



August 2022

KNOWING GOD
SHOWING GOD
MAKING GOD KNOWN

MAGAZINE

ISSUE
1



Thought

COMFORT IN LOSS
HEATHER



GOD SAYS: "I WILL STRENGTHEN
YOU AND HELP YOU"
ISAIAH 41:10 (NIV)

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COMFORT IN LOSS

Heather brings us some thoughts based in the Beatitudes and considering some recent experiences



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TIDYING UP TIPS

John's got some tips for us on all on we should tidy up our shirts.

REGULAR MEETINGS

SUN 10AM - MORNING SERVICE

*1st Sunday - Open Service
Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.*

SUN 8PM - PRAYER MEETING (ZOOM)

Zoom ID:
<https://zoom.us/j/645605703>

SUN 4PM - MESSY CHURCH

Last Sunday of the month - Messy fun for all ages with food!

TUE 8PM - BIBLE STUDY (ZOOM)

A chance to informally study together online.
Zoom ID:
<https://zoom.us/j/374335724>

MON 10AM-12 - COFFEE POT

A chance to have a chat and a cuppa at the church.

WED 2PM - CAMEO (TERM TIME)

Come and Meet Everyone - a time of fellowship and fun. No two weeks are the same!

THU 8PM - XPLORE (TERM TIME)

Our Youth Group for those in Year 5 and upwards.

SAT 3PM - DCF (2ND SATURDAY)

Disabled Christians Fellowship. An opportunity for all to meet together.

Trustee's Thoughts

Comfort in Loss

Heather

I seem to be surrounded by loss at the moment. As I work with the elderly, I suppose that is not unexpected. Two residents (one from each of the Homes I work with) died last week – one I'd known for a couple of months and died in Hospital unexpectedly and one I'd known for about 4 years and was having palliative care. Then a friend I've known for 31 years passed away. Also, one of my colleagues was looking forward to becoming a grandmother for the first time and the baby boy died days before his due date.

The death of someone we love can be devastating and is the most painful and complex loss we are ever likely to experience. Sooner or later grief comes to us all. Then we have to journey through the grieving process which can include shock, numbness, disbelief, anger, guilt, physical and emotional pain and chaos of thought until we sense a new beginning.

Jesus told us to comfort those who mourn.

Jesus says in the Beatitudes, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." There are mourners in our church. There have been deaths in our congregation this year.

The Bible has a host of references to grief and mourning. Jesus himself mourned after the death of Lazarus, and supported the dead man's family in their grief. Our quest to be Christ-like shouldn't neglect how Jesus approached grief and the grieving.

Everyone dies, so it stands to reason that just about everyone will, in fact, have someone close to them die at some point in their life. Most of us will have many people die, and we will struggle horribly for years after some of them. No one goes through life without grief. That is why a ministry for those who are grieving is such a good thing. Other than death and taxes, grief is the only thing guaranteed to touch the lives of every person at some point.

Major upheavals bring people to faith. Death causes us to think about what comes after this life. Funerals return many people to church sometimes for the first time in decades. All of these are very good reasons to be prepared to minister to the grieving.

One of the things we can do as a church is provide a home for the grieving. When our church supports someone in a time a grief, it doesn't just affect that person – all of their family and friends learn that they were able to turn to the Church during a painful time.

Our church supports the 'Forget me Not' baby loss bereavement group that meets in our building. Further details on the noticeboard in church.



Trustee's Thoughts

Tidying Up

John

As you may know, Jackie S is away this week, on the sunny Isle of Wight with all those final year primary school children. I'm sure she's having a lovely relaxing time.

So that's left me home alone, with my selection of microwave meals of course. Yum. Even I can't mess up microwaving a meal (well I haven't yet, but it is only Wednesday).

One thing about being home alone is that I can't employ my usual tactic of yelling "Jac, where's the doofer" every time I can't find something. This morning I had to search out the handle for the grill so I could cook my breakfast bacon. I couldn't blame Jackie, as I last cooked bacon on Monday after she had left.

And that brings me to the point. Jackie and I live in a reasonably spacious house, which seems all the bigger now that Matthew and Daniel have set up their own homes with their respective wife and girlfriend. Yet everywhere you look is clutter. You can't find anything!

Recently I've been accused of using Dan's ex-bedroom as a "walk in wardrobe" – I need a clean, ironed shirt, so I walk in and get one and walk out again, but never actually get round to hanging them up.

We really need a good tidy up, and I think I have the solution. In a bible study some time ago Tim led us in an excellent exploration of Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Let's see what Paul has to say about this:

Ephesians 5: 22 Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.

24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Excellent, I thought I'd remembered that correctly. Now if I'm just firm with her, and tell her, in a gentle and loving way of course, to clear up the mess! I'm sure she'll crack on with that just as soon as she gets back from her nice relaxing week on the Isle of Wight. If she gets in, say, about 7pm from the coach, I'm sure she can get the house sorted by around 11pm? Seems fair to me.

But wait – what's this bit:

Ephesians 5:25 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ..."

Oh, I must have forgotten that bit. How did Christ love the Church? I'd better check...

These might be some examples:

Tireless love: (Luke 15:4–7) Jesus pursues the one lost sheep even when the vast majority (the other 99) are just fine.

Forgiving love: (John 21:12–15) Jesus comes to forgive Peter for his denials after the resurrection.

Hardworking love: (John 13:12–17) Jesus washes the feet of his followers.

Hmm, do you think I'd better go and put my shirts away?

What's on this month?

Sunday Mornings

Date	Speaker
7th	John (Open)
14th	Steve
21st	Tim
28th	Colin

Prayer Meeting

Date	Speaker
7th	Steve
14th	John
21st	Colin
28th	Ronke

Bible Study

Date	Speaker
2nd	Steve
9th	Tim
16th	Dave
23rd	Ronke
30th	Heather

Notices

DCF (Disabled Christians Fellowship)

Heather will be restarting DCF on the 13th August at 3pm. If you're able to help or would like further information please speak to her.

The Fun Walk

Thank you to everyone who walked or donated towards the rebuilding fund. We've raised a fantastic £7525.50 which will be further topped up by the Fun Walk Trust in September.

Open Services

We are restarting our open services on the 1st of each month. These are a chance for you to share something from the Bible, or to pray or to request a song (we'll do our best!). We will be streaming, but not saving the recordings of these services and will be asking everyone to use one of the radio mics so that we can hear both in person and online.

Sunday School

We're looking at restarting Sunday School for infant aged children in September. This will be initially on the 3rd, 4th (and 5th) Sundays and will involve a story and some colouring. If you'd like to help please speak to Tim.

Update

Messy Church

We have restarted Messy Church and run three sessions so far this year. It has been a fantastic return with 28 kids coming to the June session where Steve looked at David and Goliath. This month we looked at Daring Dan and the Lions Den. We made crafts like the marvellous mane that Santi is modelling, puppet characters and tucked into some delicious burgers!

We'll be having a month off in August, before looking at Jonah in September to finish off our series based on the song King of Me by Rend Collective.

If you'd like to help please speak to Tim or Carol and if you'd like to come along the next one is on the 25th September at 4pm.

