



The Stream

May 2026

Message from Mike...

Living as a slave or a Son/Daughter?

One of the most amazing things about being a believer is our change in status in God's sight.

Before we became a Christian, we were in slavery to the Law and how Satan used the Law to accuse us and mock us. The Law demanded a moral code that we could not possibly live up to and we felt miserable and condemned and thought that there was no hope and hence no purpose for life.

The most terrible thing about this is that as Christians we still live as if this is true. It is much easier to believe in the bad things than the good things. We remain living under the Law when we have been set free. We stay living as slaves when we are in fact sons and daughters. And not just anyone's sons and daughters but adopted sons and daughters of God the Father. That truth should give us a completely different outlook on life.

For in Christ Jesus, you are all sons of God, through faith. Galatians 3 v 26 (take time to read the whole chapter) and before anyone asks; sons can mean sons and daughters!

Important words there are 'in Christ Jesus'. Being children of God is not something we have achieved or had any influence on. It is a gift from the Father, brought about by the death and resurrection of Jesus and our acceptance of that wonderful gift of salvation by grace through faith. Being 'in Christ' means that everything we have is possible only because it is a gift that we don't deserve and haven't earned.

In Christ we have the righteousness of Christ, redemption through His blood, reconciliation with the Father, eternal life, freedom, the love of God to name but a few. So why do we continue to live in slavery to our sins, still believing that we are unloved and perhaps un-loveable?

We are no longer the people we were before salvation. Being 'in Christ' transforms the way we view ourselves and other members of the body of Christ. Do we believe that nothing will separate us from the love of God or do we hold that war and death can do this? No! Impossible! Do we believe that we have no hope of eternal life because we sometimes sin? No that is already assured to us. Do we know that we can share the Good News with our friends and neighbours without them disowning us and rejecting us? Not if we are 'in Christ' because

2 Corinthians 2 v 14 - 15

14 But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. 15 For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing

If we are not the aroma of Christ to those around us, then surely we should be?

Do we hold that poverty or sickness or suffering will eventually defeat us?

Romans 8 v 31 39

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be[h] against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed

is interceding for us.[i] 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

36 As it is written "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. more than being saved, it is our every action, thought and word motivated by Jesus and all to bring glory to His name.

Let us live each day wearing the armour of God the aroma of Christ believing and knowing that we are sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father.

God bless you all, Mike



May Sunday Service Details

Date	Leader	Speaker	Comments
3 rd May	Beth Collins	Naomi Collins	1 Thessalonians 2
10 th May	Nicky Collins	Mike Collins	Why Do We Have Series - "Give to God"
17 th May	Richard Braund	Emma Ho	1 Thessalonians 3
24 th May	Steph Rogers	Mike Collins	Why Do We Have Series - "Believe the Bible"
31 st May	Tunde	Alan Greenbank	1 Thessalonians 4

Prayer

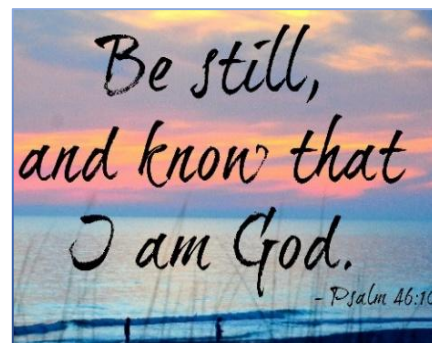
"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

George Britton – It was lovely to have George recently join us at a service and we continue to lift him in prayer along with Eileen and their daughters.

Sarah Barnett – We pray particularly for Sarah as she is hoping to reach the conclusion of her divorce at the beginning of May and that she feels God's love and support upholding her through this.

Tom Barnett – It was wonderful that Tom was baptised on Easter Sunday at Wilmington CC and we pray for him and his walk with God.

Our Fellowship – There are many in our Fellowship who are suffering with held problems or encountering challenging and difficult times. Please lift people in prayer as you feel led and pray that they know the Lord close to them in their testing times.



