# Knowle Green Church



Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the men of old received divine approval. By faith we understand that the world was created by the word of God

Hebrews 11 vs 1—3a RSV

**JUNE - AUGUST 2014** 

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.

# "As my Father has sent Me, even so I send you" (John20:21)

The statement below caught my attention following a preaching engagement to a Church in the middle of nowhere with a congregation of eight.

'OUR lives are our own to spend, but we spend them only once. How important, then, that we invest them wisely.'

I had considered the **feeling and the thought** as to whether the long distance (mileage) merited the time, expense and the effort. There are so many in today's rational economy with conflicting voices and differing views on the subject of economy and viability. This said, I had an agreed commitment regardless of my feelings that it was the right thing to do to keep the engagement.

Nearing my destination I pulled up at the most convenient spot to admire the surrounding mountainous scenery. This particular mountain had heavy rain clouds bearing upon it. It was as though the clouds had decided to settle at the apex of the mountain. I suddenly had this imaginary picture of Moses faithfully descending Mount Sinai with the commandment to deliver to the people of Israel, I shared my experience and equated it to Moses coming down on a triumph (bike). Having dutifully delivered the sermon I found myself involved in a deep conversation with a local Harley Davidson motorcyclist who had not long returned from India (6th Journey I think) on a spiritual journey. He had ridden a Royal Enfield motorcycle (Classic bike) on his holiday. He told me he was on the verge of selling his Harley. It seemed he had dropped it a few times and this had affected his confidence. His "other half" also said she had had an accident a few weeks earlier. She had fallen off her horse! Confidence was very low. I ended up praying with them. They confessed that they had both been encouraged, listened intently to the message, and enjoyed the intimacy of the local fellowship. Afterwards it transpired that they had turned up (Divine Appointment) for the evening service because they had heard a biker (fair weather biker) was speaking. To my amazement the Church population numbering usually around eight (I was well informed) tripled in size. The biggest ever it was announced. The congregation included bikers from as far as Coniston, The Isle of Man etc. Our son little Michael (my travel companion) returned home full of joy and excitement and narrated to his mum the funniest moments of his adventurous journey from Knowle Green to Victoria Church, Blackpool then to the lakes. I came away blessed at God's own faithfulness. I was ever so encouraged to observe the couple of their volition took one of the Biker Bibles. They seemed rather amazed that it was the Very Word of God with stories (testimonies) of other bikers. Time with this particular couple and others reminded me and reinforced the principle that we are called to "Go" regardless of expense, time, effort and convenience. How we spend our lives is important, so invest wisely.

"When a man makes a vow to the Lord or takes an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must not break his word but must do everything he said." Numbers 30:2

"When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools. Fulfil your vow." Ecclesiastes 5:4.

There are no geographical limitations, for the disciples were instructed to go into the entire world. .

On reflection (hindsight is always pure Science) we sometimes tend to rely too much on our feelings. Our **Whole life's choices governed by how we fee!** It is often said, "I do not feel a call to the mission field." "I feel the Lord is saying." Is a call felt or heard? Did Samuel hear the Lord or did he feel it when he responded? "Speak, Lord; for Thy Servant heareth"? Did Isaiah hear or did he feel the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Did Paul hear or did he feel the call to Macedonia, "Come over and help us"? Surely when we hear the Lord's call, it is a matter of obedience, not feelings. The great commission is blatantly obvious however we feel about it. On the subject of feelings, J. Oswald Sanders says:-

"Feelings spring from the information of the mind and the attitude of the heart. Our lack of feeling may perhaps be given to an uninformed mind, an unyielding will or a heart cold towards Christ."

We are to be weary of the 21st Century Feeling Commissioners "I feel the Lord is saying syndrome". Jesus says, "Not my will but thy Will be done"; "My sheep hear My voice", "I do what My father tells Me" Scripture says hardly anything regarding feelings in as far as the Gospel is concern. If anything it says the opposite: "Go" The term "Go" equates to obedience. Nothing to do with feelings.

Had I followed my heart (feelings/rational reasoning) I may have cancelled the engagement. At the close of the day I came away more blessed and so did the people of God. Whenever we use the phrase 'I feel' there is always an ulterior motive behind the statement coupled with an attitude of the heart. The I feel syndrome often implies 'I do not want to be probed', 'don't question me further'. 'End of conversation.' How we feel has no bearing whatsoever as far as Scriptural truth is concern. There is always a motive if we are honest with ourselves with the "I feel Syndrome." Let us be careful we do not use the Name of God in vain to justify ourselves and the attitude of the heart.

