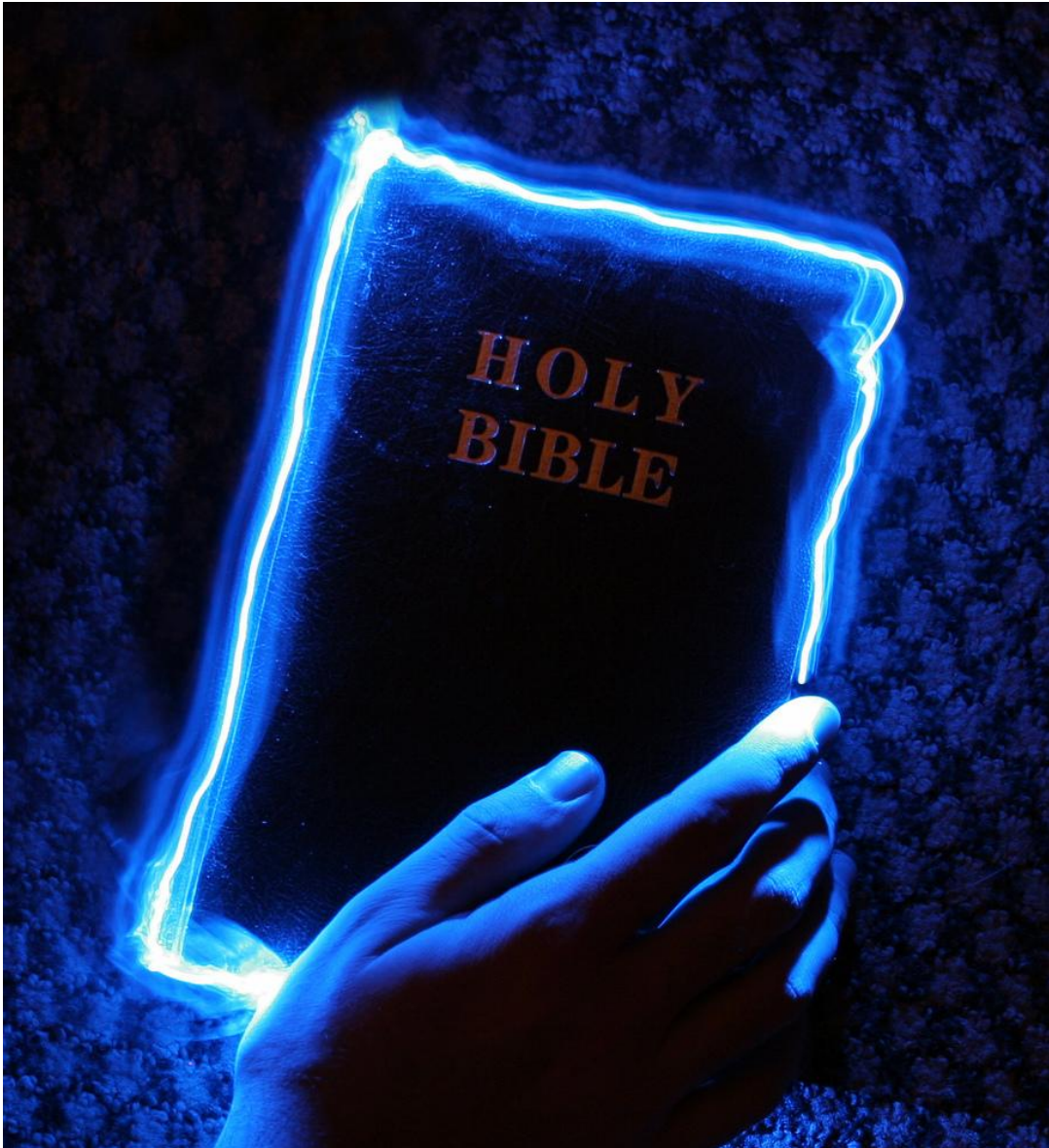




King's Baptist Church
ANNUAL REPORT
2010/2011



Making Him known...

Senior Minister's Report

Dear Friends,

I always like to read through all the AGM reports, before writing my Senior Minister's report, for I am always blessed and encouraged as I do so, and this year is no different. Having read this years AGM report all I can say is 'praise God for his faithfulness and his continued blessing towards us'. I was so encouraged as I read through each of the reports that tell of people meeting powerfully with God and growing closer to him. It was great to read all about what God is doing with the youth and children, to read accounts of people who have not yet made a commitment to Jesus being challenged with the gospel and of the church at Fairfield growing and reaching out to its community. I just love being amongst a people who want to serve God with all their lives.

Seeing God move powerfully amongst us has been one of the many blessings that I have experienced in the years that I have been fortunate enough to serve at King's Baptist Church. It has always been a hallmark of this church that the everyone wants to serve and bless God, and it has been such a privilege to be apart of this church since 1993. Over the years I have appreciated the way that you love to worship God and have always tried to be open to the leading and prompting of the Holy Spirit. I have been encouraged by the way that you

are willing to respond to any faith challenge that God sets you. Seeing what God has done in and through the churches at Letchworth, Sandy and now Fairfield, will be something that I will always treasure.

To see the way that you have taken risks and stepped out in faith has been breath-taking at times and has resulted in people getting saved, growing closer to God and churches being either restored or birthed. Another thing that has always blessed me is the way that you welcome and respond to people that God has sent our way over the years. You have always been willing to show them the love of God and to make sure that each and every visitor can meet with him.

As most of you know by now Rachel and I have felt the call of God to move on from King's Baptist Church, and it was after much prayer and with a great deal of sadness that we responded to God's prompting and started to look for a new ministry. We will be very sad to leave you all, as we have had such a great time while serving and worshipping with you.

Over the years I have seen the church grow; and I have seen people step out in new ministries as we have sought to be a kingdom people. We have seen many hundreds of children come through holiday club and then seen a few grow up and

bring their own children (does that make me old?) Pauline Wade and I have done countless school assemblies and have had the privilege of sharing the love of God with thousands of children, and at the same time we have tried to fit in fifteen laughs a day for the last eighteen years. However, my greatest joy has been seeing people come to faith in Jesus.

Whilst being the senior minister it has been a great joy to see you all grow closer to God and to see the depth of your relationship with him grow. You really have been such a pleasure to lead. Thank you so much for all your love, prayers and encouragement and for allowing me to become all that God has planned for me

On a personal note I'd like to thank Rachel and the boys for putting up with countless evenings while I have been out at meetings, for the times when I have been home late for tea and for generally sharing me with the church family. They have never moaned or made a fuss and I am so very thankful that each one of them knows and loves Jesus as their Lord and Saviour,

The last eighteen years have been such fun, thank you for all that each one of you means to me.

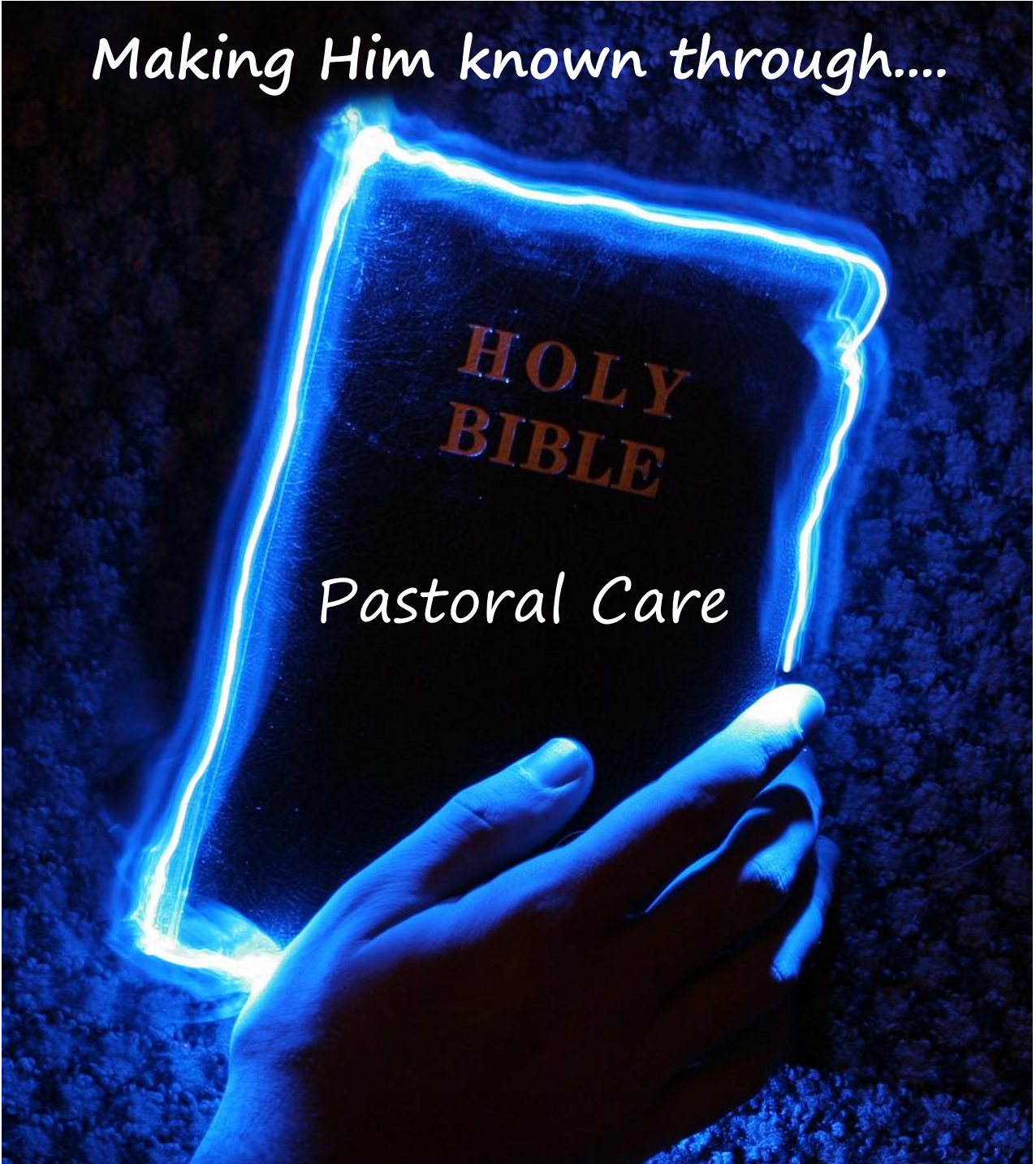
Love in Jesus, Philip

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through...

