

Sunday 19th
February 2017



Compassion and Reconciliation

Last Sunday was for me a very exciting and encouraging day.

To hear about the meeting together of Muslims, Christians, Turks, Syrians and Americans, lifted my heart. To hear them forgiving one another, asking for forgiveness from each other, apologising for wrong attitudes of violence, of racism, and of hatred.

To see these people speaking to each other, dancing together, hugging one another, and laughing together, how can one not be moved? This is God's heart – this is what His Kingdom looks like.

I pray that this will inform and encourage our prayers for that troubled area of the world – for the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East, and indeed the whole area of Europe, where the migration situation still daily confronts us. I pray that believers of the various faiths involved will meet together, will speak and share together, rather than condemning one another... I pray that the many world leaders will have a wider vision of how

A Prayer for Reconciliation

I pray for peace between countries.
I pray for people to reach out to other people with the hand of generosity
And not to be unkind but to care;
Not to argue but to open up discussion;
To be friend and not fight or bully;
To accept others nationalities and not to be racist.
To look for the good in other people and not find fault in others;
Not to be bewitched by money but to give to the poor
Not to use religion as a weapon but to use it as a support and actual faith.
And finally, not to hate but forgive and love.
Amen.

Prayer written by
Catarina Mesquita-Reynolds, aged 9



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the world can be, and how the relationship with believers of other faiths can be.

I pray also that last Sunday will encourage our corporate and personal prayer life. It is so easy to be negative about the whole situation – believing that we should just accept it - believing that nothing can be done about it. We should not be defeatist about the whole scene. It is a dreadful situation – but we as Christians do have a great God with whom all things are possible, amen?

Jeremiah 32 v 17: *Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too difficult for you. Amen?*

I pray that we really do believe that?

Yours in Christ

Francis Willoughby

News, notes and prayer-opportunities

- Last October, we as a Church agreed to go ahead with the **Battle Soccer & Netball School** from 5th to 9th April. So, on Sunday 5th March there will be your opportunity to sign up to support this exciting and popular mission event. For example, hosting coaches from the North, coaching the kids, catering etc....&/or give a special offering to cover church costs.
- An exciting new five week **Alpha course** begins this Thursday evening and Friday morning.
- Everyone is welcome to the **Churches Together unity prayer meeting** on Wednesday at 12.30pm in the prayer room here (bring a packed lunch).
- Esther and Charles will be running an **OpenDoors** course during lent, focusing on the persecuted church. Each week there will be a “meal” from a different country, a chance to hear about challenges faced by Christians in those countries and a fasting challenge. There are limited places so please contact Esther or Charles if you would like to attend. Tuesday evenings from 28th February at 6.30pm in the Manna House, £3 suggested donation.
- Save the date: The next **church teaching weekend** is 10th - 12th March focussing on discipleship.
- Church members: There is a church meeting on Tuesday at 7.30pm in the chapel.
- Please come & support Gary Walsh’s BBFC first team who play

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What's on this week...

Caterpillar Preschool (Monday to Friday) and Caterpillar Crew (Monday to Friday) plus:

Sunday, February 19th. ● 8am Breakfast in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 8.45am Chapel Gathering plus Youth Group. ● 10am Refreshments in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 10.45am Chapel Gathering Sunday Club and Creche. ● 5pm Informal Worship in the Chapel with Creche, Sunday Club and Youth Group. Refreshments from 4.30pm and after the service.

Monday, February 20th. ● 9.15-11:45am Caterpillars Parent and Toddler Group. ● 7.45pm: Elders Meeting.

Tuesday, February 21st. ● 9.15am: Prayer-for-Healing Group (prayer room). At 10.45am there will be prayer for all who come. ● 2pm: Tuesday Fellowship. Speaker: Geraldine Brooker: Quicken Trust: ● 7.30pm: Church Meeting.

Wednesday, February 22nd. ● 10am Wednesday Club: Selfie Crafting £1 - bring your own project, refreshments provided. ● 5-6pm: BBFC Youth training. 6pm: BBFC training at Claverham 3g. ● 7pm: Battle Baptist Runners meet at the church.

Thursday, February 23rd. ● 9.15-11:45am Caterpillars Parent and Toddler Group. ● 7pm: Alpha.

Friday, February 24th. ● 7.30am: Early Morning Prayer in the Youth Room followed by a 'do it yourself' breakfast. ● 9.15am Chatterbox for mums, dads and carers (upstairs). ● 9:15am: Alpha. ● 11am: Coffee Club (upstairs). ● 12.30pm: Friday Lunch Club for retired people. (Advance booking *essential* on 772192, weekdays between 6pm and 7pm.) ● 3.30-5pm: After School Club. ● 7-9pm 4:12: Chill & Chat

Sunday, February 26th. ● 8am Breakfast in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 8.45am Chapel Gathering plus Youth Group. ● 10am Refreshments in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 10.45am All Age Chapel Gathering and Creche. ● 5pm Informal Worship in the Chapel with Creche, Sunday Club and Youth Group. Refreshments from 4.30pm and after the service.

Next Sunday's All Age Gathering at 10.45...
Who is God?

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in the quarter-final of the **National Christian Cup**. Saturday 25 February. 1.30 pm kick off. Battle Rec. ● All welcome to the service here at Battle Baptist Church to mark **Women's World Day Of Prayer**. Friday 3rd March at 2.00pm. ● Please note **Friday morning coffee** has moved to the later time of 11am while Alpha is running.

Church Teaching Weekend

10th—12th March at Battle Baptist Church

Watch this space for more information...

This week's prayer pointers

- ◆ Pray that God would fill Ed, Mark and Francis with the knowledge of His will and that they would continue to grow spiritually.
- ◆ Pray for those known to us who work in challenging and difficult settings. Pray that they would continue to trust God and that His kingdom would break into the hearts and lives of those they work with.
- ◆ Thank God for the 4:12 leaders and helpers. Pray that more young people would come to the Friday night events.

Dates for your diary

- ◆ 7.30pm: 21st February Church Meeting
- ◆ 10th - 12th March Church Teaching weekend
- ◆ 1st April Men's breakfast.
- ◆ 7.30-9pm: 2nd May Church AGM

Battle Baptist Church is part of Life with Hope Trust; registered charity 1134288, Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EG. • Website: www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk • Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk • Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.



Ed Jones (Pastor) Francis Willoughby and Mark Hirst (Associate Pastors).
Our other elders: **John Southam (Church Manager); Rob Duffill (Treasurer); Andy and Jo Garlick; Ben Garlick.**
