



## The Stream

July 2026

### Message from Mike...

*The Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew 5, 6 and 7 is one of the most challenging portions of the Bible. In the sermon, Jesus appears to be initially teaching just His disciples.*

*'Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:' Matthew 5 v 1-2.*

*By the end of the Sermon on the Mount, the crowds are there, astonished that He taught with authority.*

*'And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.' Matthew 7 v 28-29.*

*Some have described it as a manifesto, as 'this is what it is going to be like when God's Kingdom comes'. But a manifesto implies political goals and dreams. This was not a dream. This was a clear description of how Jesus' disciples should live and act without having political influence, without ruling a nation and without reference to their circumstances.*

*Jesus was not saying 'when I rule Israel, this is how you will behave but start behaving and living this now and you will be showing God's kingdom to everyone around right now.*

*The Beatitudes promise future things for those that mourn, that are hungry for righteousness and so on but for the poor in spirit and the persecuted the kingdom of heaven is theirs now.*

*The kingdom isn't a coming kingdom but a kingdom right now with a living king. The subjects of the kingdom aren't waiting for the kingdom to be established as an earthly kingdom but as subjects of a kingdom now. It is already established as spiritual kingdom on earth more real and more enduring than any earthly or human kingdom.*

*Daniel's prophecy about a stone striking the image of gold, silver, iron and clay and completely destroying the other kingdoms says; And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever - Daniel 3 v 44. This describes a kingdom present at the time of the kingdoms in the dreams, iron and clay representing the Roman Empire.*

*That leaves us with a challenge. The kingdom of heaven is in existence now so we should be disciples of Jesus following His commands now, not some time in the future. If the kingdom is now, so is the guiding truths of that kingdom.*

*So it is right now that retaliation is not the answer, it right now that I must not judge, it is right now that my righteousness must be greater than that of the Pharisees. Not that I am going to become like a disciple described by the Sermon on the Mount immediately but must always have a soft and pliable heart. That I react in the right way to the mirror of the words of Jesus upon my heart.*

*Lord, as we study the sermon on the mount may we be ever willing to let the words of Jesus be salt and light to our hearts so that we are salt and light to the world around us.*

*May God bless you, Mike*





## Gravesham Foodbank

A continued big thank you to all our regular contributors to the Gravesham Foodbank it is very much appreciated and supports our local community. This month the Foodbank would appreciate the following items (particularly those in **red**).



Cous Cous  
Pasta N Sauce  
Instant Noodles (no Pot Noodles)  
Tinned Mackerel/Sardines/Pilchards  
Tinned Cold Meat  
Small Packets of Mashed Potato  
Baked Beans  
Tinned Mixed Vegetables (no Peas or Sweetcorn)

Custard  
Biscuits  
Crackers  
Tinned Rice Pudding  
Tinned Fruit  
Peanut butter/Honey  
Chocolate Spread  
Fruit Juice

Readymade Jelly  
Long Life Milk  
Washing up Liquid  
Non-Bio washing tabs  
Anti Bac Wipes and Spray  
Men's/Ladies deodorant  
Shampoo/Conditioner  
Bio washing tabs

*Please don't forget no baby food, baby milk, water or fizzy drinks – thank you ☺*

## Mission Without Borders ... Update

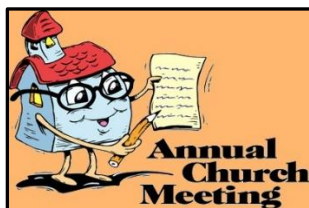
Janet Hall visited NBCF on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May to update us about the work of Mission Without Borders and raise funds selling baked goodies and cards



to send Eastern European children to summer camps. We are very pleased to announce that an amazing £140 was raised – thank you and well done all!



## NBCF Annual Church Meeting



Don't forget, NBCF's annual Church meeting will take place on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September over a fellowship lunch following a shortened service. It would be great to see as many as possible attend to see what has been going on at NBCF over the past year, see how we support Christian organisations in the UK and across the world, the Church's financial position and plans for the future. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Current Groups at NBCF

Group	Day	Time	Details
<b>Welcome Wednesday</b>	Wednesdays	1-3pm	<b>Longfield Hill Community Hall:</b> a friendly club with refreshments, board games, talks, demonstrations & activities - open to all. 1 <sup>st</sup> July: Quiz day with Ron 8 <sup>th</sup> July: Singers Phil and Mandy <b>Advance Notice: there will be no WW on the 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> August – summer break</b>
<b>New Barn House Group</b>	Wednesday	7.30pm	<b>At Eve and Richard's home:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> July: A study on the book of Romans (9) - Community - with Mary 8 <sup>th</sup> July: A study on the book of Romans (10) – Mission – all 15 <sup>th</sup> July: Summer Social BBQ 22 <sup>nd</sup> July: Summer School Holidays - No meeting
<b>Chalk House Group</b>	Thursdays	7pm	<b>At Beth and Naomi's home:</b> Looking at Acts
<b>Monthly Prayer Meeting</b>	Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	9am	<b>Via Zoom</b> (Joining details nearer the time)

**All groups are open to everyone and all are most welcome** - For further details, please contact the organiser, Ron Owen on 07850 004696 or email [newbarncf@outlook.com](mailto:newbarncf@outlook.com)

## Dates for Your diary ...



**4<sup>th</sup> July - New Barn Community Fun Day (organised by NBCF) 2-4pm** – Come and join us along with your family, friends, children and grandchildren. Many activities organised for fun and fellowship with our local community.

**18<sup>th</sup> July – 2-4pm** – Support Gravesham School and Street Prayer Pastors and also enjoy a cream while you do it! At Dene Holm Church Hall, Deneholm Road, Gravesend, DA11 8LG.

**12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August** – Please note there will be **no** Welcome Wednesday as the organisers take a well earned summer break.

**22<sup>nd</sup> August** – A fellowship fun summer bring and share picnic at Camer Park, Meopham. Further details and times to follow.

**6<sup>th</sup> September** – NBCF Church Meeting with fellowship lunch. Come and hear all the updates about NBCF along with plans

for the future over a fellowship lunch together after our Sunday service.



## A Message From Brown Owl

Your local Brownie Group is looking for an enthusiastic & energetic volunteer to help keep the unit open! Girlguiding welcomes women and men as Unit Helpers. Brownies are girls aged 7 -10 and we currently have 13 girls. We meet in the Longfield area. You need to be available on Tuesday late afternoon/

early evening for two hours a week (termtime only) plus a few weekend days in the year and a planning and District meeting once a term. You will need to complete a Girlguiding DBS and some

safeguarding training in the first instance. Full guidance and training will be given to anyone interested and the unit is run by an experienced Guider who just needs some help! For more information, to ask any questions or to arrange a visit, please contact Fiona at [1stlongfieldbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:1stlongfieldbrownies@gmail.com). Please don't respond via the Facebook page unless it is a very general question. Thank you for reading this!



## 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, Stephen Paddock & Mary Bourne (external Trustee from CPC)

Leadership Team: Lynne Bishop, Paul Bishop & Ron Owen

Safeguarding Lead : Nicky Collins

*For further details on any of the above, please see our website at [newbarncf@org.uk](mailto: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).*