

LAWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



Monthly Update

Making Jesus Known in Lawn and beyond.....



OCTOBER 2023

www.lawncommunitychurch.org.uk

Sunday Services are held every week at 10.30am

At Lawn Community Centre, Guilford Avenue, Lawn, Swindon, SN3 1JL

Prayer gathering in Room 1 every Sunday before the service at 10.15am

October

1 st	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Communion Service, Bring and Share Lunch
5 th	Thurs	6.45pm	BBQ to start new Discipleship Home Group at Jenny & Crispian's. If anyone willing to bring a salad or dessert please let Crispian know. Email: crispian.garth@ntlworld.com
8 th	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
12 th	Thurs	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting in Room 1
15 th	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
21 st	Sat	10am	Clothes Swap
22 nd	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
----- Closing date for MU & CFN -----			
26 th	Thurs	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting in Room 1
29 th	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service

November

5 th	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Communion Service, Bring and Share Lunch
9 th	Thurs	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting in Room 1
12 th	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
19 th	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
23 rd	Thurs	7.30pm	Members Meeting
26 th	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
----- Closing date for MU & CFN -----			

December

10 th	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service followed by Bring and Share Lunch
24 th	Sun	8pm	Traditional Carol Service at The Sun Inn
25 th	Mon	10.30	Christmas Day Service

Memory Verse

Psalm 27:1

"The LORD is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear?"

Notice board

Bring 'n' share lunches These will take place following the morning service on the first Sunday of every month. Please bring some lunch for you and some lunch to share!

House Discipleship Group Starting on Thursday 5th October, 6.45pm arrival for a 7pm prompt start at Jenny and Crispian's home. At our first gathering, we will have BBQ either in or out doors, weather dependent. If anyone is willing to bring a salad or dessert, please let Crispian know. Email: crispian.garth@ntlworld.com At future meetings we will look and study the scriptures and discipleship issues. It is an opportunity to get to know each other better and celebrate one another in the Lord. Do join us!

Thanks to Lillieth Patterson who has coordinated the The BMS World Mission birthday scheme for several years. Lillieth will be standing down from this role in September at the AGM.

Vacant role - The BMS World Mission Birthday Scheme involves sending a Birthday Card with a Gift Envelope to members in the Birthday Scheme on their Birthday; and encouraging more people to support BMS Birthday Scheme. The person who receives the birthday card, is encouraged to make a financial donation to BMS Birthday Scheme. If you would like more information speak to Jenny Garth or Howard Patterson.

Food-parcels LCC continues to deliver a weekly, balanced, healthy food-parcel to three households referred to us, by Lawn Primary School. We continue to deliver one-off emergency food-parcels. This assistance is helping those households in getting themselves back on their feet. We still urgently require help, by way of donations of food and drink - please see John. Thank you.

Christmas Activities: A variety of activities is currently being considered. Please watch this space.

Traditional Christmas Carol Service 8.00pm Sunday, 24th December, at The Sun Inn, the pub by Coate Water roundabout. Some from the LCC will be bringing relatives with them and enjoying a meal there, before the carol service.

Christmas Day Service 10.30am at Lawn Community Centre.

Prayer Triplets Would you be willing to 'journey' with two others, both prayerfully and in other ways, at Lawn Community Church? Some of you already meet and pray for one or two others at the church - we're now looking to enhance this spiritual practice and extend it throughout the congregation. We welcome your feedback.

Board games evening Do you enjoy board games? Would you be willing to lead others in the playing of one of them? As part of gentle outreach towards others in the community who enjoy them, we're considering a free monthly, organised, board games evening at the Community Centre, led by the church where anyone can attend and play - and where teas, coffees and other refreshments will be available, in a safe space. We may look to commence such an activity on the first Friday evening in November, although that may change. If you can help, please see John and dig out your games at home!

Finance: offering box Our thanks go to everyone who supports the church by Direct Debit, Standing Order or other electronic arrangement. We also have the box at the back on a Sunday morning, if anyone would prefer to make a cash offering to Lawn Community Church - thank you.

Litter-picking Lawn Community Church held its first litter-picking initiative on 19th August. Around ten people were able to fill five black bags in an hour, with litter and various debris from the streets of Lawn, including a whole pane of glass and a third of a toilet! Some of us also 'blessed' staff and customers at the shops across the road. Great (free) cake made by Jenny, and Keith T, helped! Would you be willing to help with future litter-picking initiatives, in various ways? Litter-picking implements will be provided! If you would like to serve God and serve others, please see John.

Men's Breakfasts Watch this space for more details.

Worship Group Can you play a musical instrument? Do you sing, however falteringly? If so, we may be looking to use your talents - please see Stephen Brooke.

