



Week beginning May 23rd, 2010

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Bringing Life to the Heart of 1066 Country, and beyond

PENTECOST!



Today we celebrate Pentecost, the occasion recorded in Acts 2 when the Holy Spirit came upon the first Christians with power and energy, leading to a time of extravagant Spirit-led worship before a time of rapid numerical growth.

Is Acts 2 now a nostalgic folk-memory, or can we expect today's Church to be equally Spirit-led? Do we hope for another move of the Spirit of God in our midst? If so, what might we expect?

Spirit-led worship is not a toss-up between *either* careful preparation *or* the inspiration of the moment. We need both.

Spirit-led worship is unlikely to "just happen." For example, competent worship-musicians have spent years practising scales. The service-leader whose public prayers are so focussed probably honed that skill in many small prayer-meetings. The preacher whose messages are memorable not only read books and made notes, but also skilfully deployed useful illustrations. The woman who brings penetrating or helpful prophetic words spends much time alone with the Lord. Peter, who preached without notes on the day of Pentecost, was familiar with Old Testament Scripture, as were his hearers who had gathered in Jerusalem for a religious festival.

When the England football team plays in the World Cup they will rely on hard work and training. It is that which will make the inspirational kick of the moment look effortless. Footballers don't just turn up and kick a ball around.

Can you prepare yourself for worship? In order to arrive calm and expectant, will you have opened a Bible at home? You attend a church where

continues . . .

Battle Baptist Church is 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 • 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 and signed in the special office book, or typed and signed, or emailed, *no later than Wednesday*.

gifts of the Holy Spirit are expected. Do you think the Lord might want to use you to bring a spiritual gift, or to pray for and minister to someone else; or, like spectators in the grandstand, do you only turn up to watch, comment, and then say how much better it all could have been?

Spirit-led worship relies not on "techniques," but on following what the Holy Spirit is saying "in the moment," so that we can move on from the things we've prepared.

Acts 2 reveals that it was the experience of being filled with the Holy Spirit which was the key to "the Pentecostal experience."

Baptism in the Holy Spirit remains the missing link for so many believers. I would encourage every believer to ask for themselves a personal, powerful and complete filling of the Holy Spirit. If you had such a Pentecostal filling years ago, accompanied by the evidence of using at least one supernatural gift, then ask the Lord to fill you again, because we live in a grubby world — and we all leak!

Your friend and pastor,

Dennis

News, notes and prayer opportunities

- ◆ Please pray for **Keith Nolan**, who is to minister at The Tabernacle, Hastings, Sunday evening.
- ◆ **Applications for Membership** have been received from **Johan and Karen Brussée, Phil Lee, Ted Webb, Daisy Grove-Lafarge and Catherine Nolan**. Observations are invited to an elder in the usual manner.
- ◆ **Free:** High Speed Wireless Router. **Audrey Hawkes:** 892644.
- ◆ **Strawberry plants**, ready to plant out; from **John Harmer:** 773998. Donations, please, for **Obambo Orphans**; will be sent via **Monica Cook**. *Thank you.* (Last year's plants raised £60 from several sources.)
- ◆ Saturday, June 5th: **Girlie Day out!** — by train, visiting Roman Road Street Market, Oxford Street, and maybe Westfield Shopping Centre. Details: **Catherine Nolan, Catherine Watson or Janet Walsh**.
- ◆ **Wanted:** Pringles tubs *with lids* — for our next Holiday Club. Please bring them to the office a.s.a.p. *Thank you!*
- ◆ **Gentle reminder:** Our **Church Members' Directory** comes under data protection legislation, and is therefore confidential, and *not to be shared*.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Homegroups, Baby and Toddler Group (Monday and Thursday), Caterpillar Preschool, Prayer for Middle East and Israel (second and fourth Thursdays at 2pm), and Thursday After School

Sunday, May 23rd. 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 Service, plus Sunday Club and crèche. • 6.30pm Youth Congregation.

Tuesday. 9am: Healing Prayer Group. At 10.30am the prayer-ministry team will be available for anyone who comes for personal prayer. • Twelve 'til One: Soup-and-Dessert lunch. • 2pm: Tuesday Fellowship. Speaker: Francis Wiloughby.

Wednesday. 7.30pm: Bible Study in the Youth Room. *All are invited.*

Friday. Early Prayer and do-it-yourself breakfast. • 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, week-days between 6pm and 7pm.)

Sunday, May 30th. 10.00am (starting with refreshments)

ALL TOGETHER AT CLAVERHAM COLLEGE North Trade Road plus Sunday Club and crèche. *Our only meeting this Sunday.*

You have spare rhubarb? We'd greatly appreciate your donation towards Tuesday puddings! Please contact **Freda or Melvyn Nolan:** 774984. *Thank you.* **Have you tried** our Soup-and-Dessert lunches on Tuesday? Yet? "Definitely worth while!" •

Sunday, May 23rd: Our friend **Rhod Jones** invites us to Ashburnham Chapel for their **Anniversary and Thanksgiving Celebration** at 6.30pm. (With the **Sovereign Music Group** and **Rev. Brian Bowyer.**) *Refreshments served afterwards.*

Our Football Club **Awards 2010 Line-up:** Beech Hotel, St. Leonards-on-Sea; Friday, May 28th. Tickets £25 (less £10 with Membership) *from Gary Walsh.* 3-course carvery meal, with musical entertainment. Guest Speaker: **Dave Roberts** (soccer historian and website Editor).

Summer focus on Battle's churches

Dennis will represent us at a service in Hastings on **May 31st** to celebrate with the local Roman Catholic Community the silver jubilee of the ordination of **Father Tony**.

On **Sunday, June 6th**, the **Annual Battle Churches and Civic Service** takes place at St Marys at **3pm**. (NO 4pm Zion meeting.)

Shared morning prayer as follows: Monday **June 21st** to Friday **June 25th inclusive:** 7.30am to 8am *prompt* at the Roman Catholic Church. (Led by the Catholic Church on Monday and Friday, Methodist Church on Tuesday, Baptist Church on Wednesday and St Mary's on Thursday.) Simple breakfast to follow at 8 am in our Youth Room. **Dennis needs some offers of help for the breakfasts on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.**

Saturday June 26th: "Here for Good" on the Abbey Green. *Let David Walker know you'll help.*

Sunday June 27th: Churches Together Picnic, Abbey Green; 12:30pm, followed by outdoor Songs of Praise at 2pm. (Both at St Mary's if wet.) Our fellowship is to organise a BBQ. *Offers of help to John Southam for this, please.* (NO 4pm Zion meeting.)

All are invited to share

24 hours of prayer and worship:

1pm Thursday, June 3rd to 1pm Friday, June 4th at Mount Street.

Organised by our young people *Details to follow*

WANTED: *the REAL thing!*



Many a so-called revival is only a drive for church members, which adds more unsaved sinners, starched and ironed but not washed, to a fellowship where even the true believers have not been aroused for years.— Vance Havner

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.

Battle Baptist Church

part of Life with Hope Trust

Men's Breakfast

12th June 2010

8.00—9.30am

The Manna House,
Mount Street, Battle



£3.00

John Crew

will give his testimony

Return the form below to the Church Office
or email: office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
by Tuesday 8th June

Men's Breakfast

Name

I will be coming on 12th June

I will bringGuest/s



01424 774825

email office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk



Twenty-10



Like to enjoy England's World Cup matches with other footie-fans on the big screen in the Chapel?

Why not bring friends to these relaxed outreach events, including half-time refreshments.

The first two matches are at 7.30pm on Saturday 12th June and Friday 18th June

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