

March

Key Events

- 5th Early
Celebration
Discovery
Church, Youth
MC, The Meeting
Place - Cefn
- 12th Richard
Sharples at CCW
Leaders Meeting
- 16th Leaders
Huddle and
Meeting

Relay



*Welcome to the March edition of the
ChristChurch Relay magazine.*

Scripture Focus for March - A New Season

John 21:4-6 (NIVUK)

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus.

⁵ He called out to them, 'Friends, haven't you any fish?' 'No,' they answered.

⁶ He said, 'Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.' When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Isaiah 43:19 (NIVUK)

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

19th

Congregational
Meeting

23rd – 27th Trip to
Hungary

25th/26th Feeding
the Roofless

26th Mothering
Sunday

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Trussell-Trust-Lent-Appeal>

This is the link for the The Trussell Trust's 40 pence for 40 days appeal.

However we would encourage people to donate to the Wrexham

Foodbank directly rather than the national website but the idea is good!

Leader's Log

2017 a BREAKTHROUGH year.

Many different sources and voices have been prophesying that 2017 will be a year of Breakthrough. God is named as the God of the Breakthrough in the Scriptures. It has therefore been really encouraging to see areas of breakthrough at ChristChurch over recent weeks. We have received a number of testimonies of healing, along with accounts of fresh, as well as new, experiences of and with the Holy Spirit. This is breakthrough for people and for us as church.

Some of these have already been shared but news of others will follow.

2 Samuel 5:20

So David went to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there; and he said, "The Lord has broken through my enemies before me, like a **breakthrough** of water." Therefore he called the name of that place Baal Perazim.

Jesus is breaking new ground in lives and territories as the Spirit is poured out in a new wave and the kingdom is pursued, pushed into and further advanced in the earth.



Micah 2:13

The one who breaks open will come up before them;
They will break out,
Pass through the gate,
And go out by it;
Their king will pass before them,
With the LORD at their head."



It is interesting to note that 2017 is the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation where there was a breakthrough in rediscovering the truth of the word which had been hijacked by indulgences within the Church at large. Maybe we are in the midst of another reformation to bring breakthrough within the church where the ministry and activity of the Holy Spirit has been ignored or deliberately curtailed.

Time and testimony will tell.

Let us be a people and a church that welcomes the ministry and activity of the Holy Spirit. A community of the Spirit as I have previously written about. For the breakthroughs to keep on coming it is vital we keep giving the blessings away and always, always give the glory to God.

I do believe that many times a move of God stalls because the Church tries to keep hold of it instead of being a blessing to the world. The outpouring might start in the church but it is always for the world.

Freely you have received; freely give (Matt 10:8).

May the breakthroughs continue in our lives, church, town and nation as Baal-Perazim, Jesus the King, breaks through with the blessings, abundant life and riches of his kingdom.

MORE LORD!!

Love and prayers,
Blessings,

GARETH 



March 1st – April 16th

Join us, & other Wrexham Churches, in a Daniel Fast throughout Lent 2017.

The focus of our prayers being '**thy kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven**':

- In my life
- In our church
- In our town
- In our nation

CCW



The Daniel Fast could comprise of:

- 1) Abstinence from luxury items
- 2) A vegetable & water diet

You decide how to fast and if it helps adopt the practice of feasting on a Sunday, or alternatively fast for only a portion of Lent or do a number of short fasts in the Lent period.

The key and most important thing is to get involved as directed by Father God.

There is power in the united prayers of a community and church. There is power and spiritual sharpening / strengthening in the discipline of fasting.

Let Gareth know if you will be joining in.

Just Across run a vegetable co-op each week and it costs about £50 per week. They had a grant to start but now the money is running low, so they need help to fund the co-op. The Leadership Team agreed to help them with a donation of £150 from the Barnabas Fund, and to will ask the congregation to consider adding to it through a love offering?

School Pastors will be taking part in Assemblies at Rhosnesni School, please pray Lent assemblies on 6,7,8th March and Easter assemblies on 3,4,5th April.



Safeguarding Refresher Course

Here are the dates, locations and times for the refresher course. If you are involved with children in Junior Church, in Discovery, whether in Discovery Church or in social events, in Youth, in ACT or in C2 or any other event involving children or vulnerable adults please make it a priority to come to one of these sessions. Thank you Sue

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday 28 th February	7:45	Home of Richard and Lucy
Thursday 2 nd March	7:45	Home of Laurence and Katy
Monday 6 th March	8:00	Home of John and Sally
Wednesday 8 th March	7:45	Home of Mark and Sarah.



