

Central Baptist Church News

NOVEMBER 2015 – Edition 727

Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

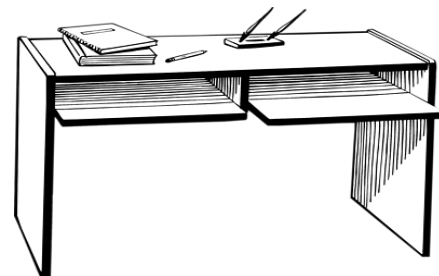
And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

By Pastor Dele Oke



The Church and Deacons

The Church is a unique organisation in that we do not need to pray for the head of the church. As Christ is the head of the church, we do not need to pray for Christ but rather **to** Christ.

He is the head of his body, the church; he is the source of the body's life. He is the first-born Son, who was raised from death, in order that he alone might have the first place in all things.
Colossians 1:18 (GNB)

The Church is made up of people who have a 'new life in Christ Jesus'. Individuals, who have found the love of Christ, embraced it and turned away from their former conduct and now, by the grace and power of God, live a life that is centred on Christ. Our lives are full of thanks because God in His mercy has given us what 1 Peter calls 'a living hope'.

Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Because of his great mercy he gave us new life by raising Jesus Christ from death. This fills us with a living hope 1 Peter 1:3 (GNB)

The Church is made up of people who have this 'living hope'. The Church is hence a gathering of believers, Christians, who together explore and grow together in this living hope. Christ has imbued different individuals within the Church with gifts. These gifts are used by God to enable the individuals in the Church to grow. Ephesians puts it like this

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-12 (NKJV)

The leaders God has placed in the church are accountable to God and will give an account of their conduct to him.

Obey your leaders and follow their orders. They watch over your souls without resting, **since they must give to God an account of their service**. If you obey them, they will do their work gladly; if not, they will do it with sadness, and that would be of no help to you. Hebrews 13:17 (GNB)

For a Church to operate properly the whole congregation should be involved. In Acts 6 we see a beautiful precedence of this. The Church selects people, called deacons, to work with the ministers in the Church. Together they are responsible for the pastoral care of the Church members and the day to day management and administration of the Church.

At CBC we have always had deacons who have faithfully worked hard to fulfil the roles mentioned above. We need to thank God for those serving as deacons as we prayerfully choose others to join this group. When the whole Church is actively and prayerfully involved in the selecting of deacons it brings about unity in the Church.

We will speak more about this during the month of November which we are dedicating as a time of prayer. Meanwhile please read Acts 6:1-7 and 1 Timothy 3:1-12 (Please note that the Good News Bible uses the word *Church helpers* rather than deacons in 1 Timothy 3. I would advise you read another version of the Bible also, like the NIV or NKJV).

You can also visit the CBC website and listen to an online message on this topic.

(<http://www.centralbaptistchurch.org.uk/the-church-the-people-and-leaders/>)

Please continue to pray along for CBC as we seek God's way forward. Thank you.

NOVEMBER 2015 – DIARY AT A GLANCE

Deacon on Duty: Suzanne Gudgeon

Date	Event and People	Time
Every Wednesday 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th	Bible Study & Prayer Time (7.30pm Teas & Coffees – Start at 7.45pm)	7.30-9.00pm
Every Saturday	Praise & Worship Practice	5.30pm
Sunday 1st Morning	Lead: Jane Young Preach: Pastor Dele Oke	11.00am
Sunday 1st Evening	Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Vivienne Oke Communion Service	6.30pm
Friday 6th Evening	CBC Club	6.30-9.00pm
Sunday 8th Morning	Lead: Sylvester Turner Preach: Pastor Jeremiah Dawood Remembrance Sunday Family Service	11.00am
Sunday 8th Evening	Lead: Sylvester Turner Preach: Pat Turner	6.30pm
Friday 13th Evening	CBC Women's Meeting	8.00pm
Friday 13th Evening	Prayer Walk Lead: David Ramsey	8.30-9.30pm
Saturday 14th Afternoon	Men's Meeting	4.00pm
Sunday 15th Morning	Lead: Benson Adedeji Preach: Pastor Dele Oke Prayer for Persecuted Church (Esther Madu- Kwatamdia)	11.00am
Sunday 15th Evening	Lead: Cynthia Reynolds Preach: Esther Madu Kwatamdia	6.30pm

Date	Event and People	Time
Friday 20th Evening	Prayer Time	8.15 – 9.45 pm
Sunday 22nd Morning	Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Pastor Dele Oke 13+ Stay in Church Church Meeting - (Deacons Election)	11.00am
Sunday 22nd Evening	Romanian Church Water Baptism	6.30pm
Friday 27th Evening	Prayer Time: 8.00pm - Pat Reynolds 9.00pm - Grace Adedeji 10.00pm - Vivienne Oke	8.00-11.00pm
Sunday 29th Morning	Lead: Tex Reynolds Preach: Pastor Dele Oke Communion Service	11.00am
Sunday 29th Afternoon	Visiting Team: Nab Mills-Robertson Folashade Addebayo Joyce Aber-Obitta	After Service
Sunday 29th Evening	Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Vivienne Oke	6.30pm
Monday 30th Afternoon	Over 60's Club Speaker: Lesley Turner	12.00pm

FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY'S PEN

By Suzanne Gudgeon



Dear Friends

I cannot believe how quickly the year is passing. We now find ourselves in November, in the throes of Autumn with the lovely colours of the leaves changing from green, red and brown and then dropping to the ground. Have you ever walked through piles of leaves, kicking them in the air as you do so?

