

Becket News

Issue 69/January 2017

**The Anglican Church of
St Thomas Becket**

**Zeughausmarkt 22, 20459 Hamburg
www.anglican-church-hamburg.de**

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Cover photograph: Roland Magunia

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From the Chaplain

A good four months into my new role as your Chaplain of this vibrant and historic Church of St Thomas Becket, I can happily say: *Ich bin angekommen*; I feel a sense of belonging. Let me at the outset express my deep gratitude to all those in our church family of St Thomas Becket who have contributed to this. Also a big thank you to all who work so tirelessly to make our church what it is – a welcoming, active and inclusive Anglican Church in Hamburg.

Reflections

These months have provided me with exciting and challenging experiences which can be summarised as ‘parish initiations’ for me. And I mean not just the events themselves but also the nitty-gritty, hands on, hair-tearing, nail-biting, uplifting and gratifying involvement before, during and after each occasion. I will mention a few such situations. For one, there was the **Annual Bazaar**. In the run-up it provided me with some tense moments when the big posters arrived bearing the wrong date! That sent me scouring the neighbourhood for a printer, soon found, who in no time churned out a batch of self-sticking strips in the matching colour and print to paste over the error. I don’t think anyone who was not in the know noticed the correc-



Photo: Roland Magunia

tion. On the day itself, I discovered my talent as a salesman as I wandered through the crowded church, Peter Alexander’s hat in hand, selling raffle tickets – for the bottle stand, of all things! I soon discovered the very salutary side-effect to this as I got to meet and chat with not only many members of St Thomas Becket but also many visitors.

Coming to the more sobering **Remembrance Sunday**, I admit to having felt somewhat apprehensive about striking the right note at the commemoration service in church, as I was aware of the very different perceptions and sensitivities that would be represented in our multicultural congregation. Going against tradition, we celebrated the Eucharist as a fitting act of contrition, reconcili-

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ation and thanksgiving that brings us all to the one table at Christ's invitation. I was moved to see that a large representation from the crew of HMS DUNCAN had responded to my invitation, and was happy to have its chaplain at my side to share in the distribution of the elements.

The **Service of Lessons and Carols** saw a full church entering into the spirit of expectation through beautiful musical arrangements, choir and congregational singing to frame the biblical texts. A thanks to our music director, our organist and the choir. They rose to the occasion splendidly, delighting my heart.

And then there was the **Family Service** at which the children with great dignity took over the sermon slot with their Nativity Play. How *selbstverständlich* Baby Jesus was

borne to Mary by an angel!

Memories of Christmas include the slight panic on the morning of Christmas Eve as Julie, my wife, and I realised (in good time, luckily) that the church was uncomfortably cold; and, whilst I had once been instructed on how to switch the heating on, I was not sure that I would do it correctly. The first try was unsuccessful, but neither did the system explode. Fortunately at the second try it responded with the right noises and with the temperature gradually rising. Children who came with their parents to the afternoon service, led by Julie, responded eagerly to being invited to hold the book for the reading of the Gospel and to help bless the Crib. Just in advance of the midnight service a storm came up which probably kept some people in their

Photo: Guy Pool, HMS DUNCAN





homes, but the good attendance at the Christmas Day service made for a very festive celebration.

Conversations, not just on Sundays, have been key to my getting to know individuals, their families and our church life in St Thomas Becket. I am grateful for all the support and constructive advice.

There have also been numerous occasions to share in conversations and prayer with parish members who are in situations of struggle and uncertainty. The house visits to those who are sick continue as usual on request and are an important part of my ministry. I feel blessed by these visits.

Other conversations of significance have been with those in the wider society of Hamburg who support our church. These have been fruitful and encouraging in terms of getting to

know one another and sharing experiences and perspectives.

Our Sunday Holy Communion service is always a moving experience. In this central location with so many nationalities gathering together, God is telling all of us that he wants our company. God it is who invites. By this, of course, we are reassured, energised and made joyful. We continue to have a good Sunday congregation with new people joining us. The 10.30 morning service remains our core time together. We use it to worship and listen to God. He stands at the door and knocks: if we hear his voice and open the door, he will come in to us and share the meal with us and we with him. (Revelation 3.20).

