



## The Stream

April 2024



Dear family,

We have had a busy time at NBCF during March with a further joint service with DVCC and Easter remembrance and celebrations. We now look forward with expectation to April and the wonders of God's creation in springtime.

### Message from Mike...

*Hello church family,*

*As you are reading this the Easter period has mostly passed. We have reflectively remembered Jesus' death and celebrated his resurrection, yet there is so much more in the resurrection story that connects us to the Apostles.*

*The two on the way to Emmaus didn't recognise Jesus until he broke bread. How often do we fail to see Jesus working in our lives and our church because we are so busy with or grieving over an event. We fail to realise that Jesus is there right through it all bringing the absolutely best possible outcome.*

*Perhaps we identify with the disciples who went fishing waiting for Jesus to come and see them. Peter was the instigator of this, realising he had failed Jesus spectacularly, he had little expectation of being Peter, the rock, ever again. Yet Jesus met them on the beach, and once again they experience His wonderful provision of a catch of fish so huge. This repeated Peters experience at the start of being a disciple and began the restoration process. And then at breakfast on the beach fully restored Peter and confirmed his ministry. Whenever we feel we have failed there is always restoration.*

*Thomas we can also relate to, who doubted Jesus was alive. We also sometimes struggle with doubt and we haven't seen Jesus in the flesh. Jesus said "happy are those who believe and have not seen" John 20 verse 29. That is us and everyone since Jesus ascended into heaven. We are especially blessed because we have believed in Jesus without meeting Him in the flesh. We meet Him through the Holy Spirit who guides us to the Truth, Jesus.*

*Be encouraged. If we doubt, if we fail, even if we don't always recognise Jesus, He always loves us, wants to restore us and loves to reveal Himself to us. Be looking for our Lord in the most unusual places. Believe me when I say, if you search for Him with all your heart you will find Him*

*You will seek Him and you will find Him, when you search for Him with all your heart - Jeremiah 29 verse 13.*

*God bless...*

*Mike*



## Sunday Service Details

Date	Leader	Speaker	Comments
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Rowan Troy	Mike Collins	Justification - Intro - Luke 18 v9-14
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Mike Collins	Dot Hutchinson	Justification by the Law - Luke 10 v25-37
21 <sup>st</sup> April	Rowan Troy	Rowan Troy	Justification by God - Romans 8 v31-39
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Mike Collins	Adrian Elmes	Justification by faith - Romans 5 v1-5

## Walk of Witness



On Good Friday NBCF joined together with Churches and congregations from across Gravesham in a Walk of Witness through Gravesend town centre and on to a service at the top of Windmill Hill.

This was a great outreach event highlighting our faith within our community and witnessing to what Jesus did for us to take away the sins of the world.



## Prayer

We offer specific prayer for those going through difficult times:

**Jenny Kelly** – Having recently been told that her cancer has returned, we uphold Jenny in our prayers as she commences on a course of chemotherapy and pray for strength and comfort for her and her family at this time.

**Pat Hall** – We continue to hold Pat and her family in our hearts and prayers as they come to terms with the loss of their husband and father, Dave.



**George Britton** – George has now moved to rehab and is doing working hard with his medical professionals in the gym. Despite some setbacks he continues to make progress following his stroke. We keep George, Eileen and their family in our prayers for his continued improvement.

**Edna** – It has been lovely to have Edna at Church and please remember her in your prayers and pray for her health and strength.

**Ann Owen** – We pray for Ann's upcoming hip replacement surgery, a swift recovery and that the operation takes away the pain and discomfort that she has been suffering.

**Nicky's Dad** – Having recently undergone surgery following his recent cancer diagnosis we continue to pray for Nicky's Dad as he recovers.

If you have an emergency/particular prayer need please speak to any of the Leadership Team who will be happy to pray with you, or contact Janet for inclusion on the Emergency Prayer Line.

## NBCF Day Out at the Seaside



As mentioned in recent services it has been suggested that it would be lovely for the Church to enjoy a day out at the seaside. Minnis Bay is being considered and if you have any thoughts, ideas or would like to get involved in helping with organising please speak to any of the Leadership Team.

