



Our Link

March 2010

www.whitbychristianfellowship.org.uk

Monthly Calendar & Notices

Date:	Leader:	Speaker:	Theme:
7th March	Clive Hughes	Mike Fitton	
14th March	Sue Beck	Ray Booth	
21st March	Fiona Lloyd	Andy Lloyd	
28th March	Veronica Nelson	David Soakell	

Regular Weekday Meetings:

Tuesdays 7:30 pm House Group @ Hudsons',
16 Fountains Close, with John Town

Wednesdays 7.30 pm House Group @ The Hobbs',
13 St Andrews Road, with Ian Hobbs

Thursdays 7:30 pm House Group @ Jack and Megan's,
26, Argyle Road, with John Winter

Fridays 7:30 till 9pm Prayer Meeting @ The Hobbs'

Sunday School:			Communion:
3-9's	10-14's	Helper:	
Lisa Winter: Lesson 9	Rebecca Coates: Meaning of Christ's Death	Sally Hughes	No
Megan Barber: Lesson 10 & Easter Song Practice	Suz Laver: Jesus Raised & Easter Play	Janet	Yes
Marilyn Eacott: Lesson 11 & Easter Song Practice	Suz Laver: Easter Play Practice	Hayley Collett	No
Marilyn & friend to do whole Sunday School on Passover	Marilyn & friend to do whole Sunday School on Passover	Susan	Yes

Extra Notices for this Month:

Mon 1st Mar - Elders' Meeting

Fri 19th Mar - Church Away Weekend

Sat 20th Mar - Church Away Weekend

Sun 28th Mar - Shared Meal after the Meeting

No Prayer Supper this month.

Colossians 3:12-14 (The Message)

So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offence. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

I recently had the privilege of attending a conference in Switzerland of Christian Bike Club Leaders to give presentations about the ministry of CMA UK and preach on two occasions. I knew most of the leaders who attended and it was funny as we all tried to remember how to welcome each other in English, Swiss German, Swedish, Albanian, French and Spanish.

But I wanted to share with you the impression that two friends had on my heart they are Carlos from Spain (his club is called 'Covered Backs By Him') and Matti from Albania (CMA). These two guys had heard the call of God on their lives and had stepped out in faith to reach bikers with the Gospel message and their passion just poured out of them.

On Saturday evening we shared communion and then a large map of Europe was projected onto a wall and the plan was that we would pray through each country for God to send workers to reach the lost bikers.

What happened next impacted me in a huge way both Carlos and Matti walked to the front and touched the map of their respective countries and poured out their hearts to God to save the bikers, tears streamed down their faces, they were totally unaware of anyone around them or concerned what anyone else thought. In a simple yet powerful moment they expressed a depth of compassion that only God could have planted in their souls.

Matti cried out for the Balkan countries around Albania that have no known outreach to the bikers, in a quiet tearful voice he repeated the phrase "How will they know Jesus, who will go to Kosova, Croatia, Macedonia, Greece, Montenegro, Bulgaria, who will go, who will go?"

Matti was saved in prison (his testimony is in the Biker Bible) and he uses his passion for Moto Cross (off road riding) and an apparently fearless courage to talk to anyone about Jesus' love.

Carlos prayed and prayed for God to save Spanish bikers, to open doors of opportunity whatever it cost and to use him and his wife Eva to bring others to the Cross. As his hand touched the map it appeared to caress Spain in a loving gentle way that I imagine God's hand would for God loves the people from these countries and ours much more than we could ever do.

I left that prayer meeting asking God to break my heart again with compassion, to allow us all to see even just a glimpse of what it means for someone to be lost and on the way to hell.

I recall many years ago someone once said **“If all Christians had a glimpse of the horrors of hell for just three days they would never need to attend a Theological College to learn how to share the Gospel, they would just go whatever the cost!”**

They are lost..... if you don't feel any concern, if you have never wept for those in our community, consider the words of this old hymn, it has always kept me going and renews my determination I hope it does the same for you too.

God Bless you,

Mike Fitton

Facing a task unfinished

**Facing a task unfinished
That drives us to our knees
A need that, undiminished
Rebukes our slothful ease
We, who rejoice to know Thee
Renew before Thy throne
The solemn pledge we owe Thee
To go and make Thee known**

**Where other lords beside Thee
Hold their unhindered sway
Where forces that defied Thee
Defy Thee still today
With none to heed their crying
For life, and love, and light
Unnumbered souls are dying
And pass into the night**

**We bear the torch that flaming
Fell from the hands of those
Who gave their lives proclaiming
That Jesus died and rose
Ours is the same commission
The same glad message ours
Fired by the same ambition
To Thee we yield our powers**



O Father who sustained them
O Spirit who inspired
Saviour, whose love constrained them
To toil with zeal untired
From cowardice defend us
From lethargy awake!
Forth on Thine errands send us
To labour for Thy sake

Dancing with God

When I meditated on the word **guidance**, I kept seeing 'dance' at the end of the word. I remember reading that doing God's will is a lot like dancing.

