



Relationship > Hospitality > Prayer > Spiritual Growth > Community

CONNECT: Newsletter

Thought: As we reflect back and look forward, adaptability will be key through 2022. During these past 21 months we have all learned to try new things, or do familiar things differently. I'm reminded of those experts in their field, who suddenly found their ways of doing things challenged by someone who wasn't even in the same profession - what a cheek!! Yet, as asked, and after returning empty handed following a discouraging nights work, the disciples *put out into the deep* and came back with a huge haul of fish, just as Jesus had promised (Lk5:1-8). Discouragement may be something we have felt these past months, or feel now, but the promise of Jesus then, as it is to us today, is that if we *do* what he says, even if we think we know better (as the disciples probably did), then the provision will be more than enough. 2022 will be a year of us **Putting Out Into The Deep** as we do things differently, or start new things, trusting the living word of Jesus, in the aim of deepening our relationship with *God* - through Worship, Bible engagement and Prayer; with *Each Other* - as we seek ways to share our lives together; and with our *Community* - establishing new developments and opportunities being discussed.

At the start of this year, let us hear Jesus' call to 'follow me' and refocus our minds and hearts on him and what he says, rather than any discouragement that might come our way through the news or other's opinions. Jesus provides more than we need when we, his disciples, do what he says. **Let us have ears to hear his voice, eyes to see what He is already doing, and hearts to join in. We Praise God for his generosity, goodness and grace, as he continues to open the way for this Corps to Know, Grow & Show the love of Jesus.**

Going Deeper with God: Knowing the love of Jesus

Hope into Action: Within 48 hrs of us agreeing to be the lead church for this venture an investor had been confirmed. This has been unheard of in the 11 yrs HiA have been running. As we, the local ecumenical group (SA, Quakers, St.Mary's) move forward with HiA, please pray for continued discernment and wisdom, for the right individuals to come forward for the different roles, for the right house to be found, and for the right residents that we can support.

Taketime: We thank God for the group which has been running online this past year. There is evidence people are deepening their existing relationship with God, and moving closer to Knowing Jesus for the first time. This is beautiful and humbling to see and be part of. We're hoping to start a new in-person group running the 2nd Thursday each month starting 13th January but this is to be confirmed. Pray that those who need time and space with God will respond.

Getting Involved: Corps Prayer Gathering 3rd Thursday each month (zoom). Divisional monthly Prayer Gathering - *Living Hope*, (zoom). New Divisional monthly Spiritual Formation - *Living Word*: prayerful engagement with scripture (zoom)

Building Relationships: Growing the love of Jesus

After a difficult Christmas away from family last year, we hope you were able to appreciate and enjoy the love and togetherness of some family-time this year. We thank God for Julia as she takes up her role as the Associate Officer. Julia has many gifts which she brings to ministry, so offer her encouragement, and pray for guidance and wisdom as she finds her feet. Pray for ourselves and each other as we all adjust to this new situation.

Community Engagement: Showing the love of Jesus

War Cry: Over the Christmas period we have had the privilege of ministering to our community. Please pray for those who have responded to our ministry.

Bereavement Café & Community Hub: So far 2 sessions have been run with St Clare's Hospice. Please pray that those who need support will come forward.

HiA: In early 2022 a property will be purchased. As the project develops other opportunities will come for people to be involved such as practical help and fundraising.

Toy Appeal: This year we were pleased to work with the CAB, Foodbank, and the Community to help 94 families, which meant that in total 220 children were given over 650 gifts. A big thank you to all who donated toys, money and time!

Diary

January

- 9th Installation of TE Julia Attwood 10 am
- 11th Living Hope 7.30 pm
- 13th Taketime Meditation 7.30 pm
- 16th Covenant Sunday 10 am
- 20th Bereavement Café & Community Hub 10-3 pm
- Corps Prayer Gathering 7.30 pm
- 25th Living Word 7.30 pm
- 26th Leadership Team Meeting 7.30 pm

February

- 10th Living Hope 7.30 pm
- Taketime Meditation 7.30 pm
- 17th Bereavement Café & Community Hub 10-3 pm
- Corps Prayer Gathering 7.30 pm
- 23rd Living Word 7.30 pm
- 24th Leadership Team Meeting 7.30 pm