



All Saints

Shooters Hill

www.allsaintsshootershill.org

Newsletter

October 2017

Breakthrough

I hope we all had a wonderful summer break, and we give thanks to the Lord for all the experiences we went through these last months. Now that we are back to normal routine, this month is the most important month of our life. The steps we take, the challenges we meet, and the decisions we make will determine what happen to us for the rest of this remaining season.

So where do we go from here, as we begin to realise the responsibilities we have to take for ourselves, our families, our churches and the community to make the breakthrough we are all aiming for? I think we all need first of all to take a complete inventory of our lives, like the trees who are busy doing it now, by decluttering those parts that have past their usefulness like the leaves and dry branches.

Many of us in these last months, have accumulated so many things that are cluttering our lives. Things like bad attitudes, bad languages, bad friends, injustice, tradition, religion, love of money and riches, selfish ambition, pride, bitterness, sexual immorality, unforgiveness, malicious gossip, and many more in (Romans 13:12-13; 1 Cor. 6:9-19; Eph.5:5; Rev.22:15) etc. What Paul called garbage {Philippians 3:8} that has become a yoke around our neck, making us powerless to make any breakthrough in anything. Our prayers are shallow; relationship with Christ is all but by name; relationship in the family, at work, with friends, at church feels like a burden, and we are drowning out the love for Christ in our lives.

Why are we holding onto this garbage when we know the word of God says it hinders us from the love of Christ? Some of us have made it our goal to clutter every room in our hearts with an attitude of unforgiveness for things someone did to us many moons ago. No wonder we see no growth in our own relationship with God because there is so much garbage cluttering the eyes of our hearts from seeing what God desires to happen in our lives to bring about the breakthrough we aim for in our health, opportunities, finances, discipleship, families, churches, dreams coming to pass, love for God and neighbours, prayer life, etc.

Nothing will ever change in our lives unless we have the desire to declutter all this out-dated garbage we are holding onto so closely. God has planted a seed for more abundant, more vigorous, and richer life in each one of us, and it is upon each of us to fan this flame of spiritual desire day in and day out to make it stronger. But desire alone is not enough. We all desire to be winners but unless we do something about it, it will remain a desire. Our desire must go hand in hand with knowledge; that God wants our devotion to him to be pure and wholehearted, and this comes only through walking in his Spirit that will guide, inspire, sustain, train and empower us to remove this clutter from hearts

All Saints Church exists to help people live the best life possible through our commitment to serving God, the community and one another.

and replace it with the righteousness of God that brings a gift of salvation, and of love, joy, peace...self-control {Gal.5:22-23}. The quest of the Holy Spirit is a growing process, and requires action on our part by remaining steadfast on the path to which our feet have been guided, because we will find the treasure of life that brings abundance of every good thing life can offer.

Let's step into Apostle Paul's shoes this October and throw overboard all the old bad religious and traditions that are blocking our breakthrough and drowning us; **compared to knowing Christ intimately.**

True fellowship with Christ includes experiencing and appreciating the benefits he offers to us when we remove the clutter holding us down. That is what salvation is all about, and we receive it when **we walk in the Spirit, in the light, and by faith in Christ**, not by following traditions or religion. This is what is called spiritual decluttering so that God can bless us because there is room for those blessings in our hearts.

May you desire to please God and put your faith in Christ, because anyone who is in Christ becomes a new person, the old untidiness, messiness, disorder, confusion, litter, disarray, muddle, junkiness downing him/her are now thrown overboard; and replaced by the **Holy Spirit, the new righteousness of God**, that brings special valuable gift of **salvation** and of **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control**, into your life; this gift doesn't drown you but make your life smell nice, beautiful and fruitful.

Like David we pray that Christ may teach us his ways and remove the clutter that is stopping us from receiving the Lord's blessing; so that we may have the smile of joy again in our lives and begin to see the transformation God desires for us and this community. Amen.

