



Encouragements

One of the scripture passages that has encouraged me as I've started this role comes from the words of Jesus in Matthew 10 - *"We are intimately linked in this harvest work ... This is a large work I've called you into, but don't be overwhelmed by it. It's best to start small. Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving or receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won't lose out on a thing."* (The Message)

As a result of various short courses and meetings a number of initiatives are being planned. Do pray for the **Tea & Toast** session that is starting **next Wednesday morning (18th Jan.)** in **Longtown**. Jayne heads up a willing group of volunteers there! A Supper Club and a Coffee Morning are 2 other initiatives that may start soon in other chapels.

These small acts can become such an encouragement as we serve the communities God has placed us in.

News in Brief

- I've had a number of encouraging meetings with various teams in Mon. CC, and among the Methodists and the Anglican community - all leading to opportunities for initiatives of working together in the future - watch this space!
- Raglan Baptist Church complete the re:focus sessions tomorrow. This Saturday the leaders have an Away Day in Norton Baptist Church - please pray as they seek to understand the way forward.
- Three ladies from Llangwm Chapel, two from Gaerllwyd Chapel and one from Penyaemawr Methodist are enjoying the *What is Church?* sessions. There are two more to do!
- Cross Ash Primary have invited me to come and speak to their Year 6 pupils.
- I continue to work on a strategy for the future.
- A website will be launching soon.
- House sale and purchase: thank you for your patience! We hope our sale is progressing well. Sadly a survey revealed expensive issues on our intended purchase. Further negotiations or a change of plan within this next week are likely. We do so want to be good neighbours to you all soon! As a family, we do not want to be in Cardiff any longer and are impatient to settle as soon as possible.

Dates

Thursday 12th Jan:

19:00 - 20:00 Prayer - Raglan Baptist Church

(the focus here will be more on Raglan BC as they continue immediately after with the final re:Focus session)

Wednesday 18th Jan:

19:00 - 20:00 Prayer - Norton Baptist Church

Monday 23rd Jan:

12:00 - 13:00 Prayer - Zoar Chapel, Pandy

Advance Notice:

Saturday 11th February:

14:00 Induction Service

Pandy Village Hall, Wern Gifford, Pandy, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, NP7 8DL

(I'm to be inducted into my role as Rural Missioner followed by afternoon tea as only the Rural Churches Fellowship can do! It would be great to see you there! And do invite others along.)

Blessings & Peace to you all

Ian



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