**HOLY
BIBLE**

Pastoral Care



Making Him known through Pastoral Care

Stotfold Pastoral Report

As always so much has happened in the last year of church life, there are things that have blessed us, things that have challenged us and things that have caused us to grow. Though in all that we have faced, it has been great to see everyone working together and supporting each other. The danger of trying to review the whole year is that I will miss out something, or someone, so if I have please forgive me.

We have seen a lot of movement within the church both in terms of people's location and also people moving on to other churches. Those to move house during the year have been David and Heather Smith, who have relocated to Lincolnshire, and Tom and Angela Caley have moved to Norfolk. Some folk have not moved so far, Alex and Sarah Pagila have moved from Bedford to live with Gordon and Lindsay Hamilton so that they can save for a deposit on a house, Jonny and Kristy Scott have moved from Fairfield to Jonny's parent's house in Stotfold. Paul and Lindsay Brant and the family have felt the call to move church to Hitchin. We miss all those who have moved away from us, and pray that God will continue to bless them.

We have had the joy of sharing in wedding and dedications. Family and friends of both

Kathryn Odey and Janet Turner have some wonderful memories from their wedding days, and we, as a church family, had the privilege of being a part of Esme Paglia's dedication, a few months ago.

As always in the course of a year a number of our folk have been unwell, with some having to spend some time in hospital. Hugh and Maureen Avery continue to suffer poor health. Barbara Odey has had an operation for carpal tunnel and was very ill and ended up in hospital, much to the concern of her family. Pat Smith took a while to recover from a bad mouth ulcer and June Lee had a very nasty fall that has taken her a few months of rest to recover from, as well as having a couple of eye operations. Another one to visit hospital was Brenda Brown, who spent a few days in hospital to have tests on her heart, after falling ill at home. Valerie Clarkson has also been into hospital for tests on her heart. There are a number of our family who have on-going health problems, such as Laura Wheatley, Veronica Pond, Liz Evans and Rachel Amos, and I would encourage you to carry on praying for all those in the church who are trusting God for their healing.

Sadly a number of our members have seen loved ones pass away over the last twelve months. Sara Searle lost her step mum, Linda Woodrow's

mum passed away and Peter Hornett recently lost his sister and in November Theo Clark's mother was promoted to glory.

In the summer I had a three month Sabbatical, during which I had chance to recover from 22 years of full time ministry. By the end of my Sabbatical, I was feeling very rested and glad to be back at work. At the same time Robert Palmer moved on from our church to start ministering with a church in London.

As you can see it has been an action packed year, where we have seen God always being faithful to his people. My thanks go to so many people who have visited, sent cards, texts and generally have been there for those in need, you have been such a great help and blessing.

Philip Amos

Fairfield Pastoral report

Once again so much has happened in our church family it is difficult to recall everything. In such a short passage people and circumstances are bound to get missed and for that my sincere apologies. However, within the space of twelve months we have seen the church at Fairfield grow from an average of sixteen to twenty adults on a Sunday morning, to an average of twenty-five to thirty adults. We have celebrated our first anniversary at the time of

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through Pastoral Care

harvest and praise him for everyone who he has brought us into contact with.

During the Summer it was wonderful to be able to share with Alvin and Janice Leeks as they celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary and renewed their vows.

During the Autumn and Spring terms we have been able to celebrate with Dipak Patel, Alun Maxwell and Sue Seed as they all went through the waters of baptism. It was a truly wonderful evening of praise as Dipak was the first person from Fairfield Community Church to be baptised. Both Alun and Sue have expressed their desire to develop their walk with God by stepping out in baptism. May God bless each one of them as they continue to seek him in the coming weeks.

Also this year we have celebrated with Mark and Lois Lacy, and Dipak and Sarah Patel as they brought their respective children forward for dedication. Both services were very moving and brought in many people who do not yet know the Lord. These times gave us an opportunity to express life together as family.

In January Rebekah and Dave Parker got married in Bedford and are settling into the start of their life together as husband and wife. We all want to wish

them every happiness in their future and especially as they have recently announced the forthcoming arrival of a new little addition to their family!

After running an Alpha course in the Autumn term Paula Myers and Eugene Salmon have become regular members of the church and Paula has recently been able to attend discipleship group. Lesley Webb, gave her life to the Lord and is attending church frequently on a Sunday too. Praise God. We have also been blessed with Rosemary Souter becoming part of Fairfield Community Church. God provided the link and has grown the relationship.

Helen Whitmill has continued to oversee the children's work which fluctuates in numbers, but is always an encouragement. We have held family services once or twice a term and seen people come to these more informal times who have not yet ventured in on a 'normal' Sunday. In October we ran our first Light Night Party with a theme of superheroes (Jesus is our superhero). Although the number of children was quite low, four unchurched families attended.

As part of our time together we have set two days apart (one in the Autumn, one more recently) to fast and pray about the direction of the church. The main encouragement from God

seems to be that he is pleased with what is happening and that he is not in a rush, he will accomplish the task of building the church in his time.

We have established Wednesday morning, Tuesday evening and Wednesday evening discipleship groups. These are led by Neil and Pauline. Sometimes Fairfield Community Church follows the same teaching as King's Baptist Church and at other times it is a separate study. As with King's Baptist Church our sermons are put online on the website. Also on the website is a page about the Scandinavian work of Bernard Brown. Bernard travels extensively across Scandinavia encouraging churches to pray earnestly for God to revive their nations. There have been several miraculous stories in the past few months and we continue to pray for Bernard as he ministers.

Unfortunately Allison Brown continues to be in considerable pain with her back and needs all our prayers. We may not understand why healing doesn't always take place, but we can always go to him. May he be Allison and Bernard's peace and strength.

As I said at the beginning of this report it is hard to summarise a whole year in a few words and inevitably many things get missed out, if that includes you and yours please accept my

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through Pastoral Care

apology, and as we move into this New Year let us continue to serve and love one another because it is by this that the world will know that we are his disciples.

Neil Whitmill

Discipleship Groups

Teaching and training has always been a great strength and blessing over the years at King's Baptist Church, and a major part of that has been our mid week groups. Over the last year we have been connecting our discipleship groups to the Sunday morning teaching, with the vision that it would give people a chance to talk through the sermon and to make it a greater learning opportunity. As a preacher it has been an encouragement to see more and more people taking notes on a Sunday morning and then to hear people talk through various parts of the sermon during their mid-week group.

We have sought to make the studies a mixture of different themes and Bible books, and after a few tweaks to the study material, I think that the study booklets are a very good resource to the discipleship group leaders. My thanks go to Pauline Wade, Neil Douglas and Neil Whitmill for all their help in creating the study material and to Jayne Yule for making the study booklets.

The discipleship groups can only work as well as they do, due to the hard work and dedication of the leaders of each of the groups, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work and care of the groups.

Philip Amos

Men's Prayer Breakfasts

Recently we have welcomed Paul Coombes to our group who displayed his culinary skills par excellence last month! (Thank you Paul!) It is always interesting to me that men are able to share family, work and other needs at a deeper level in this group of men as we gather monthly for prayer, praise and food! At present we intend to continue on the third Sunday of the month at 7.30a.m. – so if you are interested why not come along for a 'taster!'

Kevin How

The Need Project

It has been a very encouraging year, an amazing time of trusting God for his provision, guidance, correction, forgiveness and grace.

We have been able to meet every food parcel request, which has exceeded 1800 since the project began. This does not include the ministry we have of providing clothes, baby items and also furniture.

The need this year has so far been greater than ever and we feel privileged to be a part of this project in serving Jesus in his most distressing disguise.

I am sure I will forget someone, but here goes: a special thanks to Dawn Addams for her patience, Mick Racher and Joan Racher for all their help, Tracy from Cranfield and her church who are an amazing support, Doug Deards because he cares so much – I can take his comments and digest them and not feel condemned, just corrected. Thanks also to Hazel Gadd, Ruth. Featherstone, Carol Finch, Judy Ndaona and Kristine Cimino and anyone else who has helped in any way, (thanks for the cakes, June!), and to all who support in giving and prayer for the project. I would like to say a bit thank you to our newly formed committee for their support and guidance.

I especially want to thank Lindsay Hamilton for her help and the endless support she gives me every week – without her it just would not work.

We are in a very interesting and challenging time and the only way we want to go is God's way. Please continue to pray for us and our contacts and the way forward.

Gordon Hamilton

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through Pastoral Care

Ministry Team

I continue to be encouraged that every year new people are keen to become trained as members of the Ministry Team at King's Baptist Church. This year we have had two such training days. Our guidelines have been put together to facilitate a safe environment for both the ministry team member and the person asking for prayer. Each Sunday opportunities are given for members of the congregation to respond for prayer following, and sometimes during, the services. People continue to be blessed as they respond to the sermon, receive spiritual, emotional or physical healing, deal with issues in their lives or are empowered for service. We love it when Father releases the blessing of heaven into our lives.