From my Ecumenical Diary:

1) On 20 January I was invited by

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Prof Dr Fernando Enns, University of Hamburg to join a panel discussion along with Dr Silvia Horsch (Institute for Islam Theology, University Osnabrück), Prof Dr Alexander Redlich (Institute for Psychology, University of Hamburg) and Andrej Reisin (a journalist from NDR Fernsehen/Innenpolitik) on the theme *'Ich bin kein Nationalist, aber...'* It was a lively and fruitful discussion with a very interested audience. In preparing for this and during the discussions I was once again aware of how insecure and fragile our Europe has become, and how essential it is for each of us to live out and defend the idea of our unity in the wide diversity that we represent.

The connections to the *ACK* and to *'Ökumenisches Forum Hafen City'* continue to be strengthened. Towards the end of November 2016, both Susanne Hergoss and I attended a key meeting of the 'Ökumenisches Forum'. I was introduced to all and there were warm words of welcome. The meeting itself was interesting, since it happened at a point in time when discussions on how to structure the Forum in a changing context were taking place. Our Anglican perspective is proving stimulating.

St Thomas Becket had the opportunity and privilege from 1–2 Decem-

ber 2016 to host the meeting of the *Conference of European Churches* (CEC) Assembly Planning Committee. This was helpful in connecting with a wider dimension of churches together in Europe and to expand horizons. The CEC has a pivotal role as a bridge-builder and peacemaker in a troubled Europe. The common voice of about 125 churches, including the Orthodox, is heard only through this Conference. It is furthermore the body that dialogues with the European Union. Bishop Christopher Hill, the former Bishop of Guildford of the Church of England, is the President of the Conference. Both the Church of England and the EKD are members and contribute a substantial amount of their budgets to the work of the Conference. It has always been the aim of the Church of England to enable congregations and chaplaincies to take on board the work of the Conference and also be agents of peace in Europe in one's own appropriate way and in one's own local situation.

Outlook

As of this month, we are offering **Choral Evensong** on one Friday each month. This is a typically Anglican service and something which many parishes and chaplaincies hold not only across the Church



of England. It is loved by many Christians of other denominations for its offer of a time and space for good music and meditation. Even-song dates can be found on page 21 of this *Becket News*.

Junior Church is growing. The team and I are in discussions of how to further develop the ministry to children and young people.

Confirmation classes have begun as from January 19 with 15 candidates meeting in two groups. The confirmation will be conducted by Bishop David Hamid on Saturday 15 April at 1900hrs as part of our Easter Vigil.

Friedensgebet (Prayer for Peace) during the G20 summit, 7–8 July 2017: On 10 January I attended a **Becket News**

meeting in the Zentrum für Mission und Ökumene of the Nordkirche to prepare material to be used at the Friedensgebet of the churches in Hamburg on 8 July. This central prayer meeting will be held in the Hauptkirche St. Katharinen at 1100hrs. Currently the plan is to have a focussed 30-minute prayer meeting, followed by informal discussions in small groups outside the church. The prayer meeting would be open to all. More information will follow.

For 7 July individual churches will be encouraged to make a contribution towards justice and peace as is appropriate to their church traditions. We at St Thomas Becket will be offering Evensong with a focus on peace.

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A lot has happened at St Thomas Becket over the past months, and there is a great deal to be thankful for. Ours, however, remains an unfinished agenda. The inauguration of the Elbphilharmonie at the beginning of 2017 was a grand and spectacular celebration of a mammoth project finally completed; but even more so it marked its commissioning for purpose and the anticipation of what it promises to fulfil. For the St Thomas Becket community the New Year offers in a far less spec-

tacular way a renewed beginning to be what we are continually meant to be: salt and light in a sometimes dark and threatening world. Remember, light and salt in their effectiveness outdo by far their often insignificant appearance.

We are a pilgrim people on the move and live to be renewed and fostered spiritually every day by the Holy Spirit. May we journey through this year assured that God can do more than we can even ask or think.

Leslie Nathaniel

Reformation Then and Now

No one living in Germany can have failed to notice that 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation. Yet it is often forgotten that there was an English Reformation, too.

The ninth Meissen Theological Conference, which took place in London last year, took as its theme *Reformation Then and Now* and focused on similarities and differences of the reformatory origins of the Church of England and the Evangelical Church in Germany. Contributions, discussing the consequential impact that reformation movements have for the churches, for ecumenism and the churches' socio-political responsibilities today, came from Nicholas Baines, Richard

Chartres, Carolyn Hammond, Margot Käßmann, Torrance Kirby, Jörg Lauster, Friederike Nüssel, Stephen Plant, Sigurd Rink, Gury Schneider-Ludorff, Elaine Storkey and Michael Weinrich.

