

Central Baptist Church News

February 2015 – Edition 718



Please continue to pray that more people in Stratford will come to know the Lord

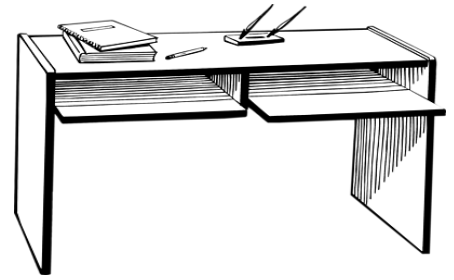
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www.centralbaptistchurch.org.uk

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHURCH CONTACTS	Error! Bookmark not defined.
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK.....	3
FEBRUARY 2015 – DIARY AT A GLANCE	5
FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY'S PEN	7
NEWS FROM CORNWALL.....	8
MONTHLY DIARY & ROTAS	9
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES	12
REPORTS	13
ANNOUNCEMENTS	15
MONTHLY ROTAS - IMPORTANT NOTICE.	17
LISTEN ONLINE	19

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

By Pastor Dele Oke



Keep Seeking Things Above

Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. Colossians 3:1-3 (NASB)

Seeking things above means much more than praying to God. It involves the way we think and the whole approach we take to life. Indeed, unless you learn how to seek the things above you will not have a fruitful walk with Christ.

Allow me to remind us of the three A's of Christmas that I shared on Christmas Day last year. These three things will help to emphasize what it means to 'keep seeking the things above, where Christ is'.

The first A is **attitude**. As someone who has experienced the love of Christ your attitude to life should change (verse 3). Stop seeing life as a challenge but rather view it as a privilege. This is how Christ who is seated on the right hand of God would want you to view life. Life is a privileged given to you by God.

Understanding life as a privilege will enable you to be thankful for the good things in your life, and overcome the hardships and mistakes you make as you travel along the road of 2015.

The second A represents **awareness**. The right attitude will allow you to become aware of the goodness of God in your life. For those who live life with a "worldly focus" they only see and emphasize the negative things that happen to them.

Knowing the love of Christ is a tremendous privilege that we should always be aware of. Many of us have money in our pockets, people that love us and health that allows us to enjoy all of these things. How aware are you of God's goodness? Make a list of some of the good things God has done for you right now. Make yourself aware of God's goodness in order to avoid losing your joy and peace when hardships come along.

The third A represents being **authentic** with yourself. Being authentic means being sincere. When you are wrong admit it rather than trying to justify it. Insincere people are always grumpy, upset, and insecure. They become defensive whenever anyone corrects them. Sincere people acknowledge it when they discover they have the wrong attitude to life and change accordingly.

In summary, having the right **attitude** will help you down the road of 2015. See life as a privilege that God Himself has given to you. Become **aware** of the goodness of God in allowing you to see yet another year. God wants you to see more of His goodness and He is keeping you around for this reason. Be **authentic** (sincere) with yourself. Repent of bitterness, anger, un-forgiveness and envy. This will make room for you to receive more of God's grace and leading in 2015.

2015 is going to be a good year for those who "keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God".

May you continue to enjoy the peace and leading of God as you continue in Christ, with Christ and for Christ in 2015.

FEBRUARY 2015 – DIARY AT A GLANCE

Deacon on Duty: Pat Reynolds

Date	Event and People	Time
Every Saturday	Praise & Worship Practice	5.30pm
Every Wednesday 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th	Bible Study & Prayer Time (7.30pm Teas & Coffees – Start at 7.45pm)	7.30-9.00pm
Sunday 1st Morning	Lead: Jane Young Preach: Pastor Dele Oke Team Focus: Stewards & Welcome	11.00am
Sunday 1st Evening	Lead: Jane Young Preach: Patricia Antoine-Ramsey	6.30pm
Friday 6th Evening	CBC Club	6.30-9.00pm
Saturday 7th Morning	All Together Church Cleaning	10.00am
Sunday 8th Morning	Lead: Tex Reynolds Preach: Pastor Dele Oke	11.00am
Sunday 8th Evening	Lead: Sylvester Turner Preach: Pat Turner	6.30pm
Friday 13th Evening	Prayer Walk Lead: Pat Reynolds	8.30-9.30pm
Saturday 14th Afternoon	Junior Church Teacher's Meeting	3.00pm
Saturday 14th Afternoon	Men's Meeting - Led by Issac Ampofo. (Bible Study)	4.00pm

