

Urgent Request Cook Needed!

Due to a change of circumstances, the cook who usually caters for the annual Children's Summer Camp is unable to do so this year.

Could you (or someone you know) step in and help?

Dates:

July 21st – July 31st

Location:

just outside Forest Row

Contact:

Aaron Mirkin
01453 299311

Faillte Romhat— Welcome to Clare so Fair!

Guest Rooms at The Christian Community, Co Clare, Ireland

Tuamgraney is situated near Scariff and Lough Derg, north of Limerick and forty minutes from Shannon airport. Just a good hour away are the Atlantic coast and Cliffs of Moher, the Burren, Galway etc.

Bed and Breakfast (£/Euro 25 pppn) and special rates for longer stays and self catering (all rooms are on the ground floor).

For further enquiries and bookings contact us on (00353) 061 640 967 or 087 2185560



The New Testament For the Christian Community

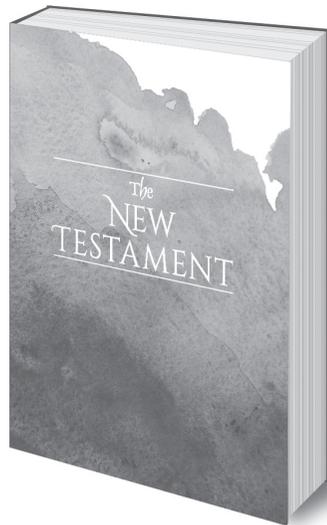
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Jon Madsen worked as a teacher before he was ordained as a priest of The Christian Community in 1977. He worked as a priest in Manchester, Stourbridge and London before retiring in 1996.

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THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Newsletter

No. 53—St John's 2018

LETTER FROM THE LENKER

As previously announced, Peter Holmann has taken up a posting to Edinburgh, where he will work with Paul Newton. Edinburgh has also taken over responsibility for the services in Loch Arthur. At the end of August, Willem Boonstoppel will be inducted into the work in Aberdeen. Luke Barr will commence his work in Forest Row in September.

After many years of planning, we have committed ourselves to building the new church in Stroud. Some of you will be aware of the many phases that this project has been through. The final decision was to retain the existing church, which will be converted into a community room, and build a new church on the same level next to it. The design of the new church will be what was originally planned. It will be built of cross-laminated timber, oriented to the east, and will provide a lot more space than the current church.

We have taken this decision even though we do not have the full funding in the bank. The Council of Management of the The Christian Community Trustees, the charity which holds all the assets for our work in the region, felt that the time was ripe. We do have some promised funds in the pipeline that will go some way towards making up the shortfall but of course we would very much welcome

additional final funding support from all our dear members and friends in the UK. To this end the Stroud congregation will be putting out a fresh appeal at the end of summer. The goal is in sight and every contribution great and small would be hugely helpful towards reaching it. Donations can be made into The Christian Community, Co-op bank, a/c 65700840, sort 08-92-99 or send a cheque to 'The Christian Community Stroud project', 73 Cainscross Rd, Stroud, GL5 4HB

The tender process is complete, the contractor chosen and the site will be handed over on the 9th July. The congregation will continue using the existing church and West End flat which has been recently converted into very useful community spaces. The work is expected to take exactly a year so we hope to be able to move in during July 2019 for a whole new exciting phase in the biography of the Stroud congregation and our British region.

The official foundation of The Christian Community in Russia will take place this year, from 12th–14th October. Aaron Mirkin will be travelling to Moscow where he will accompany members and youth from Stroud and further afield. Please contact him if you would like to be informed about these plans.

01453 299311 aaronmirkin@gmail.com

Tom Ravetz

If you need more copies of this Newsletter, please print from this link, or read online.
<http://tinyurl.com/y7p2epag>

URSULA ELISABETH SCHROEDER
30TH JANUARY 1928 – 30TH APRIL 2018

Ursula loved people and was deeply interested in everyone, young and old. She was a committed member of the community, The Christian Community, the Camphill Community and the anthroposophical community. Her spirit reached out to those who had died, whom she kept in her consciousness with constant devotion. Alongside her steadfastness and selflessness, she had a wonderful sense of humour, loved to laugh and sing and to be out in nature and the elements.



Ursula in the 1980s

Ursula was born in Erfurt, the fourth and youngest child of Johann and Eleonora Schroeder. Her brother Helmuth was five years older. When she was two, Helmuth died of brain cancer. Ursula and Helmuth were closely bonded, and she felt accompanied by him all her life.

Her parents were both musical, sang together, and mother played the piano. Father was an aircraft engineer and having no work after WW1, found other engineering work. When Hitler started up aircraft factories again, his work led the family to move from Erfurt.

