The Link Letter - Hopes and Dreams

What are our hopes and dreams? Is it for a wayward son to get his life straightened out? For a niece to get that much longed for job opportunity? For a depressed and anorexic granddaughter to be set free? Is it to find fulfilment, happiness, peace and the answer to what my life is really about?

Recently, we visited an old friend, now in failing health with difficulty doing the simplest of things, like breathing without that constant nasty cough and looking after his own personal needs. Although in a residential home, he's telling people of Jesus, and encouraging them to try God for answers to life's difficulties. We had not met for a long time, but his heart warmed and face lit up to be with others who have a personal relationship with God and are alive in Jesus! This dear old man shared his ailments and memories with us, but what delight came on his face when we talked of a coming move of God on our nation and particularly in Bristol and across our Chew Valley, for all our good. Having prayed and desired for revival to come to our land for over thirty years, this faithful intercessor knew his and our prayers of so many years are about to be fulfilled! God wants to bring true life, goodness, healing, forgiveness, neighbourliness, etc. back into our communities. Jesus never promised us happiness, but instead, a deep joy that goes far beyond happiness. A joy that remains when our world is collapsing around us; a joy that lifts us out of ourselves to love and care for a world that is far more needy; a joy that brings "peace beyond all understanding"; a joy that satisfies completely.

Our church community is one of friendship, support, and growing together in understanding, faith and trust in God in all circumstances. We won't get everything right, but we do long to see people set free from all that binds and stops us living life in the love and power of our, yes... holy and righteous, but also fun loving and generous God. God wants to bring real purpose into our lives, healing and forgiveness, breakthrough in righteous business ventures, reconciliation in families and so much of what we all long for in our nation. If a Sunday morning is not convenient for you to come and join with us we are always open to your suggestions. Our slogan "In the Community, for the Community" is where our heart is ... so why not give us a try some time?

Wishing you true peace and joy in Jesus.

Jenny & Dave Dickerson,

Tel: 01275 332746, Email: thelink.bsbc@btinternet.com

The Link Activities:

Sunday Services at the Link, 10 am every week:

<u>Worship Workshop:</u> 8pm, 1st Thursday in the month to learn new songs and new skills for worship. Next is 2nd March.

<u>Connection:</u> "Going deeper with God" ... 3rd Thursday in the month. Next is 16th March, 8pm, for prayer, praise, worship and waiting on God.

Stop and Drop: Stop for a cuppa before dropping off kids at the pre-school, everyone welcome, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:55am-9:30am term time.

<u>Fitness Fun:</u> Low impact aerobic and stretching exercises with Julia. Tuesday 9:30-10:25am, £3:00 per class, all abilities welcome, wheelchair accessible.

<u>Coffee morning:</u> and chatter, with Scrabble and Upwords... Tuesday 10:30am-12 noon. Other board games are also available.

<u>Food Bank:</u> Tuesday 10:30-12:00am or emergencies contact Dave & Jenny. Particular needs Tinned fruit (400g), Dried Pasta (500g), UHT Milk (1l) and Breakfast Cereals.

Art and Craft Group: Tuesday 2pm-4:30pm.

<u>Chill Out Zone (1) Youth Group:</u> ... Monday 5:30pm-7pm for 9/10 year olds (year 5) to 13/14 year olds (year 9).

<u>Bishop Sutton Film Club:</u> Saturday 18th March, Family Matinee 2:00pm open for 2:30pm start; Evening Film 6:30pm open for 7:00pm. For film titles and bookings email: <u>Bishopsuttonfilmclub@hotmail.com</u> or tel:07843 276593 /01275 332746.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday 18th March, Open Forum, 8:30am-10am in the Red Lion. Tickets £7 from Dave or booking: thelink.bsbc@btinternet.com or tel: 01275 332746.