friends, stand your ground. And don't hold back. Throw yourselves into the work of the Master, confident that nothing you do for Him is a waste of time or effort.”

Nothing you do for Christ is a waste of time or effort. Got that? **Nothing.** If God is FOR you then who can be against you? And the leadership team at St. George's are FOR you too! I know that I leave you in good hands. My departure means that the Elders will be taking on more work and responsibility and we only have six of them – so please take care of them! You are blessed to have been given by God some very committed, talented, hardworking and enthusiastic leaders (both within the Elders and other areas of Church life) and I know that I leave you in good hands. But please pray, care, love and support them as they enter this new phase of their ministry. For if as a Church you want continue to do what you are doing and to engage in future mission and ministry then they need to know they have your full support, help, prayers and financial backing as the Church family.

As I move on to 'pastors new' my prayer for you is that “you will love and care for one another, and that you will work and pray together believing that 2015 will be the year when visions become reality. I give thanks to God for His guidance, love, care, provision and faithfulness over the years of ministry we have shared together and look with expectancy at what He has in store for you this coming year and the years ahead as you continue to engage in your Mission for and with Him.

So as I leave and say thank you and good bye I wanted to end with something profound, words of wisdom; I could find none better than the words of St. Paul to the Philippians (chapter 4):

“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord ... Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you ... To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

It has been a real privilege and joy to serve and work with you all at St. George's (& St. Andrew's Berkhamsted) and my prayers will be with you all as you look to the future seeking God's will as the people of God, in the power of God, for the Kingdom of God.

Yours in Christ

Jane



A Reminder.....

OUR SEASON OF INVITATION CONTINUES - WHO ARE YOU INVITING?

If you haven't been brave enough to invite someone along to Church yet, or they said no last time, Christmas is the perfect opportunity to extend an invitation to relatives and friends. Hopefully you will find it easier to invite family and friends to church at Christmas than any other time of the year because many people who normally never come to church will come for Christmas services or Christmas presentations. In addition, your whole community is immersed in Christmas, and many people are more prepared to hear the Gospel than at other times of the year. Christmas is a perfect time to make a first impression. If your relatives wonder where you're going to church and you bring them to church on the biggest Sunday of the year, hopefully they'll catch the excitement of the congregation and want to experience for themselves the 'Good news' the angels bring!

Let's pray for each other as we prepare for this Christmas season and as many invitation go out.

Jane Wade



Please we are **no longer** going to have a Christingle service on the 30th November, instead we will have a Messy Church Christmas celebration/party on the 21st December from 3.30 p.m. **note that**

CHRISTMAS AT ST. GEORGE'S

Sunday, 14th December

10.30 a.m.

Gift Service & Play – our young people will be performing “The Evening News Hour”. There is an opportunity to bring a wrapped gift for the mothers and children at the Women’s Refuge. Please mark the gift – e.g. *Girl aged 5-7 or mother, or teenage boy.*

Sunday, 21st December

10.30 a.m.

All-age Nine Lessons and Carols service

3.30 p.m.

Messy Church Christmas celebration and party

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, 24th December

6.00 p.m.

All-age Carol Service

11.30 p.m.

Midnight Communion

Christmas Day, Thursday, 25th December

10.30 a.m.

Christmas Day
of the World”.

Service “Jesus – Light



Women's Ministry Ladies' Book Group



The Ladies' Book Group has now been going for a year and I thought it might be nice to share what we have been up to.

So, the Ladies Book Group meets on the second Tuesday of every month and it is a great opportunity to chat with other ladies, to get to know one another better and to eat cake!

We have about 14 ladies who regularly attend and each month a different person chooses the book, the books are then ordered in bulk and distributed between us. The books cost us between £2 and £5 each month. We have read a wide variety of books; some have been easy reads and others have taken a little more effort but there is no pressure on anyone to finish the book if they can't read it in time.

When we meet, after we have chatted and eaten cake!, we chat about the book we have just read – sometimes we find book club questions on the internet and other times we bring our own questions and thoughts as we share and compare our reactions, our thoughts and our likes or dislikes.

Some of the books have been overtly Christian, others have had Christian themes running through them and some have challenged our thoughts and behaviour as Christians in the world today.

If any ladies would like to join the book club please speak to me for further details.

Angela Such

Tel 07941 53412

angela.such@sky.com

St George's Women's Ministry
Christmas Event
Carol singing at Hemel Train Station
Raising money for RennieGrove Hospice
Friday 12th December 5.30-7.30pm



Nicky Flynn will be leading the singing, Penny will bring the collection buckets and you are invited to bring your own Christmas Hat.

