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May 2018

LAST MONTH'S  
FIGURES

## Captain's Column

Dear Friends,

What a privilege for me to welcome three new adherents and enrol a senior soldier on Easter Sunday. It reminded me of how we all need to feel we belong and in a church we can and feel we are all part of God's family.

**Ephesians 2:19: -**

*'You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people.'*

Many can remember the pain of being the last one to be picked for the team at school, or being left alone in the playground while everyone else was playing together. This sense of isolation can also extend into adulthood as many feel they are 'outsiders', not belonging.

The need to belong and to be at home in a community is important for all of us. Not to belong to a community is to experience loneliness. A person may have many acquaintances and be involved in a number of organizations, but that's not the same thing as knowing the feeling of belonging. Many people today don't feel they belong anywhere and they feel like foreigners in a strange land.

Paul assured the early Christians in Ephesus that being "in Christ" through faith also made them part of the community of God's people and God's household. The same is true for us today.

Today God's household is called the church, the family of God.

Every one of us who is a follower of Jesus needs to find a home in the church with other believers in Christ. That's not always easy.

There may have been times when you may have felt like a foreigner or a stranger. I know I have in my younger days! You may even have been tempted to give up on it. But a place in God's household is God's gift to you. Being part of a church family is a crucial part of our discipleship. Jesus never wants anyone to feel alone, he taught us how to be a family together and gave us all a place to feel we belong and are loved.

Even as we find our place in God's family, we likewise need to be agents of welcoming others. The benefit of belonging to a household is a two-way street. Not only are we ourselves blessed, but we are called to be the instrument in God's hand to welcome others.

I believe it is only in feeling we belong that we can then believe and work together as a community to bring others to the faith.

### Prayer

**Father in heaven, thank you for welcoming us into the household of faith. Thank you also for the good news of Jesus that makes this possible. Thank you for our three new adherents— Helen, Lucy and Marion and for Rowan as our newest Senior Soldier. We pray God's hand of blessing on their journey of faith and may they enjoy that sense of belonging to the family of God. Amen.**

*Carol*

### SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

Week 1	57
Week 2	34
Week 3	39
Week 4	31

### AVERAGE 40

Offerings	
Envelope giving	£ 1531.60
Collection	£ 216.23
Total	£ 1747.83

### Easter Sunday Blessings of new recruits!



Adherents Helen & Lucy Gill & Marion Pearson



Senior Soldier—Rowan Hall

## SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS

### May

- 6th Barbara K, Adrian, Peter  
 13th Sheila D, Maureen, Melanie, Sheila Anderson.  
 20th Sheila & Ray A.  
 27th Sally, Helen, Sheila S, Jean

### June

- 3rd Kathyne, Helen, Rowan  
 10th Barbara K, Adrian, Peter  
 17th Sheila D, Maureen, Melanie, Sheila Anderson.  
 24th Sheila & Ray A.  
 1st July Sally, Helen, Sheila S, Jean
- If you would like to help with this please see Carol/ Steph** Thank you to the teams who volunteer to do this each week.



### Prayers

- This month we would pray once again for those who are unwell and unable to get out and for those caring for them. We pray for healing for Janet, Karen & Adrian. There are others and God knows each one by name and hears our prayers for them. We pray for a sense of God's peace in each heart and life.
- Each month we pray for one of the groups connected with our corps and this month we pray for our outreach groups that are connected to us - the work of the foodbank and the work of street pastors. Two vital support networks for our local community. We praise God for those who volunteer and work in these groups and we pray for God's hand to be upon all those who are helped by these groups. We also pray for the work of Saffron Walden Assemblies team. We thank God for Val and coordinating all that happens. We pray God will continue to use and bless this avenue of service and many young lives will hear the message of Jesus through those who volunteer.
- Pentecost prayer—  
 For the Spirit of Peace that calms our mind and stills our life, we give you thanks. For the Spirit of Love that touches hearts and reaches out, we give you thanks. For the Spirit of Joy that lifts our soul and gives us faith we give you thanks. For the Spirit of Power, that gift of grace for this your church, we give you thanks. Amen



### UNITED CHURCH PRAYERS

For the month of May we are invited to pray for Swards end and Little Walden C of E Church. We pray for leaders and members of this church. We also pray for Radwinter Primary School, the teachers and children.



Please join us for our next Messy Church at The Salvation Army  
 For craft, singing, Bible story, food. A time for all the family of fun, food and fellowship.  
 All Welcome and its free!!  
**Sunday 6th May 4pm**



**God's helper arrives (Pentecost)  
 Come and have some fun!**

### Few forward dates for your diary!

**Farewell Sunday 1st July**  
 Captain Carol Leading meeting 10am

Sunday 8th July Tony & Julia leading meeting 10am

Sunday 15th July Steph Hall leading meeting 10am

**Sunday 22nd July**  
**Welcome Sunday to Captain Katrina Thurlow.** 10am  
 Installation by Major Margaret Ord

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### May

- 1st Well café  
 CAMEO - The language of flowers led by Capt Carol  
 2nd Toddlersong 10am  
 3rd Well café  
 4th 6.30pm Community Band  
 6th Worship Service led by Captain Carol 10am  
 4pm Messy Church  
 8th Well café  
 9th Toddlersong 10am  
 10th Well café  
 11th 6.30pm Community Band  
 13th Worship Service led by Capt Carol 10am  
 15th Well café  
 CAMEO - Straw Hat day  
 16th Toddlersong 10am  
 17th Well café  
 Street Pastors Meeting 7pm  
 18th 6.30pm Community Band  
 20th Pentecost Worship Service Led by retired Officer Major Jenny Doohan 10am  
 22nd—24th Carol Away  
 22nd Well café  
 23rd Toddlersong 10am  
 24th Well café  
 25th 6.30pm Community Band  
 27th Sunday Worship Service led by Steph Hall 10am  
 28th-30th Carol & Steph Away on holiday  
 28th-1st Half Term holidays

### June

- 3rd Messy Church 4pm  
 Sat 30th Saffron Walden Salvation Army Community band & Chelmsford band on bandstand 11.30am and bring

### Saturday 30th June

### Concert on the bandstand

### Chelmsford Salvation Army Band 12.30-1.30pm



Also another chance to hear how our own band are progressing as a warm up for Chelmsford Band!  
 11.30-12noon.

Bring a picnic & join us.  
 All Welcome

