

# Knowle Green Church

The Voice



**Once you were no people but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy.**

**1 Peter 2 v 10  
RSV**

**February - April 2016**

**[www.knowlegreencc.com](http://www.knowlegreencc.com)**

## Knowle Green Congregational Church

Clitheroe Road, Knowle Green, Longridge. PR3 2YQ

Tel: 01254 878394

Knowle Green is an independent Church affiliated to the Congregational Federation. Our ultimate loyalty is to Christ Himself and to His Word. We seek in our dealings to be guided by the Holy Scriptures and aim to build a spiritual house worthy and fit for the Lord Jesus.

If you would like to know more about our fellowship here you are welcome to speak to our Pastor, who can be contacted at the Manse, or by telephone (see above) or speak to one of the Deacons on duty, who will be happy to provide more information.

Services are Open to all and you are invited to attend any or all.

### **9. 45am Devotional Service**

This takes place every Sunday morning excluding the 1st Sunday in the month. This Service is facilitated by a Church member. It is Devotional in orientation, is an open Service and attendees are encouraged (optional) to take part through reading of Scripture; sharing of testimonies; choose a hymn/Worship song etc. This Service offers you the opportunity to be still; Seek God and listen to what God through the Holy Spirit is saying; to share; encourage ; bless and share in the Believers Breaking of Bread.

### **11.00am Family Service**

This is a traditionally structured family Service. It is led from the front by the Pastor of the Church (1st and 2nd of the month) and invited speakers thereafter.

### **2.30pm Agape Fellowship Meeting (1st Sunday ONLY)**

This is a 'MUST' for all. It takes place every 1st Sunday. We recognise the fact that increasingly Christians are becoming more isolated and marginalized hence this Service. It is more of a celebration/fellowship meeting. We share a meal (bring and share). This follows on after our usual tea/coffee recess. The gathering gives insight into the Church and the opportunity to meet Church members. We also recognise that we have a number who travel in and miss out on fellowship hence the need to be part of the family and enjoy each other's fellowship. Knowle Green remains unspoilt and is a designated 'Area of natural outstanding beauty'. On a good day take the opportunity to explore the Ribble Valley. If you have not come prepared ( brought food with you) please do still join us. Your fellowship means a lot to us.

### **Visitors**

If you are visiting, we welcome you to the service. We hope that you will be at home with us and experience the presence of God as we worship together. If this is your first visit, please sign in the visitors' Book in the foyer and we would love you to stay with us for coffee after the service. On Sunday mornings we warmly invite visitors to make use of our crèche, children and young people activities. Please ask for the group relevant to your child's age.


### Regular Weekly Fortnightly Schedule of Meetings/Activities

<b>Sunday</b>	9.45am – 10.30am  11.00am – 12noon	<b>Holy Communion and time of Open Worship</b>  <b>Family Service</b>	Weekly (not the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month)  Weekly
<b>Monday</b>	6.30pm-8.00pm  6.30pm-8.00pm	<b>Life of Faith Girls Group</b>  <b>Boys Club</b>	Alternate Weeks  Alternate Weeks
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.00am-10.00am 7.30pm-9.30pm	<b>Prayer Meeting</b> <b>House Group @ the Manse</b>	Weekly Weekly (not 1 <sup>st</sup> week of the month)
<b>Wednesday</b>	7.30pm-9.00pm	<b>House Group in Longridge</b>	Fortnightly