If you are interested in becoming trained as a member of the team, please make yourself known to myself or one of the elders

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3: 20-21 (NIV)

Angie Clark

Special Events

There have been a number of special events over the last twelve months that may or may not appear elsewhere in our AGM reports, but I just wanted to mention them and remind people about them.

In May we had a ladies day of worship and teaching with a guest speaker that many attended and were blessed by. It is always good to go to something different and often it is at these meetings where God speaks very powerfully to us. I would like to thank Patricia How who organised and ran the day with a small team of helpers who made it such a blessed day for the ladies that came.

At Christmas some of our church were involved in hosting a Christmas Day meal, for anyone who would otherwise have been on their own on Christmas Day. I know that the event took a lot of planning and preparation, which showed on the day as everyone who came was so blessed. It was also great to see some many people from the different churches coming together to show the love of God in such a practical way.

The youth have started going to Soul Survivor at Watford on a monthly basis to their Saturday evening meeting, and I know from the reaction of the chaps in our house, that the youth love going to these meeting, and a

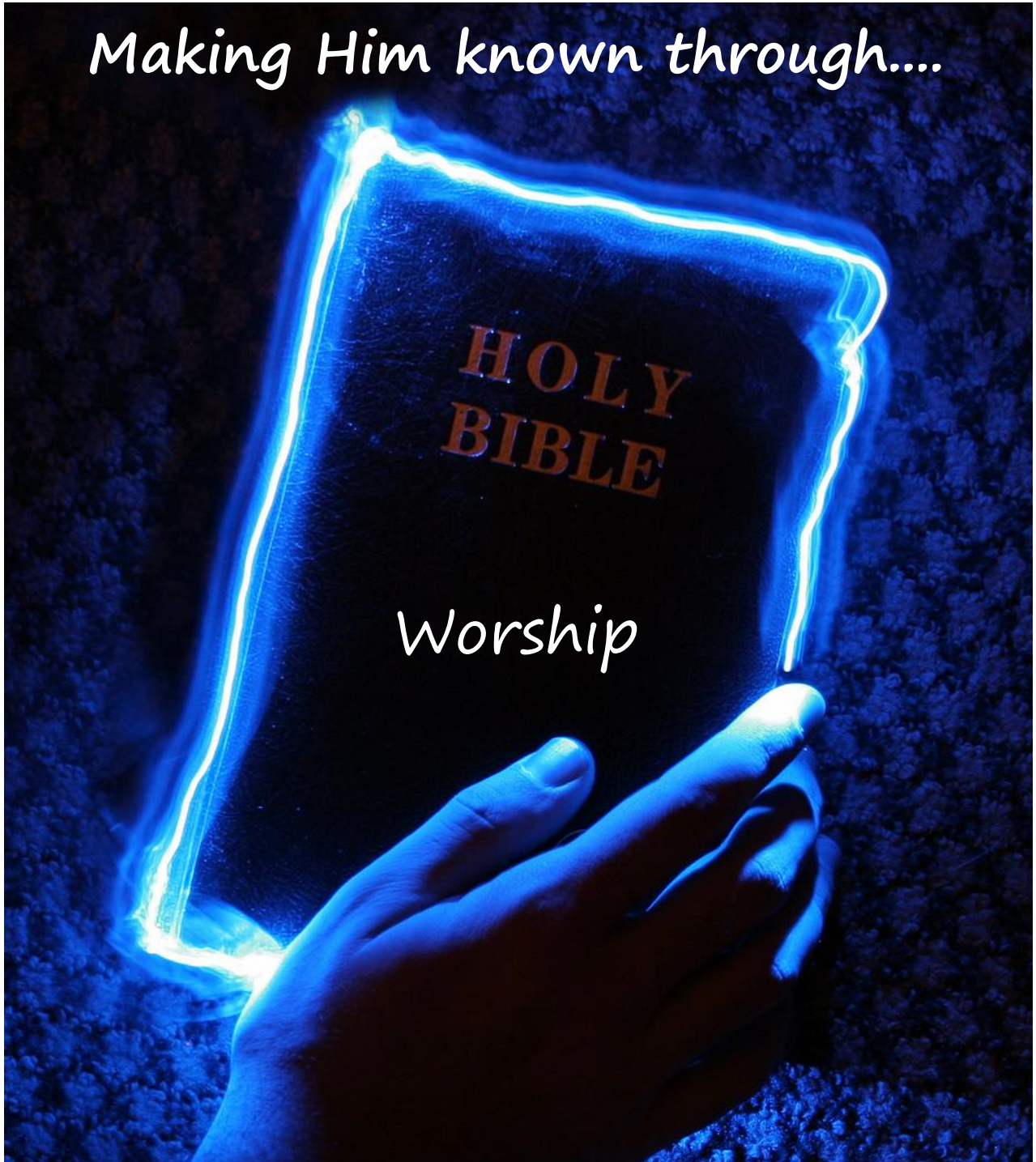
trip to McDonalds afterwards always goes down well with the youth (and the leaders).

In the last few months we have put on a Preachers Workshop, for anyone who feels called to preaching or has just started preaching. So far we have had two workshops that have been well attended and have been a time of encouragement and very practical help. One of the reasons for the workshops is to try and encourage as many as possible to become preachers, so that we can bless and encourage, not only our church folk, but as many churches as possible in our area who are struggling to find people to come and share the Word of God with them.

Philip Amos

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through...



Making Him known through Worship

Praise & Worship

"Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him."

Psalm 33 v 1.

We love to worship God and spend time bowing in his presence. Thank you so much for all the help and support given to us by the ever growing and changing PA and worship team during our time at King's Baptist Church.

Both Fairfield Community Church and Sandy Baptist Church have been blessed by members of King's Baptist Church who support these congregations and we would like to thank all who have given their time to bless them in this way. We would also like to thank Neil Whitmill and Ian Palmer for their support in the development of the worship at Fairfield.

The youth are doing really well in leading worship once a month and continue to inspire us. We have enjoyed both adult and children's worship mornings and the children/youth continue to benefit from attending the 'adult' worship mornings and Wednesday practices. We thank God for all he is doing in developing a heart for worship among the children and the youth under the encouragement of all the children's and youth leaders.

We praise God for his goodness and his mercy towards us.

Rachel Amos

Prayer

God, as always, has been very faithful to us when we have gathered for prayer, whether it has been for a whole week or on a Friday morning, or evening, God has always been there to meet us, praise his name. God has spoken to us powerfully and we have seen many answers to prayer.

On Friday mornings we have been praying for our nation and when certain events crop up, we have been praying for other nations in the world. We have tried to be open to the leading of the Spirit and to pray for events, situations and nations as he leads us. On Friday evenings we have spent most of our time praying for the church and for the salvation of people who live in Stotfold.

If you have never been to one of our prayer meeting, then please just come along and join in. They are open to everyone, and they usually last for one hour.

We have also had two weeks of prayer in the last twelve months, which as always have been very powerful and of great blessing to both the church and to individuals. Our weeks of prayer

are great times of being able to focus of the life and ministry of the church, and I am always so blessed by the commitment that people show during the week. These weeks, over the years, have really shaped and blessed the church.

I would like to thank Meg Roberts for leading the Friday morning prayer meeting so faithfully and for always encouraging the saints to 'stand in the gap on behalf of the land'. I would also like to thank all those who have stood in to lead the Friday evening prayer meeting, when I have not been able to be there.

