



## **Pastoral Update 14.05.2021**

**Welcome to this week's pastoral update.**

### **This week's service (16 May)**

This week the online service is a live Zoom which will be recorded and used as the DVD service. I'm leading and speaking, Ed and Sophie Borrett will lead sung worship. There will be an overseas mission feel to the service with reading and prayers from Sam and Katie Knight (Chad), and an all-age talk from Levi Booth (Japan). I will speak on Revelation 4 as we continue our series on the book of Revelation. God is sovereign (even through pandemics and lockdowns!) and is for his people. There will be opportunity for interaction, especially through the chat window, and **we will share communion together at the close of the service. You'll need bread and wine /grape juice in your home.**

We aim to start promptly at 10.30 am. Please do join with us live if you're not engaging elsewhere across Cornerstone in person.

### **Zoom into Church this Sunday (16 May)**

Zoom into church has been going for over a whole year now. I know many people of all ages are grateful for the work Hannah and Gideon have done. Fantastic.

We are leading now into the last few weeks of Zoom into Church as each of our sites are opening their doors for in-person services. As this particular chapter of our church life comes to a close there will be a leaders' challenge over the next few weeks, as myself, Duncan and Caroline are pitted against each other. I've recorded my attempt at the challenge and really enjoyed joining Zoom into Church. I think I have a good chance of victory!

**To engage...**

The new email to use for Zoom into Church related stuff is [children@cbcl.org.uk](mailto:children@cbcl.org.uk)

Zoom into Church will be on from 10am on Sunday on Facebook, YouTube and the Church Website. [Cornerstone Baptist Church Leeds - YouTube](#)

[\(11\) Cornerstone Baptist Church | Facebook](#)

<http://www.cbcl.org.uk/onlineservice>

You can engage later in the week as well, as the recording will still be there. You can also catch up on services that you've missed and direct friends, colleagues and family to what is becoming a rich resource.

### **In person events this Sunday**

Connect@Copperbeech walking church is happening this Sunday, with children's activities in the Hub led by Hannah and Sophie. Cragg are having a Community day, with a Community Skip, Coffee in the garden and Litter Picking from 10.00 -12.00 noon led by Duncan.

Please do pray for these events if you're not going to be there in person.

You'll have noticed that pretty much every Sunday now there's something in person happening on at least one of our sites. Please pray for all who are involved in the services and events, both upfront and behind the scenes. It's far harder to organise – as you can imagine – than in pre-covid times. Our Risk Assessment Group also continue to do sterling work.

### **Next Week's Service 23 May**

Next week all our sites are open and active. It's Pentecost Sunday, one of the great Sundays of the Christian year.

### **Cragg and Connect@Copperbeech**

More details will follow, but Connect@Copperbeech are planning to meet again. Cragg have a Pentecost Sunday service at 10.30 am. To book on for this, use the following link:

<https://spb.churchsuite.co.uk/events/i0hikjxe>

After time for people to leave there will be a Cafe in the Garden where people are welcome to sit at table and be served tea and coffee. People are also welcome to bring their own picnic.

### **Headingley**

I'll provide a bit more detail about this as the Headingley service will also be livestreamed as our online service. It's also a bit more complex!

Barbara Crosse will be leading the service, Paul Whitman will be leading our team of musicians, Joe Walsh will lead our prayers, Rio Walsh will be reading God's word, and I will speak on the opening verses of Acts 2 and some selected verses from Revelation.

As well as the service in the main worship space, we will be restarting provision for children and young people. Creche will take place in the Green House and Junior Church will begin in the Hall. Specific details about logistics (drop-offs, guidelines etc.) will be sent out on Thursday of next week. But if you follow the booking link below it will take you to a page which already includes significant information. Perhaps the key thing at this stage is to note that children will go straight to their groups and not be in the service. This will increase our capacity both for children's work and for the service itself.

We are now at '1 metre plus' with regards social distancing. Whilst covid security remains essential, and much work has gone already into making the service safe, we can fit more people in than at previous in-person services in what is our largest building. This is an exciting moment for everyone involved at Headingley. Please do pray for us.

Here is the link:

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

We do encourage you to book as far in advance as you can. This is not what we're used to, but it really helps the team to plan the set up of the worship space, as we can see who's coming in what size family groups / on their own etc. To put in another way, the more information we have in plenty of time, the more we can work on capacity and possibly increase the number of people who can attend. So please do use the link and – if you can – use it now!

### **Tots Picnic – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

The next picnic for tots and their parents/carers will take place this coming Wednesday, 19th May at our Headingley site at 11 am - 12.15 pm. As we have both outdoor and indoor space available, families can meet whatever the weather! For more information and to book your place, please click on this link:

<https://spb.churchsuite.co.uk/events/nz1dlgad>

After the picnic on 19<sup>th</sup> May, two final Tots Picnics are planned before half-term on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May. The booking links for these will be available in the pastoral email next week. After half-term it's hoped that Café Tots will be able to resume again.

## **Bedtime Stories**

Bedtime Stories is on as usual 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](mailto:tots@cbcl.org.uk)

### **Positives**

I was tempted to share quite a bit of news of some recent events but I don't want this letter to be too long! In brief, we have recently had a great Headingley site meeting, a wonderful in-person service at Cragg last Sunday, and Connect had a really good walking church. The rain held off which was especially encouraging!

Please be praying for all our sites as we increasingly open our physical doors once again.

### **Ascension Day**

This past Thursday was ascension day: not always celebrated in Baptist churches, partly because in the Christian calendar it always falls midweek. This is a shame because it's so important. Jesus is risen and ascended and will come again. This is wonderfully positive. It's because Jesus is risen *and* ascended that the Holy Spirit has now been poured out on his people. Ascension Day also helps us see why discipleship is often very challenging. We live in the era in which the Kingdom has come in Jesus but there is yet more to anticipate. This is what theologians call the 'now and not yet' of the Kingdom of God. Jesus has ascended and is present by the Spirit but is yet to return. Much has already taken place but there is still more to come – much more. As we live in this 'in-between time', this time of tension, we pray for God to help us live faithfully and creatively, knowing we are on 'victory side'. We are reminded once again that he has called us 'for such a time as this'.

**Warm best wishes, and prayers,**

**Peter**

Cornerstone Baptist Church Leeds LS6 3LF  
A charity registered in England No. 1128935

*This message is private and confidential. If you have received it in error, please notify us and remove it from your system and be advised that if you were not the intended recipient any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying of this email or its attachments is strictly prohibited. Any views or*

*opinions presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Cornerstone Baptist Church. Email content and traffic data sent to and from this domain may be retained and electronically monitored for illegal content.*

Cornerstone Baptist Church

You received this email because you have opted in to receive general emails from Cornerstone Baptist Church.

[Manage communication](#) or [Unsubscribe](#)