### Regular Monthly/Quarterly Schedule of Meetings/Activities

<b>Sunday</b>	11.00am-1200 noon 2.30pm-3.30pm  6.30pm-7.30pm	<b>Family Communion Service</b> <b>Agape Fellowship Meeting</b>  <b>Gospel Service</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month  2nd Sunday in the month
<b>Tuesday</b>	7.30pm-9.00pm	<b>Deacons Meeting</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.00am  1.30pm-3.30pm	<b>Finance Group</b>  <b>Prayer for Israel</b>	Usually last week of the month (or as required) 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month
<b>Thursday</b>	10.00am-3.00pm  2.00pm-3.30pm  7.30pm-9.00pm	ACE Home School Support/Fellowship Group  Thursday Fellowship (All Ages)  Building Committee	Usually 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of the month  Usually last Thursday of the month Quarterly
<b>Friday</b>	7.00am-6.00pm 7.30pm-9.00pm	<b>Day of Prayer and fasting</b> <b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Last Friday of the month
<b>Saturday</b>	9.00am-12noon  9.00am-10.30am	<b>Bikers Breakfast</b> - Last Saturday of the month  <b>Men's Breakfast</b>	Monthly (Mar-Oct)  Quarterly

**SEE NOTICE BOARD FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES**



**2016 Theme** **5th RVFBW**  
**Let us look to Jesus,**  
**the author and finisher**  
**of our faith**  
**Hebrews 12:2**  
**Date:- August 23rd 2016-August 28th 2016**  
**Aim: A family centred time of spiritual rest and refreshment**



**Knowle Green, Longridge, Nr Preston Lancashire. PR3 2YQ**  
**For further information contact:**  
**Pastor Chris Okpoti on 01254 878394**

The latest fashion is 'Glamping' You may glamp if you so wish. You can also camp, attend as a day visitor, stay over in a B&B or reside in a Cottage on the camp site. The choice is yours. Leaflets now available. Please pass on to friends, family, neighbours etc.

## **"History is just news from the graveyard"**

Writer, Earnest Poole wrote a novel entitled *'The Harbor'*. The main character of the story is a bespectacled elderly gentleman who is impatient with life in general. He is **"agin"** everything. He has a violent history and keeps repeating **"History is just news from the graveyard."** This main character echoes the Easter Message, **"Good News from the Graveyard"**.

Easter is the one occasion when **Sonrise** is embraced by Christians and is celebrated throughout the whole world. It is a time of great celebration. The coming of other days may come with fear, but not Easter. All across the globe Christians gather early in the morning to recall, remember, reflect and to hear again the Good News of Christ's resurrection. What makes this day different or shall I say makes Easter day very unique? Easter through Jesus Christ gives us the Gospel which means **"Good News"**. There is very little good news nowadays. It is as though the world itself is on a collision course and on fire. The atmosphere and the prevailing climate is one of hate, prejudice, war and many great uncertainties. Don't we all need some Good News?

"Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" (Mark 16: 1-2). They were on their way to the graveyard. A 'universal pathway' which awaits us all. It is also known as a "trail of tears." The last thing the women expected was to hear some 'Good News.' Who would expect 'Good News' from a graveyard? Until that first Easter, the news from the graveyard was always 'doom and gloom.' It was and still is bad news to many. We who were born will die. 'We live for the grave'. One's life might be good, wonderful and successful; but it is also fearful, temporal and perishing. The Bible says "It is appointed to man once to die and then to face judgement." (Hebrews 9:27). The 'Good News' of Easter destroys the fear of death, Paul the Apostle wrote, **"O death, where is thy sting; O grave where is thy victory?"** Because of the Easter 'Good News', The Christian's response to death, the grave, the terror of death and all the embodiment death can throw at us is "I thank my God who gives us victory through Christ Jesus." (1 Cor. 15:57).

**Jesus declares the Good News.** Jesus clearly states that the grave was not the end; **"For God so loved the world, that he gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish (die), but have eternal (everlasting) life. (John 3:16). "I give them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand" (John 10:28) "I am the resurrection, and the life; he that lives and believes in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." (John 11:25-26).**

**Jesus proves the Good News.** Jesus died on the cross. The Bible says that He gave up his spirit. (Matt. 27:50). The soldier said he was dead. The agents of Ceasar said he was dead. Joseph of Arimathea, who claimed his body, declared he was dead. The witnesses at the crucifixion witnessed his death. But Jesus said **"I AM Alive for ever and ever more!" (Revelation 1:18).** On the third day he arose from the grave.

