



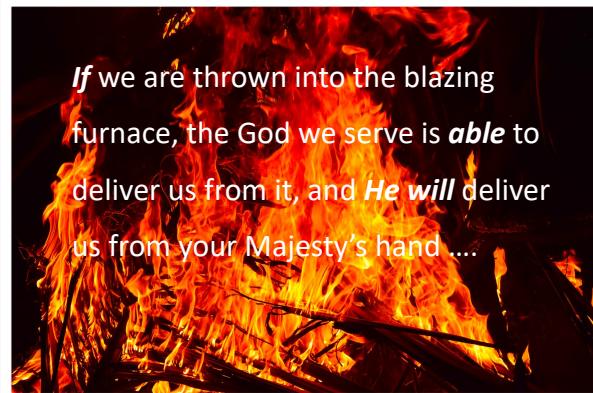
November 2020 News

What if? Or, Even if?

In challenging seasons of life, it can be very tempting to think anxiously 'what if?' For us as a family this has been something we've had to learn to navigate. At times it can be incredibly easy to start to imagine worse case scenarios that haven't happened yet. What if? What if? What if?

I've always loved the attitude in Daniel 3:17-18 'If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is **able** to deliver us from it, and **he will** deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But **even if** he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.'

What a rounded and full expression of faith; 'God is **able** to deliver us, God **will** deliver us but **even if** he doesn't we'll keep serving him'. Some of you will know I wrote a song called 'Even if' that we sometimes sing together that expresses this same heart (Found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JTgalRvUx8E>).



This News Update is full of plans. Plans for November, plans for December, plans for January. We've felt stirred to step out in some new ways but against every plan we could put the words 'God willing'. As James, the brother of Jesus said, 'you ought to say '*If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that*' (James 4:15). Making plans is good, but ultimately, it's all in God's hands. God is able to make a way, we believe He will make a way but even if He doesn't, we'll still give Him the glory.



13th November 2020

Join us for an amazing global concert of prayer. Our global events involve people from around the world praying for the same things at the same time. We are expecting churches and individuals to join from over 40 nations.

Together we will cry out to God for major global issues, expectant that he hears our prayers and will move in power.

For more info and to book click here: <https://prayersofmany.org/register-for-nov>

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Sunday Services in November

We will continue to stream our services on YouTube from the Lighthouse building. The services can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-g8znFpHEiMkizYwljtaKA>

If you want to be directed to the specific link each week, this can also be found via our church website here: www.christcommunitychurch.co.uk/sundays-2/ Just click where it says 'click here'.

Preaching

Rob is continuing our series through the book of Acts

1st Nov	Rob Tervet (Acts 9: 32-43)
8th Nov	Jon Beardon @ 10:30am (Stand alone message) Special Services Postponed
15th Nov	Benny Marrett (Standalone message)
22nd Nov	John Wilthew (Standalone message)
29th Nov	Rob Tervet (Acts 10: 24-48)

Links for after church Zoom meetings are now the same every week:

Ministry response followed by after Church Chat

<https://zoom.us/j/107572067>

Meeting ID: 107 572 067

After Church Prayer

<https://zoom.us/j/96607772775> Meeting ID: 966 0777 2775

Youth

During October we carried on meeting at the Lighthouse to worship, pray and eat sweets together!

On the 31st we were involved in a community trail, with a pumpkin light display and prophecies attached to sweets. This is always so much fun! See p13-14 for more details.

Due to the latest Government restrictions, we will no longer be able to meet in person during November. Instead we will meet together **ONLINE** on Tuesday evenings, at the usual time of 7:00pm-8:30pm.....

.....but on the 20th and 21st we have the "**Youth Weekend Away**" going digital!

We have exciting speakers (Krish Kandiah



CEO

of



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CHRISTMAS SERVICES Save the dates!

We're planning to hold in-person and online services this Christmas. In-person services will, however, be dependent upon the prevailing Govt guidance nearer the time. Booking is required for both in-person and online services: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/christ-community-church>

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT - 13th December

Traditional carols, readings and the message of Christmas retold.

In person services at 4pm, 5.15pm, 6.30pm at Connaught Hall.

★ Online service at 8pm

FAMILY NATIVITY - 20th December

Expect celebration, participation and plenty of fun and laughter as we retell the Christmas story. Nativity fancy dress (children and adults) is expected!

In-person services at 9.15am, 10.30am, 11.45am at Connaught Hall.

★ Online service at 6.30pm.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

A topical magazine-style Christmas service with various contributions.