When two people try to lead, nothing feels right. The movement doesn't flow with the music, and everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky. When one person realises that, and lets the other lead, both bodies begin to flow with the music. One gives gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back or by pressing lightly in one direction or another. It's as if two bodies become one body, moving beautifully.

The dance takes surrender, willingness and attentiveness from one person and gentle **guidance** and skill from the other. My eyes drew back to the word **guidance**. When I saw 'G', I thought of God, followed by 'U' and 'I'.

'G', 'u', 'I', 'dance'.
God, you and I dance.

As I lowered my head, I became willing to trust that I would get **guidance** about my life. Once again, I became willing to let God lead. My prayer for you today is that God's blessings and mercies are upon you on this day and everyday. May you abide in God, as God abides in you. Dance together with God, trusting God to lead and to guide you through each season of your life. This prayer is powerful, and there is nothing attached.

If God has done anything for you in your life, please share this message with someone. Interceding in prayer is one of the best gifts we can receive. There is no cost but a lot of rewards, so let's continue to pray for one another.

And I hope you dance!

Ian Hobbs

Don't forget:

Fri 26th March is intended to be a day of fasting and half night of prayer at the Hobbs' from 8pm - 12am breaking at 10pm for communion.

I heard a Christian man speaking one night and it touched me so much because I felt that what he was saying was so true. I thought I would share it with you.

He was saying how fast the time in our lives goes, one minute we are young and the next we are old and I look back in wonder and say 'Where has the time gone?'. Believe me, this does happen! Then he said:

WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH THE TIME WE HAVE LEFT?

Only God knows how much time we have left. Are we going to use it for the Lord or are we going to let it slip away? One day the Lord will want to know.

Marilyn Hudson

Help with Christian Aid Week 2010

Joan Barker (the Christian Aid representative for Whitby) is desperate for help delivering and collecting envelopes for Christian Aid Week this year as a number of her regular collectors cannot help or have left the area.

Christian Aid Week is from 9th to 15th May this year, and if you have some free time and can help, Joan would be delighted to hear from you - her telephone number is 01947 600509.

Peter Cooper



WANTED - Used Postage Stamps

WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!

Used Postage Stamps of All Kinds (please leave some paper around them). 'Post' them in the stamp box at church. They will be used to raise funds for F.E.B.A Christian Radio and Stamps for Testaments. For more information please ask Marilyn Eacott when you see her or call her on 01947 603955



Marilyn Eacott

Church Jobs

This was mentioned at the church meeting on 17th February and also on Sunday 21st February, but just to reiterate, we're looking to add to the number of people currently undertaking the week to week jobs within the church. We plan to develop a monthly rota for each of the jobs, enabling those who serve every week to have some time off and ensuring that there will always be someone to do a job when others are away. Full training in all of the jobs will be given! It is likely that not everyone who puts their name down to do a job will be required, however we will endeavour to involve as many people as possible. If you feel you could serve in any of the following ways please inform one of the Deacons:

Hall Setup Team

You will be required to put out appropriate numbers of chairs/tables before the meeting and put away again after the meeting. You will also help the sound/laptop operators by assisting in plugging in the sound equipment. It is advised that you arrive at Eskdale by 9.15am to ensure you have adequate time.

Sound/Laptop Operators

Sound: You will be required to learn how to use the sound desk, use of appropriate microphones, setting up of live sound equipment and running of the sound throughout the entire meeting. You will assist the hall team in moving the sound equipment and keeping the equipment and its boxes in good order.

Laptop: You will need to learn how to operate SongPro (the projection software we use). You are responsible for setting up the order of service each week and ensuring that any extra items such as PowerPoint presentations/CDs/DVDs are in place well before the start of the meeting.

Full Training Will Be Given!

Welcoming Team

You must arrive at Eskdale no later than 10.30am and provide a warm welcome to regular members and visitors.

Sunday School Teacher

Teach the appropriate Sunday School lesson as provided by the Sunday School Coordinator. This may involve a reading, discussion, singing, craft activities and games.

Sunday School Helper

Assist the Sunday School teachers during the lessons.

Musicians/Singers

Provide a consistently high level music on your chosen instrument/voice. Ensure you attend practices where appropriate and arrive at Eskdale before 9.45pm to help setup the sound equipment (be available for sound checks). You should assist in the setup and dismantling of sound equipment (i.e. microphone stands and wires). *Not all musicians/singers will be asked to play each week.*

Information Desk

Man the desk after the meeting each week, providing answers to people's questions where possible or guiding them to the appropriate person regarding their problem.

Tea and Coffee

Provide tea and coffee after the meeting, organise washing up and ensure that all equipment is used and replaced responsibly.

