



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

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## 2FM!

**Week beginning January 24th, 2010.**

Behind every believer and follower of Jesus stands someone who told the Christ story in a way it could be received and believed. Every Christian has an individual story of how they encountered the person of Jesus and came to personal faith.

On many people's path to faith stands a significant individual who was a volunteer in a local church. Often, for a young person's journey to faith, that volunteer helped out at a midweek group.

Whilst the essential message never changes, God seems to use different methods at different times. Until the mid 1960s the time-honoured method for reaching children was afternoon Sunday schools separate from the main worship services of the church. As the 1960s progressed these gatherings melted away as surely as snow in a thaw. Today stand-alone afternoon Sunday schools are as rare as hen's teeth.

Sports stadium evangelism worked between the 1950s and 1980s. A vast central meeting in a city was seen as a good way to assemble thousands to hear a preached sermon, at the conclusion of which was an appeal to individuals to commit themselves to following Jesus. This method, whilst still working in some overseas locations, seems no longer to be effective in this country.

What would have seemed odd fifty years ago is the Alpha-course concept meeting in a home, sharing a meal and engaging in dialogue on a Christian theme. Currently this is a great way to talk with those who are asking questions and looking for answers. We have people ready to host two more such groups — a Wednesday morning one and a Thursday evening one — as soon as there are those who wish to attend.

*continues . . .*

Published by Battle Baptist Church, Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EG. Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: [office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk) • Website: [www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk) • Fax: (01424) 775875. • Caterpillar Preschool (01424) 774997. • This week our office will open from Monday to Friday from 9am to 1pm. • Material for the *Weekly Bulletin* must be *clearly* written in the special office book, or typed, or emailed, *no later than Wednesday*.

*This Friday between 7.30 and 9 pm I am calling a prayer meeting for all the church, largely to pray about our work with 11-16 year-olds.*

We are perplexed. Currently we have stopped the two youth homegroups and the Friday evening Youth Club which was sometimes attracting 60-plus. The main reason is the dearth of committed Christian volunteer helpers meaning the ones who were involved were becoming more and more stretched.

Together with a small group I am exploring the possibility of a new activity for Friday evenings in school term times. We don't have a name for it at present but "2FM" has been suggested — an abbreviation for FAITH, FUN, and a MEAL which would be the three clear ingredients of each evening. Like all Friday night youth times, there would be a Sub to cover costs. I have potential team leaders to head up the three component parts of each evening, but there is much work to be done on assembling the teams. Every few weeks there would be an evening held off site for a purely social activity which would probably attract fewer young people but would need closer oversight.

Many of you will not be able to help with such an activity, but *I would be grateful for your prayer support this Friday from 7.30 to 9pm in the Chapel* as well as in an ongoing way so we can re-launch our mission to 11-16s.

Your friend and pastor,  
*Dennis*

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## News, notes and prayer opportunities

***If you'd like to make a cake*** for the **Holiday at Home Reunion** on Monday, February 15th, please let Melvyn or Freda know. Thank you! •

**Ollie Jeffs** has sent a letter from his placement in Canada. Copies are in the Prayer Room. •

Congratulations, **Eileen Emery**, on reaching a SPECIAL birthday!

## **Men: book now**

for our next breakfast,

next **Saturday, January 30th.**

8am; £3 each.

Speaker: **JOHN SANDERSON.**

**Why not treat a guest?**

Book through our office,  
or by email **this week!**



# WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Baby and Toddler Group (Monday and Thursday), Caterpillar Preschool; Prayer for Middle East and Israel: second and fourth Thursdays at 2pm; Thursday After School Club as usual, plus:

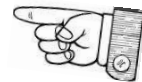
**Sunday, January 24th.** 9am: Chapel Meeting, plus Youth Group, Sunday Club and crèche. (Refreshments after.) • 10.30am: Meeting at Claverham (North Trade Road), plus Sunday Club and crèche. (Refreshments before.) • 4pm: Chapel Meeting, plus Sunday Club and crèche. *Come if you can.* • 6.30. Youth Congregation at the Chapel.

