

## Open Door Church Sunbury

### March 2020 Newsletter



Welcome to our monthly Newsletter letting you know what's going on at Open Door Church. This Newsletter can be accessed through our website [www.opendoorchurchsunbury.com/](http://www.opendoorchurchsunbury.com/). In this issue you will find:

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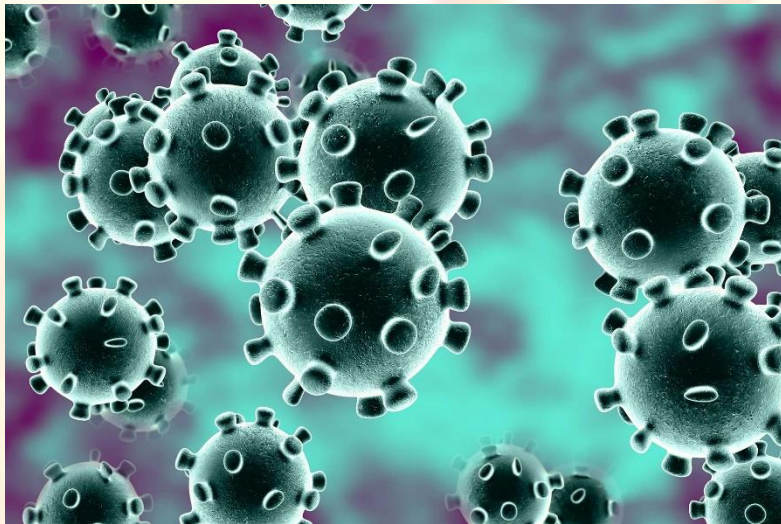
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Please Pray for . . .

#### **"So, do not be afraid for I am with you"- Isaiah 41:10**

We live in a time of extreme fear and anxiety. We are constantly plagued in the media at the moment about issues that can cause both panic and fear. We see the spread across the world of the coronavirus emanating from China, which is crippling nation's infrastructure and economies as they respond to the virus. As to the extent of the actual spread of coronavirus, we are not totally sure yet, but the fear is real and understandable.

We see the virus entering the UK and we can be extra fearful; with some of the more racist members of our community becoming aggressive to Asians living in the UK; for example Nicky and I have a Taiwanese lodger Hui-Ying Li who did not understand why people shouted "Coronavirus" at her because she is Taiwanese not Chinese the fear levels are building.



We have seen the rage of the forest fires in Australia which burned vast areas of that country. The damage to animal and plant life has yet really to be understood. It did feel like watching the picture of the flames on the 'TV' Jesus' words about hell were being lived out in all those flames. Climate change is constantly before our eyes with the destruction of rainforests, the rising levels of CO<sup>2</sup>, the reducing ice caps; rising warmth of the Earth has led some people to conclude we are most certainly in the Last Days of this Earth. This all leads us to be very fearful and wondering where this is all going to end up?

Fear is like the thought of a 'monster under the bed'; it does not need to be completely real to cripple us. Fear robs us of our joy in the Lord and steals faith and courage. This is why the Lord gives a constant command to the people of God in the Bible that they do not give into fear (Joshua 1:9, Ps 56:3, Ps 118:6, Ps 34:4, 2 Tim 1:7). We need be those that do not give in to fear and counter fear by faith.

Right now in our workplaces, with our friends and neighbours and in our schools and pubs, people are talking about their fears and concerns. People realise the pressure we are under as a nation and the future seems very negative and bleak with very little hope or security.

This therefore is an ideal time to proclaim the gospel (good news) to people we know who are living in fear (Rom 10:14-15). We have great news that we have a Sovereign God who rules and reigns and a hope for this life and the next. We need to be ready now to let people know why coronavirus and climate change or even Brexit is not going to cause us to

fear; because we trust God, in this life and the next. We must as the Apostle Peter encouraged us: "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15).

At this time where fear is spreading faster than any virus, we have the antidote to fear: faith in Jesus Christ. We are the proclaimers of this antidote! This month be ready to tell people about your faith that counters fear!

Andy - On behalf of the Elders

### **Ruth Smuts - 'Celebration of Life' Meeting**

Following Ruth Smuts' sudden death on 31 January in South Africa, we are having a 'Celebration of life' meeting at ODCC on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Ruth was the daughter of Dave and Jan Proctor, long time members and leaders in this church. Ruth leaves behind her husband Sean, Mikey 10 and Iris 7. Please continue to pray for all the family, that they know the Lord's comfort in this time of mourning and loss.

