



Christians at work in Luton Christians for Runfold


There are many estates in Luton where individual churches have struggled to make an impact. A year ago, Churches Together in Luton started a pilot project bringing together Christians from different churches who live in a particular estate to look at how they can serve their neighbours. One of the estates we are working on is Runfold. This is an update on what has been achieved and some thoughts how things would develop.

The first meeting attracted people from the following churches GP ministries, Divine Bible church, Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic, St Augustines Church of England, New Testament Church of God, Russian Orthodox, All Saints Church of England and Community Church Luton.

The purpose of that meeting was to enable people to come together to introduce themselves to each other and to explore what was needed, which could be different on each estate and not to try to impose something. The group was informed that it will be lay led.

After discussion the following issues were identified: knife crime, anti social behaviour, loneliness, social isolation, mental health and well-being.

The group decided to start with social isolation and loneliness. A subgroup met to finalise a way forward. GP ministries kindly offered their building, and a coffee and chat morning was established. It opened on the 5th of March 2025 and meets every Wednesday 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM.



Join us for
Coffee and Chat:

Wednesday
9:30 - 11:30
At the Gospel
Pentecostal Church
Birdsfoot Lane
(Near Runfold Co-op)



“Speaking from my heart, coffee and chat has brought me into close fellowship with some amazing people who have become good friends.

We are all followers of Christ but attend churches of various denominations. Discussing openly different beliefs in various doctrines has given me an acceptance and respect for all followers of Christ.

I would encourage everyone who wants to chat with a sincere group of people to pop along and join us. I guarantee you a warm welcome” Mike B

"If you are a Christian, it's great to learn about other churches and their way of worship and prayer. Christians together in Runfold is a fantastic group set up" Lindsey G

"I enjoy the varied company and the discussion of each various topics ranging from World War 2 memories to sports, burials in regard to religions and the views of worship and prayer represented" Brian



The senior pastor of Gospel Pentecostal church, Riddy Lane, a member of the subgroup, organised a sharing and loving community mental health and Wellness event in April 2025. Several people from diverse backgrounds benefited from the two-day event. The event was sponsored by Luton Rising and Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation. The event was held in collaboration with total well-being Luton, an initiative that supports improving people's physical and emotional health.

In his address, the keynote speaker, Doctor Pastor Trevor Adams, said "this event is timely as COVID-19 has terribly shaken many peoples health conditions" He said that the two day event resonates with the LBC 2040 vision especially "improving well-being and tackle health inequalities to enable everyone to engage everyone to have a good quality of life and reach their full potential."

As a follow up to the sharing and loving event Gospel Pentecostal church will be holding a thriving together event on the 6th and 7th of September. The event will provide opportunities to fight isolation, promote community cohesion and fellowship through a fun filled environment. There will be a free BBQ, tea, coffee, refreshments and singing. The aim is to engage young people, parents and the elderly to improve their well-being in line with the LBC 2040 vision.

The sub group have the following thoughts on how Christians for Runfold can develop in the future

Continue to establish our relationship with AMGivingback. It is a charitable incorporated organisation based in Luton. It delivers inclusive projects that promote social cohesion mental health and community engagement. Two of their initiatives are local to Runfold estate - Warblers and Wobblers singing group - befriending individuals and their carers living with mental health conditions, dementia and autism, and the Grasmere community garden where residents can volunteer, cultivate fresh produce and simply enjoy a friendly chat.

Continue our relationship with the Jolly Milliner pub. We will be holding a Carol service on Sunday 14th of December 7:00 PM

To set up a House of Prayer for Runfold at one of the subgroups houses who lives in the estate

Would the community perceive the absence of your church or organisation? Chances are they would, considering the valuable ministries and services it offers. Stay tuned for further updates on the thriving church in Luton as it remains actively engaged with the community
