



Christ
Church
Orpington

Family News 24th July 2021

If faith is a journey – how can we explore the path to life?

I have been involved in small groups for most of my adult life and they have been a help in deepening and maintaining my faith. Some years ago, the Reveal survey of thousands of churches showed that the two most important things people need to grow spiritually are spiritual guidance and accountability. Small groups help me to know the Bible better and to understand it better and provide some accountability from a group of people I meet regularly. Put simply if you want to grow as a Christian you should think about being a member of a small group.

Some years ago, we also started small groups or Alpha groups for those who were searching for truth or faith and for those who have a faith but feel they haven't really got to grips with the basics of their faith and wanted a non-threatening space to explore faith. These small groups are based around a meal followed by video material from the hugely successful Alpha course and some discussion of what we have seen and heard.

Over the 10 or 11 weeks of the Alpha course relationships grow and there is the opportunity to explore faith without feeling it is being pushed at you. Kaego and I are excited to be planning our 29th Alpha course with a taster session on 30th September 2021. I know some of you are praying to invite a friend or relative to church on the 5th September to the Back to Church Sunday. Why not invite your friend to come with you to the session on 30th September if they are interested in exploring things further. We have already got one person who has expressed an interest. If you or you and a friend want to express an interest email alpha@ccorpington.org or ring the Church Office on 01689 871601.

Over the years a number of our housegroups have developed out of these Alpha groups when people have enjoyed meeting together to explore faith and just want to continue doing so.

And on the Knoll Rise housegroup...

We meet once a week and while on Zoom we have started with a few minutes of catch up and chat followed by some material such as a video screen shared and followed by discussion and prayer.

We met for the first time in over 15 months in our garden last week for the last session of term and had a barbecue together. Each term we try and end with a social event, normally based around food. We re-start in September probably physically meeting in our home in Knoll Rise. The format will be fairly similar when we meet in person with coffee and chat followed by some Bible based material that we then discuss and ending with prayer. I would recommend anyone who is not in a house group or alpha group to try it by contacting the leader of the housegroup or the church office.

Alan

Post July 19th and the (almost) end of lockdown

Thank you so much for your grace and patience as we have travelled together through these difficult times. We have had to weave a path between opening up to worship the Lord as much as we can whilst balancing the need to keep us all safe. And it is wonderful to say that we are really, nearly "there"! In the light of the government regulations, and the scientists' recommendations, we are pleased to announce how we will be opening up the church from this Sunday (25th), and...

...we can now sing!



But to do this safely, we are putting in place a few little guidelines.

The church will have two distinct areas. As you walk in from the front doors, the right-hand side will be for those who wish to wear masks, the left-hand side for those who do not wish to wear masks.

Please leave a chair space between each family group or individual, unless they specifically invite you to sit there.

The balcony will be a sanctuary area where masks, social distancing, and no singing will continue. If you would like to be in the balcony but find it difficult to access it, please can we suggest you sit at the very back of the masked area.

There is no need to book or sign in, hand sanitizer will still be available, we will continue to ventilate the church as much as possible, and the church will still be cleaned and sanitised before and after use.

Please be sensitive when offering the Peace to those who would rather not make physical contact.

Holy Communion will continue as before while we work out how to open this up in the safest way possible.

Thank you all for your support as we have had to enforce regulations that I'm sure not everyone will have agreed with. Willingness to go forwards together, in love, despite differing opinions, is one of the greatest marks of Christian discipleship. And sadly it is one the Church has not always excelled in down through the ages! Thank you, Christ Church, for being a beacon of light in this.

With love and blessings,

Sharon x

Funeral for Pat Bills

Pat's family would like to issue a warm invitation to anyone who would like to attend their Mum's funeral on **Thursday 5th August, 10am** in the church. Please let the office know if you hope to come. Thank you.

If you would like to do something in Pat's honour, her family have suggested you might like to give a donation either to Cancer Research UK or

St Christopher's Hospice. Thank you.

Celebration for Sarah Beston

Nick and the family would like to issue a warm invitation to anyone who would like to attend Sarah's Celebration on **Saturday 4th September at 2pm** in the church. Please let the office know if you hope to come. Thank you.

Sunday Services

All **10.30am** services will be both in church and online (if we have the Tech Team to provide this)

Sunday 25th July 9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 1st August 10.30am Holy Communion

Followed by **CHURCH BBQ**

Sunday 8th August 10.30am Morning Worship
Featuring YWAM'S Jim & Katie Whitear

Sunday 15th August 10.30am Morning Worship
Featuring The Bible Society, with Kristin Stevenson

Sunday 22nd August 10.30am Morning Worship
Featuring Christians Against Poverty, with Martin Pointing

Sunday 29th August 10.30am Morning Worship
Watch this space!

