



# Broadfield Christian Fellowship

Broadfield Community Centre, Broadfield Barton, Crawley. Reg. Charity no. 1081321

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## NewsFlash!



### Sunday 12th March 2017

**This morning** 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall  
*Led by students from IBTI*

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*We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today  
If you would like to know more about us, please ask one of the leaders*

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**Tuesday** 7.00pm: House Group at Caroline's home  
7.45pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home

**Wednesday** 9.30am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall  
7.00pm: Taizé Prayer Evening in the Church

**Friday** 2.30pm: Dave Time in the Church Quiet Room  
5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall

**Next Sunday** 9.00am: Open up and set up hall for worship  
9.30am: Prayer meeting  
10.00am: Tea and coffee  
10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall  
*Worship: Kevin Gordon; Speaker: David Evans*

### Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Luke 6:31 "Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Matthew 7:12 "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Two pretty straightforward scriptures, not difficult to understand and needing no explanation. However in church last Sunday we read a quote of Mother Teresa's, "Everybody we meet is Jesus in disguise." Well that is far from straightforward to me. I know it comes from Matthew 25:34-46 (I suggest you read it) "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat ... etc." I know exactly what Mother Teresa meant and that is that we show the love of Jesus to everybody (kindness, mercy, compassion, our time, our love, etc.) but to say that everybody is actually Jesus in disguise just doesn't "sit" with me. I know we must entertain strangers – they may be angels (Hebrews 13:2) but I am still not won over to Mother Teresa's quote. It's fine if you are speaking to another Christian who you know will grasp that quote but to unbelievers and baby Christians I think it is very confusing (you may well think differently, some people even say it's profound, I don't) and as it is now on the Internet for everyone to read I can't think it's that helpful.

Now in Matthew 25:44-45 when Jesus is explaining that those who have been judged will answer, "But when Lord did we see you hungry ... and did not help you?" And He will reply "I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." (NIV) but some other translations say "you did not do to me." There's a difference between doing something for someone and doing something to them, doing it for Jesus I can cope with, it makes sense.

Let me explain a bit more why I wouldn't use the phrase "everybody you meet is Jesus in disguise." I see people as three groups, those who have given their lives to Jesus and are possessed with the Spirit of Jesus, those who are unbelievers and do not have Jesus living in them but at some stage will become Christians, and those who will never accept Jesus and never have Him living in them. Of course we treat them all the same as they are all God's creation. So if the quote was "treat everybody with the same love as Jesus as they are all made in the image of God and are not beyond redemption," I wouldn't have a problem. Maybe you think I am making too much of it, but my concern is for those who don't believe, we must be sensitive to them. Sometimes our Christian phrases and clichés that we get so used to using can sound very odd to unbelievers.

### Diary Dates

**Friday 7th–Sunday 9th April:** Church Weekend at Ashburnham Place with Jon and Emily Darby – Booking forms are on the tables, please hand to Irma as soon as possible with any payments.

**Saturday 29th July–Saturday 4th August:** Revive! 2017, "All for One" with Roger and Faith Forster and special guest speakers Stuart Bell, Steve Clifford and Jake Isaac. Bookings are now open at [ichthus.org.uk/revive](http://ichthus.org.uk/revive), 10% discount for payment in full by 17th March (**THIS FRIDAY**).