

# Leominster Baptist Church



## Is your heating on?

How will we keep warm this winter? The topic of heating is being discussed all over the place at the moment. The Bible also speaks about keeping warm. In Romans 12:11 Paul instructs us to be “Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord.” The word “fervent” raises the issue of spiritual temperature; it literally means “on the boil.” To be fervent is to be passionate, engaged, committed, active, energetic, and motivated. It means we should be careful of getting into a spiritual slump, but keep ourselves “on the boil.”

We all struggle with spiritual discouragement and lethargy. Some days our circumstances threaten to overwhelm us, and we struggle just to pray. Many times we just don't feel like doing the things we know we should. For one reason or another, God sometimes seems far off and unreachable. Being cold can be deadly. It lulls people to sleep and they lose consciousness not realising their peril. That's why humans have learnt how important it is to tend to a fire. A fire is key to surviving the cold. If we don't fuel the fire, it will go out. The same is true spiritually.

So, how do you apply heat to your life? When we find ourselves in circumstances where we can't muster a prayer, struggle to meet others or find no comfort in scripture are we without hope? At these times you may hear a voice that says, “Your heart is cold. You're not in a good place so you can't come to God in that state. Come to Him when you feel better.” Thoughts like these are used time and again to keep those who are jaded, discouraged, and lethargic away from the one place where they will find help and relief. When thoughts like this cross our minds, we need to be ready to remember there is only one way to come to Jesus... just as you are. We come to him, not because we have a warm heart, but in order to get a warm heart. Jesus does not say, “Get yourself 'back on the boil' and then come to me.” He says, “Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matt. 11:28). He is our Shepherd. He leads and feeds us, and when we are lacking in zeal, He is able to restore our souls and warm our hearts.

## CIRCLE GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT

As we mentioned in our last newsletter we have a number of small groups that meet in various ways. We try to keep the groups at a size that allows participation from everyone and in that regard many have reached their limit. In light of this, if you would like to join a group we are asking that you please register your interest so we can either check there is space in a group or so we can begin looking at forming a new group.

To register your interest please speak to Dean or Marie in person, fill in a form on the welcome desk or email [dean@leobc.co.uk](mailto:dean@leobc.co.uk) or [marie@leobc.co.uk](mailto:marie@leobc.co.uk).

## Coming Up...



### Act of Remembrance Saturday 13th November

On 13th November we will hold a two minute silence as part of our service.



### Discipleship Sessions 13th & 27th November

In November we will have another set of Discipleship sessions looking at what it means to be human. We will be looking at what makes humans unique and how it affects how we understand our role in the world and decisions we make.



### Quarterly Members Meeting 16th November

Meeting for members of LBC at 7:30pm.

## Ministries & Outreach

When you read the gospels you will find that Jesus engaged in a whole host of activities. He healed, shared meals, taught lessons, had conversations, fed people, cared for people and walked around just meeting people. While the gospels are filled with the activity of Jesus the underlying motive of each encounter and activity was consistent. Wherever he went Jesus made a connection with the people he met and, in some way, invited them to step into God's Kingdom. The methods are varied but the underlying goal is the same.

At LBC there are a range of ministries that seek to serve and connect with those around us. Job Club helps people with job seeking prospects, Coffee morning provides a warm space to talk and meet others, Lunch Club is a place where those who might be alone can eat a meal together, the market stall is a simple set up which allows conversations to happen, the prayer walk is an open time to let God lead us to those who are around us, Cream Tea is a chance to serve others with a trip out and our work at Norfolk House involves crafts and activities with our neighbours. They are all different in their approach but they all have one thing in common. Like Jesus' activity every ministry is really about connecting with people and inviting them to step closer to God's Kingdom.

