



The Stream

September 2025

Welcome to the September edition of The Stream.

We hope you enjoy reading about NBCF's news and events and if you have anything that you would like to see included or any suggestions, please speak to Lynne or one of the Leadership Team.

Message from Mike...

In Christ

Paul often refers to us being 'In Christ' or 'In Christ Jesus', but what does this mean? Is it a phrase bandied about by Christians? Do we really understand what it means? Does it have implications for how we live? Can we be 'in' something else?

Romans 8 v 1 "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus..."

A major implication is that of unity, every Christian has this in common with each other that we are in Christ. Sadly, as Christians we add so many extra things as conditions of unity. The same creed, the same traditions, the same type of worship, the same liturgy, anything that is different scares us and divides us when Jesus said, 'by this shall all men know that you are my disciples if you have love one for another'. It is so sad that we cannot even follow this simple command, and it is something that surely we have to repent of.

Jesus said of the Father and Himself in John 17 v 20 - 21 ²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me".

We can find the answers to the above questions perhaps in these verses.

As Jesus is 'in the Father' and 'Father is in Jesus' so we should be in Jesus.

Jesus was in full surrender to the Father's will even when it came to the most difficult circumstances, He declared 'not My will but Yours be done'.

Jesus had a deep relationship with His Father and spent many nights in communication with Him. Jesus loved and trusted His Father so much that He was willing to follow His plan to the end. I could go on and on, but to have a fraction of that Father Son relationship would be wonderful.

To be in Christ Jesus, is to love, trust, follow without question, to rely on Him, to be obedient to His call, to go to Him first in every circumstance and so much more.

If we are 'in ourselves' we will fail. If we are 'in the pastor', he will let us down. If we are 'in the church' it is sure to offend us or hurt us. If we are 'in the world', that is truly the way to disappointment. If we are 'in a celebrity' we will find them to be failures themselves. The only way to truth, meaningful relationship, unity, love, hope, peace etc is to be in Jesus.



Lord Jesus, please grant that we will begin to understand what it means to be 'in Christ'. May we discover that anything worth having is found in You and in You alone. May we never try to replace you with anything else and always trust that Your way is best. Thank you Jesus for all the riches in glory reserved for us. Amen.

May God's blessing of peace be with us all. Mike



September's Sunday Service Details

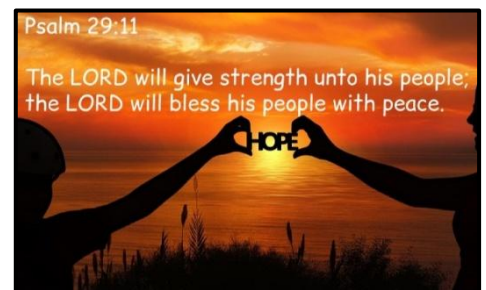
Date	Leader	Speaker	Comments
7 th September	Nicky Collins	Ron Owen	1 Colossians
14 th September	Beth Collins	Mike Coveney	2 Colossians
21 st September	Richard Braund	Mike Collins	3 Colossians
28 th September	Steve Rogers	Alan Greenbank	'Alan's Choice'

Prayer

We pray for all of those who are facing difficulties and challenging time and especially remember:

Ian Hitchinson – Ian has sadly passed away after suffering from illness. Both Ian and his wife, Dorothy, have visited NBCF to speak and our thoughts and prayers go out to Dorothy and their family at this time.

Kay Kapsalis – We were sorry to hear that Kay has recently passed away. She, her husband Lou and their children visited NBCF along with Lou's mother Margaret some years ago. We remember Lou and their family in our prayers.



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

NBCF Picnic in the Park

On Saturday 23rd August we met for a bring n share picnic in Camer Park, Meopham. A great time of fellowship and food was shared, including a football kickabout, boules game and a lot of chatting and catching up with each other.



Thanks to all who contributed food which was very much enjoyed!



Welcome Wednesday McMillan Coffee Morning

On the 24th September between 11am and 1pm Welcome Wednesday are holding their annual McMillan Coffee Morning. Open to all to attend and enjoy coffee and cake whilst raising money for a very worthwhile cause. Donations from thousands of Coffee Mornings, big and small, help raise vital funds to support the almost 3.5 million people in the UK living with cancer, from the moment they are diagnosed, throughout treatment and beyond. If you would like to donate or bake a cake please speak to the WW Team.



COFFEE MORNING



Dates for Your Diary



September 3rd at 11am – all are invited to join a Merchant Navy Day Service at Anchor Cove, Bawley Bay, Gravesend (near the Clarendon Hotel) to give thanks for those who have served in the Merchant Navy.

September 10th 1 - 3pm - Welcome Wednesday Food Bank collection week.

September 17th 1 - 3pm – Welcome Wednesday Quiz week with Ron.

September 18th 12noon - 1.15pm – Church Together in Gravesham Networking Lunch at RCCG City of His Grace, Rose Street, Northfleet.

September 24th 11am - 1pm - McMillan Coffee morning with Welcome Wednesday.

November 7th–9th – CPC's Women's Retreat is a great opportunity for the ladies to get together, chat, laugh, eat and most importantly to have time and space with the Lord Jesus. Held at High Leigh Conference Centre further details can be found at the following:

[Women's Retreat - Restore - City Praise Centre.](#)



Gravesham Foodbank

A big and continued thank you to all who contribute to the Gravesham Foodbank to support those in our local community who face difficult times. It is very much appreciated This month the Foodbank would appreciate the following items (particularly those in **red**):



Meat Pies
Tinned Cold Meat
Tinned Mackerel/Sardines/Salmon
Tins of Ravioli/Spaghetti
Tins of Sausages & Beans
Tins of Chicken in White Sauce
Cous Cous
Instant Noodles
Peanut Butter

Biscuits
Cereal Bars
Sweets / Treats
Ladies' deodorant
Bio & non-Bio washing tabs
Toothpaste
Men's Deodorant
Shampoo/Conditioner
Anti Bac Wipes

Wrapped Chocolate Biscuits
Packets of Mashed Potato
Biscuits
Bottles of Squash
Milk (long life)
Crackers
Hot Chocolate
Cereal Bars

As always, please don't forget no baby food or baby milk – thank you ☺

Current Groups at NBCF

Group	Day	Time	Details
Welcome Wednesday	Wednesdays	1-3pm	Longfield Hill Community Hall – a friendly 'pop up' club with refreshments, board games, talks, demonstrations and activities, open to all NB: there will be no Welcome Wednesday on the 3rd September
New Barn Life Group	Thursdays	7.30pm	4th Sept – Surprise us! with Andrew & Annette 11th Sept – The Bible Course, Session 1 'Introducing the Bible with Eve' 18th Sept – The Bible Course, Session 2 'Genesis: The Story Begins' with Rupert 25th Sept – Prayer Evening – Praise, Confession and Intercession with Janet
Monthly Prayer Meeting	20 th September	9am	Meeting in the building adjacent to Community Hall - Zoom link also available.

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

The Leadership Team

Keep in touch and please contact any of the below at 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. 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.