



CHRIST CHURCH PARBOLD

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2026



HARVEST 2026

Welcome to the Harvest edition of our newsletter which is a sharing time for all at Christ Church Parbold.

We are looking forward to our Harvest service this Sunday and we know the church will be looking wonderful. But we also want to share our love with charities local and international by donating to Stables Lives in Parbold and Mercy Rescue Trust in Kenya.

For the work of Stable Lives we asked what our donations could help with.

Sue says -

I saw Chris lost in this morning and he was very grateful for the donation from church to Stable Lives and said it would go to support the costs of both the Stable Lives Christmas event and also their youth group.

For Mercy Recue Trust – See Barbara’s item later in this newsletter. And they are so grateful for anything we give to help their vital work with abandoned babies.

So please, if you are able, give whatever you can either via our bank account or at the services of September 26th an October 4th. All money collected during those services will sent to the charities (except the dedicated weekly envelope scheme). And please remember that if you put your gift in a envelope, to please give us your name and address if you are a UK Taxpayer, so we can claim the tax back from the government and increase your donation.

Any questions please have a chat with me (Lin Milne) or any churchwarden.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and wanting to bless these wonderful charities in their work.

God bless

Lin

p.s. Please read our new regular Safeguarding News, it is important for us all to promote our church as a welcoming a safe environment





While babies are waiting to be reunited or found a forever family, they remain with our foster carers and are surrounded with tender, responsive care.



Simple moments like 1:1 feeding, cuddles, eye contact and gentle conversation are so important for attachment and healthy brain development.

When a child consistently experiences comfort and care from a trusted adult, they begin to learn: **I am safe. I am loved. My needs matter.**

Born at just seven months and incredibly small, this little boy was abandoned and left in a pit latrine where he should never have been found.

Amazingly someone heard him and he was rescued and is now safely in our care. It is early days and he is still very fragile so please be praying for him... there is a long road ahead.

Owen is one of our drivers. Except he is so much more than a driver. He goes far beyond what his role requires - sometimes driving for hours for a rescue or case investigation - and he can't help but become emotionally invested in the babies he helps bring to safety. Owen is often one of the first to show our rescues love and comfort



Even everyday routines like feeding, bathing, playing and comforting become powerful building blocks for healing and belonging. Whether it's chapati, rice, ugali or porridge our toddlers always enjoy their food!

Babies often come to us malnourished, weak and sick. We work with healthcare professionals to safely get them to a healthy weight and ensure they have a balanced varied diet. Even when the babies stabilise and move in with one of our temporary foster mothers, we continue to provide all their food and anything else they need until they move on to their forever home.



As you can imagine, feeding all these hungry mouths isn't cheap! Our 2026 campaign:

💎 **200 for Mercy** 💎

Finding 200 new supporters will enable us to continue filling empty bellies and restoring abandoned babies to health. We have 11 new monthly supporters so far.

To donate please head to the website: www.mercyrescue.co.uk

Earlier this year, some of our precious "big kids" came for a visit. It is one of the greatest joys to us that we are still a home to them even in adulthood.

Mercy - the little baby whose rescue became the inspiration for our name 19 years ago - holding one of our newbies.

Babies grow and times change but our goals remain the same - to be a place of love, hope and second chances for abandoned and vulnerable babies.

Thank you for your continuing support.

God Bless Barbara



LATEST NEWS FROM BRAZIL



I just wanted to write and share with you our latest news. We have been praying for a while and we feel it is time to move from Fortaleza. I have been in Fortaleza for 25 years now and it's been an amazing time and thankfully the work here is now well established and run by a good team of local Brazilians. We have done ourselves out of a job where we are no longer needed and feel it is time to move onto something new.

Our plan is to move at the start of next year to Brasilia and although we will be moving to a place where everything is new, much of our work and heart will be the same, working with the poor, mobilising the church to live out the simple Gospel with practical acts of love and justice and also help awaken and raise up the next generation of missionaries here in Brazil.

It is going to be a big change for all of us in the family and we don't yet know all the details but we do have the inner peace that comes from God tapping you on the shoulder and leading you forward. We have so appreciated your prayers and support over the years and hope you will continue to journey with us in this new phase. We need them now more than ever!

Thank you so much

Love and Blessings from Brazil
Andrew and Claudia

SAFEGUARDING NEWS

October focus: Safe by Heart: Building a Church Where Everyone Thrives

Like Sue said in her talk last Sunday, we need to keep Jesus Centre Stage. This applies to Safeguarding too; safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and something that we all need to be aware of.

But what is Safeguarding?

Basically, it is practical actions taken to help people be safe and to prevent harm.

At Christ Church our aim is to create a culture where all children, young people and adults can worship, belong and explore faith together without fear, pressure or abuse and where concerns are taken seriously and responded to well.

Safeguarding is not about suspicion or bureaucracy; it is a form of care; taking responsibility so that people can participate confidently and safely.

So what can we do as a congregation?

