

# connect

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October 2017



Chinnor  
Community  
Church

# It's Not What You Know, But Who You Know

*"He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice." John 10:3-4, NIV*

When someone testifies at the end of an Ellel course, "I really know God loves me", it's one of the most precious things they can say. They may not have received the specific healing they were seeking, it might be that in one sense nothing has changed for them, yet, when the awe and wonder expressed in the famous Charles Wesley hymn, fills a person's heart, everything changes:

*And can it be ...  
Amazing love! How can it be,  
That Thou, My God, should'st die for me?*

What brings about such a radical transformation? What facilitates that deep knowing in our heart that through the shed blood of Jesus we really are unconditionally loved, and that by His Spirit our Heavenly Father really is with us and for us, whatever we might be facing?

It's not about gaining more head knowledge. After all, the Pharisees had all the theology, but when Jesus healed the man who was born blind, they were more concerned that He had violated their legalistic Sabbath rules than they were about the wonderful miracle He had performed. And as Jesus went on to talk about Himself as the Good Shepherd, we are told *'the Pharisees did not understand what He was telling them'* (John 10:6). The Pharisees knew every letter of the law, but they completely missed the heart of Jesus and the heart of the Father.

Perhaps the key for us, is giving our Heavenly Father time ... setting aside quality time for Him to impart, not head knowledge, but heart knowledge: those powerful truths of who He is and who we are in Him, so that they really permeate our inner being. Learning to recognise and know His voice. Taking steps in growing in hearing that *'still,*

*small voice*' above all the noise and commotion of the world, above the busyness of our lives and above the noise of our emotions that can be full of things like: fears and worries, anxiety, and the pain and hurts in our lives.

Jesus, reflecting the heart of the Father, spoke about the sheep listening to His voice, how He calls each one by name and leads them out to the rich pastures of the abundant life He provides, how He goes ahead of them, not driving them from behind and how His sheep follow Him because they know His voice. We have such a caring, personal Heavenly Father, who doesn't just want us to know about Him, He longs for us to hear Him and really know Him.

Perhaps today He is calling us to set aside time, to allow Him to impart more of His precious truth into our hearts: the truth that through Jesus you truly are His adopted child and how He longs for you to have that assurance of acceptance and belonging in your heart in a yet deeper way, and knowing that you are completely safe and unconditionally loved in Him. The Pharisees knew far more theology than the man born blind, but they didn't know the Father. But the healed blind man met with Jesus and truly knew the Fatherheart of God.

*Julie Smith, Ellel*  
*Submitted by Sheila Hazell*

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me,  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise,  
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,  
Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.  
St Patrick

***“Pray without  
ceasing.”***

*1 Thessalonians 5:17*



This month's guide to encourage our partnership in prayer

Through October...

**On a SUNDAY pray for:**

- Those preaching, The Worship Group
- The Sunday Youth Groups: Pebbles, The Rock, Rock Solid

**On a MONDAY pray for:**

- Bruce & Gisela, The Leadership Team, The Trustees
- Our Fellowship, The Other churches in Chinnor

**On a TUESDAY pray for:**

- Those who work in mission
- Rainbow Tots, Ladies and Men's Groups and their leaders
- The Chinnor Schools, the Doctors Surgeries

**On a WEDNESDAY pray for:**

- Our small-groups, and their leaders
- Those living away from home

**On a THURSDAY pray for:**

- The older members of the fellowship
- Coffee Pot, Those living in Hempton Field

**On a FRIDAY pray for:**

- The children of the fellowship
- Girls Group, Older Teens Group, After School Group
- Friday Night Clubs and their leaders

**On a SATURDAY pray for:**

- Chinnor
- Your neighbours
- Your friends, family



# Memory

*"I have hidden Your Word in my heart, that I might not sin against You."  
Psalm 119:11, NIV*

Truly, the Lord has given mankind an amazing gift with the ability to remember things. With our memories, we can recall places we've been to, people we've met, and even their voices, and this helps us recognise them when we meet them again. From earliest childhood, we're taught to memorise multiplication tables and recite them, and we store huge amounts of information in our memories, which can be tapped into any time we need it.

When I became a Christian, I was given the above Bible verse on a parchment bookmark. I've long since lost the bookmark, but I remember the verse!

I've recently been away on holiday with my husband, and we went to Norfolk, where we used to live, so we could visit family. On one day, we wanted to go to Norwich. We had arranged to visit a friend for lunch, and were hoping to fit in a later visit to another friend the same day. However, we both discovered that we hadn't stored her phone number on our mobile phones. It was on our phone at home, but that was no help to us.

