

February 2018 at christ church moreton

Dear friends at Christchurch

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and
with all your mind and with all your strength.*

Mark 12:30

The middle of February this year gives us a day which focusses on 2 things which seem completely different – even contradictory. February 14th is, of course, Valentines' Day – the day when our society spends a huge amount celebrating love. But this year 14th February is also Ash Wednesday – traditionally a day of self-examination and repentance at the start of Lent. The two don't seem to belong together – on the one hand passion and desire, on the other self-denial. But actually I think that holding them together can help us as disciples of the Lord Jesus.

Valentines' day turns our thoughts to loving and being loved. And for Christians that should lead us to think of the greatest love – the love that God has for us. And to how we can respond to that love – not for what we can get out of it but how we can show our love for him.

And Ash Wednesday, and Lent, should never be about giving up something for the sake of it – though that seems to be how many people think about it. If we do give up anything, it should always be so that we can replace it with something better. Something that will help us to appreciate the love that Jesus has for us a bit more, and to respond to that. For Christians, Valentines' Day needs Ash Wednesday and Lent!

That's why I'd encourage you to use Lent this year to look at your relationship with God, and how that can grow. Inside this newsletter is something about how we can do that.

Yours in Christ

Graham Cousins



Next Sunday (11th Feb) everyone will receive a copy of the booklet 'Spiritual Healthcheck'. I'd encourage you to use it during Lent as an aid to reflecting on your relationship with the Lord, and how that can grow. In addition, all of our services and home-groups during Lent will be based on the book.

WORK PARTY

Saturday 17th February
10.00 am

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday 17th

February

9.00 am



LADIES LUNCH

Saturday 17th

February

12.00 noon



INSPIRE MAGAZINE

Many will have enjoyed reading Inspire Magazine over the past few years. The magazine has now been running for 11 years, and CPO, who publish it, are moving to a new look magazine, which will be launched in late 2018. Until then they are pausing the current print magazine, though you can still read new articles on their website (<http://www.inspiremagazine.org.uk/>)



22nd June to 24th June 2018

Our annual weekend away is a great way to get to know your Church family better. The weekend is split into morning and evening teaching sessions with time in the day to either join in with the family events or to go off and enjoy the North Wales area. All meals are included, we have a guest speaker, Nick Johnson, for the weekend, all are welcome. A booking form is attached it's not too late to give your form to Lynda Jones.

BIG CHURCH DAY OUT

A few of our Church family went to this music and family fun event last year and had a great time. It is planned again for 1st and 2nd June 2018 at Capesthorpe Hall, Cheshire. Early bird tickets are available till the 31st March. Leaflets are at the back of Church.



Regular weekly activities:

Monday	-	9.30 am : Toddler Group
	-	1.00 pm : TLC
Tuesday	-	9.30 am: Toddler Group
	-	3.30 pm: S.O.S.
	-	6.00 - 7.30 pm Foodbank
Wednesday	-	5.30 pm: Rainbows
Thursday	-	9.45 am : Keep Fit
	-	11.00 am : Keep Fit
	-	1.00 pm : Craft Group
	-	5.30 pm : Brownies
	-	7.30 pm : Zumba
Friday	-	9.15 am : Mothers 'n' Others
	-	2.00 - 3.30 pm Foodbank

All activities will be closed during the February Half-Term week beginning Monday 19th February
except for Open Church, TLC, Craft Group, Mothers'n'others and Foodbank

