



May Key Events

1st Community
Sport Plus
Service

1st Evening
Service

2nd Church day
out to
Trentham
Gardens

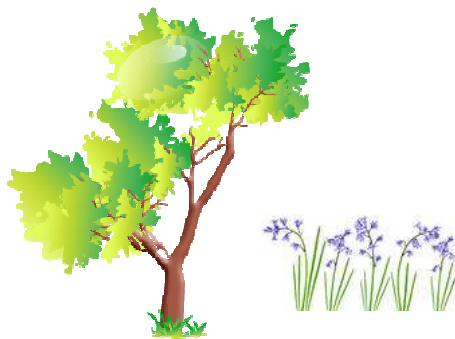
15th United
Service at
Trinity

15th-16th Border
Prayer at St
Giles

20th Christian
Aid Quiz at St
Marks

21st – 28th
Handwritten
Bible Project at
Wrexham

Relay



This month we are looking at the prayer petal - with an update from Frank Collins. There are also reports from the Local Leadership Teams, a report on North Korea and details of some events coming up in May

Scripture Focus for May

Revelation 19:6-9

6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."



Leader's Log

PRAY without ceasing.....!!!!

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

This coming month promises to provide us with plenty of opportunities to do just that, pray, pray, pray and when all is said and done pray some more. There is certainly plenty, as ever, to focus our prayers upon. Assembly elections, the referendum on the alternative vote, the aftermath of world changing events, on-going war in numerous nations, and closer to home, in Wrexham, the Border Prayer project and 400 year celebrations of the King James Bible with the written Wrexham Gospel. I strongly encourage us all to get involved in these TWO important local initiatives this month.

It is certainly a challenge to pray without ceasing!!! I know I don't find it easy. I do however think that there are very helpful pointers in the verses above to help us to develop that persevering, prayerful, overcoming mentality and spirit.

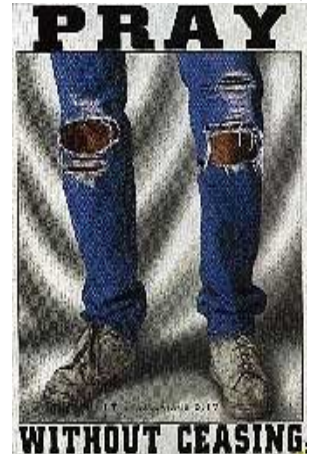
- **Develop a praising worshipping heart**

Rejoice (take joy) in the Lord as it is a source of building spiritual strength. Say the psalms, sing hymns and choruses, give God glory for his glorious creation. There are a myriad of ways we can praise God. Be spontaneous and be creative. Keep practising till praise flows forth whatever is going on.

- **Cultivate an attitude of thanksgiving**

In everything give thanks – find a way to thank God whatever circumstances you find yourselves in. This is something we have to work hard at as it is so easy to fall into the trap of grumbling and complaining.

Remember God may not have got you into it, but he can certainly get you out of it!! If he can't, I don't know who can!!



This can be done, daunting and challenging for sure, but certainly achievable. Take inspiration from the Lord's brother James, who is said to have had knees like camels due to his long hours in prayer. The picture above reminded me of that.

Prayer is a job we are all called to – we can't afford to leave it to a faithful few. Prayer needs to saturate our ministry and mission as it is the backbone and foundation of all we are and do.

Prayerless Ministry is Powerless Ministry Rick Warren

Let's be known as a praying people - always ready to praise and thank the Father, Son and Spirit. If we can grow in and develop these habits then we can be more prepared to launch into prayer at any time.

Prayer springs forth from praising, thankful hearts.

LET'S GET TO IT.

Love and prayers,
Every Blessing

GABETH



**Rejoice always,
pray without ceasing,
give thanks ...**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Weekend Away 2012

We have booked the next weekend away for February 2012.



When, where and how much?

Date	Friday 24 th to Sunday 26 th February 2012.
Location	Pioneer Centre, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8JG.
Cost	£100 per adult, there are discounts for children. A deposit of £20 is needed as soon as possible.
Includes	All meals from Friday evening to Sunday lunch and all rooms have an en-suite.

Saving Club

If you have any concerns about the cost of the weekend away Sue Allen is willing to set up a savings club, where you can pay the money weekly or monthly.

