

From the Minister

Each month I write a letter for this magazine. I try to be creative and interesting, and usually make a point too. This month the letter is about letters though. You see I realised that as we begin September we are going to focus on two of the letters in the Bible in church.

As I mentioned last month, our weekly 'Bible Groups' will begin an exploration of the letter to the romans. Each Monday afternoon and Thursday evening (starting Monday 16th, and Thursday 19th September) we will tackle together some of the big themes from the book. Including topics such as: How can we become confident in our faith? What's so amazing about grace? How can we find rest in a stressful world? & How can we live together in love? The course will be based around videos from the bible society and group discussion.

Whilst on Sundays we are going to look at the letter of James. There has been much debate about the identity of James and therefore about the context in which the letter was written. However the letter reflects the concerns of a Jewish Christian community in the Holy Land around 60AD. In this letter we will find is a real concern for the poor and needy, for the persecuted, and the idea of the righteous sufferer pervades the message. Wisdom, the piety of the poor, and moving towards perfection or wholeness are themes of this letter, which above all is an urgent summons to believers to live out the faith.

So come along and explore these two letters together and see if my monthly letters match up!!

Rev Rick