



New Barn
Christian Fellowship

The Stream

February 2025



Welcome to the February edition of The Stream, a chance to catch up on the news of New Barn Christian Fellowship and see what's coming up in the next month.

We hope you enjoy this edition and if you have any ideas of contributions of what you would like to see in the next copy, please speak to Lynne or any of the Leadership Team.

Message from Mike...

Hello Church,

I pray that you are enjoying our series on prayer and that it is helping and encouraging you in your relationship with Jesus.

As I write this I am endeavouring to give some assistance to someone I know. As I write, though, I am challenged by what I am writing. Is the advice I am giving out how I act myself, or is it how I act in my 'holiest' moments? There seems to be a huge gap between what I do and how I expect others to act. What I am asking myself is 'Do I act the way I expect others to or am I a hypocrite?'

*I can never match up to the standard set by Jesus Christ. 'For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been **tempted** in every way, just as we are - yet he did not sin.' Hebrews 4 v 15. I am called to be holy though, to be 'set apart for God'. How much of my life and actions are set apart for God? How much do I stand out from the crowd? Do the people I meet see 'Christ in me' or another person who is way below the standard expected of a child of God.*

The great thing is that I cannot work to get myself into heaven, that work has already been done by Jesus. Becoming holy is not something I have to do entirely on my own either. To be holy is a command, 1 Peter 1 v 14-16 says 'As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵ but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

The major part of the work is done by the Holy Spirit. Our part is to be willing to be made holy, to submit to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We need to be teachable, to be moldable, to be available even when the obedience required affects the most private, most secret, most untouchable parts of our lives. When the Holy Spirit (often through our conscience) says 'deal with this situation because your reaction wasn't as I would have it' then we should be willing to be obedient.

I pray that as we allow the Holy Spirit to speak to us directly, through other people, through the preaching or through the Bible, that we would not resist but would be willing to be obedient to what the Holy Spirit says.

May God richly bless your obedience. Mike



New Barn Christian Fellowship's 30th Anniversary



New Barn Christian Fellowship was originally a church plant from Wilmington Christian Fellowship (now Wilmington Community Church) and on the 5th March 2025 NBCF will reach our 30th anniversary. To mark the occasion and give thanks for the years that the Church has been worshipping in Longfield Hill there will be a fellowship lunch after the service on Sunday 9th March, more details to follow nearer the time.

February's Sunday Service Details

Date	Leader	Speaker	Comments
2 nd February	Nicky Collins	Peter Bundell	Prayer - Daniel and prayer Daniel 2 v17-24 & Daniel 9 v1-19
9 th February	Rowan Troy	Mike Collins	Prayer - David and unanswered prayer? 1 Samuel 12 v15-23
16 th February	Mike Collins	Ron Owen	Prayer - Jesus and the Lord's Prayer Matthew 6v 5-18
23 rd February	Beth Collins	Naomi Gibson	Prayer - Jesus Teaching on Prayer 1 - Matthew 14 v22-23 & Luke 6 v12-16



Prayer

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" Phil 4 v6. We remember all our family and friends who are going through challenging times and particularly raise our prayers for:

Mary Weller – Mary has recently started treatment for her cancer and we pray for strength and nearness to God as she goes through this. We also pray for Ian, Lindsey and Gary in our prayers at this difficult time.

Ian Hutchinson – Ian who has visited us at NBCF to speak has a suspected brain tumour. Please pray that Drs can find the cause and treat him. Also

we continue to pray for their son who has been very ill recently and for Dorothy and their family due these difficult times.

Chris Troy – We give thanks that Rowan's mum's leukaemia is now in remission and that an appointment with a cardiologist was bought forward 6 weeks which has enabled her to receive treatment much more quickly.

If you have an emergency or particular prayer need please speak to any of the Leadership Team who will be happy to pray with you, or contact Janet for inclusion on the Emergency Prayer Line.

Safeguarding – a message from Nicky...

As you all know I am the Safeguarding Lead for NBCF. Safeguarding is very important and on Saturday 11th January the Leadership Team and myself attended safeguarding training. If anyone has any safeguarding concerns please don't hesitate to contact me. If I'm not available please contact Sarah who is Deputy Safeguarding Officer.



Church in the Care Home



An initiative was launched last week by Churches Together in Gravesham called 'Church in the Care Home'. The idea is that churches will 'adopt' a care home in the area and try and service any spiritual needs as they arise. As a fellowship, New Barn Christian Fellowship has 'adopted' Hever Court Care Home. I am currently running church services on Tuesdays every fortnight, along with Graeme Baldwin (pastor of CPC). I also go in on the other weeks, where we do anything from 1-2-1 meetings with residents, to helping with fun activities. We

have also started a weekly choir on Wednesday mornings where we get the residents involved in singing songs they remember. The initiative has been ongoing since September last year and prayer is always gratefully received.

If anyone is interested in joining me, please come and see or contact me. God bless ... Ron

Gravesham Foodbank

Nicky mentioned recently about our members coming and seeing what we do at Foodbank and it would be lovely to have a couple of people visit each week. Please let Nicky know if you would like to come, chat with clients and hear their stories. It will also a great opportunity to see where your donations go. The Food Bank would appreciate the following items, particularly those in **red**.



Pasta N Sauce	Tinned Mackerel/Pilchards/Salmon	Crackers
Custard	Peanut Butter/Chocolate spread/Jam	Shower Gel
Tinned Fruit	Tinned Vegetables	Toothpaste
Ready-made Jelly	UHT Fruit Juice	Men's / Ladies Deodorant
Meat Pies	Meals in tins	Non-bio washing powder
Tined Peas	Hot Chocolate	Shampoo/Conditioner
Cous Cous	Coffee	Anti Bac Spray
Bottles of Squash		

A continued big thank you to everyone who contributes items for the Gravesham Foodbank but please don't forget no baby food or baby milk ☺

Current Groups at NBCF

Group	Day	Time	Details
Bible Study	1 st Tuesday of the month	1.45pm	At Janet's home – Matt 25:1-13 - Be Prepared
Dartford Life Group	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday monthly	7pm	Edna's home – Varied themes looking at Faith
Welcome Wednesday	Wednesdays	1-3pm	Longfield Hill Community Hall – a friendly 'pop up' club with refreshments, board games, talks, demonstrations and activities, open to all
New Barn Life Group	Thursdays	7.30pm	At Eve and Richard's home: 6 th Feb – Random Thoughts with Rupert 13 th Feb – The Chosen, "Moon to Blood" (Series 4 Ep 3) with Andrew & Annette 20 th Feb – Half term break – no meeting 27 th Feb - The Chosen, "Calm Before" (Series 4 Ep 4) with Mike
Weekly Prayer Group	Fridays	5pm	Via Zoom – please contact Janet for joining instructions
Monthly Prayer Meeting	Saturday 22 nd January	9am	Meeting in the building adjacent to Community Hall and Zoom link also available.

All groups are open to everyone and all are most welcome

For further details, please contact the organiser, Ron Owen on 07850 004696 or email newbarncf@outlook.com

The Leadership Team

Keep in touch and please contact any of the below at newbarncf@outlook.com:

Pastor: Mike Collins

Trustees: Paul Bishop, Ron Owen, Stephen Paddock & Mary Bourne (external Trustee from CPC)

Leadership Team: Lynne Bishop, Paul Bishop & Ron Owen

Safeguarding Lead : Nicky Collins

For further details on any of the above, please see our website at newbarncf.org.uk.

If you have something that you would like to be included in the next copy of The Stream, please speak to any of the Leadership Team, or email newbarncf@outlook.com.