Local Leadership Team Reports

Hightown Update

What a privilege to be called by God to love and influence those around us. It is very exciting to recognise that we all have been rescued from our ordinary and everyday life into an extraordinary life in God. Hightown is teeming with lives just waiting – some of them not sure what they are waiting for – but none the less, waiting! What for? A kind act – a word of encouragement – some material help that will open a door to a loving and caring God.

Already we have been able to help one person with a small job in their garden – another has asked for help to decorate their lounge - another has asked for a tree to be taken down to help prepare for a community garden. Lets ask our Saviour where we can bear fruit for Him.

There are courses that have been prepared by *Communities First*.

First Aid – Intro to Retail – Intro to Beauty – Money Matters – Gardening Sessions – Computer Classes – Hoola Hooping followed by Slimming class – Basic Handyman Skills – Intro to Desktop Publishing – all in May – they have also asked, what would we like in the way of courses in the Autumn. What a good way to get to know people and build relationships.

We may not necessarily need these skills, but we can help and encourage by just being there. There are also ongoing clubs, Art and Crafts, parents group etc.

If you feel even a slight call to be part of God's team – don't hesitate – speak to one of the leaders. The kingdom awaits. God Bless.



Acton Update - Community Sports update

Community Sports is going well with more children coming since the service became tailored for them. We are regularly meeting with about 15 children, with a number having no other contact with the church or the youth clubs that we run.

Last month we started meeting at 10 o'clock having breakfast together before the service and football. A number of the children came early and we also had a couple of adults join us during this period. Our vision is that this would become a time and place for the families of the area to drop in on a Sunday and either stay for the whole time we are there or just dip in and out as they please. Only the children came early this time, but please pray into this situation and plan.

Last month Community Sports fell on Mothering Sunday, so we decided to look at God's care for us and the fact that he wants to bring out the best in us. We looked at a manager's role in a team and then asked the children to put some footballers, old and new, into a playing XI. We also learned a memory verse, John 10:10, by doing keepie-ups!! A close 10-a-side game ended with an 8-7 scoreline.





Prayer



The other day I was at a meeting with local church and civic leaders, discussing the findings of the second of 2 'Faith Audits' that I have been involved with recently. Three things struck me from that discussion.

1. Results of a survey in Stoke show that of people of FAITH, 75% have a relationship with their neighbours, 78% vote, and 63% volunteer with social activity in their community.
2. The MP, one of the main speakers, a practicing mormon, said that people of faith are the only ones who have a sense of purpose, and of mission, and of direction. And this leads us to social action.
3. A young man, a Baha'i who had conducted a report on Faith in Action in the North West, said that for a long time there had been prejudice by the authorities against the Christian church in the UK.

Two of the local ministers present in the open discussion said that first it was her mission to 'bring our faith and gospel values into the life of the town, and the second vicar challenged the civic leaders that 'your values are not ours'. The MP replied "the weight and quality of your [the church] voice does change policy, and we undersell ourselves ...we do it because it is right, and for no other reason."

Well I came away thinking what tremendous challenges there were in this for us all. What could I do about it and what should I be doing next about there is just so much need out there. With so much need, how can I get my priorities right? The easy answer is to pray, but He doesn't always seem to answer the phone [Jer 33-3]. The hard part is that the receiver at my end doesn't get as clear a reception as it does at His end. So it has to be, (and this is the really hard bit) a prayer without ceasing, until I hear the connection is made, until I get the message clear at my end, until I stop interrupting the conversation with all my moans and shopping list of needs, being prompted to pray for the 'trafficking' in the UK, for the post abortion traumas in Wrexham, for

for John and Ffion, and being clear when God says “Frank, I want you to do.....”, in that wonderful still small voice that He has, and I can say easily and clearly, albeit quietly ‘yes, ok’ and then get on with it .

Frank Collins

PS. Just in case you haven't been around lately, there are 2 events which we need to put on our prayer list and to join in with others to pray for our community. In May it's Border Prayer, a fortnight of healing and intercessory prayer moving down the border between England and Wales and it's in Wrexham 15-16th May.

Gareth has all the details including the 'Lock In'. And in July, 10-17th it's the Wales Prayer Week and preparation for the visit of the National Eisteddfod - more on this later.

Important Reminder

ChristChurch services starts at 10.30 and the Leadership Team strongly encourage that everyone be present by 10.25 so that we are ready and prepared to worship the Lord together on time. We deeply appreciate your understanding and cooperation. Blessings, The Leadership Team

North Korea Update

Leader – Kin Jong-il
 Population – 20 Million (400,000 Christians)
 Main religion – Atheism/Traditional beliefs
 Government – Communist Dictatorship



Nowhere in the world is Christian persecution so fierce. Christians have to hide their faith. Christian parents are unable to share their beliefs with their children until they are old enough to understand the dangers. Just owning a bible could get you killed, or sent to a harsh labour camp. Even so, the church is standing firm.