THE LCC ROTA

Oct	Facilitator	Preach	Music	PA	Laptop	Set Up	Refreshments
1	Keith S	Keith S	Susan	Keith T	Howard	Keith T Howard	Keith T & Sue
8	Christine Stephen	Stephen	Stephen	Matthew	Ruth	Howard	Frank & Rachel
15	John	John	Stephen	Matthew	Ruth	Stephen Christine	Stephen & Christine
22	Keith S & Susan	Keith Saunders	Susan	Crispian	Jenny	Keith S Susan	Jenny & Crispian
29	Chris Woodhouse	Chris Woodhouse	Susan	Keith T	Howard	Keith T Howard	Keith T & Sue

From a JCC worshipper

God's voice:-	Satan's Voice:-
Stills	Rushes
Leads	Pushes
Restores	Frightens
Enlightens	Confuses
Encourages	Discourages
Comforts	Worries
Uplifts	Compares
Calms	Obsesses
Convicts	Condemns

Contributed by Rachel

Finances - Lawn Community Church

We are reliant upon God and the giving of our Members / Congregation, for the ongoing work of the church. Each month, the money received goes towards paying for our Minister-In-Training, Giving to Specific Causes – locally and abroad and our various admin expenses.

If you feel prompted to give regularly, please speak to our Treasurer Howard Patterson or to Jenny Garth for Gift Aid. Please use the Offering Box if you are unable to give regularly or prefer to give a cash offering.

Gifts Received in August 2023

Regular & one-off gifts:	£1,370
Offering Box Gift	£265.50
WEBA Home Mission Grant	£333.33
Total:	£1,784.83

Payments / Expenses for month: £4,491.57

The deficit payment is being met from our reserves.

✠ BE INSPIRED WITH QUOTES ✠

“Prayer is simple a two-way conversation between you and God.” – **Billy Graham**

“We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on the difficulties.” – **Oswald Chambers**

“When prayer becomes your habit, miracles become your lifestyle. Never give up on prayer no matter what comes your way.” – **Anon**

“Don’t worry about having the right words; worry more about having the right heart. It’s not eloquence he seeks, just honesty.” – **Max Lucado**

When you pray, remember that you are not praying to a distant God, but to the God that dwells within you. Don't just speak the words; feel what they mean in your life. Don't pray from your lips, but from your heart. Your prayers aren't for God, they are for you, to remind you of the presence of the Holy Spirit within you.

When you say "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done," remember that you are loved and protected.

God has planned greater things for us than we can imagine. The more we maintain an awareness of God's unchanging love, the safer and more at home we will feel in the world.

— **Susan L Taylor**

Soaking in the Word

Ephesians 6:10-18 - **Living Bible**

¹⁰ Last of all I want to remind you that your strength must come from the Lord’s mighty power within you. ¹¹ Put on all of God’s armour so that you will be able to stand safe against all strategies and tricks of Satan. ¹² For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies—the evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty satanic beings and great evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world.

¹³ So use every piece of God’s armour to resist the enemy whenever he attacks, and when it is all over, you will still be standing up. ¹⁴ But to do this, you will need the strong belt of truth and the breastplate of God’s approval. ¹⁵ Wear shoes that are able to speed you on as you preach the Good News of peace with God. ¹⁶ In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan. ¹⁷ And you will need the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit—which is the Word of God. ¹⁸ Pray all the time. Ask God for anything in line with the Holy Spirit’s wishes. Plead with him, reminding him of your needs, and keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere.

Minister's Letter

Just recently, Fiona and I lost a friend. Pip Wilson was a church youth worker, YMCA leader and a specialist in 'emotional intelligence'. We'd both known this northerner for decades and we attended his retirement 'do' at Romford YMCA in March 2003!

I first came across him at the Greenbelt Festival where, every year, he organised and led amazing activities like 'The Rolling Magazine' and 'The Very Stinking Late Show' throughout the weekend and, as well as being innovative and creative, these were activities that were rooted in fun, laughter and love - always love. Pip strove to communicate God's love to everyone he encountered. He would call everybody a Beautiful Human Person and, he told me that I was one, on many occasions. He meant it and lived it. He offered unconditional love and acceptance to even the most difficult and socially-awkward people. There were times, in inner-city scenarios, where he told people that they were loved by God, even when it was physically-dangerous for Pip.

God is the source of this profound love.

I'm reminded that Jesus first set the example. He told His people that they are not to just love those who love them. His people are commanded to love those who don't love them; we're taught to love the unlovable.

Jesus said, "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who ill-treat you."

That's what Jesus expects you and I, His people, to do - and it won't be easy. However, He never said that it was easy. Yet it's what I have to do, every day. I may get it wrong, on a regular basis, but I'm commanded to keep doing it. I've now made my intentions public. It's risky, following this Jesus and His example.

God bless,

John (B.H.P.) Beautiful Human Person (according to Pip Wilson)

Lawn Community Church (LCC)

CURRENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Minister: John Cheek

Tel: 01793 420507 **Day off:** Friday

Deacons: Keith Tredget

Howard Patterson

Crispian Garth

Pastoral Mentor: Dr Stephen Brooke

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Minutes secretary, gift aid administrator, etc: Jenny Garth

Church news co-ordinator: Ruth French

BMS birthday scheme: Lillieth Patterson

Role vacant from September AGM

Designated person for safeguarding: Keith Tredget

LCC email: admin@lawncommunitychurch.org.uk

SAFE GUARDING *Although we are a small fellowship it is important that we continue to remember our responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and adults at risk, regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability. If you have any concerns, please contact:*

Keith Tredget: Mobile: 07810 860568

Email safeguarding@lawncommunitychurch.org.uk