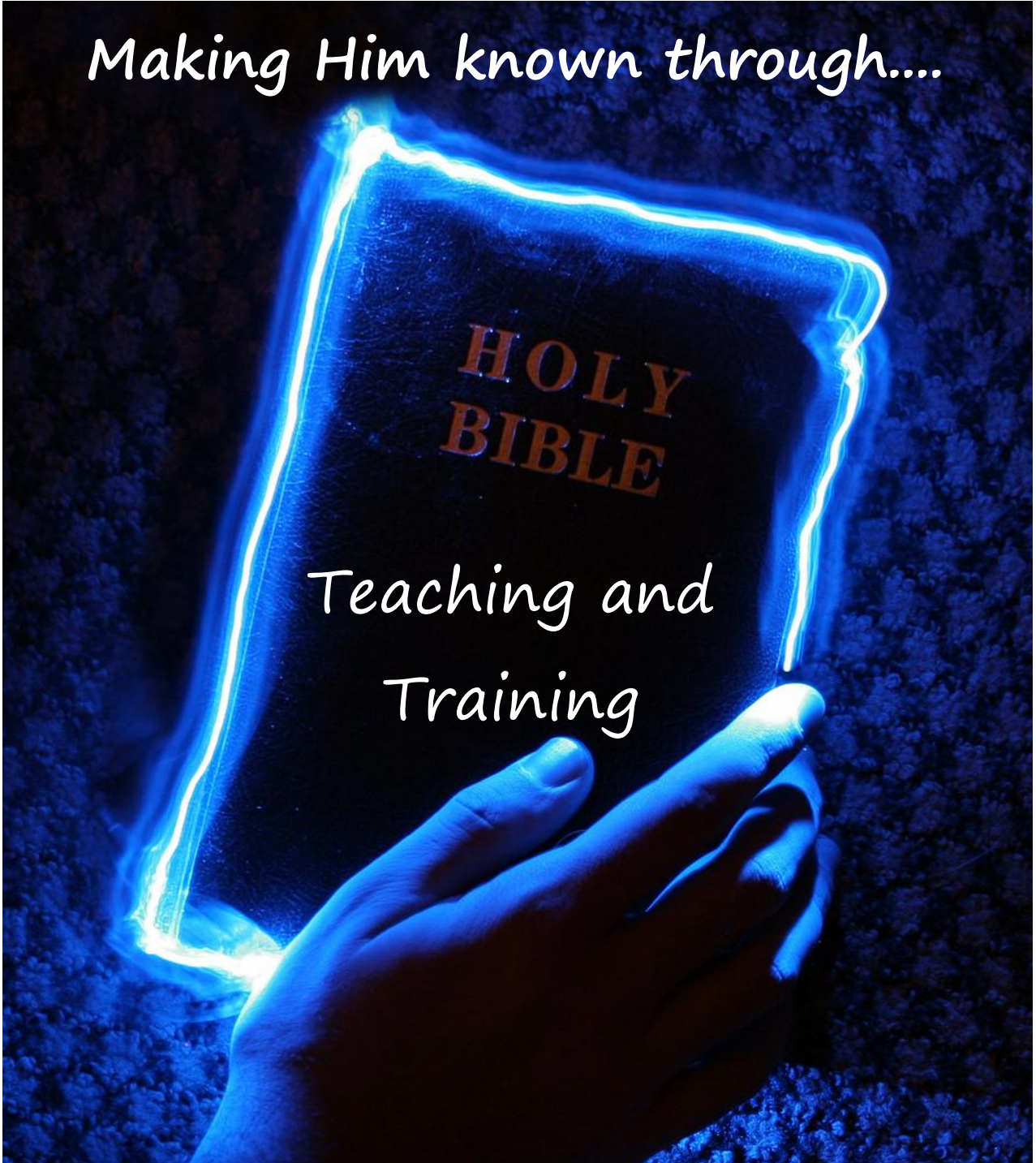
Philip Amos

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through....

**HOLY
BIBLE**

*Teaching and
Training*



Making Him known through Teaching & Training

Teaching and Training

Luke 21:37. "Each day Jesus was teaching at the temple."

Matthew 4:23. "Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues..." Mark 6:6. "Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village." Mark 10:1. "Jesus then left that place and went into the region of Judea and across the Jordan. Again crowds of people came to him, and as was his custom, he taught them." John 7:28. "Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, "Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from."

There is no doubt from the gospel accounts of Jesus' life and ministry that He was a teacher and a profound one at that. He knew it was vital to teach not only His disciples, but the crowds who flocked to listen to Him. He taught the truth about Himself, His mission and His Heavenly Father and much more. Also, the disciples and the people had a real desire to be taught by Him.

The Preaching of God's Word on Sundays is one of the fundamental ways we, as Christians, are taught and grow in our faith. It is wonderful that God has gifted the church with a good number of preachers (plus up and coming ones too) who have a wide variety of styles and gifting from expository teaching to the inspirational and prophetic. We are blessed with a very healthy and varied diet!

We have continued with The Big Idea concept where all groups from Kings Kids upwards follow the same teaching theme, and, since last year, we have covered such topics as:

- Set On Fire By God, For God – the Gifts of The Holy Spirit.
- Rebuilding God's Kingdom – Lessons from Nehemiah.
- The God of Relationship
- Power in Partnership
- Studies in Colossians.

And this is just the morning meetings! At 6.00pm each Sunday the God-breathed Word is faithfully opened up again, and, of course, all the sermons are on the Web site, both for King's Baptist and Fairfield Community Church. You need never be short of a good sermon to listen to! Thank you to all the preachers who diligently and faithfully spend time in prayer and preparation to carry out this ministry.

It is important to 'feed' during the week also and our Discipleship Groups which meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays provide excellent facilities for this. The worship helps us focus on God so we can then truly hear the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to us through the study, which is based on the Sunday preaching. Thank you to all the Discipleship group leaders and assistants who do a great job of running

and caring for these groups, and to all who attend regularly. This is how we come to know God's 'good, pleasing and perfect will' and are then empowered to put it into practise.

During this year we have had the privilege of two Samuel Whitbread pupils, David Lewington and Jonny Whitmill, join us for their work experience placement. During their time with us they helped lead children's clubs, were involved in presenting assemblies, led worship at the prayer meeting and attended Team meetings. We pray this will have been a valuable time which will help them as they seek God's best for their future. I believe the two lads may have started a trend as we have more coming for their school placement again this year – and long may it continue!

Pauline Wade

Training Days

Praise God that He has put a desire for lifelong learning into many of the people at King's Baptist Church. I am thrilled that so many want to attend discipleship groups, learning there to grow in faith and how to put this Christian faith into action. I am delighted when people come on a Saturday, giving up precious family time, to learn how to be a better children's worker, first aider, or to be ministry team trained. We must thank God that He has

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through Teaching & Training

provided some very gifted people to do training for us at King's Baptist Church .

Over the last year we have had several 'in-house' training sessions including two child protection/safeguarding courses, ministry team training, both adult and children's worship mornings – the latter having the focus of using flags in worship.

Last year we took advantage of a Willow Creek online Teaching and Preaching Conference which was well attended and very challenging, with some excellent speakers such as Bill Hybels and John Ortberg. We really can make technology work to our advantage!

We are currently two-thirds of the way through a three-session workshop to further develop the budding and regular preachers among us. This is proving popular and successful and may well continue for more sessions in the future. Preachers, watch this space!

In May we had a ladies teaching day called 'Heaven on Earth' with Katia Yegnazzar and her young team. It was a well-attended day packed full of good teaching and good food – thanks for both to Tricia How, who organised the day.

External conferences are also a source of excellent, challenging

training and development, especially for those in leadership who often run the in-house training at King's Baptist Church. A good number of us went down to Eastbourne in the autumn for the Mission Worship International Conference, which was tremendous with outstanding worship (to be expected!) and excellent teaching sessions too. This comes highly recommended for 2011, even if you are not directly involved in the worship group or P.A. Darlene Zschech, Matt Redman and Chris McClarney are already confirmed speakers for what should be a tremendous conference which runs from Friday 25th to Sunday 27th November.

This year, Karen and her team of children's workers have taken advantage of the New Wine Kids Workers' day at Barnet and also a Children's Leaders conference in the autumn in Eastbourne. It is so important to have these times to gather fresh resources, to be refreshed and re-envisioned and to have time to talk with other leaders doing the same job as you.

In the same way several of the Elders attended the Willow Creek Global Leadership Summit at the Vineyard, St. Albans in October. This annual event always gives us much food for thought and prayer. It ensures that the leadership is challenged with new ideas, challenged in their own walk with God and

have the invaluable opportunity to have ministry themselves.

As you read this report you can see another action-packed and very productive year in teaching and training, but we must not rest on our laurels! When we gave our lives to Christ, we entered a life-long marathon and we need to continue to be trained, disciplined and grow in our faith so we will eventually receive 'a crown that will last forever', bringing many others into the Kingdom with us!

Pauline Wade.

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through....

A hand is shown holding a dark-colored Bible. The Bible is surrounded by a bright, glowing blue light that outlines its shape. The words "HOLY BIBLE" are embossed on the cover in a reddish-brown color. The background is dark and textured.

**HOLY
BIBLE**

*Children and
Youth*

Making Him known through Children & Youth

Children and Youth Department

I was really encouraged in our January prayer meetings when someone had a word about God moving his pieces about on a chessboard to where He wants them to be. It has been a year of what seems to be moving on and into new ministries. Some people have grown in their ministries within the Children and Youth Department and others have been moved out to other ministries. It is good to know that our God is in charge and that He has plans for us as individuals, but also for us as a church.

In July, Robert Palmer left us as youth leader to work with a church in London and focus on mission. Lynda Lewinton felt God was calling her to work with youth more than children and therefore to lay down Ignition. We have also said goodbye to Lindsay Bryant who now worships in Hitchin and will very soon lose Kristine Cimino to a fellowship in Biggleswade. Later this year we say goodbye to Rachel Amos and the family after many years serving the children and youth at King's Baptist Church. Others, such as Heather Chalmers, Sarah Maxwell, Gill Roberts, Rachel Douglas, Jane O'Flanagan and Christopher Baker have moved on to focus on new ministries within the church family and the community.

It has seemed right to move to establish teams to run the different children and youth activities. These new teams have seen over the year the ministries of existing leaders flourish as they have taken on more responsibility and the birth and rekindling of ministries in others. God has certainly been moving his chess pieces around to shape the ministry He desires at King's Baptist Church.

We are so blessed as a church to have people who take their calling from God so seriously that they will go wherever He calls them. I feel very privileged to be part of a team where my co-workers only do Children and Youth work because they feel such a calling to do so and that they are so open to God's voice and are willing to lay things down that they love to open new doors offered to them by God.

We need to take very seriously the call on King's Baptist Church and us as individuals to save, disciple and release. In the Children and Youth Department it has certainly been a year of release.

Karen Barnard

King's Kids

We have continued to meet together on Sunday mornings for our teaching whilst the adults receive theirs. We start

each session with an up-front presentation with all the children together, other than the crèche, where we read the Bible passage for the day and then present it in an interactive way that the children understand and can participate in. We then move into our separate age groups to follow the teaching up.

It is exciting to see new people eager to lead the up front presentations and 'step out of the boat' in ministering to the children. My role has been able to change from doing all the time to stepping back and mentoring and helping others to lead.

We have three separate age groups in the hall and the crèche over at Kevin and Tricia How's house, led by an army of volunteers every Sunday. We all follow the Big Idea teaching which follows the same themes as the adults but rewritten for the children so that it is relevant and accessible to them whatever their age.

We have said goodbye to many King's Kids staff this year but we are excited by God's gift of Louise Fryer to us, Kristine Cimino joining the up-front team, Ruth Lombard moving to teach an older and bigger group and so learning new skills and Adam Yule leading a group on his own.

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through Children & Youth

Many thanks as always, to all those who minister so faithfully to the children each Sunday.

