

Chanctonbury CHURCH

Dear Chanctonbury family,

This month as a church, we are focusing on 'Joy to the world', sharing the joy we find in knowing Jesus, out to the world. We are encouraging us all, whatever age we are, to share our story about meeting Jesus, to show love in action and to share our faith with others. Towards Christmas, we will be taking 'Christmas to people's doorsteps' by doing a drive by carol service on the streets.... more info coming soon!

Our heart is, in the words of Isaiah 45:8, 'that salvation may spring up' in our families, our communities and in our world. As we arise in sharing the good news of Jesus, we are encouraging us all to combine this with prayer. We want to proclaim the good news in word and deed - as well as praying that hearts will be open and soft to the Lord.

Jonathan Edwards said "There is no way that Christians, in a private capacity, can do so much to promote the work of God and advance the kingdom of Christ as by prayer".

Paul writes to Timothy in 1 Timothy 2:1-4:

'First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth'.

God's heart is for all to be saved, and I believe in these days we can have a two-pronged approach: one in the secret place of prayer, and the other in declaring the gospel through word and deed.

How can we pray?

- Set a time every day specifically for praying for eyes to be open and hearts softened to Jesus
- Walk the streets where you live declaring 'Arise, shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you' and pray for an awakening for people to know this truth
- Set aside a day to fast and intercede for those who do not yet know Jesus
- Pray for yourself for boldness and courage to share your story of knowing Jesus with others

D L Moody said, 'every great movement of God can be traced to a kneeling figure'. Let's be those people on our knees in prayer, preparing the ground spiritually for a great awakening in our land!

This is our focus for the month of December.

Have fun, let's go for it!


With love

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The Parish of Chanctonbury  THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

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