

## Contact details

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Colin Brown  
Tony Cotton  
Simon Garthwaite  
Keith Goulding  
Mark Laughlan  
Gareth Lewis  
Stephen Pentland  
Jonny Raine  
Tim Record  
Chris Smith  
Steve Warner  
Garry Williams  
Haydn Williams

### ChristChurch Deacons

Chris Ashurst  
Lou Bailey  
Sarah Bruce  
Jenny Capaldi  
Phil Ioannou  
Denise Johnson  
Pam Lavers  
Chris Price  
Marcus Whitehead  
Sarah Vickers  
Janet Wood  
Steve Woolcock

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**[www.christchurchharpenden.org.uk](http://www.christchurchharpenden.org.uk)**  
**Reg Charity No 1128660**



## New at ChristChurch?

If you are new to **ChristChurch**, a very warm welcome to you. If you have picked up this booklet because you are attending one of our services, we hope you enjoy your time with us!

**ChristChurch** is a community of Christian believers in Harpenden, and we hope this *Taste and See* booklet will help you to get a better idea of who we are, the variety of activities we are involved in and the opportunities we provide to grow in our Christian faith.

### A faith-filled community

We run three services on a Sunday, each with a different flavour. We also run a number of groups during the week, each aiming to encourage our community – be they 5 years old or 90 years old – to deepen their faith in Jesus and live it out in practice.

### Go deeper?

If you want to delve a little deeper into the life of **ChristChurch**, please visit the welcome desk at the 10.30am service, or talk to anyone at any of our services. Alternatively, email our Minister Gareth Lewis on [g\\_lewis@ntlworld.com](mailto:g_lewis@ntlworld.com).

### Membership at ChristChurch

If you are a committed Christian and want to make **ChristChurch** your home church, we encourage you to become members of the church. Please get in touch with our church administrator, Sarah Vickers on 01582 713031 or [vickersse@aol.com](mailto:vickersse@aol.com).

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## ChristChurch Harpenden service times

9am	Term Time Church	Vaughan Road
10.30am	Morning Service	Roundwood Park School
6pm	Evening Service	Vaughan Road

## Challenging times

Dear Friends,

As a church, we have spent the past few months looking at the frail yet growing faith of Abraham. What a story of the discovery of grace through the faithful promises of God being fulfilled in his life and that of his family.

If we are disappointed with the slow progress we have made in our following of the Lord Jesus this past year and our life of faith, then we can be sure that God has not finished with us yet.

Faith's greatest challenge for Abraham was when he was asked to sacrifice Isaac, his son, his only son, the son whom he loved. Yet in response to God's word – as hard as it was – faith goes and faith obeys. As you re-read with me that passage from Genesis 22 we see that it is the response of obedience to God's word that leads Abraham to worship.

"Worship" is a word that triggers so many reactions. Of course, on the one hand it is seen in a microcosm as we meet together and gladly sing God's praise – how important that is! But on the other hand, our worship of Almighty God will also be found as we respond in glad obedience to the challenge of God's word when we are addressed in the midst of life with the tough times and the testing times. That is where we will prove God and His utter faithfulness.

So at the point where Abraham was called to be obedient and do the hardest thing, he realised that God could be trusted. He had faith in what God had said and believed in what God could do.

As 2012 begins – and none of us knows what this year will bring – may our default setting be like that of Abraham, who believed God and His word and thus trusted in Him absolutely.

Gareth Lewis  
Senior Minister, **ChristChurch** Harpenden



## Term Time Church (TTC)

### Term Time Church (TTC) Harpenden Sunday @ 9am Vaughan Road

**Term Time Church at Vaughan Road** runs for about 45 minutes. This is a simpler, smaller and quieter service. Coffee is available from 8.45am.

Date	Title	Passage	Speaker
	<b>Series Title: What on earth do you think you are doing?</b>		
15 Jan	John 1:35–51	About Going	Jonny Raine
22 Jan		About Serving	Gareth Lewis
	<b>Series Title: that was the week that was</b>		
29 Jan	John 17:1–5	Glorify the Son	Gareth Lewis
5 Feb	John 17:6–9	Protect Your Servants	Gareth Lewis
12 Feb	No TTC		
19 Feb	No TTC		
26 Feb	John 18:15–27	Questions and Answers	Garry Williams
4 Mar	John 18:28–40	What is Truth?	Gareth Lewis
11 Mar	John 19:1–16	Here is Your King	Gareth Lewis
18 Mar		Mothering Sunday	Gareth Lewis
25 Mar	John 19:28–42	Beneath the Cross of Jesus	Gareth Lewis
1 Apr	No TTC		
6 Apr	No TTC		
8 Apr	No TTC		
15 Apr	No TTC		

#### Toast and Pray

We meet and pray from 8–9am on the fourth Saturday of each month, in Vaughan Road. We start with a light breakfast (toast and homemade marmalade; fresh coffee or tea) from 8am and then pray from 8.20–9am for those we know and love who do not share in our faith in the Lord Jesus. Do come and join us.

