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| ALLERTON  CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH |



July/Aug 2018 Newsletter

Dear Friends

Recently I had the opportunity to visit another church where I was not leading or preaching. During the service the preacher introduced a children’s action song. As we sang it a second and third time we missed out certain words, and just did the action instead. What he said to introduce this really caught my attention; he said, “This time well leave Jesus out!”

Are there perhaps times when we leave Jesus out of our lives? When we’re frustrated by a long queue at the Post Office, or roadworks on our way to work, do we effectively leave Jesus out by cursing and getting annoyed at other people who simply get in our way? Do we include Jesus in our decisions about where to go on holiday, how we spend our money or what we do with our spare time? If you’re anything like me I suspect there are certainly occasions when we leave Jesus out, often without realising we’re doing that.

Jesus calls us to lay down our lives, just as He lay down His life for us on the cross. Jesus teaches the disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.” (Matthew 16:24-25) To put ourselves and our interests first is to leave Jesus out, so how do we include Jesus in every area of our lives?

One of the most helpful suggestions anyone has ever made to me is to consciously include Jesus in everything you do. If you’re going to see a film at the cinema, make sure to include Jesus. Imagine that He is literally sitting in the seat next to you eating popcorn, laughing at the jokes and weeping at the sad parts. Go for a walk with Jesus, or do whatever it is you are doing with Jesus. He is always with us anyway, but sometimes we need reminding of His Holy Spirit’s presence. Moses reminded Joshua of this wonderful reality as he handed on the leading of the Israelites. He said, “Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.” (Deuteronomy 31:5) Jesus is always with us and, if we will allow Him, He will guide us and empower us to live according to His ways. Let’s not be people who leave Jesus out, but instead may we always remember to include Him in all that we do each day!

Yours, Fred.

Pulpit

July 1st     Revd Fred Rich

July 8th     Revd David Muschamp

July 15th     Revd Fred Rich

July 22nd     David Robinson

July 29th Trevor Hippey

August 5th Revd Fred Rich

August 12th Revd David Muschamp

August 19th Revd Fred Rich

August 26th Trevor Kershaw

Collection

April 29th £ 91.03

May 6th £ 76.40

May 13th £ 97.87

May 20th £100.89

May 27th £120.80

June 3rd £127.00

June 10th £118.05

June 17th £175.18

Flowers

We are very grateful to the following friends who have kindly promised to provide flowers for the months of July & August.

July 1st Mr & Mrs Barfield

July 8th Mr & Mrs Elliott

July 15th Mrs Winterburn

July 22nd Mrs Coldwell

July 29th Mrs Nanson

August 5th *Vacant*

August 12th *Vacant*

August 19th Mr & Mrs Breen

August 26th Mr & Mrs Cooper

Mrs Relton will be responsible for arranging and distributing the flowers throughout this July and Mrs Thorp & Mrs Hardy throughout August.

Ladies Circle

The next Ladies Circle meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th July where Beata Damm will talk about being a Young Carer’s Practitioner from Barnardo’s and the work they do.

There is no meeting in August.

Coffee Morning

Our next Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday July 7th held by the Ladies Circle. From 10am – 12noon, £1 entry will get you tea/coffee & biscuits. Everyone is welcome.

Thornton Singers Charity Concert

Thank you to everyone who attended the brilliant Thornton Singers Concert in June especially those who’ve never been to one before. We raised an amazing £432 for Williams Syndrome and Emily Collier thanks you all sincerley.

Every Sunday Family Service 10.30am

## Website: allertoncongregationalchurch.org.uk

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