

May 2019



Welcome to another edition of Ashwood News where you can find out what's been happening and what's going to happen in and around Ashwood Church. As usual lots happening and plenty to read. Look forward to seeing you at some or all the events over the coming months.

this month

Page 2-3	Calendar
Page 4-6	Message from Matt
Page 7-13	What's on Around Ashwood
Page 14-15	Ashwood in the Community
Page 16-19	Children and Youth in Ashwood
Page 22-23	Malawi News
Page 27	Sunday Messages

Lots of information about forthcoming events in and around Ashwood

Ashwood Calendar

Regular Meetings:

Sunday Morning: 10.00am Ashwood meets in the Ashwood Centre starting at 10.00am for refreshments, meeting starts at 10.30am

Touching Heaven Gathering: 7.30 – 9.00pm usually 1st Wednesday in the Month

LifeGroups meet fortnightly on Sunday or Monday evenings. If you would like to be a part of a LifeGroup please speak to one of our LifeGroup coordinators: Molly Bell or Janet Wright

Ashwood Youth (Year 7-11): 6.00pm– 7.30pm @ AC (Year 6 transitioning, see pg 13)

Ashwood in the Community;

Foodbank: Tuesdays 2.00pm-3.00pm AC

Seesaw (toddlers): Tuesdays and Fridays Term time only 9.30am – 11.15am

Youth Club (year 6 – 11's): Thursdays 6.00pm – 8.00pm @ AC (Drop In)

Café 22: Mondays except Bank Holidays 9.30am – 12pm @ AC

May

Today **10.00am** **Launch of our New Welcome and Hospitality with new start time for Sunday meetings**

6.00pm – 7.00pm Luke – Youth @ AC

7.00pm Transformed Worship Night

Tuesday 7th May 7.30pm Malawi Team Feedback Evening @ AC

Sunday 12th May 6.00pm Ashwood Youth Social

7.00pm Ground Level Celebration Jeff Lucas @ Riverside

Tuesday 14th May 7.30pm The Bible Course starts @ AC

Wednesday 15th May 7.30pm Ashwood Wider Leaders

Thursday 16th May 9.15-10.30am Prayer Space @ AC

Friday 17th May 7.30-9.30pm Prayer, Praise and Pizza Night – Men's night! @ AC

Sunday 19th May **10.00am** **Ashwood Vision Sunday**

6.00pm Ashwood Youth

Tuesday 21st May 7.30pm The Bible Course continues @ AC

Wednesday 22nd May 7.45pm Worship Team

Friday 24th May 7.30pm Crafters Group @ 44 Beacon Dr

7.00pm – 10.30pm Worship Evening at Kirkby Community Church

Sunday 26th May **10.00am** **Guest Speakers Jason & Hollie Bollinger from Links USA**

6-8.30pm Film and Unihoc 6-8:30pm (with year 6)



June

Wednesday 5th June	7.30-9.00pm	Touching Heaven @ AC
Thursday 6th June	7.30pm	Justice Group
Friday 7th June	7-11pm	Thy Kingdom Come Prayer @ Kirkby Community Church
Sunday 9th June	10.00am	Guest speaker Joe Gisbey, Links International
	1-5.30pm	Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Event @ Ashwood Centre
	6.00pm	Ashwood Youth Worship Night (with year 6)
Thursday 13th June	9.15-10.30am	Prayer Space @ AC
Friday 14th June	7.30pm	Ashwood Quiz Night @ AC
Sunday 16th June	10.00am	Father's Day
	6.00pm	Ashwood Youth
Friday 21st June	7.30pm	Crafters Group @ 44 Beacon Dr
Sunday 23rd & 30th June	6.00pm	Ashwood Youth (with year 6)
Friday 28th June	7.00pm	Board Game Café @ AC

July

Tues 2nd, Wed 3rd & Thur 4th July	-7.00pm – 9.00pm	HeavenScent on Morven Park
Sunday 7th July	Guest Speaker – Jo Hargreaves from Alive Church, Hykeham	
	6.00pm	Ashwood Youth BBQ
Wednesday 3rd July	7.30-9.00pm	Touching Heaven @ Date TBC due HeavenScent

Further ahead

ONE Event 2019	Friday 23 rd – Tuesday 27th August @ Lincolnshire Showground
Transformed Worship Nights	7.00pm Sundays 8 th September & 17 th November
Board Game Café:	7.00pm Friday's 20 th September & 15 th November
Youth Residential	Friday 18 th – Sunday 20 th October 2019

SUNDAY 19th May ** NOTE THE DATE

We're looking forward to our Vision **Sunday on 19th May** – which will include an update on our "New Home for Ashwood Project" as well as an update and progress since our last Vision Sunday. Don't Miss it!!



