

IngatestoneElim Church



Newsletter 4th October 2020

Dear Church

Our message this Sunday is pre-recorded and brought to us by Pastor Sam Collinson. Sam is a Minister in Training and works for 'ONE Church' in Norwich. I've known Sam through my role as area pastor and it's great to give the opportunity to younger ministers to speak to churches outside their own. It will be good, one day, to welcome them in person too!

"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:13-14)

Just wanted to share a brief challenge with you this week which I believe the verse above encourages us in - 'moving forward'.

It's can be comfortable to stay where you are. When we surveyed the church mid-lockdown we had a number of responses where people had said that their faith had remained at the same level, it had neither grown nor shrunk. Many of us were in a holding pattern, waiting for normality to resume.

Perhaps you'd still describe that of yourself. Or maybe it's not your faith journey but your emotional journey. The suggestion that our circumstances should cause anxiety and so we remain stuck, focusing on that anxiety and not moving beyond it.

It's safe to say that our circumstances won't change anytime soon and in view of that, perhaps we need to plan to move forward, to press on in a new landscape. In faith terms that may mean choosing to engage regularly with online resources or connecting with others in church. Emotionally it may mean busying your mind and hands with a new project, other work or choosing to ask for help from someone to get you out of it.

Either way, we can't stay where we are, we're called forward in Christ to win the prize for which he has called us heavenward.

Blessings and Peace

Pastor Lee



CHANGE OF DATE

Hope Café will now be opening on Friday 16th October. Apologies for the delay, however we want to ensure that everything is ready to operate safely.



Congratulations!

To Cheryl and Jason (and Joshua!) on the birth of their daughter Jessica Alice

Born 22/9/20
Weighing 7lb7oz

Well done to Jason who delivered her at home!

Connect is the Facebook Group for Ingatestone Elim Church. There to connect people in and beyond our church community. Find it through the church Facebook Page.



PRAY

Pray this week for those who are self-employed and facing uncertain times financially.

May God bless them with provision, support and hope for the future.

Coming up on Sundays online at 10am

Sunday 4th October

Pastor Sam Collinson 'Lessons and Purposes'

Sunday 18th October

Elder Andrew Fitzwater

**You can find us at 10am each Sunday on Facebook
Live via our church page**

Want to attend church in person?

**You need to register in advance with our administrator,
Shirley Childs, who will add you to the list and let you know
what dates are available**

Contact Shirley on 01277 350671

Or email: office@ingatestoneelimchurch.org.uk

**The list for each Sunday is closed off by 12pm on the previous
Thursday. This is to be able to arrange the sanctuary to suit
the numbers attending**

**TITHES &
OFFERINGS**

Account Name: EFGA Re: Ingatestone

Acc. No. 24915246 / **Sort Code.** 60-05-16

**If you have a Gift Aid code for our church then
please include it in your reference when set-
ting up a standing order**