



Pastoral Update 04.02.2022

Dear friends,

Welcome to this week's pastoral update.

Giving Days

We have now held Giving Sundays across each of our three sites.

So far, we have received £32,941. Of these, £17,600 are one off gifts, with the rest being regular increased giving. The elders and I are so grateful for and are mindful of the fact that this has come at a time when the cost of living is increasing for people. We're also encouraged that there are a number of people who have indicated they are going to respond to the Giving Days, but are still working and praying through specifically what that response can be. For all of those who have answered the appeal in whatever way: thank you. We recognise the commitment of many members and friends of the church who give sacrificially in respect of finance, and who give in other ways too, in time and talents. Once again, we are very grateful and I personally give thanks to God for you all.

We know there are a number of people who continue to consider their response. **Can you please do this by Sunday 13 February, when this special 'season' of financial giving will come to an end? A reminder that our finance team are keen to hear from you even if you're unable to increase your giving at this time.** This is so they have as clear a picture as possible of our financial position to enable the elders to plan.

The email to use is finance@cbcl.org.uk

We also now have a giving page on our website. See

<https://cbcl.org.uk/Groups/371123/Giving.aspx>

Clearly, we are still short of meeting the projected £99,000 in year deficit for 2022. The elders are thinking strategically about using our resources as best we can as a church so we can maximise these resources to move forward our mission and bring an acceptable budget to the church. Please pray for this process. I will share more in next week's pastoral update.

Sunday Services

Headingley. 10.30 a.m. I am leading and speaking. We continue with our series on Isaiah, looking at Isaiah 40 under the heading of the gospel.

As we move forward from lockdown we are changing Covid guidance. Children will return for the final part of the service. Masks are encouraged but not required. We continue to provide good ventilation. We will review these arrangements regularly and will continue to revise in line with guidance.

This Sunday's Walk & Talk at Headingley will be slightly different as we walk around the area and stop by the blue plaques which commemorate people, events and buildings of significance to the city of Leeds.

Walkers are encouraged to meet in the courtyard after the service and the aim is set off at approximately 11:50am. Everyone is invited - from the youngest historians to the oldest historiographers!

This week will see the first Sunday Lunch of the year at Headingley too! The food will be served at 12:30pm so that people can (if they wish to) Walk & Talk before they sit and eat.

For the lunch on Sunday 6th March, we will be operating a paper and digital sign-up sheet. Keep an eye on these pastoral updates for the details.

Cragg. 10.30 a.m. Nathan Shipley is speaking. Again, the text is Isaiah 40. The Sunday service includes children's provision.

Connect@CopperBeech. 10.45 a.m.

Groups at the Copperbeech Hub.

The Lantern

This Sunday our Lantern Gathering in Headingley, run in conjunction with Leeds Vineyard, continues. Doors open at 3.30 pm; food served at 4 pm; talk at 4.30; closing at 5 pm. **Please continue to pray, for Tracy and the catering team, for Liz Harden and myself as we lead, for the whole team, and for our friends who come.** There has been a really positive start and we aim to share more news of this soon.

Small Groups

We are beginning a new season of encouraging small groups. There will be some interviews in the Headingley service this Sunday with people who are in small groups, with encouragement to join. If you want to be connected in this way, please email smallgroups@cbcl.org.uk

Cross Cultural Mission

Some news this week regarding cross-cultural mission overseas.

Irene has asked to pass on her heartfelt thanks to the people of Cornerstone for their prayers and support over the last decade while she has been working abroad. Her posting will finish at the end of April, after which time she will remain in the UK. Please pray for Irene and for the people she has been working among.

Appeal for used smartphones, tablets or laptops. If you have a smartphone, laptop or tablet you can donate, perhaps after upgrading, this can be sent to Gambia or Guinea Bissau, for pastors, youth leaders, volunteer teachers, and those working in Bible Colleges. We have a link via Jill Karlik. If you think you can help, then please email info@cbcl.org.uk in the first instance.

Expenses

Finally, if there is anyone who still needs to submit expenses for costs incurred up to the end of December 2021 while doing church work please submit them by Monday at the latest. Use the finance email included at the beginning of this update.

This comes with warm best wishes, and prayers,

Peter

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