

All Hallows News



allhallows-church.org.uk



October 2022

Darkness Falls, Light Shines

It happens at this point every year and yet we all still make the same comment, "Wow. The dark nights are drawing in now."

It's as if we are surprised by this annual event that is so normal, and of course the amount of daylight that we have will naturally get shorter and shorter in the weeks ahead.

But, I have to admit that I quite like this time of year. Every season has its plusses and minuses, but a definite plus at this time of year is that we get to see places lit in different types of ways.

Walking along the brook before it gets too dark, but when the lamps are

lighting the path is a nice walk.

When we get into November it will, of course, be Bonfire Night. The lights and colours of fireworks are always great fun to see.

And then there's Advent and Christmas... But we'll leave that there for now, for our own sanity.

A few weeks ago in church we were thinking about who Jesus is and our Bible reading was the famous passage from the beginning of John's Gospel. Among all of the great things that John writes is this:

"In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in

the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it." (John 1:4-5)

The word 'understood' could also mean 'overcome'. The darkness has not overcome the light. As we often say, you don't switch off the darkness, you switch on the light.

Whether it is dark or light depends on whether or not a light is shining.

There are other ways in which we might feel as though there is darkness in our country and our world at the moment.

The recovery from Covid, the cost of living crisis, the war in



Ukraine, the massacre of the Uyghurs in China, the imprisonment of persecuted Christians around the world, the floods in Pakistan, the passing of a rock of a public figure in Her Majesty The Queen. It can feel like we go from one dark event to another and that the darkness is winning.

But the darkness isn't winning. It exists but it doesn't win, because the light shines in the darkness and the darkness is completely unable to overcome it.

So, let us each look to Jesus and pray that he would bring his light. And let each of us follow his call to be the light of the world and to bring his light into the areas of influence that we have.

God bless,

Paul

The Green Zone

This month's suggestion is for each of us to complete a Carbon Footprint Calculator. For the environment to change for the good governments, industries and individuals all need to make changes. We all have a part to play. Each person needs to be responsible for the production of no more than 2 tonnes of carbon emissions a year. The UK average is currently about 10 tonnes per person (when the shipping of products from overseas is included). What is clear is that we all need to act, to reduce our carbon footprint.



Life Groups

In last month's newsletter we gave some details about Life Groups, which are starting / restarting at the present time. They are such an important and integral part of our church life that it is worth reiterating some of those points and giving a little more detail here.

What is a Life Group? A Life Group is a small group, of up to 12 people, that meets together to build each other up and for support. The groups meet together at an arranged time and at an arranged venue, and do so about every 2 weeks. The group will have some kind of a Bible study together, in a way that is helpful and understandable for the whole group. The group will look at what the teaching from that Bible passage means to them in 21st Century Britain and how they can put what they have learned into practice.

A Life Group is a place where mutual support is so important. So, things can be confidentially shared there and further advice and help can be found from other members of the group. It is a place where the group members can 'Do Life' together.

Where and when are Life Groups being held? Life Groups are either held in people's homes or in the church building. Because of Covid some people are uncomfortable about meeting in a smaller living room and so there are different options available. Likewise, there are a mixture of daytime and evening groups available too.

Will all Life Groups be looking at the same material? The church is providing material for Life Groups to use and this will be the basis of what we work our way through as a whole church. However, different groups will be better served by other material, so Life Group leaders have the freedom to find alternative material for their group (as long as they discuss this with the clergy team).

We are also hoping to start a new Life Group for people who have joined the church over the past few years. Anybody who has done so is, of course, completely free to join one of the other Life Groups. But, we will be running a group just for 'new people', so that we can tailor that group to any other questions and needs that those members might have.

Are Life Groups just for adults? Most of the Life Groups are for adults, so that they can have discussions that are helpful and relevant to them. However, we have also adapted how we think about our young people's group on a Sunday morning and that is now a Youth Life Group. There are plans to begin a Tweens Life Group too, for those in school years 7-9.

What Life Groups are running and when? On a Monday evening a group meets in a home, which is led by Janet Tysoe. On a Wednesday evening a group meets in a home which is led by Graham Holt, although this group is presently helping on The Message Bus (Please note: the details of this group might still change). On a Thursday morning Ladies Bible Study meets, in the church lounge which is co-led by Chris Eagle, Heidi Theophanous and Viv Rowson. On alternative weeks to Ladies Bible Study a Life Group meets in the church lounge on a Thursday afternoon, led by Tony Mason. A Thursday afternoon group that meets in a home is led by Stuart Hardman. On a Thursday evening a group meets in a home, which is led by Barbara Forrest.