We will sing as each train arrives at the station and then afterwards we will join together for a Christmas drink at the pub if you wish.

If you are able to join us please sign up on the sheet at the back of church or let Angela know ASAP

For any further details please contact Angela 07941 534123

**DEADLINE
FOR
FEBRUARY & MARCH 2015
ISSUE OF FOCUS
SUNDAY 18TH JANUARY**

Ideally send contributions to
watson@melsted16.co.uk
but hand-written articles given to Judy are
also very welcome!





Thank you for all your prayers and support.

Assemblies:

This half term has been truly encouraging as I have told the story of the call of Samuel and been able to relate it to the children.

Bible Presentations:

I have also been encouraged by the response to the Bibles. It has been so good to share the family line of Jesus in the Children's Bible and then to move through to the passage about the way Jesus welcomed the children.

The Good News Bibles go to Year 6 pupils and I was glad of the opportunity to share some of the gripping stories from the Old Testament. Following that I referred to the life of Jesus and the commencement of the Church as described by Luke.

In one school I visited for an Assembly today five Year 6 children came up to me to show me the different parts they had been reading in the Bibles I had presented earlier.

Feedback:

Only this week I met two ladies at the till in Aldi. The lady in front of me said, "You used to come to my school, I'm 30 now but remember your visits!" Then the lady on the till said, "You used to come to my school, too, and last week you gave my son a Bible, he loves it!"

Finance for the Bibles:

In September I had 960 Children's Bibles and 820 Good News Bibles delivered to St. George's Church for storage. We have been truly well

supported and we now just need £302.66 to pay for them all. I have already given most of them out to the children. So thank you to all who have given so generously.

Today I was greatly encouraged as a lady shared with me that her daughter had received her Children's Bible last week and reads it with her every night.

Concerns

Recently I heard that I may have lost my part-time employment with the local free newspaper which not only provides half my income but allows for a flexible working week so that I can arrange my school visits around the job. Thankfully today I received the good news that the job is to continue, although the situation will be under constant review. Thank you for your prayers, they are powerful and effective.

Bless you all,

Andrew & Yvonne Masters

If you want to give support for the Bibles send to:-

Bibles for Children

28 Crocombe

Timsbury

Bath

BA2 0JS

Please state it is for Hemel Hempstead

To support Discovery send to:

Discovery

128 St John's Road

Hemel Hempstead

HP1 1NR

Andrew Masters email: andrewjmasters@yahoo.co.uk

Mobile: 07886886951

Trustees: Philip Dormer, *email:* philip.dormer@btinternet.com .

John Sweetnam, *email:* john.sweetnam@aecom.com

Gordon Short, *email:* gordon.liz@talktalk.net

Charity No.1053115

Thoughts for January from “A Year of Prayer” by Jeanne Hinton

Everyone Prays

‘I never pray.’ ‘I wish I could pray but I can’t.’

“Everyone prays” is the title for this month, and emphasises what was said in the introduction – that often we may not be aware that we are praying when we are. Becoming aware of the fact is helpful. As you start this year’s journey, be open to discover ways in which you pray – ways that you may not have been aware of.

‘I’d like to pray more often, but...’

How do you pray? How do you like to pray?

What is the easiest and most comfortable way for you?

The best way for you is the best place to start. Think about these three questions over these next weeks. It is good to identify these “best ways” early on, and then to build on these as you also try new ways.





Emergency food for local
people in crisis



Recently some of our young people from Pilots went to the Food Bank to help sort out the 8 tonnes of food donated over the Harvest period.

Grandparents' and Toddlers' Group

Please note that we have decided to fold the Grandparents' and Toddlers' Group due to lack of numbers.

Thank you to all those who supported this group, and have helped to run it.

The Toddlers' Group on Thursday mornings is now full. However, if you are interested in joining this group please speak to Carol Edgeworth (Tel. 392389), who will place you on the waiting list.

Jane



IT COULDN'T HAPPEN HERE.....COULD IT?

Back in October, our Harvest donations went to *Tearfund* to help them combat the trafficking of children with their "No Child Taken" campaign.