Simply let your "Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No,' 'No'." Matthew 5:37 Let us be careful that our feet do not stray onto the path of self-deception. God has given us this warning about the danger of strutting about with a drugged conscience believing a self-imposed lie. God always calls us to "Go" He then confirms it with His Word. When we step out in obedience His blessings come.

**God Bless** 

Pastor Chris

# **Prayer for Israel**

We meet to pray for Israel in the cabin on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month from 2.00pm—3.30pm.

The next meetings will take place on:

4th June 2014

2nd July 2014

6th August 2014



The season that we are moving into is the long hot summer for Israel. Also August is the month in which those who have completed their 3 years (2 years for women) of military service are demobbed, but remain as reservists, with regular call-ups for several years.

Many of these young people will take a "gap year" travelling abroad. A number of these young people will earn their keep by selling Dead Sea products from stalls in Markets and Shopping Centres. In previous years they have been seen in Preston & Blackpool. Do take the opportunity to go and talk to them if you see them and tell them about Jesus (Yeshua) their Messiah. Please pray for them that during their travels that they will meet Jesus.

A smaller number, of men, will join Lech L'cha 1 year discipleship programme in Israel for those just leaving the IDF in August. Please pray that many will choose this option and that it will be life changing.

# End of Month Day of Prayer and Fasting Prayer Meeting

Prayer and Fasting for the Mission, Church, Community, Nation, Israel / Middle East, Outreach, local/Personal needs.

Time: 7:30pm - 9.00pm

**Venue: Knowle Green Sunday School Building The last** 

Friday each month.



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!

# Forthcoming Events in 2014

June - 9th & 23rd

July - 7th

# **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 :- 9th August 2014

# **Agape Fellowship Meal**

It is good to note attendance in number 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.







**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 2014 are:** 

June - 2nd, 16th & 30th

July - 14th

# **Preaching Plan June to August 2014**

### June 2014

- 1 Pastor Chris
- 8 Whit Sunday Pastor Chris
- 15 Robin Clark
- 22 Peter Wilkinson
- 29 Kevin Cummings CMA

# **July 2014**

- 6 Pastor Chris
- 13 Pastor Chris
- 20 Jos Daune
- 27 Paul Lawrence Ellel Ministries

# August 2014

- 3 Pastor Chris
- 10 Pastor Chris
- 17 Robert Channings
- 24 Ribble Valley Family Week
- 31 Penny McDonald Messianic Ministries

# **A Special Diet**

# Bible Reading - Romans 14

"Mom, how come Christians have such different ideas about right and wrong?" asked Joanna one day. "You and Dad won't let us go to movies, but Stacy's parents think it's okay. Pastor Griffin doesn't believe in dancing, but Naomi, who's in my Bible club, says programs in her church sometimes include dancing. See what I mean? Why can't Christians agree on what's right and what's wrong?"

"There isn't a simple answer to that, but . . ." Mom hesitated. "Let's see . . . We're having Uncle Paul and Aunt Sue over for dinner tonight, right? And we'll all eat quite differently. Aunt Sue has diabetes and avoids starchy foods. Uncle Paul is on a diet to lower his cholesterol."

"And Daddy wants to lose weight." Joanna giggled. "I guess he'll eat a big salad and not too much of the other stuff."

Joanna's brother Cole spoke up. "Yeah, but what does that have to do with it?"

"Well," said Mom, "people have different physical conditions, so they have different dietary needs. And because Christians have different backgrounds and levels of maturity, they have different spiritual dietary needs."

"You mean, what's right for one person may not be right for another?" Cole asked.

"Possibly," said Mom. "God may convict one believer about a certain activity because it would cause him--or those around him--to stumble in the Christian walk. Or someone may have a tender conscience about something because he had a bad experience related to it. Or because of the way he was brought up. Then it would be wrong for him to take part in that activity though it might not be harmful for someone else."

"So . . . each person can decide what he may and may not do?" Joanna asked.

"Well," said Mom, "many things are spelled out so clearly in the Bible that there's no room for argument regarding them. As to things not specifically mentioned, we need to depend on the Holy Spirit to show us the best choice for us. We must ask God to teach us what is right, follow the principles He has established, and avoid anything that would hurt His cause or harm others."

"Okay." Joanna was thoughtful. She grinned. "Well, one thing God teaches is for kids to obey their parents, so for now, I'll also just ask you what I may do."

### THEN THEIR EYES WERE OPENED AND THEY KNEW HIM ...

Luke 24:31

He was a militant non-believer, who summed up his world view with a verse from Lucretius: 'Had God designed the world, it would not be a world so frail and faulty as we see.' So Jack turned his attention to academia, excelling in each field he studied. Soon the dons of Oxford took him in as a respected peer and he began to write and teach.