**The disciples declared the Good News.** (Mark 16:7-8). You can read the resurrection story in any of the Gospels for yourself. "The women hurried from the tomb... and ran (Matt 28:8); Mary Magdalene came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved" (John 20:2); Peter and the other disciples started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first (John 20: 4). The one thing these people all had in common was the fact that they were all running. People bearing great news /Good News are always in a hurry to pass it on (tell others).

**Forgiveness for the past.** We all have a past we are not proud of. Many, sadly try to give the impression of having been very good all their lives and have no 'skeletons in the cupboard'. The Bible says **"for all have sinned (done wrong) and have fallen short of the glory of God (Romans3:23).** Can any of us deny this fact? **'If we claim to be without sin (wrong doing), we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ( 1 John 1:8).** The disciples had all deserted Jesus at his point of need. Peter denied he ever knew Jesus. Judas took money from the purse; Yet on this special Easter morning, Jesus wanted to see them (Mark 16:7) We might deny Him, turn our backs on Him; do wrong etc. but Isn't that just like Jesus to want to see us? I know I have done wrong; I know I have deserted, denied, doubted, gone my own way etc, and yet Jesus would say, I still love you, and I want to see you. From the Cross Jesus cried **"Father forgive them."** The Bible says, "The blood of Jesus cleanseth us from all sin." (John 1:7). The heart of the Easter message is that God forgives, God loves.

**Joy for the Present.** The disciples were disappointed and discouraged. (Mark 16:11). They had seen Jesus, their carer, provider, hope, comforter, motivator, Saviour, Master, and friend, put to death and buried. The world was crashing down around them. There was nothing left to live for. Have you ever felt that life had lost its meaning? Life is 'slipping through your fingers', desperately clinging on for dear life? Has the death of a close friend or a loved one robbed you of your desire to go on? Life is tough and you are gasping for the very 'breath of life'? Easter is Good News! John 20:20 says, "Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord." Their despair had turned to joy. Suddenly they were not alone; Jesus had walked back into their lives. Jesus is not a memory anymore; he is real and living. **'Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life' (Proverb 13:12 )** This is the truth about the Easter message. Jesus can be real joy and peace each day. **"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives." (John 14:27)**

Cont'd overleaf



**Hope for the Future.** The Good News from the graveyard is that Christ has conquered death and hell. Paul the Apostle says that "the last enemy that shall be destroyed is death" (1Cor.15:26). This is confirmed by John in his vision that "death and hell were cast into the lake of fire." (Rev 20:14) The disciples were glad, hope restored, longing fulfilled, that Jesus had survived the grave, that He had conquered it. Easter is a true story that **'took a tragedy and made it a triumph'**. Death and the graveyard ought not to be a tragedy story. Because of Easter we have Good News to share. The last verse of the book of Mark says: They went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, confirming the Word with signs following. (Mark 16:20) You may be thinking, "I wish I had that kind of confidence and assurance. I wish I had that joy and peace. The promise of God is this. **"Ask** and it shall be given, **Seek** and you shall find, **Knock** and the door will be opened." (Matt. 7:7) **"To all who received Him, to those who believed in his name, He gave the right to become children of God."** (John 1:12). **"If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men."** (1 Cor. 15:19) We live in a world riddled with tragedy. Consistently through the media we are reminded of the 'fragility of life'. The ultimate tragedy is to 'live and die without hope of eternity'. Jesus offers this hope and it is 'free' to any who would have it. A prayer of Salvation follows this letter, why not take a moment, pray and ask the Lord Jesus Christ into your life.

