



RBC NEWSLETTER: JULY/AUGUST 2018

Dear Church Family,

As we enter the summer months and the holiday season, church life tends to slow down a little as most house-groups and some of our other regular activities take a well earned break. Time to enjoy the sunshine, and appreciate God's creation at home or abroad – maybe some time to relax in the garden and enjoy reading God's Word, or a helpful Christian book, or even just a good novel! Regular rest and relaxation, and taking extra time to focus on God, is good for us. It is healthy practice for body, mind and spirit, hence the Sabbath principle that is so encouraged throughout the Bible for Christians to adopt and maintain in their lives.

During the summer months our Sunday services and Coffee Plus continue as normal. Foodbank and Street Pastors also continue to help those with needs in our community. During the summer it is good to remember too that we still are out on our 'Front-lines' in our homes, neighbourhoods and workplaces and maybe even while we are away on holidays too – as God may want to use us there – so do stay alert for ways that you can share God's love by 'being Jesus' hands and feet' in helping someone, or even by telling someone that “God loves you and has an amazing plan for your life!” That phrase of course is part of “The Turning” 'script' - and as we discovered last month it is a wonderful tool to use in conversation where you are seeking to engage people on the subject of faith.

In June “The Turning” mission in Rye and across East Sussex was a wonderful experience of churches working together to share Jesus' love on the streets. Across East Sussex thousands out and about were engaged in conversation and prayed for, and 346 invited Jesus into their hearts! (Across the county, churches are now exploring how we might continue this impetus for outreach by going out on the streets maybe once a month.) Here in Rye we were so encouraged as 21 from Rye Baptist Church and 7 others from the churches around here participated, with several teams of two going out on the streets for an hour every day from Monday to Saturday. I estimate that over the week 65 man hours were spent out on Rye's streets, and over 330 people were spoken to and told “God loves you and has an amazing plan for your life!” Most of these were prayed for in some way, from simple prayers of blessing; to prayers for healing and salvation. In Rye 19 people prayed the prayer of salvation and some local ones have given their details so they can be followed up. God was clearly at work out there setting up divine appointments. We praise and thank Him so much for all that. But it was what He has done amongst church folk who took part that has thrilled my heart even more. Every day I saw our folk nervously going out not knowing what to expect, but coming back wreathed in smiles and full of stories about the encounters they had; the opportunities they had to share their faith and pray with people; and their amazement when people were willing to pray a prayer of salvation and commitment, and give contact details for follow up. We had some wonderful evenings of worship and resting in God's presence too, and it is such a blessing to have seen several prayers for healing answered. Wonderful blessings, and we pray for all those seeds of faith planted, to bear fruit in people's lives and extend God's Kingdom in this area. May God's Spirit continue to bless you all this summer as You serve, and rest in Him,

Your pastor and sister in Christ, **Fiona**

Car Parking – A gentle reminder!

Please could all users of our carpark remember that the car park should *only* be used when you are attending a church event or are on church business! Also, as we recently asked in church, please could church folk refrain from using the car park on Wednesdays between noon and 3pm to enable Foodbank clients and helpers to be assured of finding a space. Thank you for your kind assistance in this.

Gift Day Offering

Many thanks to all who contributed to our recent Gift day Offering - currently totalling around £4,000, for which we praise God! It is not too late to contribute if you missed being there on the day. Envelopes are available at the back of the church or payments can be made online (see the website for details). Remember, moneys collected will not just help RBC – we always tithe our offerings to help other worthy causes too.

Coffee Plus Table Sale - Donations Needed!

If you have any unwanted items that you could donate for our Thursday table sale at Coffee Plus – please bring them along on a Thursday morning. Various items in good condition (not jumble!) e.g. Ornaments; books; toys etc

Please help Foodbank by donating:

Cereal Soup Pasta / Rice
Pasta Sauce Beans Tinned Fruit
Tinned vegetables
Tinned Meat / Fish
Tea /Coffee Sugar
Toiletries Nappies UHT Milk
Gluten- Free Foods

NB. All items to have at least 3 months till use-by date, and tins to be in good condition (no dents!) please!

Church Members' Meeting –

Please Book the Date!

Our next Church Members' Meeting will take place on **Monday 16th July at 7.30pm.** Please make every effort to attend and play your part in discerning the way forward in various elements of church life.

Gathering at “The Well”

The next meeting of The Well is on **Monday 9th July at 2pm** – tea, cakes and chat in RBC downstairs hall -all (Ladies) welcome.

Engage

Engage (our men's fellowship group) is taking a break over the summer. The next meeting will take place in September.

Summer CTRD Events – All welcome!

1. Sea Sunday - 15th July - 1.30pm -

Open air service on Rye Harbour slipway, preceded by 'bring your own' picnic from 12.30pm

2. Sunday 26th August 3pm – Open Air Service @ East Guldeford

Open air service outside East Guldeford Church followed by 'bring your own' picnic tea.

Prayer Corner

Although, due to changes in the laws for data protection, we will no longer be listing specific people's names for prayer on this newsletter, please do continue to pray for your church family and their families, especially where you are aware of specific needs. Every prayer counts and makes a difference, and all are much appreciated by those prayed for.