**Meetings:** 21 January • 25 February • 24 March

## Sunday Morning Service

### ChristChurch Harpenden Sunday Morning Service @ 10.30am Roundwood Park School

**Morning Church at Roundwood** starts at 10.30am and finishes about 11.45am. Children up to and including school year 11 stay in the service for the first 15 minutes or so and then go to their own groups. We have a creche for 0–3 years and Little Fishes for 3–5 year olds. Refreshments afterwards.

Date	Title	Passage	Speaker
1 Jan	Psalms 72	Long Live the King	Jonny Raine
	<b>Series Title: What on earth do you think you are doing?</b>		
8 Jan C		About Growing: New Year Address	Gareth Lewis
15 Jan	John 1:35–51	About Going	Jonny Raine
22 Jan		About Serving	Gareth Lewis
	<b>Series Title: that was the week that was</b>		
29 Jan	John 17:1–5	Glorify the Son	Gareth Lewis
5 Feb C	John 17:6–9	Protect Your Servants	Gareth Lewis
12 Feb	John 17:20–26	For All Believers	Richard Fairburn
19 Feb	John 18:1–14	Delivered Unto Death	Gareth Lewis
26 Feb	John 18:15–27	Questions and Answers	Garry Williams
4 Mar C	John 18:28–40	What is Truth?	Jonny Raine
11 Mar	John 19:1–16	Here is Your King	Gareth Lewis
18 Mar	Mothering Sunday	Family Service	Nathan Weston
25 Mar	John 19:28–42	Beneath the Cross of Jesus	Gareth Lewis
1 Apr C	John 19:28–42	Fool on the Hill – <b>Palm Sunday</b>	Gareth Lewis
6 Apr @ 9.30am* C	Mark 8:27–38	Life in His Death – <b>Good Friday</b>	Jonny Raine
8 Apr	John 20	Man Alive – <b>Easter Sunday</b>	Jonny Raine
15 Apr	John 21	Men Made New	Gareth Lewis

**Good Friday Service** – This is a communion service. Afterwards, there is the opportunity to join with other churches in the Walk of Witness through the town.

**C = Communion**

## Sunday Evening Service

### ChristChurch Harpenden Sunday Evening Service @ 6pm Vaughan Road

**Evening Church** is a more intimate service that lasts for an hour with coffee and tea available afterwards. The youth (school years 7–13) then have ‘Toast’ from 7.30–9pm.

Date	Passage	Title
	<b>Series Title: Anarchy in the UK</b>	
1 Jan	No meeting (New Year's Day)	
8 Jan	Judges 1:1–2:5	In But Not Out
15 Jan	Judges 2:6–23	Like a Circle in a Spiral
22 Jan	<b>C</b> Judges 3:12–30	Left to his own Devices
29 Jan	Judges 4	A Peg in the Head
5 Feb	Judges 6	Testing Times
12 Feb	Judges 7	For Sparta!
19 Feb	<b>C</b> Judges 8:28–9:57	King of the Trees
26 Feb	Judges 13	Born to Rules
4 Mar	Judges 14	The Honey Trap
11 Mar	Judges 16:4–22	Why why why, Delilah?
18 Mar	An Evening with UCCF and Sinead Bryan	
25 Mar	<b>C</b> Judges 16:23–31	Blind Man's Buff
1 Apr	Judges 19	Israel: the New Sodom <b>Palm Sunday</b>
8 Apr	<b>C</b> Evening of Prayer, Testimony and Communion <b>Easter Sunday</b>	
15 Apr	Judges 20	Brothers Brawling

**C = Communion**

## Midweek meetings

### Home groups

Home groups meet three out of every four weeks in school term time (see pages 8–9). Usually, the first week in every month is a Central Church Prayer Meeting led by one of the groups (see below). Home groups aim to provide a smaller group in which we can learn from God's Word, the Bible, and, through prayer and encouragement, seek to live out what we learn.

### The Hour of Glory

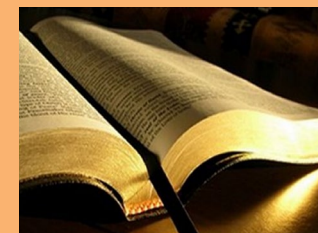
#### John 17–21

This term we will complete our studies in John's Gospel.

