

Dear Friends,

HAPPY NEWS – There has been lots of it over the past month! The biggest news is that Hannah, our eldest daughter, has become engaged to Ian McDonald. We have got to know Ian well over the past two and a half years and he already feels like one of the family. They hope to get married at Balliol College in Oxford (where he was studying when they first met) in a couple of years' time. Ian has even more happy news because he has just learnt that he has secured tenancy as a barrister at 4 New Square, Lincoln's Inn. We are so delighted for them both ... and for us!

AND HAPPY NEWS AT ABBEY ... On 17th June the church welcomed a candidate for ministry and have now invited her to preach with a view to the pastorate. She was delighted to accept and will do so on 29th July. The church held a meal for the four congregations that meet in the Abbey Baptist Church buildings on 23rd June and that was a stunning success. About 60 people attended and everyone was keen that we should meet again. It felt like a very significant occasion in Abbey's long history.

EASTLEIGH – Please pray for the church as we begin the search for a new Senior Minister. The church is in good heart and anyone would be blessed to serve them. We start the search in earnest this month.

Thank you for following my diary. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate your interest. I will keep the diary very light during August and so I will spare you the details and look forward to picking up the story in September.

Yours ever,

Jonathan

JONATHAN'S PRAYER DIARY

JULY 2018

Sunday 1st
Preaching at Eastleigh Baptist Church

Monday 2nd
Oxford visits
Abbey Baptist Church Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday 3rd
Auction in Newbury

Wednesday 4th
Meetings at Premier Media offices in London

Thursday 5th
Mentoring in Wiltshire
Deacons' Vision meeting at Eastleigh Baptist Church

Friday 6th

Newbury Office

Saturday 7th
Day Off

Sunday 8th
Preaching at Abbey Baptist Church, Reading
Afternoon - Attending a service to mark the reopening of the Reading Abbey ruins

Monday 9th
Eastleigh Baptist Church meetings throughout the day from a Ministry Team Meeting at 9.00 till an evening Deacons' Meeting (home by 11.00, hopefully!)

Tuesday 10th
Reading Baptist Ministers' Cluster barbecue
Afternoon - Review meetings for C

Wednesday 11th
Abbey Baptist Church Members' Meeting

Thursday 12th
West Berkshire Baptist Ministers' Cluster lunch
Visiting St Thomas' Church, Lymington, Hampshire to speak about Parish Nursing (I am an advocate for this excellent charity)

Friday 13th
Day Off

Saturday 14th
Preaching at a service to mark the retirement of Dr Michael Bochenski, a college friend, who has latterly been the minister of Rugby Baptist Church where the service will take place

Sunday 15th
Worshipping at Newbury Baptist Church

Monday 16th
Surrey visits

Tuesday 17th
Torch Trust

Wednesday 18th
Reading Christian Network
Mentoring in Newbury

Thursday 19th
Mentoring in East Berkshire

Friday 20th
Newbury Office

Saturday 21st

Day Off

Sunday 22nd

Preaching at Waterlooville Baptist Church, Hampshire

Monday 23rd

Garden Party at Steve Clifford's home in West London (Steve is the General Director of the Evangelical Alliance and this has always proved to be a good networking opportunity)

Tuesday 24th

Attending the Trustees Meeting of Parish Nursing UK (they have invited me to become a trustee and I will reflect on this after the meeting)

Wednesday 25th

Premier Media meeting in London

Thursday 26th

Oxford visits

Eastleigh Church Members' Meeting

Friday 27th

Newbury Office

Saturday 28th

Day Off

Sunday 29th

Attending Abbey Baptist Church where a minister will be preaching with a view to the pastorate
Afternoon – Prayer Meeting for Abbey with a prayer walk

Jonathan Edwards

2 Heyward Gardens

Newbury, Berkshire RG14 6AQ

United Kingdom