Date	Event and People	Time
Sunday 15th Morning	Lead: Sylvester Turner Preach: Keith White FAMILY SERVICE Newcomers Meeting Team Focus: Hospitality	11.00am 1.30pm
Sunday 15th Evening	Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Cynthia Reynolds	6.30pm
Friday 20th Evening	Prayer Walk Lead: Patricia Antoine-Ramsey	8.30-9.30pm
Saturday 21st Afternoon	Women's Meeting	3.30pm
Sunday 22nd Morning	Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Pastor Dele Oke Communion Service Team Focus: Service Team Visiting Team: Florence Olajide Folashade Adebayo Joyce Aber-Obitta	11.00am After Service
Sunday 22nd Evening	Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Tex Reynolds	6.30pm
Monday 23rd Afternoon	Over 60's Club Speaker: David Driver	12.00pm
Friday 27th Evening	Prayer Time Patricia Antoine-Ramsey – 8.00pm Sylvester Turner – 9.00pm Pastor Dele Oke 10.00pm	8.00-11.00pm

FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY'S PEN

By Suzanne Gudgeon



My Dear Friends

Happy New Year and welcome to 2015 - late but very much heartfelt as I wish you all a year of blessing in every sense. I hope and pray that you and I will have many new opportunities of serving the Lord at the Central, in our homes, amongst our families, at school and in our work places.

In December we held our Christmas Carol Services (21st December) and, of course, Christmas Day – both occasions were well attended. Our Christmas Lunch held after the morning service on 14th December went very well and was well attended.

I have recently been thinking about change and how the Lord allows this to happen in our lives when we least expect it. I trust the Lord will help us cope with it and enable us to adapt to it.

With all the problems in other lands, please continue to remember the countries where there are difficulties of one sort or another, especially where there is conflict. Pray too for those in Africa suffering from the Ebola virus. Please continue to pray for our fellow brothers and sisters who are suffering for being a Christian; that they will know the protection of the Lord keeping them strong in their faith.

Lastly, have you thought about serving the Lord with “Inspiration” at Westfield Stratford City Shopping Centre? Want to know more – then have a word with me. They do need help, so please pray about this.

Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and keep walking in the pathway that leads to eternal life.

“Have Faith in God – He never fails.”

NEWS FROM CORNWALL

By Ron Meloy (7th December)

I will forever remember Remembrance Day this year [11th November] as I found myself that morning after the Thought for the Day meeting having a free ride in an ambulance with flashing lights and siren on the way to the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro. This was due to a weakness in coronary arteries supplying blood to my heart. Thankfully the initial problem has been resolved and I am now home but only allowed to walk short distances and not to do all those things usually treated for granted. That includes supporting Truro F.C who won 6-0 yesterday!! However I am now awaiting an invitation from Derriford Hospital in Plymouth to perform a bypass surgery on another artery. As the hymn goes 'One more step along the road'. Another hymn comes to mind 'Be still and know that I am God' verses 2 and 3 [Mission Praise (MP) 48]

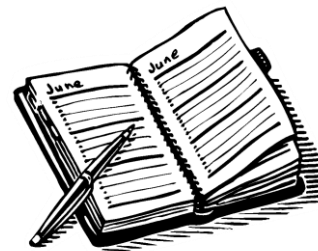
This morning for only the fourth time my private nurse [Doreen] allowed me to venture forth into the great outdoors this time to the Methodist church in Mount Hawke. My next door neighbour is their Treasurer and provided the transport. The congregation including the organist amounted to eight. There are many such small congregations, scattered around Cornwall and sadly churches that have closed.

St. Agnes has an elderly congregation but young in heart. The recent annual Mistletoe Market, thanks to the hard work of many, raised £2,575 towards the upkeep of the chapel. We look forward to good congregations at the Nativity Carol Service and the service on Christmas morning.

As for 2015 may I suggest that you read or even sing MP 428 and then continue to put into action MP 178 and so ensure a very Happy New Year.

A PRAYER: Lord Jesus Christ we thank you with all our hearts for your mercy and grace. Give us now and in the days to come a living hope in you as we serve you in the world and work for the day when at your name every knee shall bow and confess you Lord. Amen

MONTHLY DIARY & ROTAS



Ministry of Flowers

By Suzanne Gudgeon

Flowers are being provided by the following friends:

FEBRUARY 2015

Date	Provided by	Arranged by
1st	DATE FREE	Suzanne
8th	Ron Jacobs	Suzanne
15th	DATE FREE	TBA
22nd	DATE FREE	Suzanne

Please put your contribution in an envelope with your name and the date you are providing flowers and place it in the collection at **least two weeks before** your chosen date. The average cost of providing flowers is £20.00, please consider this when providing on your particular date.