Jesus' priority is that people might be with Him and see His glory so that they might know God the Father (John 17:24). These last chapters of John's Gospel describe the hour (time) of Jesus' glory (John 12:23).

What is surprising is how Jesus fights the battle in which He is glorified. What is challenging is that if we are to live for Jesus' glory we must follow that same pattern (John 17:26).

For further information on joining a home group, please contact Haydn Williams on 01438 833329 or email [haydnruth1@aol.com](mailto:haydnruth1@aol.com).



### Central Church Prayer Meetings

Date	Meeting	Leaders
Tuesday 10 January	New Year Prayer Meeting	
Thursday 9 February	Prayer and Praise	Harpenden Music Group
Tuesday 6 March	With focus on STEP	Will Treasure and Richard Davis' home group
Tuesday 3 April	Easter Prayer Meeting	Denise Johnson and Laurie Read's home group
Tuesday 1 May	Prayer Meeting	Haydn Williams' home group
Tuesday 5 June	With mission focus	Mission Committee

## Home groups (continued)

Our home groups meet most weeks during term time. However, in the first week of the month we all meet together for the Central Church Prayer Meeting, and we do not meet in school holidays.

Month	Sunday date	Midweek dates	Meeting
<b>January</b>	1	Tues 3 Thu 5	New Year holidays – no home groups
	8	Tues 10	Central Church Prayer Meeting
	15	Tues 17 Thu 19	Home groups
	22	Tues 24 Thu 26	Home groups
	29	Tues 31 Thu Feb 2	Home groups
<b>February</b>	5	Thu 9	Central Church Prayer Meeting
	12		Half-term – no home groups
	19	Mon 20	Leaders' Training Meeting – no home groups (or socials if groups decide)
	26	Tues 28 Thu 1 Mar	Home groups
	<b>March</b>	4	Tue 6
11		Tues 13 Thu 15	Home groups
18		Tues 20 Thu 22	Home groups
25		Tues 27 Thu 29	Home groups
<b>April</b>	1	Tue 3	Central Church Prayer Meeting
	8		Easter holidays – no home groups

## Home groups (continued)

Our home groups meet on a number of nights during the week at various locations, as listed below.

Day	Venue	Leader
	<b>Series Title: Anarchy in the UK</b>	
<b>Monday (fortnightly)</b>	Varies as announced	Gareth Lewis
<b>Tuesday</b>	Harpenden	Haydn Williams
<b>Tuesday</b>	Wheathampstead	Nick & Clare Jelfs
<b>Tuesday (20s and 30s group)</b>	Harpenden	Jonny Raine
<b>Tuesday</b>	Harpenden	Will Treasure & Richard Davis
<b>Thursday</b>	Harpenden	Mark Laughlan
<b>Thursday</b>	Harpenden	Stephen Pentland
<b>Thursday</b>	Luton	Denise Johnson & Laurie Read
<b>Thursday (Music Team group)</b>	Harpenden	Ben Martin, Steven Snowden & Janet Fawcett

## Youth groups

Bods		
Bods is for <b>school years 1–6</b> . Come and sing, play games, do crafts, eat sweets and learn some brilliant stuff about God.		
Day and time	Location	Dates
Friday 5.45–7pm	Manland School	January – 6, 13, 20, 27
		February – 3, 10
		March – 2, 9, 23

Toast		
Toast is for all in <b>school years 7–13</b> . It's the perfect end to the weekend – join us for Xbox, Wii, and pool action, as well as challenges, games and, of course, toast!		
Day and time	Location	Dates
Sunday 7.30–9pm	Vaughan Road	January – 8, 15, 22, 29
		February – 5, 19, 26
		March – 4, 11, 25

Soul		
Soul is for <b>school years 7–9</b> . Join us for games, air hockey, pool, computer battles and a chance to dig into the Bible.		
This term ... What on earth are we doing when we pray? Join us this term as we're taught how to talk to God, by Jesus.		
Day and time	Location	Dates
Wednesday 6–7.15pm	Vaughan Road	January – 18, 25
		February – 1, 22, 29
		March – 7, 21, 28

## Youth groups

Drenched		
Drenched is for <b>school years 10–11</b> . Come along for games, air hockey, pool, computer battles and a chance to work out what God thinks about life, the universe and everything.		
This term ... What on earth are we doing when we pray? Join us this term as we're taught how to talk to God, by Jesus.		
Day and time	Location	Dates
Wednesday 7.30–8.45pm	Vaughan Road	January – 18, 25
		February – 1, 22, 29
		March – 7, 21, 28