'Naturally Supernatural' is a brand new event aimed at anyone who wants to move in the ministry and the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is an event for the whole church that will focus on spending time in God's presence, making plenty of space for his Holy Spirit to move among us. We want to encounter Jesus, fall more in love with him, and go back to our everyday lives with both the passion and the power to proclaim him in word and deed.

At 'Naturally Supernatural' in Stafford there will be two main meetings a day, plus plenty of practical workshops with opportunities to put into practice what we're learning. We'll have social events and venues for all ages and life-stages with a full children's programme that will reflect the themes of the conference.

www.naturallysupernatural.co.uk

FI MARATHON in Wrexham

On Sunday 12th March, Susannah will be running another of her 12 marathons to raise awareness of and funding for the work of FI with alcoholics and their families in Romania.

You are invited to help her in this Marathon Task by either 1) running with her 2) sponsoring her or 3) just turn up to encourage her.

More information on timing etc. available from Frank or Campbell.



Scriptural basis for my experience of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit By Roy Whitney

At the conclusion of my previous article, in the last issue, I said that all Christian spiritual experience must be rooted in Scripture. If not, then the experience may be flawed.

Therefore, here is a synopsis of my understanding of the teaching of Scripture, regarding the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Who baptises in the Holy Spirit?

All four Gospel accounts, record John the Baptist testifying that he baptised with water

for repentance, but there is One among you who will baptise you in the Holy Spirit and with fire. Therefore, it is the Lord Jesus Christ who baptises in the Holy Spirit, Matt:3:11; Mk:1:8; Luke 3:16, and John 1:33.

Acts Chapter 1

Our Lord Jesus ministered in His Resurrection body to the Apostles and disciples for forty days after His rising from the dead. Before His ascension into heaven, the Lord Jesus Christ, instructed His disciples not to leave Jerusalem until they had received the Holy Spirit, the promise of the Father, Acts 1:4-5, 8, although that would not happen until ten days later, at Pentecost.

The Day of Pentecost

Luke records in Acts 2 the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This dynamic spiritual experience, was accompanied by physical manifestations of wind, flame and speech, and as Scripture records, "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues (languages that were spoken by the crowd) as the Spirit enabled them." Acts 2:4. There were about a hundred and twenty present in the upper room, and Mary, the Lord's mother, and His half-brothers were amongst them. All were baptised in the Holy Spirit, not just the apostles.

The response of the crowd was, "we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" (Acts 2:11.)

Then Peter, speaking for the small band of believers declared that this Jesus, whom you crucified, is exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear, Acts 2:33, 35.

Without the coming of the Holy Spirit, the apostles and disciples would never have known that the Lord Jesus Christ had taken His place at the Father's right hand at His Ascension.

At the conclusion Peter's message, he instructed the crowd to, "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, "And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit," Acts 2:38.

Samaria

Later, Philip took the gospel to the people of Samaria. They believed for salvation, but did not receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit until Peter and John came from Jerusalem. The Apostles laid their hands on the believers and they received the Holy Spirit, Acts 8:14-17. This is an interesting event, as the believers were born again of the Holy Spirit, under Philip's ministry, but did not receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit until Peter and John came.

The question maybe asked, "What did these Samaritan believers receive?" I can only conclude, that Peter and John witnessed them receiving the same experience as they themselves had received at Pentecost, speaking in tongues and praising God.

Cornelius, the Roman Centurion

Luke, in Acts 10 details how salvation and the baptism in the Holy Spirit crossed the great cultural and religious divide between Jews and Gentiles. In a vision, the Holy Spirit told Peter what he should do in response to what happened next. Peter received

an invitation to preach to Gentiles, Cornelius, a Roman centurion, and his household. As Peter declared the Word, the Holy Spirit came on them all, and they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. This was to the astonishment of the Jewish believers, that Gentiles should receive the Holy Spirit just as they had, Acts 10:44-48.

Believers at Ephesus

Paul's visit to Ephesus, recorded for us in Acts 19, is another interesting event. There were about twelve men, described as disciples. Yet, Paul discerned that their spiritual experience was lacking, and he questioned them. "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." What followed is important, "On hearing this, they were baptised into the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied."

My understanding of this incident is that in the early church, conversion, and receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit were events that took place almost concurrently. It is true that there was a delay in the experience of the believers in Samaria, on-the-other-hand, Cornelius and his household were born again and baptised in the Holy Spirit at the same time.

May I suggest, that the Ephesus incident describes a model of 'believing' for disciples whether Jew or Gentile, they received the full package of the Christian experience, conversion, (new birth), and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

When I was converted, I believed for salvation. However, on reflection I wandered in the spiritual wilderness of half a Christian experience, for years. I was ignorant of, and lacking the dynamic of the Holy Spirit in my life. This became my motivating desire for something more.