Sunday 5th September 10.30am **Invitation Sunday**

Sunday 12th September 9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion
6.30am Evening Worship resumes

What is Invitation Sunday?

Sunday 5th September is "Invitation Sunday", and is one day when we join together as a church to each invite someone, who doesn't yet know Christ, to come to church with us.

As people who know Jesus we hold the key to life, and life in all its fullness. And we would like to take the opportunity to share this with someone who doesn't even yet know they need a key. We will have a gentle, friendly service that will be accessible to everyone, and follow it with love and cakes.

So please be thinking and praying about who you can invite, and then be praying for the Lord to touch their hearts and provide the opportunity for you to ask them.

2 Timothy 1 v 7-8a "For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord...."

Services available online services through the Christ Church Orpington website: www.ccorpington.org

Or on Facebook (you don't need to have a Facebook account) <https://www.facebook.com/ccorpington/live>

Virtual Coffee after the morning service from 11.45am

You are invited to join **Heather Kroiter** for virtual coffee, after the morning service on Zoom:



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85267167449?pwd=ZStFWTc4Q2N5MFp2SkZmS2RsT0YwZz09>

Meeting ID: 852 6716 7449

Passcode: 0N87Hh

Photo by Lisa Fotios on Pexels

Community Club plan to resume lunches only on **Tuesday 3rd August** 12.30pm for a 12.45pm lunch. Please could you let one of the team know in advance if you would like to attend so that we know how many to cater for.

Numbers needed by **Sunday 25th July**. New members always welcome. Menu will be announced next Sunday, 1st August as usual.

Open Kitchen

Our foodbank sessions will continue over the summer, but some of our team will be taking well-earned breaks. I want to pay tribute to all those on the team, many of whom have been volunteering for over a year now. If you'd like to do a one-off donation pickup, session or farm food delivery, please let me know. Also, if you have any spare used carrier bags, please do pass those on to me. Many thanks, Liesel

liesel@ccorpington.org

01689 871601

"If you would like to give to Christ's work here at Christ Church, the best way to give is via our bank account, Sort code 40 52 40, and account number 00095465, or by sending a cheque payable to Christ Church Orpington PCC to 165 Charterhouse Road, Orpington, BR6 9EP. Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity."

Urgent Request for items for

'Beside the Sea Holiday Club'
28th – 30th July 2021

We need to borrow....

- Blue & Yellow sheets/blankets
- Buckets and spades
- Beach ball/inflatable
- Stripey deck chairs
- Beach umbrella
- Fishing rod
- Fishing net large

We will need them brought to church for Sunday 25th July

Please let Jo know if you can help, we will label and return all items.

Many thanks

Starts September 30th



Try Alpha

If you are wanting to explore faith, then the Alpha course is an excellent way to start. Over 24 million people have already tried it.

At Christ Church the Alpha course involves food (an evening meal), a short video clip and an opportunity to express your views and listen to what others have to say in a relaxed environment. It could be one of the best autumn resolutions you make, to go on an Alpha course.

There will be an initial taster session 30th September. To find out more, please contact:

Alpha@ccorpington.org or

call the church office (01689) 871601

Extra hands-on deck (literally)

Yes, I am talking about the mixing deck at Christ Church



Photo by [Samuel Spagl](#) on [Unsplash](#)

During lockdown, one of the many areas that needs a big shout out is the tech support at Christ Church. There has been a **very** small team holding everything together to ensure that most of us still participate in church services from the comfort of our homes. This small team has worked week in week out and in most cases also during the week to ensure that services are streamed and everything goes smoothly. In addition, they have provided live support every Sunday for those who attend in person.

They need a much-needed break. And moving forward the team need to expand to share the load. **We really do need extra hands-on deck.** So, if you are wondering about areas that you may help out with, why not try the tech team. You don't need any special skills. Just a willingness to serve. You will be trained and there will be support all the way. You won't be left on your own.

You can agree to as much or as little time as you want.

For the youth, this is a good skill to put on your CV and also great for D of E!!!

If you are interested, or want to find out more. Sent an email to the church office

ccorpington@talktalk.net
and we will fill you in.

Thanks for reading, hope you can join the team.



BACK TO CHURCH BBQ Sunday 1st August

Straight after the morning service (12pm)

Suggested donation per person: £3
per family: £10

If you can let us know by **Sunday 25th July**

by contacting the church office on either
01689 871601 or ccorpington@talktalk.net

that would be very helpful for us.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Wordsearch

The Olympics and the Paralympics brings us some of the bravest, more determined sports men and women in the world demonstrate excellence in their sport. Summer brings us holidays: possibly a trip to the seaside, or the mountains, or, if we go abroad, a long, long wait in the queue at Gatwick or Heathrow on our return. And the annual music festivals, and usually the accompanying rain and mud!