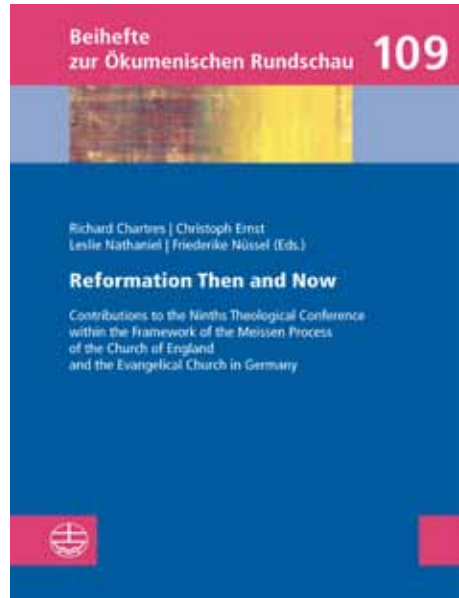
A book documenting the conference (and co-edited by Fr Leslie) has now been published by the Evangelische Verlagsanstalt Leipzig – www.eva-leipzig.de (*Contributions to the Ninth Theological Conference within the Framework of the Meissen Process between the Church of England and the Evangelical Church in Germany*, Beihefte zur Ökumenischen Rundschau, 109, Ed. by Richard Chartres, Christoph Ernst, Leslie Nathaniel and Friederike Nüssel).

Richard Chartres and Friederike

Nüssel, the co-chairs of the Meissen Theological Conference, write in their foreword:

‘Contemplating the writings and events of the 16th century gives rise to both thankfulness and regret. We can rejoice over the rediscovery of the doctrine of Justification and the return of the Scriptures to their central place in the life of the Church. We have good cause to appreciate the cultural traditions of music, poetry, and even art in some contexts, to which the Reformation gave rise. Yet we continue to lament the irreplaceable losses through iconoclasm, and we continue to sorrow over the divisions that the Reformation has left between ourselves, our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters and within the Protestant world itself. We must acknowledge with sadness the destruction wrought by the resulting civil war in Europe and the rise of an anti-spiritual enlightenment.

‘Sadly, not only the divisions but also the temptations of that era are still with us. Competing Christian voices now express themselves through social media in a way which can be every bit as vicious in tone as the polemical pamphlet wars of the 16th century. The instantaneous nature of modern communication tends to multiply the scope for



hurt and offence. Nonetheless these methods of communication continue to be an important element in the Church's mission and witness. Facebook and Twitter are the contemporary "Wittenberg door".

‘Perhaps the most significant way in which we can display loyalty to the inheritance of the Reformers is in following their example through direct encounter with the words of Scripture as “alive and active”, animated by the Holy Spirit. Reformation today calls us to rediscover the confidence of the early Church in proclaiming the Good News.’

The volume costs €34 plus p.&p. and can be ordered from the EVA – <http://bit.ly/2kn8FvL>

Jo Dawes

A memorable day in Brussels



Photos: Susanne Hergoss

In 2016 I was fortunate enough to be given lunch on my birthday, along with the Revd Julie, Susanne Hergoss and Emmanuel Saarkodie, at a lovely old establishment on the Grand Place in Brussels. Amazingly balmy weather for November plus intricate floodlighting had allowed us and hundreds of others to stroll around the wonderful square the previous evening.

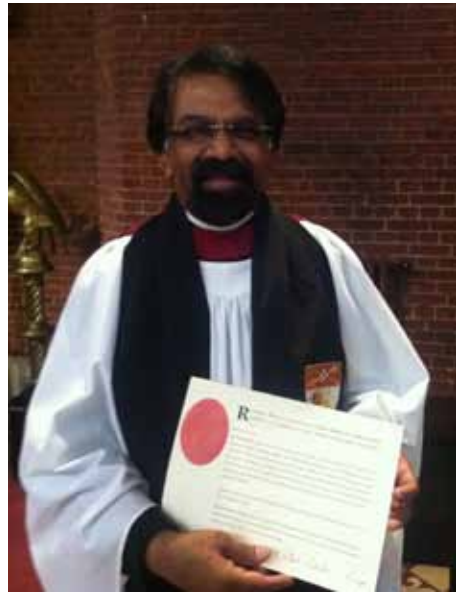
How come? Fr Leslie wished to celebrate his appointment as a Canon of the Pro-Cathedral of Holy Trinity Brussels. He was installed in the stall of St Henry of Finland, an Eng-

lishman who as Bishop of Uppsala converted many Finns in the 12th century but was slain by a murderer whom he had sentenced to excommunication for his crime.

