



E News

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Issue 113

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

The daylight begins to get shorter, the leaves are changing colour, the lawn cutting is getting less frequent and Christmas items are now beginning to appear in our shops. Change is part of the cycle of life. Attitudes change over time, technology is forever developing, our personal circumstances bring us new joys and challenges.

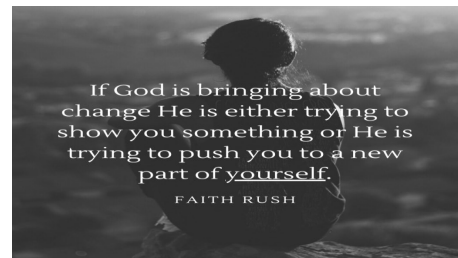
So it is also with our faith life, the way the bible is read and understood changes and our expression of how to do church is many and varied. Our personal calling is not set in stone as God may require us to do a new thing.

Over recent weeks we at Street Jesus have been thinking about how we should work in the future. During our Church weekend at Sizewell in April we received a talk from Leigh Winsbury who is pastor of a village Church in Devon. Over time the church moved significantly to engage with their local community and look outward. The Church had not got a good reputation but over time this changed to now being held in high regard with larger congregations. Leigh talks about being intentional, this required moving out of a comfort zone and to mix and



engage with people who are not quite like us. We have mentioned in these pages before that we reach a lot of people during the course of a year but because our visits are infrequent in any one place, the building of sustained relationships is far more difficult. We do have regulars of course who like to come and chat, some are interested, some enjoy a debate and other have ongoing problems and just need a listening ear but if we meet somebody new in Ipswich who is showing an interest in the faith it's a less practical proposition to invite them to our Wednesday night seekers group in Wickham Market where we can have deeper and ongoing conversations and where a relationship of trust can be built.

I must be honest and say that i resisted this thought of concentrating our project entirely on the community of Wickham Market and its surrounding villages. Our original calling was to work in Suffolk coastal and Ipswich, to be a visible presence in the small towns in this area but also to share with other churches. The idea of e-news and our facebook page was to cross pollinate what different churches were doing in our area and to encourage ideas. I personally really enjoy the big days like Ipswich music day. The contacts are more frequent and diverse often more



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contentious and edgy. But its not about what I personally would prefer but rather listening to the call. In my prayer time this idea would just not go away

I was having repeated thoughts of our friends Polly and DJ how their Church in London 'Church at five' went out into their local community, supporting people in the most practical ways. I Had been praying most days for opportunities to speak to somebody about Jesus. Many opportunities came and almost all were local.

Two members of our team had been called to establish a home church in Leiston. They became involved in Town pastors there, doing voluntary work and going out onto the street to sing worship songs and speak of Jesus, When we worked with them in Leiston they had clearly established strong relationships in the Town. All these things had been on my mind but despite this i still wasn't sure so asked other people to pray about it. All confirmed that we needed to change direction and so we have. It was also great to find



out that the new youth shed which has been initiated by Emma, Dominic and Julie to provide a meeting place and activities for young people in Wickham, Market was also due to the talks we received at Sizewell hall which served to inspire them. We pray that this project will be fruitful.

At our most recent meeting we agreed to change our focus to more local based events and venues. In the first instance we will have a more regular stall on the market square in Wickham, the Wednesday morning Bits and Bobs stall will contain some Christian content as will the Village hall sales. We had some ideas about what else we could do in the village but these will be subject to further prayer and discussions. Its quite exciting to see where this will take us and we trust that God will go before us in all that we do. Please pray for us for direction, wisdom and opportunity.

There will also be changes for our e-news, because we will be spending more evenings concentrated on local affairs we will not be providing extensive news on events across the Suffolk coastal and Ipswich as before. If people want to advertise their Church events we will still publish them but we will not be spending time on research. You will see from this edition that it will be very much shorter. We will still continue the two page comment section which will mix local matters with issues relating to the world and the church.

The facebook page will continue to be the main forum to advertise local events. I am receiving lots of facebook clips on working evangelists and the discussions and debates they have with all different types of people. Many are in college or university campuses which are important places to be as young people are bombarded with media images and ideas which are a far cry from the wisdom and abundant life that Jesus offers us, not just in this life but also into eternity. There is constant learning in looking at ways in which we can engage and explain our faith with gentleness and respect. Its very interesting

Our next outreach will again be at Wickham Market Hill for the Christmas market on Saturday November 21st. Hope to see you there
Gods blessings 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
17th October 2024 -
Rev. David Abrey -
"Mud, the life of a
prison chaplain"

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



Gallery



Street Jesus team enjoying Lollipops at Wickham Market Summer Market

CD of the month

Book of the month



Our next outreach is at
Wickham Market Square
Saturday November 30th

Facebook



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