

# LAWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



## Monthly Update

*Making Jesus Known in Lawn and beyond.....*



[www.lawncommunitychurch.org.uk](http://www.lawncommunitychurch.org.uk)

### MAY 2026

Sunday Services are held weekly at 10.30am

At Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, Lawn, Swindon, SN3 1JL

May LCC Dates			
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sun	10.30am	Bring and Share Lunch Please make a note of ingredients if you are bringing something homemade.
10 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
		7.30pm	Evening Prayer gathering, <i>Venue to be announced</i>
14 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting in Room 1
17 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
19 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	◆◆ Closing Date for June Monthly Update ◆◆	
24 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service
		7.30pm	Evening Prayer gathering, <i>Venue to be announced</i>
28 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting in Room 1
June LCC Dates			
7 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	10.30am	Communion Service – <i>No B &amp; S Lunch</i>
14 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Service <b>John &amp; Selina visit</b> Bring & Share Lunch
25 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	7.30pm	Church members' Meeting

*Join us to pray before the service in Room 1 at 10.15am – 10.25am*

**Easter Breakfast**  
was held in the main hall on Easter Sunday, lovely fresh bacon rolls and hot cross buns served with a hot drink. A relaxed atmosphere & time to chat.

**Quotes**  
 “The Holy Spirit is the secret teacher of souls.”  
 Fr. Jacques Philippe  
 “The Holy Spirit is a divine guest of our soul... He transforms us into His dwelling.”  
 —St. John Vianney  
**There is no better Teacher than The Holy Spirit and better text than God’s word.**  
 Anon

May		Lawn Community Church Rota					
Date	Facilitator & Leading	Preach	Music	PA	Laptop	Set - Up	Refreshments
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Stephen & Christine	Stephen	Stephen	Crispian	Howard	Howard	Jenny & Crispian & Tammy
10 <sup>th</sup>	John Roe	John Roe	John & Janet	Keith T	Ruth	Keith T & Howard	Keith T, Sue & Tammy
17 <sup>th</sup>	Christine & Stephen	Stephen	Stephen	Matthew	Jenny	Stephen & Christine	Christine & Stephen
24 <sup>th</sup>	Susan	<b>Tony Dickenson</b>	Susan	Matthew	Howard	Keith S & Susan	Frank & Friends
31 <sup>st</sup>	Simon & Rachel	Keith S	Rachel & Simon	Crispian	Ruth	Crispian & Jenny	Jenny & Crispian & Tammy

## Events at Lawn Community Centre

*organised by Lawn Community Association*

### Every Week

Mon	9.30 am – 11.30am	<b>Coffee morning</b> in main hall
Thurs	2.00pm – 4.30pm	<b>Coffee shop</b> in Room 1
Fri	9.45am – 11.15am	<b>Toddler Play &amp; Stay Adventure!</b> for children and their carers in the main hall, term time only.

### May

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sat	9.00 – 10.00 am	<b>Ward Councillors Surgery</b>
		10.00 – 12 noon	<b>Coffee Shop</b>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	2.00 pm	<b>Folk Club</b>
12 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	2.00pm	<b>Board Games</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	2.00pm	<b>Film Club</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	2.00pm	<b>Concert and Cream Tea</b> Tickets: £7 per person
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Sat	10.00am	<b>Short Mat Bowls</b>
26 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	2.00 pm	<b>Board Games</b>
30 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	2.00pm	<b>Social Dance</b> Tickets: £5 per person

Tickets and more information available from the Lawn Centre Office,  
Tel: 01793 651806, Email: secretarylawnca@gmail.com

**Finances** We are reliant upon God and the giving of our members & congregation, for the ongoing work of the church. Each month, the money received goes towards giving to specific causes – locally and abroad and our various admin expenses.

If you feel prompted to give regularly, please speak to our Treasurer, Howard Patterson, or to Garry Tang for Gift Aid. Please use the offering box if you are unable to give regularly or prefer to a give cash offering.

### Finance Report for March 2026

**Gifts received in March 2026:**

**£1,460.00**

**Total Expenses & Payments:**

**£3,369.46**

*(There was no offering received)*

## Lawn newsletter May 2026 – The second of a two-parter!

### Blue Camp 20!

Hi dear Lawn friends. If you read my article last month you might remember that I reflected upon the life-cycle of a snake shedding skin as a helpful analogy to Romans 12:2 where Paul writes, ‘Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.’ The transformation spoken of here is ongoing, present tense – its continuous, habitual, repeated, rather than a one-off single completed act, like a snake constantly shedding skin.