But what is a 'Canon'? One reputable dictionary describes this as 'a purely honorary title conferred on priests – and occasionally lay persons – for faithful and valuable service to the church'. Two other chaplains of STB were honoured in Brussels in recent years: David Prosser early in the 1990s and later on, John Newsome. The title can also be held by working members of

a Cathedral Chapter. It is normally retained for life.

Emmanuel and I remembered John's installation at a Sunday morning service. This one was at 09:00 on a weekday, but the congregation numbered about 30 and included the President of the Conference of European Churches and other friends and colleagues of Leslie's. Adjoining Holy Trinity, Church House is being refurbished, and we were treated to coffee and chocolate rolls there after the service. Bishop Robert reportedly often bicycles the last five kilometres of his journey to work. Looking very fit and arriving slung with crimson cases containing his accoutrements, he could have been mistaken by a bystander out-



side as one of the craftsmen on the job.

To people from Hamburg, Brussels seems very hilly. In the Upper Town, the Pro-Cathedral is tucked away off an extremely grand shopping boulevard but is easily reached by Metro (station: Louise). Appropriately far down the hill, in a dip lie the Grand Place, the innumerable chocolate shops and most hotels. No sign of the EU in these areas.

Ryanair naturally offered a late departure slot, so having descended for lunch, Susanne and Emmanuel and I took a stiff walk up the hill in the sun, then marching down again in good time for departure. Leslie was already heavily involved elsewhere in ecumenical business.

Peter Alexander

Record year for Christmas card sales

2016 was actually a record year for the card project, which has been making and selling recycled Christmas and Greetings cards since 1986 on behalf of 'The Historic English Church of St Thomas Becket Hamburg'. It has really been a great surprise to us all, makers and sellers alike, because it has happened in spite of higher postage costs, and in spite of people telling us that they send fewer 'proper' cards nowadays and more emails.

However, in the end, over 5,700 cards were sold and, after deducting €942.16 for expenses (printing the blank cards, envelopes and glue), we made an interim

net profit ourselves this past year of €6,005.04 – our highest ever. For many years now, our former British Honorary Consul, Claus Budelmann, and his wife, have specifically supported the card project – also with very kind donations. Once again they have been most generous, and have now given the card project an extra €1,494.96 – in their words 'to make a total sum this year of €7,500.' We are extremely grateful to Herr and Frau Budelmann for their generosity, and as always for their continued support and encouragement.

Now to the other thank-you's – first and foremost to all those who make the cards – some having done so quite literally for decades, but all very reliably and professionally, and with very great care and attention to detail. Many, MANY thanks to the whole team: to Debbie Faddul, Irene Finn, Jane Harding, Martina Hercus, Heike Lange, Sarah Meister, Linda Rainer, Mary Sanderson, Cathrin Schierholz, Katrin and Rüdiger Schnetzer, and

to Caroline Yarnold in England.

And the next thanks are to all those who sold the cards to their friends, families and work colleagues, and within the English speaking

community and organisations in Hamburg. In this way we were able to reach out to a far wider public than would otherwise have been possible. This is also of course a good way of publicising the church and its presence here in Hamburg. Very sincere thanks to: AGIWA (Julie Cook and Ulrike Lemke), AGIWA Book Club (Jane Ziesemer), Brenda Buhmann-Gore, BRIDFAS, The British Flair event at the Anglo-German Club (Pam Hanus), the British Club (Alison Fry), the British Ladies Luncheon Club (Jaqueline Caesar), Jennifer Bullinger, the Facharzt-



linik Martinstrasse (Frau Wendt), the German-American Women's Club (Betina Wex), Helga Görike (a pharmacy in Aumühle), Angelika Grimm, the Hamburg Players (Sigrid Reuter), Pam Hanus, Jane Harding, Christiane Hey (H.D. Petersen – Fischgrosshandel mit Kleinverkauf), Carol Kloverkorn, Howard and Gabi Kroch (the English Speaking Union), Margot Lord, Elke Norden, Tracey Rabbitts (International School Hamburg), and the Victorian Christmas Market (British Hon. Consulate and Gwen Cochrane). We are very grateful for all this support and especially to all those who continue faithfully to help the card project by selling cards and who are not members of the congregation.

