

Sunday 8th
October

BATTLE
BAPTIST
CHURCH

The Forth Road Bridge



There is a story that being employed to paint the Forth Road Bridge is a job for life! I think the idea being that just as the painters have worked their way from one shore to the other they need to return to the beginning and start all over again. Having been a member of Battle Baptist Church for so long, sometimes the job of maintaining

our premises can feel a bit like a Scottish painter!

At the last Premises Team meeting we not only looked at the jobs we have recently achieved (such as repainting the front of the chapel or resurfacing the outside play area with safety surfacing), but were making plans for future work. The carpet and mat in the foyer (as you enter from the car park) are worn out, and cleaning them just won't work any longer. Fifteen years of heavy wear and tear means it all needs replacing. Yet to those of us who have been part of this fellowship for sometime, it seems only yesterday that we worked so hard to pay for this new building and furnish it for the ministry of seeing God's kingdom grow. Isn't it great that it is due to all those feet, those pushchairs and movement of people that it needs replacement!

These premises are not just used a lot seven days a week. The nature of the use puts a lot of wear and tear on the carpets, the paintwork and the furniture. None of this stuff is cheap! Then there is the regular and planned maintenance for items such as the lift. The unplanned callouts to electricians or plumbers when cookers cause the electrics to trip out or a water tank leaks damaging ceilings! Are we not really blessed to have these inevitable issues – the result of having a “Mission base” from which the gospel message can be spread?

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The church Meeting on 19th October will look at the projected budget for 2018. The expenditure column reflects what we as a church anticipate we can do in spreading the Gospel. The income column is an expression of the faith of the leadership in those who are a part of this local church in letting it happen. Stuart Phillips spoke at the morning services on 1st October and reminded us of the Parable of the Rich fool in Luke 12. Will those of us who are a part of this community become "pathologically generous" at the core of our very nature as an expression of our faith? This is one of those sermons that I would urge you to listen to again (or for the first time if you missed it!). It's on the website. If you would like it on a cd then please just ask.

Yours in Christ

News, notes and prayer-opportunities

- Our prayers are with **Maureen Comley** whose husband Murray has "gone to glory" following a longish period of liver cancer. They were members of this fellowship for a number of years, always taking an active role in supporting the practical needs of the fellowship whether in using a paintbrush or helping serve refreshments and being hospitable to all. In the last few years they had attended the fellowship at Halton Baptist Church.
- The Caterpillar Club are having another **clothing exchange** on 23rd October 10-11.30am. Bring clean clothes, toys and books in good condition suitable for babies, children and adults and take away anything you can use.
- After the success of the ladies supper there is a **ladies film night** on Wednesday 18th October at 7.30pm. The film showing is The War Room cert PG.
- The next **church meeting** is at 7.30pm on 19th October.
- Pick up a booking form for the **BBC Christmas Party** on 1st December. £30 a ticket which includes a three course meal and a disco at Blackstock Country Estate. £15 deposit and booking form to be back to the office TODAY!
- **Ed** is away at a **conference** next week.
- **Melvyn** is preaching at Robertsbridge this morning and Ashburnham this evening. Please pray for him.
- Book today for the **Men's Breakfast** next Saturday morning.

What's on this week...

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

Sunday, October 8th. ● 8am: **Breakfast** in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: **Pre-meeting Prayers** in the prayer room. ● 8.45am: **Chapel Gathering** & communion. ● 10am: **Refreshments** in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: **Pre-meeting Prayers** in the prayer room. ● 10.45am: **Chapel Gathering** with Sunday Club and creche. ● 5pm: **Chapel Gathering** with Sunday Club and Youth Group.

Monday, October 9th. ● 9.15-11:45am: **Caterpillars** Parent and Toddler Group. ● 3.45-5.15pm: **Chosta** in the Youth Room. ● 7.45pm: **Elders meeting**.

Tuesday, October 10th. ● 9.15-11:45am: **Caterpillar 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: Colin Povey.

Wednesday, October 11th. ● 5pm-6pm **BBFC** Youth team & 6pm-7pm: **BBFC** training at Claverham 3G. ● 7pm: **Battle Baptist Runners** meet at the church.

Thursday, October 12th. ● 9.15-11:45am: **Caterpillars** Parent and Toddler Group.

Friday, October 13th. ● 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). ● 10.30am: **Coffee Club** in the Youth Room. ● 3.30-5pm: **After School Club**. ● 7-9pm: **4:12**.

Saturday, October 14th. ● 8am: **Men's Breakfast** in the Manna House.

Sunday, October 15th. ● 8am: **Breakfast** in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: **Pre-meeting Prayers** in the prayer room. ● 8.45am: **Chapel Gathering**. ● 10am: **Refreshments** in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: **Pre-meeting Prayers** in the prayer room. ● 10.45am: **Chapel Gathering** & communion with Sunday Club and creche. ● 5pm: **Chapel Gathering** with Sunday Club and Youth Group.

Please prayerfully consider these opportunities to serve:

- One more person is needed, once a month to serve tea and coffee from 10am on Sundays. Please let the office know if you can help with this - thank you!
- Can you serve post-match tea & biscuits at Battle Rec from 4.30 pm to 5 pm on Saturdays. This ministry of hospitality provides a great blessing & witness to players from BBFC & the other East Sussex teams we play. Please speak to Andy.
- A leader is needed for Sunday Club once a month. Please speak to Esther or Andy if you can help or if you would like to know more.
- A couple of helpers are needed on the 10.45am Youth Group rota (once a month). Being a helper is a great opportunity to build relationships with the young people.

This week's prayer opportunities

- ◆ Pray for Damian & Annet (BMS lawyers in Mozambique). Pray for The Association of Mozambican Christian Lawyers and Hope Church as they work together on a new initiative to help to place justice in the hands of the deaf young people.
- ◆ Thank God for His generosity to us as a church. Pray that we would be wise and generous in our use of all He provides.
- ◆ Thank God for the deacons who have been nominated to serve on various ministry teams. Ask God for wisdom as we vote as a church at the church meeting on 19th October.

Dates for your diary

- ◆ 14th October 8am Men's Breakfast
- ◆ 18th October 7.30pm Ladies Film Night
- ◆ 19th October 7.30pm Church Meeting
- ◆ 23rd October Caterpillar Clothing Exchange
- ◆ 26th, 27th & 29th October Holiday Club
- ◆ 6th November 7.30pm Prayer & Praise



Church maintenance issues: zionpremisesteam@gmail.com

Battle Baptist Church is part of Life with Hope Trust; registered charity 1134288, Mount

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Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

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.