

# WHAT'S ON

in

# APRIL

The Monthly Newsletter of The Free Church (United Reformed)  
St Ives and Fenstanton URC Church

## Thoughts from Pete...



At Easter we hear that Jesus died for the sins of the world but what does that mean? The word 'sin' is one I think many of us feel uncomfortable using and tend to avoid. If we were asked to define what sin is, what would we say? Having asked myself that question, I would say that it is 'the things we do, or fail to do, which then then risk causing harm to others or to ourselves'. How does that differ from what you would say?

I think that the perception amongst many people is that all religions, including Christianity, have a list of arbitrary and impossible to keep rules which followers are then made to feel guilty about for not being able to keep. I do hope that is a misconception we can help to correct. There is something in our human nature which tempts us to downplay our own failings but highlight the failings of others. Throughout history, those in power have often seemed only too willing to overlook the serious failings they have, and the harmful consequences on others, while being happy to encourage punishments of minor failings amongst those whom they have power over. Jesus' well-known teaching in Matthew 7:5 'You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye' has so often been ignored.

The story of Holy Week (Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday) includes the story of Jesus 'clearing the Temple'. In the gospels we so often hear of Jesus responding so calmly to failings of those he meets but, in this story, we hear of him displaying 'righteous anger'. The rules which had been put in place by those in power were making it difficult for ordinary people to come and worship God. In Every Day with Jesus last week, we read that 'this story shows us something very important about Jesus; anything that is an obstacle to people approaching the Father is at risk of his wrath'.

Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and the whole gospel story is about God's love for us and his encouragement for us to grow in that love and reflect it in our relationships with those around us.

This Easter maybe we can find time to be honest with ourselves about our own failings, more understanding of the failings of others and more determined that our views, words and actions are not an obstacle to all those who would like to know God better.

## Services this month

### THE FREE CHURCH, ST IVES

2nd Apr 7pm	Revd Alison Davis Holy Communion
5th Apr Easter Sunday	Revd Lythan Nevard Holy Communion
12th Apr	Revd Heather Walker
19th Apr	Alison Jiggins
26th Apr	Revd Christine Davies

### FENSTANTON URC CHURCH

3rd Apr 3pm	Revd Christine Davies
5th Apr	Revd Christine Davies Holy Communion
12th Apr	Faith Paulding
19th Apr	Revd Alison Davis
26th Apr	Revd Chris Baker

## What's on in APRIL

Mon - Sat	10:00 - 10:15	Chapel Prayers
Mon - Sat (not Thurs)	09:45 - 14:00	Tookey's Café
Mondays	09:30 - 13:45	Tookey's Snack Bar
Sundays	11:00 - 12:00	Worship
Wed 1st	10:00 - 11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	11:00 - 13:00	U3A Current Affairs
	14:00 - 16:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thu 2nd	09:15 - 13:30	Shirley's Community Coffee Shop
	10:00 - 12:00	U3A Beginners Italian
	19:00 - 21:00	WI
Sat 4th	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters
Tue 7th	13:15	Thanksgiving Service for Sally Banks
	19:00 - 21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 8th	14:00 - 16:00	Senior Citizens Club
	19:00 - 20:00	Disco Moves
	20:00 - 21:00	Mamas Who Move
Mon 13th	19:00 - 21:00	Indoor Bowls
Tue 14th	10:00 - 12:00	Dementia Café
	15:30 - 16:30	U3A Beginners Latin
	19:00 - 21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 15th	10:00 - 11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	11:00 - 13:00	U3A Current Affairs
	14:00 - 16:00	Senior Citizens
	19:00 - 21:00	HRAA Gardening Club
	19:00 - 20:00	Disco Moves
	20:00 - 21:00	Pop Moves
Thu 16th	09:15 - 13:30	Shirley's Community Coffee Shop
	09:45 - 10:45	Sunny Steps
	10:00 - 12:00	U3A Beginners Italian
Fri 17th	10:00 - 12:00	U3A Local History
	19:30 - 21:00	Civic Society Open Meeting
Tue 21st	15:30 - 16:30	U3A Beginners Latin
	19:00 - 21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 22nd	10:00 - 11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	14:00 - 16:00	Senior Citizens Club
	19:00 - 20:00	Disco Moves
	20:00 - 21:00	Mamas Who Move
Thu 23rd	09:45 - 10:45	Sunny Steps
	14:30	St Ives Free Church Poetry Group
Fri 24th	13:00 - 14:00	COSI Lunchtime Concert: trumpet&piano
Tue 28th	15:30 - 16:30	U3A Beginners Latin
	19:00 - 21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 29th	10:00 - 11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	14:00 - 16:00	Senior Citizens
	19:00 - 21:00	RSPB
	19:00 - 20:00	Disco Moves
	20:00 - 21:00	Pop Moves
Thu 30th	09:45 - 10:45	Sunny Steps
	10:00 - 11:00	U3A Beginners Italian

### Contacts

For a fuller list of contact details, please visit the contacts page of our website

#### Church Office

Sarah Bateman 468535  
[office@stivesfreechurch.org](mailto:office@stivesfreechurch.org)

Open 9.15am - 1.15pm  
Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri  
and 9am - 12pm Thursdays

*Room bookings should be made through the Church Office*

#### Minster:

Rev Alison Davis 01480 763034  
[davisalisonm7@gmail.com](mailto:davisalisonm7@gmail.com)

#### Pastoral Network Co-ordinator

Freda Barnard 374212

#### Church Secretary

Christine Macleod  
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#### Media Communications and Website

Peter Davies 495835  
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#### Finance and Property Convenor

Esmond Edwards 07908 069161

#### Fenstanton Church Secretary

Geoffrey Hawkins 462001

### TOOKEY'S CAFE

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Could you help out in our friendly cafe?



We're seeking for volunteers for Tookey's cafe!



✓ Work on a weekly or a monthly basis on the same day or be a reserve if someone is unable to do their shift due to unforeseen circumstances.

✓ Staff always work in twos and will receive training from an experienced volunteer

✓ There are two shifts daily:  
**Monday 9.30-11.30 and 11.30-2pm**, (no cooking required, no handling of money, simply writing food orders to give to paid staff.)  
**Tuesday- Saturday (NOT Thursday) 9.30 - 12pm and 12 - 2pm.**  
Allow time for setting up and clearing away.

If you are able to volunteer or know any family or friends who could help please contact

**Pat Clarke 07876354442**