### **Thank you from Gerry Domantay's Family – Rovie, Kesha, Althea & Kheren**

Rovie Domantay (Grace's sister) sent this message to thank you all: "*Pastor Andy salamat po ng mirmi (thank you so much) to all UK church. Thank you to meet my sister Grace and through you it's a big help pastor. Please tell to all UK church pastor thank you much. My heart is so grateful. Thank you for the prayers. I don't know how to give back to all UK family thank you so much. God bless you more and more to my CODCC family. Thank you so much po tлага. (I really thank you so much).*" Church – we have lived out 1 Cor 12:26a – "when one part suffers, we all suffer"

We have so far raised £3,100 for the family of Gerry Domantay, the brother in law of Grace Cayetano who was killed recently in an accident. Please feel free to continue giving if you felt lead to and Kevin will add it to the payments being made. Please ensure the gifts are marked "Domantay Family".

### **Connect Festival 2020 - <https://commission.global/connectfestival>**

Connect is the new name for Commission group's Westpoint. The site has moved too and it's now based at **The Royal Bath & West Showground in Shepton Mallet, BA4 6QN**. This year it runs from **Thursday 27 – Monday 31 August** and we'd love for as many of us to be there as possible. You can camp onsite, stay offsite or come for the day. The **next price-break is 19 April**, so be praying about whether to come and, if you choose to serve at the event, the prices seriously reduce. We have a central kitchen, so no worries about catering - more pricing details of that will follow.

Come and meet with God, but also get to know others from ODC and wider, and be amazed at how that blesses you!

### **Save the Planet – Bring your own Coffee/Tea Cup to SMS**

People who wish to do their bit for the environment may wish to bring a travel mug/cup on Sunday mornings. Unfortunately, we don't have the facilities to wash your travel cups/mugs so please bring them ready to use.

Hannah and I are investigating if we can purchase fully recyclable cups – we will update you, **Brian Rodericks**

### **Worship Group Practices**

The Worship Band practises on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays each month in the Front Hall of ODCC from 19.45 for a 20.00 start. This is ongoing throughout the year except August and anyone is welcome along with their instrument or voice. For more info, please contact Emma Hawthorn.

### **Community Chaplains**

Barry Colyer, Phil Goater and Nigel Holden have volunteered as Community Chaplains from Open Door Church. Community Chaplaincies seek to build an embracing community in which ex-prisoners can make a new start ... and contribute towards a healthier society for all. For more info, please click <https://www.communitychaplaincy.org.uk/>

### **Encounter Worship Centre –ODC Burmese speaking congregation**

Please remember that Encounter Worship Centre use the ODCC premises every Sunday from 14.00-17.00 and you are welcome to attend and be blessed by their service which is totally in Burmese.

