

DECEMBER 2009/JANUARY 2010

Dear Friends

I want to use this Vicar's Letter to update you on a few bits and pieces.

LICENSING OF JEAN-PIERRE SCHROEDER

On 17th November JP was licensed as Assistant Curate for St James' by the Bishop of Dover and on the following Sunday (at the 10.30am service) JP made his Declaration of Assent, publicly affirming his loyalty to the Christian faith, as required for the licensing to be made legal. We had hoped that all this might have happened when JP joined us here nearly 18 months ago, but apparently when a minister originally ordained overseas (as JP was) begins work in the Church of England, the process takes some time! Anyway, we thank God that it has now happened, as it is an encouragement not only to JP but also to us as a church-family. Also, we give thanks for JP's ministry here so far – let's continue to pray for the ongoing work in Garlinge and for the new initiatives under way at the moment.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

One sentence in JP's Declaration of Assent particularly struck me, where it is stated that the Church of England "*professes the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic (meaning "worldwide") creeds, which faith the Church of England is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation*". The title-deeds of the Church of England are thoroughly Biblical and evangelical. When the Church of England is true to itself, it teaches the truth of the Bible and reaches out with the Gospel to those outside who need to know it. We need such a reminder today, when we hear media-reports about the Anglican Communion worldwide and the Church of England in this country – very often those reports are confusing and discouraging. Let's not be distracted or unsettled by such stories, but take to heart the words of the Lord Jesus in Rev.2.20: "*Only hold fast what you have until I come.*"

PORTACABIN

The second Portacabin, which was one of the targets of this year's Gift Day, has now arrived. An account of how the driver of the lorry managed to place the portacabin in the correct place would make an exciting story in its own right. Once the electrics of the new portacabin have been properly connected and the interior has been smartened up, our Sunday morning Nursery will

move into the larger portacabin and Petros will move into the smaller portacabin – both these groups will benefit from more adequate facilities.

FINALLY

As another year draws towards its close, let me quote again this year's motto-verse:

*“God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.*

Therefore we will not fear ...” (Psalm 46.1-2)

Here is our Christian confidence, whatever may be happening in the world and nearer to home, even in our own immediate circumstances.

Wishing you all a happy and Christ-centred Christmas,

Yours,

Robert Bashford

FROM THE REGISTERS

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

We welcome into the church family:

BAPTISMS:	18 th October	Chloe May Miller
	“	Jack Louis Miller
	22 nd November	Peter Vivian Sotonye Brennan

WEDDINGS:	3 rd October	Carrie-Anne Todd and Eddie Westbrook
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We extend our prayers and sympathy to the relatives and friends of those committed to God's care:

FUNERALS:	22 nd October	Denys Marsh, aged 81 years
	13 th November	John Wilson, aged 90 years

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER SERMON CDs

All CDs of the sermons preached on Sunday mornings and evenings in October and November 2009 are available on request from Elizabeth and Nigel Hadley (Tel: 831067) as usual. If you have requested a CD please collect from the back of Church the following Sunday. CDs £1 each.

Sunday 24 th January	8.00am “Messengers from John the Baptist” (Mt.11.1-19)
	10.30am “A prayer for the church” (Eph.1.15-23)
	6.30pm “The Christ” (Jn.10.19-30)
Sunday 31 st January	8.00am “Woe to unrepentant cities” (Mt.11.20-24)
	10.30am “From death to life” (Eph.2.1-10)
	6.30pm “The Son of God” (Jn.10.31-42)

THANK YOU

We would like to express our thanks for the prayers, cards, messages of sympathy and donations we received in memory of Arthur.

The Royal School for the Deaf were pleased to receive a cheque for £425 in appreciation of Arthur’s life. **Mercia, Philip and Andrew Beach**

The Royal Deaf School for the Deaf operate under The John Townsend Trust, who have responded in part as follows:-

“We have put your donation into our Children’s Fund. As you may be aware, in recent years our pupil/student needs have grown in relation to their disabilities – rather than simply catering for Deaf children, the majority of our learners now also have complex additional needs. Catering for these additional needs with the best possible care does require specialist resources. Our Children’s fund donations are spent on activities directly benefiting our children and young people, such as respite days out and pocket money.”

POND PLANTS

Mercia (Beach) has cleared her pond of fish but she is seeking a home for the plants.