**Have a blessed Easter**



*God Bless*

*Pastor Chris*

**(Pastor Chris.)**

**We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:**

"O Lord God I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

## **Week of Prayer and Fasting**

A very big thank you to all who supported (at home/in attendance) the Church's week of Prayer and Fasting. Attendance was very encouraging. We could always do with more. We prayed/covered a wide spectrum of personal, local, National and International issues. Areas covered include The Church/Personal needs; Persecuted Church; PFI; Mission: Farmers in Crisis/Thanksgiving. Thank you to all who led the various evening meetings and to all who participated. Let us continue in the Spirit we have started. Why not make the last Friday of the month praying and fasting as one of your personal goals for 2016?. The tide in many crisis has turned when its workers have met the situation with prayer and fasting. **"Satan dreads nothing but PRAYER. His one concern is to keep the saints from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks our wisdom, but trembles when we PRAY."** Samuel Chadwick. (Ex Principal of Cliff Bible College). A promise by God is a pledge. The stability of a promise rests on the character and resources of the One who makes it. Our God is a Covenant making God. **"Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today... The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."**(Ex 14:13-14).

## **Weekly Prayer Meeting**

Date: Every Tuesday morning

Time: 9.00am – 10.00am

Venue: Sunday School building.

We would love to see you if you are free and able to join us. All welcome.

## **End of Month Day of Prayer and Fasting Prayer Meeting**

**'Yet when they were ill, I put on sackcloth and humbled myself with fasting. (Psalm 35:13)**

We do not insist you fast the whole length of time. Fast as you feel led and able. It is **the motive, the intent** and your **obedience** to the Lord which matters before God. We meet at the close of day at 7.30pm – 9.00pm in the Sunday School building for a time of corporate prayer.

## Capernwray Students

We have three students visiting us this year. Two Canadians and one from South Korea. We will be going into schools taking assemblies; leafletting the area, Hosting the Holiday at Home outreach, youth work and young people's work. It is an exciting time. The students arrive on Friday 29th Jan - Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 a familiarisation weekend then a 10 days outreach. If you can help in any way we would appreciate your support. See Julie if you would like to help with the holiday at home. See Chris if you would like to help the team with the leafletting. Please pray for our students:- **(Photo's/names)** If you are able to host the students for a meal, lunch or evening meal, a sign up sheet will be available.

**Eun Hyeoi Song**



**Other information**

Surname	Song
Called	Eun Hyeoi
Gender	Female
Nationality	South Korea
Age	20

**Geordie Nelson**



**Other information**

Surname	Nelson
Called	Geordie
Gender	Male
Nationality	Canadian
Age	24

**Megan Dosso**



**Other information**

Surname	Dosso
Called	Megan
Gender	Female
Nationality	Canadian
Age	21

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Evening Service 6.30pm – 7.30pm**

### **Gospel/Testimony Service**

Is informally led from the front and takes place in the Sunday school building. Come and join us and be encouraged. We are ever eager and willing to hear testimony of the Lord at work. Come and share your experience of what the Lord is doing in your life.

Speakers

14th February	Andrew Rowland
13th March	Pastor Chris
10th April	Nigel Grimshaw

## Charis Ministries Prayer Meeting

**When:** 1st Thursday of every month

**Where:** 1 Sunnyside Ave, Wilpshire,  
Nr. Blackburn

**Time:** 7:30pm

**Tel.** 01254 240893

Please pray for Mel and Mandy as they return to Mozambique on the 8<sup>th</sup> February. Also pray for one of last year's Capernwray students Marie who will be joining them for a month on 15th March, for 10 days. If you remember Marie was a trained Nurse and gave her testimony at the Holiday at Home.



**Some distinguishing marks that will help us to discern the difference between the Holy Spirit Conviction with Satan's condemnation**

### **Condemnation**

Comes from Satan

Is vague, general

Leads to hopelessness,  
no, way out

Comes with  
destructive insults

Discourages

Should be rejected

Compare a time when you experienced conviction with a time when you experienced condemnation. Can you sense the difference? Ask God to teach you to be more sensitive to conviction and be more resistant to condemnation.

### **Conviction**

**Comes from God**

**Is specific, concrete**

**Gives hope, practical  
steps to solution**

**Comes with  
affirmation of love**

**Encourages**

**Should be embraced**

### **Ace Space Dates**

Continuing thanks to the leadership and fellowship for the use of the Sunday school building for the monthly home schoolers meeting. Time 10.00am – 3.00pm.