## March's Calendar

Day	Time	Event
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	10.00-10.20	Prayer meeting @ SMS
	10.30-12.15	Sunday meeting @ SMS Speaker: Graham Whitworth. Crèche facilities for those aged 0-4 and children's work for those aged 5-11 (School Yrs 0-6)
	10.30	Community Food Bank Sunday – please leave your items on the table at the back of the meeting hall. And thank you!
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	19.00-21.00	ESOL classes @ ODCC
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	10.15-12.30	Coffee Pot @ ODCC
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	13.00-14.45	ESOL classes @ ODCC
	20.00-22.00	Health & Wholeness Course week 7 @ ODCC
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	07.00-07.30	Early Morning Prayer Meeting @ ODCC
	10.30-12.30	Tea Pot @ ODCC
	20.00-21.00	Whole church prayer meeting @ ODCC
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00-12.00	Mini Steps mother and toddler small group @ ODCC
	19.00-21.00	SALT Youth (Yrs 7-13) @ ODCC
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00-10.30	Prayer meeting @ SMS
	10.30-12.15	Sunday meeting @ SMS Speaker: Phil Page. Crèche facilities for those aged 0-4.
	10.30-12.15	Kidz Klub in Sports Hall @ SMS for those aged 5-11 (School Yrs 0-6)
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	19.00-21.00	ESOL classes @ ODCC
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	10.15-12.30	Coffee Pot @ ODCC
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	13.00-14.45	ESOL classes @ ODCC
	20.00-22.00	Health & Wholeness Course week 8 @ ODCC - last one
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	07.00-07.30	Early Morning Prayer Meeting @ ODCC
	10.30-12.30	Tea Pot @ ODCC
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	19.00-21.00	Mini Steps mother and toddler small group @ ODCC
		SALT Youth (Yrs 7-13) @ ODCC
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	19.00-22.00	'Around the World' Moroccan Night @ ODCC £13 per person - booking essential
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00-10.20	Prayer meeting @ SMS
	10.30-12.15	Sunday meeting @ SMS Speaker: Andy Phillips. Crèche facilities for those aged 0-4 and children's work for those aged 5-11 (School Yrs 0-6)
	19.30-21.00	Pastoral Team @ the Walmsleys'
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	19.00-21.00	ESOL classes @ ODCC
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	10.15-12.30	Coffee Pot @ ODCC
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	13.00-14.45	ESOL classes @ ODCC
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30-12.30	Tea Pot @ ODCC
	20.00-21.00	Whole church prayer meeting @ ODCC
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	19.00-21.00	Mini Steps mother and toddler small group @ ODCC
		SALT Youth (Yrs 7-13) @ ODCC
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	10.00-10.20	Prayer meeting @ SMS
	10.30-12.15	Sunday meeting @ SMS Speaker: Ollie Elliott. Crèche facilities for those aged 0-4 and children's work for those aged 5-11 (School Yrs 0-6)
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	19.00-21.00	ESOL classes @ ODCC
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	10.15-12.30	Coffee Pot @ ODCC
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	13.00-14.45	ESOL classes @ ODCC
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	07.00-07.30	Early Morning Prayer Meeting @ ODCC
	10.30-12.30	Tea Pot @ ODCC
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00-12.00	Mini Steps mother and toddler small group @ ODCC
	19.00-21.00	SALT Youth (Yrs 7-13) @ ODCC
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	19.00-22.00	Barn Dance @ ODCC. Speak to Lynda Jones for more info.
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00-10.20	Prayer meeting @ SMS
	10.30-12.15	Sunday meeting @ SMS Speaker: Andy Bell. Crèche facilities for those aged 0-4 and children's work for those aged 5-11 (School Yrs 0-6)
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	19.00-21.00	ESOL classes @ ODCC
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	10.15-12.30	Coffee Pot @ ODCC

## Eldership & Church Staff Contact Details


ODC Contact Details				
Andy Phillips	Pastor & Full-Time Elder	01932 788226 & 07546 913118	andy@opendoorchurchsunbury.com	Day off: Fridays
Gavin Rendall	Elder	01932 883331	g.rendall@ntlworld.com	
Jez Hawthorn	Elder	01784 462171	jez251bass@gmail.com	
Ollie Elliott	Pastor	07496 213602	ollie@opendoorchurchsunbury.com	Days off: Mondays & Wednesdays
Loretta Wyatt	ODC Administrator	01932 782005	office@opendoorchurchsunbury.com	In Office: Tuesdays & Wednesdays
Charis Phillips	ESOL Lead & Children's Work Coordinator	07845 736731	esolopendoorchurchsunbury@outlook.com	In Office: Wednesdays & Thursdays