Message from Matt

Matt & Claire Bell: senior leaders of Ashwood church



Hello Ashwood News Readers! First of all, “Thank you!” for taking the time to read and catch up on all things “Ashwood!” We are very aware that communicating the right information to the right people is a huge challenge! In Ashwood News we

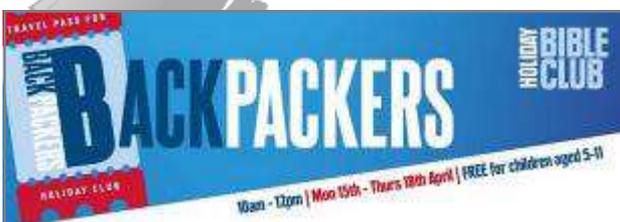


do our best to keep you up-to-date on some of the great things that have been happening as well as what’s coming up! We are also aware that we regularly have new people wanting to find out a bit more about Ashwood Church – and if that’s you, then we especially hope that what you read and see here in these pages is helpful!

We are now 4 months into 2019, and we’re still listening to what God is saying to us about this year being a year of transformation! We’re believing it’s a year of transformation for every individual old and young, but also for us collectively as church as well. Last Sunday we celebrated the evidence of spiritual transformation in the lives of Maisy Bell and Joshua Beighton as they eloquently and clearly described why they wanted to be baptised on Baptism Sunday! It was a great day!! We believe baptism is part of the journey of a follower of Jesus, where we symbolically go down into the water and then rise up – representing a new resurrected life, washed clean of our sins through the work of Jesus Christ. We also believe there is a supernatural element to being baptised as we obey what Jesus told His followers to do – a divine involvement in the act of being baptised. Great news!

As well as the one off spiritual transformation of being “born again” and becoming a new creation in Jesus – we also recognise the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in our lives to transform us to become more like Jesus. The Apostle Paul describes this as being changed from “one degree of glory to another”. The Holy Spirit does this in our lives as we pray, read the bible but also as we live together in the community of the church. In the next few weeks we are really excited to start something brand new in all of our LifeGroups – the “Character Course” which will help us look at 8 uplifting characteristics (learning, love, hope, forgiveness, gratitude, persistence, humour and curiosity), meeting Jesus along the way and expecting to see character

upgrades! Let’s be expectant!



During the Easter Holidays – our Ashwood kids team ran another holiday club for kids aged 5-11. It was a huge success!! Lots of fun,

games, crafts, songs and travelling to different places to explore the greatest transformation story ever – Easter! (Read more in later pages) And we were really excited that at least 6 kids made a first time decision to follow Jesus! The best decision we can ever make! Life transforming!! Praise God!!



If you've been past the front of the Ashwood Centre – you won't have failed to notice the remarkable transformation that has taken place here too, as our short-term building upgrade continues. All of the tearing away, broken old rendering has gone, replaced with smart, white, clean rendering. We think it looks great! And people in the community

have noticed, as someone on social media commented: "Lot's going on at the Ashwood Centre – I'm keeping my eye on what's happening there!" Special thanks again, to John Butler and Dave Redfern for their ongoing hard work.

And it's not just on the outside, but inside the Ashwood Centre saw the launch of Cafe22. (Read more later) Which opened its doors to the public on the first of April. We've had some great feedback from people who have been multiple times to enjoy the food/drinks but mainly the atmosphere and the welcome created by the Café 22 team. Well done to everyone involved – what a great start! **#Everyone is welcome!**



Since our last Ashwood News, 8 of us travelled to Malawi to serve with, and alongside our friends at "Hope Missions" partnering with Links International. We knew it had the potential to be a "life transforming" part of 2019 for each one of us, and we also hoped that we could contribute to some transformation in the lives of people in Malawi – the "warm heart of Africa" – I think for all of us both of these were true!

I always find that every time I travel and have the privilege of seeing different places and different people – I'm always filled with gratitude to God for





His goodness and for the diverse and wonderful world He created for us to inhabit. It's a great reminder, that as Psalm 27 "The (whole) earth is the Lord's and everything in it!" People are different, culture is different – but it's the same God who rules and reigns and wants to be involved in every situation across the planet. It was our honour to serve people in the communities surrounding

Lilongwe, to worship God with them, to learn alongside them as we shared what we had prepared through the training. There are lots of highlights! If you would like to hear the feedback please come and join the team on **Tuesday 7th May**. And if you were praying for us – Thank you!! Throughout our trip there was a strong sense that we were privileged to travel on behalf of a praying church family, with us all the way. We don't have any plans yet in place, but we expect there to be future trips as we continue to grow the friendship with Annie and Francis and the Hope Missions Team. Next time it could be you going!!