Finally, thank you to everyone who collected used cards last year on our behalf

here in Hamburg and also in Britain – through friends, offices, and in their own churches. We are completely dependent on all this help for recycling and very much appreciate all the time and trouble it takes.

Looking ahead now to Christmas 2017, we shall need as many used cards as possible. On average only one in six cards is actually suitable so we need about 30,000! We're also trying to sell more plain cards during the year and so would be very grateful for used birthday and flower cards, and flower photos. There is a basket for cards just inside the church door, or they can be handed in through the different organisations and clubs. Larger quantities can be collected.

Judith Holst (040 880 07 27)

Money matters – STB finances 2016

Despite a 30% drop in income compared with 2015, STB managed to end the year with an income surplus of €11,000 thanks to lower than budgeted costs for the year.

The primary source of income for the church is private donations. These do vary from year to year. Over the past 18 months several higher donors have moved away or to a higher place and unfortunately have not been replaced, hence this rather large drop in income. The pre-Christmas 'surge' in donations was also less than in previous years. But in 2016 we have been able to weather this.

Overall income for 2016 was €106,660, down from over €140,000 raised in 2014 and 2015. Expenditure was about €18,000 lower than budgeted, so we ended the year €11,000 in the black, not too far off the €15,000 budgeted surplus. (At the time the budget was fixed, our locum was deeply impressed that we were even contemplating a surplus, something that is rare in churches these days. So we can be proud of our efforts.)

Therefore, 2016 was another year when your Treasury Liaison Officer heaved a sigh of relief and offered a prayer of thanks! *cont. overleaf*

In 2017 we will once again be paying the full stipend for the whole year. This means we will need to raise around €133,000 if we are to cover costs without dipping into the reserves (these are quite solid thanks to the surplus accumulated in the past two years). The Chaplain and Chaplaincy Council are working to look at other sources of income, including seeing whether the grant that used to be paid by the Nordkirche could be reinstated. One aim is to look at ways in which the bazaar could raise rather more income than it has done in the past years (see facing page). Another idea is to establish another significant fund-raising event that can raise a similar sort of amount. This is the thinking behind the concert with Clare Hammond (see page 22).

The treasury team is very conscious of the fact that raising money to keep the church solvent requires much effort and attention which at times feels like a distraction from develop-

ing the spiritual life of the community. As we have no source of income other than what we raise ourselves, this will always be a preoccupation. Fund-raising activities can be harnessed to forge a community spirit and provide an opportunity to engage with others. The bazaar is a good example of this. Working together can be fun! Novel ideas for income generation are very welcome, as are project leaders to implement them!

A very big thank you to all who support the church financially through donations and to those who organise and support fund-raising events and sell things to raise money. We could not survive without the generosity of many people who donate to the church who otherwise do not have much contact as well as those who are regular worshippers. Please keep it up!

*Monica Schofield,
Treasury Liaison Officer*

Spendenbescheinigung – Tax Certificates for 2016

Tax certificates will be sent to those who donated to the church in 2016 by the end of February. If you are expecting to receive a certificate, please check that we have your current address details. Addresses are taken from the Electoral Roll, from the information given in the bank transfer, if provided, or if you tell us. Otherwise we have no means to deliver the certificate to you.

If you have any questions or do not receive a tax certificate that you think you are entitled to, please contact the Treasurer, Heiner Quast, treasurerstb@web.de.

Bazaar 2.0 – kick-off meeting

The 2016 bazaar showed a great team spirit with STB members working well together; it was good fun and overall it attracted a good number of people, but it was felt 'we could do better' by getting more things to sell, better marketing and improving the ambience in church. These were the conclusions of an encouragingly large group of people who gathered after evensong on 27 January to kick-off arrangements for a bazaar renewal programme.

We summarised what we thought was good about the last bazaar; ideas for improvement and then for implementation including how to get more people involved from the wider circle of people in Hamburg, especially from among the British Community. All this was docu-



mented on coloured cards. We will now start to move forward to work on the ideas.

