



Dear Church Family,
Welcome to the Chads News Summer Special!

We have completed our 100 hours of prayer and I do hope that all who took the opportunity to spend time in Sanctuary were encouraged and that you were able to draw near to God. Sanctuary is always open when the café is there and we can arrange out of hours access on request, so let's press on in making it a place of encounter with God.

It has been a busy but beautiful June and first half of July in the life of St Chads, as we have prioritised prayer and connection and building a loving community. As we head into late July and August, church life will change gear and give space for rest. (Although for those going to NW it won't necessarily be very quiet!). August is a time to 'slow down and dig deep.'

This Sunday we will sadly be saying goodbye to Zeke and thanking him for all he's brought to the life of St Chads. It has been such a joy to see how God has worked in Zeke's life during his time here and we are so grateful for his compassion and wise input into the lives of our young people and youth teams.

More than 80 of us will be heading to NewWine next week and so there will only be one service on Sunday 3rd August. Please pray for all those going, that we will meet with God and grow deeper in following his call in our lives. Our group includes a lot of children and young people and over the years NewWine has been so foundational for young members of St Chads forming life-long discipleship in following Jesus. Please pray for more of that this year.

Please also pray for the Oasis trip to Llandudno on August 4th – a wonderful opportunity for those attending to enjoy a day out and deepen friendships and experience God's grace and love.

It isn't all rest through the summer though, whilst groups are stopped we are going to be doing some significant building works in the Guywood centre, which will be closed in the coming weeks. The building is used so thoroughly in so many ways, the PCC has committed to investing into this, to enable us to continue to bless and reach out to our community and support volunteers with excellent and safe facilities to do so.

So have a lovely August, wherever you are and whatever you are doing. We look forward to regathering all together for the autumn with ReSet Sunday on September 7th – more details about that below.

with love,
Richard



Proverbs

August is a great time to read!

Richard writes...

Can I encourage you to make the most of the slower pace this month and invest time in reading books that will nourish your soul and draw you closer to God?

Throughout August, our sermon series will focus on *Wisdom*, rooted in the book of Proverbs. Every time I read Proverbs, I'm struck afresh by its life-giving wisdom. So here's a challenge for you: August has 31 days, and Proverbs has 31 chapters—how about reading one chapter a day alongside our Sunday teaching?

If you're married or have family at home, why not take the challenge together? You could chat over a mealtime about which verse stood out or inspired you. The themes of Proverbs interlink and often repeat, so if you miss a day, don't worry—God still loves you, and you can simply pick up the chapter that corresponds to the date.

Proverbs is a book that will make you think, stir your heart, and shape your view of the world. So give it a go.

Here's one insight that has transformed how I read it: between chapters 2 and 7, the phrase "*my son*" appears fifteen times. Proverbs is a parent passing on wisdom to their child—deeply personal advice, not rigid rules or general principles, but loving words from someone who longs to see them flourish. As you read, hear it as the voice of God the Father, speaking to you with love and a desire for you to thrive.

You might also find time to read a great Christian book over the summer—one that stirs, inspires, equips, or re-ignites your walk with Jesus. If you do, why not share it on your congregation's WhatsApp group so others can benefit too? It would be great to build a list of summer reading recommendations.

I'm praying that God will really speak to you as you read this summer.



Coffee & Conversation

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Wednesdays: 6th, 13th & 20th August

10:30am – 12:00pm | Church Lounge

With many groups and activities paused during August due to major maintenance work and holidays, we know it can feel a bit quiet. If you'd like to stay connected with the church family, come along to our relaxed **Wednesday drop-in sessions** hosted by Jane.

No need to book — just drop in for a chat, a cuppa, and some friendly company.

We'd love to see you!

Ministry of the Month



We're thankful to be partnering with the **Cherry Tree Project**, a local initiative powered by a dedicated community of volunteers with a heart to serve and bless the people of **Romiley**.

The Cherry Tree Project runs weekly initiatives such as **Warm Spaces**—offering a welcoming environment and companionship—and **Food Provision**, helping those in need access essential groceries.

In addition to this, the project also facilitates a wide range of community-focused activities, including:

- **The Hub**
- **Holiday Clubs**
- **Reloved** (school uniform redistribution)
- **Activity** (a group supporting the elderly in the community)

Prayer Points:

- Thank God for the incredible team of volunteers who faithfully serve each week.
- Pray for God's kingdom to come in power through each activity the Cherry Tree Project is involved in.



Mission Partners

One of the great joys of the Kingdom is generosity, and we are so blessed to be able to share what God has given us with others. As a church, St Chad's has been committed to supporting our mission partners through prayer, relationships, and financial giving.

Due to changes at our former mission partner GLO, the PCC recently voted to update our mission partnerships and replace GLO with St Barnabas Hattersley. St Barnabas, led by Sam and Katy Durrant-Hollamby, is a newly planted church that is growing rapidly, seeing many people come to know Jesus and making a significant difference in its community. In addition to our close relationship with Sam and Katy through our local New Wine Leaders community, St Barnabas also has Ben and Kristen Allen on their leadership team (Ben was our DY student a few years ago), Elle Bird did her placement there while training for ordination, and many of you will remember Matt Britton, who came and so brilliantly acted out Mark's Gospel. Matt, Ruth, and their family are also on team at St Barnabas. We are so excited by what God is doing in an area facing significant challenges, and it is a delight to support them.

In addition to the regular giving that began in July, because we received a substantial legacy and income last year, the PCC voted to give a one-off gift to St Barnabas — which absolutely blew them away, as they had been praying the evening before and stepping out in faith to bring 30 new believers to New Wine.

We have produced a document ([found here](#)) to introduce you to the majority of our mission partners, (due to security in closed nations not all are listed here). We have 15 and so this enables us to share with you a little bit about each of them. We are thoroughly committed to praying for them and so sharing that together as a church is part of the way we can fulfil God's call to look beyond our own needs and live generously.



ReSet Sunday – Save the Date!
Sunday 7th September | 10:30am | One Service Together

After the summer break, we'll be gathering **as a church family** for **ReSet Sunday**—a chance to reconnect, refocus, and start the new season together.

Mini Church, Kids Church and Youth Church are all happening over at the Guywood with drop off from 10.15am. There will be refreshments at church from 10.15 followed by the service. We'll then head over to the Guywood to join youth and children for communion and lunch all together.

Please save the date—and join us as we come together again after the Summer holidays.



With so many of our staff team and 11am congregation away at New Wine we will only be having one service on Sunday 3rd August, which will be communion at 9.15am

During the remainder of August, Sunday services will be at the usual times of 9.15am and 11am. There is no youth church, kids church or mini-church in August so we aim to make the services a bit shorter and accessible for the whole family.

Office hours for most of August may vary so please bear with us if it takes us longer than usual to get back to you.

The Life Centre closes on Friday 25th July and re-opens on Tuesday 2nd September.