★ Online service at 10am

We are working with the local council and Public Health England to create a plan that meets the necessary

COVID guidance for outdoor gatherings to allow us to perform limited carol singing outside the two care homes in

Attleborough. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact the church office.



Ladies Prayer - Ruth Oyeniyi

Some of our church ladies have been meeting regularly on the first Saturday of each month to pray. The heart for these times of prayer is to 'stand in the gap'; to see God move through our church, see our community transformed by the gospel, and seek God for our nation(s). The next session will be at 10:30am on 5th December. Hopefully in person - but this is TBC. Please contact Ruth Oyeniyi on 07956 990035 or email her on royeniyi2002@yahoo.co.uk if you'd like to join.



Give as you shop!

If you use Amazon to buy goods online, then by using its sister company, AmazonSmile, you can support the work of The Lighthouse Charity, where the retailer's foundation contribute 0.5% of eligible purchases to the nominated charity. Use this link here to shop as normal, and we get a donation! <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1119983-0>

Contact Details:

Rob Tervet - Church Leader (off on Saturdays)
rob@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Sharon Fitzgerald - Administrator & Fundraiser (Tues & Thurs)
admin@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Paige Marrett - Youth & Who Cares ? (Tues & Thurs) paige@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Rob Tervet, James Oyeniyi, Chris Govey and Benny Marrett are our **church elders**. Christ Community Church is in partnership with Relational Mission, part of Newfrontiers

Are You Ready for ANYTHING? **Special Services 8-10th January 2021**

As a Church we often start a new year with special prayer meetings but this January we are doing something different. We want to start 2021 with a weekend of refreshment and preparation. It's been quite an extended season of disconnection and spiritual wilderness for many, but we want to plunge ourselves (as best we can) into a place of spiritual life. God wants to prepare us to be **Ready for Anything**.

We're running a weekend of special services with Bible teaching on 1 Peter, separate children's sessions and evenings of worship and prophecy.

There will be both **in-person** and **online*** tickets available, and there will be a special guide/workbook for those who book in. The in-person services will take place at Connaught Hall, with children's work expected to take place at the Francis Room and The Lighthouse.

There will be a break for refreshments outdoors in the morning session. Where possible and safe we encourage people to consider eating together over lunch.

Tickets will be available soon.

Programme:

Friday 8th

7.30pm - 9.00pm Worship and prophetic ministry

Saturday 9th

9.30am - 12.30pm Bible teaching, worship and groups for kids.

3.00pm - 4.00pm Bible teaching, worship and groups for kids

7.30pm - 9.00pm Worship and prophetic ministry

Sunday 10th

9.30am - 12.30pm Bible teaching, worship and groups for kids

3.00pm - 4.00pm Bible teaching, worship and groups for kids

** Please note that if participating online, the timings may vary slightly*

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Community Groups

Community groups to continue to be a great way of staying connected to encourage each other and to be encouraged by our church family. The reintroduction of Government restrictions to stem the pandemic means that ALL community groups are back **ONLINE via ZOOM**

Attleborough Group - Monday 7:45pm

Contact: Laura & Jason Offer
laurajayneoffer@gmail.com

Heisker Gardens Group - Tuesday 7:40pm

Contact: Rob & Marjory Miller
millerrob82@gmail.com / 01953 452212

Great Barton Group - Tuesday 8pm

Contact: Matt or Sarah
mattrushby@hotmail.co.uk /
beth.rushby@hotmail.co.uk

Attleborough Group - Wednesday 10am

Contact: Bill Loades
wloades@googlemail.com

East Harling Group - Thursday 8pm

Contact : ChrisGovey98@gmail.com or
abinderofbooks@gmail.com

Children's Church

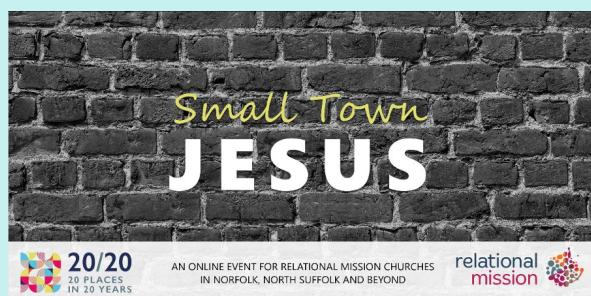
Children's Church are meeting on Sunday afternoons. We also have a WhatsApp group for prayer requests, sharing and learning scripture.

Contact: tabitha_botting@hotmail.co.uk for details.

REMINDER!