To increase the income of the bazaar we need more things to sell and more people present to buy things. This means mobilising people to make or acquire things to sell and then making sure everyone knows about our bazaar. This is also a great opportunity to get together in groups, with friends from outside the church, to make jams, hand-crafts and lots of mince pies!

So the bazaar 2017 has got off to a good start. There will be plenty of opportunities to get involved. Please do get in touch if you would like to join this happy band or if you have ideas you would like to share. Many hands make light work!

And note the date! 18 November.

Monica Schofield,



Photos: Monica Schofield and Richard Perrin

Meet Junior Church's new helper

In December the children performed a nativity play during the service, which involved some beautiful solos, some talented readers, endearing children in costume and even visual light effects in the form of a star bearer! We all pulled together, parents, Junior Church team and of course the children themselves, to make it a special experience for the congregation and for those who took part. It made me think of the value of us doing things together, each according to their own gifts and talents. It felt like one big treat. Treating oneself can be good, however it is also good to treat each other and this kind of treat seems to last longer than just treating ourselves.

We are on the lookout for those who feel they have a talent for working with children and would like to help plant the seeds of faith in generations to come. By working with children, we are shaping the future and helping form the world as we want it to be. We did have one new member in December, 'Cuddles', our comfort bear. Here's a picture for you to see. He's the only team member who doesn't speak English and German and hasn't got a 'Führungszeugnis'!

If you feel Junior Church is for you, then please speak to me at church



or drop me an email: [sallygisele \(at\) hotmail.com](mailto:sallygisele@hotmail.com).

Come join our Junior Church team!

Sally Wandrey

Mothers' Union

At the Annual Bazaar the MU was represented with a colourful stall filled with all kinds of cro-



cheted items and a children's flea market. Some stuffed animals went home with caring children and hats and shawls were sold to be gifted as Christmas presents. If anyone is interested in crocheting or knitting little goodies (e.g. Christmas tree ornaments) for the next bazaar, just let us know.

The children enjoyed crafting Christmas cards with glitter, glue pens and gems, cutting out and colouring gift tags at our children's corner before eating some French fries and sausages at Matilda's food stall.

We were very pleased to welcome lots of new people to our church for our annual MU Carols Sing-Along in December. Thanks to Yotin, who led through the programme and accompanied the singers on the piano, we spent an evening full of Christian fellowship. During a short break, our visitors enjoyed coffee, cake and Glühwein. I would like to especially thank Richard and Catherine who made the delicious Glühwein from scratch.

Lucia Förthmann



Carols and prayers

In November Ladies' Christian Fellowship met at my home for lunch and shared poems and stories about autumn. December saw us in Judith's home for the traditional Christmas celebrations with carols and readings along with her Yule Log and other treats. Father Leslie and Julie joined us.



This month we were at Sarah Meister's home where we enjoyed a sumptuous lunch on a gorgeous sunny afternoon. Mary Frances Ludolf spoke to us about the World Day of Prayer. Here is part of her e-mail to us.

Renu Roy

Dear Friends,

By participating in World Day of Prayer, we learn more about the different ways to celebrate our faith together. We meet people with different back-

grounds, and hear about how people in other countries adapt to the challenges they face. For 2017, I not only learn about the Philippines, I get to spend time getting to know you as we prepare and pray together.

We will celebrate as a Christian family, since we all belong to the Ecumenical Forum in the Hafencity. Maybe you know it well, like meeting your favorite aunt, or you have heard interesting stories of a distant cousin at a family reunion. As family, we are glad you come. This is your home, too.

Our family is accustomed to adapting to the circumstances. To enable some members to also participate in neighborhood WeltGebetsTag celebra-

tions (in German on March 3), we are part of the global warm up team, meeting the Saturday before, February 25. This schedule also avoids conflict with the March school break. With no more excuses (smile), I'm very much looking forward to seeing you at the first English language celebration in Hamburg.

- World Day of Prayer 2017, Focus on The Phillipines
- Saturday, February 25, 4pm
- Shanghai Allee 12, Ecumenical Forum Hafencity
- Fellowship time following in the Cafe

Blessings and Peace,

Mary Frances Ludolf

'Fernweh', cocoa and conversation

The October Church Wanderers walk, from Niendorf Markt to Ohlsdorf, is part of Hamburg's 'Grüner Ring' and covers about nine kilometres. Eight of us and a visitor from the USA met at Niendorf Markt to begin a walk which has something for everyone – an unusual church, woodland, romantic river views (the Alster, not the Elbe!) elegant and not so elegant residential areas.

