

ChristChurch Wrexham



October 2019

Relay



Welcome to the October edition of the
ChristChurch Relay magazine

Scripture Focus for October

Acts 3:19-21 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰ and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

²¹Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets



Key Dates

3rd Zambia's Arrive

**6th Early Celebration,
Discovery Church,
The Meeting place,
Walk this Way,
#Sundaze**

**10-13th Leaders
Retreat**

**12th LinkUP
Meeting**

**17th Leaders
Huddle**

**18th-20th Times of
Refreshing
Conference**

**27th Shoebox
Sunday**

Cefn Mawr, The Meeting Place –

Please help us to pray
about who to
personally invite to our
Harvest Supper Social
on Thursday 17th
October.



What do people think if we started using What's app to communicate with the congregation. It wouldn't be used routinely but for specific events and prayer requests. I would appreciate any feedback to the admin email.

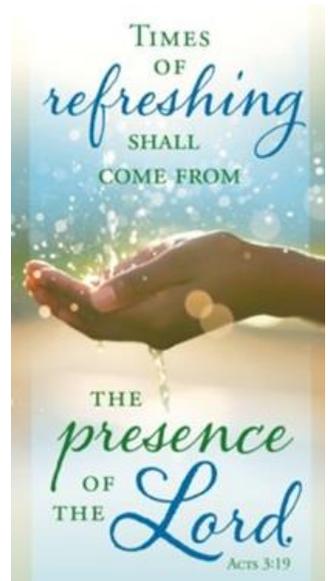
Leaders Log

Times of Refreshing

God never grows weary or tired. He never gets dried up and stale. He is constantly inviting us to partake of His living water and encouraging us to renew and refresh ourselves in Him. Jesus promises us living water from the life-giving Spirit. His ways are different from our ways. We who journey in this fallen world all need to be refreshed and reinvigorated in our faith from time to time. I believe we are entering a season where substantial refreshment will be provided by the Lord.

Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, **Acts 3:19**

For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul." **Jeremiah 31:25**



God gives us so many wonderful promises of refreshment throughout the scriptures. We are invited to quench our thirst, renew our energy, quash our weariness or satisfy and satiate our hunger in so many different places. God is the God who brings refreshment to every part of our being – body, soul and spirit. He is the God of abundance and the heavenly storehouses, and resources, never ever run dry. As Jesus' miracles demonstrate there is always more than enough (leftovers) in the Kingdom of God. Will we like the deer who pants for the water desire Him deeply in our souls? Will we readily seek the refreshment He longs to give?

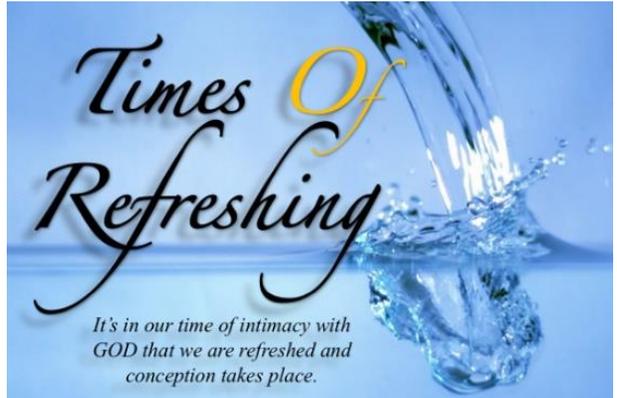
God created the Sabbath to bless us with refreshment and rest but He intends to refresh us in so many more ways. As the verse from Acts highlights to us refreshment is best found in the presence of the Lord. So in this season let each one of us seek intimacy with the Lord in a deeper way than ever before. Seek His presence above all else in this season of refreshment.

Another way the Lord refreshes us is through each other. There are numerous references in OT and NT about people God used to refresh the people of God. In this season I believe the Lord is sending people among us to refresh us in ways that we have not experienced before. Let us be ready to welcome them and receive in full from them.