Last chance to sign up for Small Town Jesus Online With Donnie Griggs

ONLINE Saturday 7th November 2020,
9.00am-12.30pm



Further details and information regarding the event and about Donnie Griggs can be found on the booking website:

https://www.ticktaylor.com/events/aylshamcommunitychurch/417429?utm_source=RMC+20%3A20&utm_campaign=5edd339b07-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_09_07_11_03&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_41ea011dd3-5edd339b07-316467019

IMPORTANT NOTE

In-Person Services

We take our responsibility to keep people safe and reduce virus transmission seriously. In person services will be 45 minutes long, socially distanced and you will need to wear a face mask. It's likely that congregational singing will be prohibited. Weather permitting there will be refreshments outside afterwards. More details will be sent to you at the time of booking. If there is a lockdown that restricts church services, we will contact you with details of alternative plans.

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The Lighthouse is both our venue on Hargham Road and the name of the charitable company we founded to serve the needs of the local community. Lots of activities happen here regularly throughout the month. Due to the Corona crisis and Government restrictions on social gatherings, many of our actives have either had to be paused or are running over ZOOM. Please check.

EVENTS THIS MONTH



Ignite Youth Project

- **Girls Lounge** - After school drop-in, every Thursday, term-time only. **ZOOM** 3:30-4:30pm
- **Youth Drama**. 6:30pm-7:45pm, every Thursday term-time only, **TBC**
- **INSIDE Friday Drop-In** currently paused.
- **OUTSIDE Friday Detached** 7:30- 9:30pm every Friday term time, on the streets of Attleborough looking to recommence in November.
- **Ignite Mentoring** currently via **ZOOM**
- **IT Made Simple** - currently paused.
- **Life Stories** - currently paused.
- **Mentoring** - ongoing 1-1 sessions supporting young people to navigate life.
- **Rainbow Letters of Hope** - ongoing project with letters of support and cheer from young volunteers to local senior citizens.
- **Yr 12 Volunteering programme** - Thursday term time 2-3pm in partnership with Attleborough Academy, launching Nov 5th
- **PRAYER REQUEST** : Ongoing wisdom to shape the support and provision Ignite offers young people during Covid regulations & restrictions.

Contact Debs Carter - Ignite Youth Project lead debs.carter@christcommunitychurch.co.uk for more information if you are interested in having a "Taste & See" or want to join the prayer team.



Social events and coffee mornings are **currently paused**



All Nations Cafe

Every Monday, 10.00 - 11:30am, The Lighthouse
Currently paused.



Attleborough Table Tennis Club.

Mondays 7.00-9.00pm, The Lighthouse.
Currently paused.



Parent & toddler group, Fridays, 10-11:30am.
Contact Sara Govey (saragovey@gmail.com).
Currently paused



An interview with Jon Beardon

Last month Rob interviewed Stef Liston and this month, he's caught up with Jon Beardon. Jon leads Wellspring Family Church, Dereham and has recently been asked to lead our Relational Mission Community, a smaller group of churches working together in mission and connected by relationship.

Jon and Nicky Beardon

Rob: Jon, tell us how you came to Jesus.

Jon: Although my parents had divorced when I was about 7, my mum was God-fearing and a part of a local village Anglican church and we used to holiday in Sheringham in order that we could attend the Sheringham beach mission. When I was about 8 years old I heard the message of the gospel as someone stood on the beach and spoke from the story of Jonah and he invited us if we wanted to know Jesus to come and speak with him afterwards. I prayed a simple prayer of faith as a child and probably didn't quite know quite what that all meant and didn't have a full understanding, but I just knew that I wanted to be a follower of Jesus.

As a teenager I found myself at boarding school and in those early weeks I decided that I was going to have to make choice. Was I following Jesus for real? In my heart I thought 'I am a follower of Jesus, I am going to follow Jesus, I am going to be known as a follower of Jesus' and so through my time at boarding school I lived overtly as a Christian. It was actually while I was in the sixth form that a small group of us began attending a rather wild, charismatic fellowship in the town where we were staying but it was there that I was prayed for and got Baptised in the Spirit and I received the gift of tongues. It was when I went to university aged 19 that I realised I'd not actually been baptised as a believer and so it was on New Year's Eve 1989 that I was baptised in water as a believer.

Rob: Do you think your parent's divorce contributed in some ways to you being drawn to the certain promises of the gospel, and also just how do you think your experience growing up affected the way you pastor people today?

