

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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The Vicar would like to hear of cases of sickness. Please send messages to the Vicarage.

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Ansley Vicarage

1st July, 1987

Our Dear Friends,

On the day that 48-year-old Dr. Jean Mutimer had a scan which showed cancer of both ovaries, her Bible Reading Scripture Union notes called 'Alive to God' included the verse from Psalm 50 "Call upon Me in the day of trouble, I will deliver you, and you will honour Me."

Dr. Mutimer was anointed with oil and prayed for by members of her Church at Maidstone in Kent.

After the surgeons had operated and found no trace of cancer and precisely eight days after the scan, Jean Mutimer turned to the 'Alive to God' notes for the day and read the words. "Think back to what you've learned in the past eight days about living with the King and about His ways. How has God helped you to thank and praise Him and to trust and obey Him?"

"How fantastic!" says Dr. Mutimer. The notes didn't say what we'd learned in the last week or month but specifically said 'eight days.' During that time I had come face to face with death, made my will, said goodbye to my relatives, made arrangements with my partners about my general practice and my patients and then in a truly miraculous way, God had given me my life back over again. Not only did the gynaecologist acknowledge it was a miracle, but said he had never seen anyone recover so quickly from such major surgery. That was a miracle on top of a miracle.

Just over 40 people in Ansley Parish have Bible Reading notes at the present moment to help in reading and understanding the Bible each day. This must be a personal blessing to those involved. It can be a great encouragement too just simply to discover that God does really care. That He is interested in us, and has our welfare at heart.

Events and circumstances will sometimes seem to contradict that but the conviction must always remain that God is on our side. To be convinced of that must surely lift all who are feeling down, depressed or defeated.

God will bless you as you keep your heart and **mind** in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son Jesus Christ Our Lord.

With our kindest regards,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JULY 1987

Wednesday, July 1st

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Saturday, July 4th

3.00 p.m. Garden Party, Vicarage Garden (in the hall if wet).

Sunday, July 5th — Trinity 3

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "Give us this day our daily Bread."

Tuesday, July 7th

3.00 p.m. Church Hall. M.U. Film on the work of the Gideons.

Sunday, July 12th — Trinity 4

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "Forgive us our trespasses."

Wednesday, July 15th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Sunday, July 19th — Trinity 5

11.00 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion. "As we forgive them."

Sunday, July 26th — Trinity 6

10.00 a.m. Family Service at St. John's, Ansley Common.

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "Temptation."

Monday, July 27th

8.00 p.m. P.C.C. Meeting in the Church Hall.

"TAKE ME WITH YOU"

A party of university students went down to the river of their town to hire a boat.

"Not today, gentlemen," said the boat-hirer, much to their surprise and disappointment, for the day was fine and warm and promising. They protested to the boat-owner, and tried to cajole him into letting them have a boat, promising the greatest possible care if only he would relent.

But he was adamant.

At last he turned to them and said, "Well, gentlemen, if you really want the boat today, you must take me with you."

Now the students wanted the boat, but they had not reckoned on having the boat-owner as well; but since they could not have the one without the other, they reluctantly agreed to his suggestion. And very glad indeed they were when, some time later, as they rounded a bend in the river, they ran into a sudden squall which would have completely upset their boat but for the experience of the owner, who was in charge, and who saved the little craft from capsizing.

When they had got safely under the protection of the lee side of the shore, they expressed surprise at the suddenness of the storm.

The owner said, "I knew it was a day when such storms were likely at this particular part of the river; that was why I said if you wanted the boat you must take me with you. I was not prepared to risk either my boat or your lives by letting you go alone."

We are quite unaware of what kind of "weather" our life will encounter during whatever number of years may lie ahead for each one of us.

Sometimes the fairest day can finish in the widest storm, and we do well to put the ship of our life into the charge of the One who made us and who knows all about us. "Take me with you," is His gracious invitation to each one of us for today and every day, and if we receive Him into our lives as Saviour and guide, He will add His gracious further promise, "I am with you all the days, even unto the end of the age."

Gift Day was Sunday, June 14th and the Bishop preached to us at the evening service. Approximately 50 boxes were brought in. Altogether they contained over £550, which means that we have gone over half way to reaching our gift day target of £1000. There are still about fifty more boxes to be returned. If you still have yours please be kind enough to let us have it back as soon as possible. It will be good to reach our target and meet our financial commitments.

Ansley Village Mothers' Union meets on Tuesday afternoon July 7th at 3.00 p.m. in the hall. A film will be shown and a talk given on the work of the Gideons. Everyone is welcome to this event, and there will be a cup of tea and a bun at the close of the meeting.

The Garden Party will be on Saturday afternoon July 4th at 3.00 p.m. held in the Vicarage Garden. In the unlikely event of rain the proceedings will be held in the Church Hall. Various stalls, games, and refreshments should provide a pleasant afternoon. If you feel energetic please come to the Hall at 11.00 a.m. in the morning of that day to help prepare.

Warwickshire Welfare Rights Service have asked us to mention that many eligible people had not claimed their full Social Security benefits to which they are legally entitled. Anyone who has yet to hear from the DHSS or requires further help and information should contact them at 51B Station Street, Atherstone. Tel.: 716403.

We can all help to keep the Churchyard neat and tidy by picking up rubbish, pulling up the weeds, forking over a flower bed. Spending a pleasant few minutes or more can help towards achieving our goal of winning the 'Best Kept Churchyard' competition. It will also encourage the regular team of volunteers who work so faithfully to keep the Church grounds looking so presentable.

CHRISTIANS IN MOZAMBIQUE

At the beginning of July 1986 the Communist force called Frelimo came during our Church Service and arrested everyone all 134 of us. 'Why are you praying?' they asked. 'We never liberated Mozambique by prayer, but by guns!' They took the choir leader and slit his throat with a knife. The Church Secretary, they chopped with a machete. He leaves a wife and three children. Another man they tied up with wire and beat him

until his back was broken and both his arms. He has six children and a wife to care for. He can only walk with great difficulty now.

The Communists were very angry because we had children in the Church. 'We want all the children, they must be Marxist.'

All our possessions, even our clothes were stolen. Our Bibles and hymn books were burnt and we are not allowed to bury the bodies of our brethren who have been killed.

A visitor travelling in the Zambezi Province in Mozambique writes, "How can I describe my emotions as believers cry and fall to their knees, kissing the Bible I had just given them, and shouting Praises to God, laughing, kissing my hand and soaking me in their tears." 'I have never had a Bible before,' wept one. 'Not since the Communists took my Bible in 1977 have I had the Word of God for myself,' whispered another in disbelief.

(from the World Outreach Magazine)

Editor: Bill Molenkamp

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

Baptism — "Repent and believe the Gospel"

June 7—Matthew John Craddock.

Helen Ruth Thompson.

June 21—Sallie Edith Anthill.

Marriage — "What God has joined together let no man put assunder"

June 6—David Proctor and Julie Ann Courts.

Ian David Cove and Ruth Anne White.

June 20—Roger Alan Stain and Kathleen Bennett.

Funerals — "God is a very present help in time of trouble"

June 1—Guy Charles Burnham, 18 years.

June 17—Gwyneth May Ryan, 64 years.

June 19—Eric Toon, 62 years.

DAVID AND GALLIATH

Once upon a time there was a Shepherd boy called David. One day his father had to go to a battle with the biggest man in the world his name was Galliath. David was worried about his father, so he collected some stones and followed him. When they got there Galliath said, "Send me your best man," and David went forward. Galliath laughed, but David got out a stone, put it in a sling shot and blinded Galliath. So David became everybody's hero.

Owen Niblock, 5 years.