Rev. Herbert Aparanga

All Saints PCC Wednesday 6 September 2017

Minutes: The minutes of the previous two meetings were agreed. It was agreed to put a notice on the door to request that latecomers wait outside during quieter parts of the service and to ask sidespeople to remind people. People should be encouraged to take the weekly leaflet home.

Safeguarding training: Linda told people about safeguarding training at Christchurch Shooters Hill. Linda will book in those interested in attending.

A season of celebration: We are planning special services and events during the autumn. Please put them on your calendar and invite your friends, neighbours and relatives

- Harvest – 1st October followed by bring and share harvest lunch
- All Saints Day Service – 5th November
- Greenwich Concert Band Concert – 11th November 7:30pm
- Remembrance Sunday – 12th November 10:30
- Film Night – 18th November at 7pm
- Advent Sunday (including shoe boxes) – 3rd December
- All Saints Christmas party – 2nd December (time to be arranged)
- Children's Christmas service – 10th December – service led by the Sunday School
- Carol Service – 17th December at 4pm followed by mince pies and refreshments
- Midnight Communion – 24th December at 11.30pm
- Christmas Day – Family Service followed by shortened Communion

Finances: Geoff said we were in a fairly secure position at the moment though we have plumbing and electrical work and blinds to fit and that could cost up to £3000. Clearing the back of the church cost about £1000 including hire of the skip. Herbert will arrange for us to get advice about stewardship.

Hall lettings: Ripplings' have requested to go to 30 hours per week so the Hall is now being used from 6am until 6pm most weekdays in term time. We need to make sure we are available for community activities like Children's parties, on Saturdays so as to maintain our profile of community use – necessary for some applications for grants etc.

We discovered that we would need planning permission and a faculty for a ramp so we were not able to proceed in the time frame of the grant.

Music and worship: All the old hymnbooks have been replaced. We are designing Service Books that will contain all our regular services and we hope to have those printed later in the autumn.

The church's sound system continues to cause problems. It was agreed that we get two specialist firms to advise on what would be needed to replace the current system.

Buildings: The gutters and downpipes have been cleaned professionally. John is going to repair the down pipe by the church door which needs a new bracket. The leaded windows are bowing and need attention. Linda has found two possible companies and will invite them in for advice and quotes. The Diocesan Advisory Committee is coming to visit local Church buildings at the end of September and we will be hosting refreshments.

Hall repairs: The back of the church has been cleared. The plumbing in the hall needs repair. We now have a plumber who will repair it over half term when the hall is free. We need to replace the hall lights but need to finalise the arrangements for doing this. We will fix blinds to the high-level windows to prevent glare in the afternoons

War memorial plaque: The estimated cost given by the restorer is £1570. Linda has received a letter from the War Memorials Trust offering us a grant of 75%. The balance needs to be raised by us. We hope that most of this can be raised through the concert. An application for faculty to allow us to place the plaque has been made to the DAC. We anticipate a favourable response.

Concert band: Geoff suggests we charge £10 per adult, in line with other GCB concerts. Children would be free but parents would be asked to ensure that they do not spoil the enjoyment of others. One of the trumpeters would play the last post from the balcony. The British Legion might be prepared to send a representative. Linda was thanked for all her hard work on this. Invitation would be sent to the Mayor and the local councillors.

Social events: We will have a Harvest bring-and-share lunch on 1 October after the Harvest Service, a film night on 18th November with jacket potatoes and chilli, beans, cheese and a Christmas party on 2nd December

Update on Vicarage site and New Hall: Vicarage plans have been submitted but so far there has been no response from Greenwich. A letter is to be sent to Bishop Christopher regarding Herbert and the prospect of spending another winter in unsuitable accommodation.

Roger Molyneux's first draft feasibility report on a new hall has been received. The PCC looked at Roger's two suggested ideas and initial discussions took place. Roger included a list of steps to take this forward. A PCC meeting on 18th October was arranged to consider the plans more fully. A small committee might be the best way to take this forward.

