

ChristChurch Wrexham



April 2019

Relay



Welcome to the April edition of the
ChristChurch Relay magazine

Scripture Focus for April

John 19:28-30 It is Finished - ²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" ²⁹ Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. ³⁰ So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

John 20:26-29 Walk in Faith - ²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Key Dates

4th Staff Meeting

7th Early
Celebration,
Discovery
Church, The
Meeting place,
Walk this Way,
#Sundaze

10th Bethel Sozo
Information
evening

14th Martina and
Tony at CCW

18th Leaders'
Huddle and
Meeting.

19th Good Friday
Service and Walk
of witness

21st – Easter Day
Gospel Choir at
St Giles

Leaders Log

In ALL THINGS – Give Thanks to God!!

It is easy to give thanks, and have grateful hearts, when life is going smoothly and all is well with my life and the world. It is a different matter when life is a struggle and things don't turn out well or go badly wrong. What about when tragedy or disaster strikes? The bible is very clear – GIVE THANKS TO GOD.

Not because everything we experience in this life comes from Him, but because of His amazingly extravagant love, abundant goodness and unfailing grace, through which He is able to make all things work for our good (Romans 8:28).

pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. **1 Thessalonians 5:17-18**



An attitude of gratitude has no place or time for complaining or grumbling!!!

knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. **2 Corinthians 4:14-15**



Whether we are delighting, are in difficulty, in distress or utter despair the Word of God encourages us to give thanks. It takes maturity, courage and faith to do this in the midst of hardship, toil and trouble. The thing that changes when we can graciously give thanks is perspective. We lift our eyes off the thing or trouble in front of us and we look up to God, our heavenly Father, who is the source of our hope.



My circumstances do not determine the goodness, grace and love of God!! Our heavenly Father`s perfect unchanging nature does.

As I give thanks unto God, no matter what is happening around or to me, my attitude changes and as I lift my voice and focus up to Father He can strengthen, sustain and revive me in the midst of each and every situation or circumstance. The apostle Paul has much to teach us in these matters for he became an expert in giving thanks in each and every circumstance – beaten, stoned, whipped with 39 lashes, imprisoned, persecuted and shipwrecked (all of these more than once!)..

Lord, teach me to offer you a heart of thanksgiving and praise in every experience of life. Teach me to be joyful always, to pray continually and to give thanks in all circumstances. I long to bring pleasure to your heart daily. Break the power of the enemy in my life. Defeat him through my sacrifice of praise. Change my outlook and attitude into one of joyful contentment with my present circumstances. I thank you that you never leave or forsake me and that through your abundant grace all things are working for my enrichment. I thank you for every success and every time of struggle. Keep me persevering with you through all things. Thank you Father. Amen.

Love and prayers,
Blessings,

GARETH 

Need to contact the CCW Youth Worker or CCW Church and Community Children`s worker? Here is when they are available



Adam - If you want to contact me please contact me between 9:00am and 5:00pm Thursday and 9:00am and 9:00pm on Friday. You can feel free contact me within normal office hours Monday – Wednesday however due to my job, my ability to respond will be limited. I try to keep weekends as free as possible, but feel free to speak to me in church on Sunday.

Sarah - I`m usually working on Tuesday and Friday mornings, so if anyone needs an urgent response, that`s when to contact me. Thanks



Base camp dates - Find out more about - ChristChurch - Missional Communities - ChristChurch`s Mission - How you can get involved. Each session will include brief teaching, a focus upon scripture, personal reflection & time for prayer. Talk to Andrew or Liz. We`re now planning to run a continuous rolling programme - Here is the current plan! April 4th, May 2nd 23rd and then 2nd and 4th Thursdays!

Hello Christ Church from Joe Latham



Many of you may know me through YWAM, C2 and International fellowship, or as a member of the team that was in Serbia last Summer.

I have loved your friendship and sharing your missional hearts for Wrexham. I'm excited to be able to share that I'm returning to serve with YWAM in Serbia for the next 6 months.

Serbia is a beautiful country with stunning scenery, an incredibly warm and hospitable culture. It is rich in creativity, in loyal friendship and community and by taking me back God is fulfilling a long term dream of mine!

It is also a country that needs Jesus desperately. While the majority of the population view themselves as Orthodox Christian very few people know and believe the truth that it is only through Jesus' death and resurrection that God's grace and love can really be fully known.