C C C L U A O I A S A H H G F
U T C S I L S T F B H N S A T
S R I A H C L E E H W W M S T
T A P E D I S A E S I I E N X
O V M Y R T T N B M L R I I A
M E Y A I A R D M Y I H C A L
S L L V O I E I S H E O A T E
U E A C N E N H E G U L D N R
N L R I P G G A O R G E L U E
S B A S K E T B A L L E N O M
H R P U E H H G Y S I N N M V
I C I M R I E A U K I D O E C
N E M O C A M P I N G E A T G
E H W D T H R O G N I L C Y C
C O T T A G E T L N A T N U S

PARALYMPIC	CYCLING	TRAVEL
WHEELCHAIRS	HOLIDAYS	REST
COURAGE	SUNSHINE	FAMILY
STRENGTH	FESTIVALS	CAMPING
SPEED	MUSIC	COTTAGE
BASKETBALL	RAIN	SUNTAN
VOLLEYBALL	MUD	RELAX
RUNNING	SEASIDE	CUSTOMS
SWIMMING	MOUNTAINS	HEATHROW



After service refreshments

Please contact Anna Carey on
ccorpington@talktalk.net
or 01689 871601

Mosaic Café

Please contact Anna Carey on
ccorpington@talktalk.net
Or 01689 871601

Church Flowers

Flower assistants
no experience of flower arranging
or creative talents needed
Please contact
Mel Ketchin 01689 871067
or Judith Motto 01689 837351

Community Club

drivers to transport folk to/from club
each Tuesday and someone to work in
the kitchen alongside Colin and the
community payback team
Please contact
Mel Ketchin 01689 871067

Crèche

on Sunday mornings
Please contact Jo Cuthbertson on
jo@ccorpington.org

We have various areas of ministry who are in need of volunteers. If you are able to help out in any way, we would love for you to get involved!

Please see list of areas below in need of help. If there is an area you would like to volunteer for, please contact the relevant person using the details noted.

CCO Holiday Club

volunteers needed
28th, 29th & 30th July 2021,
8.30am-12.30pm
Please contact Jo Cuthbertson on
jo@ccorpington.org

Tea and Toys on Wednesdays

during term time, 1.30pm-3pm
Please contact Jo Cuthbertson on
jo@ccorpington.org

Tech Team

Sound desk/Audio/Visual –
training will be provided
Please contact Mike on
mike@zartell.uk

Youth Ministry

Please contact Andi Smith on
youth@ccorpington.org

Social Functions

organize or help
Please contact Anna Carey on
ccorpington@talktalk.net
or 01689 871601

If there are any other areas of ministry you would be interested in helping out in, please let us know on ccorpington@talktalk.net or 01689 871601.

Thank you!



Jack, Sarah and Ben, preparing for mission in Tours, France from King's Church Durham.

Dear friends and family, we're thankful as ever for your support, prayers and encouragement. **The big news is that we are aiming to head to France in September or October this year!**

We still need to apply for visas, get our second vaccine doses and do a lot of house sorting. Please pray that France won't close its borders before we get there!



Baptism: One thing that many of you know already is that I (Sarah) got baptised. This is something that I've thought about doing for many years but struggled to decide upon given being brought up in the Church of England and christened as a toddler.

I'm grateful that I was able to come to a point of decision and felt at peace with it. I'm also grateful for my parents and godparents who have prayed for me and taught me about Jesus from a young age. You can watch the service here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQIzYnKh5pU&t=3555s>



June Project: The three of us enjoyed participating in the June Project (mission week) to varying extents around work and nap times. We were based up on the Sherburn Road estate, where we live. As a

missional community living on the estate, we find it really helpful to have this injection of prayer and energy to keep going, as it can become mundane or disheartening over time. I appreciated the energy and input of the volunteers in serving the community, praying for people and sharing about Jesus. Some of the activities included garden clearing, praying for people on the streets, worship on the streets, prayer walking and running games for children and young people.

Please pray:

- For a successful visa application, and for us to be able to move to France in God's timing.
- I felt challenged during the June Project mission week not to miss opportunities for mission here by having my head too much in what is coming next. Do pray for us to continue in our commitment to our local community rather than withdrawing and waiting. You can also pray for good transition over the next few months as we prepare to move.
- For God to grow us in character and love for Him, and for us to have soft hearts to what He wants to teach us in this time.