There are also a couple more groups which we are hoping to start, including a group for those who have started to come to All Hallows in recent years. Further details will be given in church services when they are available.



What's on?



THE
LIGHT
CAFÉ



ALL HALLOWS CHURCH
CHEADLE

OPEN WEDNESDAYS

9:00AM - 2:00PM

SERVING BREAKFAST,
LUNCH, HOME MADE
CAKES & FREE DRINKS



TODDLERS

EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

9:00AM - 12:00AM



All Hallows Church
Cheadle



THE MESSAGE BUS IS HERE ON
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

(AIMED AT THOSE IN SCHOOL YEARS 7-9 - BUT OTHERS CAN COME TOO!)

MESSY TODDLERS

10:00-11:30

Wednesday 5^h October

Pie Supper & Quiz

As part of our Harvest celebrations we are holding a special evening of food and fun.

7:30pm on Saturday, 1st October,
in the church hall.

Price is £4 per person.
(Please buy tickets for catering purposes.)

christians
against
poverty

CAP

CAP
DEBT
HELP

Free Debt Help Available

All Hallows has partnered with Christians Against Poverty in order to help people out of debt.

If you need support to get out of debt then contact the CAP Enquiries Team on **0800 328 0006** and they will get you booked in for your first appointment.

Social Night



7:30-9:00 on the last Friday of the month.

Got questions
about life



Alpha

#TryAlpha
Alpha.org

New or Visiting?

First Time Here?

If it's your first time here then welcome! It's great to have you with us. Here are a few short notes that you might find helpful.

Relax - You're our guest, so make yourself at home. If there is anything that you would like to know then ask a member of the Welcome Team.

Sign the kids in - The Welcome Team can show you where to take your children. Sometimes we are all in church together, but on other weeks... **Pre-School**; There are green tables in church with some activities for young children. Please, please don't be embarrassed if they make any noise during the service. **Ages 4+**; Sunday School meet in rooms at the end of the hall, down the ramp. **Sunday Youth** meet in the room off from the main worship area. All leaders have proper DBS checks.

Fill in a Communication Card - Drop it in the box on the Welcome Desk in the foyer or give it to the service leader on the way out. Please use it to ask questions, offer feedback or request prayer.

We don't expect guests to give - For those who are members or regular attenders of our churches there is an offering plate at the back, but we don't ask our guests for any money.

We have a Loop System - Switch your hearing aid to T-coil. You might find it useful to sit towards the middle.

Hang around afterwards - Come and join us for a cup of tea or fresh coffee, and for a chat.

Prayer Ministry - If you would like somebody to pray with you about something for yourself or somebody that you know then there are people who would love to do so after the service. Please make yourself known to the service leader.

Next Steps

We are all on a journey through life, and our faith is no different. Depending upon where you are on your journey with God here are some 'Next Steps' you could take

COMMIT YOUR LIFE TO CHRIST
Commit to follow Jesus today!

RE-COMMIT TO CHRIST
It's never too late for a fresh start with faith.

DECLARE YOUR FAITH THROUGH BAPTISM
If you feel you've made a commitment to God but have never been baptised, then this could be a great step for you.

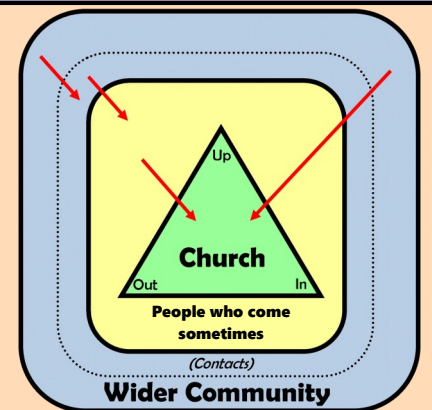
JOIN A HOMEGROUP
If you're not in one, there are a number of groups that meet in homes throughout the week to get to know each other better, look at the Bible and pray together.

BE PART OF THE MISSION
There are lots of ways you can use your gifts to serve God, his Church and the wider community.

Loving God.

Loving each other.

Loving the people of Cheadle.



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