'...so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.' - Romans 12:5-8

Gifts and Talents Audit 2010

Again, as was mentioned at the church meeting and also last Sunday (21st February), we're conducting a Gifts and Talents Audit. The purpose of this audit is to have a fuller knowledge of what gifts and abilities are to be found among us to ensure that we're making full use of all the talent that God has put at our disposal. In completing the Skills

Whitby Christian Fellowship Gifts and Talents

1. Name: _____

2. Address: _____

3. Telephone: _____

4. Email: _____

5. Date: _____

6. I am a member of the Whitby Christian Fellowship ()

7. I am a member of another church ()

8. I am not a member of any church ()

9. I am a member of a church but do not attend ()

10. I am a member of a church but do not attend regularly ()

11. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all ()

12. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

13. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

14. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

15. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

16. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

17. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

18. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

19. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

20. I am a member of a church but do not attend at all and do not wish to be contacted ()

Audit you are not committing yourself to any particular task and the church is not committing itself to using you in a particular ministry but it is hoped that this will enable us to identify God's calling on someone's life by matching the skills needed for that calling.

The information given will be analysed by the Elders and Deacons and may form the basis of a discussion between us and yourself in order to support and develop you in some aspect of church ministry.

If you have yet to complete an Audit please see Jack, if you have completed one, please ensure you return the completed form to Jack.

From Derryck and Tineke

We were walking down the street in Chalfont St. Giles on a Saturday morning in February, when we were accosted by a Fairtrade banana, who invited us to a Fairtrade coffee morning. As far as we can recall, we've never been approached by a banana on the street before, so we accepted the invitation. It was a reminder that **Fairtrade Fortnight** (www.fairtrade.org.uk/thebigswap) was about to start - it continues till the 7th March - and it was also the contact we needed (it was, in case you haven't worked it out, a woman dressed in a banana costume - there are many things we'd do ourselves for Fairtrade, but dressing up as a banana might prove a step too far!). So we were able to organise a Fairtrade stall here at WEC headquarters, after input into the morning chapel meeting.



It's a reminder that WEC's mission - reaching the unreached and planting where there is no church - goes hand in hand with bringing about justice and supporting the oppressed. 'Good news to the poor' is not confined to just one area of life; it's all-inclusive.

The building at Bulstrode is being developed as a 'Centre of Influence', to be used by different groups who have the same aim, of building and extending God's kingdom.

The biggest event of the year is in May. It's called **GO2010 Festival for the Nations** (www.go2010.org.uk) and it stretches over three days, during the May Bank Holiday (1st - 3rd May). We'll bring leaflets with us to the Away Weekend - it might be a good opportunity for you to visit Bulstrode, and find out what WEC is all about. There will

be guest appearances from George Verwer, and the Soul Survivor worship band, amongst others. It's a time when many people are challenged about serving God amongst unreached peoples. If you enquire amongst people at WCF, you'll find that there are some who have been to previous Mayday events, and they will tell you all about it.

We look forward to being together with you in March at the Away Weekend, and for a Sunday service.

We value your prayers.

Derryck and Tineke

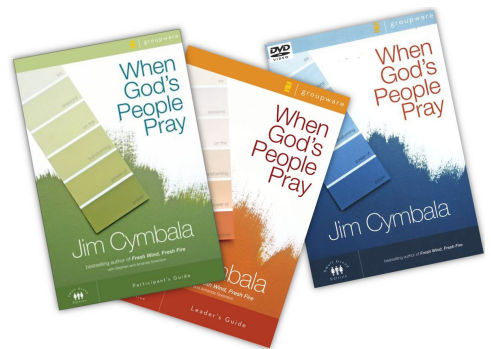
Whitby Christian Fellowship Weekend Away 2010

Don't forget, the weekend away is fast approaching (March 19th/20th). Andy & Fiona Lloyd and Nigel from Leeds will be leading the weekend. Chris will be collecting fees from those attending during the following couple of weeks.

March's Shared Meal will be on March 28th - don't forget!

House Groups

We're currently studying prayer in our mid-week house groups, using the book 'When God's People Pray' by Jim Cymbala of the Brooklyn Tabernacle Church in New York. If you're not yet involved in a house group, please talk to one of the Deacons about which group would be suitable for you to join.



I'm sure house group members would agree that meeting together in homes, with time to get to know each other better and support each other, particularly in prayer, is a real encouragement and something we should all seek to be part of as our relationship with God and each other continues to develop.

Whitby Christian Fellowship



www.whitbychristianfellowship.org.uk

Reg. Charity No. 1068936

Member of the Evangelical Alliance

Sunday Meetings

Every Sunday at 10.45 am at Eskdale School.

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16 Fountains Close, with John Town

Wednesdays 7.30 pm House Group @ The Hobbs',
13 St Andrews Road, with Ian Hobbs

Thursdays 7:30 pm House Group @ Jack and Megan's,
26, Argyle Road, with John Winter

Fridays 7:30 till 9pm Prayer Meeting @ The Hobbs'

Elders: Ian Hobbs, John Winter and Mike Fitton

Deacons: Carole Elliott, Allan Foster, Susan Taylor and Jack Barber

Prayer Co-ordinator: Jean Hobbs

Our Link Editors: Jack and Megan Barber
ourlink@whitbychristianfellowship.org.uk