This new safeguarding segment is aimed to keep you up to date with latest policies, procedures and events that relate to safeguarding.

Sunday November 15th 2026 is Safeguarding Sunday, a national movement that invites churches across the UK to stand together and show that the safety and wellbeing of our congregation is not an optional extra to faith, but central to our life and witness as followers of Church.

I look forward to seeing you all there on the 15th.

'Let us Love not in word and speech, but in action and truth'

(1 John 3:18)

Rachael Vanstone

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Safeguarding@christchurchparbold.co.uk



TOP TIPS

1. **Be Alert, Not Alarmed** – Notice changes in behaviour or wellbeing; small signs matter.
2. **Listen Well** – When someone shares a concern, give them space and time — don't rush or judge.
3. **Report Promptly** – If something feels wrong, tell the Parish Safeguarding Officer straight away.
4. **Respect Boundaries** – Keep interactions appropriate and professional, especially with children and vulnerable adults.
5. **Keep Learning** – Attend safeguarding training regularly; it keeps everyone confident and informed.
6. **Model Care** – Show kindness, inclusion, and respect — safeguarding starts with everyday culture.
7. **Pray for Protection** – Hold the church community in prayer, asking for wisdom and safety for all.
8. **Join in the monthly safeguarding drop in:** https://us.list-manage.com/join/n8SgqT_77aB?e=e9d2810d84&c2id=
9. **Visit the Safe Spaces website:** [their website](#) or call 0300 303 1056.
10. **Know Who to Contact** – Keep the Parish Safeguarding Officer's details visible and accessible.
11. **Use Social Media Wisely** – Protect privacy and avoid sharing sensitive information online.
12. **Protect Yourself Too** – Follow procedures to safeguard both others and yourself.



EducAid
Learning for life in Sierra Leone



Greetings to everyone at Christ Church, Parbold from all the EducAidians !

Well, that is the Summer over, and what a Summer we had here in England ! It was almost like being in Sierra Leone with the warm, maybe hot, weather. Speaking of Sierra Leone, here are some notes of updates of the continuing work of EducAid in that country. The work goes on in the schools and in working with other schools and the Sierra Leone Education Authority.

Looking back just a little August is a month of learning, planning and coming together at EducAid. As we prepare for the new school year, our team has been taking time to reflect on what we have learned, to share ideas and to plan for the year ahead. Our work

in bringing education leaders together to re-think how we create opportunities for more effective and ever deeper learning has resulted in a busy and energis month for us all.

During 3rd-7th August, the District of Excellence programme brought together education leaders, government stakeholders and EducAid teams from Port Loko, Falaba and Pujehun for a week of learning, team building and planning at EducAid Maronka. District Directors of Education, School Quality Assurance Officers, EducAid coaches and project teams shared effective practice and explored practical approaches to strengthening teaching and learning across their district's schools.

During the week of 10th August, 24 EducAid leaders came together for a Redesign Learning Week, taking time to think deeply about how we can continue to improve learning across our schools and wider education work. We explored deeper learning, critical thinking, problem-solving and student well being, as well as approaches from elsewhere in the world — asking what could be relevant to Sierra Leone and how these ideas can be adapted to our context.



During the week 24th-28th August, 192 colleagues from across EducAid came tother for our annual Whole Staff Meeting, with five days of learning, reflection, collaboration and planning for the year ahead. The focus was on the further development of excelling in teaching and learning, together with strengthening classroom practicet through sharing ideas and

approaches. We also took time to identify EducAid's priorities for the new school year.



Finally, at the end of one academic year and the start of another it is time to celebrate the achievements of just two of EducAid's alumni. We congratulate -

Dr Abdul Noah Mansaray on earning his PhD in Accounting and Financial Management from the University of Reading,

Komrabai Dumbuya (K D Don) on becoming the first

Sierra Leonean named among the Queen Elizabeth II Commonwealth Trust's 100 Young Leaders.

Their achievements are a wonderful reminder of what EducAid alumni go on to accomplish — and the contribution they continue to make in their communities and the world!

Very Best Wishes to everyone at Christ Church Parbold from us in EducAid.



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Further details of the work of EducAid in Sierra Leone

are available from

Pat Horn - patval@sky.com or 07941 577 436





A POEM FROM MARJ DIXON
GOD IS LOVE



God is in the midst of us
And we are truly blessed.
He is with us every day
Even when we are at rest.

His love and guidance will last us all our days
And when we meet Him in heaven
we can give Him our heartfelt praise.



THANK YOU

Many thanks to all who contributed to this quarterly newsletter. The next one will be a Winter newsletter which will be available just before Christmas.

So that will be a great opportunity to

- send all our church family your Christmas greetings and blessings
- Share a poem or thoughts about winter or Christmas
- Give latest updates about any of our link charities or Christmas events

So look out in the weekly notices for a prompt to let me know if you want anything to be included. My email is stemilne@aol.com or see me in church most Sundays.

God bless,
Lin

