

Dear Friends,

I do hope you are well and that last week's phenomenal heat wasn't too much of a challenge for you. It took my mind back to my years in India where it was normally hotter and always more humid ... and I survived!

The past month has been full of lovely events. It was great to go and see Beth and Duncan's delightful new home in Hampton, West London; a joy to share Avenue Baptist Church's 150th Anniversary in Southend; a real pleasure to attend John and Abi's wedding in Oxford; delightful to preach at Ashill Baptist Church in Somerset for the first time since we left the South West 20 years ago; and a joy, if a hot joy, to sing in the lovely Shakespeare themed concert with the Newbury Choral Society last Saturday.

Thank you for your prayers for our meeting with my neurology consultant. I have every confidence in him and appreciate his encouragement and support. He has increased my Parkinson's meds and we hope to see some improvement. To date I really haven't noticed them doing anything.

As ever it has been great to be in contact with many of you over the past month.

God bless you,

Jonathan

JULY DIARY

Thursday 2nd

10am – Nordic Walking with the local Parkinson's Group. This is a weekly one hour walk with poles to strengthen leg and arm mobility. Newbury is surrounded by beautiful countryside and each week we go somewhere different.

Noon – Leading the First Thursday Service at Newbury Baptist Church

Afternoon – Bible Study at Central Church, Swindon

Friday 3rd

Lunch – Mentoring in Wiltshire

Evening – Mentoring in Berkshire

Saturday 4th

Count Everyone In Trustees' Meeting in Newbury (I'm delighted to report that we have recently appointed another member of staff. This is a great charity and I encourage you to look at its website)

Sunday 5th

Preaching at Central Church, Swindon

Monday 6th

Premier Radio Recording Session (Do pray for Bradley Howard my incredibly patient recording engineer with whom I have done these recordings throughout the past six years ... he is unfailingly encouraging and supportive)

Tuesday 7th

Prayer Breakfast with Good News for Swindon

Thursday 9th

Lunch – Mentoring in Wiltshire

Friday 10th

Physio appointment – one of the main ways in which Parkinson's is affecting me is with stiffness, particularly in my hands, feet and legs. Hopefully this appointment can give me some ideas as to address this.

Saturday 11th

Induction of Danny Da Silva Raimundo as the minister of Woodley Baptist Church where I have been moderator for the past three years

Sunday 12th

Preaching at Caversham Baptist Church where I was moderator 2014-2018

Monday 13th to Thursday 16th

Holiday in Rock, Cornwall with Hannah, Ian and Flora

Friday 17th

Mentoring in Hampshire

Sunday 19th

Preaching at Central Church, Swindon

Tuesday 21st

WebNet (formerly West of England Baptist Association) AGM at Fishponds Baptist Church, Bristol

Wednesday 22nd

Speaking at the Premier Staff Meeting

Thursday 23rd

Swindon Baptist Ministers' Cluster Lunch

Friday 24th to 27th

Sidmouth weekend. We have a firm buyer for our cottage but no dates for exchange and completion at the moment.

Tuesday 28th

Big Breakfast Plus review meeting at Central Church, Swindon – they have been serving an average of 99 people each morning for the last month! Amazing!

Thursday 30th

Afternoon Bible Study at Central Church, Swindon