



Pastoral Update 09.04.2021

Welcome to this week's pastoral update. This one is fuller than usual, as it covers two weeks and includes reports of our recent church meeting and our Easter services. Please do use this both for information and as fuel for prayer.

1. Online Service, Sunday 11 April

This Sunday, Nathan Shipley is leading, Paul Whitman (Headingley) is leading sung worship, Heather McLeen (Headingley) is giving the All Age Talk, Ann and John Pelham (Connect@Copperbeech) will lead our prayers, Liz Chennels (Cragg) will be reading God's word. Our preacher is Ruth Perrin. Many of you will remember Ruth from her time in Leeds - nowadays she can be found in Durham researching young adult faith and training in Christian leadership. She is speaking on Mark 12, with a special focus on verses 28-34 and 41-44. Ruth shares on power, God's upside-down kingdom and orientating ourselves to God. You're in for a real treat and I warmly encourage you to engage with the service, either at the time or through the website later in the day or week.

Zoom into Church has paused for a post Easter break and will resume on 25 April. The services – both 18 and 25 April – will begin at 10.30 am.

2. Online Service, Sunday 18 April

Next Sunday, Hannah Childs is leading, Paul Scholey (Cragg) is leading sung worship, Mark Roques (Cragg) is giving the All Age Talk, Chris Makufa (Headingley) will lead our prayers, Chris Dyson (Headingley) will be reading God's word. Our preacher is Emily Bosworth. Previously, Emily was the Team Leader at Leeds Faith In Schools, however now she is Church Relationship Manager for the North of England at Open Doors.

3. How to Engage with these Services

The services are now streaming on YouTube. Go to [Cornerstone Baptist Church Leeds - YouTube](#)

As already noted, you can also engage via our website at any time during the week: go to <http://www.cbcl.org.uk/onlineservice>

Our Online Easter Services (Good Friday and Easter Sunday) are both available this way, and you can also find them on our YouTube channel. Why not take some time to catch up with these if you missed them?

4. Zoom After Party

The Church Zoom Room will be open for those who want to chat and pray after both services.

5. Bedtime Stories and Tots Online Break

A reminder that Bedtime Stories and Tots Online are still on their break, but will be resuming soon. Tots Online recommences on Sunday 18 April and Bedtime Stories on Sunday 25 April.

6. In Person Services Update

We are working on a schedule of in-person services that will take us through to the end of May in the first instance. The first of these will be on 18 April, when there will be 'Church on the Move and Kids Church in the Hub' from 11.00am at Connect@CopperBeech. Cragg and Headingley's next in person services will be on 25 April and 2 May respectively. Plans are being put in place for further in person services across our sites. This is really exciting. The aim for this next chapter of our life together is for a 'hybrid' approach in which both online and in-person are important.

We will continue to distribute CDs and DVDs of services, however on certain weeks they will arrive later than usual as they will be a recording of an in person service. When there is set to be a delay, we will send you a note as a reminder.

We remain incredibly grateful to Kerry, Owen and Jill for producing and posting the CDs and DVDs. Please pray for them and all the other staff and volunteers as they continue to work on different aspects of our services.

7. Headingley Volunteers

A reminder of the following message which went out to all Headingley people recently: 'Thank you for everyone that completed the recent survey. We were very encouraged by the amount of people willing to serve at in person services. Many of the kind offers to serve were completed anonymously, so we don't have contact information to follow up. So, we'd really appreciate it if you could get in touch with the church office on info@cbcl.org.uk and let us know how you are able to serve. Don't worry if you didn't get a chance to complete the survey, we would still love to hear from you.'

8. Easter Services and Activities

I was really encouraged by all that happened over Easter and I hope you were too: the Prayer Space open at Cragg, the Palm Sunday Zoom Service which was the culmination of our 21 days of Prayer for 2021, the Good

Friday and Easter Sunday online Services, and the in-person services at Cragg and Headingley.

At Connect, 30 Easter packs for children across Bramley were made and distributed. The packs had an Easter egg, some crafts, sunflower seeds and the Easter Story. These were for families Connect knew pre-covid and also those who had only come into contact with Connect this year through online events such as the Bake-off.

Please pray for Connect...

Thank God that Connect has been able to maintain relationships and grow in numbers over this time of pandemic.

Please pray for a family Connect have known for just over a year who placed a palm cross on their Easter Wreath on the door. Pray that Caroline, Hannah and the team might be able to chat with them about faith and invite them to church.

9. Children's Activities

Some further news from Hannah. She writes:

'I have been really keen to meet as many of our children in the church as possible since starting my role in January. Finally, with lockdown easing slightly, I had my chance! During Holy Week, with the help of Joel as my driver, we delivered packs to 50 children! The packs included a little letter from me, some crafts and chocolate. It was so wonderful and encouraging to meet with so many of you for the first time and catch up with those I already knew.

If you have children in Primary school and didn't get a pack please do not hesitate to get in touch via email: children@cbcl.org.uk. I would love to come see you!

10. News from the Church Meeting

Much was discussed. An update was given on our moves towards becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and information was shared about my forthcoming sabbatical over the summer.

The key item was a discussion and agreement to actively explore the establishment of a Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) Education centre on our Headingley site. We will be setting up an Initial Action Group to move this forward and TLG will be doing a feasibility study looking at our church and the need across Leeds to consider whether we are a suitable partner and whether there is a call for the centre. The church meeting minutes give much more detail and I encourage you to look at them closely, either to refresh your memory or to find out about this for the first time. Also, their website is tremendous and full of information.

For a general overview of TLG go to:

[TLG - Transforming lives for good](#)

For information specifically about education centres, see:

[TLG - Education Centres](#)

For information about the difference TLG makes and some testimonies of transformed lives, see:

[TLG - Our impact](#)

This comes with warm best wishes, and prayers,

Peter

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