

LIVERPOOL CENTRE OF MISSION

Newsletter – September 2021

This last year has been a challenge for so many people, and things have changed in Liverpool Centre of Mission. Cherith has finally been able to get Commissioned in October 2020.

Paul has been called to work in a Charity called Prayer for Israel since March 2020, so please do continue to pray for him and his work there.



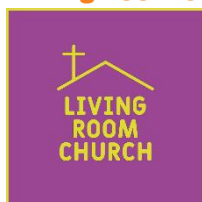
Cherith continues to stand firm in my calling here in Liverpool Centre of Mission and will now be the Interim Lead Evangelist

The last year

Its been a while since I have done a newsletter, I do apologise, Liverpool Centre of Mission has adapted to the a new way of working since the pandemic, but since May we have been able to do more face to face things and now it is September 2021 the Liverpool Centre Mission can get more involved face to face in the schools etc more about this below.

Over the last year Cherith has been trying to get used to doing more things online, being more technology minded and also trying to work out what I can do with no Pioneer and the limitations this can present.

Living Room Church



Living Room Church is a church that was running monthly before the lockdown period, it moved to online every week meeting on Sunday mornings, this is in connection with Christ Church Norris Green. Through being online weekly we have seen families grow in their faith more and build a strong relationship with one another. We have an online whatsapp group and it's been great to sit back and look and see what God is doing. Living Room church has now been meeting face to face since May in Christ Churches Garden and we now meet at 12. We have had 3 baptisms and the church family is growing and going from strength to strength.

Bible Study

As the Centre of Mission completed the start course and nearly finished Alpha before lockdown happened, a group of us thought it would be good to continue a bible study online on Tuesday evenings, with a few tweaks we have been able to come together over zoom and invited our spouses too. We meet for informal introduction at the start and then go into break out rooms (small groups for deeper discussion) and close with a prayer. It's been good to have this consistency over lockdown.

Cherith had a great joy to lead someone to becoming a Christian in October 2020, and felt it such a privilege. Cherith has known this lady for 2 years and she came along towards the end of the start course and completed the Alpha course. God has been journeying with her for such a long time and Gods Spirit has been present online that evening it was especially felt in both houses that evening. (This photo was taken just before lockdown)



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Toddler Groups

There is now two toddler groups, the one that used to be in St Christophers has moved to Christ Churches new cabin/ gardens (if the weather is nice) and then on a Tuesday morning Cherith runs a toddler group in Norris Green park. Its been great to be able to run more groups and meet up with families face to face again

Foodbank

During the first stage of lockdown we had to sadly close foodbank for 5 months but we were able to reopen in Summer 2020 , with limited volunteers and prepacked food parcels. Its been different as we can't invite people in for a cuppa and a chat but we are able to chat to them outside of the church, people have valued us being there and we have had regular donation from a lady every week of toiletries and food



Cooking Online

In November 2020 a group of us decided to Blessing Baking, the idea was to come online over zoom and to bake together this included shortbread and fudge afterwards we then we handed them out into our local communities to bless them along with our local neighbours. As it went so well, we thought we would continue it and we have been able to do cooking once a month with over 14 families online. Everyone has been able to learn new skills with cooking and baking, its been great fun to see skills develop.

(Photo of one of the families blessing their neighbours with shortbread)

SCHOOLS & CHILDREN'S WORK

Due to the pandemic Cherith hasn't been able to do a face-to-face assembly with any school. With conversation with the local churches, we have all pulled together to produce a prerecorded assembly for 4 local schools in the area. This has been well accepted. Cherith has been able to join in on zoom to all the classes in one of the local schools and then lead them on the prerecorded assembly. It's been great to continue working with the schools especially during this hard time. Now September is here, Cherith is now able to do face to face assemblies and has some dates back in the dairy for the upcoming academic year.

Playscheme/ Holiday Club

Throughout 2020, Liverpool Centre Mission and Triple C were able to do an online Playscheme throughout summer 2020 and was great to be able to lead an online Playscheme, lots of fun with daily challenges that the children and families had opportunities to take part in.

Liverpool Centre of Mission was able to do a Christian Online Holiday Club in February 2021 for a week with the help from a Christian Magician and lots of prerecorded stories and fun games. We came onto zoom to do a live stream onto Facebook and this worked out well. The families liked the two different dynamics of a bible story and the children loved learning more about the Bible.

This Summer Triple C was able to do a face-to-face playscheme, Cherith went to help at this. We had over 60 children registered, and it was great to be able to have a Playscheme every Wednesday and Thursday morning through August. The mornings were full of fun, with bouncy castles crafts and outdoor games. We all felt this is what the children needed after such a hard year

During lockdown two, connections with the local schools we asked the children to produce pictures of what peace love hope and joy looks like to them these were then collected and we attached them to the local churches.

The community found the 2nd lockdown a lot harder, it's been tough for a lot of families but with help from all the local churches, Triple C and the Centre of Mission we have been able to hand out over 720 crafts bags since April 2021, weekly newsletters to the elderly folk in the community and also been there for people on the phone or on there doorstep.



Thank you also to the connecting Church St Christophers Church and the Vicar there Barbara Smith who has seen a vision for the work of Church Army and continuous to be a great support Barbara is retiring on 26th September 2021, she has been such a great encourager and Cherith will miss her very much, please do pray for Barbara and her husband Brian as they both go into retirement. Do also pray for St Christophers during the interim time.

Thank you for all you support and prayers over this challenge time, it's been great to know people and churches are praying for Liverpool Centre of Mission and the work of Church Army

PRAYER POINTS

Schools: the assemblies that will start up again face to face

Foodbank: that the gospel ill be shared as we continue to support those visiting the foodbank

Volunteer: that the Centre of Mission will find intentional mission minded folk who want to join in serving Jesus in and for the community of Norris Green

Toddle groups: the work of the toddler groups will continue to grow and volunteers will be able to be found to assist and support Cherith

Cooking online: this has helped so many families, so prayers that we can continue this online and find funds to keep it going

BE INSPIRED: THE VISION

Church Army's vision is for everyone everywhere to encounter God's love, and be empowered to transform their communities through faith shared in words and action.



If you would like to support the work or invite us to speak at your church, please contact:

Cherith Withington - email: cherith.withington@churcharmy.org