

NEWSLETTER

19th November 2017



comedy NIGHT



**LIVE AT
BATTLE BAPTIST
CHURCH
8PM FRIDAY 15TH
DECEMBER**

Tickets £5 FROM THE OFFICE
(ALL PROFITS TO CHARITY)

feat.
STEVE LEGG
EDITOR OF
SORTED MAGAZINE

Christingle & Messy Play



**10.45am
Sunday 3rd
December**

COMING UP...

22nd November: Curry & Film Night (Wednesday Club).

30th November: Special Church Meeting

10th December: Carols @ 5pm

17th December: Family Quiz Night @ 5pm

Committed to God and one another...

This weekend sees the conclusion of the overarching sermon series we've been working through this autumn, In His image. We've unpacked something of what does it mean to be the people of God, alongside exploring the genesis of God's family, specifically through the account of Abraham.

Dove-tailing into this, during the day of prayer and fasting a couple of weeks ago, God brought to the fore, the whole theme of unity. Having been praying and reflecting on this since, I believe there are at least two ways we should be interpreting and responding to this. Unity can speak about coming together, rightly dealing with hurts or situations not handled as they should have been - this we must always seek to do.

To me though, unity also speaks about onward movement. I believe it can be the catalyst that gets us really grappling with what we think it means to move forward together. What does it mean to be the people of God in the world today, what does it mean in reality here in Battle, on the ground, working through the nitty-gritty of real life?

On Wednesday evening, ahead of joining with the adult training session of BBFC (as usual), I arrived early to give the 2 minute talk to the youth players. Having misread the email (which asked for the talks to be on the Fruit of the Spirit) I spoke about 2 Corinthians 12 and the body of Christ. I talked about how, as footballers, they need to be aware of where the other players are on the pitch - they need to

work as a team. Each player delivers and outworks their unique role, but not in isolation or as a rogue agent - as part of the team.

Looking ahead, I'm excited about the Special Church Meeting on the 30th November - I can't wait. We're going to continue to explore the whole area of covenant as a church, and how through covenanting we might come together in an even more powerful way. This is just another step, building on the sermon series and the explorations within the housegroups and will by no means be the last. This is not a 'paper exercise' at all - there is no paper so to speak. What I mean is there is no pre-planned model or outline that will be brought to the meeting, no wording is already written to simply be 'rubber stamped'. Furthermore this will not be landed, signed off, or 'dealt with' on the 30th. It's something we need to chew on, we need to work through and we need to hear God speaking into. This will take time and effort, but the potential of what God can do through it I believe is truly massive!

I'm praying, as I hope you are, that it is going to be about meeting as the family of God at Battle Baptist Church, seeking Him together. Yes, the aim is to begin to draft some words that capture our ongoing commitment to one another and that can be used as we recommit ourselves each year as part of the membership renewal. But not to tie us down, rather to enable us to flourish as God's creation and as His Church in this place, now and in the years to come.

Be blessed, Ed Jones

PRAYER POINTERS

CHRISTMAS

Pray that we would reach many people with God's Good News this Christmas

THE TURNING

Pray for Mark and church leaders attending the training event this Thursday

TRUSTEES

Pray for God's protection, strengthening and wisdom as they serve Him.

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Bringing Life to the Heart
of 1066 Country, and beyond



Battle Baptist Church is part of Life with Hope Trust;
registered charity 1134288, Mount Street, Battle, East
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school direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

Church maintenance issues:

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Please renew your membership today if you haven't already done so. There is a tick sheet on the manna house door.

FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS HAMPERS: Please donate before 20th Dec: Christmas cake, Chocolate log, Christmas pudding, Packets of fancy biscuits, shortbread, Mince pies, Tins of crab/salmon, Tins of chicken in sauce, Boxes of sweets/chocolates, Children's treats/selection boxes etc, Large tins of vegetables, Tins of potatoes, Large tins of ham, Christmas crackers.



ED JONES is on leave this weekend and at a conference early next week.

JOHN SOUTHAM is on leave next week.

MEMBERSHIP

Applications have been received from Chris and Catreece Spicer. If any member has any observations please talk to one of the Elders.

SPECIAL CHURCH MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 30th November.

HELP NEEDED

With Youth Group at 10.45am and serving post match refreshments on Saturdays at the Rec from 4.30-5pm.

What's on this week

in addition to Caterpillar Crew & Caterpillar pre-school Mon– Fri

Sunday, November 19th. ● 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** and communion with Creche, Sunday Club & Youth Group. ● 5pm: **Chapel Gathering** with Sunday Club.

Monday, November 20th. ● 9.15-11.45am: **Caterpillars Parent and Toddler Group**. ● 3.45-5.15pm: **Chosta** in the Youth Room. ● 7.45pm: **Elders meeting**.

Tuesday, November 21st. ● 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: John Crew.

Wednesday, November 22nd. ● 10am: Selfie Crafting in the Manna House. Cost £1. ● 5pm-6pm: **BBFC Youth team** & 6pm-7pm: **BBFC training** at Claverham 3G. ● 6.30pm: **Curry & Film Night**. ● 7pm: **Battle Baptist Runners** meet at the church.

Thursday, November 23rd. ● 9.15-11.45am: **Caterpillars Parent and Toddler Group**.

Friday, November 24th. ● 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**.

Sunday, November 26th. ● 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 **ALL AGE Chapel Gathering**. ● 5pm: **Chapel Gathering** and communion with Sunday Club & Youth group.