BE REFRESHED IN THE LORD.
Through His presence and
through the presence and
ministry of His servants.
SATIATE YOURSELVES.

Love and prayers,
 Every Blessing

GABRIEL



Shoebox Sunday

Dorothy will bring shoeboxes on the 13th October for us to use for Shoebox Sunday on **27th October**



Prison Week is 13th to 19th

October and there will be more details on the information table, normally in the café

Camp feedback from Alanna

Middle Park this year was again just amazing. To see God working through the whole camp is so refreshing, especially seeing how the young people open up and begin to ask questions.

The young people from C2 really enjoyed themselves this time and it was really lovely to see them building relationships with other people, not experiencing any arguments until the final day! Seeing how they had all worked together to achieve the goals was just amazing, when usually at home they won't even help each other but in the activities they were so motivating to one another. The evening talks went down really well with them this year too, they were getting really involved and were getting deeper with myself, Chelsea, Adam and another leader from camp and growing in themselves and wanting to discover God. I could go on so much to tell you how the experience this year has been exceptional for myself as a leader but also for the young people, it really is an amazing time to build better relationships with young people. Alanna



Missional Communities at ChristChurch.

Missional Communities are central to the work and witness of our church. We are a family on mission, seeking to connect with others and share the good news of the Gospel of Jesus. These pictures help to illustrate what we do in Missional Communities. For those who want more detail we have a ChristChurch Wrexham Missional Communities Values and Visions paper. If you want to know more or be involved please talk to Andrew or Liz.

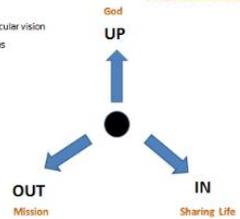


Sharing Life & Mission TOGETHER.

We are a church, people and family on a Missional Journey

Missional Communities

- Network or Neighbourhood based
- 8-35 in number
- Each community has a particular vision
- Can incorporate small groups
- Leadership



ONE CHURCH
IN
Congregations

via
MISSIONAL COMMUNITIES



#SUNDAZE

Meeting every 1st Sunday with
Mid week Socials

The plan for the next couple of months.

Sun Oct 6th - visit to Audacious! Church.

Sat Oct 19th - CCW Conference Weekend and film night

Sun Nov 3rd – ACRC 10:30 share favourite Bible verses, do question box & spend time listening to God for each other - followed by lunch with Discovery Church at 12.

Sat Nov 16th - Footgolf.

Sun Dec 1st - ACRC 10:30 Prepare Christmas Dinner for families to eat at 12.

Sat Dec 14th Cinema or bowling.

Base Camp Missional Community

The aim of Base Camp is to be a place for those who want to find out more about MCs and CCW. We have been running Base Camp for a while as a temporary Missional Community.

The idea is

1. To give new comers a group to access easily and quickly without making lasting commitments.
2. To encourage those new to Missional Communities, ChristChurch, or new to faith.
3. Discuss 'Follow Up' Questions from celebrations.
4. A launchpad for people to find and join a CCW Missional Community.

People 'belong' to Base Camp until they find a home in a Missional Community.

There is a (small and temporary) Base Camp Team, who are available to welcome and chat with new comers; and invite them to Base Camp.

We will visit the other Missional Communities, so that Base Camp members can get a 'flavour' of the other MCs, so if you want help with some of your missions or activities please let us know.

Thanks Andrew and Liz
and the BC team.



Naturally Supernatural – Summer 2019 Sally Ellinson

At the beginning of the school summer holidays we (the Ellinson family) went to the Stafford Showground for 'Naturally Supernatural' with Andrew, Liz and Chloe. It is a 6-day Christian event for all ages. There was a main meeting every morning and evening where there was lots of space to worship God, hear from his word, wait on his Spirit and pray for one another. These were led by Mike Pilivachi and Andy Croft. In the afternoons there were seminars on a range of topics. There was a kid's group every morning and evening that Micah went to. There were cafes, stalls, live music, films and Rhianna and Chloe's favourite – the 'Shuffle & Shake', where you can play board games, drink milkshakes and charge your phone! Halfway through the week there was also a Country Fair with rides and animals!