Yet far beneath the surface his doubts were taking their toll. He described his mental state with words like 'misery and hopelessness'. He said I maintained God did not exist. I was also angry with God for not existing

Then two friends, also Oxford dons, JRR Tolkien and HVD Dyson, both devout followers of Christ, urged him to do something he'd surprisingly never done: read the Bible. So he did. Jack began to wrestle with the claims Christ made, concluding that He was either deluded, deceptive, or the very One He claimed to be, the Son of God.

On the evening of September 19, 1931, Jack and his two friends took a long walk through the Oxford campus. They talked late into the night. And Jack, C S 'Jack' Lewis would later recall a rush of wind that caused the first leaf to fall—a sudden breeze, which possibly came to symbolise for him the Holy Spirit. Soon after that night, Lewis became a believer. The change revolutionised his world and consequently the worlds of millions of readers.

Could it be this simple? Could the chasm between doubt and faith be spanned with Scripture and Christian fellowship?

If you have not already come to Christ, why don't you come to Him and find out for yourself?

Copied with kind permission of UCB's "The Word for Today"

The Knowle Green book library has books to lend by this author - C. S. Lewis.

# Regular Weekly Fortnightly Schedule of Meetings/Activities

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

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

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

SEE NOTICE BOARD FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES

# R3ASONS why you need Jesus

Jesus loves you! He desires to have a relationship with you, and to give you a life full of joy and purpose. Why do you need Him in your life?

# YOU HAVE A PAST

You can't go back, but He can. The Bible says, 'Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever' (Hebrews 13:8).

He can walk into those places of sin and failure, wipe the slate clean and give you a new beginning.

# YOU NEED A FRIEND

Jesus knows the worst about you, yet He believes the best.

# Why?

Because He sees you not as you are, but as you will be when He gets through with you. What a friend!

# HE HOLDS THE FUTURE

# Who else are you going to trust?

In His hands you are safe and secure – today, tomorrow, and for eternity. His Word says, 'For I know the plans I have for you... plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray I will listen' (Jeremiah 29:11–13 TLB).

# IF YOU'D LIKE TO BEGIN A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS TODAY, PLEASE PRAY THIS PRAYER:

## Lord Jesus Christ,

I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life. I ask your forgiveness. Thank you for dying on the cross for me to set me free from my sins. Please come into my life and fill me with your Holy Spirit and be with me forever. *Thank you Lord Jesus, Amen.* 

Now tell someone what you have done

Date	Deacon's	Reader	Coffee
June	Robin Clark	Maureen	Ruth Woods
1st	Joss Daune	Grimshaw	Paul Knapton
June	Tony Jackson	Margaret	Barbara Sutcliffe
8th	Michael Redmayne	Mellor	Kath Bowyer
June	Sue Catlow	Richard	Tony & Pat
15th	Colin Procter	Grimshaw	Jackson
June	Ruth Woods	Tom	Jane Maher
22nd	Jean Hoole	Mellor	Ellen Saunders
June	Annette Dickinson	Ruth	Michael & Elaine
29th	Margaret Mellor	Woods	Redmayne
July	Tony Jackson	Ken	Barbara Waring
6th	Michael Redmayne	Saunders	Mel Gilday
July	Robin Clark	Diane	Tom & Margaret
13th	Joss Daune	Daune	Mellor
July	Sue Catlow	Mel	Ruth Woods
20th	Colin Procter	Gilday	Paul Knapton
July	Ruth Woods	Joss	Barbara Sutcliffe
27th	Jean Hoole	Daune	Kath Bowyer
August	Annette Dickinson	Richard	Jane Maher
3rd	Margaret Mellor	Grimshaw	Ellen Saunders
August	Tony Jackson	Margaret	Barbara Waring
10th	Michael Redmayne	Mellor	Mel Gilday
August	Robin Clark	Maureen	Tony & Pat
17th	Joss Daune	Grimshaw	Jackson
August	Sue Catlow	Ruth	Richard & Maureen
24th	Colin Procter	Woods	Grimshaw
August	Ruth Woods	Debbie	Tom & Margaret
31st	Jean Hoole	Mills	Mellor

**Deadline** for articles for the next issue of Voice is: Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Please note: The Voice is published

**Quarterly NOT** bi-monthly.

# **Charis Ministries Prayer Meeting**

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

Where: 1 Sunnyside Ave, Wilpshire,

Nr. Blackburn

**Time:** 7:30pm



# **First Fruits**

Every Friday (Term time) 9.30am – 11.00am Toddler Group here at Knowle Green, Sunday School Building. Parents, Grandparents, Carers with under 5's welcome.

# **Biker Breakfast**

Saturday, 28th June, 26th July, 30th August. Please remember the bikers in your prayers.

