



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 14th May 2023

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

*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*

Monday 9.30am: Little Lambs Toddler Group in the Social Hall
7.00pm: Prayer Meeting on Zoom

Tuesday 7.30pm: Home Group at Steph & Shell's

Wednesday 9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall
Including UKHarvest Community Food Hub from 10.00 – Bring a shopping bag and fill it from a selection of mixed groceries and rescued produce for a suggested donation of £3.50

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, including communion
Led by Steph & Shell's Home Group

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

John 7:24 “Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly.”

Notice it doesn't say don't judge, it just says do it correctly. Sometimes a discernment or observation is needed, but you will be “batted off” by someone saying “don't judge.” Sometimes in towns you will see a lone preacher, proclaiming the gospel loudly with great gusto, nobody is around him/her and nobody appears to be interested or listening. It doesn't sit right with me, in my mind I dismiss it as being well over the top, off-putting and slightly cranky. You can't fault what they say, well the little bit I heard anyway, but it's the delivery. I immediately think of the girl following Paul in Acts 16:17: “She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, ‘These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.’” You couldn't fault what she was saying though verse 18 says this: “She kept this up for many days. Finally, Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, ‘In the name of Jesus Christ, I command you to come out of her!’ At that moment, the spirit left her.” Now, I'm not saying a particular lone preacher has a spirit, I would only know that if I discerned a spirit by the Holy Spirit, but it is a possibility. When I got home, I questioned myself as I was feeling a little guilty for being so quick to judge. Yesterday I read an account by Nicky Gumbel of an incident that happened when John Wimber visited their church. One of Nicky & Pippa's closest friends was eight months pregnant at the time. The Holy Spirit came upon her with great power. She started to whirl around at high speed. As she did so, she exclaimed over and over again, “I feel so strong!” A few weeks later she gave birth to a son who from his earliest days showed great strength emotionally, spiritually, and physically. I wondered to myself, How would I have reacted to that? Am I open to the weird, wonderful and strange moves of God? I think the difference between a lone preacher and Nicky Gumbel is that I respect and trust Nicky Gumbel's obviously powerful anointing, and that he wouldn't allow anything that wasn't of God. But I think what I must do is not to dismiss what I feel is “cranky” Christianity, that doesn't fit into my box, quite so readily, and ask God to give me discernment before I jump to judge.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 23rd May, 7.00pm: Church Meeting in the Small Hall

Saturday/Sunday 17th/18th June, 12.00–4.00pm: Broadfield Arts Festival

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

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing. (Isaiah 43:18-19a)