The weather was pretty horrendous to start with which made putting up the tent and camping a little challenging but we had a great week! I have so many notes from the talks I went to that I would love to share with you but it would probably be too much for Relay in one go so I'll put a bit in each month if that's ok! Here's my first instalment;

Obeying and waiting

God told Joshua to tell his people to step into the river and he would make it stop flowing so they could cross, the water was stopped 20 miles away, that means there was quite a long time when everyone was stood in the river waiting for it to stop. Like Joshua, are we going to trust God in that time between obeying God and waiting for the change? Obedience is doing the last thing God told you to do, until he tells you to stop or do something different.

Generation Multiplication

God has a vision bigger than any one generation can hold. I went to a talk by a couple who run a church in Ireland with a 100-year vision! The bible is a story of 4000 years of generations all connected, but each generation has a story of its own. The prophecy given to Abraham wasn't fulfilled until 1100 years / 16 generations later! How can we steward our promises for future generations? (Psalm 102:18) The next generation might be hard work for us, but do we need to step aside to parent them? They'll get stuff wrong but so do we, are we going to risk it or hold on? What are the things we need to lay down so that the next generation can get it for free? What are the things we have inherited but dishonoured? Don't be more interested in being the change than seeing the change. Don't pass the baton on from one generation to the next but run together as family.

Naturally Supernatural is run by Soul Survivor and this year was the final year for both events. They believe God has told them to stop now and are



looking at new ways in which to resource and support churches to be 'envisioned, equipped and empowered to live in the power of the Holy Spirit'.

Upcoming events you might be interested in:

Loud & Clear – 23rd Nov 2019, Watford. Practical teaching on how to prepare and deliver great talks.

NSN Winter – 12-15th Feb 2020, Watford. Four days of spending time in God's presence, worshipping him, hearing from his word and praying for one another (£61).

Worship Conference – 13th March 2020, Watford. Explore what the bible says about worship & practical teaching for worship leaders/bands/tech teams (£20).

Dreaming the Impossible – 1-5th Aug, Stafford Showground. Youth gathering for ages 12-18

Limitless Festival – 7-11th Aug 2020, Stafford Showground. Worship and teaching aimed at 11-30 year olds (run by the Elim church).

Worship

John Ellinson This summer, whilst worshipping at Naturally Supernatural, I was thinking about how we have been moving in the Spirit more in our celebrations in ChristChurch, and how we have been challenged to continually push into the prophetic more. We have recently discussed this at our most recent worship review, and we have decided to trial a slightly different celebration on the fourth Sunday of the month. During these times worshipping together, we will seek to press deeper into the presence of the Holy Spirit by having a longer period of sung worship. We hope to see more moves of the Spirit released in our celebrations, not just on these Sundays, but each, and every Sunday celebration. The longer periods on these 4th Sundays will give us more of an opportunity to practise this so that it can hopefully happen more readily during Sunday celebrations, Missional Community gatherings and our own personal worship times. As always, we ask for your support and patience when we trial something new and feedback is always appreciated.

You will also be aware of the developing situation as we look to upgrade the PA equipment. Our speakers have been mounted and the necessary cabling has been installed however, due to an issue with the supplier, we have had to return the mixer we ordered and at the time of writing we are awaiting a replacement. Again, we ask for your patience as we finish the upgrade. Huw has agreed to take over the running of the PA team and we thank Colin and Eth for their faithfulness over many years, they have been a great example of how to serve. If you are interested in being trained in the new system, please let Huw know.



www.facebook.com/StMarkOnThePark

A view from out East, 'On the Park'.