I had a feeling that I might have the number stored in my memory, as I knew it was similar to the old home phone number we once had in Norwich. So, we prayed to the Lord that He would show us. On the day before we were to go to Norwich, I remembered the number, phoned it, and was overjoyed when our friend answered and said that she'd be free to see us the following afternoon.

Jesus said to His disciples *"The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you"* (John 14:26). The Holy Spirit reminded the Gospel writers of things Jesus had said to them. Today, the Holy Spirit brings to our minds verses of Scripture to help us in time of need, and to guide us in our decisions. The Bible is readily available to us in the west, in many different forms. But the Holy Spirit can only remind us of God's Word if we memorise it and take it into our hearts. There may come a day when the written Scriptures aren't so freely available to us, so let's treasure God's Word in our hearts now!

*Gemma Gardner Ellel Ministries*



## Tearfund News

CHRISTIAN ACTION WITH THE WORLD'S POOR

This week we are launching Tearfund's Big Bake – a powerful way of engaging with the issues around global poverty and to raise money that will be used to fund life-transforming projects.

### Flour power

Sahira\* was born in the Central Asian States where life is tough. HIV, drug abuse, unemployment, family breakdown, crime and violence are all on the rise. Poverty is widespread and Sahira's parents were unable to care for her, leaving her vulnerable and alone.

An orphanage provided a safe place for Sahira but Lev and Zarina, who run the orphanage, knew that she, and the other girls they were looking after, needed more than just a home.

When the time came for girls to leave the orphanage they were unable to find work and 90 per cent of them were falling victim to trafficking and other crime. The girls needed a safer future and that meant skills and the possibility of work.

With training and support from one of Tearfund's partners, Lev and Zarina started a baking course for the girls. Lev was then given a cash grant that he used to buy ovens and other baking equipment.

This is making a huge difference, giving Sahira and others the skills and confidence to build safe lives – free from the exploitation that was inevitable without this opportunity.

### Meanwhile in Twickenham

It was a damp day in October and the rugby was on. Hoods up and shoulders hunkered, the rugby fans streamed into the ground at Twickenham. But as they passed one particular garden, their day was brightened by the sight of bunting, balloons and an abundance of cake.

Tearfund supporter Debs is one of a whisk-beating, sprinkle-shaking army using their baking skills to end poverty across the world through Tearfund's Big Bake. She knows the power of a good cake. And it's not just good for rugby fans – it's good for a young girl like Sahira as well.

Realising she'd get a good flow of people going past her home on match day Debs set up a stall in her front garden. She wasn't afraid to be as visible and vocal as possible. With great gusto she proclaimed to the passing throngs: 'Get your cupcakes here! Three for the price of two! Roll up roll up!'

The cake sale went well. Debs and her family raised a fantastic £200! That could train and equip another person like Lev to provide a safe future for many more young people like Sahira.

### **It's a piece of cake**

Debs has this advice for anyone who wants to do what she did: 'Engage young people from your church to make your cake sale mobile – go and get the passing traffic – use big trays! Above all, enjoy the experience and smile lots – its great fun!'

Cake is good, let's face it. It brings people together, it's fun to make, it tastes awesome. And you don't even have to bake – you can buy! We have amazing bakers (and buyers) holding cake sales whenever, wherever and however they choose and each one bakes a big difference.

You can join the Big Bake or find out more at:

[www.tearfund.org/bigbake](http://www.tearfund.org/bigbake)

### **PLEASE PRAY**

- Praise God for the incredible army of fundraisers across the UK who are using their talents and the unique opportunities they have to raise funds that will transform lives around the world.
- Please pray for those who are taking part in Tearfund's Big Bake, that they would have successful cake sales.
- Pray that through the Big Bake and other fundraising initiatives many more people would hear about and engage with the needs of the poor.



## The Twelve Disciples in 12 Months Number Seven

These are the names of the twelve disciples: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother **Andrew**; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. [Plus his replacement Matthias]

**Andrew**, a disciple of Jesus and the brother of Peter

In Matthew's Gospel, Simon Peter is the first disciple called but in John's Gospel it is **Andrew** who is called first and then he brought his brother Peter to Jesus. It appears that there were two disciples who were followers of John the Baptist and John the Baptist spotted Jesus on walk about. The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When Jesus passed by, John the Baptist was heard to remark, "Look, the Lamb of God!" This caused the two followers of John to leave him and follow Jesus.