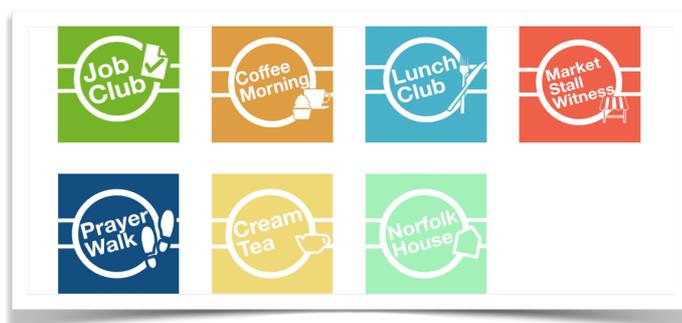
As we serve, share and meet others we really looking for opportunities to build relationships and trust with those we meet. This kind of work is often:

**long term-** it takes time to build a relationship of trust so that people both care about what we have to say and can listen knowing we aren't out to get them.

**low key-** it is not spectacular work on a stage with lights, it is often unseen and unnoticed but, like a seed, grows steadily.

**Relational-** it is rooted in listening, understanding, being gentle and showing grace. It means walking at the pace of the other person not the pace we want to go at and, therefore, it requires humility to prefer someone else before us.

As a result of this, the relationships that are built often extend beyond the ministries themselves. We often find



that over time people feel comfortable inviting us into their struggles, their grief and their questions in other areas of their lives. It is often at this point that we have the chance to point people to Jesus. However this opportunity wouldn't have been possible without the work that went before. While the ministries are varied there is really one goal... to love people in name of Jesus with the hope that they consider taking a step closer to him.

We have been greatly encouraged recently to see a number of people making the step from these ministries to join us on Sundays and even responding to Jesus and professing faith in him. We are grateful for those who serve in many different ways as well as those who do this work in their own workplaces and activities.

If you are interested in helping at one of these groups there are opportunities to help out with setting up, greeting or helping to run the ministry. Alternatively, if you can't help in person perhaps you would be willing to support these ministries in prayer. Either way you can find out more by speaking to Dean in person or using the email or phone number on this newsletter.

### New to LBC...

If you have joined us recently then we would love to get in touch for a chat and help answer any questions you might have. You can get in touch in the following ways:

- Email us at [contact@leobc.com](mailto:contact@leobc.com)
- Call us on 07480 065135
- Fill in a card at the welcome desk in the church foyer.

We look forward to hearing from you.

## SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

Last month a group met to discuss matters of sustainability as it relates to the church and its ministries. The group established its aims as being "to explore ways of fulfilling God's command to take care of His Creation." The discussions encompassed a range of areas including energy saving steps, improving the energy efficiency of the building, fair-trade and ethical products, the management of the church grounds and how we travel to the building.

There are some quick and easy changes (like fair trade products, changes to room heating) that have already been implemented and further plans for a survey of the building to help in next steps. There are also proposals on incorporating teaching in services and including youth groups in the process.

The group used guides from A Rocha in their discussions, to read more about this organisation and its mission to help Christians care for God's world visit this link [arocha.org.uk](http://arocha.org.uk). Minutes of the meeting can be made available on request and any who would like to help or propose ideas can get in touch with the details on this newsletter.

# November Calendar

Dates and times may change. For the live calendar please visit [leobc.online/calendar](http://leobc.online/calendar)

## November 2022

- Community/ Other Groups
- Prayer Gatherings
- Circles (Small Groups)
- Youth & Family
- LBC Ministries
- Connected Ministries

October 2022							November 2022							December 2022						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30						26	27	28	29	30	31
31																				

