



E News

Issue 118

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Welcome to the March edition of Street Jesus e-news.

How lovely to see snowdrop crocuses and daffodils showing their bright colours. Shrubs trees and hedgerows are now beginning to bud up showing signs of new life. With climate change increasingly some plants are struggling to thrive particularly when we have higher than usual rainfall or prolonged periods of heat.

In our seekers group we discuss a whole range of subjects and its always fascinating to see how people see things differently given broadly the same information. The subjectivity of the human mind is a given and can create division. We began looking at Romans 15, looking to please others. We don't live solely for ourselves. One area is the importance of building people up. Spend a short time on facebook and you will see many stories where somebody is having a tough time. The responses are generally kind with lots of heart and hug emojis and comments of encouragement which can be really helpful. It shows a certain empathy that people understand and identify with suffering.



Is this way of building up though different to being built up in the Lord? When we immerse ourselves in scripture, prayer and Christian community we begin to build a mindset that encourages us to look at adversity in a different way.

When we look to live in peace and harmony we actually give glory to God but there are many snares along the way. We live in a world where there are many conflicting opinions. Its both in your face and on your facebook. We had a discussion about the quality of life now compared to that of my youth in the 1960's and 70's, with different age groups came varying perspectives.

Are things morally better or worse now than then. We came to the conclusion that things were just different.

The media has created a contrast between the baby boomer and what has been termed the 'snowflake' generation. We talked about how easily we can get swept along by these divisive narratives and that there are powerful forces that have created a breeding ground for discord. Whether there



is more sin now as opposed to then is a moot point because we are part of a fallen humanity which also reflects the image of Gods glory. We truly are a mixed bag. We sinned then and we continue to sin now. Rather than point the finger at other generational groups our focus should remain firmly on Jesus as we all need to be transformed into



his likeness. Whatever generation we are considered to be in we all have the same needs, we are all hearts minds and souls and we all have our own idiosyncrasies. We all need a saviour.

As part of my work I have been clearing out Charsfield Baptist church. There is a real sense of sadness when a fellowship closes down as so many have across the country. I was able to take some photos including the one below probably from the 1970's but including the 1940's and late 1800's. The congregations were large and one could imagine that most people in the village went to church on Sundays back in the day. There were also Baptist association certificates for Scripture examinations which covered churches across Norfolk and Suffolk. Charsfield were winners in 1946, 1960 and 1961. Great things happened in Charsfield because the first Greenbelt Christian festival was held there which has gone on to be a national institution in Christian circles. I was particularly taken with the communion table with the inscription 'Do this in remembrance of me' across the front and I was very pleased to learn that it has found a new home at Warwick avenue Evangelical church in Woodbridge. Just imagine the number of people who have taken wine from the cup and broken the bread in its 200+ year history and lets hope it serves to do the same for the next 200.



At All Saints church Wickham Market many of our services contain a creative slot. Often a sketch, a video or a puppet show. We don't necessarily come to Church to be entertained but rather to worship



the living God. Whilst some may feel this expression of church lacks gravity it can be very useful to have alternative ways to convey the message and for many having something visual or amusing can strike a chord. If services are formulaic and repetitive the danger is that its routine nature ceases to inspire. Whatever the

environment or style of worship and whatever floats our worship boat the holy spirit needs to be at work

In Gods kingdom there are always new beginnings, the creation of the earth, the giving of the law, the reaching of the promised land. The coming of Jesus and the holy spirit at Pentecost. We also have new beginnings from time to time in our own personal lives but so it is now with our Church here in Wickham Market as we welcome Charlotte Wallington as our new vicar. We pray for her as she leads us in our own new beginning as we seek Gods will for our church. Charlotte was installed last Thursday evening in a packed church in a ceremony loaded with symbolism. In Joel 2:28 we are told that God will pour his spirit out on all flesh. In Isaiah 43:19 it says of God "Behold I will do a new thing among you" May Charlotte be filled with the holy spirit as she responds to her calling and that she along with the whole church can do a new thing for the kingdom of God here in Wickham Market.



We will feedback on our March 1st outreach here on Wickham Market hill in the April edition. Our next outreach is at the Wickham Market spring market on March 29th Gods blessings to you all Graham





The Filling Station is an informal way of expressing the Christian Faith, using celebration meetings to encourage the local church, predominantly in rural areas across the UK.

What to expect when we meet:

A warm welcome with light refreshments... Contemporary worship led by local worship leaders... Stories of God at work today... Guest Speakers to refresh our faith... Prayer together for worldwide and personal needs...

Thursday
March 27th 2025–
7-9pm
Speaker TBA

The Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew
Refreshments at 7pm for a 7:30 start.

Everyone is Welcome

<https://thefillingstation.org.uk/>

All Saints
Wickham Market

SS Peter & Paul
Tottistree

OPEN DOOR

LOVE

Coffee, tea,
biscuits and
friends

Friday morning
Drop in from
10:00am

At All Saints Church
Every Friday Morning

Network SUFFOLK

Connecting Christian Communities in Suffolk

GOOD NEWS

www.goodnews-paper.org.uk

Evangelistic Newspaper

**All Saints Church
Wickham Market**

Prayer & Praise Evenings
3rd Sunday of the month
at 6:30pm

Informal service for all ages



Every third Sunday of the month at 11am
All Saints Church, refreshments from 10.30am

Oasis

Informal Service @ All Saints Church
3pm every Second Sunday. All invited!

A time of worship, fellowship,
and light refreshments.

Meet old friends and make new ones





Mike and Denise on team at Wickham Market Square on March 1st.
A very enjoyable morning with some great conversations





The Bits and Bobs sale which raised £270 for the Beehive childrens foundation in February

Book of the month



Our next outreach is at
Wickham Market Spring market
on Saturday March 29th

Facebook



Check out our
facebook page
[www.facebook.com/groups/
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