If you wish to use one of the 'free dates' for a special celebration, please let me know. A new flower list for the year is now available

Central News Articles for the **March 2015 Edition**
Please submit items by **Friday 6th February 2015**

Or earlier to:

E-mail address: cbcnews@live.com

Junior Church

By Pat Reynolds

There are five different classes, age ranging from 1 year upwards. The children follow teaching based on the Bible. All children are welcome.

FEBRUARY 2015: Sunday 22nd February 2015 – 10.15-10.30am, Junior Church Prayer – Led by: Jackie Trotman

Crèche Rota

By Reenell Roach-Williams

FEBRUARY 2015

Week	Set Up	Assist
1st	Jane Young	Kathy-Anne Morgan
8th	Lillieth Adebisi	Reenell Roach-Williams
15th	FAMILY SERVICE	
22nd	Kathy-Anne Morgan	Jane Young

Hospitality Rota

By Benson Adedeji

Please see me or the Board at the back of the Church for details
If you are unable to make any date please let me or someone in your Team know as soon as possible.

Stewards Rota

By Patricia Antoine-Ramsey

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH MINISTRY OF STEWARDS TEAM ROTA

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE ON TIME, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR DUTY PLEASE CONTACT EITHER
 Patricia Antoine-Ramsey on 07535 664614 or
 Steve Cooper on 07852 819529 or
 Algi Dyer on 07884 198723

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	Week 1 1st February	Week 2 8th February	Week 3 15th February	Week 4 22nd February
Lead Steward: Algi Dyer Head Steward: Patricia Antoine-Ramsey	Steve Cooper	Issahaku Sofo-Wuni	Algi Dyer	Steve Cooper
Stewards on main door duty	Ansel Mcleod Algi Dyer	Ansel Mcleod Grace Adedeji	Ansel Mcleod Marianne Jaward	Ansel Mcleod Suzanne Gudgeon
Steward on duty inside	Issahaku Sofo-Wuni Patricia Antoine-Ramsey	Steve Cooper Joyce Aber-Obitta	Steve Cooper Lillith Adebisi	Issahaku Sofo-Wuni Grace Adedeji
1st Service 11.00am	Marianne Jaward Eli Reynolds Aaron Singh Akeem Williams	Eli Reynolds Osaze Ehigie Sanita Attride Phillip Sesay	Eli Reynolds John Oke Victoria Lgali Nenyi Mills-Robertson	Eli Reynolds Nana Mills-Robertson Victory Paul-Emeralds Halima Sofo-Wuni

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

By Leadership/Central News Team

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Date		Date	
2nd	Cynthia Reynolds	12th	Daniel Roach-Williams
2nd	Luke Horrabin-Newman	13th	Ron Jacobs
2nd	Eugene Paul-Emeralds	15th	Marjorie Aber-Obitta
2nd	Mandy Murray	16th	Algi Dyer
5th	Cynthia Pritchard	20th	Troy Andrews
6th	Velluppillai Sachithanantham	21st	Isaac Roach-Williams
11th	Calbert Tucker	23rd	Zainab Issahaku Sofo-Wuni
11th	Diler Singh	23rd	Dawine McKenzie
11th	Victory Paul-Emeralds	27th	Marianne Jaward
12th	Lillieth Adebiyi		

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Date		Years
2nd	Augusta & Johnson Ehigie	30
21st	Lillieth & Mark Adebiyi	28
28th	Mavis & Stanley Nziramasanga	31

EARLY MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Date		Date	
2nd	Estina Grant	4th	Richard Oguntona
3rd	Edna Short		

EARLY MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

NO EARLY MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

**BEST WISHES TO YOU ALL FROM ALL OF US AT
CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH**



REPORTS

Reports from across the Church

Prayer

By Vivienne Oke

The year 2015 is another opportunity for us as a Church to do God's Will. In January, we prayed for the Visiting Team. This team goes out on behalf of CBC. Most importantly, they go out on behalf of Jesus ministering to the sick, comforting the fainthearted.

Just as the Visiting Team are Jesus arms and legs to the people they visit. Our prayers have arms and legs. Our prayers will go places where we cannot go. Our prayers will allow the **Holy Spirit** to do what we cannot do.

Paul understood this spiritual truth and said "For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance **through your prayers** and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ", (Philippians 1:19)

Perhaps you are praying for a child that stays out late at night. Or maybe you are praying for a difficult boss. "Your prayers" will connect with the heart that you cannot touch. Your prayers will release the Holy Spirit into your particular situation.

Prayer this month

Please continue to pray for the **Visiting Team**. Thanking God for what they do. Pray they will continue to lift up the name of Jesus as they comfort those who cannot come to Church.