The film we saw was about a little girl from South East Asia, but unfortunately, human trafficking *does* happen here, in 21st century Hertfordshire. A member of St. George's actively helps some of the victims who have been rescued. Here are some (worldwide) statistics provided by our member:

- There are an estimated 29 million people trapped in modern day slavery.
- Only 2% of victims are ever recovered.
- The average age of a trafficked victim is just 12 years old.
- The average price paid for a victim of human trafficking is £50.
- Human trafficking happens in every country across the globe.
- Children as young as 3 years old are trafficked into the UK for sexual exploitation.
- Every year \$32 billion are generated from human trafficking.
- There are more women than men being trafficked.
- Every 30 seconds another person is sold.
- In order to seat every slave in the world you would need 1000 o2 Arenas. That's approximately 20 million people.
- 0.001% of people involved in human trafficking are ever convicted.

A really nasty twist to the story is that even when trafficked young girls are rescued by the police and placed in safety, their one aim is to run away, back to the traffickers, as they have been told their families will be harmed if they don't. They certainly believe this, and given what's already happened, it's probably true.

Heart-breaking and evil seem inadequate words, but prayer is a powerful tool.....

Judy Watson

Dear Friends

I am writing this letter with the beautiful but haunting sounds of the chants of the Brotherhood of St. Gregory playing in the background. The peace and tranquillity they convey is a distant hope as we rush headlong into the Christmas season.

While every Christmas is special, this one is more poignant as we bid farewell to Jane, Mark, Alf and Margaret. Jane often mentions how she could tell how long she had been here by looking at Luke. She came in September 1997 and Luke was born in the October.

There are a few of us who remember pre Jane, but it is fair to say that things have changed dramatically over the last seventeen years. In Jane's early years there were many comparisons with Dawn French's "Vicar of Dibley". While Jane has invented many words which the Oxford English Dictionary are yet to accept, her passion for spreading the gospel of Jesus has not been misinterpreted.

Looking at the current state of the URC, as Church Secretary, I dreaded the day that Jane would say she was moving on. The number of ministers has declined, as has the national membership, but the number of congregations/ buildings has not gone down proportionately. The Synod and Areas are fighting an arithmetical battle to maintain ministerial cover. By the time you read this, we may have an answer from the Area committee as to what pastoral oversight they are able to offer us in the short and long term.

Jane used the phrase "it should be business as usual" and I would add "but not quite the same". The Elders are well aware of the additional responsibilities a ministerial vacancy puts on the leadership team.

We need your support, prayers, understanding and patience as St. George's moves into this new phase in its church life. Next year we celebrate sixty years of "The church on the hill". I don't think Jane will be offended if I say, while we have grown much in the last seventeen years, there is still a lot more to be done to spread the message of God to the people of Chaulden.

So, as the Gregorian chants fade in the background, I assure you of my best endeavours to lead (along with the other elders) St. George's through the next few months of uncertainty and change.

Please talk to any of the Elders if you have any concerns or questions about the process we are going through. I hope that by January's church meeting (25th 11.45am) we may have a clearer picture of our position and future.

Yours in Christ

Jeremy



Mary's Song

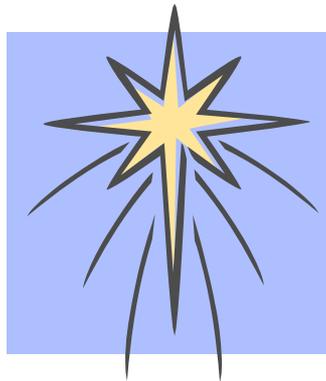
My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,
For the Mighty One has done great things for me –
Holy is his name.

His mercy extends to those who fear him,
From generation to generation,
He has performed mighty deeds with his arm
He has scattered those who are proud
In their innermost thoughts

He has brought down rulers from their thrones
But he has lifted up the humble.
He has filled the hungry with good things
But has sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
Remembering to be merciful
To Abraham and his descendants for ever,
Even as he said to our fathers.



PLEASE SHARE MY UNEXPECTED GOOD NEWS

Recently, I heard that I had been nominated for a local award in the "Pride in Dacorum" annual awards, and had reached the finals. I blame my friend and neighbour Sam Moore for this! I was amazed to get the phone call from the local paper.

On 24th October, I was invited to bring guests to the awards ceremony at Pendley Manor Hotel in Tring. This is a very HIGH CLASS venue. I invited special friends as my guests. They included Dot, from our coffee mornings, who is blind, and Roy and Julia, who train guide dog puppies; ("HOOCH", a huge German Shepherd trotted along as well)

I began to be suspicious when I found that we were seated at table with the C.E.O of the Borough of Dacorum, and the editor-in-chief of the chain of local newspapers. However, we enjoyed entertainment from a local dance school for young people, followed by a delicious dinner.