Edge		
Edge is for <b>school years 12–13</b> . Come along for games, hanging-out time and a chance to look more deeply at God's Word.		
This term ... <b>Pressure points for Teens</b> . We will be studying what the Bible says to help us through the maze of pressures that teens face in relationships, the party scene and use of alcohol/drugs, media, social action, identity and materialism.		
Day and time	Location	Dates
Wednesday 7.45–9pm	39a Coldharbour Lane	January – 18, 25
		February – 1, 22, 29
		March – 7, 21, 28

Gathering		
Gathering is a monthly meeting for <b>school years 7–13</b> . You might find us ice-skating, bowling, watching films or eating pizza and talking about what God makes of it all.		
Day and time	Location	Dates
Wednesday 6–8pm	Vaughan Road	January – 11
		February – 8
		March – 14

## Other groups

### Children – Mamites

Mamites is a toddler group for children up to 3½ years of age and their mums/carers. Separate groups meet on Wednesday and Friday mornings at Vaughan Road. We aim to provide a safe, happy environment for the children to play and for their parents/carers to find friendship and support. Each session includes playtime, refreshments, crafts and singing time.

For more information, contact Gillian Treasure on 01582 712175.

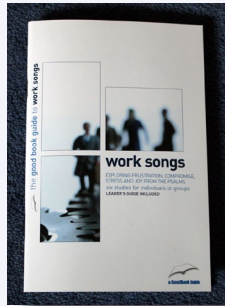
Day and time	Location	Organiser	Dates
Wednesday 10–11.30am	Vaughan Road	Gillian Treasure	January – 11, 18, 25 February – 1, 8, 22, 29 March – 7, 14, 21, 28
Friday 10–11.30am	Vaughan Road	Janet Ashurst	January – 13, 20, 27 February – 3, 10, 24 March – 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

### Men – Cutting Edge

Cutting Edge is a men's group that meets from 8–9.15am on the third Saturday of each month at various locations. Each group meets for breakfast, a Bible study and prayer. This term we will be studying **Work Songs**, which will explore frustration, compromise, stress and joy, using the Psalms.

For more information, contact Mark Faulkner on [markfaulkner9@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:markfaulkner9@tiscali.co.uk) or 01582 513334.

**Meeting dates:** 21 January • 18 February • 17 March



### Senior Citizens' Tea Party



Senior Citizens' tea parties are on Thursdays several times a year from 2.30–4pm at Vaughan Road. Enjoy a delicious homemade tea and fellowship, take part in a quiz or activity, hear words of encouragement from a guest speaker, and sing some hymns.

For more information, please contact Gill Clark on [clarks.uk@btopenworld.com](mailto:clarks.uk@btopenworld.com) or 01582 762715.

**Meeting dates:** 26 January • 15 March

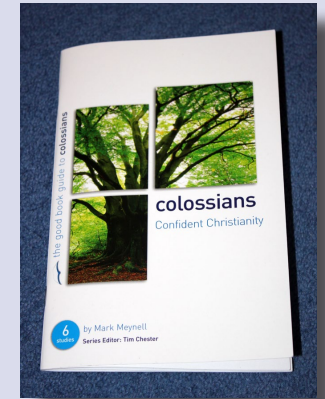
## Other groups

### Women – Word Alive

Word Alive groups for women meet during the day in term time. This term we are studying the book of Colossians using a Bible Study Guide from The Good Book Co – *Confident Christianity*.

Paul wrote his letter to the Colossian church because their faith was being undermined by false teachings that had crept into the church. Christians today face the same sort of dangers. Paul's letter makes clear the nature and identity of Jesus Christ and shows that the only way to grow and be fruitful as a Christian is to be convinced about the true identity of Christ. These studies will help us find the way to achieve true Christian growth into confidence and faithfulness.

**The first meeting on 12 January** will be at Vaughan Road for all groups to get together. We will have coffee and hear from Carolyn Ash who will talk about "Knowing and Finding Contentment at Each Stage of Life". Carolyn is the wife of Christopher Ash, the speaker at our church weekend away. Do come along: it's good to get together and Carolyn will have lots to say to help us – whatever our age and stage!