Pete Grieg wrestles with the idea of settling for the one off rather than the habitual in his brilliant book, ‘Dirty Glory, where he writes;

“most people pioneer at least once in their lives, when they’re young and idealistic and gung-ho to make their mark on the surface of the earth. They start a business, start a band, start a family, move to another town. But gradually the ‘worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth’ constrain the blood-rush of youth. We tame the wild and call it wise. And if we are not careful, before we know it, we find ourselves looking back..... and shake our heads in amusement at the youthful naivety of it all, we tell the stories again and again and reminisce about the unbridled passions and ambitions that once fired our pristine souls”

Dear Lawn friends, as I get to know you I hear your story, a story of being rooted in your local community, of pioneering community church, of seeing Jesus on the move, of joining in with God's Spirit. I celebrated your 30<sup>th</sup> birthday with you and saw the photos. As I've listened to your story I've heard another voice too, shared by deacons and others in the church, born out of a restless desire to go again, to pioneer afresh, to see Jesus change people's lives, and transform this community. This is hard, and costly, and involves us changing, and no change is easy, and so we can find ourselves echoing Greig's sentiments when he talks about Blue Camp 20 in the same book.

Blue Camp 20 was the historical name of the American city in which Grieg went to live in for many years. It was once a camp, a place where pioneers, originally intending to go on further, often decided to settle down instead. An industry grew up around supporting others to carry on the journey whilst they settled, which eventually led to it being a place of settlement. It speaks of settling down and settling for less, of comfort now over fulfilment in the future. It's a challenging read! Greig writes helpfully:

"We tend to assume that Blue Camp 20 is the frontier from which we can pioneer into new territory geographically, or into new effectiveness professionally, but ultimately it is the place of testing from which we can pioneer into deeper intimacy with Jesus than ever before. We wrestle with God at Blue Camp 20... to come close to him in greater intimacy. We lay down comfort at Blue Camp 20... We pioneer from Blue Camp 20 not to achieve something for God, but to receive something from him – a deeper fellowship with him in his death and resurrection" (Phil. 3:10-11). (Pages 147-148)

It's easy to pioneer when you're too young to know what it will cost you, when you feel immortal and invincible and the whole of life is an adventure waiting to begin. But pioneering a second time is hard. Abraham was one of the few who never settled down – even in his old age he lived 'like a stranger in a foreign country... For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and build is God' (Heb. 11:9-10). (Page 143)

In my third part of what was originally going to be a two-parter I'll come back to the image of the snake, but today, be encouraged friends, pioneering again is the way to renewed intimacy with Jesus, it is not the way to do something for God, but the way to receive from God.

What step of trusting in Jesus might he be asking you to take today that turns our singing of the beautiful worship song Oceans, into our lived daily experience?

You call me out upon the waters  
The great unknown where feet may fail  
And there I find You in the mystery  
In oceans deep my faith will stand

And I will call upon Your name  
And keep my eyes above the waves  
When oceans rise  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
For I am Yours, You are mine

Peace be with you,

Rev. Owen Green Contact Details - mobile: 07954386016 Email: lawncowen@gmail.com

**Safeguarding** Although we are a small fellowship it is important that we continue to remember our responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and adults at risk, regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability. If you have any concerns, please contact:

**Designated person for Safeguarding:**

Keith Tredget - Mobile No: 07810 860568

**Deputy designated person for Safeguarding:**

Rachel Hudd - Mobile No: 07740 190629

**Email:** [safeguarding@lawncommunitychurch.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@lawncommunitychurch.org.uk)

## Church Leadership Team

**Lawn Community Church email:**

[admin@lawncommunitychurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@lawncommunitychurch.org.uk)

**Deacons:** Keith Tredget, Howard Patterson & Crispian Garth

**Minutes Secretary:** Jenny Garth

**Gift Aid Administrator:** Garry Tang

**Church News Co-ordinator:** Ruth French

**Email:** [lcnewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:lcnewseditor@gmail.com)

**Church WhatsApp Group:** Frank Hudd

## Future Dates

### June

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday Communion Service - NO Bring & Share Lunch**

**Please note: Change of Bring and Share Lunch date,**

**due to Selina and John visiting.**

**14<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Sunday Service**

**John & Selina visiting – Bring & Share Lunch**

**25<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Thursday Church Members' Meeting in Room 1**

**Lawn Community Church AGM**

**24<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Thursday September**

**Everyone welcome! Please note only members are allowed to vote.**