Rotas: Kathy has updated these and they are available in Church.

Mission Action Plan: Focussing on welcoming was suggested. Herbert circulated the Southwark Vision 2017-25 and shared the statistical dashboard for the parish. We need a meeting to discuss this too. Herbert will circulate his thoughts.

AOB: Linda is organising a women's sanitary waste bin to be provided for the Ladies WC at the back of the hall. Herbert raised the issue of planning for successors as Church Wardens for Linda and Geoff.

Date of next meetings:

PCC: Special meeting to discuss the Hall feasibility study: Wednesday 18th October at 8pm in the Vicarage

Full PCC: Wednesday 15th November at 8pm in the Vicarage

Church Office

For information about activities at All Saints (including weddings and baptisms) please contact the Priest in Charge, Revd Herbert Aparanga.

To get it touch with Revd Herbert Aparanga please email

vicar@allsaintsshootershill.org, write to him at 106 Herbert Road

London SE18 3PU, call at the **Church** on any **Friday morning** between

10am – 11am (if the church door is closed look for the bell) or phone **020 8854 2995** (but this will only be answered and messages listened to on Friday mornings). General enquiries should be sent to **office@allsaintsshootershill.org**

For Hall Bookings see allsaintsshootershill.org and follow the links.



All Saints Shooters Hill: October 2017

We warmly welcome you to our Sunday Services

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:7

1 October 2017 10:30 AM	16th Trinity Holy Communion - Harvest Sunday Led by: Rev Herbert Aparanga Reader: R Taylor: Deuteronomy 8:7-18, Luke 12:13-21 Prayers: N Nelson Sidespeople: K Endelay, H Nwolu Refreshments: P Sheath, N Nelson
8 October 2017 10:30 AM	17th Trinity Service of the Word - Spirit of Conspiracy! Led by: Rev Herbert Aparanga Reader: H Nwolu, Philemon 1:8-19, Hebrews 13:1-8 Prayers: P Sheath Sidespeople: M Popoola, B Jatta, Refreshments: M Akpewrene, J Anyasi
15 October 2017 10:30 AM	18th Trinity Holy Communion - Spirit of Service! Led by: Rev Herbert Aparanga Reader: J McQuillen, Philippians 2:1-11, John 13:1-15 Prayers: L Bailey Sidespeople: P Sheath, A Baxter Refreshments: M Popoola, B Jatta
22 October 2017 10:30 AM	19th Trinity Family Service - A Friend who stick by You! Led by: Rev Herbert Aparanga Reader: M Popoola, Proverbs 18:24, Joshua 1:5, Prayers: R Taylor Sidespeople: L Bailey, J Anyasi, Refreshments: S Okolie, C Naefulu
29 October 2017 10:30 AM	20th Trinity Morning Prayer (BCP) - Spirit of Power! Led by: Geoff Sheath, Preacher: Colin Wilkinson Reader: L Bailey, 2 Timothy 1:1-14, Mark 11:27-33, Prayers: J McQuillen Sidespeople: N Nelson, S Nwolu, Refreshments: F Olarewaju, K Byfield

Please let Kathy Byfield know if you are unable to do any duties: pat.kat17@ntlworld.com

Weekdays in October (and some in November)

Church office and cleaning group Every Friday at 10am in Church

Tue	3 Oct 2017	8:00 pm	Bible Study at the Vicarage
Tue	10 Oct 2017	8:00 pm	Prayer group at the Vicarage
Tue	17 Oct 2017	8:00 pm	Bible Study at the Vicarage
Wed	18 Oct 2017	8:00 pm	PCC Building meeting at the Vicarage
Sat	11 Nov 2017	7:30 pm	Greenwich Concert Band in Church
Sat	18 Nov 2017	7:00 pm	Family film night (with baked potatoes)

Saturday November 11th at 7:30pm

Memorial Concert

To raise funds to restore the church's memorial to the dead of the Parish in World War 1

Tickets available shortly in church or at goo.gl/Q4hjR4