As I write we are just about to celebrate our Church Anniversary – 163 years of God's goodness to us a Church in the area. God is indeed good all the time. I am sure we would have enjoyed the day together and enjoyed a lovely lunch together. Here's to the next 163 years if the Lord wills!

Thank you to everyone for providing all the lovely produce for our Harvest Thanksgiving Services. The produce and goods given, have or will be distributed to those in need of our help.

This month we have our Remembrance Day services as we remember with thankfulness all those who died in the World Wars to secure our freedom. We will also, God willing, elect new Deacons to join the Leadership Team.

I know there are some in the fellowship who are in need of our prayers, so please continue to pray for one another.

Please continue to remember the countries where there are difficulties of one sort or another, especially where there is conflict, especially the refugee crisis. Pray too for our fellow brothers and sisters who are suffering for being Christians.

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 (6th October 2015)

I am sure you will agree that it is a great blessing and privilege wherever we live to be a member of God's family. This was very evident to us when we met old and new friends at the funeral of Rosaleen who is now at rest with our Lord. It was also encouraging to see the improvements made to both inside and outside of the buildings although there are still problems to be dealt with as there are with our Church.

We continue to receive news from Revd Robinson Gill who visited the Central whilst a student at Spurgeon's College and has returned to his home country Pakistan. He mentioned his Church is surrounded by a Muslim neighbourhood who listen to the Sunday Services and from time to time make prayer requests'. Alongside the Church wall some cows are tethered and the congregation see them being slaughtered at festival times. Robinson continues "We thank God that though we are in this country we are saved by the blood of Jesus Christ".

Recently there have been events celebrating the end of World War 2. Stratford and the surrounding area suffered from the bombing raids and I was reminded of that when I recently came across a small leaflet printed in 1941 by the then acting Secretary of the Central "We are especially grateful to God that we still have a Church in which to worship. In recent raids it has been hit by incendiaries [bombs], but extremely prompt action by local fire watchers has prevented too much serious damage. We thank them also".

Last Sunday we held our Harvest Services and yesterday the produce was distributed around the neighbourhood. We have gathered in our own harvest of apples from the garden and 4lbs of blackberries from the hedgerows [picked by Doreen]. I am reminded of a cartoon showing apples growing on a tree on which is a notice "Reserved for the Harvest", there is also another picture of the tree without any apples with a notice "All is safely gathered in" and two lads disappearing over a wall.

A Prayer: God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us and may the gifts of the Spirit equip us to serve and worship you now and always. Amen.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

By Leadership/Central News Team

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Date		Date	
1st	Wendy Murray	23rd	Halima Sofo-Wuni Issahaku
5th	Sarah Oguntona	25th	David Adedeji
9th	Florence Olajide	25th	Ebubechi Michael Chiuwa
9th	Doreen Meloy	25th	Bianca Clarke
12th	Jacqueline Adedeyi Thomas	25th	Theophilus Nwabuzor
18th	Marina John	27th	Sylvester Turner
20th	Aaron Singh	29th	Lucille Hodge

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Date		Years
3rd	Delphina & Harold Joseph	30 Years

EARLY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Date		Date	
4th	Melanie Thallapally	4th	Monty Monteiro
4th	Blessing P Nziramasanga	5th	Clarissa Brown

NO EARLY DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES RECORDED



REPORTS

Reports from across the Church

Prayer

By Magdalene Ogbeifun

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord

Time goes so quickly and the year is almost at an end and life goes on. Yes, life goes on and here at the Central, we would have just had a Church Meeting and there will be the election of deacons amongst other things to prepare for.

Whatever comes up, as long as we love each other and are united in the love of Christ, God will command His blessings on us (Psalm 133).

That is why, using the words of St Paul, "I pray that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and in all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.", (Philippians 1 vs 9-11 NIV).

Please Pray:

- -for increased knowledge and discernment
- -for love, unity and sincerity (especially as we pray for one another)
- -that we are without offence (love neither gives nor takes offence)
- -That God's will be done in our lives and in all we do at the Central
- -Remember the election of Deacons; your prayers will put the right people in the Diaconate.
- -That we may be filled with the fruits of righteousness in Christ Jesus
- -Finally pray that all that we do will be to the glory and praise of God.

