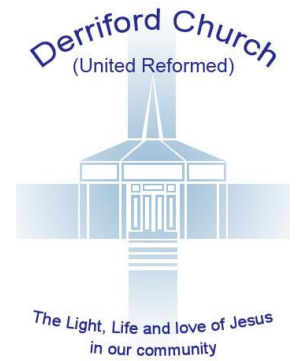


DERRIFORD URC NEWS LETTER



THE LIGHT, LIFE AND LOVE OF JESUS IN OUR COMMUNITY

AUGUST 2021

We are well and truly into our summer, and many of us are now on holiday. Perhaps not the holidays that we are used to but perhaps only away from our regular weekly/daily places or on a staycation rather than international travel. What ever you are doing this year I pray that you will be blessed through this August.

This is an exciting time for us all, as we come out of the pandemic but also to see what God has instore for our wonderful church, as we start to look at what God wants us to be in this 21st century here in DURC. You know, I believe God is calling us to be pioneers for our generation and the next. More about that later in the newsletter. It is exciting as we re-invent ourselves (or perhaps more precisely allow God to re-invent us!)

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. We have lots in it. Help with our praying, a look at vision and what it looks like for us (more about that in future newsletters, I'm sure). Also this month's notices and event etc. Please have a look at the back page and put in your own diary the events & meetings you would like to attend. Just so you don't miss a blessing.

God Bless

Mark

Godly Thought...

This is a new section in the newsletter where one of the elders (and on occasions other people) will share a theological (God) thought that is on their minds. This may be a sermon that they have preached recently or something completely new! For the next two months (August and September) you have me, after that it is Phil in October, Chris in November and Lucy in December. Hope you enjoy it and find it challenging, helpful in your walk with Jesus.

Vision, Vision, Vision.

God in the Bible often uses vision(s) to show His people what his plans are, and the visioner's job is to listen to what that vision is and to follow it with everything they have. So that too, is our calling. Over the weeks ahead we are doing this. We have to put a vision document together for the URC (and other funders) to show them what our heart is; what is our vision is for the future of DURC so that we can apply for grants etc for the building work. I think this is really important for us as a church anyway, irrespective of the building work. What I do want to say right at the start of this process, is I want us all to be excited about that vision and the process. Also, a little (or perhaps even a lot!) scared! If we are not excited (and at least a little scared) then we really do need to be thinking about whether this is really for us. Is DURC really our Spiritual home? I love the Story of Esther in the Bible, one of the great quotes in the book is Esther 4:14 when Mordecai makes a statement by asking Esther, 'are you here for such a time as this?' In that same passage Mordecai says that if Esther doesn't stand up and be counted, God's plans will not fail, but they will rise from another place. God's vision will succeed. End of Story.

You know, I don't mind anyone being scared about the vision that God has for Derriford church. That is right and proper, but, and it is a big but, I don't want anyone not to be excited and passionate about the vision. Pioneering is scary - absolutely, but pioneering **MUST** be exciting and that is exactly what I think we are doing. Pioneering a church for the 21st Century. We have a great opportunity to build a church (and I don't mean a building) for 2021! And 2031 and 2041 and 2051 etc etc etc. What a great prospect! Everything seems to come together for, ***such a time as this!***

And as for being scared, which is as I've said absolutely OK, we know the end of the story don't we? We know that our bodies (those that are in Christ) are sown perishable, are raised imperishable; are sown in dishonour, are raised in glory; are sown in weakness, are raised in power; are sown as natural bodies, are raised as spiritual bodies. (1 Corinthians 15). So we know the end of the story and its **GOOD!** And as Sonny Kapoor says in the film 'Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, if we are not there, it is not the end!

So come on let's be pioneering and hear what God is saying to us for such a time as this. Let's do it, let's be a church for the 21st century and speak to the community around us about the glory of God and the mission that He has given us to do. Amen? But let's get excited about where we worship God, our spiritual home here on earth!

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

Esther 4:14

Sunday Services

If you would like to watch / re-watch, any of the services over the last six (or so) months, video recordings of the Sunday services can be found at:

<http://www.derrifordchurch.co.uk/category/sermons/>

If you would like to watch a recording of a Sunday service older than that please let Mark know and he will organise it. Also if you would like a recording on a different media, that can be arranged too – again let Mark know.

This month's services:

- 8th August being led by Mark and will be looking at Vision.
- 15th August will be led by Dawn and Mike Getley
- 22nd August again will be led by Mark and will be on 'giving living water'
- 29th August will be led by Chris James
- 5th September will be led by Phil Brewer

Don't forget you can come in person to our services, or you can watch it on Zoom, the Zoom link is our normal DURC link and can be found at the end of this newsletter. If you are coming in person (it will be lovely to see you) and we can sing (although), although we are asking everyone to still wear a mask.

