

Dear Friends

I do hope you are thriving. We're all fit and well. We enjoyed a splendid time at Spring Harvest last month. We stayed in their new accommodation and it was superb – a four bedroomed house with a massive kitchendiner cum lounge overlooking a lake. So very different from previous experiences! This was C's first visit to Spring Harvest and she loved it. We found the teaching on prayer very engaging and encouraging.

FOSTERING – You have been wonderfully faithful at praying for C. I probably get more comments about this than any other aspect of life – and that's much appreciated. The social workers continue to be hugely supportive of us and constantly express their gratitude for all that we do. It really is a great privilege and times of tension and resistance at home are now uncommon. School is also going much better now than it was at the start of the year and we pray that that will continue. Sally, her play therapist, is clearly getting through to her in a remarkable way. Thank you so much for your prayers.

CHURCHES – Eastleigh and Waterlooville Baptist Churches continue to be a challenge and delight! Eastleigh has decided that it is right to appoint a Children's and Families Worker but needed a lot of extra income. At a Pledge Day last month over £3,000 of extra monthly income was pledged – and so they will be going ahead. Please pray for the church as we continue to interview candidates. At Waterlooville we have been massively encouraged by the Thanksgiving Services for children from their Toddlers' Group and we look forward to another this coming Sunday. Please pray for the church as it faces some substantial financial challenges, and as it seeks God's vision for the future.

FAMILY – Please pray for Duncan and Beth as they prepare for their wedding on July 20th. Duncan has settled well into his new way of life in London, and Beth's academic year in Glasgow is just coming to an end. Please pray for them in this exciting and challenging time.

I am so grateful for your prayers and particularly for my travelling. I've had two punctures over the past month (one screw and one sharp-edged pothole!) and am so grateful for the Lord's perfect provision on both occasions. Since entering regional ministry 21 years ago I have clocked up about 30,000 miles a year – and continue to do so. It's a major aspect of life!

Thanks, as ever, for your news. Every month it's a real pleasure to hear some of your news and to be able pray intelligently for you. Keep it coming!

Yours ever,

Jonathan

MAY 2019 DIARY

Wednesday 1st

Premier Staff Meeting in London

Staying overnight with Paul and Frances Campion in Shirley, Solihull

Thursday 2nd

Churches for All Meeting in Walsall

Waterlooville Baptist Church Members' Meeting

Friday 3rd
Oxford and Reading visits

Saturday 4th
Day Off

Sunday 5th
Preaching at Waterlooville Baptist Church – including a Thanksgiving Service

Monday 6th
Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7th
Annual Review meeting at our home for C

Wednesday 8th
Mentoring in Eton
Orpington visits

Thursday 9th
Mentoring in Swindon
Taking the funeral of Joyce Cantwell (mother in law of Caversham's Church Secretary)

Friday 10th
Taking the funeral of Jane Hurrell in Bury St Edmunds (Jane was a member of Southgate Church where I was minister 1983-91)

Saturday 11th
Day Off

Sunday 12th
Morning - Preaching at Sandhurst Baptist Church
Evening – Induction Service for Stefan McNally at The People's Church in Banbury

Monday 13th
Eastleigh day! Ministry Team meeting at 9.00a.m. through to Leadership Team meeting in the evening

Tuesday 14th
Fostering Conference in Newbury

Wednesday 15th
Mentoring in Didcot

Thursday 16th
Meeting with Helen England, Chief Executive of Livability in their Greenwich offices
Waterlooville Baptist Church Deacons' Meeting

Friday 17th
Devon visits

Saturday 18th
Day Off

Sunday 19th
Preaching at Eastleigh Baptist Church

Monday 20th
Mentoring in Malmesbury
Waterlooville Baptist Church Boys' Brigade awards evening

Tuesday 21st
Newbury Office

Wednesday 22nd
Meeting with C's Play Therapist (this is proving incredibly helpful ... and insightful)
Pastoral meeting in Waterlooville

Thursday 23rd
Eastleigh Baptist Church Members' Meeting

Friday 24th
Enabling Church Course promotion

Saturday 25th
Day Off

Sunday 26th
Evening – Preaching at St Nic's Informal Evening Service

Monday 27th
Bank Holiday

Tuesday 28th
Premier interviews

Wednesday 29th
Newbury Office

Thursday 30th
Loddon Auction near Reading

Friday 31st
Gloucestershire visits