Jesus must have sensed that he was being followed for he turned around and confronted the two, wanting to know what they wanted. This meeting resulted in the two spending the day with Jesus. **Andrew**, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two. The first thing **Andrew** did was then to find his brother Simon [Peter] and tell him, that they had found the Messiah. **Andrew** then took his brother to Jesus. The summons to become disciples of Jesus occurred at a later date. **Andrew** and his brother were both from the town of Bethsaida, in Galilee.

**Andrew** had a positive outlook in life, unlike some of the other disciples such as Phillip. There was a time when Jesus saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?"

Philip responded with the following statement, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" **Andrew**, on the other hand, spoke up and said, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish." It was only a small amount of food, that the small boy had but **Andrew** thought it worthwhile to bring it to the Masters attention.



As we now know, it was just the information that Jesus was seeking. It was from this information that Jesus was able to feed the thousands that were present that day.

Phillip seemed to have a good relationship with **Andrew**, for when some Greeks made a request of Phillip to see Jesus, Philip did not go and tell Jesus of the request, but rather, he went and told **Andrew**. It was most probably **Andrew** who made the decision for them both to then go and approach Jesus with the request that the Greeks made.

Was **Andrew** the first home missionary? See John c1 v41

Was **Andrew** the first foreign missionary? See John c12 v22

It is thought that **Andrew** was crucified on a diagonal cross [X] rather than the traditional cross and as every Scotsman reading this knows, Saint **Andrew's** Day is November 30<sup>th</sup>. The Scottish flag is a white Saint **Andrew's** *crux decussata* [a white diagonal cross] on a blue background. As to why the Scots have St. **Andrew** as their patron saint is beyond me. Perhaps a Scot could write to Connect and pass on any relevant information that they may have about the matter. Perhaps **Andrew** played golf!

**Andrew** and Phillip both had a different approach to Jesus in the above. Phillip appeared not to want to approach Jesus first and Andrew not only spoke to Jesus, but he spoke about what should have been an impossible task. The negativity and positivity of these two disciples only help us to understand ourselves. Are we negative or positive about situations? Do we bother to communicate with God about situations or do we consult with other people? Are we timid about approaching God or bold? It matters not what we think or what others think for the scriptures say that we may approach God with freedom and confidence. [Ephesians c3 v12]

The reason we can approach God is because of Jesus. One of the most positive portions of scripture to reveal this to us is found in Hebrews where it says, 'Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are-yet was without sin. **Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**' [Hebrews c4 vs14-16]

*Peter Brown*

## The Worship of God in the Whole of Life | Whole Life Worship

*And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good? Deuteronomy 10:12-13*

*'You are worthy, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honour and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they were created  
and have their being...'*

*In a loud voice they were saying:*

*'Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength  
and honour and glory and praise!'* Revelation 4:11 and 5:12

It should come as no surprise that the Lord of the whole of life requires worship in the whole of life. In the Old Testament, we see it in regulations that touch on every aspect of daily existence, in psalms which embrace the highs and lows and everything in between, in prophets who call for justice and mercy as well as sacrifice and singing. As Deuteronomy 10:12-13 captures it; all of life was to be an expression of service to the Lord.

That's completely in line with what Paul says in Romans 12:1-2 – where bodies, minds and wills are offered back to God – reminding us that the Old and New Testaments stand together on the necessity of whole-life worship. Across Scripture, acceptable worship is not simply a matter of praising God in music and singing, or of participating enthusiastically in rites and ceremonies; it involves honouring, serving, and revering God in every sphere of life.

And it all flows out of his grace towards us. The biblical story from beginning to end allows us to trace the acts of God on behalf of the people of God and our response to the Lord in worship.

In the book of Revelation, John sees a door standing open in heaven. He's given a vision of reality from God's perspective. For the small and

weak communities of believers scattered around the Roman empire, John sees that the true account of the world is revealed not only in the Creator God who *reigns* over all things, but in the Christ crucified who *redeems* all things.

The worship that John witnesses nourishes our identity and mission as the body of Christ – because it's focused above all on Christ himself, who is uniquely qualified to bring to pass God's redemptive purposes in the world. The scope of what God might be pleased to do through us in our everyday lives, even this day, is rooted in what God has done, is doing, and will do for us and for all creation.

So, John's vision of worship becomes a *call* to worship, an expression of allegiance in a world of competing allegiances, a way of declaring who's really in charge, as we allow our worship of God and the Lamb to permeate everything we think and say and do, and invite others to do the same.

*Antony Billington, LICC*

Bruce says ...

I do hope you will be able to attend the prayer and worship evening on Friday the 13th October starting at 7.30pm and our "Way forward" & AGM on Saturday 14th October 10.00am to 12.30. I'm encouraging CCC to pray and fast on the Friday. By fasting we would understand the giving up of something close and important to us and to focus our minds on God's will. That may be food, or coffee, or TV, or something else but it should be something that matters in your life.

