



RBC NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER 2018

Dear Church Family,

September was a very busy month, what with our Week of Prayer; the start of a new Alpha course; our Harvest celebrations; and, of course, the visit of Joel and Caroline Frank. It was a real blessing having them here – we were grateful for their help; their youth; their energy and enthusiasm as they got involved in pretty much every activity in church life. Thank you to those who hosted them, and those who invited them for meals or took them out on excursions. We are very grateful to you all. Joel and Caroline have now returned to Sweden, and they have been in touch to thank us for what they found to be a 'wonderful month.' They say they really didn't want to leave; they have 'fallen in love' with the Rye Baptist congregation, & they miss us all very much.

I am sure we will maintain a link with this lovely young couple, whom God clearly has His hand upon. How amazing that He chose to guide them to us, for their UK experience of church! I am sure we all miss them already. I know several members are planning to visit them in Sweden, and maybe Joel and Caroline will return to us next year too, to update us on their spiritual journey.

Joel and Caroline were very involved in our Week of Prayer, which was appreciated by a good number who came during house-group times, and at other times the church was open, to spend time with God using the various prayer stations, and other aids to prayer and drawing close to God. A few people sensed God giving them a Word of Encouragement for the church, and I reproduce those Words below for you each to meditate on and ponder if they have a special significance for you personally, or for any particular aspect of church life. If you receive any further insights, then please do let me, or any of the Leadership team know.

- ***“I am a God who heals!”***
- ***“Spread the scent of the knowledge of Christ!”***
- ***1 Cor. 1: 10 - “I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.”***
- ***“Don't try to be somebody you aren't. Be the wonderful person I have created.”***
- ***“Do not worry about the future. Praise me here and now! You are very dear to me. My love to my children is unlimited!”***

God is so good, and has encouraged us greatly in this last month. May he continue to bless each one of you as you serve Him in RBC and your daily lives,

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

Reminder to Church Members!

Next Church Meeting

Monday 22nd October & 7.30pm

Please Book the Date!

Come along and play your part in discerning the mind of Christ for RBC.

Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast

Saturday 16th October - 8am

We are continuing our monthly ecumenical gatherings to pray for blessing on our community, and for an openness to the Gospel.

All welcome! Breakfast at 8am and prayer at prayer stations for half an hour.

This month to be led by Canon David Frost.

Engage

The next Engage (men's fellowship) meeting will take place on **Thursday 18th October 7.30pm**. Venue to be confirmed. All (men) welcome. Please let Ian Gill know if you are coming.

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
Household cleaning materials
Pet food

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

"ENCOUNTERING GOD" EVENING

Following the popularity of the worship and prayer evenings during our week of Mission, these are going to continue on a once a month basis, on a house-group evening, so some house-group members can benefit, without having to go out on an extra evening. However, everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

This month's '**Encountering God'** evening will take place in church on **Tuesday 9th Oct at 7.30pm.**

For your diary, next month's will take place on Friday 9th November

ALPHA COURSE – please pray!

Our current Alpha course began on Wed 19th September, and is going well. _ Please pray for all those attending , helping and catering, for God's blessing, and for people to come to faith, or deepen their faith.

This year we are using the all new Alpha films for the Talks so the material is presented in an exciting and rather different way.

Gathering at "The Well"

The next meeting of "The Well" is on **Monday 8th Oct at 2pm** – tea, cakes and chat in RBC downstairs hall -all (Ladies) welcome.

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.