Day	Venue	Leader	Dates
<b>Wednesday at 1.30pm</b>	Harpenden	Denise Johnson	Jan – 18, 25 Feb – 1, 8, 22, 29 Mar – 7, 14, 21
<b>Thursday at 9.30am (Pre-schoolers group)</b>	Harpenden	Nicola Martin & Fiona Williams	Jan – 19, 26 Feb – 2, 9, 23 Mar – 1, 8, 15, 22
<b>Thursday at 9.30am</b>	Harpenden	Janet Ashurst & Debbie Goulding	Jan – 19, 26 Feb – 2, 9, 23 Mar – 1, 8, 15, 22
<b>Thursday at 9.30am</b>	Harpenden	Cilla Lewis & Sheena Pentland	Jan – 19, 26 Feb – 2, 9, 23 Mar – 1, 8, 15, 22
<b>Thursday at 9.30am</b>	Harpenden	Jackie Price & Heather Brown	Jan – 19, 26 Feb – 2, 9, 23 Mar – 1, 8, 15, 22

## Forthcoming events

**Encounter twenty-twelve** is a series of events in the first half of 2012. Invite your non-Christian friends to events where the gospel will be shared sensitively. Each caters for different interests, so there's something for everyone. The events are:

### Encounter God in Music

An open-mic night on **Friday 20 January**, 8–10:30pm, at Vaughan Road. Between acts evangelist Mike Mellor will give his life story, which involved him playing in bands, and especially how he encountered God. Email Jonny Raine if you'd like to play: [jonny@encounter2012.co.uk](mailto:jonny@encounter2012.co.uk)

### Encounter God in Art

An exhibition from **Thursday 16–Saturday 19 February**, 10am–2pm, at Vaughan Road, featuring the art of professional artist David Raine. Meet David on **Saturday 19 February**, 8–9pm, at Vaughan Road and hear how he came to encounter God and how that affects his creative expression.

### Encounter God in Science

A forum of ethical questions about science and faith on **Saturday 3 March**, 8–9:30pm. Giles Cattermole, a doctor and staff member of the Christian Medical Fellowship, will talk and take questions about how encountering God affects his approach to science.

### Encounter God in the Family

A Messy Church service for all ages and family situations on **Sunday 29 April**. It will involve crafts, games, songs and fun as well as accessible Bible stories and talks encountering God in a family context.

### Encounter God in Sport

A multimedia high-tech sports quiz on **Friday 18 May**, 8–10pm, run by Christians in Sport. During the quiz, professional sports stars will be sharing how they came to encounter God.

### Encounter God in Jesus

As a follow-up to these events we shall be running the *Christianity Explored* course (May and June). As participants work through the gospel of Mark they encounter God in the person of Jesus, seeing who He is and why He came.

For more details on all these events, visit the website – [www.encounter2012.co.uk](http://www.encounter2012.co.uk)



## Forthcoming events

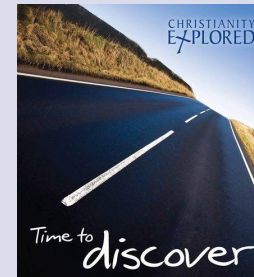
### Youth Weekend

Put **16–18 March** in your diaries now! This year's youth weekend away is for all in **school years 7–13** and will be full of food, fun and fantastic times to get to know God better. **Bookings open in January**. Contact Vic Ritchie on [vicritchie@hotmail.com](mailto:vicritchie@hotmail.com).

### Christianity Explored

A new *Christianity Explored* course starts in January – walk, with others, through Mark's gospel and get to grips with the essentials of the Christian faith. No previous experience necessary!

An opportunity to bring friends, this seven-week informal course begins on **Tuesday 17 January** at Vaughan Road. Meetings run from 7.30–9.15pm.



Each evening includes pizza, drinks, and a DVD presentation followed by questions and discussion. There is no charge.

More information from Gareth Lewis on 07780 993398 or [g\\_lewis@ntlworld.com](mailto:g_lewis@ntlworld.com).

### Leaders' Training

*Training and Encouraging All Our Leaders*

**Monday 20 February**

7–9pm

Vaughan Road



This evening is for **all** leaders of groups in the church – crèche, children's group, youth group, home group, Word Alive group, as well as Elders and Deacons. The evening is to encourage and help us in the ministry we do in the church.

Supper is provided, for those who would like it, from 7–7.45pm and then Vijay Menon will talk about 'How to Keep Going as Leaders'.

Please put this date in your diary and make it a priority.

### Coffee Stop

Coffee Stop is an opportunity for us to build bridges into our community. Our aim is to engage in gospel conversation, be a more visible Christian presence, offer prayer and make available all that we do at **ChristChurch**.

Contact Jonny Raine on 07757 470690 or Sara Ioannou on 764733 if you would like to know more or be involved.

**Dates for this term:** 22 January • 26 February • 25 March

