



CONNECT

May 2009

'To know Jesus and make Jesus known'

Dear All,

After Easter a group of 22 from CKBC went to The Spring Harvest Conference at the Butlins Camp in Minehead. Every year thousands of Christians attend this conference which spans three weeks for worship, fellowship, and teaching. It is unique in that the whole Butlins camp is full of people who are seeking God. This in itself brings something very special to the atmosphere of the camp, dare I suggest the presence of God. It is an atmosphere in which there is total peace and a wonderful sense of being safe. This year I was only able to go for one day instead of the usual six but even so I still left feeling uplifted and very glad that I am able to be part of God's Kingdom on earth.

What a contrast to this week when we have witnessed the people of Mexico wearing masks and living in fear of contracting swine flu. The press report that our own government have ordered 32 million masks in case of a pandemic. Every day there seems to be something new to be concerned about but although followers of Christ are as much a part of the world as everyone else we have a hope and an expectation that should allow us to live our lives in that peace which passes all understanding. Jesus said "we are in the world but we are not of it". Spring Harvest very much reminded me of that. While fear and panic were reigning elsewhere there was a corner of the country where the Kingdom of God was much in evidence.

Thank God that we have this blessed hope. Let's pray that God will give us opportunities to share it with our community so that Charlton Kings like Spring Harvest might be a wonderful witness for His Kingdom. God Bless. Sue

Special Church Meeting

On May 12 at 7.30pm we have a Special Church Meeting (to agree our new Governing Document) and an Ordinary Church Meeting (including the latest information about the Family Focus renovations and the response to our Children's Worker/Pastor advert). Many thanks to all those who have contributed behind the scenes during the past few weeks, including all who are praying.

KH

Girls Night Out

If you haven't joined us on previous nights out we would love to see you. It is a very relaxed evening, spending time together, chatting about nearly everything under the sun!! (I can hear you men saying "nothing new there then!") It is on **Thursday 7th May**. We can gather at church at **7.45** and then walk round to The Little Owl which will have the added bonus of making us feel virtuous that we have done a little exercise. (for anyone unable to do the walk, The Owl has a good car park). Y.W.

Skittles

At time of going to press we will have played our first match but I can't tell you the result as it was on the 30th April.

The idea of taking part in the Charlton Kings Summer Skittle League is to have a bit of fun as well as getting out into the community as an identifiable group. It doesn't matter whether you are good or not so good, just enjoy. I need lots and lots of you to sign on so that we have enough people to field a team, even during the holidays. And for those who are unable to physically play, come and enjoy the evening with us and cheer us on. Our home alley is at the Merryfellow and home games are on Thursdays. I have put up the fixture list on the notice board and the weekly results will be posted on the website. (www.ckbc.org.uk) Well bon chance everyone, and may God be with us. (yvette.ckbc@hotmail.com)

Geronimo!

Well done to Chris and Don who are both doing a sponsored parachute jump on Saturday 10th May. Chris is doing his in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer and Don is supporting the hospice where Sue works. Please speak to them or sign up on the noticeboard if you would like to sponsor them.

Spring Harvest

This would be my fourth time to Spring Harvest at Butlins. I always look forward to going there but as always lurking at the back of my head is the realisation that after 5 days I will have to tear myself away. This time was no different and having sung "Jesus is my Best Friend" for probably the hundredth time (it never got boring) I felt that wrenching in my gut telling me that Monday was just over the horizon.

The theme of this year's was quite appropriate in that respect. It was about how we can be apprentices of Jesus to go forward (i.e. away from Minehead) and undertake the great commission given by the Lord at the end of Matthew's Gospel. The first challenge was to first find out our learning style and this was helped along with a questionnaire. You were either a Theorist, a Pragmatist, a Activist or a reflector. Seminars were split into these learning groups. Being a total nerd I opted for the theorist camp and this was led brilliantly by Russell Rook and Ann Holt.

The worship in the big top was as always nothing short of spectacular. Vicky Beeching was an amazing singer and in my humble opinion (and possibly slightly controversial) it rocked!!!.

How can I sum up the week? Well imagine being in a place where there is absolutely no fear. Where children can go off to their own activities without any worry. Where everyone is there for one purpose – to seek a better understanding of God; a place where there is no politics; a place where acceptance is the norm; a place where each person can be who they are with no pretence and where everyone genuinely seems to want to help each other. It has become a bit of a cliché but this really sounds like a slice of heaven. It is like a Sunday magnified hundred fold.

However the whole point of the message of the week was that the real world is not like a great Sunday. We cannot keep to ourselves what we know and experience. The knowledge of the gospel is so incredible that to keep it to our self can almost be seen as an act of cruelty. The grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit must explode out of Minehead and our churches filling every street and every day (including Mondays) with the beautiful message of salvation and freedom. Jesus in our work, Jesus in our days, Jesus in our heart soul and minds. Because we have the knowledge of the gospel we are apprentices of the Lord and we need to become teachers to everyone who does not yet know. The last verse of "Jesus is my best Friend" stated that:

"When we leave Spring Harvest
And the going gets tough
Jesus is always with us
And his love is enough"
Amen to that.
Kieron Davies.

Services for May

This month we will continue our sermon series on "The Big Picture" but we will be looking specifically at "The Kingdom of God".
What is it? Where is it? How do we live in it?

3rd May

10.30 Communion Service

"The Kingdom of God" John 3:1-21 Luke 17:20-21

6.30 Prayer Service

10th May

10.30 Morning Worship "The Good News of The Kingdom"

6.30 Communion Service with Prayers for Healing

17th May

10.30 Family Service with GB and BB

6.30 Bible Study on the book of Job

"Two Marks of a Real Believer" Job 4-27

24th May

10.30 Morning Worship "The Currency of The Kingdom"

6.30 Open to God

31st May

10.30 Morning Worship "The Upside Down Kingdom"

No Evening Service

If you would like to:

- advertise an event on this newsletter;
- submit an article;

OR

- tell the world about how God has answered your prayers;

Then please email me before the end of the month at
mellerina@tiscali.co.uk

www.ckbc.org.uk