# Biker breakfast (poem)

At Knowle Green Church, All bikes and everyone welcome, No one will touch it, Christians are here too, They'll watch out for you, Jesus is here too, Welcoming you in, Friendly kitchen staff, Will take your order for food, And then bring it to you, Because Jesus cares for you, Glory to Him, And you can have, A coffee or tea too, Knowle Green Church, Biker Breakfast, Jesus is here too, It doesn't matter which club you belong to.

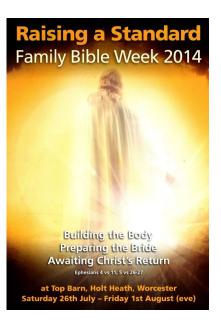
You are welcome here, It's for All Bikers Anne Rowland

# **Ace Space Dates**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2014; Time 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2014; Time 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

There is no meeting in August





# **Ribble Valley Family Bible Week**

# Dates: Tuesday, 19th August - Sunday, 24th August 2014

If you would like to attend in the summer of 2014 please return your booking form to express interest. It helps to have an idea of numbers. You will find the booking forms either available in the Church or from the website: <a href="https://www.knowlegreencc.com">www.knowlegreencc.com</a>. If you have any questions please feel free to ring or email. Contact details: 01254 878 394

# The DVD Library is now Open!

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

Please ask Jean or Annette 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 or Annette.



# **Preston & South Ribble (North) Street Pastors**

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. We're a group of 65 people from 21churches in Preston & South Ribble who go out onto our streets to listen to, care for and help anyone we meet. Street Pastors is an interdenominational network of Christian charities operating across the UK and worldwide under the inspiration of the Ascension Trust who provide central services and guidance. It is a Church response to urban problems, engaging with people on the streets. Preston & South Ribble (North) Street Pastors is an independent charity affiliated to the network serving the people of Preston and Leyland

### **City Centre**

Christmas and New Year were busy times in our City Centre and we responded by having 61 Street Pastors out, meeting 397 people and providing a hot drink and snack to those in need on 161 occasions. We were grateful for the support of customers at ASDA Fulwood who contributed food items for those we meet on our patrols. It was great to offer chocolates, mince pies and other goodies to those in need and bring some Christmas cheer! Thank you to all who contributed.

A story to give you a flavour of what happened: "Met with a young girl outside Yates. She was being harassed by a group of boys and girls and was in tears. She said she had phoned her mum to come and pick her up. We said we would stay with her till her mum came and the other people would not bother her if we stood with her. She was very grateful and left after about 20 mins when her mum arrived to pick her up."

### **South Ribble**

We have been concentrating our patrols in the Leyland area and are building relationships across the community, and in particular with young people out and about on Friday evenings. We're patrolling the routes between Tesco & McDonald's and visiting the Wade Hall and Broadfield housing areas. If you see us please say hello –and if you live locally and want to join us, find out how at the end of the newsletter.

Preston & South Ribble (North) Street Pastors

Fulwood Free Methodist Church, Lightfoot Lane,

Fulwood, Preston, PR2 3LT. 01772 861597

## **Inner East Preston**

Street Pastors were awarded a small grant to enable them to take part in the Big Local consultation in Fishwick & St Matthew's. A stand was set up on New Hall Lane one Saturday and one Friday evening in December to ask people their views about what is needed to improve the area. Those who stopped were offered homemade soup and cakes. Around 60 people took time to chat with Street Pastors and it was great to hear their views and find out what concerns them.

# Commissioning Celebration -13 May at 7.30pm

We're commissioning 15 new Street Pastors at a special celebration on Tuesday 13 May in St John's Church (the Minster) on Church Street, Preston. We will have music from The Bobbysocks and a band headed up by two of our own Street Pastors; our chairman Ian Higginbotham will be bringing us up to date with all that is happening and our new Street Pastors will be commissioned. To help us raise vital funds to support our work tickets will be £5and can be purchased from our Coordinator, Dave Brown –contact details below. Everyone welcome!

# **Interested in becoming a Street Pastor?**

Be part of the Church on the Streets. We are recruiting now! To become a Street Pastor you should be a Christian and have been a member of a local church for at least a year –and have a heart to serve God and His people. You'll be equipped in all areas of the work so that you will be an effective member of the team –every Street Pastor goes out once a month on a Friday or Saturday evening into their designated area. Being a Street Pastor is a brilliant opportunity to serve God and the people of Preston & South Ribble. Is this the right time for you to join us?

If you want to find out more about praying for, giving to or becoming a Street Pastor please call our Coordinator:

Dave Brown on 07794 008767or email him at: streetpastorspandsr@gmail.com

And if you want us to come along to your church, community meeting, school or youth group to tell you more about our work then give Dave a call.