Next meetings:- 18<sup>th</sup> February; 17<sup>th</sup> March; 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016

## Every 1st Sunday Agape Fellowship Meal

It is good to note attendance in numbers continues to increase month after month and we are thankful to God for the encouragement we can draw from the meeting and the messages we have received. We would encourage those who attend to please bring enough food for yourselves and another. If in doubt about what to bring please speak to: Julie or Maureen.

### Agape Service 2.30pm—3.30pm

Speakers:

7th February - A. Talbot  
6th March - Robin Clarke  
3rd April - Andrew Rowland

Thank you for all your prayers, cards, practical help and support during the recent months following my hip replacement operation. I am almost back to normal now but without pain. God Bless.

**Jean Procter**

## Men's Breakfast

This is a quarterly held event to encourage each other and get to know each other. Please do join us and invite a friend. We eat at 9.00am and finish at 11.00am. All men welcome. Additional help is always appreciated with the cooking.

**Date:- 12th March 2016**

**Time:- 9.00am**

**Venue:- Sunday School**

## The DVD Library is now Open!

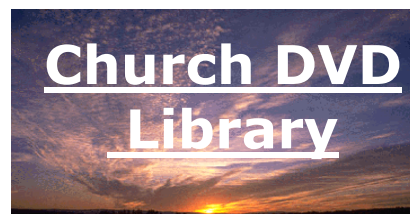
We have a growing number of DVDS now in the church bookcase.

Please ask Jean or Mel for details. DVD's can be borrowed for up to 2 weeks and they

include great teaching DVDs/CDs by Derek Prince...Do have a look and we pray this resource will bless you

This is a **Ministry** with the aim of sharing the gospel; to encourage and bless through DVD's.

All DVD's will be secured in a locked cabinet and only accessible via Jean Hoole / Mel Gilday



Date	Deacon's	Reader	Coffee
<b>Feb 7th</b>	Sue Catlow Joss Daune	Maureen Grimshaw	Barbara Waring Mel Gilday
<b>Feb 14th</b>	Jean Procter Tony Jackson	Ken Saunders	Tom & Margaret Mellor
<b>Feb 21st</b>	Margaret Mellor Michael Redmayne	Barbara Sutcliffe	Ruth Woods Jean Hoole
<b>Feb 28th</b>	Robin Clark Joss Daune	Jean Procter	Michael & Elaine Redmayne
<b>Mar 6th</b>	Jean Hoole Colin Procter	Tom Mellor	Tony & Pat Jackson
<b>Mar 13th</b>	Sue Catlow Jean Procter	Richard Grimshaw	Bryan & Audrey Wynne
<b>Mar 20th</b>	Margaret Mellor Tony Jackson	Ruth Woods	Barbara Sutcliffe Kath Bowyer
<b>Mar 27th</b>	Michael Redmayne Joss Daune	Mick Cook	Jane Maher Ellen Saunders
<b>Apr 3rd</b>	Robin Clark Jean Procter	Margaret Mellor	Barbara Waring Mel Gilday
<b>Apr 10th</b>	Sue Catlow Colin Procter	Andrew Rowland	Tom & Margaret Mellor
<b>Apr 17th</b>	Margaret Mellor Jean Hoole	Isaac Okpoti	Ruth Woods Jean Hoole
<b>Apr 24th</b>	Tony Jackson Joss Daune	Debbie Mills	Michael & Elaine Redmayne
<b>May 1st</b>	Margaret Mellor Michael Redmayne	Colin Procter	Tony & Pat Jackson

**Deadline** for articles for the next issue of Voice is: Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2016

Please pass articles to Pastor Chris

or email them to:

andrew.aco012000@gmail.com



## Is evolution Science

Scientists and astronomers have observed that the sun is shrinking because of the vast amounts of energy it gives out. This can be understood as you sit on a beach on a hot summer's day in Britain, how much more so in Africa or other hot countries of the world. That is just the bit that is reaching you but the sun's heat must go out in every direction from its surface, day and night, and has been doing so for several thousand years.