An exciting stretch beside the airport, with planes landing and taking off, filled some of us with a yearning for far-off places, whilst a notice

in an allotment declaring the path to be a 'Schauweg' baffled even the Germans among us. What could it mean? When we arrived at Ohlsdorf those of us with more time turned into the 'Ratsmühle' to relax and chat before returning home. The weather was fine and mild.

Nicki Schiller

On one of Hamburg's coldest autumn days we met at Dammtor Station, a small but resolute group, led by Stuart Cooke, and set off for a brisk walk clockwise round the Alster. It was too cold to dawdle and when we reached the lake we were



The last walk of the year was in the Sachsenwald. It was one of those glorious December days and the forest was looking its best under a blue and sunny sky. Six of us met at Aumühle S-Bahn station and set off over the road and into

confronted by a spectacular sea of mist which rendered the east side of the lake invisible. What we could see, and what astonished us, were so many boats still sailing. We hoped the crews were all snugly outfitted with neoprene suits. The trees and lawns round the lake were a colourful contrast, autumn leaves of yellow, red and green and a sprinkling of snow. At the Krugkoppelbrücke we were delighted to be joined by another Wanderer.

Our coffee break at the Alsterperle turned into a Glühwein and hot chocolate break – much more appropriate to the season – and our circular tour ended at Dammtor where the five of us parted feeling elated after a most enjoyable time together.

Andrea Grantz

the trees. We made our way along the Lindenallee, pausing to admire the Waldkindergarten. The conversation was so lively that we strode along at a pleasant pace. It was dry underfoot and we kept to the broader paths on this occasion, remembering the annoyance of having to climb over felled trees on some previous walks. After an hour or so we struck off to the east and returned to Aumühle where we went back to my place for a hot soup before driving the walkers back to the station.

Once again I was struck by the fun we experience on the walks. Then there is the exercise, the discovery of new areas in and around Hamburg and the exchange of ideas and experiences we share with each other as we walk side by side.

Nicki

Remembrance of Faith

*When red and black is all
around
Remembrance makes us still
Green fields of France and Last
Post sound
In hope we never will
Experience the same again
But swear an end to kill*

*When you proclaim 'Lest we
forget'
Remind yourself whose bill
Is due for payoff by all those
Who chase cold profit's thrill
From wars and conflicts
everywhere
Without the slightest chill*

*They do not care about a soul
Just yaw for highest fill
They don't believe in anything
Not knowing they are ill
Because they're lost in deepest
dark
Refuse to stop instil*

*All rubbish, violence and trash
To lure away from sill
Of where our only light and
hope
Is waiting for us still
With open arms in love and joy
Instead of campaigns' pill*

*My family of human birth
Please stop this common drill
Our nature is creative, kind
And not defined by skill
At least not how it's count today
We're not meant for treadmill*

*The Lord has made us from his
own
Pure image of goodwill
Of humour, joy and gentleness
A model of tranquil
Of balanced nature, happiness
A vessel to refill
With never-ending love and
light
Oh Lord, return, fulfil*

© Katja Clajus / Nov. 2016





Monthly evensong at St Thomas Becket

Friday 27 January 2017 at 18.00 hrs

Choral Evensong | Candlemas

Hear the voice and prayer (Thomas Tallis),
Magnificat & Nunc dimittis (Orlando Gibbons),
Lord, now lettest thou (Felix Mendelssohn)

Friday 24 February 2017 at 18.00 hrs

Choral Evensong | before Lent

Hail gladdening light (John Stainer), Magnificat
& Nunc dimittis (George Dyson), Song of Mary
(Richard Shephard)

Friday 31 March 2017 at 18.00 hrs

Choral Evensong | all music by Thomas Tallis

O Lord, in thee is all my trust, Magnificat & Nunc
dimittis from the Dorian Service, Remember not,
O Lord God

Friday 28 April 2017 at 18.00 hrs

Choral Evensong | all music by Felix Mendelssohn

O be joyful, Magnificat & Nunc dimittis, Hear my
prayer

Friday 19 May 2017 at 18.00 hrs

Choral Evensong | Eastertide

God so loved the world (John Stainer),
Magnificat & Nunc dimittis (Yotín Tiewtrakul),
The peace of God (John Rutter)

Friday 30 June 2017 at 18.00 hrs

Choral Evensong

Almighty and everlasting God (Orlando Gibbons),
Magnificat & Nunc dimittis (Orlando Gibbons),
In manus tuas (John Sheppard)

This year we'll be having a service of choral evensong once a month. We aim to make this wonderful service, unique to our Anglican tradition, an important and enduring element in the worshipping life of our church. Do come and join in this beautiful service of reflection, prayer and thanksgiving to round off the working week.

