

ChristChurch Wrexham



August 2019








Relay



Welcome to the August edition of the
ChristChurch Relay magazine

Scripture Focus for August

**The seven
"I AM"
statements
of Jesus**

-  "I am the true vine"
JOHN 15:1-5
-  "I am the bread of life"
JOHN 6:35-48
-  "I am the way, the truth and the life"
JOHN 14:6
-  "I am the light of the world"
JOHN 8:12; 9:5
-  "I am the resurrection and the life"
JOHN 11:25
-  "I am the good shepherd"
JOHN 10:11-14
-  "I am the gate"
JOHN 10:7

Key Dates

4th Early
Celebration – Sue
Summer Series "I
am the Bread of
Life"

The Meeting place,
Walk this Way, No
Discovery Church
No #Sundaze

11th Andrew and
Elizabeth Summer
Series "I am the
Light of the World"

18th Genni and
Rhys Summer
Series "I am the
Gate"

25th Kevin, Lynsey
and Sally Summer
Series "I am the
Vine"

Thank You

Martin and I would like to
say a heartfelt thank you
to Jean for volunteering
to be WFTR deputy. We
are very grateful to her.
Elaine M.

Leaders Log

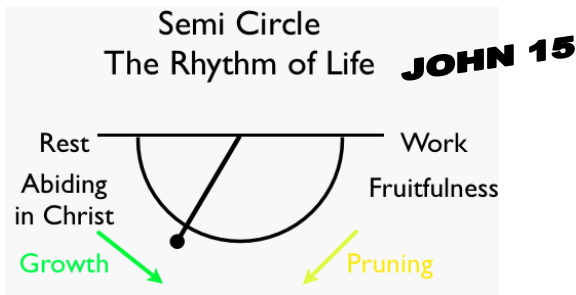
Abide in Christ – Rhythms of Rest

God has built rhythms into the very essence and core of all life. Summer is the season which tends to allow most of us to slow down, take stock and reflect on how life is going and where God is taking us. Most of us plan in some kind of rest, or at least a slowing of the pace, in the summer season. God designed us to rest and blessed us with the Sabbath as a means of rest. We are promised the full measure of these blessings in Christ.

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28

Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. Hebrews 4:1

And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Mark 2:27



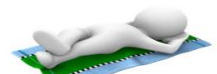
As Jesus modelled for us it is important we learn to regularly rest alone and also that we take time and space to rest with others. In short it is key that we establish healthy rhythms of rest. Somebody is bound to ask the question – well what is rest? Rest is anything (physical, emotional or spiritual) that refreshes, revives, refuels or re-energises you. It will look and feel different for each one of us. We are body, soul & spirit and we must learn to find rest in each sphere of our being.

REST from work, Work from REST

REST

- Personal
- Corporate
- Retreat
- Sabbatical

Rhythm



- daily
- weekly
- regular
- occasional

Revelation

It is interesting to note how intentional modern sports teams are about taking proper rest. It is always planned and carefully prepared for – pre and post performance. Once implemented it is strictly adhered to. They know how important rest is and work hard to make it a part of their regular rhythms.

This is an example and a lesson for us all.

Be INTENTIONAL.

Plan rest for your body, soul (mind & emotions) and your spirit. Implement the pleasures, pursuits and practices that will bring you rest in each part of your being. Enjoy the processes, savour the pleasures.

Take some time this summer to review and reflect on the rhythm of how God wants to work in, and through you, in this season. Rest, abide in Christ, and allow any pruning (cutting back to facilitate fresh growth) that is necessary to take place. Celebrate and enjoy the fruit that is present with the expectation that greater yields and richer harvests will follow.

Whatever is happening over this summer, or in this season, we must work hard to make the most of it knowing that obedience to the Lord is what counts rather than any value or worth we might place on our busyness or achievement. Let each one of us take the opportunity to position and pace ourselves for the present and the future.

What does summer 2019 look like for you?
What does REST look like for you?

