



Dear Church Family,

## **Are We Nearly 'There' Yet?**

It's a question we hear a lot at this time of year!

Teachers are probably asking it as they count down to the end of term. The LifeCentre team might be saying it as they prepare for the summer shutdown. Children definitely ask it from the back seat on the way to holidays, usually about five minutes after setting off!

The answer is: yes... nearly! But don't rush ahead just yet, because sometimes the best part of the journey comes right at the end.

This is the last edition of *Chads News* for a little while, so do keep it somewhere safe for all the information you might need over the summer.

Wherever "there" is for you this year, whether you're jetting off somewhere, enjoying a staycation, working through the summer, or simply looking forward to a change of pace, this season gives us an opportunity to embrace a different rhythm.

Perhaps you'll finally pick up that book that has been sitting on the bedside table for months, maybe you can take a slower walk or spend more time with family and friends. Sometimes the most refreshing thing we can do is simply slow down.

The Bible has a lot to say about rhythms of work and rest. In Genesis, we see God resting on the seventh day, giving us a pattern to follow. Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us that, *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."*

Life, like music, has different tempos. There are busy seasons and quieter ones, times to work hard and times to rest, moments to celebrate and moments to reflect. Summer can be a gift, a chance to catch our breath and make space to notice where God is at work in our lives.

Of course, for some, summer doesn't necessarily mean rest! For young families it can feel more like becoming an open all hour's snack shop, taxi service and entertainment centre all rolled into one. For others, the quieter weeks can feel a little lonely, especially with the LifeCentre closed for a time. If that's you, or if you know someone who might

appreciate some company, perhaps be bold and reach out. Invite someone for a coffee, take a stroll together, or simply pick up the phone. Whatever your summer looks like, church life continues. We'll be doing a few big jobs in the Guywood (heating) and Church (speaker system) but still gathering on Sundays. We're also excited to welcome Richard back from his sabbatical and hear what God has been saying to him during his time away.

So, are we nearly there yet? Yes, almost. But for now, enjoy the journey, embrace a different rhythm, and I pray this summer is a season of rest, refreshment and encounter with God.

Blessings,  
Katie



Our **Mission Partner** for July is the **Alexandria Library**. The library is a multicultural outreach bookshop on the Curry Mile in Rusholme, Manchester. It offers new books in Arabic, Farsi, Kurdish, Urdu, and English, together with Bibles in many other languages. Visitors can also browse a wide selection of second-hand books, mainly in English. It hosts free English classes and a small church fellowship, creating opportunities for people from many backgrounds to meet, learn, and build friendships.

The vision of the Alexandria Library is to make Jesus known.

### **Please pray:**

- that God will draw many seekers to the bookshop and that he will guide every conversation
- that those that take gospels will read them and want to know more
- that many will come to know Jesus
- for wisdom for the new leader of the ministry, Joanie, as she takes over the role



Our **Ministry of the Month** for July is the **Cherry Tree Project**. The Cherry Tree Project supports our local community, particularly young people and those experiencing social or financial poverty.

They do this from their HUB on Cherry Tree and from the Guywood Centre. All of this happens to show and share the love of Jesus, and though a separate legal entity from St Chads, they are very much partners. Many (though by no means all) of their volunteers are members of St Chads.

### **We'd love you to:**

- Pray a blessing on every person we support through the project. That they would experience God's kindness and love in every meal, food bag, school uniform package, and interaction!
- Give thanks for our 30 amazing volunteers who faithfully serve week in, week out.
- Give thanks for the way God is working through our 11am "God spot" at the Warm Space. Each week they pause together to share a word about God, to pray and to worship. We pray for people to come to know Jesus as Saviour.
- Pray for those who are on the fringes of each group we run. That the team will be able to reach and engage with them more deeply over the summer.

# MUMS NIGHT

**18TH JULY**  
**7:30- 9:00PM**

*Bingo*

Join us on **Saturday 18 July** for a fun evening of bingo, fizz, and friendship!

Arrive from **7.30pm** for a complimentary glass of fizz before eyes down at **7.45pm**. Bring your own drinks, enjoy fantastic prizes donated by local businesses, and whether you come with friends or on your own, you're guaranteed a great night.

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

## LIFECENTRE WORKING PARTIES



**Join us at the LifeCentre**

### LifeCentre Working Party – Volunteers Needed

Help us care for and improve our building this August! There are jobs for all abilities, including gardening, painting, cleaning, and sorting.

#### Dates:

- Tues 4 August
- Weds 5 August
- Tues 18 August
- Weds 19 August

**Time:** 9.00am–4.30pm

Whether you can help for a few hours or a full day, we'd love to have you. To sign up call 430 1130.



## **Summer Services – August**

Throughout August, our **9.15am** and **11.00am** Sunday services will share the same theme each week, followed by food and fellowship after both services. The church will be arranged with tables to create a relaxed and welcoming space. Holy Communion will continue at **9.15am**, while the **11.00am** service will include a themed craft for children and families.

### **2 August (9.15am only) – The Lord's Table**

One service only while many are at New Wine. No food afterwards, as we gather around the Lord's Table.

### **9 August – Breakfast on the Beach**

Campfires with Jesus, fish-themed crafts (11.00am), and sausage butties.

### **16 August – Desert Picnic**

Discover God's presence in the desert, painted stone crafts (11.00am), and rock cakes.

### **23 August – The Wedding Breakfast**

The great wedding feast, wedding-themed crafts (11.00am), and wedding cake.

### **30 August – The Biggest Picnic Ever!**

Jesus' miracle of provision, suncatcher crafts (11.00am), and bagels.

**Join us this August as we gather around God's Word, good food, and one another.**

**Please note there is only one service at 9.15am on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August as many of us are away at NewWine.**

**The  
Bible  
Course**  
NEW EDITION

**We're running  
The Bible Course...**



## **Ever wondered how all the books of the Bible fit together?**

The Bible Course is an engaging eight-session journey that helps you see the Bible as one incredible story - from Genesis to Revelation. Whether you're new to the Bible or have been reading it for years, you'll gain confidence in understanding Scripture and discover how it connects with everyday life.

Through inspiring videos, interactive discussion and practical Bible reading, you'll learn to:



Understand the big picture of the Bible



Read Scripture with greater confidence



Discover how God's story speaks into your own

Join thousands of people who have found a fresh way to explore the world's bestselling book.

Sign up at the back of church or email [alys@stchadsromiley.co.uk](mailto:alys@stchadsromiley.co.uk).



## Looking for family activities this summer?

Why not visit our [St Chads Eco Church](#) webpage? You'll find plenty of fun and practical ideas for all ages, including:

- 🐞 How to make a bug house
- 🌻 Creating a wildflower garden
- ♻️ Simple ways to recycle and reduce waste
- 🌍 Calculating your carbon footprint

While you're at church, take a look at our beautiful **wildflower areas**. The signs were designed by children from **Greave Primary School**, and the mini-meadows were created thanks to funding from **Stockport Hydro** and the **Cheshire Wildlife Trust**.

These wildflower areas are easy to maintain, needing just one cut each year. This allows the flowers to set seed naturally, helping even more blooms appear the following summer while providing valuable habitats for bees, butterflies, and other wildlife.

Discover how small changes can make a big difference as we care for God's creation.