Jon: It was because of my parents' divorce that my mum returned to what she knew and took me and my sister to Church. Had my father still been there (as someone who was not really following Jesus) I suspect that I would have been led in a different way so, it's a mercy that God worked through the brokenness to bring me to Him.

I think I certainly would detect that in the process of receiving the Spirit as a sixth former, that there was something of a battle going on within me. I think that there was an insecurity that had been brought about by my parents' being divorced during childhood that made me feel a strong need to try and stay safe, to protect myself and to be in control. Whilst I desperately wanted the love of God and to know His power, I was fearful also. I think over the years that is

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something I have to wrestle with; to learn to get free from independence and self-sufficiency and to trust in my Father. I have found for many years now that the thought of knowing God as my Father has become a very precious truth to me and something which I value highly.

I think my experience of growing has helped me understand that we all have our own particular battles and that our family backgrounds have caused us in some ways to be the people that we are, and that God's grace works with us amidst that and not despite that. I thank God for my mum who was a great role model of forgiveness towards me and taught me to avoid bitterness towards my father who has not really wanted to relate to me ever since my childhood. I understand a little bit of what it is to be rejected in that way. But I was well taught by my mother to not allow bitterness to creep in.

Rob: *You spoke recently about being captivated by Terry Virgo's vision and teaching on the restoration of the Church. Tell us more about this.*

Jon: Having grown up in an environment where church life was often formal, well frankly it felt lifeless, ritualised; it was through my teenage years that I began to discover through exposure to the Charismatic Movement life, life in worship and in God but so much of that was experienced outside of the local church environment; it was as if the two things couldn't co-exist.

It wasn't really until I got to university and got involved with a church there in my second term that I began to actually see what we might call the restoration church there; a church which had gone back to basics you could say, gone back to the New Testament, looked to pattern itself on what we see there. I'm not saying it was perfect but looking at those early chapters in the Book of Acts it felt as though we were living again in times like that. Things like worship where you didn't quite know who was going to bring the next contribution, then there were songs, and people were praying in tongues or people bringing interpretations, people sharing what they thought God was saying to them, gifts of prophecy being used. The preaching somehow, it took the bible incredibly seriously but not just as an intellectual exercise, but actually applying it to our hearts and then at the end people would stream forward responding to what they'd heard, wanting to pray for another, wanting God to take His word and really do something deep in their hearts. Frankly I had never seen church like this before and I loved it. Seeing this kind of pattern of church after the New Testament, it just kind of ruined me frankly, for anything else.

Perhaps just one other comment to make on this subject. I think it was Dave Devenish who said that 'there are two aspects to restoration; one aspect is that the church needs to have restored to it a New Testament vision for Church life as I've described, and secondly and more importantly, the church also needs to recover a prophetic vision for the restored church particularly rooted in the Old Testament prophets where we see that God has incredible plans, global plans for His people, plans which were never ever fulfilled in Israel's experience, but which look forward to what God was going to do in the new covenant'.

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Rob: What does it actually look like for us here to be participating and involved, in this vision?

Jon: We read in the Old Testament about the restoration period, the time of Ezra and Nehemiah, where there is a combination of leadership that is raised up to remind people of what God is doing and there's a lot of prophetic activity as well. We see a mass mobilisation of people of God to play their part. I would encourage anyone in our churches, this is not just for leaders - it's for all of us.

I would encourage everyone reading this to stir godly ambition in your heart for what God wants to do in all the earth through His Church. Allow the theme of that to thrill you and fill you with expectation. Allow the Old Testament pictures of God filling the whole earth with His glory to fill your imagination and think 'this is what I am giving my life to'.



But of course, for most of us, we probably don't have the luxury of spending all day, every day, reflecting on that, we are caught up in the day-to-day. That's very much what it was like in the book of Nehemiah. People were just literally getting on stuck in on their bit of the wall. Your bit of the wall is probably the local church which you are part of, or possibly a church plant God has given you to begin to take an interest in, and you know, that New Testament pattern of local church life; very simple things like family and community and worship and prayer and gifts of the Spirit and building grace and turning away from religious spirits and avoiding legalism; these are the great themes of restorationism.

So we want to have a cosmic vision of God's great plan for the whole creation and for the whole earth but then we need to be incredibly involved locally. So, wherever God's put you pray and work, pray and work, pray and work but keep lifting your head and looking at that vision again. Sing songs about the victory of God and His plans and purposes; sing songs about the wonder of His grace. Don't allow the disappointments that come moment by moment to just kind of flatten you, but instead know that God is about something bigger and greater than perhaps we have yet seen, but we know that are part of it and we know how the story ends.