THANKSGIVING & PRAYER REQUESTS

By Nab Mills-Robertson/Visiting Team (10/10/2015)

- Ethlyn Salmon – Please pray for her as she recovers from the recent set back to her health. Pray for the family as they assist her through this difficult time.
- Doreen Waterman – It has not been easy for her health-wise, finding it difficult to do many things. Please continue to pray for a breakthrough for her. Pray also for her husband and sister.
- Virginia Reynolds – She is doing well but please pray for the strengthening of her legs.
- Myrtle & Frank Smith – Continue to raise them up in your prayers that the Lord will sustain them.
- Icilda May – The recent visit to her was very encouraging; she expressed her wish to see more members visiting. Please continue to pray for the family as they assist her.
- Dorothy Lee – We visited Dorothy last month after a long time of not seeing her. She is doing well and was pleased to see us. We had the opportunity to praise God and pray together. Please pray for her wellbeing.
- Mr Moses Williams – Our recent visit to him went well. He shared in a recent visit of disturbing dreams. Please pray for the Lord's protection.
- May Gardner – It was great to see her last month at Church. We give the Lord praise for the healing process she's going through. Please continue to pray for complete healing.

CHURCH EVENTS

Over 60's Club

By Jackie Trotman/Rose Tucker

Our speaker for November 30th will be Lesley Turner – who is retired but used to work for Pilgrim Homes. Please come and support Lesley as I am sure her talk will be very interesting. See you on the 30th.

Junior Church

By Pat Reynolds

JC Prayers - Sunday 22nd November at 10.15 -10.30am
Led by Michael Conteh.

CBC Club

By Efua Mills-Robertson

Friday 6th - 6.30–9.00pm.

COMING EVENTS

- **November will be our Month of Prayer.** Our Fridays and some Saturdays will be devoted to Church prayer and worship times. All Team Leaders please note. More details to follow in November Diary.
- **Election of Deacons.** On Sunday 22nd November there will be a Church meeting to elect new deacons immediately after the service. More details to follow.
- **Team Leader's Meeting.** On Saturday 5th December at 3.30pm. All Team Leaders please note this in your diary. An important meeting and a preview of 2016 diary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ministry of Flowers

By Suzanne Gudgeon



This month the flowers are being provided by the following friends:

Date	Provided by
1st	DATE FREE
8th	Central Baptist Church
15th	Sylvester Turner
22nd	DATE FREE
29th	DATE FREE

Please could you put your contribution in an envelope with your name and date you are providing flowers and place it in the collection at **least two weeks before** your selected date.

If you wish to use one of the free dates for a birthday or another special celebration, please let me know. Please note that the cost of providing flowers is around £15.00. If you are sharing a date, you can give less. Please consider this when providing on your particular date. Many thanks.

Travelling

Sister Comfort has travelled home to Nigeria and arrived safely. God willing she will return to London March / April 2016. Please continue to hold her up in prayers during this time of absence.

OUTREACH

By Nab Mills-Robertson

❖ **Food Bank** – Praise God we've got another volunteer from the Church, our Sister Lillieth Adebisi will join Sister Claudette Burke. Continue to pray for the work they are doing.

❖ **Teen Challenge** – **Stratford Drop-In**: At the beginning of the month we had visitors from America and experienced an amazing move of the Holy Spirit. The atmosphere was very encouraging. Please continue to pray for the ministry

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**

Birthday & Anniversary Dates

By Central News Team (Algi Dyer/Cynthia Reynolds)

If you are new to the Church or have been here a while and would like your name to be included in the Birthday and Anniversary list please provide this to us for inclusion.

Change of Address

By Suzanne Gudgeon / Pat Reynolds

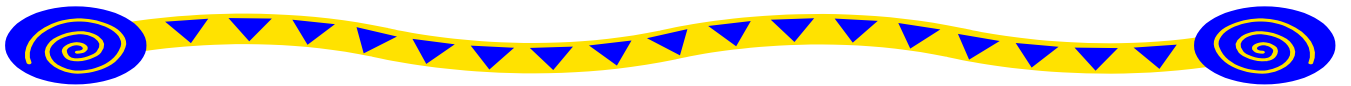
Have you moved house and forgotten to inform us? Please let our Secretary and/or Assistant Secretary have details of this so that our records can be updated, especially if you are a member.

Junior Church - Help Required

By Pat Reynolds

The Junior Church and Crèche are looking for teachers and volunteers to help at least once a month. Come along and sit in a class to get a feel of what happens in the Junior Church and Crèche. Please speak to me or Reenell Roach-Williams

Central News Articles for the **December 2015 Edition**
Please submit items by **Tuesday 10th November** Or
earlier to: E-mail address: cbcnews@live.com



LISTEN ONLINE



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