Karen Barnard

Youth Discipleship Group

We now have a flourishing group of 13 young people who regularly attend Youth discipleship group each week. They come with a hunger to meet with God and learn. We have been blessed with 2 young people who do not attend King's Baptist Church but belong to other churches in the area. In September, the initial plan was to invite different people to come and teach the group, but God has amazingly built a new discipleship group team with Matt Wheatley, Graham Barnard, Nicky Smith and Angie Clark, with myself overseeing. It has been great to see Matt and Graham operating in the gifts and talents God has given them and to see Angie and Nicky step into the place that God has called them to be for our young people. As we work together, God is commanding His blessing.

We have continued to follow the Big Idea but the teaching has been very life relevant to the teens, dealing with issues they face at home and at school, as well as looking at Biblical truths.

Discipleship Group is a place of learning and study, but also that

oasis during the week where the young people can be refreshed and meet with their Father God. It has also been a school for prophetic ministry and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Many thanks to the team and the willingness to go with what we believe God is saying and their willingness to take risks and step out of their comfort zone.

Karen Barnard

Youth Bonsall Camp

At the start of the February half term we took a group of 13 young people away for the weekend to Bonsall Camp in Derbyshire. The aim was to have a time of retreat from the world and its pressures to meet with God but also to have time where we could relax and have fun together as a youth group. The title of the weekend was 'Hearing God's Voice'. Meg Roberts very kindly came to lead the teaching and braved the cold snow and freezing dormitories of Bonsall. It was a brilliant weekend where we learned much from the Bible about how God speaks to us, but also spent time actively listening to God as He spoke to our hearts and into our lives over the weekend. For many of us, it was a major step forward in our walk with God.

Karen Barnard

Soul Survivor 2010

In August we took the youth group to Soul Survivor in Shepton Mallet. We took 17 young people, for 5 of them it was their first time.

Over the 5 days the young people had a fantastic time meeting with God through the main celebrations and seminars. It was also an opportunity for them to spend time with each other and build on new and existing friendships.

It is always a blessing and encouragement to see our youngsters with such a vibrant passion for Jesus.

Matt Wheatley

Soul Survivor Watford

This year the Soul Survivor Team at Watford have held a monthly celebration on a Saturday night and we have endeavoured to get down to them on a regular basis. They have been great times of worship and teaching for the young people, along with great times to gel together as a youth group as we munch our way through McDonald's afterwards.

Karen Barnard

Break Out

Earlier in the year, after many years of faithful service to King's Club and then Ignition, Lynda Lewinton felt it was time to

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

Making Him known through Children & Youth

concentrate more on youth work than children's ministry. At the same time Heather Chalmers felt the need to lay down her work with Ignition as she felt called to new ministries. We had also recently said goodbye to Jane O'Flanagan. Therefore in January we launched a new children's club for children in school years 1 – 5 called Break Out. It is aimed at both children in the community and in our church family, teaching them the truths about God and the Bible. The new team consists of myself, Richard Odey, Louise Fryer and Tegan Smith. Our aim is to encourage the children to Break Out of what the world says and tries to trap us with.

We have moved fairly rapidly from a small nucleus of 3 children to 13 and as we now run the club on a Thursday evening it has been encouraging to see many girls come back to the club.

Karen Barnard

Activ8

This is our Friday night club for school years 6 to 8 where we meet together to have fun and relax for the weekend, but also learn the truths about God and the Bible. Our teaching times are very hands on and active and we have had some very special prayer times with many children realising that their God is for them and loves them and is real! It has been great to see

the group grow to a regular 20 – 25 children each week, with new children coming each week, and to see the church hall full and busy. During the evening we run many activities such as pool, table tennis, Wii games, beading, nail painting and icing biscuits, to name a few. We ran a special talent evening to raise money for Children in Need.

Many thanks to each of my very patient and energetic leaders who serve so faithfully every Friday evening.

Karen Barnard

Kidszone

Over the last year Kidszone has seen a few changes, but still the main emphasis of the morning is to see the children of Stotfold, Arlesey and Fairfield saved and so they can go back to their families and share the message of Jesus to their families and friends. The way we do this is by focusing our Saturday mornings on a film/TV programme that the children are interested in and then linking this in to some aspect of the gospel message. We do this because we believe that we need to talk in parables to the children in order for them to understand. This is what Jesus did when he taught the crowds; he used stories they could identify with to teach them about God. Throughout the morning we do many things which include messy games,

crafts and songs and each time it is different.

Over the last year especially since September, we have, on average, had between 15-20 children every month, with children from an age range of 5-10 and each month they come back and bring their friends.

These children are getting a steady message of God's love and truth and we are beginning to see the children commit their lives to following Jesus. In fact, for many of the children Kidszone has become the equivalent to their regular church.

Ruth Lombard

Youth Club

Friday night is the time in the youth calendar where our focus is toward those who are outside our church family, and our church youth are encouraged to come and be part of the evening. We run a cafe style club with pool, table-tennis, Nintendo Wii games, tuck shop, and occasional organised activities. Once a term, or so, we run a deliberate evangelism evening where a presentation of the gospel is central to the evening, inviting neighbouring churches to bring their youth – last term we did this with a games and music evening followed by a cafe, and our church youth organised and ran the entire event. Weekly attendance is variable, but

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averages 15 to 25 non-church youth and 5 to 10 of our church youth. Alcohol and drug abuse (off our premises of course) can lead to some challenging situations and tempers have sometimes flared, however the weekly Christian witness is beginning to curb some of the excesses. The rate of smoking is particularly high amongst the non-church youth and can mean they spend almost as much time outside the club as within it. Please pray the leaders would be filled with God's wisdom, grace and love for these young people, and that the young people will find faith in Jesus and that their lives will be transformed.

Neil Douglas

Tiny Tots

At the start of 2011 we changed the time of Tiny Tots to Thursday morning. Since then the group has changed for the better, attracting many new faces almost weekly – who have then brought other new faces with them in subsequent weeks!

During 2010 it was a pleasure to join forces with the other toddler groups in Stotfold to run summer sessions at a time when there is little for parents with young children to do. These were very popular and it was lovely for us all to come together for a picnic with games at St Mary's school one lunchtime. At the end of the

year we took part in St Mary's Christmas tree festival and held our Christmas meal for parents. We are planning an Easter social as we speak.

We continue to ensure that our sessions are Bible based and sing Christian songs with the children. Pam Williams does an excellent job with the craft each week, and often the story, whilst Carole Finch continues to befriend the parents and has also taken on refreshments as we have been short of helpers. If anyone feels called to help out with this vital ministry of evangelising over the kettle, or becoming a spiritual grandma, please let either Carole Finch or me know.

Helen Backhouse

Accelerate

Over the past year some of the group moved up to youth and we now have a small but committed group of regular 10 to 13s who meet to go deeper with God on Tuesday evenings. It is exciting to see how the young people are always willing to bring a welcome of some sort, varied worship and even have a go at teaching which has been fun. We are following the Big Idea theme of the church which is great and God has been speaking clearly to us. We usually write words and pictures of what God is saying. Sometimes these stay up on the whiteboard to bless the youth.

God has been showing us how to live out our lives for Him in a more practical way and prayer times have been open times of sharing and genuine support for one another. We have seen many answers and lots of encouragement.

In October the group organised the Superhero light party, as a Christian alternative to Halloween. It is important to mention that we have two fantastic role models from youth who come along each week and dedicate themselves to encouraging the group. Well done to Karl Smith and Ruth Lombard who are wholeheartedly committed, and certainly have played a big part in bringing this group into spiritual maturity.

Helen Whitmill

Schools' Report

King's Baptist Church continues to support the work of CIS (Christian Initiative to Schools) both in prayer and financially. Christopher Baker works in many schools but specifically at Etonbury where the work has expanded as follows:-

- Recent Lessons – all of Y5 groups - The person of Jesus and Parables
- Christopher is now doing 4 assemblies per term
- Celebrating RE Day is planned for 29th March and this is for all of Year

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7's using lively Arts/Drama/Music presentations.

- Etonbury has supported the Need Project with generous donations last year at Harvest and Christmas.

• Karen Barnard is involved with the Powerhouse Christian Union continues to attract 15-20 Y6 girls (all non-churched). Also recently Christopher Baker has become involved in working with the pastoral support staff which is a very interesting development.

The Samuel Whitbread Christian Union has grown from its original vision of being a Christian lunchtime club to a pastoral and evangelistic witness. In the summer term in 2010 the CU suffered from a patch of bad behaviour caused by a general lack of control over those attending. This unfortunately led to the loss of a number of Christian attendees. However, praise God, the Christian Union is now once again a safe place for Christians to attend, but please pray that the positive atmosphere where people feel at ease and able to talk about their faith freely will continue and the Christian Union will help to strengthen peoples' faith with regular teaching on God, the Bible and the Holy Spirit.

Attendance is anywhere from 2-3 Christians to around 10-15, they also feel able to bring their friends, meaning we can preach the gospel on a regular basis! However, when Rachel Douglas leaves for university, only Ruth Lombard will be left to run the Christian Union with no help. Therefore will you please pray that God will raise a new generation of leaders for the C.U as no-one who currently attends stands out as a potential leader.

Kevin How

Holiday Club

'School's out for summer' sang Alice Cooper, but at the end of July 2010, parents breathed a sigh of relief as they discovered that the mysterious and wacky event, code named 'Holiday Club', was happening yet again at St Mary's School for a whole week of mornings! Around 170 children attended and a good time was had by all.

