

Weekly News – 1st August

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From ISLT

It was wonderful to see our mission partners last Sunday; Milan and Shusma from Nepal, and Joel and Fiona from the Middle East (though only from Oxford at the moment!). Wonderful, but also challenging – whilst we delight in all the successful work they have done, we look on with sadness at the ongoing opposition, oppression and conflict that they are facing. Thank you to all who came, all who engaged with the Mission Partners, and all who stayed for the picnic lunch.

Summer Service Pattern

This week our 10:30 service is taking place at **Warfield School, Woodhurst**. Our theme for our TOGETHER services during August is **Living Water**, picking out significant moments linked to water, and to rivers in particular, through the Bible. This links in to a number of key pictures that we feel God has been sharing with us about our current situation as we wait for our new vicar Guy Donegan-Cross to arrive at the end of September.

This week we focus on the river of God's presence described in Ezekiel 47:1-12. The river becomes deeper and deeper as it flows out from the temple, and transforms everything it touches, bringing life and abundance. Join us at Warfield School to hear Jannine Frame preach on this amazing passage as the first of our new sermon series.

- **3 August – Warfield School, Woodhurst – Ezekiel's River**
- 10 August – Whitegrove School – Rivers of Living Water
- 17 August – St Michael's – Naaman Healed in the River
- 24 August – Warfield School, Woodhurst – Jesus Baptism & Walking on Water
- 31 August – Whitegrove School – Crossing the Jordan

24-7 Prayer Week

Bookings are now open for the international week of prayer – if you're planning to pray, please book a slot, regardless of whether you'll be praying in the prayer room or from another location. Our goal is to fill the whole week!

To book, follow this link: [24-7 Prayer International - Sign-Up](#)

If you need help: [Instructions for 24-7 Prayer Booking](#)

Pilgrim Hearts

Pilgrim Hearts is a local charity looking after homeless and vulnerable adults, and they would love to have more volunteers to help with their work. They run drop-ins on Tuesdays at St Andrew's Church in Priestwood, on Wednesdays at the Kerith Centre (by referral), and on Thursdays at Bracknell Methodist Church in Priestwood. They're looking to fill their rotas with people willing to serve, wash up, and clear up. If you could help for a few hours, or you want to find out more please contact:

pilgrim.hearts@gmail.com

fayphilp.pilgrim.hearts@gmail.com

Mission Partner Focus

Our prayers this week are for Iuri and Plamy Valkovi in Sliven, Bulgaria. They lead the Aleteia Baptist Church and work with the vulnerable and poor people in Sliven. This is done through the Women and Young People's Safe Houses, Men's Institutes, Older Peoples home, Orphanages and Gypsy Villages, and more.

Please pray for them on the points below. You can find more detail – and lots of photos – from Plamy at the [end of our Mission Partners page](#).

- Pray for the children's camps and ministries. The church's Summer kids camp took place last week – [watch this video for some highlights](#). This week, the children are attending a wider Christian Summer camp in Bulgaria, at which Victor (their eldest son) will be a volunteer helper for the first time.
- On 15th August the church will have 24 hours of prayer to celebrate its 34th birthday – they do this every year. If anyone would like to book a time to pray for the church in Sliven, please let us know!
- Pray for the uncertainty of the future of the Blue House. Plans to redesign and renovate are in discussion with architects, and we wait to hear whether permissions will be granted in the coming months. Meanwhile, the lady who is employed to work with the disabilities group has had to reach the end of her employment due to a lack of available funding. The church is operating on a volunteer basis for now, but please pray for God's provision that will allow for her to be re-employed.

Other Notices

Click to see the [full slideshow of rolling notices](#).

Coming up soon:

- **Summer Service Pattern**
- **11 & 21 August** – Stay and Play
- **26 August** – David Chislett's Licensing at Wargrave
- **31 August** – 24-7 Prayer Week begins

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Warfield Church, in the Diocese of Oxford,
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