

St Richard's Crowborough – News update 7 November 2021

Sunday 7 Nov 2021

Morning service at 10.45am (with children & young people's groups)

Hebrews 13 – Unshakeable Christians

(Ian Roberts preaching & Trish Scobell leading)

Sunday evening at All Saints, 6.30pm – *if you want two services, come along to All Saints or tune in to the All Saints Live Stream for the evening service: allsaintscrowborough.org/live*

SUNDAYS AT ST RICHARD'S

If you are a regular member of the church family, you will know that our plan is to continue coming out of lockdown and social distancing gradually. We long to open up and do as much as we can together, but the overriding principle is a love and concern for others, especially those who feel less confident and more vulnerable than we might. So that said, a brief reminder of some of the things we are doing, and encouraging all of us to do together, over the coming weeks:

- Due to increasing numbers, the **extra row of seats** has been added back into the main worship area.
- We are now serving **refreshments** from the front after church – we are asking **everyone to bring their own 'keep cup' (travel mugs / mugs with lids) to use**. We have a small number available for those who do not have (and cannot get) one, but it would help us massively if you can please bring your own to church.
- We will still have **hand sanitiser** at the doors for you to use coming in and going out.
- **Masks** are not compulsory but please do wear a face covering if you would like (though we are asking everyone to wear one when we sing together) – especially now the final row of seats is back in.
- As a courtesy **please ask the person you plan to sit next to** if they want you to leave a seat empty or not, and please, if you feel more comfortable with a seat between you and another household do say so to the person planning to sit next to you without any embarrassment. Consider this too, when sitting in front of, or behind, someone on the rows.
- We will keep the building **ventilated** as much as possible, with windows open.
- We can **chat** in the building after a service, but if the weather is fine, we encourage you to chat outside.
- We continue to encourage people to **exit** via the back door into the outside space for the time being.
- We plan to continue administering wine at **The Lord's Supper** this month in a safe manner.

CHURCH NEWS AND COMING UP...

- **We announce with joy that an appointment has been made for the next Minister of St Richard's!** We can't share much until the paperwork and formalities are completed, but the hope is that he will be able to take up post from January. Do pray on for him and his family, and for us all, as we make this adjustment.
- **Weekly lunchtime prayers at St Richard's – Wednesday 10 Nov 12.00-12.45pm.** A time of fellowship around God's word and prayer. Join with us to pray for our church, our community and the world. Bring your own sandwiches to share time together over lunch too if you would like.

- **Women's Bible study** – If you would like to join a women's Bible study there are two options. 1) St Richard's Women's Bible Study group meets fortnightly on Thursdays (with crèche) 10.30–11.45am at All Saints downstairs halls (upcoming dates: 4 Nov, 18 Nov & 2 Dec) or 2) A Ladies 10:25 group meets weekly on Fridays over Zoom (and once a month in someone's home) from 10.15–11.15am. If you would like more information about either of these please contact the church office 01892 611318.

OTHER NEWS...

- Due to the local spike in Covid 19 cases **there will be no Friendship Hour meeting on Monday 8 November**. We do plan to continue with the December Meeting in anticipation that cases will have dropped by then.
- **Crowborough Foodbank**. In conjunction with the Trussell Trust, Tesco are holding another national collection for Foodbanks at participating stores. Crowborough Foodbank are taking part again this year, held Thu 18 to Sat 20 Nov at the Jarvis Brook store. They are short of food, as donations have tailed off considerably are low. **If you could provide a donation of food that would be great. Also, please think if you can spare a little time to help out at the national collection event.** Each day is split into 90min slots, and there is still need for volunteers at: 12.30-2.00pm; 2.00-3.30pm and 3.30-5.00pm (+Fri 9.30-11.00am). If you can spare time for this, please email info@crowborough.foodbank.org.uk or contact Mervyn Brown at Crowborough Foodbank for more details.

- **Passion for Life (PfL) prayers this week.** PfL is an initiative linking UK evangelical churches, as they proclaim the good news of Jesus in their communities over the coming months. This week, please pray:

John 1:1-5. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Father God, You are the Word that spoke creation into life. You are one with the Father and the Spirit, and nothing was made without you. You created a world with infinite beauty and variety and provided all that is needed for life that is good. You gave mankind responsibility to rule over your creation and to care for your world, but we have abandoned your ways and sought to satisfy our own desires whatever the cost. Our sin casts a dark shadow over your world, but Lord Jesus, you are the light that cannot be overcome – by your death and resurrection you have dealt with our sin and opened a way for us to be restored to life in all its fulness. We thank you. **Amen.**

- **Christmas Material!** Does anyone have any material (red, green or Christmassy) they no longer need as we would love to use them for decorating the pudding bowls for our Christmas pudding making event in November. Please give to Trish Scobell or drop to the church office.

Next Sunday – 14 November 2021

All Age Service at 10.45am (no children & young people's groups)

Romans 5:1-11 – Remembrance

(Ben Thorndike preaching & Jane Thorndike leading)

