



---

**MAY 2021 News**

---



## Hitting the nail on the head

In a recent message I quoted from one of the most insightful articles I have ever read. It's Tim Keller writing on the 'dangers of ministry'. (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/3-ways-ministry-can-make-you-conceited/>). His

article is packed full of wise insights and beautiful thoughts and I thought you would be helped if I shared some of his key insights:

1. **Merely knowing more information about God, if we're not careful, can make us proud rather than humbled.** Keller quotes a brilliant section from Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones "Whenever you allow your relationship to the truth to become purely theoretical and academic, you're falling into the grip of Satan. . . . If you can study the Bible without being searched and examined and humbled, without being lifted up and made to praise God, or moved with sorrow over what God has endured in you, or amazed that the beauty and wisdom of what Christ has done for you, if you do not feel as much of a desire to sing when you're alone in your study as when you're standing in the pulpit, you are in bad shape".

Theological truth is meant to be *lived and prayed and sung*. It is not something to be merely acquired so we feel more knowledgeable.

2. **Sometimes we can get too much of our identity from what we do for God, rather than who we are in God.** Being a channel of God's blessing and goodness to other's is a wonderful joy but sometimes we can get the balance wrong and get too much of our identity from our ministry. Many people realise this when they retire or step back from roles in the Church.

3. **Sometimes in serving God we can be in danger feeling we need to fake it.**

The warning Jesus gave us in Luke 10:20 is helpful here: "...do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven". In other words, do not get your joy from your gifting, power or ministry. Get your joy from your salvation. In heaven there is a book and in that book there is a page and on that page is your name. There is no higher status or privilege than this in all the universe. Get your joy and your identity from that.



There can be a pressure when we are serving God to feign excitement or joy about things, when in reality we are spiritually dry. We have to learn to come to God honestly like the psalmists did. Prayers such as "Lord, I'm not as joyful or excited as I should be, I feel spiritually dry, I desperately need your help" are often spoken by mature Christians. Augustine used to say, "Put salt on our lips that we may thirst for thee".

Tim Keller explains "Ministry is either going to make you a far better Christian or a far worse Christian than you would have been otherwise. It's going to make you a hard pharisaical hypocrite or it's going to turn you into a softer, more tender person because it forces you to go to the throne of grace and to beg the Lord for help in your weakness. The ministry will either drive you to him or drive you away from him.....

*...Consider all the things God has done to break your pride.*

*Look at all the ways he's brought you to the end of yourself so that you would cling to him more tightly.*

*Let all your failures and disappointments and weaknesses drive you like a nail into the love of God".*

## GIFT DAYS

We are holding some Gift Days in our services on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May.

We will be announcing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May what the focus of our offering is going to be.

## Sunday Services in May

Our livestream services can be found on our YouTube channel:

<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. Just click where it says 'click here': [www.christcommunitychurch.co.uk/sundays-2/](http://www.christcommunitychurch.co.uk/sundays-2/)

### Preaching

Rob is continuing our series through the book of Acts

2nd May	Acts	Rob Tervet
9th May	Gift Day 1	Chris Govey
16th May	Gift Day 2	Rob Tervet
23rd May	Acts	Rob Tervet
30th May	Standalone	James Oyeniyi

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

### **Please note - We are not having after Church chat over zoom in May:**

- Why not take the opportunity to ring someone else in the Church?
- You can always pop down to the Lighthouse after the service and chat to people in the car park in groups of six.
- The After Church Prayer on zoom will continue for the month of May, feel free to make use of this service and the excellent team leading it.

## Roadmap out of lockdown for our Church

The roadmap out of lockdown for Christ Community Church is still not yet fully clear. The guidance for churches has not been produced and we are also still in the process of working through venue options. To confirm some next steps that we can see ahead:



- We are now able to do things outside - and you will see groups making use of the Lighthouse car park.
- We now have a small, socially distanced congregation at the Lighthouse. If you would like to be attend in person, please contact the Church office but be aware that spaces are limited.
- From 17<sup>th</sup> May it looks hopeful that Community Groups may be able to start to use the Lighthouse if they have smaller discussion group. We will send guidance to those attending.

***Please pray for us to have some breakthrough regarding Sunday morning venues, as at the moment places we have previously hired are no longer available***

amazon**smile**



You shop. Amazon gives.

**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)

**Sharon Fitzgerald** - Administrator & Fundraiser ( Mon, Tues & Thurs)  
[admin@christcommunitychurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@christcommunitychurch.co.uk)

**Paige Marrett** - Youth (Tues - Church Youth & Thurs - Girl's Lounge)

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

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

Community groups continue to be a great way of staying connected to encourage each other and to be encouraged by our church family. ALL community groups are currently **ONLINE via ZOOM.** We will advise you of any change when we have clear guidance.

