

Open Door

My Grandma lived in a beautiful little house in Usk, South Wales. Many years before, the house had served as a toll house and I don't know anything else about its past, except that they had thought to put in a rather splendid door.

It was pretty big and heavy with a large door knocker that had a wonderful, deep tone to its knock. Every time you went through it, you'd be followed by an echo of encouragement from this large door.

I can still hear that sound, and it carries with it a great many memories of some amazing times. That door was a gateway to a crackling fire, hours of Scrabble and some of the best home-made pizza on the planet.

In Acts, chapter 14, Paul comes to the end of his first big missionary tour. He's met with all kinds of opposition, some of it quite violent, but through it all there is an enduring sound of celebration. He sums up the whole experience by saying that God has opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

It's a door that has remained open ever since, and it is one that carries a great sound of celebration when anyone takes the invitation to come through it into a new world of faith.

We will be doing some celebrating ourselves in June - 35 years of being Christ Church! Congratulations to us! Everyone's welcome to come to the meal (further details on page 12) and please don't worry about the cost. If it's a problem, just pay what you can; we want as many as possible there to celebrate together.

I hope that, as we celebrate, we might be able to tell a few tales about that door of faith and the sound of celebration that comes with it. My prayer for the coming years is that Christ Church is increasingly a place where people might make that step through the open door of faith.

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