



Issue 13:11

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JANUARY 2009

LAST MONTH'S
FIGURES

MAJOR'S MUSINGS

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

Week 1	44
Week 2	46
Week 3	60
Week 4	28

AVERAGE 45

Finance figures for last month
not yet completed To be
included in next newsletter



Dear friends,

May I take this opportunity first of all
to wish you all a very ...

Happy New Year

We can't possibly know everything that 2010 will hold for us, but we do know that there are some major changes and challenges to be faced within our corps life as well as anything that this year holds for us each personally. As the saying goes: *"We may not know what the future holds: But we do know who holds the future."* and our trust in God's presence and provision should make all the difference to the way we face this New Year.

Here are some words of Joyce Huggett:

**"And so, Lord, we have seen the end of one year
And the beginning of a new one.
A new year, laid open, and here I am stepping into it.
And yet there are feelings of uncertainty,
Even a little fear of what it holds,
Fear of what it may demand of me.
Have I the resources, Lord to meet this New Year?
Can I enter it with joy
And certainty and contentment?"**

**"My Child, This is the year I have made
For you! Accept it gladly,
Dance into it And carry with you
The joy of resurrection,
The peace of self-giving,
The love that forgives and gives.
Delight yourself in this new Year
As a child delights in all that is new.
Revel in it, Absorb it"
For it is new, this year I have made."**

And even more importantly, here are some verses straight from the
Word of God to encourage us as we enter 2010



**Malachi 3:6:
"I am the Lord,
All Powerful,
and I do not change."**



**Jeremiah 29:11
"I know the plans
I have for you ...
plans to give you
a hope and a future."**



**Matthew 28:20
"And surely I am with
you always, to the
very end of the age."**

All of that points to God's Commitment to us, and to His part of the covenant relationship that we are called to have with Him. That covenant is complete when we in turn accept His Lordship and surrender our will to His. In the Salvation Army, the second Sunday of each year is set aside as "Commitment Sunday" when we are encouraged to give time to a review of our lives with God, leading to the renewal of our commitment to Him. We will be taking time to do just that as we come together next week (10th Jan)

Please take some time this week to pray for that meeting and for each other.
Let us spend time with the Lord for ourselves too claiming the promises that He has made, ensuring then that we come to worship in readiness for a fresh infilling of God's Holy Spirit to empower us for all that lies ahead.

**May God richly
bless us each one.
With
much love
Carol**

SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS

JANUARY

- 3 Colleen, Betty G, Betty H
10 Miriam, Shirley
17 Karen, Adrian, Peter
24 ... United service...
31 Christina, Gael, Jackie



FEBRUARY

- 7 Colleen, Betty G, Betty H
14 Miriam, Shirley
21 Karen, Adrian, Peter
28 Christina, Gael, Jackie

PRAYERS for Saffron Walden

1. For Adrian in his concern for his sister Vonnie who has been admitted to a hospice;
2. For Roy who is receiving a further course of chemotherapy;
3. For Hazel, who had an outing to Addenbrooks this weekend;
4. For June whose pain has increased even more in recent days;
5. For Joyce who is awaiting results of tests;
6. For our ministry within this community; for all who come into our hall for company and physical refreshment, that they will become more and more aware of acceptance and refreshment that is available from the Lord;

News ... of Anita Telford

Although we are sad that, due to distance, Anita is no longer able to worship with us on a regular basis—you will be pleased to know that she is settled into the fellowship of the Bishop Stortford Corps and attends Sunday worship there.

Anita sends her love, and of course we assure her of ours for her too. **God bless you Anita!**

UNITED CHURCH PRAYERS

For the month of **JANUARY** we are invited to pray for **GOLD STREET CHAPEL**

We pray for Pastor Jonathan Burton and his family—and for the leaders and members of the church. We pray God's continued blessing upon their worship and ministry.

STUDY GROUPS

I am hoping to arrange a four week series of study commencing the week of 25th January. This will be in small house groups depending upon leaders available and the numbers of people who are interested in taking part. The sessions will include a short DVD presentation featuring a man called Jeff Lucas followed by a number of questions to consider together and an opportunity for prayer. The theme is: **“GUIDANCE ... as we seek the Will of God.”**

Please would you indicate your interest by adding your name to the sheet on the notice board and stating evenings in the week which would **NOT** suit you.

INTER CHURCH LENT COURSE

As in previous years groups are being arranged for people to meet together across denominations for five sessions during the period of Lent. These will commence in the week beginning 22nd February (the week after our own groups have concluded) Tony and Julia will be hosting an evening group in their home, and this year Kelvin will be leading a morning group in our hall. Other details will be posted on the notice board as soon as we have them. The groups will be following the York Course again and the study this year is entitled: **“WHEN I SURVEY ... Christ's cross and ours”**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

JANUARY

- Tuesday 5** Cameo meeting: “Looking to and fro”
Tuesday 5 1st Junior Soldier class of this term
Thursday 7 “The Well” reopens
Friday 8 Singing Group
Sunday 10 Commitment Sunday
Mon 18– Fri 22 Carol on furlough for five days (no JS class this week)
Tuesday 19 “Fashion parade!”

Sunday 24 No meeting or Jam Club in our hall. United service and united Sunday School :
St Mary's church: 10am for week of prayer for Christian Unity:

Week commencing 25th: Series of four sessions of bible study to commence this week. Venues and times to be arranged. (See note in centre)

FEBRUARY

- Tuesday 2** Cameo: “Guess who!”
Friday 5 Singing group
Sunday 7 Young People's prize-giving Sunday led by YPSM.
Thursday 18 Carol speaking at Methodist Women's Guild. 3pm
Friday 19 Singing Group
Tue 23—Fri 26 Carol away for Officer's training/retreat.
Week Commencing 22nd: Series of five sessions of Inter-church Lent groups commence. (Details of times and venues to follow)

FURTHER DATES TO MAKE A NOTE OF

Sunday 7 March:
Self Denial Missionary
Altar Service

Sunday 28th March:
A united Church event: Visit of the Saltmine Theatre Company to stage a production called **“Who moved the stone.”** This will be a great event to invite friends along to. It will be held at the Baptist Church commencing at 4.30 or 5pm. Further details to follow.

Sunday 11th July
Farewell Sunday for Officers with a change of appointment

Sunday 1st August
Welcome Sunday for Officers in a new appointment

