



Ackworth Community Church News Letter

www.ackworthcommunitychurch.co.uk

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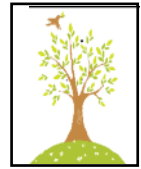
Ash's Letter

*Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified, for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you –
Deuteronomy 31: 6*

Well, it's now 15 years and seven months since I set off on my adventure as pastor at Ackworth Community Church, January 1st 2009 was the start date to be exact and now as I write this I am just about to finish. To be honest, I would have been amazed if anyone suggested that I would last all those years but I have and I'm thankful as I write these words.

I just wanted to use this, my last bulletin letter to say a few big thankyous. Firstly, I am grateful to God. When I started it was with some trepidation, I truly didn't know if I had the capabilities to carry out the job and to carry the responsibility. There have been many difficult times through the years but God has been good and has been faithful. As I reflect I want to outline three ways in which God has provided for me throughout the years. Firstly, He has been faithful in opening up the next step for us to take as a church. One of the great joys of being in Ackworth has been to sit in God's presence to listen with my brothers and sisters to discern what God is saying to us. I can think of many cold and dark January Sunday evenings that have been warmed and illuminated as God's Spirit has spoken to us. He has always led us and I'm sure that we can trust that He will continue to do so.

Secondly, God has been faithful in providing ideas. I can honestly say that during all those years I have never been stuck for what to speak on or what to think about in our midweek groups, or toddlers simply because God has provided. Equally, there have been numerous initiatives where someone has had a spark of inspiration and that has opened up a doorway of opportunity for us as a church. As He has led thus far so will He continue. Thirdly, God has provided the workers we have needed to carry out the things He has called us to do. Over the 33 years of the life of Ackworth Community Church there have been hundreds of people who have been



part of the life of the church, some are now in glory, some are in other parts of the country or other parts of the church and I am grateful for each of them and the contribution that they have made. As God has provided workers, He will do so again.

Also, it brings me onto my next thing to be thankful for. I wanted to say a big thank you to you all. I can honestly say it has been a privilege to lead and work alongside you all. For a small church I would say we have punched above our weight and done far more than it should have been possible to do. That is down to you. People have served, got stuck in and done what has needed doing. Please continue, as you are able to give so wholeheartedly to the work of advancing the Kingdom of God.

Finally, but by no means least I want to thank Di, Joel and Cerwys. Being a pastor isn't easy; it is full of sacrifices, disturbed tea times, problems and difficulties but Di and the kids have been willing to walk that path and give of there all, and for that I am the most grateful of all, I couldn't have done it without their love and support, so a big kiss and thank you to them.

Ash.

Prayer and Pastoral Support

Just a reminder that should a need arise; there are a couple of means of support available. Firstly, there is prayer support, so if you contact Ash or any of the elders with a prayer request then they can circulate it to people through e-mail and word of mouth.

Also, there is pastoral support, so again you could contact Ash, Neill, Alyn or Denise and they will arrange some appropriate help where possible.



Healing Ministry Team

If you would like to receive ministry and prayer for healing, please contact Alyn or Carole who will arrange for members of the ministry team to come and wait on the Lord and pray with you. The healing ministry team are: Alyn and Carole, Brenda, Denise, Jacquie, Dot & Ash.

Birthday Celebrations

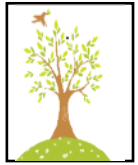
6th August - Stan

8th August - Georgina

22nd August Dimytro

23rd August - Di

**A Very Happy Birthday From Everyone At
Ackworth Community Church**

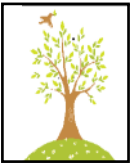


Malawi – Prayer Update

Some of you may not be aware that we support a group of churches in Malawi called the Church of Disciples of Jesus (CDJ). It is only by God's grace that this church, which has about 60 branches throughout the country, is alive and well. The lives of the Malawians are hard, they suffer hunger for much of the year as their crops fail regularly due to lack of rain and fertilisers which they cannot afford. They also battle dark spiritual forces in the shape of witch doctors and the associated superstitions. As a church we help CDJ financially and in prayer. Please pray with us, the prayer points for this month are:

1. John Seda (CDJ leader) is visiting the church branches in the south of the country during August. They have lost a lot of men, including leaders, as they have moved away to find work in South Africa. Please pray for the appointment of new leaders and unity among the churches.
2. A leader called David, who is ministering to 3 new church plants in 3 villages in Mozambique, his only mode of transport is bicycle! Please pray for the new churches and that a motor bike can be provided for David.
3. Three new church plants in the Lilongwe (capital city) region in the villages of Ntchisi, Nthondo and Ngo'ombe.
4. Unity amongst churches in Lilongwe and that they will remain part of the CDJ group of churches.
5. Two upcoming conferences for women in Dedza and Lilongwe during August.
6. A revival and deliverance conference in Lilongwe on 27th July.
7. Two proposed conferences focusing on baptism in the Holy Spirit and youth.
8. For the development of work amongst the youth in Dedza.

Thank you for your support, hopefully we will have further updates next month.
Alyn.



The Swiftness of God's Provision

"You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the Lord your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed." Joel 2:26

"Can I have more fish?" my daughters both looked at me with plates extended....

Second, third and fourth helpings of dinner that night had me thinking somebody had swapped my children.

"Are you even taking the time to chew this?" I asked, as barrels of laughter answered me back.

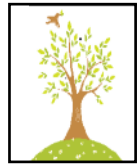
Today's verse is a reminder of how God has provided for us in our lives. In the good times, and in the problems solved and health restored, we are quick to inhale and ask for more. But in the not so good times ...in the hard places of life that are not so easy to chew and almost impossible to swallow, we rarely even finish the first helping.

In order to digest the nutrition God gives us properly, we must consider the following.

"You will have plenty to eat..."If we're still standing on this earth, God is assuredly providing a way for us to be here another day. And if He's provided another day, He'll get us through it.

..."and you will praise the name of the Lord your God."Good entrees in life call for a side or two of praise.

..."who has worked wonders for you..."By recognizing the miracles God has woven into our everyday lives, we acknowledge the fact that He'll do it again! The Israelites had to be reminded constantly of the way God brought them out of Egypt and provided for them. If they were privy



to forget the massive miracles that God had bestowed upon them ...then we are surly prone to forget what He's done in our lives. We must choose to remember.

"...never again will my people be shamed."When Christ died on the cross, the guilt and shame and wrath we deserve for our sin was wiped out. In one last breath, He sealed those that believe in Him for good. Though our lives remain imperfect, grace forgives us over and over as we grow in holiness all the way to heaven.

When we get a good Word from God, let's vow to write it on our hearts ...to turn back and look at the way those Words have already marked our lives, and take them forward with us as the sharp sword they are ...to cut through the calamity and follow Christ.

Father, Praise You for remembrance. Thank You that we can search our memories and see the tracks and traces of Your love marked on our lives. Forgive us for falling short and turning back ...for delaying and doubting, and strengthen our hearts to believe in You more and more each and every day. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Ancient of Days

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King reigning over all
So I will not fear, for this truth remains
That my God is the Ancient of Days.

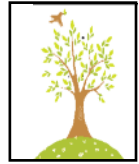
None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul
He is here with me, I am not alone
Oh, His love is sure, and He knows my name
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Though I may not see what the future brings
I will watch and wait for the Saviour King
Then my joy complete, standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days.

None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of Days
For my God is the Ancient of Days.



Sharing in the Joy!

There are different kinds of seasons in the life of a follower of Jesus who takes seriously the LORD's Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8-10). We often find ourselves in the harder seasons. Some are in the planting seeds season, where we keep sowing and can't see any harvestable results. Some of you have been trying to find good soil. Others have been planting seeds for what seems like a long time with few noticeable results. Others are in the watering and tending phase to see if there is any harvest in sight.

Some of you are weary and not sure you can keep on looking for soil, planting seeds, bringing water, tending to the weeds, and waiting on any hint of the harvest. It is hard work getting to know the soil and cultivating relationships so you can sow in a cultural climate hostile to the seed you sow. It is discouraging not to see quick results from all of your labour, sweat, and prayers. This can be a season that leads many of us to doubt ourselves, our calling, and our mission:

Did I mishear God's call?
What am I doing wrong?
Is there any fruit in sight?

O God, please, will you let me see a little harvest... Please!
I've asked those questions, had those doubts in my patch of ministry that Jesus sent me to prepare for harvest, and felt inept when others around me were harvesting. So, what word is there for the "no-or-slow" harvest seasons of our lives and ministries?