The theme was 'Rocky's Plaice' and over the week we unpacked the story of Peter (Rocky), who had formally been a fisherman (who caught plaice?), as he and his fellow disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the new Christian church began to grow in amazing ways. We too looked at being filled with the Holy Spirit, and also at hope, faith and love and how we are called to go and tell others about our faith in Jesus just like Peter and his friends did.

As usual, there were messy games and a well rehearsed drama (not!) which was just as hilarious to those involved as we hope it was for the audience. Richard Odey and Laura Whitmill made lots of mess and it was up to Senorita Tagliatelle to keep them in order – together with her very strange accent and weird collection of wigs!

The games, craft and film clips were carefully tailored to each age group and several children responded to the gospel message at the end of the week. Please pray these children will continue to seek after God and build on that relationship begun at the holiday club.

It is such a privilege each year that so many parents and carers allow us to have this time with their children and we know that good seed is being sown.

My thanks to Colin Phelps for letting the Stotfold Churches Together Holiday Club use St Mary's school again and for all who helped to make it a success once more, especially Karen Barnard who took on the responsibility of headed it up.

This year the theme is still a closely guarded secret, but if you have some time to spare in the first week of the summer holidays come and join us at St Mary's school – it is such fun and we, together, will again be

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investing in the growth of the Kingdom of the King of kings.

Pauline Wade.

Youth Tea and Toast

Tea and Toast is a chill out time for the Youth after the Sunday evening service. At the moment we are eating our way through the alphabet and are now on the letter W. It can be great fun to match up a food with the letter and some of the Youth are very creative in their ideas. We meet in the church hall from 8.00 - 9.00pm and just chat and spend time together to mull over the week and the sermon. We are very flexible and sometimes the Youth like to just stay in the service for ministry, continue to worship or spend time with the church family. They then come through to the back when they are ready.

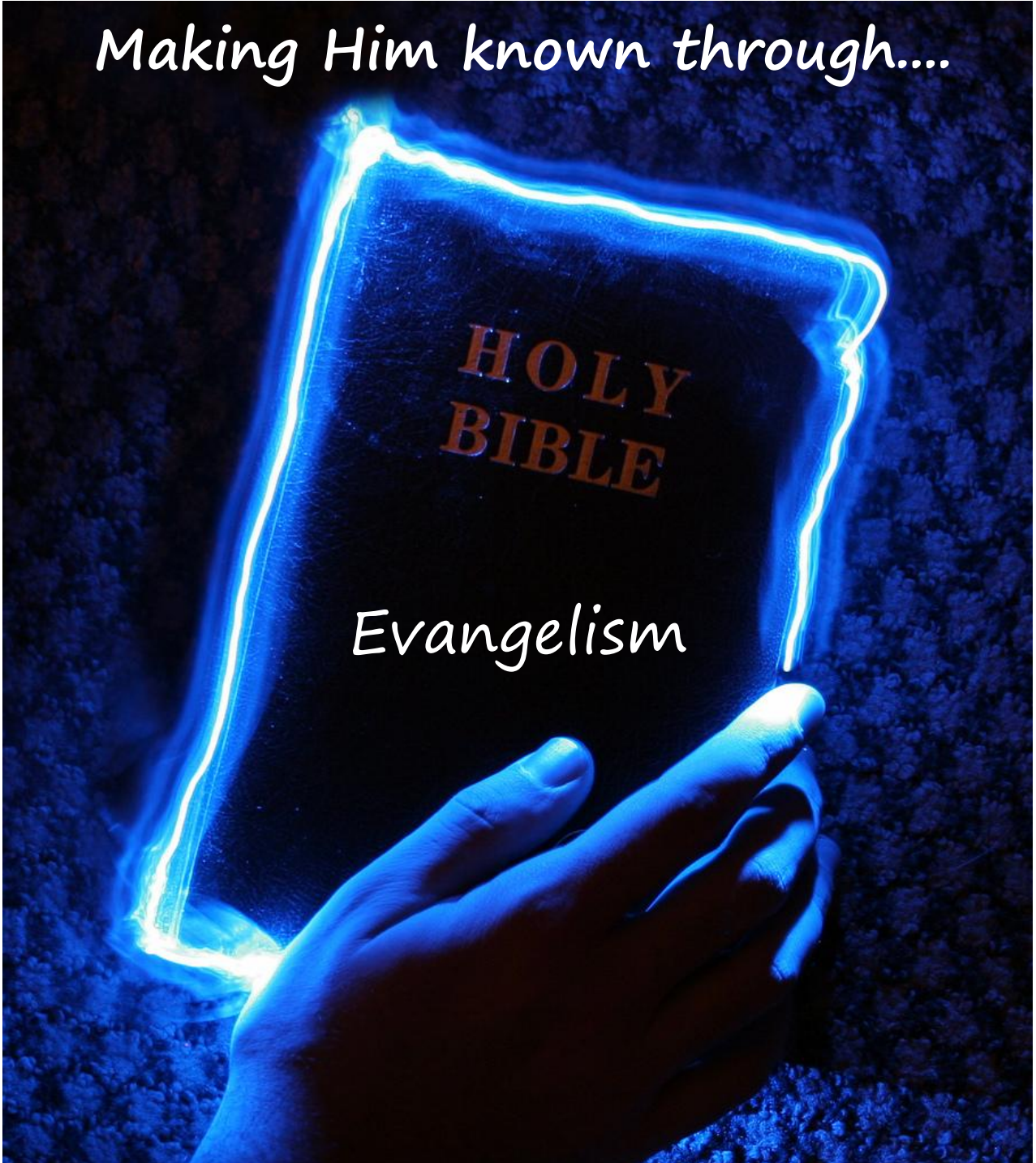
Graham Barnard

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Making Him known through....

**HOLY
BIBLE**

Evangelism



Making Him known through Evangelism

Evangelism

At the start of 2010 the church agreed that 2010 would be a year of consolidation, and accordingly we planned fewer outreach events within the year.

Following the AGM, we held a family night in May with games and challenges – the funniest was watching people trying to pick up tiny things from the ground, using their teeth and without putting their hands down. We were also treated to some curious Bible based dramas as we tried to guess which Bible story was being enacted. There were Pictionary rounds, general knowledge and so on.

The end of June was the Stotfold Festival and we set up a children's face-painting tent which was swamped with families, and we used 300 balloons making silly hats, balloon animals, etc. Gordon Hamilton used some of the space to advertise the Need Project, and Meg Roberts ran a tent offering prayer for healing. We also put out some sofas with tables and boxes of Kleenex tissues so that people could grab a seat and sit and have a chat with somebody. Hundreds of conversations were held that afternoon and the team were nicely suntanned. The following evening was Songs of Praise in the Memorial Hall where the gospel was preached to a packed out room.

On the 3rd July we ran our annual barbeque in the field at the back of Michael and Alison Down's house. A team of volunteers cooked their way through 150 burgers, 300 sausages and much salad and cake was eaten. Some dramas were staged to present a gospel message, and field games were organised. Around 150 people dropped in for most of the afternoon, and more than a third of those were guests.

A big quiz night was organised for the end of October. In a packed church hall various teams answered questions on a very diverse range of topics, and we rapidly learnt that to win you needed to watch TV, listen to the radio, and find a teenager to answer the youthful questions. At the half-way point dinner was served, and an ad-hoc round of "ask the Minister a question" ensured that two testimonies were shared. The event was so successful that it was repeated in January with around 60 percent of those present being from outside our church family.

At Christmas we held a nativity service on the morning of the Sunday before Christmas Day, and then in the evening we held our annual Carols by Candlelight punctuated with some gospel focused drama and a short message about the good news of Jesus, followed by a family feast.

I would like to offer a huge thank you to the people who worked so hard to ensure that each of these events was well run and so enjoyable.

Neil Douglas

Works of Heart

I am quite amazed how fast the last year has flown and really pleased at the way our group is being allowed to gradually blossom in God's hands.

The variety of demos has been great and thanks to all who have volunteered their time, we have been able to keep the cost down and have given all that attend, chance to try new and different crafts. We have had such things as Scrapbooking with Mari Francis, wool-winding with our very own Neil Whitmill and we did some stampboarding and handbag charm making, with Emma Lockey.

The special thing about observing the group over this last year has been seeing people of all ages and abilities becoming more confident. When we first started in November 2008, we had a lot of people who came and said 'I am not any good at craft so I may not stay long'. Those same people stayed and have kept coming...not I believe, because they have suddenly become crafters extraordinaire, but because they have felt safe and

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Making Him known through Evangelism

not judged. They've realised that we are none of us experts, we've simply got different strengths and weaknesses like everyone else. For instance, when we did knitted wire jewellery at the beginning of this year with the formidable team of Emma and Mandy Lockey, nearly every single visitor 'had a go'.

We are very fortunate that God has placed people within the group that compliment the needs of those who attend and also a heart to share our faith. On numerous occasions, newcomers have commented on how welcoming the atmosphere of the group is and because we openly chat about answers to prayer and the things we have experienced through the power of prayer, we make God a lot more real to those who do not yet believe. We have started displaying more scripture and art work that is hopefully thought provoking and prompts questions.

The Heart in Works of Heart is well and truly beating. As I have been writing this report a verse has come to me which I am certain is for the group.

Psalm 27; 13 and 14

'I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord'

Vicky Tyler

Gothic House

Gothic House is a sheltered housing community for the elderly in Arlesey. We hold a service on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the community centre. It is a joy to meet with people, some of whom are well into their nineties but able to cope in their own homes. Whilst some are fit enough to make it to the parish church, several are not; so this is an important gathering to encourage their faith and spiritual life. We also take time afterwards to share tea and biscuits and offer to pray for specific needs.

