

Dear God, I pray that you will bless me and my church. Send people into our fellowship, and protect us all. In Jesus' name. Amen

**THE SALVATION ARMY CORPS & CHURCH, HYTHE** Officers/Pastors - Lt's Callum & Berri McKenna  
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Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
'Once Upon a Parable'  
Part One "Grand Designs"  
Matthew 7:24:29



### Good morning & welcome to worship...

Stories are great ways of communicating deeper messages. Children learn not to 'cry wolf' because of fear of not being heard in a real emergency, they learn the value of being 'slow and steady' in persisting like tortoises and not running out of steam like hares and perhaps they live in fear of their noses growing long in the event of telling a porky pie! Jesus, as did many of his contemporaries, told stories, parables, for a similar purpose. The parables of Jesus are visual images which help us to understand his teaching in a different way and over the next few weeks we're starting a sermon series called 'Once Upon a Parable' where we'll be unpacking several of these stories in the hope that we understand something more about what it means to be a follower of Jesus and what life in his Kingdom is like.

Today, we start with a parable which rounds off the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus tells the crowd that anyone who has heard his teaching and does it is like a wise builder, and anyone who has heard it but doesn't act upon it is like a foolish builder. I'm sure at this point there's an old Sunday School chorus spinning around in your head, but this morning as we gather together let's see if this has some truth even in slightly more mature lives!

God bless you  
Callum

**Prayer Requests Please...** please let Richard know of anyone in our church family who needs our prayers  
**please 07951 000089...**

Please remember those of our corps family who are unwell or recovering from surgery.



The gift of flowers greatly enhances our worship environment. Today we thank **Shauna & Wesley**.

### This Week-

**Monday & Tuesday** – Parent & Toddlers

**Tuesday** – PCC meeting with the Divisional Commander, 7.30pm at the Quarters.

**Wednesday**- CAMEO 2.30pm

**Friday** – No Youth group – Divisional Youth Band rehearsal.

### Help Needed...Trip to Kenya!

As many will be aware, 13 members of the youth group (and a few others!) are heading on a mission trip to Kenya next Easter. This will be an incredible opportunity for them to widen their understanding of the Church, to see what God is doing in a completely different context and to join in! Everyone who is going is paying a significant (if not all) portion of the expense but between now and then there is a lot of fundraising to be done- both to cover the remaining balance and, perhaps more importantly, to be able to resource the projects that we will be joining in with in Kenya.

We are always incredibly grateful for the support of the Church family in nurturing and caring for our young people and we would ask you, primarily, to take an interest in the young people and what they are doing to achieve this goal- encourage them and pray for them! There will, over the coming months, be several other ways to participate through a variety of events but we don't want this to become burdensome or pressurised for anyone.

**The first way that you can help, with regards to fundraising, is to support the car boot fair stalls which some of the youth are planning to hold. Karen and Alex Bridges are taking the lead on this, and are keen to have donations of good quality items to sell! Karen will be here next Sunday and able to arrange the best way to get your goods from you.**

## **Coming events**

**Next Sunday-** Once Upon a Parable Part 2: 'Neighbours, Everybody needs good Neighbours' (Luke 10:25-27)

**Saturday 20th May** at Maidstone Salvation Army 10am – 6pm; cost £20. A day for exploring how the creative arts (traditional and not-so-traditional!) can be used to engage a local community – Drama – Creative Writing – Art – Dance – Photography – Music – Cookery.

To register and for more information – [ira.thomas@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:ira.thomas@salvationarmy.org.uk) or telephone 01622 236053

**MAY 27/28 – VISIT OF THE AUS TERRITORIAL YOUTH BAND & Silvie Paladino** tickets £9 adult or £3 children - 01303 223925 before 2pm.

**IF YOU HEAR OF ANYONE HAVING DIFFICULTY IN GETTING THROUGH TO THE BOX OFFICE PLEASE ASK THEM TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ME 07951 000089 OR THROUGH OUR CORPS WEBSITE -**

**WWW.HYTHESALVATIONARMY.ORG.UK**

**The band is made up of excellent musicians, young people, from all over Australia, with an average age of 24. They will be accompanied by Silvie Paladino an award winning West End star. Silvie is a Christian with a tremendous testimony. For those of you on the internet if you type her name in YouTube there are a number of videos to watch and listen to – she is sensational.**

**Sunday 18th June-** Garden Party at Callum and Berri's House 2:30pm

**Saturday 24th June-** Coffee Morning and Car Wash at the Hall- Organised by the youth group

**Saturday 8th July-** Summer Concert in our hall with the Shepway Community Choir and Special Guest Soloists.

**Saturday 7th October-** Harvest Weekend (Supper on the Saturday Night)

**Sunday 5th November-** Special Guests leading worship- Majors Graham and Helene Carey (Previously the Corps Officers at Folkestone Salvation Army)

## **Changes to Children's Work Provision**

We're incredibly blessed by the children and young people who make up, and contribute so much to, our Church family- there are currently 24 of them!

As the demographics of the children and young people change (they get older...and new ones are born!) so the way in which we best disciple them needs to respond accordingly. Nearly 2 years ago, a 'Youth Connect Group' was established to encourage the high school aged young people in their faith development. Last year saw the start of the 'Level Up' group, meeting fortnightly during the Sunday morning meeting for the 'tweenagers' and now comes the time to think about the younger children!

Because of 'creaming' the older children off the top end of the Kidzone age range and the toddler-boom in Sunday attendance the Kidzone team feel that it would be more effective all round if Kidzone takes place during the second part of a Sunday morning meeting (from around 10:55am-11:40 am) and so, starting from **21st May**, the Kidzone aged children will have the opportunity to attend their age specific teaching on the first and third Sundays of the month at this time, with Level Up for tweenagers continuing on the second and fourth. Where there is a fifth Sunday in the month, there will be an all age family service altogether for the whole meeting.

Last Christmas we trialed a very popular Messy Church service on a Sunday afternoon which saw nearly 100 people come into the hall. The plan, going forward, is to trial these on a more regular, quarterly, basis as a way of reaching families in the local community. More details will follow about this in due course. All of this presents lots of opportunities for people to get involved in serving the Church and the local community- if you're interested in helping with either the children's or youth work, or becoming part of the Messy Church team then please have a chat with Berri or Callum.