Open doors is working to help the North Korean Church by secretly sending in Bibles, study material, food and medicines.

Letters received from church leaders show how vital this support is. Letters received read “....thank you so much for you dedication and devoted hearts towards our believers. Every book that we received has been used effectively. They strengthen the believers. Your books are like fellow travellers on a lonely road”. Other letters speak about everyday life. “The food ration has stopped due to the reduction in rice production. We are struggling to survive. Society is being destroyed by the Government.”

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in North Korea.
 For more information go to – www.opendoors.org



May Events



15th- 16th May - Border prayer

24 hours of prayer at St Giles Parish Church, from 12 pm on 15th to 12 pm on 16th. The aim of The Border Prayer Room Project is to facilitate God's people along the Borders of England and Wales to pray for, and pour blessing into each others' communities. This project will broadly follow the 24-7 prayer model. A town in Wales is twinned with a town in England and each pair of Prayer Rooms will pray for one twenty four hour period, split up into one hour slots which people are able to book in advance. The Leadership Team are encouraging everyone to sign up for an hour.



21st – 28th Handwritten bible project

To celebrate the 400th anniversary of the publishing of the 1611 King James Authorised version of the Bible, a UK-wide project aims to produce a complete hand-written copy. People are being encouraged to come to Wrexham Library and copy a few verses.

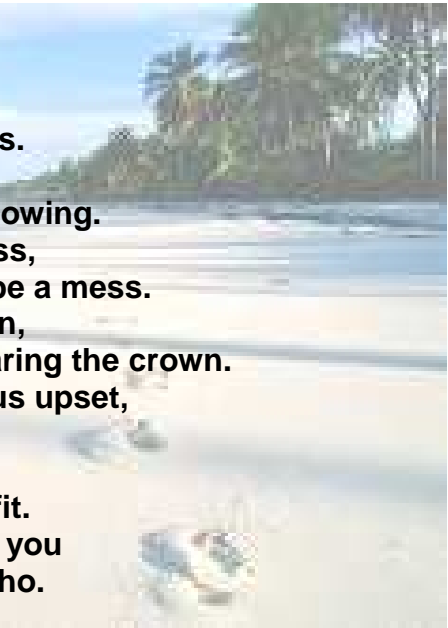
Help needed - ChristChurch are providing stewards for Friday 27th May. We need 2 stewards for 2 hour slots between 10am and 4pm. If you would like to help see Gareth.



God's Love For Us by Sally Ellinson

God has a plan for each of our lives,
 It's all written down in front of His eyes.
 We often wonder where we are going,
 What God's got in store there is no knowing.
 What tomorrow holds we can but guess,
 But without God's hand it would just be a mess.
 If we trust in Him, He won't let us down,
 When it comes to this world, He's wearing the crown.
 Sometimes things happen that make us upset,
 We yell, we scream, we cry, and yet
 God turns them around bit by bit,
 And ends up using them for our benefit.
 Trust in the Lord because His love for you
 Cancels all worries of when, why or who.

(March 1998)



ChristChurch Monthly Rotas

Date		Setting Up	Music Group Leader	IT	Service Leader	Speaker	Tea
01-May		Peter	tbc	tbc	Ros W	John W	Glenys Marilyn Rosemary
08-May	C	Gareth	tbc	tbc	Rob G	Gareth	Dorothy Jan Steve
15-May	O	Peter	tbc	tbc	Peter W	Sue	Elaine W Peter Elaine M
22-May	C	Richard	tbc	tbc	Sue A	Gareth	Myra Diane Ffion
29-May		Sue	tbc	tbc	Sally E	Peter W	Andrew Elizabeth

C= Communion / O = Offering

Your chance to be part of the magazine!

If anyone would like to contribute to the magazine we are always looking for items to include. If you have poems, pictures, stories, or would like to share your testimony please can you let us know?

Thank you from Sally and Marilyn

If you have any queries please call Gareth Jones - ChristChurch Team Leader on 07545 866597 (01978 354805),

see our website www.christchurchwrexham.org.uk,

or send us an email - admin@christchurchwrexham.org.uk

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