

## **SEPTEMBER 2010 at Christ Church**

Dear friends at Christchurch

My holiday last month contained many highlights – but there was also one rather sad discovery – I'm not as fit as I used to be! Walking up one fairly steep path in the Pyrenees, which I am sure a few years ago I would have managed easily, I almost came to a standstill. What had gone wrong?

What had gone wrong was, of course, is that I don't exercise enough. If I ever want to be able to walk the big hills again, I can't just depend on the fact that I used to be fit – I have to keep working at being fit. And that is equally true for us as a church – we need to keep working at being what God has called us to be – if we stop doing that, we will rapidly go backwards.

So this month we are focussing all our activities on being the church God has called us to be. At our morning services we will be looking at how Luke describes the earliest church in Acts 2:42, and how we can share their priorities. On Sunday evenings we will be thinking about how we as both individuals and as a church can be more like Jesus.

But being a living and active church is something that should impact those around us – as has been said before, the church exists for those who aren't yet members. So on Wednesday evenings we will be unpacking our theme verse for the year, and thinking about how we can both witness to and pray for our non-Christian family and friends.

The clearest indication of how fit a church is is the prayer life of the church. So during September we will be having a prayer meeting at 7.30 am each Tuesday, to pray specifically for our church. Can I encourage you to make a priority of these meetings this month, and if possible to be here on Sundays, Tuesdays mornings, and Wednesday evenings.

Yours in Christ

*Graham Cousins*