Thank you so much for your love and support.

# Moving Forward

*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9, ESV*

These words must have been as comforting to Joshua as the mantle now passed to him, after Moses' death, to lead the children of Israel forward into the Promised Land.

It is also God's command and promise to each of us as we move forward in our personal journeying with Him, especially if the road ahead gets difficult, or unexpected storms come across our path. Jesus further instructs and encourages His disciples to 'abide' in Him, and if we are where He wants us to be, in His plan and purposes, then we can be reassured and at peace, since nothing takes Him by surprise, as He knows the way ahead, and has the bigger picture. Unexpected circumstances can often test our level of trust and resolve, but our Heavenly Father is always watching over us.

Maybe He is asking you to step out of the boat into a new venture, or new season, and you're feeling quite nervous. Don't worry. He's riding the ocean waves and with your hand in His, He's there for you as He was for Peter. He wants you to enjoy the journey and not be afraid of it. You are in the safest hands in the universe. He won't drop you!

Or maybe you have received some disappointing news, from an unexpected source. Remember, He knows the way through the wilderness or through the desert. He parted the Red Sea for the Israelites, and He will show you the way forward.

Or He may just be asking you to stand by your post like a soldier on duty at Buckingham Palace, and He wants you to trust Him with the length of service, however short or long that may be. The heat of the day may encroach on the spiritual armour you need to wear (Ephesians 6), but keep all pieces of your armour in place, for it will both protect you and enable you to combat approaching enemy attacks in testing times. Never ever give up.

No matter our circumstances, we are instructed to keep to the narrow way (Matthew 7:14), for it is the way of life. Each of our journeys is unique to each individual, but the presence of our Lord Jesus is with us personally in all of our circumstances, and we have His promise that He will never leave us nor forsake us.

In John Bunyan's 'Pilgrim's Progress', 'Christian' chose to ascend the hill 'Difficulty', though clambering on his hands and knees, for it led to life, while his two companions chose what seemed easier routes, but which ended in catastrophe. Easier options will often present themselves when there is a choice to be made, but the way of the Lord must be the only choice for those who belong to Christ.

Whatever each day brings, know that you can trust Him, for He is trustworthy, and He is '*with you to deliver you*' (Jeremiah 1:8).

*Patricia Ellel Ministries*

For the next 60 seconds, go to the nearest window and count the number of people you see from your vantage point. Now ask yourself this question: "How many of those people do I really care about?"

The faceless crowd has become a common and accepted part of life on this planet. It is often so easy to become calloused, indifferent, and unmoved by the lost condition of those around you. Isaiah knew that one of the best ways to develop a passion for souls is to ponder the destiny of lost men and women.

Where are they going? And what awaits them there if no one cares enough to confront them with God's love and their own lostness?

The thought of judgment coming upon his countrymen caused Isaiah to bow in prayer and then move into action. What about you? Go back to the window for another minute, this time to pray for those you count. You cannot reach them all, but can you reach one today?

Ask God to give you boldness and a door of opportunity to do precisely that.



# Nobody's Nobody

*"He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."*

*Ephesians 4:16, NLT*

During our creativity courses, everyone joins in doing a corporate project together. We each have a piece of card the same size and shape. It's sometimes a sheep-shape, and we all decorate it to make it personal to us, a representation of who we are. Then we put all our little sheep together on a background that represents the sheepfold. By the end of the weekend, we are always amazed at the diversity, every single sheep is different, no two are even similar, and no-one knows whose sheep is whose. It's such a great picture of the Body of Christ: everyone unique and precious, all on equal footing, no one 'sheep' any more important than any other.

Paul tells us that in all our differences and diversity, we each have our own special part to play in the Body, and in doing it we each help the others to grow, so that the whole Body is healthy and growing and full of love (Ephesians 4:16).

The problem is, sometimes we just don't think we have anything to offer. Knowing this, Paul writes about different parts of our physical body, the foot and the ear, as if they feel insignificant and unimportant. He even makes it sound as if the foot is jealous of the hand (1 Corinthians 12:14-27)! When you think about it, our hands are usually seen, whereas feet are often hidden in shoes under a desk or table. We put hand cream and rings on our hands, not so much our feet. Hands can write, draw, paint, play a musical instrument, craft beautiful woodwork or masonry, embroider an intricate tapestry or cook a delicious meal. You can understand how it would be easy for the foot to look at those gifted hands and think, 'I don't matter! No-one notices me! I don't belong. I might as well give up.'