Then the awards were announced. First it was "CARE IN THE COMMUNITY". There were 5 finalists, and in true TV style, the envelope was opened and it was announced "and the winner is..." I didn't know where to look, and was hauled onto the stage to receive a beautiful glass trophy, a bevelled plate, all engraved, and yes, they spelled the name correctly.

I was also a finalist in the "Fund raiser of the year" and "unsung heroine" categories, for which I received certificates.

For me, the even better news was that I am encouraged to apply for funding for our friend, Sara, a Guide Dog owner, for her trip to New Zealand to represent England in the World Bowls championships, class B1, totally blind. The C.E.O and the Mayor's charity fund are keen to help. AND, the General Manager of ASDA wants me to take my trophy to the local store and get "goodies" for the coffee morning, while the local Lions club want to fund a spring time outing for us all: GREAT!

Please don't think I'm boasting, more "bewildered" of Brambling Rise.

Love to all

Denise

PRAY HEMEL 2015

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Jan. 3 rd | Gideons at Adeyfield Free Church |
| Feb. 7 th | Prayer Walk at the Denes |
| March 7 th | Hemel Hospital |
| April 4 th | New Church Hemel |
| May 2 nd | Crossover – venue to be confirmed |
| June 6 th | Holy Trinity |
| July 4 th | St. Mary's, Apsley |
| August 1 st | Church of the Resurrection, Grove Hill |
| Sept. 5 th | St. George's |
| Oct. 3 rd | Salvation Army |
| Nov. 7 th | Kerry Anne's new shop |
| Dec. 5 th | Hemel Methodist |



Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are ill-treated as if you yourselves were suffering.'
Hebrews 13:3

One morning in prison I (*Corrie ten Boom*) had a terrible cold, and I said to Betsie, 'What can I do: I have no handkerchief?' "Pray," she said, I smiled, but she prayed 'Father, Corrie has got a cold, and she has no handkerchief. Will You give her one in Jesus' name, Amen.'

I could not help laughing. I heard my name called and went to the window, and there stood my friend who worked in the prison hospital. "Quickly, quickly! Take this package": I opened the package, and inside was a handkerchief. "Did you know I had a cold?" "No, but as I was folding handkerchiefs a voice in my heart told me to take one to Corrie ten Boom". What a miracle! Can you understand what that handkerchief told me at that moment? It told me that in heaven is a loving heavenly Father who hears when one of His children asks for a seemingly impossible little thing. We cannot understand, but the foolishness of God is so much higher than the wisdom of the wise.

Does God always grant us what we ask for in prayer? Not always. Sometimes He answers with 'No'. That is because God knows what we do not know.

When I was in the prison camp in Holland during the last World War I often prayed: "Lord, never let the Germans put me in a concentration camp" God answered 'No' to that prayer, but in the German camp we were among many prisoners who had never heard of Jesus Christ. If God had not used Betsie and me to bring them to Him, they would never have heard of Him. Many of them died or were killed, but many died with the name of Jesus on their lips. They were well worth all our suffering, even Betsie's death.

Excerpt from: 'Not good if Detached' by Corrie ten Boom

Release International is running a campaign to encourage us to not only pray but also write to prisoners and their families to encourage them. **Release** also requests that we write to authorities on prisoners'

behalf. Two booklets, **Speak Out** and **Reach Out** can be downloaded to help from the **Release** web site together with prisoner profiles.

Thanks for prayer: **'My fellow prisoners are always in my mind and in my heart, I cry for them every day, for I know the situation I left them in. Please carry on praying for them just like you did for me; that way my joy would be complete.'**

Former Eritrean prisoner of faith Helen Berhane.

Thanks for cards and letters: **'We heard from our guards that forty to fifty letters were coming each day...This was something that gave us hope.'**

Former Iranian prisoner of faith Maryam Rostampour

'...the guards who opened our letters read the Bible verses and were impacted...they told us and mentioned some of the verses from the gospel' Former Iranian prisoner of faith Marziyeh Amirizadeh

SPEND AND GIVE THIS CHRISTMAS

If you buy Christmas presents or other goods from internet retailers such as Amazon, why not use the Release SpendandGive website?

You make orders as usual, but by accessing online retailers in this way, a small donation is made to Release for every purchase you make, at no extra cost to you. SpendandGive is a portal to more than 200 well-known internet retailers including Amazon, Currys, John Lewis, Land's End, Marks & Spencer, Mothercare, New Look, PC World, Sainsbury's, Thorntons and Waterstones.

Each time you buy from these stores through their special page at www.release.spendandgive.co.uk, they make a donation to Release without additional charge to you.

Please note that you need to access your chosen online shops through this web page in order for the donation to be made: the system does not work if you go direct.