The plants are free to anyone who would like to collect them but a donation to Church funds would be appreciated. If interested, please contact Mercia on (01843) 831001.

HARVEST SUPPER

This year, St James harvest supper took place the day before our church family harvest festival. The PCC decided to have a quiz for the entertainment part of the evening which was received well by the people who came. The quiz master was Chris Wells and he asked a wide selection of questions so

that every team had a chance to answer some questions correctly. The quiz was broken into 2 halves with our meal in between. There were 6 categories and each team had 2 joker cards to double score on 2 rounds. Each team chose their own name so that they could be identified by the quiz master. The meal was prepared and served by members of the Spanner and Floyd families and there was seconds for those who had room for more. The evening was rounded off by Robert Bashford's epilogue which had a harvest theme.

Ruth Flanders

ANY QUESTIONS?

Is the Bible a unique authority? Why should we believe in the inspiration and authority of the Bible?

The basic answer is "Give it a try". See what effect it has upon you by a steady reading of its contents. The evidence for the Bible's divine inspiration will be found within its pages – rather than from external literature. After all, books written about the Bible will all be out-dated within 10 or 15 years. So look within!

1. Its character implies a divine origin

First, its **unity**. The Bible was written over a period of 1,500 years through a multiplicity of different authors. Through types, prophecies, epics, poetry and the hard events of history, the unifying theme of Salvation in Jesus consistently shines through (Luke 24.25-27). Secondly, its **prophecy**. We have only to glance at, for example, Isaiah 7.14, Micah 5.2, Zechariah 9.9 or Psalm 22.16,17 for the point to register. Thirdly, its **purity**. Here is a book that has inspired inventive creativity, self-sacrifice and the highest ethic ever known. Evil is unashamedly described – but so is the answer to evil. Fourthly, its **honesty**. The Bible is not afraid to portray the failings of its characters. It does not try to make super-heroes out of Abraham, Moses, David or the apostle Peter. Nor does it attempt to smooth over difficulties or apparent discrepancies in reporting.

2. Its credentials assume a divine origin

"All Scripture is God-breathed" (2 Timothy 3.16); "men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1.21). Couple those references to the Old Testament Scriptures with such passages as 1

Corinthians 2.13,16; Revelation 1.1; and 2 Peter 3.15,16 (where Paul's writings are bracketed with "the other *Scriptures*") – and a consistent picture emerges of both Old and New Testaments presenting at least a claim that their ultimate Author is God the Holy Spirit.

That fact in itself should predispose us to approaching the Bible sympathetically. After all, if I am given poetry to read – and I am told in the preface that this is a book of free verse – I would be mad to open its pages, determined to make the poems rhyme. From the start I would read it as it sets itself out to be. So with the Bible. *Thus says the Lord ... The word of the Lord came ... God spoke by his servants ...* We take note of the fact that Jesus, in his attitude to the Old Testament, **revered it** (Luke 16.17), **believed it** (Matthew 19.4,5; Mark 12.36) and **gave it supreme authority** – *above reason* (Matthew 22.29) and *above tradition* (Mark 7.13). To him, the Scriptures were *the* great corrective (Luke 24.25).

3. Its impact proves a divine origin

This is the practical clincher. There are critics who would say, "Go on then, *prove* that the Bible is the Word of God." Our reply to them should be, "No, *you* prove it. Take it and read it – and see if it doesn't alter your ethics, your mindset and your whole relationship to the universe. See if it doesn't make the person of Christ real to you."

From an article by Richard Bewes

DEADLINE DATE: Please may all articles for the February and March magazine be with the Editor by Friday 22nd January 2010. Thank you.

Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride and Walk

Firstly, may I thank all those from St. James' who participated in this event back in September. Between us we raised the wonderful sum of £213.75 of which half will be returned to St. James' for our funds. Thank you very much to you and your generous sponsors.

As for Chris and myself, 12th September promised to be a very busy day, with a total of seven possible events to take part in or to which we had been invited! After much deliberation it was decided that Chris (as a committee member) needed to be present all day at the Canterbury Cathedral Old Choristers Association Reunion and that I would walk around Canterbury's churches by myself and then join him for lunch at 12 noon.