Jesus reminds us of an essential truth:

"What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike! You know the saying, "One plants and another harvests." And I believe the LORD's promise is true!

Jesus promises us that we will share in the joy of the harvest. It may not be now, or soon, or even on the horizon. However, the Chief Sower of seeds promises us we will share in the joy of His bountiful harvest. And if we are blessed with a surprise from God's gracious love, we may experience a foretaste of this harvest when we least expect it.

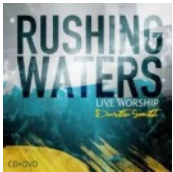


I Believe CD Phil Wickham

£12.50

Celebrated worship artist, Phil Wickham releases his ninth full length project, I Believe. Three years in the making, the standout selection borrows language from The Beatitudes and serves as a personal declaration of allegiance for the singer/songwriter. The album features his No. 1 hit single "This Is Our God" as well as "Sunday Is Coming" and "The Jesus Way." Wickham explains, "'This is Our God' is song is a declaration of who Jesus is and what He's done for us. There is so much faith, hope and truth in it. It's been incredible hearing the church lift it up and sing it since its release."

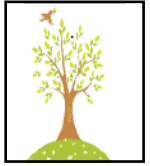
Wickham's music has received hundreds of millions of streams across his catalog and platforms and his social media has garnered nearly 2.5 million followers. Wickham continues to top CCLI, radio, and streaming charts with his work all the while accomplishing his goal: giving people language to sing to God.



Rushing Waters (CD/DVD) £1.00 Dustin Smith

Dustin Smith has been positioned as a leader of today's worship revolution. Along with traveling songwriting & leading worship Dustin's influence is showing up on the international scene as an authority in worship reaching many nations: Japan Singapore Australia New Zealand Malaysia England Canada and more as thousands are experiencing the presence of God through his music.

Growing up as a pastor's son Dustin always felt the call to ministry. But after marrying his wife Jeanna in 1997 and heading into a full time worship position Dustin started becoming more and more aware of the deadness of the system he was now helping lead. After weighing the importance of God's presence in their lives Dustin and Jeanna picked up and quit everything to move to Kansas City to become part of the internationally known World Revival Church.



Coming Events for August

Monday 19th August

All articles for the News Letter must be received by Lisa.

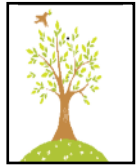


The Information Exchange

This is a place where you can request prayer for yourself or others, share your need /request for help, exchange surplus goods, or if you have some spare time, help someone with gardening, housework, shopping etc. You can use this section also if you want to say anything to the Church. Just ask Lisa to place your request.

Remember to Recycle

Please remember to recycle your empty Ink Cartridges. (HP, Cannon, Lexmark, Dell) and Stamps. Lisa is collecting them, each item donated will raise money for a Charity.



Coming Events for September

Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th
September:

Toddler groups re-start.

Monday 16th September

All articles for the News Letter must
be received by Lisa.



Small Group Meetings

Do get involved in a mid-week group and let us know which one you're hoping to be part of.

Alpha Groups 7pm

There will be no post alpha groups during August.

Thursday Lunch Group led by Denise

Dates to be arranged.

Thursday Evening Group led by Alyn (Zoom 8pm)

Dates to be arranged.

Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting at 6pm, venue to be announced.

Prayer Diary

Please pray for each other.

If you would like to be on the prayer list please let Lisa know.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 Neil & Eileen	2 Alyn & Carole	3 Adrian, Anne & Family	4 Denise
5 Michael & Helen	6 Maryna	7 Neill, Sue, Grace & Hope	8 Ash, Di. & Ceryws	9 Ann	10 Joel & Holly	11 Andrew, Kimberley, Hannah & Joanna
12 Tony, Jilly & Family's	13 Stan & Moira	14 Amanda	15 John & Lilian	16 Anne- Marie & Alison	17 Dot	18 Joan A James
19 Lisa	20 Julian & Caroline	21 Brian & Linda	22 Jacquie	23 Kevin & Jeanie	24 Matt, Cheryl, Oscar & Georgina	25 May
26 Julian & Valerie	27 Dimytro, Natalia & Denys	28 Brenda	29 John & Pat	30 Neil & Eileen	31 Elders	