

# Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021



*May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

## **Psalm 19:14**

### Today

**10.30am** Josh Kindness will be speaking on **O be careful little mouth what you say – James 3:1-12.**

**6.15pm** Bethel Prayer Evening (see separate notice)

### Activities this week

TUESDAY	10.00am – 2.00pm	Oasis café (Board Games Club)
WEDNESDAY	10.00am – 2.00pm	Oasis café (Crochet Club)
THURSDAY	10.00am – 2.00pm	Oasis café (Stay and Play)
	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Thursday Afternoon Club (Oasis Café – see separate notice)

### Next Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> December

**10.30am** Josh Kindness will be speaking on **The fear of the Lord – James 3:13-17.**

**6.15pm** Bethel Prayer Evening (see separate notice)

### Pastor's Desk

Growing up in Sunday School we would sing a song "O be careful little mouth what you say...". In our passage today James is telling us exactly the same thing but perhaps being a little more direct – "...it's time to stop talking because the words that are coming out are not honouring God..."

Our tongues are the deadliest weapon; untameable, a roaring fire, striking to the very heart of another person and often worse than our actions. James has already said that we should be "...quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." How are we doing with that?

He goes on to use the illustration of figs, olives and grapes, and how they will always grow on their own tree. If we are a new creation in Christ how are our words, the ones we speak and even what we imply by our words, reflecting this? We should be putting out fires not starting them and seeking to please the Father and glorify Him with what we say.

### Easing of Restrictions:

A huge thanks to our teams who have worked tirelessly to keep us all safe at our in-person gatherings and to livestream everything over the past 18 months! From now on, face coverings will be optional to attend our services but we are keeping some social distancing between rows of chairs etc.

### Weekly messages:

We are still livestreaming our Sunday morning service each week at 10.30am (with the exception of today's family service). This can be accessed via the Bethel Church Facebook page. **It's easy to join in with any online sessions simply go to [www.facebook.com/bethelchurchcoventry](https://www.facebook.com/bethelchurchcoventry) you don't even need a Facebook account. If you're unable to join in the live sessions then don't worry, just go to the 'Videos' section of the Bethel Facebook page and they are all saved there.** Please see separate notice with regards to how we can encourage those not online/connected.

### Prayer & Praise:

- Can we encourage each other to look out for those in our fellowship who are ill or recovering from longer term health issues? Please continue to pray for one another and show acts of love and kindness to one another in practical, tangible ways as well.
- Derek Simpson is back at home now and would really appreciate a few visitors; please pray for his continued health struggles
- Lindsey's ongoing health battles are still continuing; pray for healing and for a clarity of God's vision and purpose at this time.
- Paul Longhurst had an emergency heart operation recently and has now been diagnosed with postural hypotension which means he is having difficulty sitting or standing without fainting. Please uplift Paul and also Ruth as they navigate ongoing health issues.
- Frank Pryor recently had another stay in hospital and is recovering again at home along with Merci who also had a trip to Accident and Emergency recently with chest pains. Please pray for their health and also that they would see how the Lord wants them to continue to serve Him in these challenging times for them.
- Please pray for healing for all of these and also an opportunity in the midst of their ill health and trials to speak and show Jesus to those they come into contact with.

### Christmas Services – Alive!



Join us this Christmas season to celebrate the birth of our Saviour and King at our Christmas Services!