Chris dropped me in Military Road at 10am and I signed in at All Saints. The day was cool and overcast which suited me, as with just 2 hours to get round 13 places of worship, I knew that I needed to set a brisk pace. It also meant that I would have little time for chatting to the sitters in each church. Hardly had I reached the corner of the road than a car drew up alongside me and the passenger window was wound down. 'Could you tell me how to find the King's School?' asked the lady driver. Getting out my map of Canterbury we sorted out her route. Seeing my FKC sticker on my shirt, she asked what I was doing and on hearing my explanation, she took a £5 note out of her purse as a donation. I just hope she found her destination without further trouble, or she may have felt it a rather expensive mis-direction!

My next church was St. Martin's and here I did sit near the beautiful font for a couple of minutes and enjoy the agelessness of this lovely building. I nearly wrote peacefulness then, but it was far from that with cleaners and a man up a ladder changing a light fixing and the lady on duty having no idea at all about what she should be doing. Oh dear, was I really going to get round in my two hours? Off again at a brisk pace past the County Gaol and House of Correction and into St. Paul's. Here I was nearly run over by a gang of cyclists. I was quite surprised by how many people were taking part on their bikes, considering the traffic, pedestrians and one-way streets. Next stop was the Baptist church in St. George's Place and then through the subway to come out by the Bus Station. A quick trot along the city wall brought me to Watling Street and St. Andrew's URC where we signed in at their café. Negotiating the

side streets, I arrived at St. Mildred's, the oldest church inside the city walls. So far, so good, I seemed to be keeping to time. Now to find the Greyfriars Chapel, just along Stour Street from St. Mildred's. I lost some time here as I crossed the River Stour several times, trying to find my way in to the Chapel which was visible through gaps in trees. Asking the way of a boatman, who obviously hoped I wanted to go on a sight-seeing trip, I eventually found the path that led through the wild flower meadow to the Chapel. Situated on St. Binewith's Island the Chapel is well worth a visit and its country setting is quite a surprise when you consider how close to the city centre it is.

Back to the hustle and bustle of the High Street and I visited four places of worship in quick succession – the Salvation Army, St. Peter's Methodist Church, St. Peter's and the Friends' Meeting House. By now the sun had come out and I realised that I could slow down as it was only 11.30 and only two churches left to visit – St. Thomas's in Burgate and the Cathedral. I arrived at Choir House in plenty of time for an excellent lunch and then attended Evensong with the Old Choristers later in the afternoon. By coincidence, one of the churches prayed for that day was St. James' and its incumbent, Robert Bashford!

A very different 'cycle ride day' to previous years, but very enjoyable and no doubt a route that Chris and I will follow in a couple of years' time when we have our bus passes and will not need to think about parking the car and following a circular route.

P.S. In case you are wondering, I did have a change of clothing and did not sit down to lunch in my walking gear.

José Gibbs

JESUS – THE GREAT 'I AM'

Jesus said, 'I am the True Vine' (John 15:1-8)

I am sure the shrubs shudder when my wife steps into our garden with the pruning shears in her hand! She's a firm believer in cutting back old growth and removing dead wood from badly performing plants. She's quite convinced that hard pruning is the secret to achieving a colourful garden the following year.

With only hours to go before his death, Jesus made a similar point to his disciples ...

The title of this article probably won't make a lot of sense to most of us, so let me explain. The Bible has its roots in eastern culture. In Bible days, most homes would have at least one grape-vine growing around it. It was good for shade in a hot climate, but it was also an important source of fruit which, when crushed, became an essential drink.

The vine took many years to become established and reach fruit bearing. It was labour intensive both in times of harvest and during the winter. The secret of a fruitful vine was the degree of care that had been taken to prune back the branches that had borne fruit the previous season, and to cut away those that had failed to bear fruit, leaving only the main stem.

Keeping these facts in mind will help us to be better equipped to appreciate the seventh amazing claim that Jesus made for himself...

'I am the true vine', (1) he claimed. The 'true' vine was the main stem which supplied nutrients and the moisture needed to feed the branches on which the fruit would eventually grow. The entire plant, not to mention the fruit, was totally dependent upon the vine for its fruit-bearing needs.

'My Father is the gardener' (1) Jesus said. The gardener's task was to cut out those branches which did not bear fruit, and to cut back the fruit-bearing branches so that they might produce even more fruit in the future.