Of course, the truth is: the body struggles without a foot. Feet are very important. If your church only had the pastor and no-one else, how would it function?

No-one to put the chairs out or serve the coffee.

No-one to sit on the chairs or drink the coffee.

No musicians.

No corporate praise and worship.

No-one to share relationship with, to listen, to care and pray for one another.

No-one to pray for the work of the church.

No-one to connect with our families, neighbours and friends.

No-one to take the love of God out to the world around us.

Nobody's nobody in the Body of Christ. Just as God doesn't ask a foot to be a hand, He only asks you to be who He made you to be, the unique and individual person you are, and to exercise the precious gifts He's given you. So, whether you're the leader or one of those precious people serving faithfully and quietly behind the scenes, as you do the special work God has given you to do, you're helping the other members grow, so that the whole Body can become healthy and growing and full of love.

*Julie Smith Ellel Grange*

**Do you know what the relationship is  
between your two eyes?**

- **They blink together,**
- **they move together,**
- **they cry together,**
- **they see things together,**
- **and they sleep together,**

**but they never see each other!**

# Blossom Where You Are Planted

*"And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed."  
2 Samuel 7:10(a), NIV*

Recently, my wife and I noticed that hydrangeas planted in our garden produced quite different coloured blooms from those planted in the cemetery next to us. They weren't a different species, but the soil they're in contains different nutrients.

We'd noticed the same thing at our previous house, where we fostered many cats and kittens over the years. My wife would rinse out the litter trays at the outside tap, on a daily basis, prior to sterilising them, and then pour the water on to an adjacent large hydrangea bush. This then started to produce bright blue flowers on that side, while the other half remained pink!

This got me thinking about where God plants us. We know we're supposed to blossom there by using the gifts God's given us. But, what happens when He moves us somewhere quite different? The tendency is to assume that we're to operate in the same way in our new location, but if the soil (or environment) is different, then that may not work. We must be prepared to adapt. We must allow God to develop within us new gifts and capabilities which suit the environment we're in, and not expect the environment to change to suit us. In the same way, we may need to put aside the gifts and abilities we've used to great effect in the past, because they don't fit our new location.

Wherever you are today, God placed you there. It may not be a permanent placement for your life, but it's the place of His choosing for right now. He knows who you are, and, because He knows all about you, He's decided where you'll grow best, to beautify His garden. He'll always seek to place you in situations which will allow you to be the most productive and fruitful. However, being the good gardener He is, He doesn't just yank us out by the roots. There may be a period where He prunes us, and shakes the roots to loosen them before re-planting, us or setting us aside for a while. Sometimes He may give us a severe pruning, as we did to some plants in our garden; to fit them into pots,

in preparation for moving them to a new house we're hoping to buy. Interestingly, now their roots have recovered, these have grown new shoots and are doing much better now than when they had their own space in the garden, where they sometimes bloomed un-noticed, or were becoming crowded out.

It may not be a new location you find yourself in, but a new season. If so, the same guidelines apply. Most plants don't bloom in the depth of winter, but they're preparing for the spring that's coming. Likewise, the spring and summer seasons aren't the time to be dormant. Let the Holy Spirit guide you into where, how and when to blossom.

God's looking for people who're willing to allow Him to make an impact through them in their little piece of His garden. He isn't necessarily asking you to travel to the ends of the earth to make a difference, but He does expect you to blossom right where He's planted you. You're never in the wrong place to serve God. You just need to be willing to adapt to where you're planted.

*Philip Asselin, Glyndley Manor*

*A couple in Beirut* write -

We *did outreach the* last two nights on a main street.

We met a woman whose *grandma had been* healed by Jesus in a dream and was healed in reality when she *woke up*.

A man *had had a dream* of Jesus the very night before and was thinking *about it* - we *talked about* it with *him*, then that night he had a second dream of Jesus. He wants to meet up.

Then we met a married man and woman who had both d dreams *of Jesus - and want to meet* us.

Then we talked to a man who wants to do a study on *the life of Jesus with me*.

Then a taxi driver who had had a dream he *was falling into blackness and then* Jesus came and saved him He felt so special that *God that had given him this dream* and wants to *meet* up.

*Submitted by John Gravett*



## Samaritan's Purse®

"What goes into the box is FUN, what comes out is ETERNAL". These are the words on the advertising posters for the Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal this year. What a simple but thought provoking fact that is. The shoeboxes are filled with "FUN" things like games and toys, pencils and all the other things that will bring fun and happiness to all the children receiving them. Where allowed, the children will have a book given to them with their box entitled "The Greatest Gift" which of course tells the Christmas story. This story - so well known to us - is completely new to many of them and they are amazed to hear of God's love for them. Following this the children are given the opportunity to enrol on the Greatest Journey bible course and that's where the "ETERNAL" part starts for so many of them. Every year hundreds of children around the world, as a result of the teaching on this course, enter into a relationship with the Lord and start on a new life of eternal hope and joy when they accept Him as their Saviour. I'm not ashamed to say that's why I get so passionate about this cause.