Pray for Unity, Growth and Organisation in our own individual lives and within CBC Stratford.

Pray for our Children. They are growing up! Pray that they will continue to grow **in Christ**.

God's will be done, God's kingdom come in our lives in 2015

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon **me**, because the Lord has anointed me, to preach good tidings to the poor: He has sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound: To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord (Isaiah 61:1) KJV

2015 is an acceptable year of the Lord

THANKSGIVING & PRAYER REQUESTS

By Nab Mills-Robertson/Visiting Team (10.01.2015)

- Ethlyn Salmon –Please pray for a complete healing of the arthritis which makes her experience pain most times.
- Doreen Waterman – Please pray for her to get the right medication and her sister who is getting a bit confused.
- Yvonne Thomas – Please pray for the shoulder pain and her brother who is in the hospital; he had been given a pace maker to help with the chest pain and continue to pray for the husband who is going under investigation for his health.
- Blossom Dammar – Please continue to pray for the strength to manage her daily activities.
- Virginia Reynolds - Please pray for her wellbeing and strength for all those who assist in caring for her.
- Myrtle & Frank Smith – They had their 53rd wedding anniversary and it was glorious. Please continue to pray for their wellbeing'
- Icilda May – She was discharged from hospital in December and is making progress, feeling much better but please pray for strength.

- Rogini (Rose) Sachithanantham – she had a quiet Christmas to reflect on the passing away of her late father. They are all fine and give praise to the Lord.
- Rosaleen Monteiro – Praise God for the strength He gives her each day as well as Monty.
- Mr Grant – We visited him last month and was doing better although he missed the fellowship and hope he can visit soon. Pray for him and his daughter.
- Mr Williams – The visit to him last month was encouraging and the family are grateful for our support to him. Pray for Gods peace for him and the rest of the family.
- May Gardner – Please pray that she receives the right form of healing as we know all healing comes from the Lord. Waiting for scan result.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUTREACH

By Nab Mills-Robertson

- ❖ **Food Bank** – People are coming for food. Please pray for Claudette Burke as she gives her time to support.
- ❖ **Teen Challenge** – Stratford Drop-in

Christmas Celebration 22nd December

It was glorious, different brothers shared their testimonies and a message from God's word. It was a great way to end the year

2015

The Lord has started working in the lives of many. God is repairing marriages and others entering the Rehabilitation Centres for help. Please pray for more helpers and the transformation of the attendees.

Bus Outreach every Saturday 8.30pm – 11.30pm.

'Drop In' at CBC every Monday 3.00pm – 5.00pm.

Anyone interested in helping should speak to Nab.

Street Pastors - CBC Team goes out **every fourth Friday**

CHURCH EVENTS

Over 60's Club

By Jackie Trotman/Rose Tucker

The Christmas Dinner for Over 60's went very well - David & Sue Orange provided the entertainment and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The meeting on 26th January 2015 will commence at the usual time – 12 noon and the speaker will be Paul Chierico and we are looking forward to hearing his message.

God bless.

Soul Survivor 2015

By Efua Mills-Robertson

Next August Newham YFC (Youth For Christ) will be taking a group to Week B of Soul Survivor which takes place from Saturday 15th August to Thursday 20th August 2015. Soul Survivor is open to all young people in year 9 to year 13.

Places at Soul Survivor will be allocated purely on a first come first served basis. So it's important those wanting to come get their forms from me and return them with the deposit of £45 as soon as possible.

The cost is £95 per person, if paid in full by the 18th of January 2015. If the remainder is paid after the 18th of January it will cost £115. For more information see me.

MONTHLY ROTAS - IMPORTANT NOTICE.

By Pastor Dele Oke

In order to save the trees and cut down what we spend on paper it is prudent we keep an eye on what we print each month.

The growing list of rotas in CN is evidence that we are getting more organised. Well done. Yet not everyone needs these rotas so it will save us a lot of paper and money if we only distribute them to those who need them.

As from next month there will be a notice board at the back of the Church for all the rotas. All Team leaders should therefore give their members individual copies of the relevant rota and place a copy on the notice board at the back of the church.

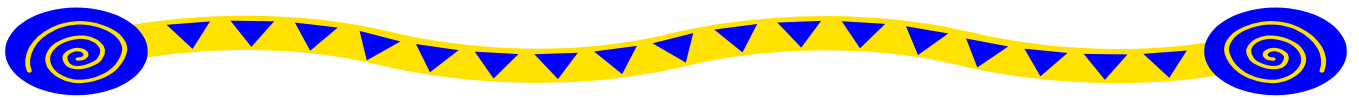
We shall no longer put them in CN.