'You are the branches' (5), Jesus explained to his disciples. Every branch which was joined to him – the main stem- would produce fruit, but the branch that became separated from the vine would be fruitless, and would eventually shrivel and die.

Fruitless branches would be pruned, gathered up, and burned like rubbish (6).

But what is the ‘fruit’? Let’s try and work it out. Just as apples grow on apple trees, and pears grow on pear trees, so Jesus likened himself to a fruit-bearing vine. The fruit he was speaking about was not grapes but **Jesus-likeness**. Those who are joined to Jesus by faith, and who really believe in him, discover that they become more and more like him.

Jesus went on to explain to his disciples some of the life-changing things he gives to those who are joined to him in living faith –

- Jesus said he would **love** them, just as his Father loved him. He would love them deeply enough to give his life for them. To enjoy such love to the full the disciples must obey his command to love one another (9).
- Jesus promised them his **joy** – joy to overflowing, where it really mattered, in their hearts. Obeying his command to love one another would result in receiving his joy (11).
- Jesus offered them his **friendship**, although they were his servants – slaves. Now Jesus promised to make them his friends. He would take them into his confidence and share with them everything the Father told him. They would remain his friends so long as they obeyed him (15).
- Jesus gave them access to his **authority**, saying that his Father would give them whatever they asked in his name. This access to the Father and the effectiveness of prayer would depend on their loving each other (7,16).

Just think about it – **love, joy, friendship** and **answered prayer** – all freely available to those who willingly became Jesus’ obedient disciples. Only **Jesus Christ** can make a free gift of these!

Michael Toogood

JESUS SAID: ‘Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name will they drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.’ (Mark 16:15-18)

THE INTERNET - What you need to know

You may wonder what this has to do with you even if you don't use the Internet yourself you may have family or friends that do. Whether it affects us directly or indirectly the Internet has changed the world forever.

There are some great things on the Internet. You can keep in touch with distant friends and relations. You can find information on literally any subject, from train times to Medieval cookery.

However, at present, the Internet is totally uncensored and thus evil material abounds alongside all of the useful information. Many of us will think that we would never seek access to such stuff and of course our children would never do anything so stupid. Let us not be naïve. Both we and our children are in danger if we adopt a careless attitude.

Thames Valley Police put it like this:

As responsible parents or guardians you would never leave a child alone in a strange area, let them visit a city unsupervised, let them enter adult-only shops or clubs, or meet a total stranger. Unfortunately, every time a child in your care logs on to the web without supervision they face the same potential dangers as they do in all the situations above'. (Thames Valley Police, Chat Safe – A safety guide for Internet chat rooms: <http://thamesvalley.police.uk/chatsafe/parent.htm>)

60% of 13-17 year olds in the UK have personal pages on social networking sites. Of these 46% claim to have given out personal information, which only

5% of their parents realise this. A third of them have received unwanted sexual or offensive comments – though again only 5% of parents had any knowledge of this. (The London School of Economics and Political Science – “*Parents still underestimate Internet risks*” – 21 July 2004).

A social networking site called Bebo suggests that if you are under the age of 21 you do not make your pages public.

According to police sources more than 50,000 sexual predators are thought to be online at any one time. (Paul Lewis, “*Teenage networking websites face anti-paedophile investigation*” Guardian, 3 July 2006). And of the eight million children in the UK with access to the Internet, one in twelve says they have gone to meet someone whom they initially encountered online. (ibid).

Sites such as YouTube allow access to much questionable content (without registration). Even when registration is required for certain content, the actual registration process relies upon the total honesty of the person registering.

So what can we do?

Here’s a few valuable tips:

1. Talk to your children. Be approachable. Cultivate an honest relationship.
2. Any computer with Internet access should be placed in a family room so that no child is ever left alone with Internet access.
3. Tell your children not to give out personal information such as email address and phone number to someone they do not know.
4. Encourage your children to use a nickname rather than their real name.
5. Tell your children to be careful not to give out their friends details.
6. Install filtering software (such as CyberPatrol), that prevents your teenager entering unsuitable sites, or use a filtered Internet service such as CleanWeb (<http://www.cleanweb.co.uk/>) or WebSpeed (<http://www.webspeed.net/>).

