



St John's Park Church Family: Followers of Jesus who Love and Learn from God, so we can..... Empower and Support each other, so we can Serve and Reach out to the community and beyond, so we can.....

Sunday 4 July 2021

Sunday 4 July On Sunday we plan to hold a church picnic on the grass outside church at 11.45am following the morning service. This is to welcome Kirsty who begins work with us as our Children and Families' Leader, and it will be an opportunity to meet with Stewart and Becky and the boys as they will be leaving us shortly. We will have two services as normal - 9.00am zoom as well as 10.45am in church. If you plan to be on zoom, do join us at church at 11.45am. **Bring your own food and drink and something to sit on.** We may also have Communion and sing a song or two. If it is wet, we can have our picnic in church in groups of 6 or two households of any size.

Sponsored Dawn Walk Saturday 17 July We start at 4.45am in Hope (takes about 35 mins from church) parking by the church on the main road in Hope and walk 8 miles up Lose Hill and then along the tops to Mam Tor and back. Some great views. Should take about 4 hours. The purpose is to have a great walk and also to raise some money for the Children and Families' Leader post in three years' time. Let David know asap to get your sponsor form. Don't worry about raising lots of money – taking part is as important!

Litter Picking We continue to meet at church at 5.30pm each Monday. Come and join us to litter pick or pray, or both! Everyone is welcome. It's a great opportunity to meet people who live nearby.

Networks – Romania The charity which Chris and Aoife worked for in Romania are looking for volunteers to come and join the charity and spend a year in Romania. They are running a faith- based training programme that release and equip volunteers to work amongst the poor and join in what Jesus is doing. If you or anyone you know may be interested please speak to Chris, Aoife or David.



Online Connect Groups We continue to meet midweek in small groups. If you are interested in joining one, let us know.

Online Prayer We meet Monday to Friday each morning from 8.00am – 8.30am. Do join us.

Giving If you would like to support the work of St John's Park Church financially, or review your giving, please contact Colin, our Treasurer, at StJohnsPark@outlook.com. The Church bank details are: ST JOHNS PARK P C C Sort Code: 20-76-89 Acct: 60362786. Thank you.

Bible Reading Mark 4: 1-20 The Parable of the Sower

4 Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered round him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. **2** He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: **3** 'Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. **4** As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. **5** Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. **6** But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times.' **9** Then Jesus said, 'Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.'

10 When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables. **11** He told them, 'The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables **12** so that, "they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!"'

13 Then Jesus said to them, 'Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? **14** The farmer sows the word. **15** Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. **16** Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. **17** But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. **18** Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; **19** but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. **20** Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop – some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.'