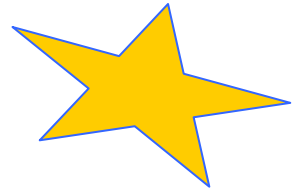


NEUCHÂTEL CHURCH MAGAZINE - DECEMBER 2010

Chapelle des Charmettes, Rue Varnoz 1



FAMILY CAROL SERVICE

Sunday, December 19th at 5 pm

Come and enjoy the true spirit of Christmas in a friendly service for all the family, with the traditional readings and carols, a children's sketch and the Chaplain's message.

Stay afterwards for a chat over drinks and Christmas goodies – (thank you to all who can bring cakes, biscuits, mince pies... yummmmmmmmmmm.....)

SPREAD THE WORD to your English-speaking friends and colleagues!!!!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

This year, we shall not be having a Christmas Eve service. For those who like to celebrate the birth of Christ on the night of the 24th, the following services (in French) are organised in **Neuchâtel**: (further details on www.eren.ch)

11 pm at the Collégiale, Neuchâtel. Also at 11 pm in the local churches of: Bevaix, Colombier, Boudry, Bôle, Cortaillod, St-Blaise, Peseux and at the Grandchamp Community, Areuse.

Christmas day at 9.30 am, Valangines church in Neuchâtel.

at **10 am** at the Collégiale, and at

La Rochette evangelical church, Ave de la Gare.

Services at St Ursula's, Berne (www.anglican.ch/berne)

Christmas Eve, 11 pm, First Eucharist of Christmas

Christmas Day, 10 am, Christmas Carols, 11.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday Dec. 26th, 10 am, Eucharist



FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL – IMPORTANT UPDATE

As you all know, Neuchâtel Church is in the throes of two major changes. We are looking for a new minister and for new premises!!!

No-one can deny the enormous boost given to the community (for free) by Roy, the first on-the-spot minister for Neuchâtel since the 1940s!! On his retirement, the committee resolved to continue that ministry even though the financial cost will be great.

Under the guidance of Rev. Peter Potter, chaplain of St Ursula's, Berne, a sub-committee is actively engaged in looking for a minister-in-charge who would live in the Neuchâtel region in accommodation provided by us, and in return serve the church for a 25% post. The members of the sub-committee are:

Jenny Veenendaal, Church warden

Jon Bright, chairman of the council

Marc Bell, Treasurer

Medical problems have complicated the issue for a top candidate but we hope to have a new minister in place by Easter. Marc is responsible for finding a suitable apartment and welcomes any suggestions you may have.

The Swiss Evangelical Reformed Church (the official church of Neuchâtel Canton) is undergoing great financial strain as it is independent of any state subsidy. This has led it to regroup its parishes and sell off some of its property. Unfortunately, The Charmettes Chapel is affected by this and will almost certainly be sold to the state to be converted into a reception centre and canteen for local school-children. We have enjoyed close collaboration with the Swiss Reformed Church for very many years and they are concerned to provide us with alternative accommodation for our services if the sale of the chapel goes ahead. This will be decided at a general assembly of the Swiss church on December 5th.

Let us embrace these changes in FAITH and welcome the new opportunities they bring. There are various ways that each of us can help – we all have to pull together and one thing is requested from us ALL .

**PLEASE,
PRAY YOUR
SOCKS OFF !**



MEETINGS THIS MONTH

Don't miss this!!!! It should be even more fun than last year!!!!!!

CAROL SERVICE WORKSHOP – SATURDAY DECEMBER 18th
from 10 am to 12 noon

GIVE A HAND with decorating the church –
can you lend us a poinsettia for the weekend?
And/or a nativity scene?

**CHILDREN'S
SKETCH
REHEARSAL**

**COFFEE CORNER
DROP IN FOR A
DRINK AND
CHAT!!!!**



BIBLE STUDY (GAMMA GROUPS)

No meetings in December