



September's gatherings and events:

As leaders we sense God is wanting us to continue the journey of coming together to seek God for the unfolding of the recent prophetic word – so our main gatherings will continue to be as for August, namely :

Every Thursday at 7.30pm we will meet as a whole church, exploring what it means to 'rest', 'sit at the feet of Jesus', allow Jesus to heal and restore us for the next season in our church's life. God is drawing us together to be aligned with Him and each other, and that takes time ! Please make every effort to be at these vital times in order to hear God for yourself and others, and become closer as believers towards a real oneness. We want to emphasise again that these times are not 'housegroups together', but they are for all members to come together to hear God together. One of the things we intend exploring together in the coming weeks is an exercise in finding our gifts and ministries as individuals, which will be fun !

Sunday gatherings will continue at 10.30am where we take our journey of seeking to be transformed both individually and as a body together. We are sensing a beautiful atmosphere developing as we seek to be obedient to God's word to us. There is also a liberty in the Holy Spirit releasing many to share openly what God has been saying and doing with them. Long may it continue !

We have explored what we as a church should be picking up again and what we should let lie for the foreseeable future. As we have said at the beginning of this process nothing is 'sacred' in terms of activities restarting just because we have done it before.

To this end we have felt, in consultation with Madeleine, that the Thursday Coffee Morning will not restart in September and will be reviewed through prayer and input from those who are involved, to check what, if anything God would have us do in terms of hospitality/outreach/inreach, during the week.

Discussions are ongoing concerning the starting up of Bright Sparks during September. As most of you will know this is a joint ministry with folks from Living Light, so hearing their hearts on the future vision is important. More information will be communicated to you all once a decision has been made. Please pray.

For the time being we will not be meeting as housegroups or having Encounter on a Wednesday evening. There will be opportunities to pray together at our Thursday gatherings.

Talking of prayer there are some Saturday morning prayer times arranged by Chris & Caley over the next few months. All starting at 10am through till 12 ish, and we have David White with us to lead us in worship during each morning. The dates are as follows :-

Saturday 1st September (the focus will be our nation & Brexit).

Saturday 20th October

Saturday 1st December

Advance notices :-

We have met with Chris & Pete from the Barnabas Plymouth church (New Life), and planned in a couple of events :-

Sunday 4th November New Life will join us at RGCF for a Barnabas SW gathering, with Chris Clewer as our speaker. We will all share fellowship together over lunch.

Having had a wonderful time at Heatree House last January, when our two fellowships joined together, we felt it right to look towards having another weekend there, and the provisional dates of Friday 31st January to 2nd February 2020 have been set (subject to negotiation with Heatree). It gives everyone a whopping 17 months to save for it ! No excuses really.

The following events we host will be continuing :-

Forever Active each Monday at 10.30am for one hour of fairly gentle exercise.

Table Tennis evenings this month will be 7th & 21st Sept starting at 7pm.

In addition we have the annual Howard Rd Fun Day on Sunday 2nd September from 1.30pm to 3.30pm – it's organised through Churches Together (a Street Pastor initiative), and it's a great event to just turn up and gossip the gospel !

Family news :-

Huge congratulations to two members of the Bedford clan who have done particularly well in their recent results.

Isaac has passed his three A levels (B and 2 C's) and has what he needs to move to the next stage of his education. Please pray for guidance for Isaac in the direction to take.

Jayde has also done really well in her GCSE's, getting 2 A*, 1A and 4 C's. She will now be going to SCAT to major in Art (no surprise there !!).

Well done to you both, we pray you will know the Lord's leading and protection in the new season of your lives.

Please pray for the House family as Rachel (Bob & Maggie's daughter) gets married on 8th September to Tim Walker, at St James Church Taunton. Just advance notice that Bob & Maggie will not be around much the week of the wedding (w/c 3rd Sept), as there is a lot of prep still to do ! More prayer please !!

Let's pray for all our church children and the children in our families, as they return to school. So much prayer needed for our kids in these difficult days.

Please continue to pray for the sick whom we know. God never stops working whatever we are facing – receive your healing in Jesus' name.

