



Week beginning July 4th, 2010

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Bringing Life to the Heart of 1066 Country, and beyond

We need a fresh visit from God!

Churches in the U.K. are desperately in need of a mighty touch from God if the mass of our population is to be given at least one opportunity to hear about Christ.

Of course, we can all name local churches which *seem* to be "doing well." That *is* worth celebrating; but local success stories need to be set against the bigger reality, that, broadly speaking, *local churches in Britain are finding it more and more difficult to make an impact.* Little wonder, then, that many identify with the Psalmist who says: "PUT NEW LIFE INTO US, and we will worship you. Lord God All-Powerful, MAKE US STRONG AGAIN! SMILE ON US AND SAVE US."

How we need a fresh visit from God! Only the God who raised Jesus from the dead can impact communities and nations. God chooses committed, consecrated individuals as channels through whom He brings revival. One such was Evan Roberts, born in 1878 in a small town near Swansea. His formal education ended at age 11 when he was sent down the local coal mine for several years before becoming a blacksmith's apprentice.

He was converted as a young teenager in the local Methodist church and began to pray for revival. *That prayer-burden he sustained for over ten years.* He began training to become a minister, and one night, after praying about the failure of mainstream Christianity, his life was transformed when God came to him in his dreams.

He gave up his ministerial training. He later said: "I found myself with unspeakable joy and awe in the very presence of the almighty God. . . . I was privileged to speak face-to-face with him as man speaks face-to-face with a friend."

Roberts did not preach loud "fire-and-brimstone" sermons that were popular at the time. He was quiet, often reflective. He invited the congregation to share what God was doing in their lives.

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.*

In those pre-television days newspaper editors realised they could boost sales by carrying daily reports on Roberts's meetings. News of the revival spread, drawing in tens of thousands of people.

There were also social effects. When God moved drunkenness declined, and the crime rate dipped steeply as people strove to lead a more honest life, and repay their debts. The Holy Spirit brought spiritual vitality to hundred of churches where darkness and formality had crept in. Where there had been apathy the Lord brought action. Where there had been a sense of failure, the Lord brought fervour.

God's heart is still FOR the local church. The Lord *wants* to bring fresh life to His people. His Life is attractive! *We need His life as never before to refresh, reinvigorate, and encourage all who are losing hope.*

I have no intention of trying to whip up unsustainable fervour; but I do have a deep longing to see all of the Lord's people genuinely revived in their relationship with Him and with one another.

Your friend and pastor,
Dennis

News, notes and prayer opportunities

Today we welcome **Ken and Coralie Payne** to our services. Ken was formerly pastor to **Dennis and Pat**, and was involved at Ashburnham Place in its early days. •

This morning **Melvyn Nolan** is preaching at Newhaven Baptist Church, and values our prayers. •

Application for Membership has been received from **Amy Collins**. Observations are invited to an elder in the usual manner.

There are still a few places available for our **Holiday at Home** (for the over 50s), August 16th, 18th and 20th. *Please use a booking-form a.s.a.p.* •

Thank you to all who came to last week's outdoor Songs of Praise. Considering both the heat and the world cup football it was a *very good* turnout!

Claverham Sunday Club. Parents and carers please note: There will be a **breakfast** of the Claverham Sunday Club *next Sunday*, July 11th, at 10.15, followed by a treasure-hunt (with presentations at the service).

Thank you for logging your visits to the Prayer Room. It encourages others to know that, while they may pray alone, they are part of our ongoing prayer-ministry.

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 Club. For football updates see fixtures on our website. All as usual, plus:

Sunday, July 4th. 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. • 6.30pm: 412 Youth Congregation at the Chapel. *Open to all.*

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: **Ken Payne**. *All are invited.*

Wednesday. 7.30pm: Bible Study in the Youth Room. *Come if you can.* • 7.30pm to 8.30pm: Ladies Keep Fit at Claverham Sports College (for those who booked by July 4th). Followed by refreshments at The Manna House!

Friday. 7am: Early Prayer followed by a 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, weekdays between 6pm and 7pm.)

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TRIP TO ISRAEL

Derek White is exploring the possibility of taking a group of about six to Israel in November. Main focus: to encourage Christian believers and leaders in the Land, Jewish, Israeli Arab, and Palestinian, and others. Accommodation: guesthouses or homes.

Time to be spent in the Galilee, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Beersheba and Arad in the Negev. Visiting historical and devotional sites will also of course take place. Time period: 10-11 days. Cost: around £800 to £900 per person, including flights.

If interested, please contact Derek as soon as possible after July 17th, preferably by e-mail (derekchester@hotmail.co.uk), or by phone or letter as per the church address book.



GOLF DAY organised by our Football Club Saturday, July 24th at Beauport Park

Breakfast at 8.15 (bacon roll, tea or coffee) Cost: £25.

(Buggies available at £15 – £7.50 per person if shared: book these in advance.)

Please confirm a.s.a.p. with Garry Walsh that you'll be there!

“The next church meeting will be on Tuesday July 20th, 7.30pm Zion Chapel. Among the items we will be considering a report from the new building sub group in the light of our successful planning application. Following further prayer and discussion among the deacons and elders the church will be asked to reach a conclusion regarding the number of times the congregations worship as one church in 2011.” — *Dennis*.

HELP INVITED

Last year **heaps of delicious cakes** were baked and donated for our residential youth-event **Soul Survivor**. *If you'd like to do the same again this year we'll be most grateful! Cakes and cookies (if in tins, you'll not want them back) at The Manna House on July 28th and 29th, please.* •

Our weekly **Friday Lunch at The Manna** for senior citizens needs two more helpers on a rota basis for the kitchen and washing-up. Without this help we will have only fortnightly lunches from September. *Please let Peter Woodcraft know you'll help.* Thank you. •

If you'd like to help with refreshments from September at our **Thursday After School Club**, please speak with **Andy Garlick** a.s.a.p. (Also, see poster.) •

Football. If you can wash the kit for our new Youth Team from September 10th to April 11th (expenses paid), please contact **Gary Walsh**. *Thank you!* •

SPREE Camp covers the weekend of July 16th. Cakes for our kids would be greatly appreciated, and will “go down a treat!” Please contact **Caroline Oliver** if you can help: 772615. Thank you.

There are four things to be right. You can go to Heaven without being filled with the Holy Ghost, but without Him, you will lose much on the way:

1. Obtain full pardon for the sins of the past.
2. Is there anything doubtful in your life? Do away with it. Otherwise, there cannot be any joy in your heart. Self-denial is one of the first essentials of the religion of Christ.
3. Complete and immediate obedience to the Holy Spirit. The world may laugh. He did not. Don't worry, you will not be here long.
4. A public and personal confession of Christ. How long will it take you? Don't look at one another. Out with the confession!

• Our fathers were sincere Christians, but gloomy. What I want is for us to get out of that gloomy groove and experience the joy of knowing Christ.



Evan Roberts

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.
