

# e-Bulletin November 2011

Steve Midgley writes....

This is a key time for us as a church. We are approaching a commitment Sunday that will help determine how several key areas of ministry and growth will develop. I want to remind you of these things and also tell you about various men's events coming up.

## **COMMITMENT SUNDAY / GIFT DAY (November 6<sup>th</sup>)**

At the vision evening in September we set out five initiatives:

1. A year in Matthew's gospel
2. Involvement in ministry at Orchard Park
3. A new morning service
4. The expanded Christianity Explored course
5. Phase 2 of the refurbishment

We've already had 20+ sermons and 5+ small group studies in Matthew's gospel and on Tuesday Christianity Explored got underway with five tables (3 from 20Twenty and 2 with guests). This Sunday (November 6<sup>th</sup>) we can respond to the other three initiatives.

**Orchard Park** We are still exploring the possibilities at Orchard Park; there is a key meeting next week that we hope will move things forward. On Sunday we are asking people to commit to pray. We know of some people who are already considering moving home to live in Orchard Park to support this initiative. Do let Chris know directly if this is something you are thinking about.

**Morning Service** We'd like to get the new morning service started in January. On Sunday you can commit to be part of the group who launch this. Do add a note to explain any relevant detail (eg wanting to help with children's work or planning to attend the new service but wanting to continue serving in children's work at the existing service etc).

**Phase 2 appeal** We're asking people either to give a lump sum and / or a pledge to give over the next 3 years. Our target is £144,000. Please pray God will enable us to raise this amount. We'd love to get the work started next May so we can then turn our attention to other things. Now an admission of error. We want to change the response form we use. We were keen to encourage people to think through their giving and then make a clear commitment before God and the original form was intended to assist with that. However, I don't think we need that information on this response form. So the forms available on Sunday will omit the bottom section (or you can just tear that bit off the form that you already have). It's good for us to make commitments before the Lord about our giving, but there's no need for that to be included on the form. If you missed the talk I gave on giving on October 16<sup>th</sup> then you can find it in transcript form here

[http://www.christchurchcambridge.org.uk/about\\_us/giving\\_at\\_christ\\_church.shtml](http://www.christchurchcambridge.org.uk/about_us/giving_at_christ_church.shtml)

This Commitment Sunday is a key time as we see how God is guiding us to give ourselves to these new initiatives. Do pray that the whole process will be a blessing to the church.

## **MEN**

Five things with men in mind:

**Daddy and Me** meets this Saturday in its usual monthly slot of 10am to 12 noon (first Saturday of every month). It is a great opportunity for dads with children under about 5 to meet together and many bring guests. Do come and be a part of it.

**Men's curry night** is being held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> at the Golden Curry on Mill Road. Brian Elfick will be speaking on Work / Life Balance. These are good evenings. Contact Barney Burrell on [barney.debs@btinternet.com](mailto:barney.debs@btinternet.com) to book a place.

**A men's internet accountability group** meets regularly. This involves men who have struggled, or are struggling, with temptations in relation to internet pornography. Church surveys show this as a big problem and the number attending our group will only be a fraction of those at Christ Church who are having difficulties in this area. Do contact me ([steve.midgley@christchurchcambridge.org.uk](mailto:steve.midgley@christchurchcambridge.org.uk)) or Doug Robar ([doug@percipientstudios.com](mailto:doug@percipientstudios.com)) to find out more about the group.

**MEMBS** the Men's early morning Bible study group meets regularly on Thursdays at 7.15 am for breakfast and study. It's finished by 8.30 am. Rob Smith organises and would love to hear from you ([rps24@cam.ac.uk](mailto:rps24@cam.ac.uk)) if you'd like to get involved.

**Men's weekend away** on 24-26 February 2012. Do get the date in your diary. Places will be limited

### **PRAYER**

At next week's prayer meeting (November 9<sup>th</sup> 7 pm for food; 8 pm to pray) we will give updates about the initiatives above. This is the setting where we can give more detail – do join us to pray.

### **COMING UP**

- November 5<sup>th</sup>: soup and rolls after the Fireworks on Midsummer Common
- November 17<sup>th</sup>: the now famous Christmas Market

Love,  
Steve