So – you see lots of transformation! All of those I've mentioned so far have been good. This final one is good too, but disguised and surrounded with sadness. On **27th March** Coreen Brookes transferred from this world to the next. For her it will have been a wonderful transformation as she receives her eternal reward and a future forever without pain or suffering and in the presence of God. Great news for Coreen and for everyone who accepts Jesus as their Lord and saviour. However, the transformation for us, is that we now have life without her, which for us of course doesn't feel so good. We will miss her tremendously. Her passion, her humour, her godliness, her insight, her wonderful dramatic presentations, her infectious joyful approach to life to name just a few. On the 24th April we joined together with Ronnie and Coreen's family to say goodbye, to thank God for her life and for the joy of knowing her. Many people commented afterwards they didn't know this is what church could be like. One of Ronnie's said: "I found it very moving and if I lived nearer to you I would certainly visit your Church more often!" Thank you, as ever to the wonderful Ashwood Team who served people on that day. Even in our sadness it was a powerful opportunity to "Help People find and Follow Jesus" – which Coreen would have been so please about.



In our season of our prayer leading up to Easter – we prayed "Lord transform us and transform our world". Let's continue to pray just that in the days ahead – O how we need it! And O how our world needs it too.



Matt Bell, Senior Leader

#helpingpeoplefindandfollowJesus #transformed2019



The Bible Course

As a follow on from Alpha we are running The Bible Course starting **Tuesday 14th May**. The Bible Course is an 8-session course helping you explore the world's bestseller. Accessible and interactive, it will enhance and inform your ongoing Bible study, whether you are new to the Bible or want to go deeper.

Using a unique storyline, the course shows how the key events, books and characters all fit together. You'll get to see the BIG picture and discover how the Bible applies to your life.

This is open to everyone. Please speak to Dave Ransome to book your place.



Thy Kingdom Come!"

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus.

For 11 days, from May 30th to June 9th, Thy Kingdom Come encourages us to each pray for 5 friends to welcome Jesus into their lives.

For the last couple of years Ashwood Church has joined this initiative and held prayer events and on **Sunday 9th June**, we would like to invite you all to an afternoon of prayer. Either bring a picnic and stay to pray after the meeting, come back after lunch, or call in early on the way to youth.

The Ashwood Centre will remain open for the afternoon and there will be prayer stations available between **1pm and 5.30pm**, with various activities to enable your prayers. Suitable for all ages.



Sallie Bates

We are invited:

Thy Kingdom Come Prayer @ Kirkby Community Church
on Friday 7th June 7-11pm (Come for all or part of the evening)



Breakfast Cobs

for the gentlemen
celebrating dad's and father figures



from 10am with coffee
Father's Day
Sunday 16 June 2019



ashwood
church

Ashwood Church | Registered Charity Number 1134945
Ashwood Church is a company limited by guarantee.
Company registered in England & Wales Number 6346764
Registered Address: 41 Crocus Street, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottingham, NG17 7DY



Saturday 30 November 2019 @ 2.00pm

TICKET INFORMATION

Adults £11.00
Kids (16 & under) £5.00

Book with a non-refundable deposit
Adults £5.00
Kids (16 & under) £2.50

BALANCE DUE SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER



ashwood
church

louise@ashwoodchurch.org.uk
www.ashwoodchurch.org.uk
01623 758974

Ashwood Church is a company limited by guarantee. Company registered in England & Wales Number 6346764. Registered Charity Number: 1134945. Registered Address: 41 Crocus Street, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottingham, NG17 7DY

Book NOW to make sure you get your
Panto tickets. Contact
louise@ashwoodchurch.org.uk

TRANSFORMED

Worship Nights 2019

SUNDAYS @ 7PM

10 / FEB

05 / MAY

08 / SEP

17 / NOV

In His Presence we are transformed,
refreshed and equipped to play our
part in transforming our world!
... from Glory to Glory ...

Prayer in Ashwood

Prayer underpins everything we do, personally and as Ashwood Church, and is a priority for us individually, with our friends, in LifeGroups and when Ashwood meets together.

Touching Heaven

**7.30- 9pm Wednesday's 5th June,
3rd July tbc due to HeavenScent**



We believe that if we are to grow and thrive as individuals we have to create space and welcome the input of the Holy Spirit in our lives. As a church we place great value on God's presence, and Touching Heaven is our monthly opportunity to be together to welcome the presence of God into our lives.