Rob: You have taken on this new role as heading up our Relational Mission community, just tell us how you feel about this responsibility and what are some of the things that you feel God has in store for us?

Jon: Over the last year in Relational Mission we've been gradually moving to a new wineskin of leadership and ministry across the movement. We now have three senior leaders; Mike Betts, Maurice Nightingale and Stef Liston; apostolic leadership guiding and directing us and leading out into more and more mission, and then to facilitate that we've got a team of, now, seven Relational Mission community leaders of which I am one. All the churches in Relational Mission have been invited to find one of those community leaders that they feel a connection

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to, typically you know the elders know that person, there is a history, there is a friendship, there is love, there is respect mutually. It's an amazing honour to do that.

I think that in some ways it felt like a natural step... with the 2020 mission initiative for us Norfolk and North Suffolk, we've already been heading in the direction, so it's not really that radical as a step, but obviously it does mean that increasingly my responsibilities are now looking beyond the home base here in Dereham.

So, what's next for us? I think that there's going to be even more freedom for us as local churches to innovate and then initiate activity; we're not going to be passively waiting for someone in some head office to say "this is what we're going to do next", but we've got real opportunity for more initiatives and ideas to come forward for mission and ministry as God directs and leads us. There are things that we can do locally like getting together to stir up prophets and evangelists and Bible teachers and people involved in the workplace or people involved in children's ministry or whatever.

There are things we can do that are a bit more difficult to do when there's 75 or 100 churches. So, there is lots of opportunity for us to really help one another and spur one another on. I think there is going to be more mission, ministry, investment in our relationships; hopefully all of this will have the effect of making more sense of what it means to be Relational Mission; that we are doing more together than we can do apart; and that we genuinely feel like a strengthening of our sense of family relationship - particularly with the churches which are perhaps a bit more accessible to us in Norfolk and North Suffolk, but also continuing to be linked out into the nations as well.

End of Interview

YOUNG ADULTS



We are 3 weeks into the Prayer Course now and have covered 'Why Pray?', 'Adoration' and 'Petition'. The group have bonded really well and we've had some really good, honest conversations. We've enjoyed praying together and also challenging one another.

Please pray that we continue to grow in our intimate relationships with God, and learn to include Him in every part of our lives through perpetual prayer.

Thank you, David & Hilary, Peter & Sharon

The Best Display in Town!



The Lighthouse was transformed at the end of October with a beautiful display of autumn's colourful bounty. Sharon Fitzgerald did an amazing job presenting pumpkins, gourds and rustic garden and 'kitchenalia' on the front lawn for all to see - both

during the day and night, thanks to Peter's handy work with fairy lights.

This display was part of Attleborough town's "Spooktracular" trail - an organised event to mark Halloween on October 31st - but our involvement in All Hallow's Eve was deliberately different and there was nothing spooky or scary to be seen - something that was very much appreciated by one family in particular, who's children said they preferred to see lots of lights and happy pumpkins!



All the pumpkins had been either carved or decorated with messages by our Youth group. Both the Youth and Young Adult groups were all at the Lighthouse (socially distanced) to enjoy the evening and to give away sweets that had words of

encouragement attached. **"We had a brilliant evening, and drank salted caramel hot chocolate and we toasted marshmallows over fire pits and chatted with the many families who were out following the trail..."** explained Sharon.



There have been some wonderful comments and feedback from the townsfolk who came to view the display, many of whom were surprised to see our involvement, as churches normally shun Halloween. Some of the comments we've received in person and on social media are: **"This is the best thing in town tonight"**, .."It's really cheered me up", **"I love the positive messages attached to the sweets"**, ..."it's wonderful to see young people here enjoying themselves safely...".**"Your pumpkins were beautiful!!!"**.....

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...“Wow! Your display was absolutely stunning.. and it was a fantastic way to display things in a different way. The flowers and lights were so cheerful and it was so thoughtful to add the lovely notes to the sweets and also do marshmallows and sparklers (which made us think of our Friday Sparklers group with you which we miss)!.

Well done all involved ..” Comment from L Hagen



Please pray that the prophetic words that the youth attached to the sweets really have an impact on those who received them, and that our local community continue to feel the love of God through our Youth and Young Adults groups.

..... and last but not least



We now also have two very smart noticeboards (kindly installed by Peter Fitzgerald) to display details of the services, groups and activities on offer either via the LH or CCC. Lots of local people are stopping by to read what we're up to!