7. Explain to your children *why* rules are important so that when they go to a friend's house where there are no rules they know how to act responsibly.
8. Warn your teenager to be wary of somebody who wants to get too close too soon – e.g. asking for an address, phone number or photo.
9. Remind your child that they should never meet face to face with somebody they have only “met” online.
10. Warn them that somebody who asks them to keep their chats a secret is to be avoided immediately.

For further information, please read the book “Teenagers! What every parent *has* to know” by Rob Parsons, which I found very helpful for compiling the information in this article.

We as parents need to do our homework, get up to speed and get involved.

Emily Spanner

IMPORTANT-Warning..!!!!

Just last weekend on Friday night we parked in a public car park. As we drove away I noticed a sticker on the rear window of the car. When I took it off after I got home, it was a receipt for petrol. Luckily my friend told me not to stop as it could be someone waiting for me to get out of the car then we received this email yesterday.

WARNING FROM POLICE

THIS APPLIES TO BOTH WOMEN AND MEN BEWARE OF PAPER ON THE BACK WINDOW OF YOUR VEHICLE-- NEW WAY TO DO CARJACKINGS (NOT A JOKE)'

Heads up everyone! Please, keep this circulating. You walk across the car park, unlock your car and get inside. You start the engine put it into Reverse.

When you look into the rear view mirror to back out of your space, you notice a piece of paper stuck to the middle of the rear window. So, you stop and jump

out of your car to remove that paper (or whatever it is) that is obstructing your view. When you reach the back of your car, that is when the carjackers appear out of nowhere, jump into your car and take off. They practically run you over as they speed off in your car.

And guess what, ladies? I bet your purse is still in the car. So now the carjacker has your car, your home address, your money, and your keys. Your home and your whole identity are now compromised!

BEWARE OF THIS NEW SCHEME THAT IS NOW BEING USED.

If you see a piece of paper stuck to your back window, lock your doors and just drive away.

Remove the paper later. And be thankful that you read this. I hope you will tell this to your friends and family, especially to women. A purse contains all kinds of personal information and identification documents, and you certainly do NOT want this to fall into the wrong hands.

Please tell all your friends

SATURDAY SHOP

The Saturday Shop in October raised £249.25 and £287.72 in November for which thanks are given to God and to all who helped in so many different ways.

PLEASE NOTE – NEXT SATURDAY SHOP will be held on **SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER** in the Old School Hall, Garlinge from 10.00am.

Come early for some special **CHRISTMAS ATTRACTIONS.**



TO BE FRANK

At a school Nativity Play in Derby, three six year olds were cast as the Kings, Presenting their gifts at the stable, the first said: “Gold”, the second: “Myrrh, and the third: “And Frank sent this”. **Daily Telegraph**

ADVENT

Advent begins Sunday 29th November.

Advent is a term from the Latin word ‘adventus’ which means “arrival”.

It is a time of waiting for the arrival of **Christmas**, the coming of Jesus to earth when he was born as a baby at Bethlehem about two thousand years ago.

What is Advent?

Advent is the new year of the Christian Church and the church season that leads to Christmas Day.

Advent is the time when Christians remember that Jesus came into the world in Palestine 2000 years ago and that Jesus also promised one day to return in all His glory.

Clergy typically wear royal purple or royal blue vestments during Advent. Many churches also include an advent wreath (sometimes called an Advent ring or crown) in their Advent services.

The Christian Year

The Christian year follows the life of Jesus. It begins with Advent Sunday – which is the Christian church, is ‘New Year’s Day’. The most important day of the year will be Easter Sunday, the day on which Jesus came back to life – but before that festival, there will be other special days to look forward to. At the end of Advent, there will be Jesus’ birthday (Christmas Day).

When does Advent start?

Advent begins on the Sunday nearest to 30th November (St Andrew’s Day) and lasts until midnight on Christmas Eve. Advent Sunday is the first of the four Sundays before 25th December.

29 th November	First Sunday of Advent
6 th December	Second Sunday of Advent (St Nicolas Day)
13 th December	Third Sunday of Advent
20 th December	Fourth Sunday of Advent

What happens during Advent?

During the season of Advent, Christians across the world prepare for the celebration of the arrival of the Lord into the world through the birth of his Son Jesus Christ. Advent is a time to celebrate light in the midst of darkness. It is also a time to look forward to when Jesus will come a second time.

