

Gentlemen Please! Ministry to Men.

Over recent months we have enjoyed two really good events for the men of our church family. The first was our Men's Weekend back in November which comprised Food after Friday Football, a walk on Cannock Chase, an evening meal with after dinner speaker Martin Young and our service on Sunday morning. It was a great weekend of fellowship...

I loved the football night, great fun; but I think more about the message for me on the Saturday evening and Sunday morning: It was to be a better dad. Even with my own 22 year old and 18 year old with everything going for them, even having been given the gift of being a foster dad, the message was clear. Be a better dad, still. My job requirements? To build on a special love which allows compassion, stability - in an ever changing role, encouragement, friendship, laughter, being there for them... and being a role model husband!

Huw Hughes

Paul asked me to write a few words about the men's week-end. Perhaps it's a man thing but I found it hard to put a finger on why it was good.

It was good;

Good to take time to talk to others that I don't normally speak to;

Good to share in a walk even without talking;

Good to celebrate God's creation in fields, forest and deer that crossed our path or watched us from within the woods;

Good to get into the warmth of the pub for lunch after the cold damp of the walk;

Good to meet again for dinner in the evening;

Good to be challenged by a message from Martin Young;

Good to be brought up short by the tragedy of a member of the Rising Brook fellowship confronted by the last days of his wife's terminal illness with two children soon to be without a mum.

Good to get away, better to be renewed but best to return strengthened to face life's challenges.

I think I know why Paul asked others to write about the men's week-end.

Graham Willson

The second event was a trip to 'Enable', a day conference at the Elim Birmingham City Church in February, with speakers Mark Stibbe and Miles Hilton Barber. It was a fantastic day, with superb teaching and challenge. Thanks to Robin P for organising the trip.

We hope to continue with events for our men, and pray that God will work within us, amongst us and through us so that we can learn to share with and minister to one another.



MARKET DRAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

Messenger

NEWSLETTER AND CIRCUIT PLAN

What makes community?

There may be all sorts of answer to this question. But at a very basic level to feel that you belong and are cared for is what being community is.

As a church community the way we care is vital. Recently we have expressed that care in renewing the way we welcome people, and this has already made an impact on people. Of course it is the responsibility of everyone within our church community to express care.

One area that currently needs to have an overhaul is our pastoral team, 'Pastoral Visitors' and groups. Do you have a gift of care, a heart for people, loving individuals, caring when they hurt? If so it could be God's gift to you to minister in pastoral care. We need one or two more people to join our pastoral care team (Pastoral Visitors), who simply take an interest in people and express the care of people in our church family. Is that you? Could you offer yourself to this calling? If so speak to Roger.

Also if you could offer this further gift of assisting Roger in the and keeping the pastoral lists up to date and overseeing the care given, he could do with some help with these tasks. Some computer skills would be a great help, though training could be given.

Please prayerfully consider being a volunteer for God's kingdom work in caring. Speak to Roger.

Roger

Gift Aiding

Generous giving to the work of the church, can be made so much greater by Gift Aiding your regular giving or one off donation. We simply claim the tax back on the amount you've already paid. You have to be a UK tax payer to do this.

Please consider gift aiding your giving and speak to Norman Gollins, who will have a simple form for you to complete.

Thank You

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This newsletter is a useful way of sharing news and testimony.

Please see Paul if you have any ideas or contributions.

MARCH, APRIL, MAY 2010

Youthwork Update.

I've been getting into the schools!

Longlands have been very accommodating and I'm in my old primary school, taking assemblies on Tuesday mornings, starting a lunchtime, Christian Union type club and attending my first governors meeting next month! I've also met with the Head from Alexander Road and the lady in charge of pastoral care at The Grove and it's now a case of seeking God to work out how exactly to split and use my time.

The church outreach clubs are going well, although I'm still finding myself slipping into "teacher-mode" at times, concentrating on the activities instead of the freedom of being able to enjoy chatting and developing relationships with the children and young people! Many thanks to all of the helpers who give up their time each week to ensure that the clubs are able to run.

I am enjoying my training each week with Youth for Christ in Stoke, sharing ideas and worship times together.

Prayer would be very much appreciated in all the areas mentioned above and that more young people would come to know and trust in the Lord.

Many thanks,

Kev.

Dates for your diary...

MARKET DRAYTON ROMANIA LINK PRESENTS
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To Worship: An Evening of Christian Music
7.30pm on Saturday 22nd May 2010 at MDMC
With Paul Savill (writer of 3rd Day) and Guests! Tickets: £5.00 (£3.00 Concessions)
For more information and to book tickets please contact 01630 657784 or obation@hotmail.co.uk
MARKET DRAYTON ROMANIA LINK is an official project of Market Drayton Methodist Church

--- A&Z ---

Real Life, Real Meaning, Real God

Sunday Evenings at the
Festival Drayton Centre

March 14th : speaker Pete Williams

May 16th : Noel Richards & Band.

Tickets £9 (Concessions £5).

July 4th : September 12th : November 7th

See Mark Savill for details.

Friday 5th March

Women's World Day of Prayer : 7.30pm
at the Catholic Church

26th - 28th March

Ladies Weekend at Somersal Cottages

Saturday 8th May

Quiz & Afters : 7.00pm at MDMC : £2

Monday 17th May : 7.30pm

General Church Meeting - our 'AGM'
where everyone in the church family can
attend and be part of the discussion.

Prayer Opportunities.

Have you ever heard people say, "well, the only thing left we could do was pray"? Perhaps we've said it ourselves; it's as though every other avenue is closed so our last resort is prayer. Could we perhaps have it the wrong way round?

When we think about it God has provided the priceless resource of prayer for us individually - at home, school or work, in the street or market place - wherever!! It's also a special privilege and joy to come together as brothers and sisters in Christ for corporate prayer. See the weekly notice sheet for regular meetings and be encouraged to come along (you won't be expected to pray out loud). In addition we have prayer breakfasts every two or three months when there is time to pray for issues in a little more depth. You will be most welcome to the next on Saturday 10th April from 8.00 to 9.45am.

Gordon Moores

Lord Teach us to pray.....

Very soon we plan to launch "**Prayer Triplets**" at MDMC. Ideally this is three Christians who are able to meet together informally on a regular basis to support each other and pray together. If this is not possible then you can still form a Prayer Triplet and talk and pray together over the phone, on Skype, email or when you meet at church. The important thing is that you will each be praying for nine people regularly.

If you want to be involved begin to pray now that God will guide you to two friends with whom you can form a Triplet. Then ask God to show you three not-yet-Christian friends for whom you and your Triplet friends will pray. Ideally these friends should be in the place where you spend most time and whom you see fairly often (college, school, work, in a sport or leisure activity or a neighbour). God will show you if you are patient!

Each Triplet Member then begins to pray regularly for the nine contacts, asking that they will come to know forgiveness and New Life in Jesus. The one time that I have been involved in this was most fruitful, as my three friends for whom we were praying became Christians!

Please pray and think carefully whether this is a ministry that you can be involved in, and then, just WATCH THIS SPACE!

Kath Farrimond

"Prayer does not change God,

but it changes him who prays." (Søren Kierkegaard)

Wednesday Evenings: 7.00pm in the Church Lounge

Thursday Mornings: 7.00am in the Church Lounge

Prayer Breakfasts : Saturday 10th April (MDMC)

Saturday 19th June (Shropshire PB)

Worship & Prayer: Wednesdays at 7.30pm, recommencing
after Easter; April 21st, May 19th.

