

BEING DISCIPLES

Dear friends at Christchurch

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Once again a new year begins, and once again many people will have made resolutions – ways in which they want this year to be better, more fulfilling, more worthwhile. Sadly, more often than not those resolutions have fizzled out well before the end of January, because we are not able to change ourselves. But what we can't do in our own strength, God is able to work in us, when our resolutions are in line with his purposes. So what is God's purpose for us as a church in 2016? I believe it is summed up by our vision of **Making Disciples, Growing Disciples, and Being Disciples.**

We should be **Making Disciples.** No matter what else we do, our prime mission has to be to carry on the work Jesus gave to his first disciples – “go and make disciples” (Matthew 28:19). Later this year we will be involved in ‘Hope Moreton 2016’, as we welcome a team from Through Faith Missions for a week long evangelistic mission. But that desire to see others come to faith should be woven into all we do.

We should be **Growing Disciples.** Young Christians need to be encouraged and nurtured if they are to become all that God plans for them. And that applies very clearly to our children and young people. That's why our PCC have agreed to the bold step of employing a Children's and Families Worker this year. It will be a step of faith, but it is something we need to do if we want to grow.

We should be **Being Disciples.** No matter how long you have been a Christian, God's purpose for you is to know him better and to follow him more faithfully. This term our Sunday morning services and our home-groups will be focussing on Jesus teaching to his disciples in Luke's gospel – something that will I hope challenge and stretch us.

Yours in Christ

Graham Cousins

Here are two things drawn on top of each other. To find out what they are, first join the numbered dots, then the alphabet crosses, using a different colour for each. What is each used for?

1. _____
2. _____

Look at the grapevine. The grapes have verses on them from John 15. The numbered grapes give you the clues to the phrase below – which is what the whole thing is about! Decode it and write your answer below.

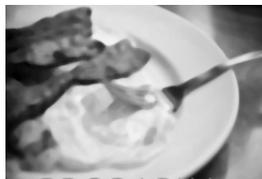
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----

At the heart of discipleship is our relationship with God our Father. How can you make sure that your relationship with him will grow and be fruitful in 2016?

Regular weekly activities:

Monday	-	9.30 am : Toddler Group (restarts on 11 th Jan)
	-	1.00 pm : TLC
Tuesday	-	9.30 am: Toddler Group
	-	3.30 pm: S.O.S. (restarts on 12 th Jan)
	-	6.00 - 8.00 pm Foodbank
Wednesday	-	5.15 pm: Rainbows (restarts on 13 th Jan)
	-	
Thursday	-	9.45 am : Keep Fit
	-	11.00 am : Keep Fit
	-	1.00 pm : Craft Group
	-	5.30 pm : Brownies
	-	- (restarts on 12 th Jan)
Friday	-	9.15 am : Mothers 'n' Others
	-	2.00 - 4.00 pm Foodbank

MEN'S BREAKFAST
Saturday 16th January
9.00 am



LADIES LUNCH
Saturday 16th January
12.00.noon

THANK YOU



To everyone who contributed to our Big Christmas Card collection, which raised 2 recent appeals. Christmas Card collection which raised £123.44. This will be shared between Claire House and the Barnabas Fund.

SERVICES THIS MONTH

Sun 3 rd Jan	9.00 & 10.45 am	Vision 2016 – <i>Luke 2:41-52</i>
	6.30 pm	Vision 2016 – <i>Luke 2:41-52</i>
Sun 10 th Jan	9.00 & 10.45 am	Starting Out – <i>Luke 3:1-22</i>
	6.30 pm	Living the Vision
Sun 17 th Jan	9.00 & 10.45 am	A different way – <i>Luke 6:17-36</i>
	6.30 pm	Living the Vision
Sun 24 th Jan	9.00 & 10.45 am	Fruit – <i>Luke 6:37-49</i>
	6.30 pm	Joint service – see below for details
Sun 31 st Jan	10.45 am	Christ Church Together : Doubt <i>Luke 7:18-35</i>

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This runs from Monday 18th January. This year, instead of our usual local joint service, we will be joining with other churches from across Wirral for a Churches Together Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service at Trinity with Palm Grove Church in Oxton on January 24th, at 6:30 pm, at which the speaker will be Rt. Revd. Libby Lane. The theme will be "Salt of the earth" and there will also be joint choir. If you would like to sing in that choir they would love to have you. Practices will be at Trinity and Palm Grove Church on Fri 15th and 22nd Jan 2016 6.30-7.30pm. For more information call Blair Kirkby 07913476934