

Sunday 16th
July 2017



A truly SOLID weekend - firm, stable & multi-dimensional

Andy & I had a "romantic" time away together last weekend at a beautiful setting with fantastic weather. On the first night it was warm enough to still be outside in a t-shirt at 00.30 am. The food was great & we were surrounded by lots of friends – lots & lots of friends. We were camping in a field with 800 children & leaders at the SOLID festival.

This was the first time we have been to SOLID after years of taking groups to Spree. We took 38 youngsters aged 7 to 16 plus 14 leaders. We ate, talked & **"played" together. We jet-skied & banana boated** (which involves sitting on a large inflatable banana being towed at speed by a lad on a jet ski – most people did not come back dry – Andy excepted, but read on).

The facilities were amazing. There were high ropes, a very high climbing tower, kayaks, archery, shooting, a wooden assault course & inflatables to play on. The leaders were able to freshen themselves up in clean hot showers. Our young **people engaged & behaved well... & most of our leaders did too.**

The naughtiest behaviour came from two senior leaders who poured a bucket of **water over Andy's head as a punishment for surviving the banana boat without getting wet & being smug about it.** They had been considerate enough to check **with me that he didn't have his wallet, to "borrow" his mobile phone & to take the paper away** Andy was reading.

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Bringing Life to the Heart of 1066 Country, *and beyond*

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Better than all of that was what God was doing over the weekend. This year's theme was Jesus as the Way, Truth & Life (John 14:6). We saw youngsters dancing around to "Yes, yes, yes God". We prayed with youngsters about issues in their life & we watched them learning about Jesus. On the Sunday morning in the younger "Jump In" meeting, all of our group were engaged in some way – in prayer, worship & in a number of creative ways with crafts & cooking activities. One of our lads was amazed how God spoke into the difficult life he was having at school. They heard words that will sink in & take root – words that will blossom in the future in ways we can't imagine.

In the older "Expect" meetings, we heard amazing testimonies as to how God is working in the lives of young people. A new youth leader received the gift of tongues, & words of prophecy & knowledge were spoken into people's lives. Around 50 youngsters stood up to say that they had given their lives to Jesus.

In addition, we were able to help other churches by taking four 8 year olds from Tenterden Baptist Church. We also provided support with hospitality to a church from Orpington whose leader had been air-ambulanced to hospital with facial



burns following a cooking accident on the Friday evening. SOLID was truly firm, stable & multi-dimensional – a real blessing.

We ended the festival walking through paint to signify going back into the mess of everyday life while walking with Jesus. We prayed that all who choose to walk with **Jesus do so for the rest of their lives. Let's make that our prayer too, while giving much thanks to everyone who made SOLID such a memorable and fruitful weekend.**

Lots of love
Jo Garlick

News, notes and prayer-opportunities

- Next weekend Dennis is one of the speakers at a conference for Armenian and Iranian believers entitled "The hidden treasures of suffering," and would value your prayers as he prepares to speak via an interpreter.
- Our next Church meeting is tomorrow (17th July) at 7.30pm. Please join us if you are able.
- The summer programme begins next week and runs up to and including 27th August. Every week there will be a 10am service with provision for children and an all age 5pm prayer and praise gathering with no separate provision for children.
- Next Sunday, the 5pm Prayer and Praise will focus on the

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What's on this week...

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

Sunday, July 16th. ● 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 and communion plus Sunday Club and Creche. ● 5pm Informal Worship with Creche, Sunday Club and Youth Group. Refreshments from 4.30pm and after the service.

Monday, July 17th. ● 9.15-11:45am Caterpillars Parent and Toddler Group. ● 7.30pm: Church meeting.

Tuesday, July 18th. ● 9.15-11am Caterpillars Explorers Parent and Toddler Group. ● 9.15am: Prayer-for-Healing Group (prayer room). At 10.45am there will be prayer for all who come. ● 2pm: Tuesday Fellowship, Speaker: Steve Reading.

Wednesday, July 19th. ● 6.30-8.30pm: BBFC training Claverham field. ● 7pm: Battle Baptist Runners meet at the church.

Thursday, July 20th. ● 9.15-11:45am: Caterpillars Parent and Toddler Group.

Friday, July 21st. ● 7.30am: Early Morning Prayers in the Youth Room followed by a 'do it yourself' breakfast. ● 9.15am Chatterbox for mums, dads and carers (upstairs). ● 10.45am: Coffee Club in the Youth Room.

Sunday, July 23rd. ● 10am Chapel Gathering plus Youth Group, Sunday Club and Creche. ● 5pm Prayer and Praise. Refreshments from 4.30pm and after the service.

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recent trip to Israel. Come and hear how God moved in the lives of those who went and in the lives of the children at the holiday club. ● Melvyn is preaching at Sedlescombe this morning and would appreciate your prayers. ● There are still places for Holiday @ Home 14th, 16th & 18th August. Sign up with the office or speak to Melvyn for more information.



This week's prayer opportunities

- ◆ Pray for the church meeting on Monday. Pray that we would be united as a church as we gather and make decisions.
- ◆ Thank God for the children and adults who went on the SOLID camp. Pray that God would continue the work He began.
- ◆ Pray for the church over the summer, that we would be a welcoming place for visitors. Pray that we would all be open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit as we meet.

Dates for your diary

- ◆ 17th July Church Meeting
- ◆ 25th-29th August Soul Survivor
- ◆ 3rd September BBB10k run



Church maintenance issues: zionpremisesteam@gmail.com
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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.
