



Dear Church family,

We had such a positive start to the new academic year on Sunday at ReSet. It is always good to bring our church family of all ages together and there was a real sense of joy as we worshipped & prayed together. It was beautiful to share communion together informally around tables at lunch too. (This Sunday our service times revert to the usual times of 9.15am and 11am).

One person commented Sunday felt like a homecoming/coming back to family, which is a beautiful description of what these moments of connection are about. As well as the opportunities to worship and engage with God's Word, church is a family and we love St Chads to feel like home.

Over the years I've written here and preached a number of times on the themes of 'home' and 'family'. They are words with deep rich meaning for many of us, some of that the beautiful powerful experience of belonging, being known and loved. For others 'home' and 'family' can carry mixed feelings, including some pain or regret. Whatever those words mean to us God's vision for home and family are a place of full immersion in what it is like to be loved, known and accepted. Sharing communion around tables was a way to help us develop that sense of home and family together, with God at the centre.

One key part of the vision for that was to integrate more a sense of God being amongst us when we gather socially to eat. Whilst we know God is with us all the time, it's possible to separate 'the God bit' in church from 'the family bit' in the sociable meal in Guywood. There was something so profound about focussing on God by worshipping and thanking him together around a meal table, making us more aware that the time we spend as God's family we are on holy ground. When Jesus gave us communion it was a meal-time with his friends and it is also a foretaste of our banquet in heaven with all of God's family.

One thing which distinguishes a family from an organisation is that family is where we learn to serve, because we share a sense of belonging. I see this lived out beautifully at St Chads. As we start this new season I want to thank you for the ways you serve the St Chads family. Part of our culture of belonging is one of serving and we see that played out everyday in so many ways. As we start a new season there are various changes to teams and new people stepping into new roles, thank you for hearing God's call and being willing to contribute to our family life.

With love,

Richard

Prayer Events



We really believe God is on the move and we are seeing some exciting things happening in our church and our nation, but we want more!! When God's people pray, lives are changed, families restored, hope renewed, salvation comes – and that includes you! Our monthly prayer times are the very engine room of St Chads and always encouraging. So come and join us either in the daytime or evening on 17th Sept and put the dates for the rest of the year in your diary.

17th Sept - 1.30pm & 7.30pm

7th Oct - 7.30pm

8th Oct - 1.30pm

5th Nov - 7.30pm

19th Nov - 1.30pm

2nd Dec - 7.30pm

10th Dec - 1.30pm

Daytime gatherings are held in church, evening gatherings are held in the LifeCentre.



Andy Kind Book Launch

2nd October

Meet the Author: Andy Kind
Wednesday 2nd October – 7:30pm
LifeCentre

Join us for an evening with author and comedian Andy Kind. Andy will be reading from his brand-new release and sharing some of the stories behind the book.

Described as his best book yet – deeply profound and hilariously funny – this is an evening not to miss!

Harvest

28th September

Our Harvest Service this year is on the 28th of September. Our Harvest Service this year is on the 28th of September. This year we are collecting food items (see list below) for the Food Provision project that operates out of the Guywood. Alternatively you can make a financial donation that will be split between the Wellspring and Food Provision.

Shopping List:

Tinned fruit	Tinned meat
Tinned soup	Longlife milk
Baked beans	Cereal
Tinned veg	Biscuits

If you would like to make a financial contribution please use the following details:

Account name - St Chads PCC

Sort code - 08 92 99

Account number - 65874394

Ref: Harvest

Wild & Free

18th October



Wild & Free: The Feast! 18th October 3pm - 9pm

We are so excited to be gathering again! This time on 18th Oct, here at St Chads. Women of all ages & stages are invited to come to the table the Lord has prepared.

This is a safe space to pause, to breathe, to worship, and to unite with women from churches across the region. Expect powerful teaching, wholehearted worship, and a beautiful banquet that reflects the power of communion. Let Him restore your soul and remind you that in His presence, through the power of the Holy Spirit, your cup overflows - not just for you, but to pour into the world around you.

Come hungry. Be filled. Leave ready to overflow.

Register before October 1st to save on your ticket!

<https://soulcity.churchsuite.com/events/mz1anuei>



Table Top Sale – Baby & Children’s Items

Saturday 20th September - 10am - 2pm at the LifeCentre - £1 entry

Come and browse a fantastic selection of **baby and children’s items** - perfect for parents, grandparents, and caregivers!

Tea, coffee & cake available – take a break and enjoy a treat while you shop.

All proceeds support the **Early Life Baby Bank**, doing incredible work to help families in need in our community.



Mission of the Month

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Our mission of the Month for September is **Fusion**, a national ministry which believes every student should have an opportunity to find hope in Jesus and home in the local church. We have been supporting Fusion for a number of years and we love their vision and passion to see students rooted in local churches and growing as disciples of Jesus. With what God is doing in our nation right now, Fusion are seeing more students than ever turning to Jesus and are playing a key role in facilitating them becoming rooted in knowing Jesus. Their staff team has expanded and their network of students workers continues to grow and deepen.

Please pray

- for the students from St Chads who we send to be missionaries in a very fruitful harvest field.
- for new students starting University to find churches where they can grow and be active in mission
- for new members of Fusion staff, to be empowered by the Holy Spirit and effective in their work.

For more details check out <https://www.fusionmovement.org/>