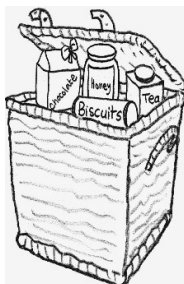


## Gravesham Foodbank

As a Church we are highlighting and supporting the vital work done by our local Foodbank and thanks to all of you who regularly make donations. The most recent urgent needs are listed below:



Tins of fruit, cold/hot meat, hot dogs, fish (not anchovies), vegetables, soups, potatoes, rice pudding



Cereals, pasta sauce, small bottles of squash, long life fruit juice

Jars of jam, peanut butter, honey

Packets of instant mash, ready made jelly, pasta 'n' sauce, noodles, biscuits, crackers, sweets and treats, multi packs of crisps, cup a soups

Lady's/men's shower gel, toothpaste, washing up liquid, non-bio washing tablets

**PLEASE REMEMBER NO BABY FOOD OR BABY MILK ... thank you.**

## Joint Service with Darent Valley Community Church

Following on from our previous joint service at the Anthony Roper School in the autumn, on the 17<sup>th</sup> March we enjoyed joining together again at the Community Hall for worship, prayer and fellowship.

A lovely time and the roof was nearly lifted with the awesome praise and worship.



Sharing God's Love

## Thanks and goodbye from Nigel...

"I have been preoccupied with the move and realised that I had not thanked the church for the generous gift and encouraging send-off. I was touched by how many people wanted to say goodbye in person and have sent me messages subsequently. I shall miss everyone, particularly those at Welcome Wednesday and in the home group. My new address is 12 Sutton Grove, Crewkerne, Somerset, TA18 8FQ (mobile 07711 879143). It's a lovely part of the world and only 15 minutes' drive south from the A303".

## Dates for Your Diary:

**11<sup>th</sup> April 12noon – 1.15pm** – Churches Together in Gravesham Networking Lunch at St Paul's United Reformed Church, Singlewell Road, Gravesend, DA11 7RE

**23<sup>rd</sup> April** – Welcome Wednesday celebrates St George's Day with a quiz

**1<sup>st</sup> May 7.30pm-10pm** – City Praise Centre is hosting "The Care of the Family Team" focusing on helping parents to come alongside their children. For further information please speak to one of the Leadership Team

**9<sup>th</sup> June 12.30pm to 3pm** – Open air worship with Churches Together in Gravesham in the Fort Gardens, Riverside Leisure Area, Gravesend

## Current Groups at NBCF (for further details please call Ron Owen - 07850 004696)

Group	Day	Time	Details
<b>Bible Study</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month	1.45pm	<b>Janet's home</b> – Sermon on the Mount – Matthew Chapter 6
<b>Dartford Life Group</b>	Tuesdays	7.45pm	<b>Currently suspended</b>
<b>Welcome Wednesday</b>	Wednesdays	1-3pm	<b>Longfield Hill Community Hall</b> - a friendly 'pop up' club with refreshments, board games, talks, demonstrations and activities
<b>New Barn Life Group</b>	Thursdays	7.30pm	<b>4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April – no meeting</b> <b>Eve's home</b> - 18 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> April – topics to be confirmed
<b>Prayer Group</b>	Fridays	5pm	<b>Via Zoom</b> , please contact Janet for joining instructions

**All groups are open to everyone and all are most welcome**

For further details, please contact the organiser or email [newbarncf@outlook.com](mailto:newbarncf@outlook.com)

## **The Leadership Team**

Keep in touch and please contact any of the below at [newbarncf@outlook.com](mailto:newbarncf@outlook.com):

Pastor: Mike Collins  
Trustees: Paul Bishop, Ron Owen, Jenny Kelly  
Leadership Team : Lynne Bishop, Paul Bishop and Ron Owen  
Safeguarding Lead : Nicky Collins

*For further details on any of the above, please see our website at [newbarncf.org.uk](http://newbarncf.org.uk).  
If you have something that you would like to be included in the next copy of The Stream,  
please speak to any of the Leadership Team, or email [newbarncf@outlook.com](mailto:newbarncf@outlook.com)  
with your article by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.*