Personal tongue – tongue for the Church

The gifts of the Holy Spirit are described for us in 1 Corinthians 12-14. At the end of Chapter 12, Paul asks a number of rhetorical questions, one of them is, "Do all speak in tongues? The answer to which is, "No." Many interpret this Scripture to mean that not all can speak in tongues. What I believe Paul was saying here is, not all will have the gift of tongues to the church. The gift of tongues to the church is a completely different gift to a believer's personal gift of tongues, which all can have for their self-edification. I have only ever received one tongue for the church, which received an immediate interpretation. However, I have interpreted many tongues, and given many prophecies, that the church may be edified.

In conclusion, the common experience of the believers in the above accounts is that they received the gift of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues (other languages). In Luke 11:13 we read, "If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

There is one baptism in the Holy Spirit, and thereafter many infillings, (Acts 4:8, 7:55). I realise as never before that I need more than my natural abilities to live for my Saviour, I need the supernatural enabling of the Holy Spirit!

HUNGARY Short Term Mission Trip

- Good News Foundation Thurs 23rd - Mon 27th March



PRAYER POINTERS

Current TEAM

- Gareth Jones, Alan Knight, Moira Wright (Russ' PA), Hayley Mcmillan & Rona.
- Pray for each member of the team as they prepare for the trip.
- Team chemistry as new members have joined it.
- Sue Allen as she coordinates our prayer relay.



TRAVEL

- Safe, swift and successful travel on each form of transport (car, plane, train, bus)

Good News Foundation

- Kori & Sylvi the pastors of the Izsak church
- For Donat, who leads the Orgovany church and charity, his family and his health,
- For blessing & anointing upon our translators.
- Deepening of relationships in the Izsak church and Orgovany school

BREAKTHROUGH particularly with the Healing Cafés.

Seeking a deeper work of the Spirit again, in us, and those we minister to, particularly for healing & deliverance.



Blessings **GARETH & THE TEAM** **1 Chronicles 14:11; Micah 2:13**

How do you use music? I'm sure there are some people who don't like to listen to music and others who are constantly in need of accessing it in some form – listening, singing, whistling humming etc. There is often some kind of music in our house, be it in the kitchen, the children practicing an instrument or watching videos on Youtube.

We can use music as a reaction to something. I know if there is something that is bothering me, I might put some music on to help cloud the other noise of life out to give me some space. It can also be used to fill a void, take away boredom or emptiness. Often if I am having to do some work that seems tedious I will find a playlist and switch it on. It can be used in times of jubilation and euphoria as a way of just making noise (that's what I do at the Racecourse on a Saturday – or at least I think I did)!!

Some of you will have songs that bring back memories and remind you of special times in your lives. This month I don't have a 'review' as such but I would like to encourage you to think of a song that has been special to you in your walk with God. Listen to it once, twice or constantly on repeat for a while. Let it rekindle some of those memories to bring you closer to God this month.

I think I will choose a song by Martin Smith (of Delirious) called God's Great Dance Floor (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sRHemdf3R_s). We sang this song at our first New Wine and it reminds me of the fact that God will always love us, no matter what and He never gives up on me! I hope you have a good time reminiscing with God. **John E**

ChristChurch Monthly Rotas

	5 th	12 th	19 th	26 th
		communion	Offering	communion
Setting Up	Sue	Gareth	Richard	Rob
PA	-	Rob, Adrian	Rob, Adrian	Eth, Colin
IT	Rob	Rob	Rob	Rob
Music Group	Elizabeth	Huw	John	Huw
Celebration Leader	Sue	Gareth	Andrew & Elizabeth	Sally E
Speaker	Sue	Richard Sharples	Andrew	Sue
PMT	Val, Elaine	Paul, Gill	Alan, Sue	Frank, Elaine
Tea	Campbell, Glenys, Lucy	Andrew, Elizabeth, Dorothy	Angela, Marilyn, Charlie	Paul, Gill, Myra
Crèche	No Junior Church	Sue K	Val	All Age Explore Together
Mega Quest and Mini Quest		Jean, Lucy, Sally	Andrew/Liz, Sarah, Dorothy	
Junior Church 2		Bekki	Kev	

If you have any queries please call Gareth Jones - ChristChurch Senior Church Leader on 01978 354805, or see

www.christchurchwrexham.org.uk
admin@christchurchwrexham.org.uk
www.facebook.com/christchurchwrexham
 twitter @ChristChurchWxm



we meet at the following locations

Acton Community Resource Centre Overton Way Acton Wrexham LL12 7LB	Hightown Community Resource Centre Fusilier Way Hightown Wrexham LL13 7YF
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Our postal address is
ChristChurch, c/o 7 Heol Penally, Little Acton, Wrexham, LL12 8JT