### Attleborough Group - Tuesday 7:45pm

Contact: Laura & Jason Offer

### Heisker Gardens Group - Tuesday 7:40pm

Contact: Rob & Marjory Miller

### Attleborough Group - Wednesday 10am

Contact: Bill Loades

### East Harling Group - Thursday 8pm

Contact : Chris and Sara Govey or Alan & Grace Fitch

## THE WORD OF LIFE .....

### ***Small Thoughts on Big Issues from the Apostle John's First Letter***

We're excited to announce that on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April** we are launching some daily Bible readings, written by Roy Lincoln. Roy has been encouraged, nourished and helped by the message of 1 John over a number of years, and has produced some outstanding daily readings to share that encouragement. There will be daily emails sent at 5am.

For further reading try: The Message of John's Letters, David Jackman (Bible Speaks Today) <http://bit.ly/3cP5zN0>

The notes will be automatically sent to those who receive our mail chimp email News Updates as well our 'Scripture Stories' last month. If you aren't already signed up you can do so here: <http://eepurl.com/V04uj>

Roy has served us magnificently, I'm sure you will be blessed.

## YOUTH COMMUNITY GROUP

We are finally able to meet in person!! We had a social to celebrate with fire pits, hot chocolates and toasted marshmallows!

During May, our Youth Community group will be meeting at the Lighthouse from 7:00pm-8:30pm every Tuesday. However on Tuesday 25th May, we will be having a treasure hunt social around Attleborough town... more details to follow!



### Ladies Prayer

Some of our church ladies meet regularly on the first Saturday of each month to pray.

In this next season we are praying for our church. For God to fulfil His promises over us, to reveal His plans for us as we come out of lockdown, and to help us reach our community with the gospel message.

The next gathering will be via Zoom on Saturday 8th May at 10:30am

For more info, contact Ruth

### Young Adults Group

#### STRAIGHT TO THE HEART OF

We are currently enjoying working through a bible study on Ephesians using a Phil Moore 'Straight to the Heart' book. Each week a different young person leads us in a time of study and discussion, and they are doing brilliantly.

We hope to start meeting in person again shortly, starting with outdoor sessions at the Lighthouse in groups of 6, weather permitting.

Please pray for the Young Adults group as we transition into a 'newer normal' and for each of the young people as they move forward in their future plans.

***Want to know more?***

***Contact: Sharon & Peter Fitzgerald or David & Hilary Reger***

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 Covid crisis and Government restrictions on social gatherings, many of our activities have either had to be paused or are running over Zoom. Please check.

**EVENTS THIS MONTH**



**Ignite Youth Project**



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

**Bi-monthly newsletter** full of puzzles, and information continues to be delivered to 110 members. Over half receive regular **phone calls** of friendship. Bi-monthly **Random Acts of Kindness** are delivered to help all feel loved and remembered.

.....



**All Nations Cafe**

Mondays 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 10.00 -11:30am  
Contact Sara Govey. **Currently paused.**

.....

- **Girl's Lounge (GL)** - After school drop-in, every Thursday, term-time only 4-5pm on **Zoom**. "A space for girls to talk about the things that are important to them."
- **Youth Drama**. 6:30pm-7:45pm, every Thursday (apart from 3rd Thursday) term-time only, **at the LH / Zoom** "place for young people to get creative."
- **INSIDE Friday Drop-In** currently paused.
- **OUTSIDE Friday Detached** 7:30 - 9:30pm every Friday term time, providing support young people on the streets of Attleborough
- **IT Made Simple - currently paused.**
- **Life Stories - currently paused.**
- **Mentoring** - ongoing 1-1 sessions supporting young people to navigate life.
- **Creative Activities** - 2-3pm every Thursday term-time. A Yr12 Volunteering programme placement "providing engaging activities for local senior citizens."
- **Rainbow Letters of Hope** - Letters of support to local senior citizens including the Yr 12 volunteering programme.
- **Thanksgiving:** That we have been able to support young people and senior citizens to send over 800 Rainbow Letters over the past year! For a continued positive working relationship with Attleborough Academy Sixth Form. For the time and excellent input Elia has given to Ignite since arriving in September.
- **PRAYER REQUEST:** We are looking to spend the months leading up to the summer growing, equipping and resourcing both our Detached and Girls' Lounge Teams and provision, to enable us to land well at the end of term, and start from a place of strength when we press the restart button in September.
- Please speak to Debs Carter - Ignite Youth Project lead if you are interested in having a "Taste & See" at any Ignite event or want to join the Ignite prayer team.