I will be joining a small team of 6 YWAMers in Uzice, southern Serbia. (Uzice is not pronounced 'Use ice'. Try saying 'Oo-ji-tse' but with a soft 'j' like in the French 'je suis') The leaders, Andrew and Lydia Vaughan have been in Uzice for many years as has Beta, from Romania. The other three, Bronwyn from Canada, Taylor from the USA and me from here have visited several times before and are joining this Spring.

Our vision is to see the church spread from home to home. To see this happen in this new season we will be building our own rhythms of community and fellowship as Jesus says in the bible that it is by how we love one another that the world will see we are Jesus' disciples. We will be seeking for every opportunity to share the truth of Jesus and to bring Serbs to know the love of God and to be able to say truly that 'Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the cross' and then to share our community with them. The three new staff members will also be learning Serbian.

There is amazing openness and I have been thrilled by every time I have seen the Holy Spirit at work among this thoughtful, welcoming people. We also remember Serbia's painful history and stand on the Bible truth that God has appointed us (all Christians!) as 'minister's of reconciliation' to God and to fellow people.

Please pray:

- For the individuals on the team. That as we step into what we feel God is calling us into we would grow, specifically more than we have ever before!
- For the team that we would be strengthened to truly love one another, know God's love for us and live in the fullness of the word and the Holy Spirit.
- For revival in Serbia! - New and old believers to be strengthened, home churches to

spring up, new believers to be born (yay!)

- For God's intervention in the often difficult relationship between missions and the Serbian Orthodox Church.
- YWAMers are also called to trust God for their finances and rely on relational support in this area. If you feel called to partner by giving get in touch!

A more full description of what I feel God is calling me to and monthly updates on what's going on will be on my blog: lifeabundant.home.blog

Thank you for your love, prayers and support! Joe

step up



CCW launched a StepUp journey in January and it is going incredibly well. There are 8 people on the course, including the leaders Sue and Gareth. There are 3 churches involved – CCW, The Community Church and Fairhaven Community.

Here is feedback from two of the participants – “When I began the course, I did not really have an idea what it was about. And so far it is a big blessing. I can see positive changes in the whole group and especially in my life.

The chapters about Who AM I? Why am I here? did something great in me. I always knew with my head that the Lord loved me but never really believed it. I always thought why would He love me because I am stupid etc. I cannot do anything. But something broke in me when we did those lessons and the Lord showed me what He really thought of me. Ephesians 1:3-11”

What Step Up has meant to me?

Everyone is on a spiritual journey and we are never too old to learn and experience a fresh anointing over our lives. Knowing Jesus Christ as your personal saviour is the departure point in each person's spiritual journey. Understanding who you are in Christ and the purpose for your existence is part of growing as a believer. Understanding what a disciple of Jesus Christ is, takes one's spiritual walk to another level. Paul encourages every Christian to imitate Christ and part of learning to imitate Christ is learning to be His disciple. How to fulfil the commandment that Jesus Christ gave to “go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19&20) brings about a paradigm shift that is life changing.

This journey with fellow disciples is a humbling, fulfilling experience and one that I will cherish for a lifetime. Laurie Searle, Fairhaven Congregation, Llanfynydd.



The Free Church Good Friday service will take place at Regent Street at 10.00am on Good Friday morning. A 45-minute service & will be followed by the Walk of Witness which will start from the Museum at 11am and concludes at Eagles Meadow 45-50 minutes later.



Wrexham Street Pastors

Wrexham Street Pastors is alive and well. It has maintained a continuous presence on the streets of Wrexham since it was established in

Wrexham in 2006. There are a number of the ChristChurch congregation members who have actively participated as Street and School Pastors over the years.

The focus remains a “good Samaritan” type of ministry where Christians from a number of denominations roll up their sleeves and practically respond to assist people who have become vulnerable on a “night out” on the town. The rapport that has been established with the patrons and other agencies is extremely positive and folks will make an effort to come and thank Street Pastors for their assistance in times of need. It is a recorded fact that when the Street Pastors are out and about the general attitude and behaviour of the folks enjoying the nightlife is more relaxed and friendly. Last year a total of 664 flip flops were given out to help those in need.