But when you introduce billions of years into the equation, that is a whole different ball game. The sun in that case would have been so huge at the beginning that it would have been touching the earth, yet evolutionists claim that there have been several ice ages in the distant past. They claim that the earth somehow gradually cooled down, before warming up again. However, how this happened they have no idea. In that case, the sea would freeze over and there would be no evaporation, so you would end up with a frozen desert, not an ice age.

The truth is that there has been an ice age and the Bible gives us an understanding of how it could happen. It almost certainly came about as a result of the world-wide flood in Noah's day. In the first 1600 years of the world's existence the climate must have been very different, with lush vegetation everywhere as evidenced by oil in the Arctic circle and the Arabian desert. Oil and coal were formed when vegetation was suddenly buried by some cataclysmic event.

We are told that there is enough water on earth to cover it to a depth of 1.7 miles if the surface was level, but the Bible tells us that most of that water was under a considerable depth of earth when God created it. Then at a time of God's choosing, the earth's crust split and the 'Fountains of the great deep burst forth' (Genesis 7:11) falling as rain on the earth. That water would be carrying large amounts of silt which would settle in layers, burying many creatures instantly, including fish to form the fossils that we find in rock today. As the outer shell of the earth collapsed, it would be too big and would crumple into valleys and mountains. The water that would settle in the deepest places would be hot or very warm and vast amounts of steam and volcanic ash would blot out the sun over large parts of the earth, creating an ice age. This would last until eventually the seas also cooled and the skies cleared allowing the melting process to begin. Of course we still have some water left under the earth in the aquifers which provide water for bore holes. The sad thing is that evolutionists deny that there ever was a world flood.

Robin Clark.



## Boys Club Knowle Green Congregational Church



Clitheroe Road, Knowle Green, Longridge. PR3 2YQ  
Tel: 01254 878394

**When: Every other Monday Time: 6.30pm-8.00pm**

**Age Group: 6-16year olds**

**Forget the gadgets: The Wii; The Xbox; Computer games; The Blackberry.**

**Upcoming meetings in 2016 are:**

<b>February</b>	-	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	
		<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	(Please bring along with you £5.00 for your take away)
		<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	(Movie Night)
<b>March</b>	-	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	( <b>28<sup>th</sup></b> No Club- Easter Monday )
<b>April</b>	-	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	
		<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	Short (Historical) walk Wellies/waterproofs required

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## Preaching Plan February to April 2016

### **February 2016**

7th David Cornall

14th Pastor Chris

21st Penny McDonald

28th Steve Cowles

### **March 2016**

6th Mothering Sunday led by the Girls Club

13th Pastor Chris

20th Nick Calland form Leprosy Mission

25th Good Friday

27th Pastor Chris

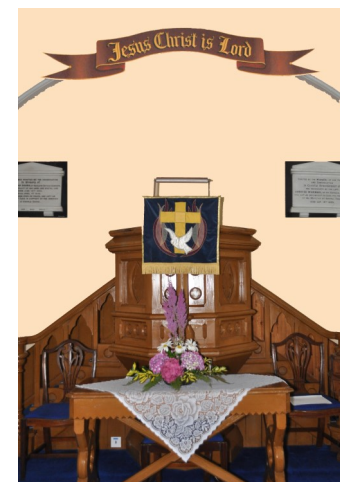
### **April 2016**

3rd Pastor Chris

10th Pastor Chris

17th Peter Wilkinson

24th Nigel Grimshaw



## Food for Thought

'Every bird can sing in spring, but some birds will sing in the dead of winter. Everyone, almost, can be thankful in prosperity, but a true saint can be thankful in adversity.' Thomas Watson

'Everything I can't find is in a totally secure place.'

'No man did ever come off a loser by his acquaintance with God.'

"We are all missionaries. Wherever we go, we either bring people nearer to Christ, or we repel them from Christ". Eric Liddell- Chariots of fire

'All that God is, you have. You cannot have more, you do not need to have less'. Major Ian Thomas, Founder of Capernwray Hall

'Life is a highway on which the years go by... sometimes the road is level, sometimes the hills are high... but as we travel onward to a future that's unknown we can make each mile we travel a heavenly stepping stone'.

