

Pastor's Patch: Face to Face



In the past many have enjoyed Breakfast Church as we gather around tables as a whole church across the ages, eating, learning and talking together as part of our worship service. These times are always valued; however they take a lot of preparation up front and a lot of hard work in the kitchens too.

Next Sunday is Café Church. Once again we gather the whole church across all the ages with an interactive style of all-age learning, enabling the wisdom of the senior congregation to blend with the energies of the younger congregation. There will be worship, prayer, considering God's Word together and some active ways to respond to what we have learned. There will be hot and cold drinks and some sweet pastries and cakes to enjoy (and anyone who wants to bring some homemade edible treats will add to the enjoyment). After our first trial Café Church last November we will change a few elements in response to some of the feedback from the January Church Members Meeting.

In summary Café Church is similar in style to Breakfast Church, but a whole lot easier when it comes to planning and preparation.

Hopefully you are aware that the Church kitchen is now closed awaiting renovations and that we have exciting times ahead and funding accessed to update our kitchen facilities. The old cooker was effectively condemned and the leaders took the decision from a safety point of view to ensure that it should no longer be used. This has been an additional factor to why we are choosing to do Café Church rather than Breakfast Church this time around. Both will be repeated in the future about every six to eight weeks.

Some may wonder why we do Breakfast Church or Café Church at all: after all, we have many times of blessing in our traditional services. Consider then John's words who wrote to the believers "I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete." (2 John 1:12) He knew there is great value in face to face times – something that our Breakfast/Café Church meetings provide and that our normal services don't. When we gather around a table as a whole church family whilst eating together, then we meet together in a unique way that aids us to make our joy complete. So please come next Sunday to the Church Hall: doors open at 10.00am and the meeting commences at 10.30am.

Darrell Holmes