



Week beginning July 11th, 2010

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

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## ***Still plenty of action!***

"Summer slumps result from summer slumpy thinking" says Robert Schuller in his book *Your Church Has Real Possibilities*.

Schuller has always been a controversial figure since he opened the world's first drive in Church in California. I've toyed with the idea of the world's first drive in baptistery! — but in these health and safety conscious days I don't think our insurers would support the idea.

Whatever you make of Schuller, (and some, visiting his "Crystal Cathedral" have said "Ugh!") his great contribution has been to get churches to examine themselves, and ask questions like, "Why do we do what we do?" and "What stops people from attending church?"

Among his conclusions are: people are attracted by beauty and are repelled by ugliness. Applying that to his church's premises, he aimed to make them as attractive as possible. It is not a new idea. Franciscans have practised it for centuries, which is why Franciscan churches and monasteries always have beautiful surroundings. They believe the Creator shines through His creation.

Schuller's remark about summer slumps was designed to combat the idea that, "It's summer. The church can forget its mission for two months because the Lord isn't wanting to do anything."

During the next two months our activities and Sunday service pattern will be different; but *we are not in slump mode*. For example . . .

Next weekend a large party of children and volunteers will attend the annual Spree Camp. Youth football has started. Our pre-school is offering "Summer-school" for the first time. Holiday at Home is still recruiting for its August programme. A large group will attend Soul Survivor.

*There's more!* Our Buildings Group is working on the buildings. The Chapel needs repainting both outside and in. (You've noticed the recent work on

*continues . . .*

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Battle Baptist Church is Life with Hope Trust; registered charity 1134288, Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EG. • Website: [www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk) • Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: [office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto: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*.

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the outside front?) The Manna House, "state-of-the-art" when opened in 1990, now needs time and money spent on it. The carpet in the foyer, after 20 years, needs replacing. The interior of the Bayeux Centre, heavily used, and largely undecorated since it was opened eight years ago, needs attention.

Maintenance of the surrounding grounds is entirely dependent on volunteer help. If you think you can help with building maintenance, decorating or/and gardening jobs, please talk with John Southam. *We welcome volunteer help on our mission base where appropriate because this means a greater proportion of offerings can be used in mission itself.*

*From next Sunday, July 18th, our service times will change until September to accommodate breaks for our Sunday Club volunteers and musicians as well as other regular Sunday volunteers, some of whom are planning holidays.* As usual when the four congregations mix there will be folk you don't know. Please welcome one another. Sometimes you will be welcoming a visitor, at other times a church Member you don't recognise. Never mind. Enjoy!

Your friend and pastor,

*Dennis*

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## News, notes and prayer opportunities

**Applications for Membership** have been received from **Amy Collins** and **Chris Nolan**. Observations are invited to an elder in the usual manner. •

**Rosalind Taylor** has moved to: 5 Prowting Mead, Bexhill-on-Sea TN39 4RY; phone: (01424) 848628.

*Our last Tuesday Lunch* will be on July 20th. **Melvyn and Freda** have organised these for some time. *Melvyn & Freda are really grateful to all who have helped in food and time. Many hundreds of pounds have been generated for a large number of overseas projects. We thank Melvyn and Freda for the huge amount of time, energy and loving care they have put into this ministry.*

**Have you space** in a garage or shed to store about 20 boxes of books used for our regular outreach ministry? If so, please phone **David Walker**: 773593. Thank you.

# 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).

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

**Sunday, July 11th.** 9am: Chapel Meeting, plus Youth Group, Sunday Club and crèche. (Refreshments after.) • 10.30am: Meeting at Claverham (North Trade Road), plus Sunday Club (**from 10.15am for breakfast**) & 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: **John Crew.** *All are invited.*

**Wednesday.** 7.30pm: Bible Study in the Youth Room. *Come if you can.*

**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.)



**Sunday, July 18th. — please note today's arrangements —**

**10am: CHAPEL MEETING,** plus Sunday Club and crèche. (Refreshments after.)

**4pm: MANNA HOUSE MEETING,** plus Sunday Club and crèche.

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## TRIP TO ISRAEL

Derek White is exploring the possibility of taking a group of about six to Israel for 10-11 days in November to encourage Christian believers and leaders — Jews, Arab, Palestinian and others. The group will stay in guesthouses or homes.

Visits to Galilee, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Beersheba and Arad in the Negev; also visits to historical and devotional sites. Cost: around £800 to £900 each, including flights.

Please contact Derek soon as possible after July 17th, preferable by e-mail (derekchester@hotmail.co.uk), or by phone or letter. His address is in our Members' Directory.

## ARE WE JEALOUS

for God's glory? To me that is what revival is all about.

— Leonard Ravenhill —



**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!*

*This week please pray for: Claverham Sunday Club; our Football Club training evening for Youth and Adult teams; preschool children and parents; outreach to our "chatterbox" parents. Thank you.*

**"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**

**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.

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.* •

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!* •

*Without ceasing . . .*

It is impossible to live the life of a disciple without definite times of secret prayer. You will find that the place to enter in is in your business, as you walk along the streets, in the ordinary ways of life, when no one dreams you are praying, and the reward comes openly, a revival here, a blessing there.



Oswald Chambers

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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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