

The Ark Reopening

We are delighted to say that from Saturday 1st May, the Ark will be up and running once more. We can only offer outside hospitality at the moment but the outside area has had a bit of a makeover so do come and check it out. As well as hot and cold drinks, there will also be bacon and sausage baguettes on the menu tomorrow. We also have a new coffee machine and are pleased to be working in collaboration with Little Man Coffee Company.

Orders will be taken at the counter so please bring a mask, use the hand gel provided and maintain social distancing at all times. The toilets are also now open but please only use the designated cubicles to maintain social distancing in there too. Thank you for your cooperation.

The team look forward to welcoming you back :-)

24 hours of Prayer

As we begin to open our doors to the community again we want to set aside some time to intentionally pray for the people and the place that God has given us to serve. We want Him to reveal to us what He is already doing in our community and how He wants us to be involved. We want to see more of God's Kingdom come in Whitchurch and we want to be part of it. We are therefore asking people to engage in prayer with us across the weekend of the 15th and 16th May and there are a number of ways you can do this.

From 7am-7pm on both days we would like people to sign up and commit to pray for an hour or at least part of an hour on one of the days. This may seem a bit daunting but there will be a number of resources available to help structure that hour.

At the top of each hour we will have a set prayer that we will be encouraging people to pray so even if you can't commit to a whole hour you can join in with the set prayer as many times as you would like knowing you are joining with others in doing so. There will be a zoom room open at these times so that those who want to gather to pray together can do so. There will also be a hosted prayer space available on zoom at 12noon and 3pm on the Saturday for anyone who would like to pray but would rather do it with other people.

And if you are more of an outdoor person and would rather do some prayer walking around the community there will be a resource available for that too.

As well as praying to God we really want to hear what He is saying to us so we would love for people to feed back any bible verses, words, creative writing or pictures/photos of things God has put on your heart over the weekend. On the Sunday evening the final hour of the 24 hours (6pm-7pm) we will have our evening service where we hope to share these things and finish by praying together.

Excited? Yes! Let's get enthused about what God will do as we seek his heart for our community.

To sign up for a prayer slot please use this link and fill in the form with your name and the time you will commit to pray <https://forms.gle/wNua9ZxUb6TkYmZM6>

Who Cares Mission

You may recall last Autumn we talked about taking part in an initiative called 'Who cares' which involves asking members of our community to take part in a one question survey 'what hurts you the most?' The aim being to collate the answers and see how we can respond. Unfortunately we had planned to do this at the time of the Firebreak in October/November so it got postponed but following our 24 hours of prayer we intend to run the mission. We will be in touch with those who had said they were happy to be involved previously but if you would also like to take part please let Naomi know.

Thank you

A big thank you to those who came at such short notice to spring clean the church, and those who helped clean the kitchen and the Ark, it was much appreciated.

Christian Aid week 10-16th May

Christian Aid week is coming up and our morning service on 9th May will be focused on their theme for the year Climate Change. There will be money envelopes available on the Sunday and also in The Ark throughout the week for anyone who wishes to support their important work.

There is also an opportunity to join in some virtual events run by Christian Aid details below:

Join our virtual events in Christian Aid Week

It's more important than ever that we come together as a community to worship and to share fun and fellowship. That's why we have virtual events taking place live from our Facebook page. You don't need a Facebook account to join us – just click the link.

Sat 8 May 7pm: Quizian Aid

Sun 9 May 6.30pm Service for Christian Aid Week and our 75th Anniversary

Supporters who don't have internet access may enjoy the fellowship of special programmes for Christian Aid Week on Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol (S4C), Songs of Praise (BBC1) or Oedfa Radio Cymru, all taking place on Sunday 9th May.

Be blessed and be a blessing

Sarah, Aly, Rachel, Gethin and Naomi