This Week's Notice slide



Notices

Tuesday:
Morning Prayers (9:15am)
Feast of Fun (2 - 4pm)
Film Night - Chariots of Fire (7:00pm)

Sunday Service (10:30am) on Zoom & in Person

Next Nooma (Tuesday 17th August 7:30pm)

ACTaf Service (25th August 7:15pm)

Please note: packing for Feast of Fun next week will be on Monday the 16th not Tuesday 17th.

Today's theme:
Vision, Vision, Vision

Prayer and Prayer Pointers...

Please pray for the Elders and Deacons as they come together on the 17th August to discuss and pray into the vision of the church. We are looking at four specific areas:

- Worship and prayer
- Discipleship / Spiritual growth
- Mission and outreach into the community
- Fellowship and pastoral care

Please pray for the community both around the church and where you live (if that is different) pray for opportunities to share the wonderful, good news and hope of Jesus. Something that so needed in our communities and society as a whole.

Pray for the work of the church here in Plymouth (and around the country and world). Please pray specifically for Churches Together here in Plymouth.

Pray for all those that can't get away this year on holiday, whether that is due to finance or health or some other reason. Pray a blessing on them, as they stay behind. Ask God to give them some time for relaxation.

Pray for children and teachers and other staff over the summer break. Pray that the teachers get some rest and that the children / students keep themselves 'entertained'.

Please remember to use the Prayer chain and keep praying for those people / situations. If you have something that needs prayer:

Any prayer requests please text / email Lucy on:
lucyparker59@yahoo.co.uk / 07503 003250

Future Church Events...

Derriford Film Club our next Derriford Film Club is on 10th August. I thought, as we are in the middle of 'Olympic-mania', we would watch Chariots of Fire. The wonderful story of Eric Liddell, the 1924 Olympic runner who refused to run on Sundays because of his faith. It is a wonderful, faith filled and inspiring story. Put it in your diary – it is not to be missed (even if you have seen it before it is worth watching again!) Next Tuesday (10th) 7pm

If you would like to see the trailer, click below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPe27x0_W2M

Also if you would like to know more about the man Eric Liddell – the man behind the film, click on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVKvCCZre1E>

Nooma Our next Nooma is on the 17th of August at 7:30pm. It is Nooma number 7 called Luggage. Please put the date in your diary.

Feast of Fun. We had our first Feast of Fun in August on the 3rd and I believe it went very well. Our next one is a little different, we are doing a more hands on with inviting children and parents to an afternoon of fun. If you are able to help, we would really value your assistance – Let Helen know. We have all sorts of jobs from craft activities to registering the children to clearing up afterwards. We need everyone's help.

Other Church stuff...

Our Building etc.

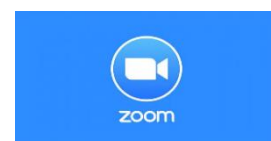


Hopefully you are enjoying the new TV in church (much better quality than the previous screen), the other two should also be in and installed for this Sunday. As we have said previously this is the start of some major technological improvements within church, which will help us all worship better both in person and on-line. Our next instalment will be a hi-quality camera which will be able to zoom in and out. This will be installed over the coming few weeks we hope. We then also have some improvements to the sound system, which again will increase the quality.

As I have suggested above, please pray for the Elders and Deacons on the 17th August when we meet together to discuss (and pray into) what we believe God is calling us to here at DURC, what is the vision for the church. We will then share this at our church meeting on the 19th September.

God Bless you all,

Mark (your friend and minister)



**Our Zoom meeting link,
for all our meeting is:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83803659404>

August

8th Sunday morning service (10:30am) in person or on Zoom.

10th Morning Prayers (9:15am) on Zoom

10th Feast of Fun, fun afternoon (2pm – 4pm)

10th Film Night (7pm) – Chariots of Fire

15th Sunday morning service (10:30am) in person or on Zoom.

17th Morning Prayers (9:15am) on Zoom

17th Feast of Fun – Hamper delivery (11am)

17th Nooma on Zoom (7:30pm)

22nd Sunday morning service (10:30am) in person or on Zoom.

24th Morning Prayers (9:15am) on Zoom

24th Feast of Fun, fun afternoon (2pm – 4pm)

25th ACTaf Service in Church.

29th Sunday morning service (10:30am) in person or on Zoom.

31st Morning Prayers (9:15am) on Zoom

31st Feast of Fun – Hamper delivery (11am)

September

5th Sunday morning service (10:30am) in person or on Zoom.

7th Morning Prayers (9:15am) on Zoom

12th Sunday morning service (10:30am) in person or on Zoom.

14th Morning Prayers (9:15am) on Zoom

19th Sunday morning service (10:30am) in person or on Zoom.

19th Church Meeting – *please put this in your diary.*

21st Morning Prayers (9:15am) on Zoom

21st Nooma on Zoom (7:30pm)