We use a mix of songs old and new and intersperse them with Bible readings, Psalms and a scripture-based talk. We have continued to encourage the group to pray not only for each other but also for issues in the wider world. In October we celebrated the 10th anniversary of this outreach and Meg Roberts came as our guest speaker; we had a special cake and other goodies. It is remarkable that at least 3 members of the group have been with us since that first gathering. Since for all the residents this is the last chapter of their lives, numbers vary. We average about 10 on a good day.

We are blessed by this opportunity to share the gospel that Jesus is Lord and to

encourage others to maintain their faith to life's end.

The Team:

David & Heather Smith

Lorna Grant, Eileen Condor

Ladies Events

During 2010 both the Stotfold and the Letchworth Ladies join together for times of prayer, fellowship and fun together. It's always good to meet up with those who fellowship at Letchworth.

Prayer suppers are well supported during the year with a variety of speakers and themes. They continue to be a place where fellowship and spiritual truths take place and we thank God for all that He achieved through these times together in 2010. We look forward to seeing what He has in store for us in 2011.

Social events as always are very well supported and the year was started with a trip to Plinston Hall to see a production of 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. It was a great evening as 30 of us sat and enjoyed the show.

In December we had our annual Christmas meal together and over 50 ladies attended. With many of them being friends of church ladies. This is always a very special time together and one that is looked forward to by many.

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We continue to use these times as a way of encouraging our non-Christian friends and those on the perimeters, to come along and see that Christians are allowed to have fun. We have many regular faces that attend these evenings that I know are not yet Christians, but come along and are a part of what is going on.

I would like to thank all those ladies who support both these ministries- without you it would not be possible I would also like to thank Christine Wheatley for organising both the prayer supper and the ladies nights out

We are always open to new idea so why not make a suggestion? You never know it may be just what we always wanted to do!!

Gill Roberts

Over 50s Luncheon Club

The over 50s luncheon club meets on the second Thursday of each month at the The Five Bells, Henlow at 12.15pm for a 12.30pm meal.

Between 30 and 35 of us gather together and it's a great time with church members, husbands and friends enjoying each other's company in an informal setting. It provides an opportunity for Christians and non-Christians to meet together in a way which allows Jesus to be shared over a meal in much

the same way he shared with his friends.

If you are 50 or over you would be so welcome to join in with us. The food and the service are very good at the Five Bells and the price for two courses is now £6.35, the company warm and friendly.

Many thanks to all of you, who have attended and made it such a special time.

Doug Deards

Churches Together

The churches together committee have meet throughout the last year to organise various events, the major three being the holiday club, the joint Easter events and the town carols by candlelight service. Also we have tried to do more things together, so for instance we tried to make sure that all the church stalls at the Stotfold festival were together to show a sign of both witness and unity, though due to an administrative error that never happened, but all of the churches were at the festival.

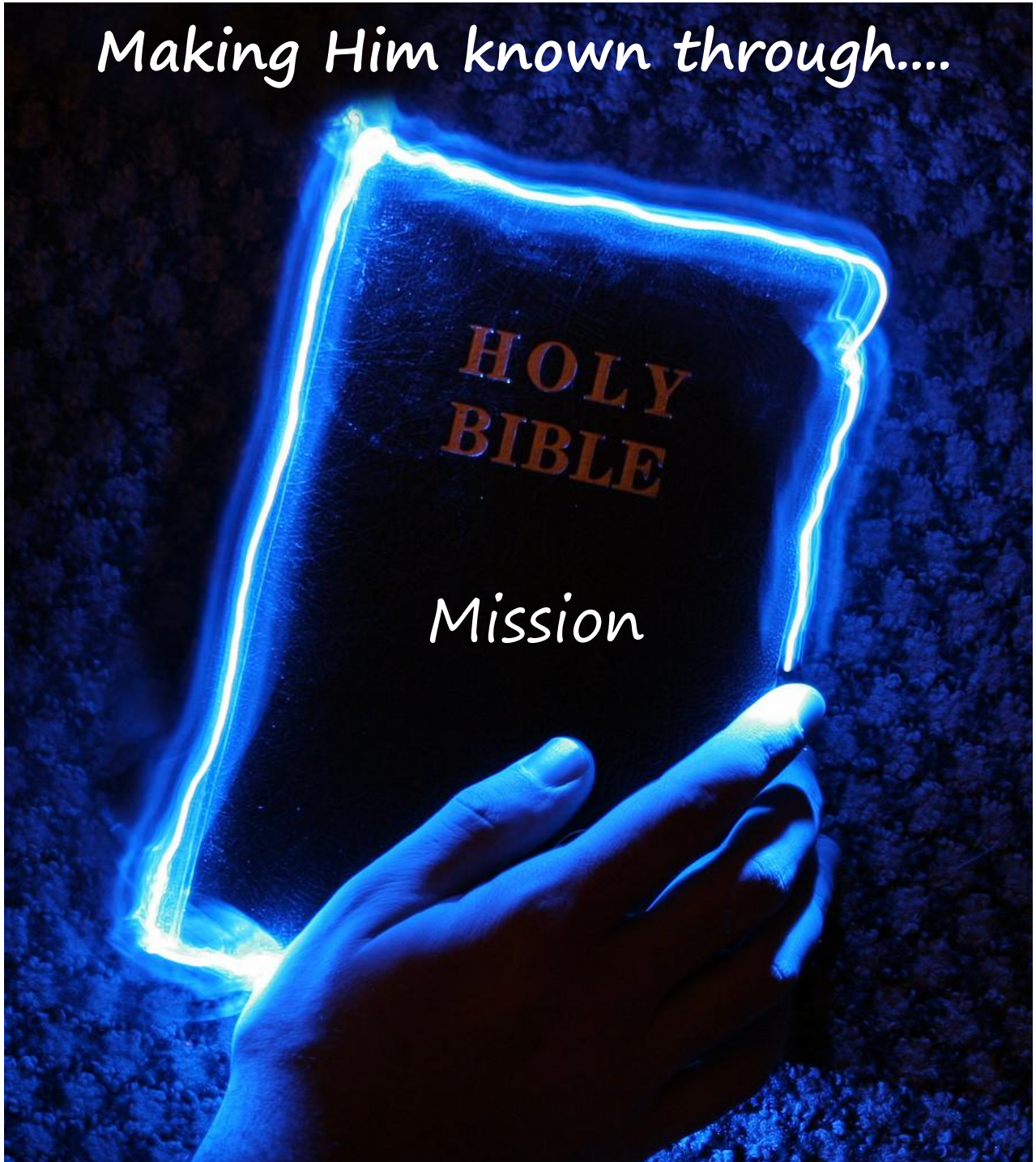
Throughout the year the ministers continue to meet on a regular basis for fellowship and encouragement, and as a committee we have spent a lot of time this year looking at why we meet together and what we would like to do in the future

which will hopefully bear much fruit. There have been a number of changes of personnel on the committee over the last 12 months, Peter Wade has joined us as the Fairfield Community Church rep. I would like to take Neil Douglas and Sara Searle for all the help and commitment they have shown to churches together during the year, and as mentioned, Peter Wade has recently brought his wisdom to the committee meetings.

Philip Amos

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Making Him known through....



Making Him known through Mission

Mission

Our mission effort during 2010 has remained with those people and organisations that we have supported on a long term basis:

- Pastor Philippe Ouedraogo and his team in Burkina Faso
- Ian and Liz Clifford at the 'Maison Esther' in France
- Keith and Jeanne Smith and their Healing Communities ministry in Germany
- Kings Community Church, Letchworth (supported from the Radburn Fund)
- Pastor Sergei in the Ukraine
- Christian Initiative to Schools (CIS) in Letchworth
- Baptist Missionary Society
- Baptist Home Mission Fund

Last year we reported that we had been able to help Pastor Nikiema in the extension of their church at Komki, in Burkina Faso – to accommodate a further 200 congregation! It was with sadness that we learnt that in the summer a severe storm had destroyed the local school, ripping off the roof. Some 20 children were taken to hospital with 9 severely hurt, with at least one fatality.

Less tragic, but a challenge to the faith of God's people, the church which we (King's Baptist Church) had helped to finance was razed to the ground. Somewhat ironically, the old church building was left standing! We were able to stand with Pastor Nikiema as he saw his vision in pieces (quite literally) by sending a further £1,750 to help with rebuilding costs.

Partly as a response to our financial position, but also following a review of activities that we support, we decided that at the end of 2010 after more than 10 years of financial and prayer support, we would end our period of financial support to the ministry of Ian and Liz Clifford. We pray that God will bless them in their continued work in France and the Congo. We will continue to hold them up in prayer.

Whilst our mission support is amazing for a fellowship of our size, there are further areas - in terms of support for our missionaries and in terms of updating the fellowship with their news and prayer needs – where we could develop. At last two year's AGMs, I have made an appeal for people to pray whether they felt a prompting from God to take on this crucial role. So far, no-one has felt that calling, however, I would ask you all to continue to prayerfully seek God's leading in this.

Through your generous giving we have also been able to support so many ministries during this last year. Thank you for your continued support.

Peter Wade

Fairtrade

The annual Fairtrade Fortnight has just taken place. For this year's theme "Show off your label", the Fairtrade Foundation asked the nation to show off about buying Fairtrade products, which offers 7.5 million people in the Developing World a more secure future.

At King's Baptist Church, as part of our responsibility of being a Fairtrade Church, we recently had a weekend of Fairtrade activity. On Saturday March 5th we had a Fairtrade sale and then on Sunday 6th March we shared a breakfast together, showcasing a variety of different Fairtrade food products.

In Micah 6:8 it says, "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Buying Fairtrade products is a very practical way to demonstrate justice by supporting the producer groups in the developing world.

There are several people in our congregation who are committed 'Fairtraders.' If you

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Making Him known through Mission

would like more information, are interested in setting up a regular order from Traidcraft or would like to know where to buy Fairtrade products please come and speak to me.