Wrexham Street Pastors go out on patrol every Saturday evening and on every second and fourth Friday of the month. Intercessory prayer is critical and there is a large body of prayer warriors who pray for the safety of the teams that are out on the streets. There is an estimated 12,000 Street Pastors across the UK and the testimonies that are shared of how people have been assisted and ministered to abound. There have also been opportunities to pray for people on the streets. The desire as Wrexham Street Pastors is to continue to be salt and light in this dark world.

If you would like to know more about Wrexham Street or School Pastors please do not hesitate to speak to Gareth Jones or to contact the Wrexham Street Pastor coordinator, Laurie on 07983538942. Your participation as a Street or School Pastor or as a prayer supporter will always be welcomed.

Testimony from Sue Allen

I'd like to share an extraordinary story with you...the significance of which has only just struck me.

On Thursday (14th March) I went to get the vacuum cleaner out and saw a small blue ticket on the floor. Thinking nothing of it, except to wonder where it had come from, I picked it up to throw it away. Turning it over I saw that it had an email address on the back so I put it on the shelf and not in the recycling.

On Friday morning I saw the appalling news from Christchurch, New Zealand, and I was deeply saddened by what I saw. I could not believe such an atrocity could happen in a place where we had been so welcomed and loved.

I decided to email the family that had been so welcoming and friendly when we attended their church, only to discover that Rebecca's address was not in my list of contacts.

On Saturday morning I remembered the ticket. The address on the back was indeed Rebecca's. Even though I had been careless with the gift of that welcoming family that God had given me, he made it possible for me to contact them when I needed to. What a faithful loving God we have.



Gift for Eunice in Zambia



In March there was terrible weather in Africa, we heard devastating news from Eunice (Alan's spiritual daughter) in Chilebomdwe, Zambia where 80% of the school roof blew off in a freak storm exposing 4 out of the 5 classrooms and the office to the elements. Amazingly no one was hurt but the children were very scared.

On Sunday 24th March we had a love offering for Eunice and £389 was collected, the leaders also added a Barnabus gift of £150.00

ACT Help request! Rob and Sally are away for the next TI church (13th April, 12-2pm) can anyone help Sue on that day – See Rob, Sue or Sally ASAP

Discovery MC Update

A lot has happened since the last update! Discovery Church (DC) is now meeting at Acton on the first of the month and the first few sessions have gone well. We've not seen a large increase in numbers as of yet however we're very happy with how things have gone so far. As a venue it works well and makes things easier on a practical level.



Another benefit of being in Acton is the link with Tiddlers. Sarah and the team involved with Tiddlers are building great relationships with parents with young children and are able to talk about DC and encourage them to attend, and with it being in the same venue it will be familiar to them.

We also have a number of children who are coming up to secondary school age and DC may become a bit too young for them. With Sundaze often being held at the Centre at the same time as DC it will make the transition easier for the older children.

As a missional community we continue to meet for bible study every Thursday and we plan and pray for DC every 2 months. During the warmer months we will meet up on a weekend for ad hoc walks, park trips, BBQ's and the occasional camping trip, however as the last few months have been very cold we haven't met up much for social time together. We hope as the weather improves over the next few months that we will be able to meet up for social time together. We're planning a few camping trips for later in the year and possibly a weekend away!



As always if you would like to know more or would like to attend any of the activities/bible studies please speak with Huw or Lesley.

	7 th	14 th	21 st	28 th
		Communion	Offering	Communion
Setting Up	Gareth	Andrew	Richard	Rob
IT	Rob	Dan	Rob	Dan
PA	-	Eth, Colin	Rob, Adrian	Eth, Colin
Music Group	-	John	Huw	Adam
Celebration Leader	Sue	Gareth	Gareth	Rob
Speaker	Gareth	Tony and Martina	Gareth	Gareth
Prayer Team	Marilyn, Ffion	Liz, Lucy	Frank, Val	Alan, Sue
Tea	Jennie, Bill	Dorothy, Lucy, Angela	Elaine, Gerry, Marilyn	Campbell, Glenys, Natasha
Mega Quest	No Junior Church		Easter All Age Celebration	
EAT				

If you have any queries please call
Gareth Jones – ChristChurch Senior Church Leader on 01978 354805

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admin@christchurchwrexham.org.uk
www.facebook.com/christchurchwrexham



We meet at the following location

Acton Community resource Centre
Overton Way
Acton
Wrexham LL12 7LB



Our postal address is

ChristChurch C/o 7 Heol Penally, Little Acton, Wrexham LL12 8JT