## Future Diary Dates & Information

- ✓ March's **Ecumenical Prayer Group** is meeting at **20.00** on **Tuesday 2 March** at Colin & Sandra Garrett's home: 10 Chestnut Walk, Upper Halliford, TW17 8PQ. For more info, contact Colin & Sandra Garrett on 01932 782980
- ✓ **Spelthorne Schools' Prayer Group** are next meeting on **6 March** from **19.30-21.30**. For more info, see [www.schoolsprayergroup.org](http://www.schoolsprayergroup.org) or email [info@schoolsprayergroup.org](mailto:info@schoolsprayergroup.org) or contact Valerie on 07908 776691
- ✓ A **Children's Workers Day Conference** is on **Saturday 28 March** in Winchester. For more info, please follow this link <https://commission.global/event/cwc20>
- ✓ **Saturday 4 April** we will be having a '**Celebration of Life**' meeting for **Ruth Smuts** at ODCC with Dave & Jan Proctor and their family. Times to be confirmed
- ✓ On **Sunday 5 April**, we are invited to a **Mini-Regional** event at **Jubilee Church**, Shepperton from 18.30-21.00. Prophetic speaker Adrian Horner will be talking to us. This will be an excellent time with a man with a significant prophetic gift who ministers internationally – not to be missed! We are gathering with Jubilee Church Shepperton, Kings Church Epsom and this time with Beacon Church, Chertsey as well!
- ✓ **Good Friday** is **10 April** this year. We will be having a **meeting @ ODCC from 10.30-11.45**
- ✓ Next **Small Group Leaders** meeting is **Sunday 26 April** in the ODCC Prayer Room from **19.30-21.00**
- ✓ Next **Pastoral Team** meeting is **Sunday 3 May** at the Walmsleys' from **19.30-21.00**
- ✓ **Andy Phillips, Andy and Army Hudson** are flying out from **9-22 May** to Cavite Open Door Commission Church in the Philippines. They shall be running a three-day Leaders retreat alongside Ranjit Rodrigues from Good News Church in Goa.
- ✓ **Men's Weekend Away**. Over the weekend of **Thursday 25-Monday 29 June 2020**, the men from ODC are planning a trip to Ben Nevis. Mike Sivyer is the organiser and says "The plan is to hire a 17-seater minibus and drive up together through the night, leaving at 21.00 on Thursday 25. Importantly you must book your bunk house accommodation place individually at <https://www.ben-nevis-inn.co.uk/> . Please let me know when you've booked at [mike\\_sivyer@ntlworld.com](mailto:mike_sivyer@ntlworld.com). Plans may change depending on who is coming, so please let me know asap, thanks Mike."
- ✓ On **Thursday 25 June** there is an **Accessible Church Day Workshop**. It's aimed at leaders wanting advice how to include all those with learning difficulties. For more info, click - <https://commission.global/event/accessible-church-workshop>
- ✓ **Alex & Anna Garratt** are visiting us on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July** to talk about their upcoming **mission year-out to West Timor in Indonesia**. This Sunday will be focused on **World Mission**.
- ✓ **Newday 2020** this year the youth festival is from **Monday 3 to Sunday 9 August**. For more info see leaflets on the welcome desk or contact Ellen Robson on 07902 046434.
- ✓ **Connect Festival** is our new Commission family summer festival and it runs from **Thursday 27 – Monday 31 August**. For more info click <https://commission.global/connectfestival>

## Please Pray for...

- All of the **Proctor family** as Dave & Jan's **daughter Ruth passed away** suddenly on 31 January. Please pray for God's comfort and love for this family as they try and make sense of what's happened.
- **The Domantay family** after the sudden death of father Gerry. Please lift his family up to our Lord: wife Rovie and girls Kesha, Althea and Kheren.

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- A silhouette of a person helping another person climb a rocky ledge at sunset. The person on the right is standing on the ledge and reaching down to assist the person on the left, who is leaning over the edge. The background is a bright, hazy sunset over a body of water.
- **The UK** as we **left the European Union on 31 January**; pray for peace and respect for each person and an avenue for the gospel as people search for hope.
  - Pray for **Hong Kong and Taiwan** and the growing threat of mainland China to their freedom and democracy. Please pray for **Chinese Christians** who are suffering terribly under the increasingly brutal regime. Pray for **Pastor Wang Yi** who has been sentenced to 9 years for preaching the gospel.
  - **Claire Rodericks** who is recovering from surgery and for Kim & Brian who support their family
  - Healing for **Sarah Page** who has been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.
  - Pray for **Australia** after the devastation caused by the **fires**. Many are left destitute so please pray for the recovery of the people, wildlife and land as the fires calm down.
  - **David and Coral Goater, Charis Phillips and Ellie Cross** who are on the Foundations Leadership Training course.
  - **Paul Piang** as he leads the Burmese speaking congregation: **'Encounter Worship Centre'** now based at ODCC
  - **Miro Fic** and his church in Silbas and the emerging apostolic work in the Balkans.
  - **Rachel Smith** who is serving Exmouth Church whilst studying for a Theology degree at Moorlands College.
  - **Jez, Emma** and wider family as they support **Jez's Mum, Esmee**, who is very unwell
  - **Alfredo Almazan** who is one of the Elders at Cavite Open Door Commission Church and has been diagnosed with lung cancer.