So far more than £2,300 has been raised for persecuted Christians through this site. Please help us to raise even more by adding SpendandGive to your browser Favourites, and by telling your friends.

Lynne Wilsher

SUNDAY & CHRISTMAS SERVICES DECEMBER 2014 & JANUARY 2015

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER AND NOTES
7th Dec.	10.30 a.m.	Speaker - Angela Such. Communion – Jane Wade
14th Dec.	10.30 a.m.	Junior Church Play & Gift Service
21st Dec.	10.30 a.m. 3.30 – 6.00 p.m.	Jane Wade - 9 Lessons and Carols Messy Church Christmas Celebration Party
24th Dec.	6.00 p.m. 11.30 p.m.	Jane Wade – Candlelight Service Angela Such - Communion
25th Dec.	10.30 a.m.	Jane Wade – Christmas Day All Age Service
28th Dec.	10.30 a.m.	To be confirmed
4th Jan	10.30 a.m.	Speaker Angela Such – Communion led by Jeremy Flynn
11th Jan	10.30 a.m.	Dan and Amanda Hobbs
18th Jan.	10.30 a.m 3.30 – 6.00 p.m.	Kevin York Messy Church
25th Jan.	10.30 a.m.	Andrew West from Walworth Road Baptist Church, Hitchin

No p.m. services except where stated

WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES

Mondays	<u>Home Group</u> : - 8.00 p.m. Leaders: Linda & Kevin York <u>Home Group</u> –Leaders Amanda and Dan Hobbs NB For the time being, day, venue, leader & time can vary. Telephoning advised – 07725525176
Tuesdays	<u>Home Group</u> – 1 st /3 rd week of each month at 7.45 p.m. at Peter & Jo Taylor’s home. Leader: Tracy Malan.
Wednesdays	<u>Wednesday Welcome</u> – 10.30 a.m. in Church Hall in term time. Coffee/Tea served at 10.15 a.m. <u>Prayer Fellowship</u> : - 2 nd /4 th Wednesday of each month from 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. in the Bell Lounge <u>Home Group</u> – 1 st /3 rd week of each month at 8.00 p.m. Leader: Richard Waymark
Thursdays	<u>Toddlers’ Group</u> - 10.00 – 11.45 a.m. <u>Pilots</u> : Deckhands – 5.30 – 6.30 p.m. Adventurers – 5.45 – 7.00 p.m. Voyagers – 7.00 – 8.15 p.m. Cell Groups. (Navigators) 8.30 – 9.30 p.m. <u>Grandparent & Toddlers’ Group</u> – Closed due to lack of numbers – see separate announcement. <u>Home Group</u> – Weekly in term time; 1.30-2.45 p.m. Leader: Gill Griffin
Fridays	<u>Youth Chill Zone</u> 4 – 6.00 p.m.
Saturdays	<u>Table Tennis</u> - 9-11.00 a.m. – Church hall, Leader Dennis Chang and Gill Griffin

Music Group Practice – TBC weekly by Worship Leader

Focus on the Home Groups – 2014/2015

◆ **What is a home group?**

Quite simply, a group of people drawn from the St George's Family who meet together regularly in a home (or even at Church!). We have 5 groups currently, with a total membership of about 60.

◆ **What is it for?**

To enable the members of the small group to get to know and care for one another, and help each other grow in the Christian life. The groups are really appreciated by long-standing and new members alike.

◆ **What happens at a home group?**

Each group develops its own particular style of sharing and learning together, drawing on the ingredients of worship, prayer, Bible focussed study/discussion, and maybe a "cuppa". Leading is shared among those members of the group who feel happy to do so, and the subject may be of their own choosing or part of a prearranged series. Meetings typically last 1½ to 2 hours.

When and where do the groups meet?

<u>Leaders</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Amanda & Dan Hobbs	For the time being, day, venue, leader & time can vary. Telephoning advised - 07725525176	
Kevin & Linda York	Mon 8.00 p.m. Weekly	6 Stronsay Close, Northend, Hemel
Tracy Malan HH 389022	1 st /3 rd Tues 7.45 pm	"Lauries" London Rd Bourne End (Peter and Jo Taylor)
Richard Waymark HH 262646	Wed 8.00 pm 1 st /3 rd in month	4 Sidford Close (Richard Waymark)
Gill Griffin HH 243267	Thursday 1.30 – 2.45 pm Weekly in term time	The Bell Lounge

Can I join?

Yes! If you are interested, or would like to find out more, please speak to one of the Elders or one of the Home Group leaders.