During air-raids, they were evacuated to Quedlinburg, where Ursula was able to carry on her schooling to A-level. Her class teacher was a Red Cross officer who trained her girls in first aid, which meant they could avoid joining the Hitler Youth. However, it also meant tending to the wounded after air-raids, and so Ursula witnessed much suffering and bloodshed. Her own house was bombed out and so she went to the Harz mountains with mother and sister Rosemarie, who was

expecting a baby. Ursula saved her sister's life during childbirth by running quickly for help when she saw how pale she was. Her father and brother had been called up and ended up in Russian captivity. Her father managed to escape, but her brother was missing in Russia for many years after the war before he returned.

Ursula was a delicate child, and often missed school due to ear infections. The treatment she received led to deafness in one ear. Another evacuee to Quedlinburg was a professor of music from Berlin. He heard Ursula play piano and offered her a scholarship at the Conservatoire. When she protested that she was deaf in one ear, he reassured her that she could hear sufficiently. So, she studied music and received her certificate as a piano teacher, aged 21.

Whilst at high school Ursula had a boyfriend whose parents were anthroposophists. He wanted to study Evolution with her, but she was critical and scientifically-minded. At the Conservatoire, a friend, Hildegard, inspired her to study 'Knowledge of the Higher Worlds' with her. This was the beginning of her journey with anthroposophy.

Ursula's highlight from this time was finding the sacraments of The Christian Community, in particular the Act of Consecration of Man, which Rudolf Koehler from Berlin, celebrated at the 'Brocken' centre in the Harz mountains.

Her father managed to cross the border into West Germany, finding work as an engineer in Hamburg, where Ursula and her mother joined him. There, she tried to play

music for the eurythmy at the Waldorf School but the noise of the big classes affected her hearing. Playing for small groups at the Eurythmy School did not pay for her living. So, she learnt to type and do office work. With her first pay cheque, she financed a visit to Dornach, where she expected to find the first Goetheanum. The shock she got led to her getting heat stroke!

In 1963, aged 35, she left for Aberdeen, where she joined the Camphill Course in Curative Education under Dr. König's guidance.

There, she met Ardie Thieme for the first time, who remembers Ursula turning round one day, chuckling, big blue eyes looking at her, full of laughter. Ursula was asked to develop her musical skills and to train for this, she left for the Netherlands, near Zeist. Here, in 1966, she met up again with Ardie and decided to be a lifelong friend to her. Together with Leonie van der Stok, they ran a house for boys.

After her mother died in Germany, Ursula brought her father over and nursed him for nine months until his death, giving him her room while she stayed in a tiny box room.

In 1974, Ursula and Ardie moved back to Camphill where she was asked to run Murtle House, the biggest of them all. It was too much for her and she became ill. This led to her embarking on the anthroposophical nurses' training. Ursula learnt to drive so she could visit elderly patients in the countryside. In 1984, together with Steve and Mirjami Lyons, she started Simeon Care for the Elderly, in Bielside, Aberdeen.

After developing rheumatoid arthritis in 1997, and turning 70, Ursula accepted Ardie's invitation to come and live in Hapstead.

In 2000, Ardie and Ursula moved to Moorland View, which became their base in an active retirement. They cared for each other and deepened their friendship through the many joys and challenges which life presented.

Ursula's determination, her youthful and purposeful approach to life, her bearing

of her deafness and physical restrictions, have been—and always will be—an inspiration to us. She showed us how to put mind over matter, how to look for guidance out of our true 'I am,' and how to be an individual Christian in a Christian community. She wrested a wonderful gift from her deafness: that of listening with her whole being. She would always put her finger on the pulse of a conversation and make real gems of contributions.

Her interest in us, in the earth, and in the healing power of the sacrament, will continue, and on both sides of the threshold her many friends will continue to accompany her.

Funeral address by Rev. Sabine Haus (adapted)

Let's Look At Death From Both Sides Now

Annual Meeting of
The Christian Community
at Stourbridge
November 9th – 11th, 2018

'I'm not afraid of dying—I just don't want to be there when it happens!' (Woody Allan)
For many people today, there is a fear of death, a fear of the unknown and a fear of what might happen to those loved ones left behind.

During this weekend we will explore ways in which we might address these fears, and to move further into what happens to us beyond death.

Main Contributors: *Dr James Dyson* (Anthroposophical Doctor), *Rev Erhard Keller* (Priest of The Christian Community in Stourbridge), *Rev David Knight* (Anglican Priest and Spiritual Support Lead at St Wilfrid's Hospice, Eastbourne), *Rev Tom Ravetz* (Priest of The Christian Community in Forest Row and Lenker for the British Region), *Kate Spohrer* (Funeral Director), *Andreas Steuck* (Musician and Composer)

Full details, programme and application forms will be available early September.