



Pastoral Update 23/04/2021

Welcome to this week's pastoral update. This one includes links to book in for in person services, and reminders of various upcoming events. Please do use this not only for information, but also for prayer.

1. This Sunday's Services

This Sunday's (25th April) Online Service

Scott Halligan (Headingley) is leading, Ed and Sophie Borrett (Connect@Copperbeech) are leading sung worship, Kate Burkett is leading the all age talk, Ruth Goater (Connect@Copperbeech) is leading prayers, Anna Sweeney (Cragg) is reading God's word, and I am speaking. We begin a new series on some passages from the opening chapters of Revelation. Sometimes we're put off studying this book, as it can seem strange and threatening. But it's wonderful good news, full of encouragement as we seek to follow Jesus today. This week's reading is Revelation 1.1-8 and we'll think about the character of God and how this is great news for us.

How to Engage with these Services

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

We start with Zoom into Church with Gideon and Hannah at 10.00 am. The service itself begins at 10.30 am.

You can also engage via our website at any time during the week: go to <http://www.cbcl.org.uk/onlineservice> and you can catch up on any services you've missed through YouTube as well.

Zoom After Party

The Church Zoom Room will be open for those who want to chat and pray after the services. One of the elders will be present to welcome people, and

there's the opportunity to split into site specific breakout rooms if people want this.

Cragg In-Person Service

This Sunday we have an in-person service at Cragg which, assuming the weather is fine (and the forecast looks good), will be outside the building. There's still opportunity to book in. Please click on this link and follow the instructions:

<https://spb.churchsuite.co.uk/events/xrnanq7m>

These are always great times and are brilliantly stewarded. I encourage you not to be afraid to book on. Because we are outside we are now able to sing! I know that when this happened on Easter Sunday it was hugely significant for many: the opportunity to sing with a group of God's people for the first time in some while.

This Sunday Duncan is leading and I'm speaking, on the same passage I'll speak from at the online service, Revelation 1.1-8. God is in control of our world, he is present with us by his Spirit, and Jesus sends us out to engage in cross-shaped mission. These verses contain a real message for our times and I hope we'll be able to hear it loud and clear on Sunday, whether we're hearing it online or in person.

2. Next Week's Services

On Sunday 2nd May we have an in-person service at Headingley and this will also be live streamed as the online service. This is the first time we've done this and so I especially ask you to pray, not just for those 'up front' but for all behind the scenes, especially for Nathan Shipley and Adrian Howe. For the service itself, Chris Dyson is leading, Matthew Newman and team are leading sung worship, Nathan Shipley is leading an all-age talk, Sue Ricketts is leading prayers, Meenakshi Rao is reading God's word, and I am speaking on the second passage in our Revelation series, Revelation 1.9-20.

Please find below the link to book in for the service:

<https://spb.churchsuite.co.uk/events/ivcc6k46>

We will be inside so unfortunately there will be no congregational singing, but Matthew and the group will be able to sing.

We are not able to provide creche and children's / separate YP provision at this particular service which will be more adult focused. We are aiming to have children's and YP provision at the next Headingley in person service, which will be on 23 May, Pentecost Sunday.

I warmly encourage you to book on for 2 May. Please do so before 10.30 pm on Thursday 29 April as Friday 30 April will be needed to set the building up for the service in a Covid secure way.

3. News and Notices

Connect Walking Church

This took place last Sunday (18 April) and was clearly a great occasion, with children based at the Copperbeech Hub and adults walking and sharing. Please do pray for Connect, for Caroline, Hannah and the whole team as an exciting new season begins!

Whole Church Meeting, Thursday 29 April

A reminder, especially for church members, that we have a special whole church meeting on Thursday 29 April at 7.30 pm. This will be via Zoom, and you'll be able to use the details for the Sunday Zoom after parties to join. We dare to believe that this meeting won't be a particularly long one, but it is really important! Please do join us if you possibly can.

Transforming Lives for Good

At the last positive and exciting church meeting we decided to actively explore having a TLG education centre on our Headingley site.

Things are now moving forward to the next stage. Kate Churchill and I have met with Jack Carter from TLG. We will be signing a Memorandum of Understanding, setting up an Initial Action Group, and taking part in a feasibility study which will consider whether we're a suitable partner for TLG as well as exploring whether there's a need for an education centre in our area.

Kate will be acting as point person for us at this stage of the project and drawing together the Initial Action Group. Thank you to those of you who have offered to be involved in this. Kate will be in touch, and we'll also be approaching different people directly.

The next four to five months are likely to be crucial for the success or failure of the project. Please do pray that God's guidance is clear.

Tots News and Notices

- **Tots Picnics**

As restrictions are now slowly easing, Kate Burkett is hoping to provide some opportunities for tots and their parents/carers to meet up for Covid-secure

picnics over the next few weeks. More details about the picnics will be available in next week's pastoral update.

- **Cafe Tots**

The hope is that Cafe Tots will be able to resume in June after half-term. We'll have more details about this nearer the time.

- **Bedtime Stories**

Bedtime Stories will be resuming this Sunday for tots under 5 and KS1 children from 6.45 pm – 7.00 pm. The Zoom session is open earlier from 6.30 pm for any families who would like to chat together beforehand. Please contact Kate Burkett for the Zoom details and to join the Bedtime Stories WhatsApp group: tots@cbcl.org.uk

- **Tots Online**

Tots Online is once again on Wednesday at 10.00 am. Please click on the link below to register and to find out more information:
<http://www.cbcl.org.uk/totsonline>

In some ways the message of Revelation is that 'all will be well'. As a result we can be people of hope in challenging, uncertain times. May this characterise us as a church in the days ahead.

Warm best wishes,

Peter

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