October is the month we will be collecting sweets for the boxes we send. Remember no chocolate or sweets containing chocolate can be included and if there is a "sell by date" it must be at least March 2018.

Thank you for all the empty shoeboxes that are coming in - keep them coming we need plenty more and soon we will arrange a date for wrapping them! As you've already heard the cost of transporting the boxes has been raised to £5 so we have to raise money to cover this. Some lovely folk have already given me money to help towards this which is great, and if you are someone who wants to be involved but can't get out to purchase items for the boxes I would be happy to receive any gifts of cash if this is something you would like to do. We are arranging a Coffee morning on Nov 4th to also raise money for this and more details of this will be given soon!

Again thank you for all your kindness,  
God Bless, Love Pam Dunn x



# Our CCC

## RAINBOW TOTS

Rainbow Tots is our weekly toddler group that runs every Tuesday during term time. It continues to attract about 20 - 30 adults and nearly double that number of little ones.

The majority of the time is free play in the hall, but we also break for a short Bible story and song time in the Church.

Our hope is to serve the community and reach out to parents and carers with Jesus' love. Last term we invited a number of women to attend Alpha. It was a wonderful group and most of the women have expressed an interest in continuing to meet for further study and discussion. On the 21st September we (Gisela, Zoe, Karen and I) are hoping to start a new called "Food for Thought" (9-10:30am) merging Mum's Bible Study with this newer group of women.

Please pray that the Lord will bless us and continue to draw people into His Kingdom.

*Sarah Mak*

### Food For Thought

'Food for Thought' is mainly aimed at women wanting to explore faith and those who are already on the journey but seeking to go deeper.

# Coffee Pot

## CCC Coffee Pot

### CCC Coffee Pot and a Skeptick [Sceptic]

A Skeptick or a Sceptic; was he or was he not; did he or did he not, that is the question? Or is it? Did we want a cheerful morning or did we not? Well, we soon found out. Chris had come to entertain us with songs, poems and monologues, and it was to be a good all round musical morning. He only had his acoustic guitar and his singing voice. Off he went with a well-known ballad, "The Dream Seller."

One of his own compositions followed next, entitled, "My Day is Your Day." This was illustrating the differences between us in the West, who have more than enough, and young children, living in Uganda, who have a lot, lot less. It was in Uganda that a life changing experience caused Chris to write a song, called, 'No Longer Alone.' Street boys were brought together to begin to enjoy life and work and play together through football and Christian fellowship.

Chris was then going recite to us another of his own works. It came in three parts but so far only one part had been written. It covered the life of Mary Magdalene, as imagined, based on the writings about her in the Bible. It depicted the differences that she found out about when she discovered Jesus. He was different to other men she had known in her life. His words penetrated her heart and life and she decided to follow him. He brought a new and changed life to her. In him she found hope for the future, especially after the first Easter. She realised that she had found the Saviour, her sins had been forgiven and that her gift of life would be eternal.

We then had a selection of original Blues music plus a couple more songs written by himself. Chris plays Christian music in a local pub and thus he became associated with the Skepticks or [Sceptics]!!!

Chris left us with a word of encouragement, reminding us that although Jesus died 2000 years ago, he is still relevant today and we should not ignore the free gift of salvation.

So it was thanks to Chris for an informative, and a foot tapping, morning.

## CCC Coffee Pot and Autumn Watch

Getting back together after the summer break is always nice, and a great time to catch up on what is going on in the village. We must also have in mind the words of King Solomon when he wrote that. “A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret; so avoid a man who talks too much.”\* so after a catch up and a coffee it was on with Autumn Watch, which turned out to be anything but, at least not as we understand it. The answers to the Autumn Watch quiz were just to be ‘yes or no’, and might have been based on the words of Jesus when he said, “ Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.”\*\*

Chris Packham and Kate Humble had verified the answers so heckling was not expected during the morning. This turned out to be wishful thinking.