When Jarrod Cooper was with us – he brought a prophetic word from God which included a phrase: “Let prayer be ignited by worship in this place” – this is at the heart of our philosophy at Touching Heaven. We believe that as we arrive ready to worship that it will ignite prayer in us. We believe that as a result we will be filled with God's power, passion and compassion to make a difference in our world.

We encourage everyone to make these evenings a priority. We want to be a worshipping, praying, presence filled church.

Matt Bell

Prayer Space

Over the last few months a small group of folks have been meeting for an hour or so to pray. We are not experts but people who want to welcome God and into our lives, the life of Ashwood and the life of our communities and hear more from him. Our confidence is growing in hearing from God and in praying and we've got to know each other a little better and had fun along the way. It's a great place to be if you'd like to grow in prayer, come and join us and see where God takes us as we put time aside together to pray.

Our next two meetings are on: **Thursdays
16th May and 13th June**

Janet Wright



Stories of faith are everywhere! What's yours?

God-Stories are powerful! God-Stories provide inspirational fuel for our souls.

They remind us that “yes, it really is possible!”

God-Stories fire up our faith and make the invisible work of God visible!

If you have a story of what God is doing in your life right now then email

mystory@ashwoodchurch.org.uk

ONE Event 2019

Lincolnshire showground:
Friday 23rd – Tuesday 27th August 2019
hosted by the Ground Level Network



The theme will be “Multiply”. We believe that churches should grow and that Christians should be influential in every

sphere of life. In the gospels Jesus always did more than was expected. He turned water into wine and fed 5000 with 5 loaves and 2 fish. The early church didn't just grow but multiplied until today millions of people claim to be followers of Jesus. This is the kind of Christian faith that we believe in!

ONE Event is Ground Level's Annual Celebration when the network of churches gathers over the Bank Holiday weekend to worship, pray, be inspired by great speakers, meet up with friends and make new ones and be in the presence of God with the people of God. There is something for everyone from the very young to those a little older, from the sporty to the quieter ones.

Many of Ashwood camp and we'd love you to join us – please note to camp with Ashwood folk you need to make sure your booking is made before the end of July. Other people stay in hotels nearby or come along for the day. More details of cost are in the brochure.

We hope you're already booked in but there is plenty of time if you haven't. There are plenty of opportunities to get more involved by joining the crew and help to make the event happen – and reduce the cost, depending on what team you are in.

To find out more pick up a brochure on the information table or visit the website www.one-eventorg.uk where you can also book.

Janet Wright



JEFF LUCAS

12th MAY 2019

Start time **7.00pm** (Coffee from 6.30pm)

Hosted by the Ground Level (Midlands) Churches at the venue of Riverside Church:
The Minster School Hall
Nottingham Road, Southwell NG25 0LG

Jeff Lucas is an international author, speaker and broadcaster, and a longstanding friend of Ground Level.

His passion is to equip the Church with biblical, practical bible teaching, marked by vulnerability and humour and he has been privileged to address many conferences and churches worldwide.

Jeff is a monthly contributor for the UK magazine, 'Premier Christianity', and the Men's magazine, 'Sorted'. He writes daily bible reading notes with CWR, "Lucas on Life Every Day".

He holds a pastoral teaching position at **Timberline Church** in Fort Collins, Colorado, a church that has mushroomed in growth in what is a relatively small city. He is also an ambassador for **Compassion**, the charity working to save and help the lives of hundreds of thousands of children worldwide.



Board Game Café

We are going to be starting a board games café, how exciting!!!!

This will be run on a Friday evening in the Café 22 room. There will be a selection of games available or people can bring their own.



We have decided to do this as another way of reaching out to people and helping tackle loneliness and being part of a community, introducing them to our church community and ultimately introducing them to Jesus. This time using the element of board games!

It will be set up café style with refreshments and snacks available to purchase, from 7pm. This will be for anyone age 13+ (under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Family sessions will run in some of the school holidays—special dates to follow.

If anyone has any board games that would be willing to give to this new project that would be amazing!

The dates we have so far for this are –

Friday 28th June Friday 20th September & Friday 15th November

Bring your friends and family, posters and advertisement will be going out shortly but you have the first exclusive preview. Really looking forward to this new and exciting project.

Any other questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Louise Webber

Welcome to Elizabeth Rose Vincent

Abi and Phil Vincent are happy to announce that Elizabeth Rose Vincent was born at 4.31am on Friday 22nd March weighing 6lbs 15oz. She had a rough start on NICU (neonatal intensive care unit) and has since had another stint in hospital but is now doing well, enjoying being at home with her two big brothers.



We are invited to:

Friday 24th May 7.00pm – 10pm at Kirkby Community Church. All welcome for all or part of the evening.
See poster for more details.

