

International Centre for Eye Health (ICEH)
Situated in the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Health

A big thank you to the congregation of St John the Baptist for donating the Coffee Cup Collection to the ICEH

The ICEH is a global network, delivering excellence in research, education and capacity to improve eye health worldwide through collaborative partnerships.

Low and middle-income countries experience most of the vision loss but have fewer trained healthcare professionals to deal with the problem. One of the programmes of the ICEH is the very successful VISION 2020 LINKS & Networks Programme, which aims to build long-term partnerships between eye care institutions in the UK and those in low and middle-income countries.

Clare Davey ran the LINK between Mulago Hospital, Kampala, Uganda and the Royal Free Hospital, London, between 2010 and 2020. Do look at the display of photographs at the back of the church which have been kindly provided by Terry Cooper who joined the LINK team in 2015 as project manager and photographer and in a survey of diabetic retinopathy.

It's measuring time!



Come along to the Methodist chapel on **Saturday 5th October** with those pumpkins you have been nurturing all summer since they were seedlings. **Tea and cakes from 2pm.**

There is a prize for the largest circumference (not weight) and the great measuring is at 4pm

Even if you did not grow a pumpkin, do come along for a fun afternoon and to support **FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE HOSPICE.**

	Network Name:	We now accept online donations. You can donate at:	
	SJB Congregation		
	Password:	www.stonedintonhartwell.com/donate	
	StJohnBaptist		

Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves: drphilgroves@gmail.com 01296 748390
Benefice office: office@wychertvale.org 01844 291108
Website: www.stonedintonhartwell.com
Pewsheets: pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE



Sunday 29th September



Notices for the week

Our church is a member of the Wychert Vale family of churches

Services TODAY

11:00am **SONGS OF PRAISE!** at the chapel



A united service with well-loved hymns chosen by members of the chapel and the church. **There is no service in SJB.**

Services next week

9:00am **MATINS** led by David Pickup

10:30am **HARVEST FESTIVAL** with choir
led by Revd Phil Groves

Your Harvest gift offerings will be taken to the Aylesbury Vineyard Church foodbank. They are particularly asking for the following:

**Tinned Meat - Spreads (Jam etc) - UHT Milk - Instant Noodles
- Pasta Sauces - Rice & individual Microwave Rice**

The week ahead

Tue 1st 11:00am
7:30pm

CAFÉ IN THE PARK in the Jubilee Pavilion
CHOIR PRACTICE at 29b Eythrope Road

Thurs 3rd 9:00am

LITTLE WRIGGLERS in the Jubilee Pavilion

Sat 5th 10:00am
10:30am
5:30pm

CAFÉ IN THE PARK in the Jubilee Pavilion
CHOIR PRACTICE in the church
SUPPER AND GRAFFITI in the church

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James 5:13-20

The prayer of faith

¹³ Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you ill? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

¹⁷ Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. ¹⁸ Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

¹⁹ My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, ²⁰ remember this: whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

This week we are taking a break from the gospel reading and looking instead at the epistle reading set for the day. The word 'epistle' means 'letter' and in the New Testament there are twenty one letters written by the apostles to various churches or individuals. This letter, written by James, gives practical advice to Jewish Christians 'scattered abroad' on how to live for Christ. These are the closing verses of the letter, and they remind us of the importance of prayer.

We all experience times of trouble, times of joy, and times of illness. Also, we all make mistakes or bad choices from time to time. When we pray we can bring all of these to God so we no longer feel weighed down by them. God is always ready to hear our prayers for ourselves and for each other. There is no wrong way to pray if we genuinely open our heart to God.

Our prayers may be answered straight away, but often they are not. We must wait. We might feel as though nothing is happening, or wonder if God heard us. Yet when we look back, we can see he was helping us all along, and our prayers may have already been answered in unexpected ways. Some people like to keep a diary of their prayer requests so they can look back and see how God has helped them. When we can look back like this, we learn to trust in Him even more when we face future challenges or uncertainties.

NOTE: Elijah prayed for no rain in 1 Kings 17 and prayed again for rain in 1 Kings 18. It is an amazing story and is well worth reading both chapters in their entirety.

Richard Smith will also be dipping into the Book of Kings again in our next 'Unpacking the Bible' study group at 8:00pm on **10th October**.

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Supper and Graffiti

If you are thinking of coming along on Saturday 5th October 5.30pm to celebrate Harvest, and to look at the Ancient Graffiti in our church, then please add your name to the list in the porch, for catering purposes.

Supper will be Soup and Roll after which there will be a short talk about Ancient Graffiti, followed by cake and a hot drink. Then there will be a chance for you to find the graffiti in our church for yourself and to try and decipher it.



YOU WILL BE AMAZED AT WHAT YOU SEE!!

For catering purposes please contact us if you know you would like to come, or just turn up and we'll try to make plenty of soup and cakes!

s.birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com Tel: 01296 338163

IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE OFFER ON THE SHEET IN THE PORCH.

PLEASE TAKE A POSTER/FLYER TO ADVERTISE THIS EVENT. THANK YOU.

A prayerful response to the escalating violence in the Middle East



*Pray not for Arab or Jew,
for Palestinian or Israeli,
but pray rather for ourselves,
that we might not
divide them in our prayers
but keep them both together
in our hearts.
When races fight,
peace be among us.
When neighbours argue,
peace be among us.
When nations disagree,
peace be among us.
Where people struggle for justice,
let justice prevail.
Where Christ's disciples follow,
let peace be our way.
Amen*

(from Christian Aid resources)

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