

Key Events

5th Early
Celebration –
Russ Howell at
CCW

Discovery
Church, The
Meeting Place –
Cefn Mawr,
#Sundaze, Walk
this Way

12th Leaders'
Meeting

16th Leaders'
Huddle and
Meeting

17/18th Kingdom
Finance Seminar

19th Shoebox
Sunday &
Congregational
Meeting



25th Spirituality
Fair

25/26th Feeding
the Roofless

26th CTW United
Service

Relay



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

Scripture Focus for November

Isaiah 58:8-11 New International Version

⁸ Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness will go before you,
and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you will call, and the LORD will answer;
you will cry for help, and he will say: here am I.

¹⁰ If you do away with the yoke of oppression,
with the pointing finger and malicious talk,
and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,
then your light will rise in the darkness,
and your night will become like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you always;
he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land
and will strengthen your frame.
You will be like a well-watered garden,
like a spring whose waters never fail.

Leader's LogCommunity of the Spirit 3

Once again following a prolonged period of living in community with others, either on mission or during retreat, I am struck with strong thoughts about what being a *Community of the Spirit* might truly mean. The abiding, and repeated, experience is that journeying with others, towards a common goal or purpose, is very catalytic, creating a fruitful environment for transformation.



There is just something about living in Christian community that quickens and strengthens what God is doing in us as individuals, and also as a group. As our lives interact in close proximity 24/7 we more powerfully shape and mould one another. At the same time we are being shaped and moulded by the Holy Spirit at work amongst us. Whatever we do in such an environment it is rich fertile ground for the Spirit who is ever at work in us. Whenever I am in such a context there is acceleration to the change in me, as well as the one in us. ME far more readily and easily becomes WE.



If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you *care*— then do me a favour: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

Philippians 2:1-4 The Message

Jesus used this to great effect in his training and preparation of the first disciples. The liminalityⁱ and *communitas*ⁱⁱ that they experienced as a part of the transformation process meant that after three years of journeying together with Jesus they were very different men. Once the Spirit was poured out with power upon them this was evidenced in the impact they had on the known world at that time.



A legacy that we all still benefit from today. Here was a 1st Century *Community of the Spirit* truly doing life and mission TOGETHER



ⁱ the condition of being on a threshold or at the beginning of a process

ⁱⁱ the sense of sharing and intimacy that develops among persons who experience liminality as a group

I also think that this is what Paul and his missionary teams experienced together. Travelling and living together with mission as the common purpose, they declared and demonstrated God's kingdom. The result was profound change and transformation in them, those they ministered to, and also the places that they visited. Many similar examples abound throughout church history.

As a result I remain deeply committed to keep taking teams on mission, either locally or globally. I also strongly sense that this is what we are aiming for in our Missional Communities. The more we share life and mission *TOGETHER*, in planned and spontaneous ways, the more we will increasingly become 21st century *Communities of the Spirit*.

It's ALWAYS an adventure worth pursuing and an investment worth making.

Love and prayers,
Blessings,

GARETH 

Christ Centred

Charis (grace)

Creed based

Caring

Compassion

Companionship (close-knit)

Kingdom challenge & change

Charismata (gifts)

COMMUNITY OF THE SPIRIT



TRIP TO FI ROMANIA OCTOBER 2017: From breakdown to breakthrough



A full report on our positive visit to Oradea will follow in due course but it is necessary to share with CCW how God is in charge of every situation even when we can't see it! As many of you will know our trip started with a breakdown when Nelu picked us up from Cluj Airport to drive the 90 miles to Oradea. Unfortunately the FI car had developed a fault and ground to a halt some 70 miles from our destination.

We safely made it to Oradea some hours later with the assistance of a low-loader but this left Nelu without a vehicle. Unbeknown to us he arranged to borrow a car from a friend which required him to take a taxi to pick up the car. He engaged in conversation with the taxi driver about his work with FI at which point the driver began to cry and shared with Nelu his despair over his son, aged 19 years, who is addicted to gambling. Nelu then offered to meet with the son at FI and when we arrived at the FI office on the Tuesday morning he did indeed turn up to meet Nelu to seek help! He and his father intend to attend Nelu and Cristina's church this Sunday and Nelu will arrange for Tomi to meet the young man for counselling. God is good!!

Alan Knight's visit to Hungary, Sept.2017

On this, my third visit to Hungary, Father God did things differently yet again. We had the usual manifestations of the Holy Spirit, with healings, laughing and crying in the Spirit and people falling over in the Spirit (slain in the Spirit). But we saw two major changes-the local people got more involved praying for each other and they evangelised their own people.