**Monday.** 2.30pm: Thanksgiving Service for the life of Matthew Hingston. (*Please park off site.*)

**Tuesday.** 9am: Healing Prayer Group. At 10.30 the prayer-ministry team will be available for anyone who comes for personal prayer. • Twelve 'til One Soup-and-roll lunch. • 2pm: Tuesday Fellowship. Speaker: Hilary Malpass. *All are invited.*

**Wednesday.** 7.30am: Prayer led by Young People, followed by breakfast. • 7.30pm: Keshar course at The Manna House. *All are welcome.*

**Friday.** Early Prayer at the Chapel, followed by a do-it-yourself breakfast. *Everyone is welcome.* • 9.15am: "Chatterbox" for parents, carers and young children. • 10.30am: Coffee Club. • 12.30pm: Lunch at the Manna for retired people. (Advance booking *essential* on 772192, weekdays between 6pm and 7pm.) • **7.30pm: Prayer at the Chapel for all. (See Pastor's letter.)**



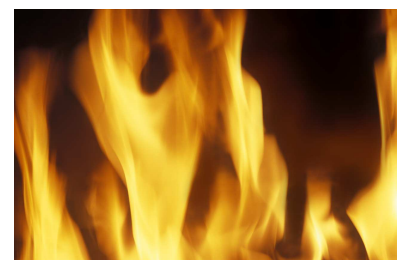
**Saturday.** 8am: Men's Breakfast for those who've booked. • 2pm: Division 2: Old Town Athletic v BBFC (Old Town Rec., Eastbourne. • 2pm: Division 6: BBFC II v Catsfield II (Claverham College).

**Sunday, January 31st.** 9am: Baptism of David Hook. • 10.30am: Meeting at Claverham (North Trade Road), plus Sunday Club and crèche. (Refreshments before.) • 4pm: Chapel Meeting, plus Sunday Club and crèche. *Come if you can.* • 6.30. Youth Congregation at the Chapel.

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*Since the days of Pentecost, has the whole church ever put aside every other work and waited upon Him for ten days, that the Spirit's power might be manifested? We give too much attention to method and machinery and resources, and too little to the source of power.*

—James Hudson Taylor



*You worship with us  
and are not yet a church Member?*

You are invited to

## **A COME AND SEE EVENING,**

with refreshments,  
on Monday, February 8th, at Zion Chapel;  
7.30pm to nine o'clock.

(Come when you can; leave when you must.)

*Pick up a yellow invitation-card today from Andy Garlick, or from The Manna House foyer.*

As numbers for our **Tuesday soup-and-roll lunches** were lower last term we'll review these shortly. We need about 35 each week to be viable. •

Next Sunday, 31st, **Stuart Davison**, the Senior Regional Minister, will preach at all our services. •

**Booking-forms for SPREE Camp** (takes place in July) are now available in the Bayeux Centre foyer. *Please book early* for this popular event for youngsters aged 8 to 15. £60 per person.

**Extra prayer-meetings**, 10 to 11am and 7.30 to 9pm on Wednesday, February 3rd. Main subjects, Alpha and outreach. Venue: the home of **John and Brenda Crew**, where we'll hold the next Alpha course. •

*We've received an invitation* to attend a South East Baptist Association meeting at Zion Baptist Church, High Street, Tenterden, on Saturday, January 30th from 3 to 4.30pm. Guest speaker: is **Revd Jonathan Edwards** (worth hearing!), General Secretary of the Baptist Union.

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## *Think again!*

There seems to be a notion abroad that if we talk enough and pray enough, revival will set in like a stock market boom or a winning streak on a baseball club. We appear to be waiting for some sweet chariot to swing low and carry us into the Big Rock Candy Mountain of religious experience. . . . a kind of benign miracle, a feverish renaissance of religious activity that will come upon us, leaving us morally as we are now, except that we will be a lot happier and there will be a great many more of us. . . .

— A. W. Tozer



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**Dennis Nolan (pastor); Francis Willoughby (associate minister);  
Our other elders: John Southam (church manager);  
Rob Duffill (treasurer); Andy and Jo Garlick.  
Contact details (church office number): (01424) 774825.**

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