

[March 2019 Update](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

Here's a number of events for you to choose from ... in your local community, across to Malvern, and on in to Thailand! Click on the links underlined below for further details.

The *Stories of Hope for Rural Communities* booklets - I am currently visiting people in the Norton / Cross Ash / Skenfrith area - having some great conversations. I'd welcome you joining me. Or next week is anyone free to join me delivering invites for Garway's Café Church? (Details below).

Times of prayer for mission continue in Norton, Raglan and Pandy. Do you want to see more prayer in your local area? There is a welcome for anyone from other chapels as the focus is not just on the chapel that host. The next scheduled times and locations are: Raglan Baptist - Thursday 18th March, 7:30pm (always 3rd Thursday of the month); Zoar Chapel, Pandy - Wednesday 27th March, Noon (new day of 4th Wednesday of the month); Norton Baptist - Wednesday April 10th. (1st or 2nd Wednesday of the month depending on Bible Study. Ken or Evi keep those diaries!)

[A Day for Rural Churches, Saturday 13th April, Zoar Chapel, Pandy are hosting this day I will be leading from 10am - 2:30pm. Bring a plate to share for lunch. Drinks will be provided. A varied day is planned for us all together!](#)

The last of the [Passion for Life](#) evening events is this next Tuesday. James Kennedy, Tuesday 19th March, 7:30pm will be at Monmouth Baptist Church - A Cancer Specialist talks about God and suffering.

Anglicans, Methodists & Baptists have been planning together for the first Café Church, Garway. We start on Mothering Sunday in the new community centre in Garway, Sunday 31st March 4pm. Other dates to follow on 5th Sundays in June and September.

There are taster sessions for a new Alpha course in [Longtown](#) on 27th March or [Ewyas Harold](#) on April 3rd.

Continuation of new regular events in Longtown - **FOOTSTEP FRIENDS** – The next walk will be on Saturday, 23 March, meeting at the Chapel at 9 am followed by coffee and cake and will continue monthly thereafter, and **CREATIVE CRAFTS** – The group will meet at the Chapel on Wednesday, 10 April at 6.30 pm and will continue monthly thereafter.

The Rural Churches Fellowship annual Prayer lunch takes place at [Garway Youth Club](#) / New House Farm. David Baines, from Ewyas Harold will be the speaker from Noon. Lunch provided but the hosts would welcome any puddings. Chat to Ken Prosser for more details. It takes place on Saturday 6th April.

The same day Monmouth has another *Mission to Wales* day. Coffee/tea available from 10:15am at Monmouth Methodist Church with training from 10:45 and worship before we head out for an hour.

Laura Toomer has been working a few months now as the [Rural Schools Development Worker, Village Hope / ICE Wales Trust](#). She would be open to come and speak at a Sunday or a midweek meeting if you are interested in what is happening. Laura will be assisting Anne and Evi from Norton and I as we take an assembly in Cross Ash Primary School on Thursday 11th April.

[Village Hope's annual conference](#) is 26-28th April in Malvern, but there is an option to come as a day visitor on Saturday 27th April and hear George Verwer, with over 60 years of missions experience. Mobilising Mission is the theme. Booking in advance is required. I'd be happy to drive there if that helps anyone in their decision!

Another reminder for the [safeguarding course](#) Evi has organised for us in Norton on Saturday 11th May.

And looking ahead - Paul Jones and Fiona Hendley will be at Monmouth Baptist Church, Saturday 19th October. They have been in the [music and entertainment business for years](#). Do we all know *Manfred Mann* or *The Blues Band* or the TV Series *Widows*? Save the date!

And finally the proposed trip to visit [Judy Cook, one of our linked BMS](#)

[Missionaries, based in Thailand](#) is planned for January 2020. Contact me if you are keen to know more or join us. No experience required - just a willing heart!

May God Bless us all

Grace & Peace

Ian



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