

Philly News

Hello! We hope you are having a great term. We want to share our latest news, encouragements and prayer points with you!

Coming up @ Philly

05.06.2024: 7pm-9pm

Poverty & Justice Prayer Evening in the Prayer Room, light refreshments will be served

16.06.2024: Doors open 7.15pm, kick off 8pm

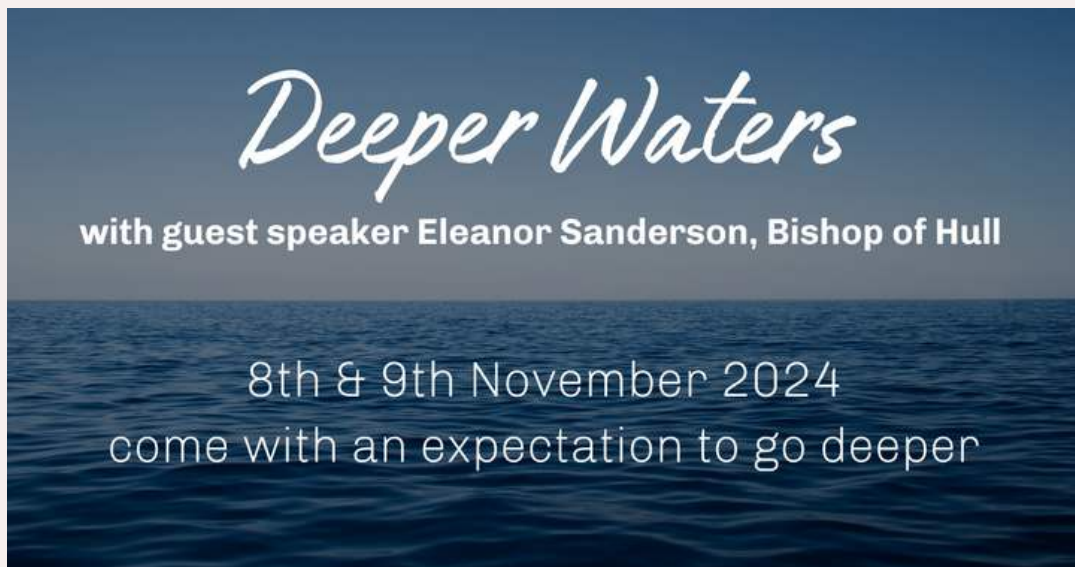
England vs Serbia in aid of The Salvation Army's Goals for Good in the Conference Centre

04 - 06.10.2024

Women's Weekend Away at Lea Green in Derbyshire with guest speaker, Lin Button

08 - 09.11.2024

Holy Spirit Conference, "Deeper Waters", with guest speaker, Bishop of Hull, Eleanor Sanderson



33



Starting this September, NCS will be starting up a new discipleship year called 33! This year will not only be for those looking to take a gap year but also for those who already have full-time jobs but want to spend a year growing deeper in their relationship with God. The primary focus will be theological study together alongside an internship in an area that interests you. The internship schedule will be based on your capacity and what you're able to do. Although we do have a target age, we would love to have a variety of ages join us. Please contact hylanddill@ncsheffield.org if you have any questions or want to be involved!

Children & Families

Kids Team Vests

We have an exciting wardrobe change for the kids team! All our team members have been through our safer recruitment process and are committed to keeping our children safe. We want to make it as easy as possible for the children to be able to identify adults who are looking after them each week, so we have got high vis blue vests with the Philly Kids logo on for all our team to wear.

Youth

Please pray for the youth as they enter exam season, they are planning to worship together regularly during this time of high pressure which is such an inspiration to us all. They also have some fun events coming up:

13.07.2024 Alton Towers

27.07 - 01.08.2024 Dreaming The Impossible (DTI)

Website

We have recently launched our new website which you can still find at the old web address: ncsheffield.org

There are a couple of great new features that we would love to tell you about. Firstly, the Events tab has easy access to see all our upcoming and featured events. Secondly, the Videos & Talks has all our latest talks in video and podcast form so you can easily catch up on any recent sermons you might have missed.

