

Hello Everyone

Please see details of local events coming up, including an exciting Bishops Stortford Songs of Praise event! Please do share the information with your church / organisation / community.

Posters/details for all the events are attached.

A copy of this newsletter can be found on the CTBS website <https://ctbs.org.uk/> and is also attached in pdf form. Please share! Thank you

## Churches Together in Bishops Stortford Forum Meeting

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 7.45pm for 8pm Windhill Churches Centre**

**PLEASE NOTE THE DIFFERENT VENUE!**

Agenda attached. Other papers have been circulated to all representatives, but please contact me if you would like copies.

We would love other churches and organisations to host one of our meetings, and to enjoy the opportunity to share your community home with us. Please let me know if you can help.



### **Songs of Praise 4<sup>th</sup> October 4pm**

Churches Together would like to invite you to support a special gathering focused on worshipping the Lord together as one body in Bishop's Stortford.

The Psalms continually encourage us to lift our hearts in praise:

*"Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel"* (Psalm 22:3)

*"Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised"* (Psalm 48:1)

With this in mind, we are proposing an afternoon of worship on **Sunday 4 October 2026 at 4:00pm** at the **United Reformed Church**, lasting around an hour.

Our hope is to create a joyful and united time of song and prayer in worship of our amazing God. We would love this gathering to reflect the breadth and richness of worship across our churches, and so we are inviting congregations to contribute ideas for hymns and worship songs.

We anticipate including around nine songs in total, each introduced by a very brief testimony or explanation (maximum one minute) sharing why it has been chosen — in a style similar to BBC *Songs of Praise*. These may be grouped in twos or threes before the corresponding songs are sung together.

When suggesting songs, we would be grateful if they could:

- have a relatable testimony or story behind them
- be textually accessible
- be musically accessible for a gathered congregation

We would also like to include a time of prayer led by two or three people drawn from across the churches. Please do let us know if there are members of your congregation who may be well suited to contribute in this way.

If this vision resonates with you, we would be grateful if you could encourage your congregations to put the date in their diaries and join us for this special occasion.

Please send any song suggestions, ideas, or offers to contribute to [david.clapham@ntlworld.com](mailto:david.clapham@ntlworld.com) as soon as possible and no later than **30th June**.

**Please share the attached letter with your Church Leader**

### Love Stortford 2026 15 – 20<sup>th</sup> June

June has arrived and, planning wise, Love Stortford is just around the corner.

I have delivered to your church the Love Stortford leaflets, which contain plenty of information about the event.

If you would like to promote the event to your church, here is a link to an excellent video from last year. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiBqkDKgAPE&t=5s>

Please do contact me if you need anything further to help your church to take advantage of this outreach opportunity.

Kind regards

John Barfoot

07894 707521



**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm**

### Community Church Bishops Stortford

Our five Pink Houses in towns along the Brazilian Highway BR-116, care for young girls living in situations of risk and vulnerability. Here they find safety, friendship, and people they can trust.

Activities like dance, performing arts, beauty therapy and daily 'conversation circles' inspire and empower the girls, helping them to find the inner strength to take back control of their lives.

Do join us for an evening of amazing dance and entertainment, and support this worthy cause.



**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 6pm Charis Centre**

**Summer concert with proceeds to the Food Bank**

**Poster attached. Please share.**



Thirst Youth Cafe is part of Tesco Stronger Starts until the end of July. Please add your votes when you shop. The more votes we receive, the more money we stand to receive!

## **International Day of Prayer for the Emergency Services**

25<sup>th</sup> June this year is the International Day of Prayer for the Emergency Services. Please see attached a flyer covering the type of prayers asked for in the week leading up to this event so that prayers are lifted up for these vital services.

**Please send me details of events at your church, including Alpha groups, courses, concerts etc. Updates will generally be sent the first week of each month.**

**Please note, we now have an 'events' page on our website where you can check dates and avoid clashes.**