

# chamonix church

## NEWSLETTER N°3

TO ALL ANGLOPHONES LIVING IN OR VISITING CHAMONIX. Welcome to our **third** newsletter specifically for you. We are the little church opposite the Chamonix station and would like to let you know what is going on for the community in conjunction with us. You are very welcome - whatever your belief - to join in any of the offered activities or simply to contact the team here if we can be of help to you in any way. We look forward to serving you whilst you are here in Chamonix.

Dear All,

We are very lucky to live in this beautiful valley, and most of us want for very little. There is a project starting up in Chamonix which will enable anyone who wishes to have an opportunity to give something back to the community and show our gratitude for what we have. There is a shop opening in Chamonix.... It is not the kind of shop that one usually hears about around these parts. Usually it is a ski hire shop, or even more usual - an estate agency!!! But not this one... It will be an unusual type of grocery shop, one that is staffed and supplied by volunteers and a shop whose customers are the very poorest in our community.

Since the beginning of the year we have been working on this project which involves the communes of Vallorcine, Chamonix, Servoz and Les Houches. It is quite rare for the Church to be involved in this type of social action project, given the nature of relationship between Church and the state in France, so this is a fantastic opportunity to touch the poorest, most marginalised sector of the community.

## What's going on?

### WHO'S FOR A BIT OF SUMMER CULTURE?

Tuesday 19th July - Temple de Chamonix @ 17h

Saxophone & piano concert with Frédéric Grange & Bernadette Burgos

Thursday 21st July and 4<sup>th</sup> August - Temple de Chamonix @ 20h30

Slideshow and display of Crystals found in this area with renowned cristallier, Jean-Pierre Siret.

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August - Temple de Chamonix @ 20h30

Violin duo with Nathalie Glière et Alice-Claire Frarier

« Mozart, téléman, Boccherini, Bartok, Gardel. »

Tuesday 9th August - Temple de Chamonix @ 20h30

Slideshow on « La montagne passion » & book dedication

By famous mountain photographer, Mario Colonel

Thursday 11th August - Temple de Chamonix @ 20h30

Violin and piano concert by Béatrice Hombourger & Georges Ernwein

In aid of the church in Chamonix

Wednesday 17th August - Temple de Chamonix @ 20h30

Pan flute concerto by Ion Malcoci, le « Paganini de la flûte de pan »

With Gabriel Dorin on the piano & violin.

Eglise réformée de France, Pasteur Isabelle Pierron

Téléphone 04 50 55 85 60 - 06 13 05 04 43

24, Passage du Temple, Chamonix, 74400

For information on baptisms, marriage, blessings and funerals.

### **New for Summer - Every Sunday Evening in English**

There will be a Service in English at 18h every Sunday evening throughout July and August - Everyone welcome!

### **Looking ahead to autumn! Services**

From September 2011.... onwards the normal informal 18h00 Sunday evening meeting as well as the normal English service on the first Sunday of the month, will continue.

### **Youth Work**

The children and young people have their activities starting too:

6-11 years old - KidsClub first back on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

11-15 years old KT - first meeting on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011.

### **Other goings on....**

We are holding a BINGO PARTY in the presbetry to raise money for the little church on:

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011

For children and adults, prizes for all! Please join us!

(Plus ANY PRIZE DONATIONS MOST WELCOME)

English "Bible study"

Friday October 7<sup>th</sup> - Les Bossons - 9.30am

Here is what has been said about it.... *"I have been attending the Bible Study in English with Isabelle. I have found Isabelle so welcoming and forgiving for my lack of knowledge. It is a wonderful opportunity to discuss how the bible effects our lives today and how we can put into practice some of the wisdom found within it. I have found it has given me the opportunity to reflect on my life and how I live it and also how I behave towards others."* Tracey Desmond - Les Houches

It does seem that Chamonix is a fairly affluent community. However, there are those who live in very precarious circumstances. About sixty vulnerable families are in touch with social services who in turn put them in touch with our 'Grocery Store'. The aim of such a project is to provide a place where the neediest in our community can buy essential items at under 10% of their market value. The fact that the goods are bought gives them a measure of dignity that handouts cannot. Alongside the shop will be a nutrition education programme, as well as a financial advisory service. We aim to have a little place to give out coffee and cake too, so that links can be established and friends can be made.

### **How you can help.**

**Time :** We are looking for volunteers to staff the shop. Given the scale of the project, and those involved, we hope to have a fairly large team. This will mean that each person only gives about 2-3 hours a month. There is a part-time employee of the Mairie who will always be there when the shop is open, and so no-one will ever be alone.

**Supplies :** We need to stock the shop. It need not cost very much to give one or two items every once in a while. Just include them in your weekly shop and drop them off at Isabelle's house - the presbetry where Mums and Tots is held, or drop them in the Church when you come by. They can be left outside on her doorstep. We need store cupboard goods, none of which are very expensive. - see below for some ideas. It is a very convenient way to feel involved in the community, and will go some way to building bridges on many levels here in Chamonix. Please call me or Isabelle for any queries - or to volunteer !

Tinned goods, flour, pasta, rice, coffee, tea, biscuits, milk, fruit juice, toiletries, soap powder, washing liquid, nappies, condiments etc...

***Are you worried? Do you need help ?***

***Would you like to pray with, or be prayed for by others?***

Call Barbara Falkiner on 0962542562, Isabelle Pierron on 0450558560