

## **Rockwell Green Christian Fellowship E-news November 2018**

**Jesus said to them (and us) “all authority has been given to me. Now wherever you go make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And teach them to faithfully follow all I have commanded you. And never forget that I am with you every day, even to the completion of this age.” Matthew 28 vs 18 - 20**

### **Diary for November :-**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov – 7.30pm Our whole church gathering**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – 7pm Table Tennis evening**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov – Joint gathering with Plymouth Church (see below)**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov – 7.30pm Whole church together**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov – 7.30pm Men’s Steak Night, Barley Mow (David)**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov – 3.15pm Service of Remembrance in the Park**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov – 12.30pm Town Church Leaders Lunch**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Nov – 7.30pm Whole church together**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov – 7pm Table Tennis evening**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Nov – 7pm Christian Aid Skittles, Barley Mow (Bob H)**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Nov – 10.30am Gareth & Rachel Owen visit (see below)**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov – 2.30pm NOTE ! Service at Oaktree Court**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov – 7.30pm Whole church together**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov – Barnabas Leaders Day in Reading**

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov – 7.30pm Whole church gathering**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov – 7pm Table Tennis evening**

**ADVANCE NOTICE – our next Saturday Prayer & Worship will be 1<sup>st</sup> December starting at 10am – with fasting if you are able.**

## **Regular events / meetings :-**

**We continue to concentrate our times together on Sundays and Thursdays exploring our journey through the prophetic word given to us as a church back in May. Much personal & individual growth has come from our Thursdays together, and it has been an exciting journey as we seek to obey God's word and align ourselves with God's purposes and with each other. It has been a real blessing to see so many of you out on Thursdays, and we really do want all the church to be together as we meet.**

**Therefore there will still be no Encounter, Housegroups, or Coffee Mornings short term. These activities are being reviewed in the light of what we as a church see as our vision / mission out of the prophetic word(s) in recent months. Please pray for clarity as we move forward together.**

**The regular events that remain are :-**

**Mondays at 10.30am hosting Forever Active exercise session**

**Tuesdays at 10am Bright Sparks mums & toddlers time**

**Fridays at 7pm hosting a Table Tennis evening (see above dates)**

**We also continue to visit Oaktree Court once a month, as this is a vital and fruitful ministry of the church (see date above). If you think you might want to join the Team please see Marion or Bob H, it would be good to have a larger number to support the visits.**

## **Family News :-**

**Please continue to pray for the number who are sick in the church. Healing was very much on God's agenda as we prayed on Saturday morning (27<sup>th</sup> Oct). We need to continue to battle for healing over every life that needs a healing touch.**

**We are looking forward to the visit of New Life, Plymouth our Barnabas sister church in the South West. They are bringing a good number of their folks and we trust they will get a great Rockwell Green welcome ! A lady named Keniesha will be leading worship**

**from the keyboard and Chris Clewer will be speaking to us once again on the theme he effectively brought at Heatree House – ‘Pressing on – Learning from Israel’. We will all have a cooked lunch together lovingly prepared by Madeleine and her Team.**

**You will also see from the diary that Gareth & Rachel Owen from Reading will be with us on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November. We hope to hear more on the ‘100 vision’ Gareth spoke about last time they were with us, as well as hearing how the Barnabas Leadership Team can support us in our journey and future vision. There will be opportunity for a short Q&A over coffee after the morning service.**

**An exciting recent development has been to allow access to our local Police PCSO’s to use our Centre as a patrol hub for the Rockwell Green area, mostly through Steve Hill. So don’t be alarmed if you see a PCSO or two in and around the building from time to time ! Thanks to the Trustees for agreeing to this important development in our links with the local community.**

**Please pray for our young families as they juggle the high demands of work, family and church, especially wisdom for the men who head the households. We have amazing quality in the Bedford and Wilding families, and they will need our ongoing prayer and practical support as they grow within the family of the church.**

**Please continue to pray for our children’s protection with the onslaught of LGBT groups lobbying for the introduction of education on gender identity issues, which would have been unthinkable a generation ago. The battle rages on and we need to stand upon the word of God and declare it as we see such things rising up.**

**Please pray for us elders as we carry through our leadership succession planning, which is vital in taking the fellowship to a new season of fruitful ministry both inside and outside the walls of the church. An announcement will be made soon concerning the emerging leadership structure going forward. This is an exciting time as we have seen God provide for our growth and development in terms of leadership and gifting.**

**Talking of gifting, it has been amazing to explore together the gifts and ministries that we have represented in the members of the church. All the gifts listed in the 4 passages in the New Testament are found in our ranks – isn't that encouraging and exciting ?!**

**NEW FEATURE – it is intended that we use this news format to bring a real and relevant (short!) word each month with different people contributing. We can call it 'Monthly Message' or something more 'cool' if you have a suggestion. Anyway, I (Bob H) will kick it off this month.**

**You will see the opening scripture is taken from Jesus' final instructions to His disciples at the end of Matthew's gospel chapter 28. These instructions come with promises, which gives us the encouragement we need to continue our Christian journey. The instructions are clear, 'go', 'make disciples', 'baptize' and 'teach faithfully Jesus commands'. It is the responsibility of each believer to be carrying through Jesus' instructions, with the help and guidance of our leaders and in the power of the Holy Spirit. If we stay where we are (in our comfort and control zone), we are not 'going', stepping out in faith should be our daily walk. Making disciples is not merely getting someone to pray a 'sinners prayer', its taking a person who God has put in your path, on a journey through relationship to experiencing the love of Christ and to surrender and grow in Him to take their place within the body of Christ. We are called to be baptized ourselves as believers (whatever happened before is of little value), and encourage new believers to take that vital step of obedience and public confession of Christ. Lastly we are called to teach, which doesn't for the most part mean standing at the front giving a 'sermon', but means by example in word and deed leading others to maturity.**

**Now the wonderful promises are, one, that we have been given authority by Christ to carry out the things He has commanded us to do (if we are living honourably before God), and two, as we go He promises to be with us always (even if we mess up !) by His Holy Spirit living in us. Let's see God move powerfully as we obey Jesus' instructions !**