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>31</b> 10:00 Prayer Gathering 14:45 Fellowship Group	<b>1</b> 08:45 DB Circle- Team Refresh 10:30 Job Club 11:00 Food Bank 13:30 Circle - MG 15:00 Sunbeams Setup 19:30 JS Circle	<b>2</b> 09:30 Sunbeams 10:00 Online Prayer Gathering 14:00 Food Share 19:30 SW Circle	<b>3</b> 10:30 CR Circle- Thirsty Ladies 19:30 Persecuted Church Prayer Evening 19:30 Music group rehearsal	<b>4</b> 09:00 Market Stall Witness 10:30 RC Circle- Shed Men 11:00 Food Bank 12:30 Market Stall 17:30 N-gage 19:30 N-ergize	<b>5</b> 14:00 Food Share	<b>6</b> 09:45 Pre-Service Prayer 10:30 Morning Service 18:00 Prayer Evening 19:30 College+
<b>7</b> 09:30 MG Circle 10:00 Prayer Gathering	<b>8</b> 10:30 Job Club 11:00 Food Bank 13:30 Circle - MG 15:00 Sunbeams Setup 19:30 Deacons' Business Meeting	<b>9</b> 09:30 Sunbeams 10:00 Online Prayer Gathering 14:00 Food Share 19:30 ER Circle	<b>10</b> 10:30 CR Circle- Thirsty Ladies 16:00 Hope 19:30 Music group rehearsal	<b>11</b> 11:00 Food Bank 12:00 Lunch Club 17:30 N-gage 19:30 N-ergize	<b>12</b> 14:00 Food Share	<b>13</b> 09:45 Pre-Service Prayer 10:30 Morning Service 18:00 Discipleship Session 1
<b>14</b> 10:00 Prayer Gathering 14:45 Fellowship Group	<b>15</b> 08:45 DB Circle- Team Refresh 10:30 Job Club 11:00 Food Bank 13:30 Circle - MG 13:30 USA 16:30 Sunbeams Setup 19:30 JS Circle	<b>16</b> 09:30 Sunbeams 10:00 Online Prayer Gathering 14:00 Food Share 19:30 Quarterly Members' Meeting 19:30 SW Circle	<b>17</b> 10:30 CR Circle- Thirsty Ladies 19:30 Music group rehearsal	<b>18</b> 10:30 RC Circle- Shed Men 11:00 Food Bank 17:30 N-gage 19:30 N-ergize	<b>19</b> 14:00 Food Share	<b>20</b> 09:45 Pre-Service Prayer 10:30 Morning Service 18:00 Communion Service 19:30 College+
<b>21</b> 09:30 MG Circle 10:00 Prayer Gathering	<b>22</b> 10:30 Job Club 11:00 Food Bank 13:30 Circle - MG 15:00 Sunbeams Setup 19:30 Deacons' Prayer Meeting	<b>23</b> 09:30 Sunbeams 10:00 Online Prayer Gathering 14:00 Food Share 19:00 Churches Together in Leominster Meeting 19:30 ER Circle	<b>24</b> 10:30 CR Circle- Thirsty Ladies 16:00 Hope 19:30 Music group rehearsal	<b>25</b> 10:30 Coffee Morning 11:00 Food Bank 17:30 N-gage 19:30 N-ergize	<b>26</b> 14:00 Food Share	<b>27</b> 09:45 Pre-Service Prayer 10:30 Morning Service 18:00 Discipleship Session 3
<b>28</b> 10:00 Prayer Gathering 14:45 Fellowship Group	<b>29</b> 11:00 Food Bank 13:30 Circle - MG 15:00 Sunbeams Setup	<b>30</b> 09:30 Sunbeams 10:00 Online Prayer Gathering 14:00 Food Share 19:30 SW Circle	<b>1</b> 10:30 CR Circle- Thirsty Ladies 19:30 Persecuted Church Prayer Evening 19:30 Music group rehearsal	<b>2</b> 09:00 Market Stall Witness 10:30 RC Circle- Shed Men 11:00 Food Bank 17:30 N-gage 19:30 N-ergize	<b>3</b> 14:00 Food Share	<b>4</b> 09:45 Pre-Service Prayer 10:30 Morning Service 18:00 Prayer Evening 19:30 College+ 20:00 Refresh- Parent's Gathering