Prayer is vital for us all, if you would like prayer, either after a service or at any other time, please speak to Mike (or whoever you feel comfortable with) to request this. Mike can also be contacted at 07599 833151 or emailed at mikecollins69@hotmail.co.uk and he is happy to meet with you. If you have an urgent prayer request, please contact any of the Leadership Team for this to be included on the NBCF Emergency Prayer Line.

Gravesham Foodbank



A big and continual thank you to all our regular contributors to the Gravesham Foodbank it is very much appreciated and supports our local community. This month the Foodbank would appreciate the following items (particularly those in **red**).

Cous Cous
Pasta N Sauce
Rice Pudding
Tinned Cold meats
Biscuits
Tins Ravioli
Tins Mac N Cheese

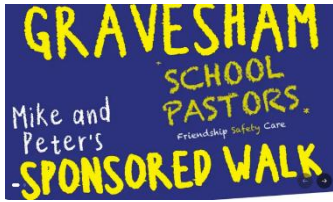
Ready Made Jelly's
Small Packets Mashed Potato
Crackers
Instant Noodles (not Pot Noodles)
Tinned Mixed Vegetables (no peas or Sweetcorn)
Multi Packs of Crisps
Tinned Mackerel/Sardines/Pilchards

Long Life Milk
Long Life Fruit Juice
Shampoo and Conditioner
Men's/Ladies Deodorants
Anti Bac Wipes & Spray
Bio Washing Tablets



Please don't forget no baby food, baby milk, water or fizzy drinks – thank you ☺

Gravesham School Pastors Sponsored Walk



A big thank you from Mike and Peter to all who sponsored them on their 13 mile Sponsored Walk to raise funds for the Gravesham School Pastors. They raised a great £240 which will help provide and train volunteer School Pastors with listening ears and support to students in a local secondary school through such love in action they seek to witness to their faith in Jesus.

Easter at New Barn Christian Fellowship



NBCF celebrated Easter in 3 ways this year. This started with a Maundy Thursday Service where we gathered to remember the Last Supper and reflect of what was to come with bible readings, music and thoughts. On Good Friday we joined together with Churches in Gravesend for the Walk of Witness through the town centre, organised by Churches Together in Gravesham. There was prayer and worship before setting off at St Georges Church and then again at the Community Square where there was also an opportunity

to contribute prayer requests on huge paper rolls. The event finished with a time of reflection on Jesus' death at the top of Windmill Hill led by Graeme Baldwin who gave out nails as a reminder of Jesus on the cross. On Easter Sunday Nicky led NBCF in celebrating Jesus being risen from the grave and the resurrection. A big thank you to all who helped organise our Easter events and make this such a great time of remembrance for us all.



Dates for Your diary ...

18th May at 7pm – Gravesham School & Street Pastors AGM at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Gravesend.



31st May - Mission Without Borders – Janet Hall will be joining our Sunday Service with her (and other's) delicious baked and preserves to raise funds to enable Mission Without Borders to send children to Summer Camps.

4th July - New Barn Community Fun Day (organised by NBCF) – watch this space for further details.



16th August – Churches Together in Gravesham Event at the, Fort Gardens, Gravesend.

Date TBC – NBCF summer picnic (further details to follow)

Current Groups at NBCF

Group	Day	Time	Details
Welcome Wednesday	Wednesdays	1-3pm	Longfield Hill Community Hall – a friendly club with refreshments, board games, talks, demonstrations & activities - open to all: 6 th May – Food Bank donations 13 th May – Talk by Sue Golding, Her Life as a Pearly Queen 27 th May – The Rock Choir
New Barn House Group	Wednesday	7.30pm	At Eve and Richard's home: 6 th May: A Studying the book of Romans (2) - Sin with Rupert 13 th May: Studying the Book of Romans (3) - Salvation with Mike 20 th May: Studying the Book of Romans (4) – Peace with Naomi/Nicky 27 th May: Studying the Book of Romans (5) – Freedom with Eve
Chalk House Group	Thursdays	7pm	At Beth and Naomi's home: Looking at Acts
Monthly Prayer Meeting	Saturday 16 th May	9am	Via Zoom (Joining details nearer the time)

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.