

Neston Christian Fellowship

A church that shares God's love in the community

May – June 2014

NEWSLETTER



I will build My Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Mth.16v 18b

Doesn't the building look great after its transformation! It looks so much more inviting. The new flower troughs complete the transformation. These were built with funds from a kind donation from Sue and Alison in memory of their dear Mum, Betty Harper.

We are blessed to have such a comfortable and spacious building in which to meet to worship God and fellowship together, and to reach out to the community with the weekly activities we provide.

The Church that Jesus was referring to in Matthew 16v18b, is of course, so much more than the building where believers meet. We, the people are the church – living stones.

As you come to Him the Living Stone – rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to Him – you also, like living stones are being built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2v4&5.

The sign over the front door of our building says “Jesus welcomes all” How wonderful and gloriously true that is. It does not matter who you are, or what you have previously done, in Christ you become a new creation. You are set free to enjoy eternal life which starts now and continues for ever.

Praise the name of Jesus !

Missionary Corner

23 rd Feb 14	Terry Wickham,Spain	£721.12
30 th Mar14	The Scripture Gift Mission/Lifewords	£1155.12
Humanitarian:-		
16 th Mar 14	South Sudan via Leprosy Mission	£1072.40
27 ^h April	Rob & Janet Dann in various areas	tba

Future Missionary Collections.

25 th May	Ruth Cushing in Liverpool & Preston
15 th June	Humanitarian Offering
29 nd June	Slavic Gospel Association

[An evening with Brian and Sandra McCaffrey](#) at NCF on Thursday 10th April 2014

It was great to catch up with Brian and Sandra and to hear all about their work recently and the future plans the Lord is calling them to. Brian told us about his teenage years when he struggled with addictions ending in times in prison. However a neighbour shared the Gospel with him and gave him a Bible and one night he cried out to the Lord and was completely set free from the darkness he had been living in. He emphasized that we are either missionaries or in the mission field and so encouraged us to share the Lord's light with those around us who are still in darkness. Sandra was a nurse in Zambia when Brian went out to visit a Christian friend in 1994 as a volunteer in maintenance. They met and married in 1996 and now have 4 children, Lois, Fiona, Max and Ross. In 2007 they returned to Canada where Brian has been serving the Lord in Canadian Prisons. Now they feel they are being called back to Zambia to the Amano Christian School and will be starting at the beginning of May. This is a mission run boarding school providing quality Christian education to all grades. It is situated outside the town of Chingola in the Copper belt area of Zambia. Try- amanochristianschool.org - for more information.

Brian will be working on construction of new school buildings and maintenance of existing buildings together with the men on the staff there. He would also like to take God's Word into the local prisons again. Sandra will be the school nurse. There are now 130 students and their children will join them. However there will be no salary and they will be living by faith, again relying on the Lord for all their needs. They will be serving under the umbrella of Mission Service Canada and we wish them every blessing. Let's pray for their safety and for the children to settle into school and that the Lord will open a door for Brian to continue in prison ministry.

What's on MAY 2014

Thur 1st		Bible Study	7.30 for 8pm	Mon 2nd		Jumping Beans	9.30am
Sun 4th	Jeff Thompson	Joshua Chap 2	11.15am			Youth- <i>Beach Games W/K</i>	7pm
		Life Changing Faith				Ladies Friends & Neighbours	7.45pm
		Breaking of Bread	6.30pm	Tues 3rd		Prayer Meeting	7pm
Mon 5th		Youth- <i>Visit to Hinderton Mount</i>		Wed 4th		Coffee Morning	10.30am
Tues 6th		Prayer Meeting	7pm	Thur 5th		Bible Study	7.30 for 8pm
Wed 7th		Coffee Morning	10.30am	Sat 7th		Men's Breakfast	8.30am
Thur 8th		Bible study	7.30 for 8pm	Sun 8th	Len Howard	Joshua Chap 9	11.15am
Sun 11th	Mal Wright	Joshua Chap 3 to Chap 5 vs 12	11.15am			Deceived	
		Remembering what God has done				Breaking of Bread	6.30pm
		Breaking of Bread	6.30pm			Youth –IGNITE	7.30pm
		Youth –IGNITE	7.30pm	Mon 9 th		Jumping Beans	9.30am
Mon 12th		Jumping Beans	9.30am			Youth- <i>BBQ</i>	7pm
		Youth- <i>Games at Rec</i>	7pm	Tues 10th		Prayer Meeting	7pm
Tues 13th		Prayer Meeting	7pm	Wed 11th		Luncheon Club	12.30pm
Wed 14th		Luncheon Club	12.30pm	Thur 12th		Bible Study	7.30 for 8pm
Thur 15th		Bible study	7.30 for 8pm	Sun 15th	Ted Dew	Breaking of Bread	10am
Sun 18th	Dave Bennett	Joshua Chap 5 v 13 to Chap 6 v 27	11.15am			Joshua Chaps 10 -12	
		Claiming God's Victories				Learning to Trust God	11.15am
		Breaking of Bread	6.30pm	Mon 16th		Jumping Beans	9.30am
Mon 19th		Jumping Beans	9.30am			Youth – <i>All star games</i>	7pm
		Youth- <i>Chaise night</i>	7pm	Tues 17th		Prayer Meeting	7pm
Tues 20th		Prayer Meeting	7pm	Wed 18th		Coffee Morning	10.30am
Wed 21st		Coffee Morning	10.30am	Thur 19th		Bible Study	7.30 for 8pm
Thur 22nd		Bible study	7.30 for 8pm	Sun 22nd	David Serle	Joshua Chaps 13-19	11.15am
Sun 25th		Breaking of Bread only	11.15am			Attitudes which help us grow	
Tues 27th		Prayer Meeting	7pm			Breaking of Bread	6.30pm
Wed 28th		No Luncheon Club	12.30pm	Mon 23rd		Jumping Beans	9.30am