Love and prayers,
 Every Blessing

GARETH




Forth Coming Event – Seventieth Wedding Anniversary

Roy and Doris have their Seventieth Wedding Anniversary on Tuesday 17th September. The celebration will be held on Sunday 22nd September, at the Centre, following the morning Celebration, with a buffet lunch at 1.00pm, and various activities later.

Please put this date in your diary, full details will be given in the September issue of Relay, so watch this space.



Together Creating Communities (TCC)

During the recent Christians Together in Wrexham meeting, TCC were there and gave the meeting an update about what they are currently involved in.

If you do not know what TCC is, it is an organisation that tackles social injustice by supporting diverse communities to gain the power needed to enact change. They do this through community organising, by bringing together local groups, so they can take action, and improve their communities. The membership is made up of many different community groups, faith groups, and schools, from across Wrexham, Flintshire, and Denbighshire. Any of our members can raise an issue for TCC to work on—so they set our agenda.

One of the items currently on their agenda is for Wrexham to become a town of sanctuary. A Town of Sanctuary is a welcoming place of safety for all, where people are proud to offer sanctuary to those fleeing violence and persecution. It is a place where the contribution of refugees and asylum seekers is valued & welcomed.

For more information you can look at their website and there is an opportunity to sign up to support the vision. <https://www.tcc-wales.org.uk/refugees-welcome>

#Sundaze

Who we are: A missional community for youth, their families, and those who want to be involved!

When we meet: First Sunday of the month, usually 10.30-12 at ACRC and then a mid-month social activity usually out somewhere.

What we did last term: In May we had a day out at Abergele beach, playing games and eating fish and chips. It was a bit windy but good fun! We also went to a Taize service at St Giles' in Wrexham, they were very welcoming and explained what was going on for us, it was a new style of contemplative worship for most of us to experience. In June we met at the centre to talk about Pentecost and then we spent some time listening to God and sharing what we heard, felt and saw. In July we spent some time at Ty Mawr country park enjoying each other's company and everyone was encouraged to think about baptism. (We won't be meeting in August)

What we're going to do next term: We haven't made plans for next term yet so do let us know if you have any ideas! Some of us fancy doing the Nightingale House Colour Run at the Bangor-on-Dee Racecourse ...

Who to contact if you're interested:

Andrew & Liz Williams or John & Sally Ellinson





During MTW there were 17 responses on street and 4 healings. 33 evangelists went out over 4 days. There were also 5 children that weren't counted and 1 man came into worship and gave his life there and then.

New Wine Cymru Leaders Conference – Andrew Williams

Why does everything seem to happen 'Down South'? I didn't fancy a bed and breakfast so hitched up the caravan and set off for Swansea. It's a lovely journey through Mid Wales even with a caravan, and I thoroughly enjoyed the drive.

I was looking forward to the conference. This is the second time I've been to this excellent event hosted by Cornerstone Church, Swansea. Cornerstone is led by Julian and Sarah Richards, who also help lead New Wine Cymru.

Wonderful worship and inspiring speakers, but the main result for me was time to be with God and listen to him. I particularly wanted God to speak into our new role at ChristChurch. (I have now been formally appointed as Missional Communities Facilitator.) It is a big moment in our ministry for Liz and me, as we move from being Children and Youth workers to facilitating our Missional Communities. It is a constant surprise to me that when I give God permission and take time to listen, there is so much he wants to say.

I enjoy conferences such as these because I come home refreshed, blessed, inspired and informed. Best of all it was 2 days of being with God and with his people.

Prizegiving – On the 14th July we celebrated the end of the school year, when all the children were given a gift from Junior Church. It was especially significant for Sam and Micah as they move up to EAT in September.



Ti Church in July had the theme of "the Beach" – we had sandwiches, did a very tricky spot the difference, Roy brought a thought for the day about starfish and mission! We heard the footprints poem read out aloud. Anna had prepared a PowerPoint about amazing creatures – did you know there is a Football sea squirt – That's Interesting!! There was also a time for craft, chatting and finding out about some amazing beaches across the world!



XL-MENTORING

“If we are not careful we stereotype them rather than getting to know them as individuals...”

Who was Patrick Reagan referring to? Young People in our community.

“...but when the behaviour matches the stereotype there is undoubtedly a reason why...”