'God does not deal alike with all. He has trials for the strong and cordials for the weak.' Thomas Watson

'The purpose of life is a life of purpose' Robert Byrne

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## Easter Services

**Good Friday** March 25<sup>th</sup> 2016-01-12

11.00am – Family Service at Knowle Green Church

12.00pm – Joint Service in Ribchester (TBC)

2.00pm – **Good Friday Community walk** led by Mr Colin Procter  
(Meet at Knowle Green Church Car Park) join us afterwards for Tea/Coffee.

**Easter Sunday** (Day) March 27<sup>th</sup>

**6.00am – Sunrise Service on Jeffery Hill**

**(meet at the car park on Jeffery Hill) followed by breakfast at Knowle Green Church).**

**11.00am – Family Worship and Holy Communion.**



A Life of Faith Girls Club exists to provide an encouraging and inspiring environment for mentoring young girls, primarily ages 6 to 16. The objective of the Club is to help each club member develop a life of Faith.

We look at a range of issues including forgiveness, rejection, truthfulness, jealousy and more through using the historical fiction novels of Martha Finley. The main characters - Elsie Dinsmore, Millie Keith and Laylie Colbert serve as excellent role models to teach us faith and godly living as a lifestyle.

The evening sessions include dressing up, baking, drama, craft and the much-loved tea party!

**February - 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**March - 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>**

**April - 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Meetings start at 6:30pm and end at 8:00pm**

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## Prayer for Israel

We meet to pray for Israel in the cabin on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month from 1.30pm—3.30pm.

The next meetings will take place on:

**2nd February 2016**

**1st March 2016**

**5th April 2016**



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## Building Committee

Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm.



## **Biker Breakfast**

Alison lived in Bolton. She had known Chris and Julie in Salford, contact had been maintained and one day Alison decided to come along to church at Knowle Green. Alison was warm and friendly and soon became a welcome member of the fellowship. She was in remission from cancer and she was a biker and a member of CMA (Christian Motorcycle Association as it is now called). Chris was also a biker and between them with the tacit agreement of the church they decided to start a Christian outreach to bikers in conjunction with CMA. The biker breakfast at Knowle Green was born.



We soon discovered that CMA members are passionate about bringing the Christian gospel to the motorcycling community, they are passionate about sharing the gospel message of peace and love and that they have a wonderful way of blending in with non believing bikers in a non threatening way. The shared love of the open road and bikes for these leather clad riders is a firm basis for contact. And Knowle Green has proved to be a great venue for the meeting of all bikers from throughout the north west – we have had a hundred bikers in on a Saturday morning all enjoying a free biker brekkie and brew.

Some eyebrows were raised when the idea was first floated: bikers were young, noisy tearaways' and would upset the locals and a free breakfast would cost the church money. Wrong, wrong, wrong.

On the occasion of the first biker breakfast the bikers arrived, removed their helmets and in the main were of the mature age group. Recycled teenagers? Most of those first arrivals were members of CMA, they had respect for the local area and community and to this day there has not been a complaint about them despite the increasing numbers. Neither has the breakfast been a drain on church funds. Rather it has added to the funds. At the end of the season monies raised by donations for the breakfasts are split three ways: one third to the church, one third to CMA to help with the finance of the free bibles and literature available at events and rallies attended by the bikers and the final third retained to kick start the next season of breakfasts.

Sadly Alison succumbed to the cancer before she could see the fulfilment of her dream but her legacy lives on. There are many road signs these days that say: Think Bike. At Knowle Green on the last Saturday of the month from March to October, we think eggs, bacon, sausage, baked beans, toast and a brew. If you haven't yet seen the car park full of gleaming bikes of all makes and sizes, then make a date to come along, meet the bikers and share with them a hearty biker brekkie.