Fr Leslie asks that you help strengthen this part of our worship and prayer life and share this with friends and networks. The dates for the first half of the year can be found on the left. You can pick up a flier in church or download it from our website.

Jo Dawes

Clare Hammond piano recital

Clare Hammond was introduced to STB by former parishioner Tom Dyer who invited her to give a concert as part of the 400th Anniversary concert series in 2012. Under the title 'Entwined Inspirations: Water, Poetry and the Past', she delighted the audience with her performance of pieces by Liszt, Ravel, Debussy and Takemitsu.

Clare's career has gone from strength to strength. She is now widely acclaimed in the UK as a rising star. She recently won the Royal Philharmonic Society's 'Young Artist Award' in recognition of outstanding achievements in 2015. Over the past two years Clare has performed at London's Barbican and Royal Festival Halls, given several broadcasts for BBC Radio 3, toured Poland, and recorded discs for Sony, BIS and Signum. In 2014, she gave debut performances at seven festivals across Europe. Clare is less well known in Germany and so she contacted us to ask if she could give a concert in the church again as a means to raise her profile in North Germany. So the idea of hosting a fund-raising concert

for the church, while providing Clare with a platform to become better known, was conceived.

With the generous support of Claus-G Budelmann, President of the Anglo-German Club, and Nick Teller, the British Honorary Consul, a Benefizkonzert is being held in church 28 March to which people who have the potential to be generous donors will be invited.

Clare will give a second concert 29 March for which tickets are available from Monica Schofield for €20 if bought ahead or €23 at the door. Tickets will be sold in church, at BRIDFAS or by sending an email to konzert@anglican-church-hamburg.de giving name, address and email. Pay-

ment shall be made to the church's bank account and clearly marked 'Clare Hammond concert 29 March'.

Clare will be playing pieces by Jacquet de la Guerre, Beethoven, Debussy, Dutilleux, Adès, Fauré and Stravinsky – a really interesting programme for those who appreciate something beyond the usual classical repertoire.

Monica Schofield,



Forthcoming services and events

We meet every **Sunday at 10:30** for a service of Holy Communion followed by refreshments – all welcome

For more events, please see our website:

www.anglican-church-hamburg.de

February

- 5 10:00 – Songs of Praise and Worship followed by Holy Communion
- 18 18:30 – Piano recital by Roger Cui
- 24 18:00 – Choral Evensong with the Anglican Choir
- 25 Church Wanderers walk

March

- 1 **Ash Wednesday**
19:00 – Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion
- 5 10:00 – Songs of Praise and Worship
- 8 19:00 – Holden Evening Prayer
- 11 Church Wanderers walk
- 26 **Mothering Sunday**
10:30 – Family Service with Holy Communion
- 28 Fund-raising concert with Clare Hammond (invitation only)
- 29 19:30 – Public piano recital by Clare Hammond (see facing page)

- 31 18:00 – Choral Evensong with the Anglican Consort and the Isabella Recorder Consort

April

- 8 Church Wanderers walk
- 9 **Palm Sunday**
10:00 – Songs of Praise and Worship
10:30 – Holy Communion
18:30 – Stainer: Crucifixion
- 13 19:00 – **Maundy Thursday** service
- 14 10:30 – **Good Friday** service
- 15 19:00 – Confirmation followed by Easter Vigil
- 16 **Easter Day**
10:30 – Holy Communion
- 19 19:00 – Holden Evening Prayer
- 23 12:15 – Chaplaincy AGM
- 28 18:00 – Choral Evensong with the Anglican Choir

May

- 2 19:00 – ‘Abendgespräch’ with Bishop Gothard Magaard & Fr Leslie (tbc)

Who's Who at our Church

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PTO: Revd Julie Lipp-Nathaniel

PTO: Revd Erika G. Anders

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Vacant

-

-

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