It's a year since I last gave you a view from out East 'On the Park'. How time flies, particularly in one's senior years!! I'm pleased to report that ministry items relating to our PRESENCE and PRAYER life in this community have been sustained, this last 12 months. 'Great is Thy faithfulness, oh God my Father', and as the Beatles classic put it: 'We got by with a little help from our friends'



There are few activities at St. Marks that we can sustain ourselves without 'a little help from our friends', but one is our weekly Sunday worship, which now has as a weekly event our open doors 11am service when Elaine Smith has pioneered a young person's group and where she is now supported on different Sundays by Jonathan, Chris and Rebecca. The group has called itself 'Holy Kids'. That's encouraging, and all sorts of other things have perhaps contributed to the emergence of the group which represents an additional challenging aspect on Sundays. I suspect a major contributory factor has been Chris, Josh and Jonathan's PRESENCE on Caia Park for some 5 years now, you can sense the recognition when out and about. One lady had been heard chatting saying, she thought St. Marks building was just being retained for local funerals. Well, that's one local resident who now knows that's not the case!!!

From last year's report, I hope you'll be encouraged in PRAYER that with a little help from our friends the Tin Can Youth Drop in continues, the Holiday Hunger project continues and the weekly Food bank continues. We continue to meet monthly for PRAYER undergirding our work here, and to keep neighbours mentally alert, our monthly Community Bingo session continues 'eyes down'.



New initiatives have included the formation of a Community of Caia Friars. Look out for our badge or read about us at www.caiafriars.org.uk. Local historians suggest there has never been a friary in Wrexham town, so may be St Marks is the first. Come and see our beautiful plaque presented to us by the Caia Park Partnership, or maybe you would be willing to commit to regular prayer as a 'Friend of the Friars'. We have a booklet to aid you.

Also this last year has seen a Summer Kids club, supported by the YWAM team,, and the starting of a Brownie group based at St. Marks. We are also making progress in two other important projects, 1. Making the case that the needs of the local community justify the remodelling and upgrading of the St Marks building – see our St Mark on the Park facebook page for details and, 2. Making the case to the Welsh Government that our Holiday Hunger Project is a best in class approach to dealing with the issue of Holiday Hunger. As long, that is, that Holiday Hunger remains a feature of modern day life in more disadvantaged communities across the UK.

So why is this mission field 'out east' in our town important enough to warrant space in Relay magazine? It is of course the case that most of our Christian congregations are 'out west, north and south' in our town, and it's important that all these causes should prosper and as they seek first God's Kingdom, be the subject of brotherly & sisterly concern across the whole town church.

During 2019 Loughborough University has published research on the levels & trends of child poverty in Wales. The results suggest that St Mark's Church & St Anne's RC Church are located close to the intersection of 3 of the 4 Council wards that have the highest levels of child poverty in the whole of Wales. Dependent on your understanding of theology & politics will be your belief as to how this feature of life in Wrexham is of concern to God's church & local / national government.

Please support us 'out east' by your prayers and practical concerns. Thanks for all ChristChurch is doing already to bring in the harvest. A little help from your friends is a great encouragement. After his recent visit to Wrexham, George Verwer left 5,000 Gospels of St John for the local church to distribute. One minister felt they should be distributed to feed spiritually the 5,000 households on Caia Park. Most remain in the cupboard as I write.

Matthew 9:35-38

Art

	6 th	13 th	20 th	27 th
		Communion	Offering	Communion
Setting Up	Gareth	Andrew	Richard	Rob
IT	Rob	Dan	Rob	Dan
PA	No PA	Adrian, Rob	Huw	Rhys
Music Group	?	John	Lesley, Genni	John
Celebration Leader	Sue	Gareth	Gareth	Rob
Speaker	Bishop George	Mark & Sue Vening	Bishop George/Madam Vanessa	Shoebox Sunday
Prayer Team	Frank, Val	Paul, Gill	Marilyn, Liz	Ffion, Lucy
Tea	Lucy, Dorothy	Campbell, Glenys, Rhianna	Elaine, Marilyn, Lynsey	Natasha, Joe, Alanna
Mega Quest	No Junior Church	TBC, Sarah	Katy, Jean	Genni, Sarah
EAT		Sally, Kev	Sally, Kev	Sally, Kev

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

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Our postal address is

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