The beginning of Advent is when the preparations for Christmas really begin – the festive menu is planned, gifts are chosen and wrapped, carols sung, cards are written and posted and houses decorated.

History of Advent

In the 5th Century, Advent began on 11th November (St Martin’s Day) and took the form of a six week fast leading to Christmas. During the 6th Century, Advent was reduced to its current length and later the fasting was dropped.

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The Lord is our Rock

The LORD is our God
Can hear every word and praise
The thing that he hopes for us
Is that we are not going through a phase
We are his creation
We are also his sheep
He guides us with his mighty hand
He would like a good reaction
Everywhere you go in the city
You will hear the word of GOD
He is our GOD
He is our KING
The least we can do is thank him
Thank him for all he has done
We are all pitiful sinners
We've been given a wonderful son
We will stay with thee LORD
You are all that we need
I'm sure that you will help us
I hope so, yes indeed.

by Robert Bradley

BASED ON MATTHEW 26:33-46

What is this Grace, that shows
By scars etched deep in hands and feet,
The total love that Jesus bears
For us, the sinners who condemned him then
And even, do just the same,
In thought and deed near every day,
While trying to follow in his way.

This total love that never fails,
But seeks to let us know,
How much he cares and constant still,
Stays with us in our every need,
And even though we pity
Ourselves, when times are grim,
We hear the still small voice and trust in him.

If we look back before the world was formed,
Through length of time we cannot ever know,
Then in that nameless void God was,
And working to his perfect will,
Formed us in his own image
The grace that gave an independent will to man,
Oh love that was, before this world began.

**‘...I WISH TO GIVE TO THIS LAST MAN THE SAME AS TO YOU.’
Matthew 20:14 NKJV**

Jesus told the story of a farmer who hired day labourers: some at 6am, some at 9am, some at 12 noon, some at 3pm and some at 5pm, one hour before quitting time. Amazingly, he paid them all the same wage. When the complaints started flying, the farmer said, ‘I wish to give to this last man the same as to you.’ You say, ‘Nobody pays a day’s wage to one-hour workers.’ God does. Deathbed converts and lifelong saints enter heaven by the same gate. They don’t enjoy the same reward, but they’re saved by the same grace. A last minute confessor receives the same grace as a lifetime servant? It doesn’t seem fair. The workers in Jesus’ story complained too. So the farmer explained the prerogative of ownership: ‘Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me ...’ (Matt. 20:15 RSV). The thief on the cross proves that when you request grace with your dying breath, God answers your prayer. The Prodigal Son ‘...wasted his possessions...’ (Lk.15:13 NKJV). The Greek word for ‘wasted’ pictures a farmer throwing handfuls of seed into the ground. Imagine the Prodigal Son spurning his father’s kindness, going out and ‘throwing it all away’. But he returned. And when he did ‘... his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him’ (Lk15:20 NKJV). The Father was saving the son’s place. And He’s saving yours too. Eleventh hour grace means that if you’re able to read these words and respond, it’s not too late.

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I ASKED

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve:
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey ...
I asked for health, that I might do great things;
I was given illness that I might do better things.
I asked for riches, that I might be happy:
I was given poverty, that I might be wise ...
I asked for power, that I might have people’s praise:

I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God...
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life:
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things ...
I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayer was answered;
I am among all people most richly blessed.

An Anonymous Confederate Soldier

NEAT INFO...

This is really interesting

'Stewardesses' is the longest word typed with only the left hand. And
'lollipop' is the longest word typed with your right hand. (*Bet you tried this out mentally, didn't you?*)

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver or purple.
'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'mt'. (*Are you doubting this?*)

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.

The sentence: 'The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog' uses every letter of the alphabet. (*Now, you KNOW you're going to try this out for accuracy, right?*)

The words, 'racecar', 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes). (*Yep, I know you were going to 'do' this one.*)

There are only four words in the English language which end in 'dous': tremendous, horrendous, stupendous and hazardous. (*You're not doubting this are you?*)

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: 'abstemious' and 'facetious'. (*Yes, admit it, you are going to say a,e,i,o,u*)

Typewriter is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard. (*All typists are going to test this out*)

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear. A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.

A 'jiffy' is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes. A snail can sleep for three years. (*I know some people that could do this too!*)

Almonds are a member of the peach family. An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite! Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.

