



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

## Thoughts for the month ahead.

### *View from the Manse...*



#### *Promise of Spring*

Pale winter sun,  
flooding the earth with your light,  
gilding the bare trees with your touch.  
Your eyes have seen the glory of the Lord.

Low white candles of hope  
palely gleaming in the dark earth,  
your coming heralds the promise of Spring.  
Your green hearts speak of God's renewing love.

Son of God,  
show us the way.  
Light our path.

Lead us through this Lenten desert to Easter with you,  
beyond the pain of loss and fear.  
Lead us in new ways of trusting service.

*Kate McIlhagga*

February is a month of patience and hope with longer days and hints of Spring to come. In many ways our church life seems to be in the month of February. We have survived the winter of Covid lockdowns, with many of us become older and less physically strong and now we are smaller in number, but have returned to worship and fellowship together, and remain strong in heart and faith.

Sadly, we say goodbye to our Just Sharing Shop this month, with its amazing ministry of demonstrating the benefits of fairer trade in our world. We have enjoyed the blessings of the many handmade gifts and give thanks for the staff and volunteers who have served us so well over the past twenty-five or so years.

We wait for renewal and new life and are beginning to see signs of new life in our church. How will we use the shop space? We take encouragement in the green shoots of three younger families attending our worship, and the blessing of the presence of friends from the Dolphin Hotel who have become members of our fellowship. As well we have a new student intern, Joe, on his Living Ministry placement with us.



### Services this month:

#### THE FREE CHURCH, ST IVES

**5th Feb** **Revd Dr Catherine Ball**

**Holy Communion**

**12th Feb** **Christine Macleod**

**19th Feb** **Revd Dr Catherine Ball**

**22nd Feb** **Revd Dr Catherine Ball**

**26th Feb** **Revd Dr Catherine Ball**

#### FENSTANTON URC CHURCH

**5th Feb** **Christine Davies**

**12th Feb** **Revd Dr Catherine Ball**

**Holy Communion**

**19th Feb** **Revd Dr Catherine Ball**

**26th Feb** **Christine Macleod**

It is an exciting time to look forward to new opportunities for witness and mission in our town and we trust that God's Spirit will continue to lead us in the coming months as we seek to be God's faithful people in our unsettled times. May we be confident of the light of Christ as our guide.

Yours in Christ,

Catherine



## What's on in

### FEBRUARY



Mon - Sat	10:00 - 10:15	Chapel Prayers
Mon - Sat (not Thu)	10:00 - 15:00	Just Sharing shop
Mon - Sat (not Thu)	09:45 - 14:00	Tookeys Café
Mondays	09:30 - 13:30	Tookeys Snack Bar
Mondays	19:00	Indoor Bowls Club
Wednesdays	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers baby group
Sundays	11:00	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 Coffee Shop
	12:00 - 14:00	Keep Fit FaME ( <i>Falls Management Exercise</i> )
	14:30 - 16:00	Migrant Welcome Group
	19:30 - 22:00	WI
Fri 3rd	09:00 - 16:00	CGL
Sat 4th	10:00 - 15:00	Saints Crafters
	10:00 - 12:45	Diabetes Prevention Group
	15:00 - 17:00	Tookeys Volunteers Tea Party
Mon 6th	10:30 - 12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group
Tue 7th	19:00 - 21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 8th	10:00 - 11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	14:00 - 16:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thu 9th	12:00 - 14:00	Keep Fit FaME ( <i>Falls Management Exercise</i> )
	14:30 - 16:00	Migrant Welcome Group
Fri 10th	09:00 - 17:00	CGL

Mon 13th	10:30 - 12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group
Tue 14th	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 Club
	19:30 - 22:00	HRAA St Ives Gardening Club
Thu 16th	12:00 - 14:00	Keep Fit FaME ( <i>Falls Management Exercise</i> )
	14:30 - 16:00	Migrant Welcome Group
Fri 17th	09:00 - 17:00	CGL
Sat 18th	10:00 - 12:45	Diabetes Prevention Group
Mon 20th	10:30 - 12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group
Tue 21st	10:00 - 12:00	Dementia Cafe
	12:00 - 14:00	Diabetes Prevention Group
	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	RSPB
Thu 23rd	09:30 - 13:15	Diabetes Prevention
	12:00 - 14:00	Keep Fit FaME ( <i>Falls Management Exercise</i> )
	14:30	St Ives Free Church Poetry Group
	14:30 - 16:00	Migrant Welcome Group
Fri 24th	09:00 - 17:00	CGL
Sat 25th	09:30 - 12:30	Diabetes Prevention Group
	10:00 - 17:00	St Ives Photographic Club Interprint Competition
Mon 27th	10:30 - 12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group
Tue 28th	19:00 - 21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 29th	10:00 - 11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	11:00 - 13:00	U3A Current Affairs
	14:00 - 16:00	Senior Citizens Club



Hello!!!

My name is Joseph Amoah, and I am your trainee minister this year. It is with such great joy to be joining you for this period. I thought I'll share a bit about myself and, hopefully, will get to meet you.

My country of origin is Ghana, West Africa, where I was born but moved to Hackney, East London, when I was nine years old.

I previously studied Computer Science and Business in Birmingham, which is slightly different from Theology, lol. Then I worked briefly in Tech for a transport company; I've also worked in IT whilst giving talks and workshops in schools, colleges, and Universities. I love God passionately and want to share Him with others, so I was called into ministry and started my training in 2019. I wrote my dissertation on the contribution of small groups to discipleship. So you may guess that I love small groups and helping others connect and deepen their relationship with God.

### Contacts

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

#### Minister

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#### Church Office

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Room bookings should be made through the Church Office

#### Church Secretary

David Duffett 395308

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Peter Davies 495835

Finance and Property Convenor

Peter German 352401

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Geoffrey Hawkins 462001

The Free Church is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

I love playing and watching football. I am a BIG Arsenal fan, whoop whoop! Praying we win the Premier League this year. But, yeah, lovely to meet you. Joseph