We encouraged them to pray for each other for healing and saw positive results. One guy had injured his wrist and was unable to work, after prayer the pain went and he was able to resume work.

We also encouraged them to evangelise on the streets of Izsak and sent them out after training on their own in four sets of two. After a short time they returned saying it was a miracle that they had led ten people to the Lord.

A new venture for the team was to be present at Izsak's Grape Festival. We had a gazebo with a table with free Hungarian Christian Literature and chairs for people to relax and chat and have prayer if required. I was amazed at how many came for prayer and many had answers to those prayers including deliverances. We also did evangelising, in total we saw 49 people give their lives to Jesus. We met quite a few contacts from previous visits too.

One of the teachers who came to Wrexham with the School group in July named Erica asked if she could see the English script we use for evangelising, as I talked her through it she too accepted Jesus as Saviour and Lord. I also prayed for healing from a hip which gave her constant pain. Three days later she said she had been pain-free since then for the first time in many years.

The teams bonded really well again both in work and soaking in worship and prayer. Praise the Lord for all He did and thanks to all of you who prayed for us. God sure answered your prayers. Love you all in Jesus, Alan

Throughout the trip God revealed his Amazing Grace and unfailing love.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bn5zk3yCRr0 This was our Mission Trip Anthem

Note from our Treasurer – George Moore

This is what I distributed after the offering on 3rd Sunday in October

£663.75 was sent to Tear Fund for the

Rohingya crisis

£100.00 was sent to the British Red Cross for Hurricane Irma

£50.00 was sent to local charity dynamic

Since the start of this financial year April, we have donated £4,541 to 14 separate causes



Congratulations to Steve & Bekki on the birth of Paige in September



From out East, 'On the Park'.

There are few books in the Bible that start as dramatically as the Book of Job.

As I write, recollections of recent news are fresh in the mind. Moslems in Burma torched out of their villages, Communities in the West Indies blown to bits, and Citizens killed and buildings devastated in Mexico after earthquakes.

To have any one of these events impact on one's loved ones would be terrible. But what if all three hit our families. How would we cope?

Job chapter 1 tells us, three such events decimated Job's family, his servants, belongings and.....

²⁰ At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship ²¹ and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave & the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."

²² In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

You must be wondering what I'm going to write about in this article!

Well, my last note in Relay told of a time of encouragement and new initiatives in worship and outreach. It's nice to write about such things and it tends to be followed by a joyful 'Praise the Lord'. But what about our responses when the news is not so bright?

So how do we respond when God allows things to be 'TAKEN AWAY'? What is our perspective? Job's story is a wonderful one to ponder.

What lessons are there for St. Mark's to learn when like many who live on Caia Park, things are suddenly taken away? That steady job, whisked away & replaced by a 'zero hour' contract; an expected benefit payment is held up, and coincides with a larger than expected electricity bill; after years of trying to make the relationship work, it's ended, the partner's gone leaving you with the kids.

We knew the 3 new families worshipping with us would have to move on at some stage, as their next phase of training became clear, but it's a shock when it happens, and suddenly more than 50% of the new 11am service congregation is gone. And then the Church Army Officer can't cope with the pain any longer, and the doctor diagnoses a slipped disc (please pray for Chris). We had to close the after school Kid's Klub, the children and their parents are really disappointed.

Yes, sometimes these things come together, and it's a bit of a shock. But then, Praise the Lord, St. Mark's folk are Anglicans!! They tend to keep the door open long after others have locked up and moved on, keep the door open even if very few are crossing the threshold.... And anyway, sometimes you are there and the door is open for those who 'Give us this day our daily bread', is literally about the food bank parcel, kept in the room next to the Sanctuary, or the filled roll prepared for kids during the school holiday in the kitchen, on the other side of the Sanctuary.

And all those world events we recalled earlier happened as we approached our Welsh

Autumn, and when you've been around long enough, you know that faithful God whom we worship, seems to arrange for Autumn and Winter to be followed by Spring. In the end after all the experiences he endured, and all the advice he was offered, Job was able to say '**I know my redeemer liveth**'...and we know, because of Jesus, He lives, especially amongst the people of Caia Park.

P.S. We had a really good 'Mark on the Park' prayer meeting this month with our Roman Catholic and Pentecostal neighbours and those who come to pray with us from the Community Church. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eEEy_gb8AM

Art

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Q0qho_hKEg

Leadership Weekend Testimonies

Paul and Gill - The Holy Spirit moved amongst us all in a very gentle and non-threatening way, but still very powerfully. This was so on the Friday night when it was just the leadership team, and again on the Saturday when others involved in CCW leadership joined us.