Whatever Fairtrade product you buy, it does make a difference.

Jane Baker

Tearfund

Our support for both Tearfund and Baptist Missionary Society this year was rather different than in previous years.

These agencies were originally set up in order to bring the love of God in a physical, spiritual and financial way, in response to emerging disasters around the world – all through local evangelically-based organisations.

The scale of those disasters that were originally envisaged has been overwhelmed by the scale and enormity of those that have arisen during 2010.

In January, Haiti was hit with a massive earthquake that devastated the island and caused a terrible loss of life. The death toll has also been estimated to be somewhere in the region of 220,000 with around 1.5 million to 1.8 million made homeless.

Then in July, Pakistan was hit with massive floods - approximately one-fifth of Pakistan's total land area was underwater, some 800,000 square kilometres (over 300,000 sq mi). According to data issued by the Pakistani government, the floods directly affected about 20 million people, mostly by destruction of property, livelihood and infrastructure, with a death toll of close to 2,000.

As a church we were able to send £3,200 that was raised through free-will offerings and events to Tearfund and the Baptist Missionary Society to support their work in response to these disasters.

At the time of writing this, Japan has just suffered an earthquake that is amongst the worst 5 that have ever been experienced. The resulting tsunami and radiation leaks from the damaged nuclear reactors have already claimed and will continue to claim, many thousands of lives.

TEARFUND encourages us to:

- **PRAY**
- **GIVE**
- **CAMPAIGN**
- **BUY** – Traidcraft, Fairtrade


I hope that these will be our responses to this latest tragedy and that we will be able to continue our support for Tearfund and the Baptist

Missionary Society – to bring hope and help in the Lord's name.

Peter Wade

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Making Him known through....

A hand is shown holding a dark-colored Bible. The Bible is surrounded by a bright, glowing blue light that outlines its shape. The words "HOLY BIBLE" are embossed in gold on the cover of the Bible.

**HOLY
BIBLE**

Administration

Making Him known through Administration

Administration

As head of Administration one of the major tasks that I wanted to accomplish was to sort out the problems of a cold and draughty manse, and I am pleased to say that after what feels like years of trying different approaches to solve the problems we have managed to sell the old manse and buy a brilliantly warm, modern house. It seemed a daunting process to find a buyer but one was found almost immediately and when we found the new manse it fulfilled all the requirements necessary and saved us some money too, Now Philip, Rachel, and the boys are cosy and warm in their new manse and Willow has new fields to wander.

Shortly after selling the manse we were shocked to find out just how many people had keys for the church and that the Baptist Insurance Company were definitely not happy with the number of keys in circulation, so we changed the locks on the church and we haven't run into many problems since – sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Due to various other time commitments outside of church I have felt that I needed to step down as department head for administration. I would like to take this opportunity to say how very grateful I am to all who have made the job easier and for all those encouraging remarks from various church

members. I would especially like to say a large thank you to all the people who have helped in so many ways behind the scenes. It is true to say that I could not have done the work without them. I would particularly like to thank Dawn Addams who has made sure that all the church bills have been paid on time and dealing with all things monetary. She has faithfully come in to the office every Monday to keep a track of all the bills and receipts. Talking of the office I'd like to thank Doug Deards for the work he has done to try and ease the workload. Finally, thank you to Jayne Yule, who has battled for another year trying to keep Philip organised, and in any spare time has produced various leaflets and flyers.

In closing, just a loving reminder that we still need an office manager as the workload never seems to get smaller.

Peter Yule

Treasurer's Report

The final accounts for 2010 showed that there was a reduction in the general reserves of some £25K. This was an improvement over the budget for the year which had been based upon a predicted reduction of slightly over £55K

Income received into the general fund for the year was £119K, which was £11K

favourable compared to the Budget of £108K. This favourable increase was largely due to additional income from Fairfield.

As ever, my thanks go to all those people who have given so generously this year and also I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that pays income tax, of the additional benefit that comes from the use of Gift Aid.

Expenditure of £144K was lower than the Budget of £163K, the main differences being £8K reduction on staff costs resulting from Robert Palmer moving on from the role of Youth Leader, a saving of £5K on building repairs compared to budget, £3k lower than budgeted expenditure on the pastoral fund and further saving arising from the review of church running costs that was carried out at the beginning of the year by our Head of Administration.

Income on other funds during the year was a further £11K – College Fund £5K, Need Project (formerly Father's Storehouse) £3K and international relief (Haiti + Pakistan Floods) £3K.

During the year it was necessary to set up an additional fund to handle the sale of the manse in Church Road. Following that sale and the purchase of the new manse in Norton Road, there was an overall surplus of £19K – praise the Lord! The funds are

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Making Him known through Administration

restricted and will be used to make any alterations or modifications to the new manse.

The total value of Funds at the close of the year stood at £127K excluding the value of the Church building and the Manse. This is comprised of:

General Fund	£ 81K
Manse	£ 19K
Letchworth Fund	
(Radburn)	£ 11K
College Fund	£ 8K
New Building Fund	£ 3K
Need Project	
(Father's S/H)	£ 2K
Others	£ 3K

Again, the church Budget preparation was challenging, however, we were able to propose the Church Meeting a budget that, although anticipating another year of deficit, was a reflection of how we felt the Spirit was leading us as a fellowship. The Budget is for an Income in line with 2010 of £118K, reflecting the addition of Fairfield and other known changes. The Expenditure is budgeted as £140K – slightly less than 2010. This budget will lead to a reduction in the General Fund of £21K, reducing it to £60K.

It is still necessary to comment that will need to address the underlying trends in our finances, as clearly we cannot sustain a deficit indefinitely. However, we thank God for the way that He has blessed us

during 2010 and pray that He will bring the increase in 2011 and beyond. He calls for only one thing from us and that is obedience.

In preparing this report, I would like to thank David Smith for his work preparing the accounts and for Dawn Addams for her work as the bookkeeper – they both do sterling work, but usually share none of the limelight.

Peter Wade

Treasurer

Membership

Q. Can I be a Christian without joining other Christians in the church? A. Yes, it is something like—being a soldier without an army, a seaman without a ship, a businessman without a business, a tuba player without an orchestra, a football player without a team, or a bee without a hive." This reminds me of a well-known verse: *"... so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others (Romans 12:5)".*

During 2010 we sadly had to say "au revoir" to Tom and Angela Caley who have moved away to Norfolk but they still miss fellowship with us. We now have 103 people in membership and it is good to know that the new members joining us in 2010 have been 'grafted in' and already are contributing much to

the life-blood of King's Baptist Church.

Kevin How

Property Group

We have had a busy year keeping the church ticking over. The members of the property group have all worked really hard. Tony Cimino has made a superb job of the doors to the church - with the new brass door furniture they now look so much better. I want to thank Tony for all his work; we are going to miss him as he has stood down from the committee this year. Peter Hornet has been in the church most weeks fixing, repairing and adjusting things. He has a real heart to help in so many ways. Matt Wheatley has sourced new lights for the sanctuary because they don't make the size we use any more, he and Neil Douglas also did a great job of converting a large cupboard for more of Pauline Wade's accumulated ministry resources

Then we had the work day where we painted offices and once again I was overwhelmed by the number of people that gave of their time at the weekend to paint, fix and clean. Thank you all.

Peter Yule

Cleaning

The cleaning rota appears to be working well. We did have a few

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Making Him known through Administration

hiccups to begin with but now it seems to be a success, putting the next month's rota in 'family matters' – our monthly news sheet has helped, so thanks to all of you who give of your time on a Saturday morning to ensure we have a lovely clean church for Sunday.

Also thanks must go to those of you who clean the hall after Church. It's another one of those jobs that goes unseen by most but makes a huge difference every week. And lastly thanks to Carole Finch who has taken over the job of monitoring the cleaning supplies to make sure there are always some available.

Peter Yule

Gardening

For many years Kevin and Gill Roberts did a marvellous job maintaining our gardens. Though since Kevin and Gill have stepped down from their gardening duties the church gardens have looked less organised. There have been many a valiant try at taming the weeds as people have stepped in and helped. I would like to thank them for giving up their time. However, we really need someone to take on the maintenance of the gardens – if that special someone is you, please see one of the elders. Finally a special thanks go to Ian Fisher for his sterling work weeding and growing potatoes.

Peter Yule

Regional Association

Although King's Baptist Church has not been represented at the Regional Association's Meetings, we have continued involvement at three levels:

- Continued support of the growth of new and growing Baptist churches in the United Kingdom through contributions to the Home Mission Fund.
- As well as giving to the Home Mission Fund two churches we are linked with have received funding from the HMF – Kings Community Church, Letchworth and Sandy Baptist. Our funding for LCC came to an end December 2010 and Sandy's funding will end in the Summer of 2011.
- The Association is raising the profile of safeguarding children and adults and held a training morning in early 2010, which was attended by four people from KBC. A Regional working group has been established and Angie Clark is a member of this group.

The Saturday evening events run jointly between KBC, Bromham and Biggleswade take forward the Baptist tradition of churches "associating" and

working together to evangelise the area and take forward God's kingdom.

Theo Clark

Flowers

It is that time of year when it is my privilege to say 'Thank you' to all on the flower rota for the generous and beautiful displays of flowers each week. This is a very special ministry appreciated by those to whom the flowers are given, and also by all who see them in church.

If there is anyone (ladies or gentlemen!) who would like to contribute on any of the four Sundays which have vacancies I would be very happy to put their name against those dates; these are May 29th, July 17th, October 23rd and October 30th.

May God's blessing surround you throughout this year.

Lorna Grant.

To save, to disciple and to release in Jesus' name

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