



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

☎ 01444 400521 – Email: fellowship@broadfield.org.uk – Web: www.broadfield.org.uk



NewsFlash!

Sunday 1st January 2023

This morning	10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall <i>An opportunity for all to give thanks for the past year</i>
<hr/> <i>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</i>	
Tuesday	8.00pm: Home group at Steph & Shell's
Wednesday	9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall
Next Sunday	9.00am: Open up and set up hall for worship 9.30am: Prayer Meeting 10.00am: Tea & Coffee 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall <i>Worship: Viv Evans Speaker: Dave Evans</i>

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Isaiah 43:18 “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.”

In my quiet time this morning, I was reflecting on my life's journey and how God, even when I didn't know Him, He knew me. Almost immediately I had a vivid picture of a little 5-year-old girl face buried into a chair cushion sobbing. It was me, Sunday evening, knowing I was going back to the convent where I was a boarder. At age 6 I was sexually abused by my mother's boyfriend's friend, my mother never knew. Why did these things suddenly come back as I was praying, what possible good could it be, it was 70 years ago? Well, I know these things dramatically affected my life. I, in no way, blame my mother, she was a single mum doing her best to earn a living as a teacher. She couldn't get back home in time to pick me up from school and as my father, whom I've never known, was paying for my private education, boarding me out must have been the only answer. I'm not telling you all this to get your sympathy. I did feel a little sad, even sorry for myself, when I had that picture, they were horrible days, but just to say sometimes looking back can bring healing and understanding. It's strange how easy it is to reflect on the trauma rather than the blessings, and I have had many blessings, my four children being the biggest. God is not saying bury the past, but not to dwell on it. Burying trauma, heartache, grief and adversity achieves nothing, don't let people brush you off as being negative, you need to share things but NOT to harbour resentment, hate, self-pity or a victim mentality. If you get a picture as I did of the past, allow God to enter into it, give Him your trust to do whatever He needs to do.

A New Year Prayer: “Lord, as we enter this New Year, help us to focus our lives on You, help us to remember that your love is eternal and is with us in the bad times as well as the good. Help us this year to trust You more than we did last year, help us to embrace your thoughts and speak as You want us to speak, to love the unlovely as well as the lovely, to have your patience and kindness with the difficult as well as the easy. Not to dwell on our past, but still allow you to take us back sometimes to bring healing and restoration. Amen.”

Diary Dates

Wednesday 18th January: UKHarvest Community Food Hub during Coffee Shop

Sunday 22nd January: Jacket potato lunch after the service

Saturday 18th–Sunday 19th March 2023: Church Weekend at the De Vere Horsley Estate, East Horsley, Surrey

Saturday 29th–Saturday 5th August 2023: Revive 2023 “Pursuing The Unshakeable” at Ashburnham Place; bookings now open at revivelive.co.uk, 10% discount for bookings made and paid for by 31st May 2023.

Arise, shine; for your light has come (Isaiah 60:1a, NASB)