What's on JUNE 2014

Sun 1st	Ian Delooze	Joshua Chaps 7 & 8	11.15am				
		Defeat, Confession & Victory					
		Breaking of Bread	6.30pm				
				Mon 30th	Barbara Croft	Joshua Chaps 20-21	11.15am
						Making your Community Christian	
						Jumping Beans	9.30am
						Youth – <i>Picnic Thurstaston</i>	7pm

Brain Tumour –Dave Croft Little did I think three and half years ago how an involuntarily fifteen second shaking of the head would so dramatically change my life. I was working in the rear yard of the Church we used to go to.. As I worked, my head suddenly shook towards the right side of my body, when it stopped , I thought “ that was strange, I’ve never had anything like that before.”The same thing happened over a few days. We decided I had better go and see my GP to find out what it was. The doctor said she had not come across these particular symptoms before but she wanted me to see a specialist. An appointment was made to have some tests and an MRI scan at the Walton Centre. A specialist cancer centre unit, in Liverpool..Within a few days I was having the tests done. I came out and was asked to see the neurologist. As soon as she asked ” Was my wife with me?” I knew this was something serious! I was told. that I had a swelling on my brain which they would like to investigate further.

An appointment was made to see the Surgeon .When we went in, his first words were “You know you have got a brain tumour don’t you?” I had guessed that this was so, but Barbara had no idea and it came as a big shock to her. He said he could operate and he was fairly certain the operation would be successful However I was warned that I probably would not be able to talk for several weeks and would be left with a permanent weakness in my right side. Praise God, neither of these things happened.

I was operated on the following Thursday, When I came round from the anaesthetic the Registrar came to me and told me he had got all the tumour out.. He did not tell me however that it was a high-grade 3 Brain Tumour! An Oligodendroma Glioma which was likely to recur..

The follow up, was that I had to have thirty three daily sessions of radiotherapy at Clatterbridge on the Wirral The radiotherapy left me physically and mentally drained!

As well as this I was having to take steroids to stop swelling within my brain, these have an effect on your face and hands in that they cause them to swell up.

A complication was that we had sold our house and were due to move out after Christmas. I don’t remember much about the move, except it snowed all morning on January 9th 2011. the date we moved!

In Feb 2011 I visited the oncologist after an MRI scan, only to be told the tumour had started to grow again. I was put on Chemotherapy in tablet form, to be taken at home over a ten day period However when I went for my monthly check up they found that it had damaged my blood platelets level and they had to miss a month whilst my bone marrow recovered and then give me a half dose. They changed to another chemotherapy treatment, but this had no effect on the tumour.

One of the results of Brain Tumours can be epileptic seizures or fits.

.I was having to deal with these epileptic fits. They tried several types of anti epileptic drugs on me. These caused me all sorts of problems, from life threatening rashes all over my body, to shaking that much that I could not write.

An added burden was that I had to have a hernia operation and fit in the Chemotherapy to suit this.

I have now had twenty MRI Scans – heading for the Guinness Book of Records. The last few have shown the tumour has stayed stable and he has kept me on a monthly regime of chemotherapy.

I have written this out over a period of months in the hope that it will help someone reading the account . If you know someone who would benefit from reading this account please pass it on to them or tell them to get in touch with me.

I should like to thank Barbara, for looking after me so well. Stephen, my son, for making the trip from California so often. Lori, his wife for allowing him to come.. All the numerous people who have prayed for my health.

Most of all I want to thank The Lord, my God. For giving me such Peace about the whole episode.

I do not know what the future holds but I know who holds the future -----



Men's Breakfast

Speakers Rob Watson & Bernie Frost

From

Charles Thompson Mission, Birkenhead

8.30am
Saturday 7th June 2014

Be There – Bring a Friend

Please note the picture of a breakfast is only for representative purposes. Ingredients may vary!

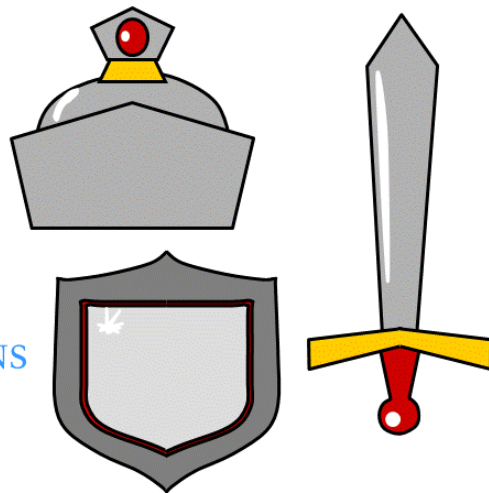
Young at heart

Armor of God Word Search

D R O W S R B C J P E A C E S
B R E A S T P L A T E N E H T
S N O I T A T P M E T O L T A
B A T T L E S S P C W I B U N
B R L S T H P N E P O T I R D
B E O H H I E T S R H A B T F
B G G M R O O L R A A V L P X
W I O I R R E P M Y D L S S K
F G T A P A H S G E W A W X E
D L E I H S W E A R T S I J D

ARMOR
BATTLE
BELT
BIBLE
BREASTPLATE
FIGHT
HELMET
PEACE
PRAYER

PROTECT
SALVATION
SPIRIT
SHIELD
SHOES
STAND
SWORD
TEMPTATIONS
TRUTH
WEAR



Also read Ephesians ch6 v 10-20.