From the earliest days there were soon bikers of all faiths and none regularly visiting Knowle Green. All are made welcome and the love of Jesus is presented in a non threatening way. Free bibles and tracts are available and the church, at the bikers request, is now always open for any who wish to spend time in quiet prayer and contemplation. The enthusiasm of the CMA members to share the gospel is infectious and vibrant, "over the top" some might say, but appeals to all bikers and their love of the Lord is obvious for all to see. Peoples lives have been changed by their visit to Knowle Green Biker Breakfast.

I could have told you about the Congregational Federation Community Project Award 2011 we won for the breakfasts, I could have told you about the Christian message that went live over the airways one Saturday morning when Radio Lancashire broadcast from the breakfast, I could have told you that from this first vision other biker breakfasts have been started or I could have told you about some of the characters in the biker community like Big Phil, a convicted criminal, a larger than life character in every sense of the word, loved by all the bikers, who sadly went to be with the Lord some time ago and whose ashes were laid to rest in our Garden of Remembrance. Big Phil told all he met, "Jesus loves you".

Thank you Alison and Chris for your vision, thank you Steve and Mel for continuing that vision and thank you to the team for their input at each breakfast – 100 breakfasts in three hours is work, hard work but very rewarding work. Why not come along on Saturday 26th March, 9am until noon, meet the bikers, enjoy a breakfast with them and allow some of the joy, enthusiasm and love of the Lord affect you because Jesus really does love you.

**Jean Procter**

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### **Biker Breakfast Dates**

Saturday, 26th March, 30th April. Please remember the bikers in your prayers.

**Cont'd overleaf**

## **Mothering Sunday**

This year our Mothering Sunday Service will be taken by the Girl's club, including Capernwray students. We all love you Mothers out there and appreciate greatly all the mothers in our fellowship who mother us so diligently. Why not take a moment to thank the Lord for your mother.

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### **My Mother**

Who fed me from her gentle breast,  
And hushed me in her arms to rest,  
And on my cheek sweet kisses  
prest?  
My mother.

When sleep forsook my open eye,  
Who was it sang sweet lullaby,  
And rocked me that I should not  
cry?  
My mother.

Who sat and watched my infant  
head,  
When sleeping on my cradle bed,  
And tears of sweet affection shed?  
My mother.

When pain and sickness made me  
cry,  
Who gazed upon my heavy eye,  
And wept for fear that I should die?  
My mother.

Who dressed my doll in clothes so  
gay,  
And taught me pretty how to play,  
And minded all I had to say?  
My mother.

Who ran to help me when I fell,  
And would some pretty story tell,  
Or kiss the place to make it well?  
My Mother.

Who taught my infant lips to pray,  
To love God's holy word and day,  
And walk in wisdom's pleasant  
way?  
My mother.

And can I ever cease to be,  
Affectionate and kind to thee  
Who wast so very kind to me?  
My mother.

Oh no, the thought I cannot bear;  
And if God please my life to spare,  
I hope I shall reward thy care,  
My mother.

When thou art feeble, old and  
gray,  
My healthy arm shall be thy stay,  
And I will soothe thy pains away,  
My mother.

And when I see thee hang thy  
head,  
Twill be my turn to watch thy bed,  
And tears of sweet affection shed?  
My mother.

For God, who lives above the skies,  
Would look with vengeance in his  
eyes,  
If I should ever dare despise,  
My mother.

**Jane Taylor**

## **A TRIBUTE TO MOTHER**

Mum is the one who prayed for me  
And watched me as I grew,  
She was the one who stood by me  
When other friends seemed few,  
And she really did believe in me  
In all I'd say and do,  
She is the one who showed me love  
To last my whole life through.

She knows what it is to sacrifice  
To give then give some more;  
She knows what it is to keep going  
When the road is harder than before;  
She knows what it is to get up again  
When life strikes a mortal blow;  
She knows how to keep on holding on  
When others would just let go.

Mum, I want to thank you for your love  
And all your daily prayers  
And I really want to thank you  
For teaching me God cares  
And I really want to honour you  
In everything that I do  
And now that I'm a mother  
Mum, I want to be like you.

By Sue Laurens