Please see Algi for more details.

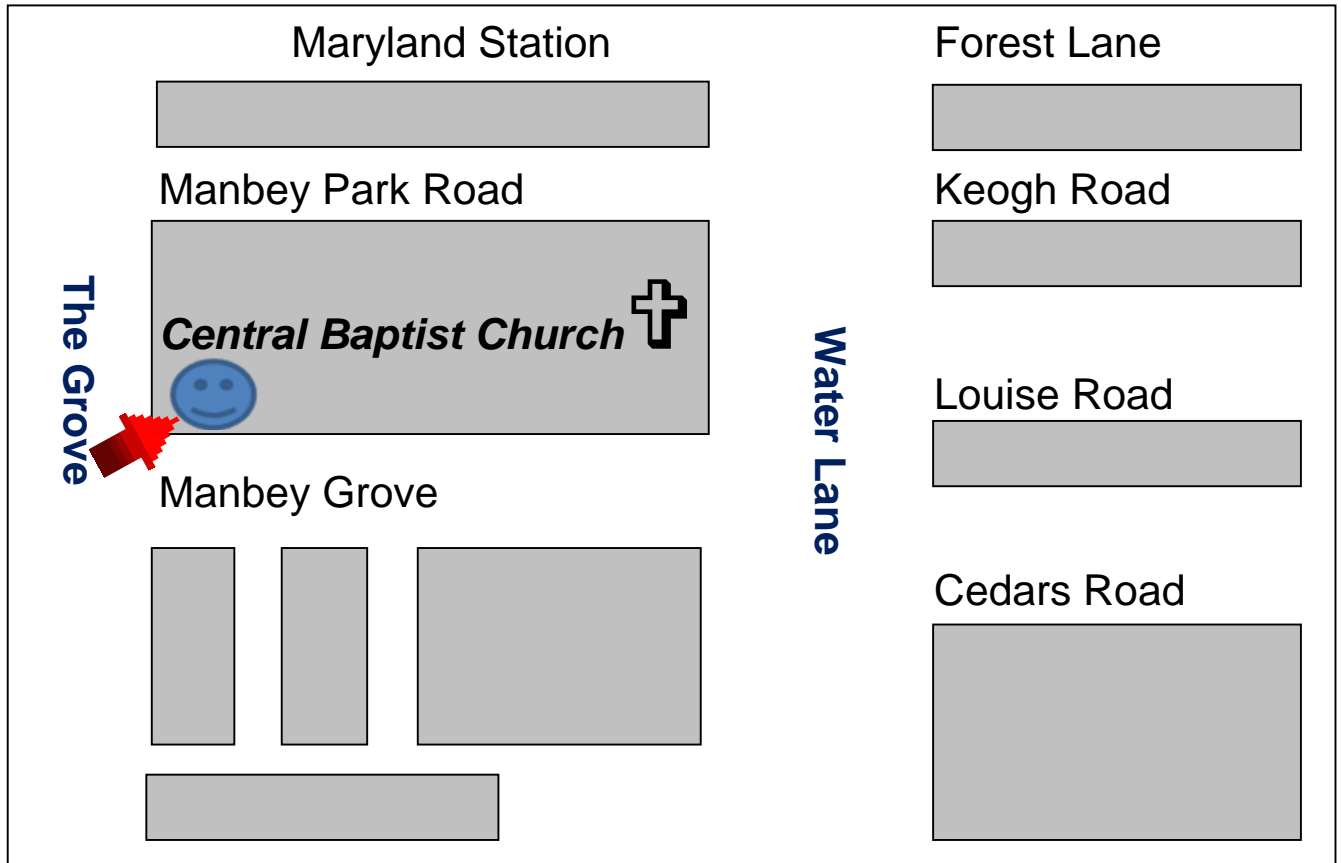
Evangelistic Events

By Pastor Dele Oke

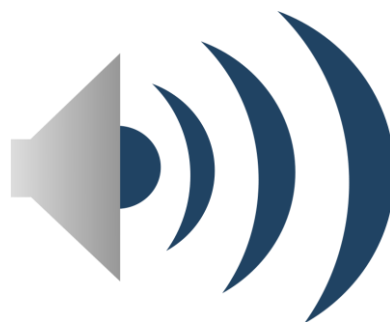
Please Watch this space for upcoming Evangelistic Events...



Where to find us (Buses: 69, 257 stops outside)



LISTEN ONLINE



You can listen to most of our **Sunday messages Online**.
Visit the web site at www.centralbaptistchurch.org.uk/