

SWANBANK



April Newsletter

Message from Kathryn...

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter the sun is shining, and it feels like spring is in the air – that's a good thing! Spring is a time of new beginnings, it's the Easter season, it's the moment of new life and here at SwanBank, we feel like we are in Spring as we begin to emerge from lockdown – slowly but surely.

Our 9am and 6.15pm services have reopened for in-person gathering and I know those who have attended have really appreciated the opportunity to be physically together to worship God. Join us if you can by booking through the office for the 9am or for the 6.15pm you can visit www.swanbank.org.uk/savemyseat or give the office a ring.

We also have the beginnings of some new work for children & families. We have in-person youth gatherings for those aged 11+ starting from Tuesday 4th May, booking for that will be available through the website next week. As well as that we're excited to be able to let you know about a brand new in-person worship event specifically for families - the first one of which will be held on **Saturday 15th May at 11.15am**. Please do keep an eye out for communication about how to book into that.

At our recent Church Council Meeting we acknowledged the very difficult time our Coffee Lounge has had during this last year. We agreed to rethink the current work of the Coffee Lounge to see how it might become the base for our community outreach and mission and there are several exciting possibilities as we work through this vision.

Included in this is what we have called the Community Meal. This will be in addition to our established Luncheon Club and will reach a very different group as it will be an after school gathering for younger families who we can work alongside to offer care, practical help and support. This will pick up our calling to pastoral evangelism which hopefully you've heard me mention on several occasions now.

Please can I ask you to commit to praying for the life of the church as we begin to open the premises safely and please pray for the new opportunities that we believe God is moving us into. This is an Easter season for the church. We are seeing new things emerge and must ensure we are listening well to God as we discern the way ahead. We want to be a church that is based on the things of God and moving in the Holy Spirit as we seek to join God in His mission to Burslem and the wider area.

I send my love and continued commitment to working and worshipping with you as we follow God in this new season.

God bless you,

Kathryn

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Office Opening Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10am-4pm