

Prayer Report

Our congregational prayer life is taking some new directions at present. Our regular Prayer Event, which takes place on the first Tuesday evening of the month, has continued throughout the year, with many church members faithfully taking part. Many of these meetings have proved inspiring, especially as we've tried to listen to God for the words he is speaking to us. In addition, with our new Alpha course starting at the end of April, an early Prayer Meeting is taking place in the Church Rooms every Tuesday morning from 7-7.30am, followed by breakfast, and this will continue at least until the end of the course in June.

Prayer Ministry continues to be formally offered after every church service at the back of church, as it has for some time. Partly to increase the numbers of those doing the praying, and also to form a flexible Prayer Team which can muster as and when required within services to help people pray through issues which arise, training has been offered to a team of people invited to join. These training sessions used the DVD 'Prayer Ministry Training' by Bishop Sandy Millar and published by Alpha International. The early signs are that this training brought both challenges and inspiration to the Prayer Team, and that the ready availability of a flexible team is having an impact, particularly for the evening service. Our hope is that prayer with team members will become a routine part of the ministry we offer within our services, complementing the prayer on offer at the back of church.

I've also visited a few home groups to spend an evening talking about prayer and our expectations of it, and look forward to visiting more groups in the months ahead.

I'd like to thank everyone who has joined in any of our Prayer Events, and also all those who take the time to pray with others in church. I'm particularly grateful to Janet and Mike Finnemore who organise the rota of those who pray after services at the back of church. Please pray for our prayer team - both its new members and established members - and ask that we might continue to learn from God how to pray and that we will as a result be more open to his will for us, and see more and more people healed, helped and transformed by Jesus.

Gavin Burnage
7 April 2010