We were both ministered to by God the Holy Spirit in personally meaningful and helpful ways.

Gill: I was enabled me to change my negative thinking about myself to positive attitudes. In particular, God told me that my conception wasn't an accident (I'm the younger of identical twins): God the Father created her intentionally and for a unique purpose. This was an issue that had surprisingly arisen just the day before the weekend, so was very relevant. I also received further emotional healing, especially as God told me afresh that He loves me and that I am precious to Him.

Paul: it was so good to have my anointing and authority as a leader reaffirmed, and words of prophetic counsel and challenge spoken over me.

Both: it was a privilege to be part of a time of such blessing when the Spirit touched every person present and everyone seemed to be enabled by the Spirit to share in ministry to others. We pray that we will have such experiences when we meet as a body for Sunday worship.

Rob G - It was a great time at the retreat, there was a real sense of God being with us. We met daily for times of prayer and praise, praising God and inviting Him to fill us with his Holy Spirit. I found myself being able to pray in tongues in a way that I had not done for many years. Praise God!

Anna – the Quinta was great, we spent Saturday morning learning about being with Jesus, there were lots of activities and one of them was hugging a giant teddy bear and closing your eyes and hugging Jesus (Mum even had a go when she came in!). Sam liked the boxes where you could write on your fear and then knock them down.

Sam – when I was in the Quinta I felt like God was giving answers to me and speaking through me. I enjoyed the activities on the Saturday morning, especially dressing up as a soldier and putting on the armour of God.

Proverbs 18 v10 "The House of the Lord is a Strong Tower. The righteous run into it and they are safe."

The Safe House by Mary Birch

The summer's gone. The Hedgehog's house
Is dry and clean ready for him.

In the Summer there was a spouse
and small prickles much like Spike.
It's Winter now and he's alone
to sleep all through the long dark days
until Spring sunshine awakens him.

My heart is full of thankful praise
to the great "I AM" who made everything.
for I too long for that Safe House
in Heaven where the Angels sing.



Christmas Dates

Here are Christmas dates so that you can get them in your diary.

December

17th AM - Junior Church Nativity
PM - Carol service

21st Hightown Carols, Craft &
Christingle

24th All Age Celebration

25th Christmas Morning
Celebration

31st New Year's Eve Celebration



Advance Notice -

Alison and Haydon Murr, who have recently been serving on the Bethel Redding Prophetic team, will be here 12-14th Jan 2018 – teaching, workshops, individual prophetic sessions and ministry

Autumn Mission to Wales

The dates of the next Mission to Wales will be **Friday 1st to Monday 4th December.**

There will be Soaking Celebrations on the Friday and Sunday evenings at The Community Church, Friday 7-9pm and Sunday 6-8pm. Then, on the Saturday and Monday there will be street evangelism following the worship and training (10am-2pm Chester Street Baptist).



SAGOAL, NEPAL

Ram is the Sangsangai coordinator and a leader at his local church in Kailali district. After taking part in Envisioning training, he began to realise that his church could identify and address the needs of his local community using the resources they already had around them.

Please pray for Ram as he leads this process.

Please also pray for the church as they work together to transform their lives and that of their community.

For your prayers

- **Ram's prayer request:** 'Please pray for me as I facilitate the Sangsangai process in Kailali district and help others apply the learnings as they mobilise their teams'
- Please pray for Ram's church as they work together to transform their lives and those of their communities.
- And for the other churches in Ram's district as they introduce the Sangsangai process, pray that it would be successful.



tearfund

Connected Church

ChristChurch Monthly Rotas

	5 th	12 th	19 th	26 th
		communion	Offering	communion
Setting Up	Sue	Gareth	Richard	Rob
PA	-	Eth, Colin	Eth, Colin	Eth, Colin
IT	Rob	Rob	Rob	Rob
Music Group	Liz?	John	Lesley, Genni	Adam
Celebration Leader	Sue	Sue	Sue	Lynsey
Speaker	Russ Howell	Gareth	Rob	Rhys
Prayer Team	Val, Elaine	Paul, Gill	Sue, Alan	Paul, Gill
Tea	Myra, Gerry, Lucy	Andrew, Elizabeth, June	Paul, Gill, Natasha	John, Ffion, Mandy
Crèche	No Junior Church	Katia	Sue K	Ali F
Mega Quest Mini Quest		Jean, Katy, Sally G	Liz, Sally E, Sarah	Andrew, Liz, Angela
EAT		Kev	Kev	Kev

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

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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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