Thanks so much for praying. We'd love to hear from you too! Do get in touch.

Our mailing address is: winterburns@kcd.org.uk

We're still praying for God to provide all the financial support we need. If you're able to join the financial support team, do let us know and we can give you the details.

Notices for next issue of Family News

Email Vernon: vandjmapp@gmail.com

by 12noon Saturday 31st July 2021

✝word

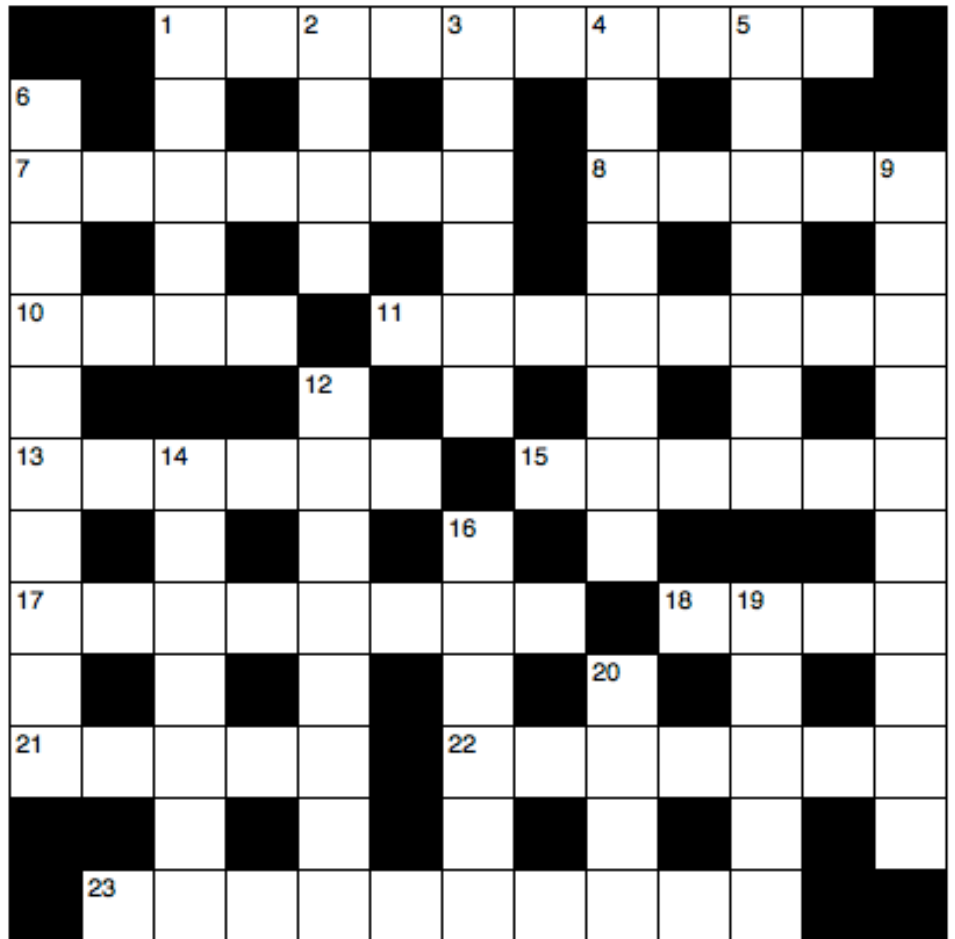
Solution to last week's ✝Word

ACROSS

- 1, Wife. 3, To battle. 8, Obal.
 9, Disciple. 11, Bitterness.
 14, Niacin. 15, Attain.
 17, Passionate. 20, Tertiary.
 21, Meet. 22, Weakness.
 23, Deer.

DOWN

- 1, Woodbine. 2, Feast day.
 4, Orient. 5, Accusation.
 6, Type. 7, Eyes.
 10, Dedication. 12, Gadarene.
 13, Ancestor. 16, Esdras.
 18, Stew. 19, Area.



Across

- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
 10 'We are hard pressed on every —' (2 Corinthians 4:8) (4)
 11 Fraud (2 Corinthians 6:8) (8)
 13 'His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)
 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)
 17 'Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be —' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
 18 Nomadic dwelling (Genesis 26:25) (4)
 21 'As for man, his days are like —, he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)
 22 Or I live (anag.) (7)
 23 Those guilty of 1 Across (Romans 13:4) (10)

Down

- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
 5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10)
 12 Put in jail (Acts 22:19) (8)
 14 Aceturn (anag.) (7)
 16 Discharge (Acts 21:3) (6)
 19 'All these — come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!' (Revelation 19:7) (4)