The question ‘Do Giant Pandas fill up on bamboo before hibernating all winter?’ caused discussion but the answer was a categorical NO. Why? Because they do not hibernate in the winter, unlike other bears, they just descend to the lower slopes of their mountain to where it is warmer. Are mute swans mute? NO, not when they are on the ground but only in flight. The pupils of the Oriental Fire-bellied Toad are square. Was this a true statement? Again the answer was NO, because they are triangular. Can elephants recognise themselves in a mirror? At last, a YES answer. And so it went on, King Cobras nests and Parrots taste buds plus other such simple statements and questions filled the morning. The winning team for the morning were not the ones with the highest score, but the ones nearest 13, which was the sort of average mark. Nina and Margaret had exactly 13, so they received the round of applause for their achievement.

Chris suggested a good subject for the epilogue\*\* but it was not to be. The epilogue was based on God’s wonderful creation, and that sometime we should stop being busy and in a quiet time, when we only have our own thoughts, reflect on the depth of the riches of the knowledge, wisdom and grace of God!

*Peter Brown*

\*Proverbs 11 v13 and 20 v19

\*\* Matthew 5 v37



## Update on the Chinnor Good Neighbours Scheme

The Chinnor Good Neighbours Scheme (CGNS) has continued to undertake more help to the Chinnor, and local villages, residents.

Over the last year (1 May 2016 to 30 April 2017) the number of times CGNS has assisted persons has increased from 498 to 678. The number of clients helped continues to rise. Last year there were an extra 32 new clients.

In the four months from 1 May 2017 to 31 August 2017 we have assisted 352 persons. It seems likely that we may break the 1,000 assists by 30 April 2018.

In total, since 1 May 2011, when the scheme started, CGNS has assisted residents 2,559 times.

If you know of anyone who may benefit from CGNS help please ask them to ring 01844 353500. **FREE** fridge magnets are available from John Haywood.

Also available free are the Lions donated Emergency Boxes. They are little green and white boxes that are put in the fridge and contain information concerning a person's prescription etc. A sticker is placed on the front door and on the fridge to indicate to any emergency or medical personnel that such information is available for them to look at.

*John Haywood*

# CCC Services for October 2017

## Theme for the Year 'Knowing God'

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Knowing God through Practical living  
...In the Work Place - Josh Powell

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Knowing God through Practical living  
... In the whole world - Jess Merrow-Smith  
This service includes communion

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Knowing God the Prophets ... Isaiah -  
Bruce Crawforth

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Knowing God the Prophets  
...Jeremiah/Lamentations - John Gravett

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am God's Light v. Darkness  
- Jess Merrow-Smith

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Cafe Church 9:00-9:45am

Morning Service 10:45am Knowing God the Prophets ...Ezekiel  
- David Morgan



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



## Sunday Services

Café Church 9am - 9.45am  
Morning Service 10.45am to 12.15pm

Chinnor Community Church  
High Street, Chinnor, Oxon OX39 4DH

## Rainbow Tots

Tuesdays (Term Time)

9am at CCC

## FN@6 and 7

October 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>

## Coffee Pot

October 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>

At the Village Centre  
from 10.30am

## Small Groups

October 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

If you have any articles  
for the next Connect they  
need to be in by  
**22 October 2017**

## Dates for your Diary

- Oct 02 Girls Group 4.30pm
- Oct 03 The Bridge 7.30pm  
Older Teens Group 8pm
- Oct 04 Small Groups 8pm
- Oct 05 Food for thought 9am  
Coffee Pot 10.30am  
Prayer for Israel 7.30pm  
Ladies Evening 7.30pm
- Oct 06 FN@6 and FN@7
- Oct 09 Girls Group 4.30pm  
CLT Business 8pm
- Oct 10 The Journey 11am  
Older Teens Group 8pm
- Oct 12 Prayer for Israel 9.30am  
After School Club 3.15pm
- Oct 13 Prayer & Worship 7.30pm
- Oct 14 Way Forward & AGM 10am
- Oct 16 Girls Group 4.30pm  
CLT Prayer 8pm
- Oct 17 The Bridge 7.30pm  
Older Teens Group 8pm
- Oct 18 Small Groups 8pm
- Oct 19 Food for thought 9am  
Prayer for Israel 9.30am  
Coffee Pot 10.30am
- Oct 20 FN@6 and FN@7
- Oct 27 Carol Service Planning 7-9pm

See [www.chinnor.org.uk](http://www.chinnor.org.uk) for more info

# More Dates for Your Diary

## And things for you to pray for ...

**Stanton House Retreat** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October

We aim to arrive for 10am and leave around 4pm. Stanton House provide morning coffee, and excellent light lunch and afternoon tea and cake  
The cost is £25 per day, but there is an offer of help with funding if money is an issue. Transport is available.

