

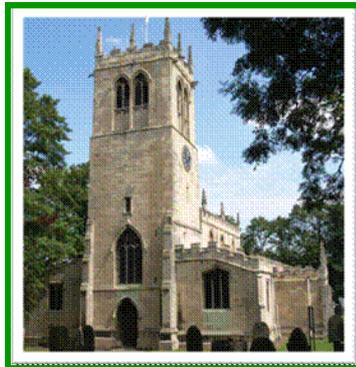


Newsletter



Well who would have thought we would be celebrating Easter in the Snow?!

And yet, what a wonderful reminder to us that Jesus' death on the cross means we can be washed as white as snow, and just as flowers spring to life despite the weather, so we too can be raised to new life with the risen Christ. Hallelujah! May you know the joy of His salvation and His resurrection power this Easter!



St Peter's Church, Conisbrough

Captain Alan started off the year by going back to his roots. He was invited to speak at St Peter's Church, Conisbrough, where he first met with God. It was a profoundly moving experience for him and by all accounts also for those who attended that day. He came back 'on fire', speaking passionately about his reflection on how God had changed him from being dead in his sin to being alive in Christ.

New Development

As you are aware we have been trying to take people deeper in their faith and understanding of God through nurture groups. This has been developing really well in Matlock, with a fortnightly gathering of about 7 people now. The same approach has not been so effective in Chesterfield, and so we have been exploring the possibility of a different way of ministering to people, this time using art. We are therefore delighted to have been granted funding from the diocese to pilot such a development. Betty, one of our volunteers, has personal experience of this, and a real passion to reach out to people in this way. We hope to start this new venture when we have the new Bus, see overleaf, and we would really value your prayers for the preparation and planning that now lies ahead.

New Bus!

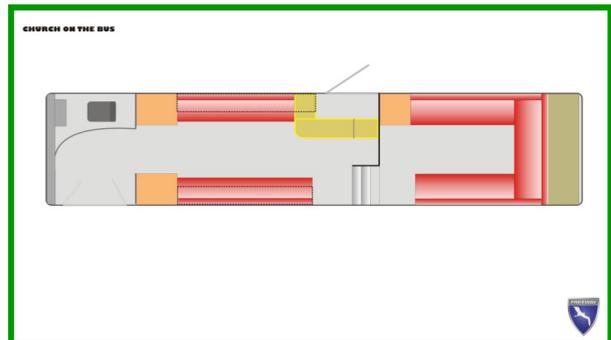
Many thanks for your faithful prayers which have been wonderfully answered! We now have a beautiful single decker bus which is already in the process of being refurbished to suit our needs!

Below is a photo of the bus from the outside and a diagram of how the inside will look when the refurbishment is complete.



As you can see in the picture below, the bus is accessed from the front by the driver's seat. The steps in can be lowered to allow easier access for all. There will be plenty of seating, two areas indicated in red, facilitating togetherness and conversation. Food and drink will be served from the centre, indicated in yellow. There will be storage for clothing, toiletries and bedding.

We hope it will be ready for an official launch towards the end of May. Should you wish to come along and be a part of initiating this new season in the life of Church on the Bus, then details of the launch date, times and venue will be posted nearer the time on our website www.churchonthebus.com under Hot News!



We have a need for people willing to commit to praying for the team when they go out, particularly in Chesterfield, where the rapidly developing time of prayer at the end of the evening has started to attract some opposition from those who would seek to steal and destroy, often wolves in sheep's

clothing. We need to be mindful of Jesus' words in Matthew 10:16 where He says "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves". The Bus goes out in Chesterfield between 6.30pm and 8pm Mondays and Thursdays so if you are able to pray at these times we would be very grateful.

And finally...

Ken Cavanagh, a Church Army officer, is running in the Edinburgh marathon this year in aid of Church on the Bus! If you would like to sponsor him then please contact Church Army Tel: 0300 123 2113 or by e-mail info@churcharmy.org.uk **Many Thanks!!**