

# Grace Christian Fellowship

## May 2024 - Newsletter



Hi everyone! It was lovely to see Nicky, Samuel and the children last week and to have lunch and fellowship with them. They have a very busy schedule coming up, so please continue to pray for them.

May has crept up on us and summer is approaching. Finally the weather has started to warm up and we can shed those winter coats and enjoy the sun. May Day is a European festival of ancient origins marking the beginning of summer. The best known May Day traditions are dancing around the maypole and crowning the May Queen. Fading in popularity since the late 20th century is the tradition of giving of 'May Baskets', small baskets of sweets or flowers, usually left anonymously on neighbours' doorsteps.

What a lovely idea! Do you know anyone who would like a May basket? It reminds me of the story of Ruth in the Bible, which occurs in late spring. Ruth gleanes barley in the field and Boaz looks after her and gives her roasted grain. Ruth chap 2v14 says '*When she sat down with the harvesters, he offered her some roasted grain. **She ate all she wanted and had some left over.***' Boaz is a lovely picture of Christ, who protects us and provides for us. He gives us many pleasant gifts, when we belong to Him. His provision is all we will ever need, with '*some left over*'! We can never have too much of Jesus and we will never exhaust his provision - there is always more! Just like when Jesus fed the 5000, from 5 loaves and 2 fishes, there were 12 baskets of food left over! Jesus never leaves us wanting. If we live our lives with Him, as our Lord and Saviour, His provision is plentiful and always sufficient. We often worry so much about 'having enough', but our Saviour is the generous 'Boaz', who is Lord of the Harvest and the All Sufficient One! Amen. Serena

# Notices

## **Fellowship Day**

Thanks to Karen and Tim who are organising the Fellowship Day on Saturday June 15th. Karen will need to know numbers fairly soon, so if you are interested in attending, then let Karen know, so she can organise food! The ladies are having afternoon tea/lunch, with an uplifting chat/study from Nicky and Tim is taking the men for a day out, possibly hiring a boat on the Broads, with a stop for lunch. Tim needs to know numbers quickly by 5th May, so he can book the boat! The day will start at about 11am and finish at 2 or 3pm?

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## **Church Outing in August?**

We will also be planning our usual Church Day Out in August, so if anyone has any ideas as to where we can go, then let us know. We often go to the Highways Garden Centre, but if anyone wants to do something more exciting...hang gliding, rock climbing, etc...(just kidding), then have a think and let us know.

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## ***'Royal Arcade in Norwich celebrating 125th anniversary in May'***

The Royal Arcade is celebrating a landmark anniversary with a fun-filled day of dancing, food and a ribbon-cutting, on Friday 24th May. The Royal Arcade was designed by architect George Skipper, (Edward's father). Jonathan Skipper, his grandson, who joined us for church on Sunday, will be there to say a few words. If anyone would like to go and support the Skipper family, who were part of our church family for many years, then I will be giving out the info and programme for the day, as soon as I hear from Jonathan!



George Skipper (1856-1948)  
Leading Norwich-based architect

# News

## **Nicky and Samuel's Visit**

*(Some dates may change!)*

- 1st May - Nicky + Samuel go to Wales
- 12th May - Nicky + Samuel in Nottingham
- 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> May - Nicky + Samuel return to Norwich
- 16<sup>th</sup> May - Nicky leaves for Holland
- 19<sup>th</sup> May - Samuel at Upper Room Fellowship (**not at GCF**)
- 20<sup>th</sup> May - Nicky returns from Holland
- 25<sup>th</sup> May - Nicky leaves for Spain
- 26<sup>th</sup> May - Samuel at GCF am and preaching at John's 3pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> May - Samuel leaves for America
- 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Nicky returns from Spain
- 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Nicky drives to Wales with children
- 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> June - Nicky returns to Norwich from Wales
- 9<sup>th</sup> June - Nicky at GCF Sunday Service
- 10<sup>th</sup> June - Samuel returns from America
- 15<sup>th</sup> June - Church Fellowship Saturday  
(Ladies Day at Serena's + Mens Day Out)
- 16<sup>th</sup> June - Nicky at Samuel at church + LUNCH
- 17<sup>th</sup> June - Nicky and family leave for India

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# Grace Christian Fellowship

## Meetings/Programme

**Church Service** - every Sunday 11am at Saints Event Venue

**Communion Service** - first Sunday in the month

**Prayer Meeting** - 10am before service at SEV / first Sunday of the month

**Charity Offering** - third Sunday in the month

**Live from India** - Nicky preaches usually on the last Sunday of the month

## Forthcoming Events / Church Programme 2024

Sunday 26th May - Samuel at GCF and John's church at 3pm

Sunday 9th June - Nicky at GCF

Saturday 15th June - Church Fellowship Day:

(Ladies Afternoon Tea / Men's Day out)

Sunday 16th June - Nicky and Samuel at GCF + lunch

Saturday 17th Aug - Church Day Out?

Sunday 29th Sep - Harvest Festival Service

Sunday 20th Oct - Church Birthday/Macmillan Coffee Morning

Sunday 3rd Nov - Service with Fireworks

Sunday 10th Nov - Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 15th Dec - Christmas meal..? OR...

Sunday 22nd Dec - Christmas Meal and Carol Service?

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If you would like to donate to the church, you can give during the service, donate by bacs online, or go to the 'donate' button on the 'Contact' page of the website and make a payment there. If you would like to donate by cheque, please make the cheque out to Hope Community Trust.

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Grace Christian Fellowship is part of registered charity

**Hope Community Trust - 1000798**

**[www.gcfnorwich.co.uk](http://www.gcfnorwich.co.uk)    [gcf@norwich.myzen.co.uk](mailto:gcf@norwich.myzen.co.uk)**

Sunday Services are held at **Saints Event Venue**,  
217 Yarmouth Road, Norwich, NR7 0SQ from 11am-12.30pm