The cruise liner, QE2 moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.

There are more chickens than people in the world.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

Now you know more than you did before!!

Do YOU BELIEVE THIS?

A girl went to her friend's house and she ended up staying longer than planned and had to walk home alone. She wasn't afraid because it was a small community and she lived only a few blocks away. As she walked along under the bike trail Diane asked God to keep her safe from harm and danger.

When she reached the alley, which was a shortcut to her house, she decided to take it. However, halfway down the alley she noticed a man standing at the end as though he were waiting for her.

She became uneasy and began to pray, asking for God's protection.

Instantly a comforting feeling of quietness and security wrapped round her, she felt as though someone was walking with her. When she reached the end of the alley, she walked right past the man and arrived home safely

The following day, she read in the newspaper that a young girl had been raped in the same alley just twenty minutes after she had been there. Feeling overwhelmed by this tragedy and the fact that it could have been her, she began to weep.

Thanking the Lord for her safety and to help this young woman, she decided to go to the police station. She felt sure she could recognise the man, so she told them her story.

The police asked her if she would be willing to look at a line-up to see if she could identify him. She agreed and immediately pointed out the man she had seen in the alley the night before.

When the man was told he had been identified, he immediately broke down and confessed.

The officer thanked Diane for her bravery and asked if there was anything they could do for her. She asked if they would ask the man one question. Diane was curious as to why he had not attacked her.

When the policeman asked him, he answered, "Because she wasn't alone. She had two tall men walking on either side of her".

Amazingly whether you believe or not, you're not alone. People will not stand up for God ..

PS God is always there in your heart and loves you no matter what: "If you deny me in front of your friends, I shall deny you in front of my Father".

STAND UP FOR HIM

DECEMBER 2009

Tuesday 1 st)	
Wednesday 2 nd)	Home Bible Study Groups (<i>whatever date and</i>
Thursday 3 rd)	<i>time have been arranged for your Group)</i>
Thursday 3 rd	10.15 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre
Saturday 5 th	10.00 am	Saturday Shop, Old School Hall
Sunday 6th	8.00 am	Morning Service
	10.30 am	Morning Service with the Lord's Supper
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Tuesday 8 th	12.00 noon	Garlinge Lunch, Old School Hall
Wednesday 9 th	8.00 pm	Focus on Prayer, Church Centre
Thursday 10 th	10.15 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
Sunday 13th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Christingle Family Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Monday 14 th	10.00 am	Living Stones Bible Study Group, 1 Oak Tree Grove
Thursday 17 th	10.15 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre
	7.00 pm	Family Carol Service, Garlinge Primary School
Sunday 20th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Carols by Candlelight
Monday 21 st	2.30 pm	Friendship Club: Christmas Carols and Party, Church Centre
Thursday 24 th	11.15 pm	Christmas Eve Lord's Supper
Friday 25 th	10.30 am	Christmas Day Family Service, followed by shortened Lord's Supper
Sunday 27th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service

JANUARY 2010

Sunday 3 rd	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service with the Lord's Supper
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Tuesday 5 th)	
Wednesday 6 th)	Home Bible Study Groups (<i>whatever date and time have been arranged for your Group</i>)
Thursday 7 th)	
Thursday 7 th	10.15 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre
Saturday 9 th	10.00 am	Saturday Shop, Old School Hall
Sunday 10th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Bereavement Service
Tuesday 12 th	12.00 noon	Garlinge Lunch, Old School Hall
	7.30 pm	PCC, Church Centre
Wednesday 13 th	8.00 pm	Bible Study: "Bold I approach: the Why and How of Prayer" – pt.3: "What use is talk?", Church Centre
Thursday 14 th	10.15 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
Sunday 17th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service with the Lord's Supper
Monday 18 th	2.30 pm	Friendship Club: "Wellbeing" (Sandy Prynne), Church Centre
Wednesday 20 th	8.00 pm	Focus on Prayer, Church Centre
Thursday 21 st	10.15 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre
Sunday 24th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Monday 25 th	10.00 am	Living Stones Bible Study Group, 1 Oak Tree Grove
Tuesday 26 th	8.00 pm	Garlinge Outreach Team, Church Centre
Thursday 28 th	10.15 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
Sunday 31st	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service