

Dear Church Family,

This Sunday we celebrate harvest - a festival that has been deeply significant in rural communities throughout history, and an important part of the biblical cycle of worship. Three of the five main Jewish festivals were directly tied to harvest, reminding God's people of their dependence on the land and their need for His provision. Harvest is a time of trust and gratitude. The more we give thanks to God, the more we recognise all that He does for us, and the more our trust in Him grows.

These days, our food goes through many stages on its journey from the field to air-fryer, which means we often feel less connected to the land - and less aware of our dependence on God for good weather and harvest. But the world is changing fast and unlike a certain US politician I believe the reality of climate change is already having an impact upon millions of people around the world. As we celebrate harvest and give thanks, we're also called to pray for justice and for action - for God to provide for those whose harvests are uncertain, and to bring change where it's most needed.

The focus of our series in Daniel in September has been trust. Exiled as a powerless minority in a far off land, Daniel and his friends show amazing trust in God's protection and belief in His wisdom. This morning I was listening to John Eldredge speaking of trusting God as rooted in knowing Him as Father. One key way we grow in our depth of relationship with God as Father is through gratitude, regularly thanking Him draws us closer to Him and keeps us rooted in the truth that He is our loving provider.

Over the summer Nells and I were inspired to cultivate gratitude in our lives, recognising how easy it is to slip into negativity, especially as the mornings get colder, wetter and darker. We have been practicing a very simple discipline: each morning we ask one another, "What are you grateful for today?" It's such a simple question, but makes a huge difference in our perspective and helps keep our hearts rooted in God's goodness. I encourage you to give it a go for the month of October.

Choose someone whom you will mutually ask that question of each day, and commit to listening to the answer! If you are married, that could be your spouse, or a close friend or prayer partner, if you have children living at home with you, how can you include them? It can be in person, or a quick phonecall or text message on your commute. Find a rhythm that works for you and your chosen partner. Give it a go for October, as autumn arrives it is the perfect time to strengthen our gratitude muscles.

With love, Richard



Our Harvest Service is this Sunday - 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 soup Tinned meat Longlife milk

Tinned veg Cereal Biscuits

If you would like to the following details: Account name - St Chads PCC Sort code - 08 92 99 Account number - 65874394 Ref: Harvest

make a financial contribution please use



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. Scan the QR code at the back of church to get your tickets.



Church isn't just for Sundays in a building - it's about everyday life, shared meals, and genuine friendship.

Following the success of our first Gather & Share back in July - we're gathering again for lunch in homes on **Sunday 2nd November**. Lunch could be soup and a sandwich or a full on Sunday Roast. Whatever lunch looks like for you, the goal is connection.

Like last time, some people will host, some will be guests. Everyone brings something, even if it's just themselves. **Everyone is invited to pull up a chair.**

To help us plan well, we're asking people to sign up via ChurchSuite - whether you would like to host or be a guest. Once you've signed up we will then match people up and you can decide how it looks. Hosts can chat with their guests about things like food arrangements, transport, and timings.

To sign up, please click <u>here</u>, or get in touch with **Alys in the church office**, Monday to Thursday, on **0161 430 4652**.

You can also sign up using the QR code displayed in the church foyer.

Sign-up closes on Friday 24th October.



Prayer for Healing

4th October

Saturday October 4th
Bramhall Baptist ChurchWoodford Road, SK7 1PB
10.00am - 3.30pm

Having the confidence to pray for healing in the family, in church, or with our neighbours, is a vital skill through which to show the power of God's kingdom in healing. There are 4 sessions on this day to get you started, or to take you on a bit further. It always builds faith when people are healed. It is hoped the day will encourage healing teams in the churches. Open to all; bring lunch; drinks provided

Neon Light Disco

Fri 31st October



Come and join us for a fun-filled **Neon Light Disco** - a bright and joyful celebration full of laughter, games, and glowing surprises!

Date: Friday 31st October **Time:** 5.00pm - 6.30pm **Location:** The Guywood

Ages: 4 - 11yrs

We'll have **dancing**, **hot dogs**, **face painting**, **glow sticks** and plenty of **treats** to enjoy - all in a safe, friendly, and light-filled environment.

No scary outfits, please - let's keep it bright and cheerful! Dress up in bright colours, tutus, neon, and glow to make the night sparkle even more!

Tickets are £3 per child (£1 for each additional sibling). Get your tickets over on MyChurchSuite/MyEvents or scan the QR code on the invite.

We can't wait to see you there!

Dates for your diary



Andy Kind - Book Launch

Thurs 2nd Oct - 7.30pm in the LifeCentre

Prayer Events

Tues 7th Oct - 7.30pm in the LifeCentre Weds 8th Oct - 1.30pm in church

Welcome Lunch

Sunday 12th Oct -1pm in the LifeCentre