**Christmas Family Service - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>  
December 10.30am**

**Christmas Eve Carol Service - Friday 24<sup>th</sup>  
December 6pm**

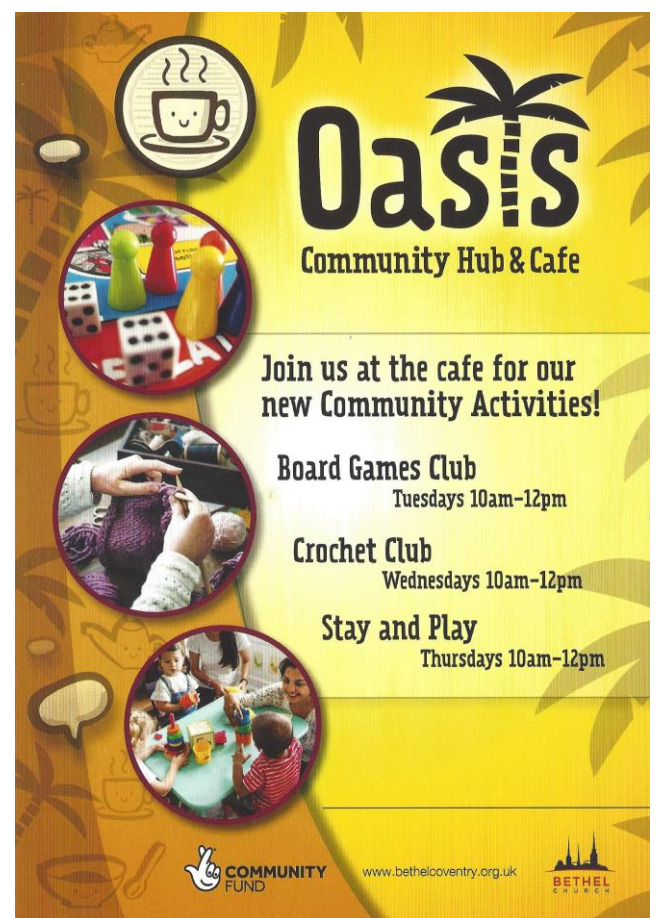
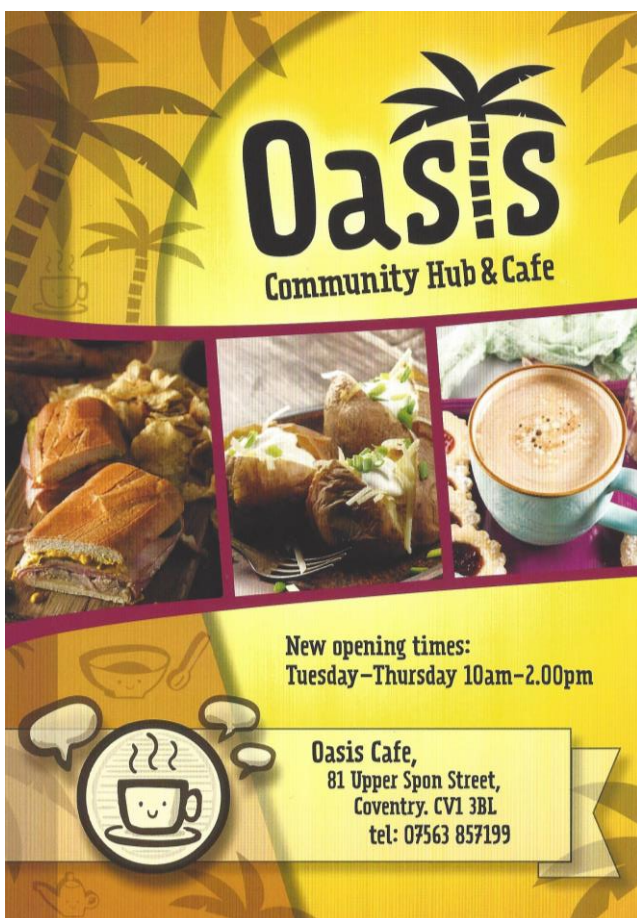
There will be no Christmas morning service this year and no services on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December or Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Our regular Sunday morning worship will resume on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

## Bethel Ladies

The Bethel ladies' monthly get togethers have recommenced at the Belgrade Theatre in the newly renovated and extended café area. We meet to chat over coffee, to encourage each other, and to pray. We meet on the **last Tuesday of each month from 10am - 12noon**, and as these get togethers are not restricted to Bethel ladies only, please feel free to bring someone along. **Our next get together will be on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022.** For more information, please speak to Karen Sprouse.

## Oasis Café

Oasis café is now open during the week. Opening times are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am until 2pm. Whilst each day has a theme – Board Games Club on Tuesdays, Beginners' Crochet Club on Wednesdays and Stay & Play for little ones on Thursdays – there is no obligation to participate and you are still welcome to come along for just food and/or a drink.



## Thursday Afternoon Club – Oasis Café

In addition to the Oasis café opening times and activities, the Thursday Afternoon Club is up and running from 2pm - 4pm. The club is aimed at over 55s who would like to meet up for a cup of coffee/tea, a slice of cake and, if they are in the mood, a board game or a game of dominoes. The session includes a short and simple Bible message to inspire questions and sow seeds and is open to anyone over 55, Christian or not. There is a charge of £1 per person. Our aim is to make Oasis Community Hub and Café an enjoyable and creative community space. For more information, please speak with Paul and Ruth Longhurst or Karen Sprouse.

## Weekly Prayer Evening – Sundays 6.15pm

Every Sunday at 6.15pm, we meet on Zoom to pray together. This is a great opportunity to come together and pray to our amazing God. Please do come along if you are able. Zoom details are sent via the prayer chain emails.

## December/January services

**12<sup>th</sup> December** – The fear of the Lord – James 3:13-17

**19<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Family Service

**24<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Carol Service

**25<sup>th</sup> December** – No service

**26<sup>th</sup> December** – No service

**2<sup>nd</sup> January** – No service

**9<sup>th</sup> January** – 2022 Motto Service

## Carriers of Hope Appeal

Another opportunity to put our faith into action.

### James 2 v14-16

What good is it if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you goes to him and says “Go, I wish you well, keep warm and well fed” but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself if not accompanied by action is dead.