**Ladies Night** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October - Card making  
£6 see Sarah, Kim or Anna

**Church AGM** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October - Prayer and Fasting  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October - Prayer and lunch  
Details to follow

**Cruse Support Group** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 10am - 12  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm - 9.30pm

**Remembrance Service** Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November (no service at CCC)

**Oxford Community Church** Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November (no service at CCC)

**Carol Event with a Twist** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 4.30pm  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 7pm followed by  
Mulled wine and mince pies

**Nativity** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 10.45am

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## HOUSE OF PRAYER

Prayer moves mountains and there are a few to move! Pray continuously, gather together and seek the Lord. If we are going to change things we need to pray. Our revival opportunity is now so let's pray and see how the Lord works sovereignly

**The Bridge** - Encountering the Presence of God

Alternate Tuesdays 7.30 - 8.45pm in the hall

**Prayer for Israel**

First Thursday of the month only 7.30pm, at 14 Hill Farm Court

Remaining Thursdays 9.30 - 10.30am at 14 Hill Farm Court

Can you work out the Men of the Old Testament?

01. Like Zee
02. Hike haze
03. Bah! A ram
04. One badge
05. No mass
06. A lamb! So?
07. More a job
08. Eh? I'm a hen!
09. Me Saul?
10. Hi Asia!

Last Month - The Answer:

6	9	8	3	2	5	4	7	1
3	1	4	6	7	9	8	2	5
7	5	2	8	1	4	6	9	3
2	3	1	7	4	6	9	5	8
5	4	9	2	8	1	7	3	6
8	6	7	5	9	3	1	4	2
4	2	6	9	3	8	5	1	7
9	7	5	1	6	2	3	8	4
1	8	3	4	5	7	2	6	9

Here is a good example of a Brain Study: If you can read this OUT LOUD you have a strong mind.

And better than that: Alzheimer's is a long, long, ways down the road before it ever gets anywhere near you.

7H15 M3554G3  
53RV35 7O PR0V3  
H0W 0UR M1ND5 C4N  
D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!  
1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!  
1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG  
17 WA5 H4RD BU7  
N0W, 0N 7H15 LIN3  
Y0UR M1ND 1S  
R34D1NG 17  
4U70M471C4LLY  
W17H 0U7 3V3N  
7H1NK1NG 4B0U7 17,  
B3 PROUD! 0NLY  
C3R741N P30PL3 C4N  
R3AD 7H15.  
PL3453 F0RW4RD 1F  
U C4N R34D 7H15.

If you can raed this, you have a sgtrane mnid, too.

Can you raed this? Olny 55 plepoe out of 100 can. I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in what oerdr the ltteres in a word are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is that the frsit and last ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it whotuit a pboerlm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? Yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!

## Who's Who at



## Chinnor Community Church

### Our Leadership Team:

Janine Adams  
Will Austin  
Bruce Crawforth (Elder)  
Tabby Crawforth (Youth Leader)  
Viv Haywood (Church Administrator)  
Peter Hopgood  
Ann Long

### Small Group Leaders:

Viv Adams  
Will Austin  
Karen Dewar  
Barbara Francis  
Sheila Hazell  
Peter Hopgood  
Ann Long  
Pete Merrow-Smith  
Susie Kelsey  
Sheila Tipping  
Steve Tipping

### Youth Work:

#### Sundays:

**Pebbles:** Barbara Francis  
**The Rock (Yrs 2-6):** Anna Chalk  
**Rock Solid (Yrs 7-9):** Josh Powell  
**Summit (Yrs 10-13):** Tabby Crawforth

#### Fridays:

**FN@6** 6-7.15pm  
(Yrs 2-6): Viv Haywood  
**FN@7** 7-9pm  
(Yrs 7-9): Tabby Crawforth

**Men's Own:** Peter Hopgood

**Coffee Pot:** Peter Brown

**Ladies Nights:** Kim Hopgood,  
Sarah Mak, Anna Chalk

**Tear Fund Rep:**  
John Gravett

**Evangelical Alliance Rep:**  
Janine Adams

**Christian Aid** via Church Office  
01844 352938

**Samaritans Purse** – Pam Dunn

**Health and Safety:**  
Bruce Crawforth

**Child Protection:** Fiona Ludlow

**Connect Editor:** Barbara Francis  
b.francis@btinternet.com

### Contact Details:

Church Administrator:  
Viv Haywood 07974442967  
[secretarychinnorcc@gmail.com](mailto:secretarychinnorcc@gmail.com)

CCC Prayer Chain operates 7 days a week from 9am – 9pm. If you have a prayer need and want it to go onto the chain, contact Angela Martin on 01844 344945, Viv Haywood on 01844 355935 or Sheila Gravett on 01844 353138.