We'd love you to take a look and tell us what you think!

Playtime

A new group has started on a Monday morning which has had a great start, recently they had 14 adults and 20 children! Please pray that this continues across all sessions and for courage to share our faith boldly with these families.

Testimony

We want to give thanks for a joyful joint service with Streetwise on Easter Sunday, where we had over 250 people including lots of guests. Most of all we want to thank God for the 3 people who gave their lives to Jesus following that service! Please pray that they get plugged into Church and grow in their newfound faith.

A final note from Mike

Hello all,

I wanted to let you know about some developments that you may not be aware of. Hopefully you do know that as a church we recently launched FCT (Food & Community Trust) as a new charity. This continues the great work that has been birthed out of Philly with Food provision, Youth Services and Debt Work and enables it to continue to grow and make the most of new opportunities.

With the 'planting' of this charity has come some necessary changes in leadership. Since being appointed as Joint Senior Leaders at the beginning of 2020, Sam Evans and I have worked closely together. We have journeyed through some real highs and it's fair to say some experiences at a slightly lower altitude! I am very grateful that God called the two of us to lead together from this time up until now; it was right for this season of the church given the challenges of lockdown and particularly the financial pressure this put us under. I know that many of you won't be aware of what Sam's role has entailed over this time as it is less front facing than my role, so I want to say how thankful I am for him, for his amazing (and sometimes incomprehensible to my limited brain) ability to lead into challenges and find a way forward. His work has been essential for us as a church and at the same time has been out of sight of most of us.

With the launch of FCT, Sam became Chief Executive of the new charity whilst I continue to lead NCS (Philly & Kings Centre). As a church we continue to work closely with FCT; we share office space and we are looking to continue partnering with them in mission. I am also a trustee on the FCT board. You can find out more about FCT by visiting their new website (fctrust.uk)

However, with Sam stepping down from his leadership role in the church we have needed to consider our future staffing needs. I am very pleased to say that following a thorough interview process, Andrew Buckley is rejoining the team as our Operations Manager. I couldn't be happier about this; Andrew is perfect for helping us step into this new season as a church and he and Jo are good friends. He will be starting his role in early July.

I am also very pleased to say that Hyland Dill is continuing with us on the Philly Team. She has been with us for a year now on a volunteer basis. We have successfully applied for a change in her Visa status which now enables her to properly join the staff team. Her job title is 'Discipleship & Community Pastor' which will involve helping us to think through how we enable people to connect with the church family through welcome and community. She is also in the process of developing a discipleship year for NCS. Please get in touch with her if you would like to know more about this (hylanddill@ncsheffield.org)

Pippa and myself recently attended the HTB Leadership Conference in London. The title this year was 'Hold on to Hope', which is a phrase that resonated with me. I feel that the last few years have been about learning how to do this as a church, as we have navigated various challenges. The planting of FCT and the new opportunities that both charities now have as we look forward, feels to me like a new season where we not only continue to hold on to hope, but also step into the fulness of what it means for us to 'declare the hope that we carry' (1Peter 3:15).

I am very fortunate that I get to lead into this with such an amazing team. Our Tuesday morning meetings together are in equal parts inspiring, encouraging and just good fun. Together we are currently exploring what we believe God is calling us into in this new season. There will be more on this in the Autumn when we have our Vision & Commitment Sundays, but one thing that is certain is our commitment to leaning into God through prayer and creating places of encounter with Him. With that in mind please do make sure you have saved the 8th & 9th November in your calendars when the Bishop of Hull, Eleanor Sanderson is coming to lead a conference we are hosting called 'Deeper Waters', teaching on the Holy Spirit and giving us opportunity to 'go deeper'. This is going to be a great time for us as a church that we hope will also serve the wider church in Sheffield. More details on this will be available soon but, in the meantime, please do save the date.

As always, please always feel free to be in touch with me if you have comments or questions, (and especially if you have encouragement and faith building stories to tell!) I really do appreciate hearing them. You can contact me by email mikerutter@ncsheffield.org

God bless

Mike



Network Church Sheffield
St Thomas Philadelphia