Mike Lacy and I coordinate youth mentoring with 11-15 year old young people referred by schools because of behaviour issues. They are struggling for a variety of different reasons, trying to overcome challenges and obstacles in their life. XL Mentoring provides a relational response, working with the young person rather than doing something for them. This support is provided through our valuable team of volunteer mentors.

“I think people should be mentors because it helps children, Mums and Dads”

“I felt more confident about myself, to do better things”

“They need somebody to talk to, someone who will listen and not prejudice them. Just be there for them”

Fancy being a volunteer mentor? We invite adults of all ages and all backgrounds to be a positive role model in a young persons’ life; building their self-esteem and encouraging them to stay engaged with their education and community. Our aim is a positive future for them by supporting them in mainstream education; giving them more options and avoiding exclusion.

What is the commitment? This project is unique in that it is for a 12 month period. This provides a safe and consistent relationship to a young person. Mentors meet their young person for 2 hours a week over this period and how the time is spent is individual to their needs and interests.

What support is given? We run a free 2 day training event for those considering mentoring. There is no commitment by attending but completing the training is essential in order to be a mentor.

We provide monthly supervision and are available for advice and support for the duration.

We also arrange quarterly group activities as a fun way to strengthen relationships and confidence.

If you want to know more we would love to hear from you! Please email us:

xlmentoringwrexham@gmail.com

Abi Hughes

CEFN MAWR MISSIONAL COMMUNITY UPDATE

Formed from a bible study group in September 2015, the Cefn MC was tasked with planting a Bible-believing church in Cefn and the group of villages close to the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct – a UNESCO World Heritage site. Paul and Gill (Day) share the leadership with another couple whom God had called into the area; they were the hosts of the group (Cefn Mawr Christian Fellowship) that morphed into the church-planting group. The base now for most of our activities is the local, volunteer-run, Community Centre next to the Welsh and English schools in the heart of the village. The dozen or so core members meet there every Thursday for worship, prayer, friendship support and Bible study or discipleship training – for instance, we've tried to learn how to share our personal faith with non-Christians and to pray for healing. This weekly pattern changes once a month for a friendship Social to which we invite a wider circle of local people with whom we've "connected". Food is at the heart of these events usually, but we often have a simple spiritual thought or theme that we share for a few minutes, though we have had a Bereavement focus and a celebration. Numbers range from around 20 rising 40+ (Harvest Supper!) rising further to 80+ for our annual Community Carols where our "guests" have included the Ysgol Cefn Mawr Choir.



In February 2017 we began to fulfil our call to plant a church for the Cefn community as The Meeting Place opened its doors for the first time. We meet on the first Sunday of each month, café-style, gathering around tables in groups of 5-7, with cuppas and cakes, colouring and conversation. We usually start with a secular topic to discuss that sets the scene for a related learning opportunity: before looking at "following Jesus", we chatted about who we follow on social media, or stars or groups we've followed in the past etc.

Both our core membership and our "connected" members come from a variety of local churches – Independent Free, Seventh Day Adventist, Methodist, Anglican – and some from no church at all!

CAMPS

Please pray for those helping out on camps over the summer – Adam, Alanna, Chelsea, Josh and Sarah and Kevin Simmons

	4 th	11 th	18 th	25 th
		Communion	Offering	Communion
Setting Up	Gareth	Andrew	Richard	Rob
IT	Rob	Rob/Dan	Rob/Dan	Rob/Dan
PA		Rob, Adrian	Rob, Adrian	Eth, Colin
Music Group	Natasha	Lesley/Genni	Adam	John
Celebration Leader	Sue	Andrew and Elizabeth	Genni and Rhys	Kevin, Lynsey and Sally E
Speaker				
Prayer Team	Frank, Val	Ffion, Lucy	Marilyn, Liz	Paul, Gill
Tea	Jenni, Bill, Angela	Dorothy, Lucy, Angela	Elaine, Gerry, Marilyn	Campbell, Natasha
Mega Quest	No Junior Church	All Age – No Junior Church		
EAT	No Junior Church			

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