### Carriers of Hope

Carriers of Hope are a wonderful charity supporting Refugees, Asylum Seekers and other migrants in Coventry.

### What you can do to help:

- Help sort shoe box donations every Tuesday from 4-7 until Christmas. 19 Napier St, CV1 5PR.
- Fill a shoe box (it doesn't have to be wrapped) with anything you like except war related toys or religious items.
- Donate boxes or tins of biscuits, chocolates, selection boxes or toiletry gift boxes.
- Attach a £15 supermarket voucher to a box/ tin of biscuits or chocolates so that those we support can choose their own party food.

Coventry Clothing, who support Carriers of Hope, also need donations of men's winter coats and trainers.

If you would like to help with any of the above, bring your donations to Bethel between now and December 17<sup>th</sup> and we will make sure your donations are delivered.

Thank you,  
Bethel Leadership Team



## Ninety Nine to One

It was great to hear from Frank & Merci Pryor recently about their work and ministry in the Philippines over the last 50 years. If you didn't get a chance to hear their testimony and watch the video of some of the people they have been helping, you can see both on the Bethel Facebook page. If you didn't get the chance to donate to Ninety Nine to One and would still like to, head over to the Bethel website [www.bethelcoventry.org.uk/giving](http://www.bethelcoventry.org.uk/giving) and you can donate there.

## Cov365 – a year of prayer!

Worshipping and praying non-stop from the start to the end of Coventry City of Culture Year - every hour of the day, every day from May 15 2021 to May 14 2022! 24-7/365.

Whilst we're praying for lives, churches, the city etc. to be changed, our number one focus is the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

We believe the Holy Spirit is the initiator, the project manager, the organiser and the one who can piece together our humble offerings into something worthy of the Lord Jesus.

Hourly slots can be booked for private worship and prayer or open to others to join. Individuals, families, churches, prayer groups, life groups, friendship groups, Christian charities etc. all welcome. Different expressions lined up in a chain of unbroken offering to Jesus!

Book yours, your life group, your ministry team or family's prayer slot at the Cov365 website... [www.cov365.co.uk](http://www.cov365.co.uk) It would be wonderful if we were able to join in with this great initiative.

## New – Bethel podcasts!

We are starting to upload our sermons to Spotify!

We will be adding the other sermons from this year onto Spotify, YouTube and other streaming platforms (give Bethel Church Coventry a search on your chosen podcast service) so keep an eye out for those in the coming weeks. We hope you will enjoy them and that they will provide you with encouragement – go to your Spotify account and search or click here to listen:

<https://open.spotify.com/show/6hBbiCYgT3ppj41XybSfcG> or to visit our YouTube page click <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIYmHZLNbo6PLC2Y2ejFoHA>

## Bethel Online & beyond!

These challenging days cause us to be inventive in the ways we gather and communicate. Please be on the lookout for various ways and means you can stay connected and help others to connect too:

- If you are on social media, sign up to the church Facebook page where regular updates and videos/messages will appear;
- Sign up to our daily info/prayer chain to receive email updates and links to videos etc. Email the prayer chain team on: [prayerchain@bethelcoventry.org.uk](mailto:prayerchain@bethelcoventry.org.uk);
- If you are a Life Group leader, keep connecting with your group members. Maybe form a WhatsApp group to exchange encouragements and ideas, or simply telephone or send a card to those without technology;
- Visit the church website to see ways in which you can carry on giving to the work amongst us: [www.bethelcoventry.org.uk](http://www.bethelcoventry.org.uk)
- The Bethel News appears on the church website each week; keep checking in each week. If you know someone who would like a paper copy, let us know;
- Please adhere to the government guidelines for self-isolation and social distancing;
- If you feel unwell and are symptomatic, check the guidelines on the NHS website.

## Life Group List

Please note the updated life group list. If you notice anything that's not right, please advise Gordon or Karen Sprouse and we will update it as soon as possible.

**\*\*Please do check with your life group leaders as to whether groups are continuing in a virtual setting during the current situation.\*\***

**If you are not part of a life group, please feel free to speak to Gordon, Karen or any of the house group leaders to find one that is right for you.**

Group	Host / Leader	Where	When	Time
Discovery Bible group	Josh	<del>Church Lounge</del>	Mondays	6.00 am
Young adult group	Rachel F & Tom H	Oasis café	Tuesdays	7.30 pm
Derek Seedhouse	Manohar & Derek	Coundon	Alt Tuesdays	7.45 pm
Liz & Dave	Liz & Dave	<del>Allesley Park</del>	Tuesdays	8.00 pm
Eric & Jane	Eric & Jane	Chapelfields	Alt Tuesdays	8.00 pm
Gordon & Karen	Gordon & Karen	Tile Hill	Thursdays	7.45 pm