

NEWSLETTER

14th January 2018



A hundred years from now...

At a cost of about £3000, a cataract operation to replace the lens in the eye is one of the best cost/benefit pieces of surgery available in this country. To restore full vision (with a better than 95% success rate) is such a fantastic thing - and available on the NHS in this country to anyone who needs this operation. What a remarkable blessing – and one blessing of which I have enjoyed the benefit. It re-opened doors to pleasures I had lost (including the easy use of my camera!)



The Oxford English Dictionary describes the word “vision” as “the ability to think about or plan the future with imagination or wisdom”. Some long time ago, I think even before I began employment by the church, the leadership team put together a document called “2020 Vision”. It set out (with that clever title) our aspirations and plans for our local church in the decade or so ahead. It was reviewed a few times, and many of the actions and ideas came to fruition in one way or another probably by about 2015. It was a really helpful guide which gave a framework within which the Holy Spirit gave us freedom to lead.

Imagine my surprise last Sunday morning, the first in this New Year, when Ed challenged us to imagine ahead, not 12 months, not one decade, but ten decades to 2118! In acknowledging that most of us will not be physically present in that year, he asked us what we anticipated the church and our local community to be like at that time? Unless the Lord returns before that date, what are we going to do to play our part in seeing Battle Baptist Church be the bride of Christ in a hundred years from now?

During this past week the Pastors and some of the other leaders from Battle Baptist Church attended the annual Fresh Streams conference in Derbyshire. This gathering provides an opportunity for leaders to both personally and collectively pursue vision. We have been before – but this year has been particularly significant for us. Fresh Streams is a national network equipping, inspiring, connecting, resourcing and giving courage to leaders and leadership teams as we serve our churches and communities.

You don’t need a telescope, a microscope or a horoscope to realise the fulness of Christ – and in Christ you have been brought to fulness. He is the head over every power and authority. (Colossians 2 8-10). A phrase that pulled me up short, made me gasp and then almost cry – “Do not ask God to guide your footsteps if you are not willing to move your feet”. So how about you? Are you willing do what God asks to see His kingdom come? How are you going to play your part in seeing us move forward in the time ahead – whether that is months, weeks or years!

John Southam

**There is no
5pm next
Sunday
Instead why
not attend the
Unity Service
at Kings
Church
Hastings from
3pm.**

COMING UP...

[20th January](#)

8.30am: Ladies Breakfast.
With Anna Wilson from Stop
the Traffik Hastings

[21st January](#)

3pm Unity Service at Kings
Church

[28th January](#)

Baptism at 5pm

[5th February](#)

Prayer and Praise from
7.30pm in the chapel

PRAYER POINTERS

CATERPILLAR

Pray for the volunteers as
they re-start Caterpillar
parent and toddler group
from 22nd January

RCO MINISTRIES

Pray for healing for one of
the boys (Tariq) who needs
surgery for a heart
aneurysm.

YOUTH

Pray that God would raise
up more helpers for 412
Friday and youth club on
Sundays

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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 Sussex TN33 0EG.

• Website:

www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk

• Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email:

office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk

• Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

Church maintenance issues:

zionpremisesteam@gmail.com

CHURCH MEETING

29th January at 7.30pm

For the church follow-on meeting (after the discussions at the November church meeting).

CONTACTS

Please let the office know if your contact details have changed in the last year (including mobile number and email)

BAPTISM

Ethan Phillips is being baptised at 5pm on 28th January - please be there to support him and pray for him as he prepares.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MELVYN NOLAN: is preaching at Sedlescombe Church this Sunday morning. Please pray for him.

JOAN FREEMAN: There will be a service at Hastings Crematorium at 11am followed by refreshments in the Manna House on 31st January.

CATERPILLAR PARENT AND TODDLER: restarts Monday 22nd and Thursday 25th January.

SOLID: Bookings for Solid camp are now open! Pick up a booking form or speak to Andy Garlick.



What's on this week

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

Sunday, January 14th. ● 8am: **Breakfast** in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: **Pre-meeting Prayers** in the prayer room. ● 8.45am: **Chapel Gathering** and communion. ● 10am: **Refreshments** in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: **Pre-meeting Prayers** in the prayer room. ● 10.45am **Chapel Gathering**. With Creche, Sunday Club and Youth Group. 5pm: **Chapel Gathering** with Sunday Club.

Monday, January 15th. ● 3.45-5.15pm: **Chosta** in the Youth Room.

Tuesday, January 16th. ● 9.15am:

Prayer-for-Healing Group (prayer room). At 10.45am there will be prayer for all who come. ● 2pm: **Tuesday Fellowship**, speaker: Jan Vidler.

Wednesday, January 17th. ● 10am-1.30pm: **Games Emporium** £1 ● 5pm-6pm: **BBFC Youth team** & 6pm-7pm: **BBFC training** at Claverham 3G.

Friday, January 18th. ● 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: **412**

Saturday, January 20th. ● 8.30am: **Ladies Breakfast** in the Manna House.

Sunday, January 21st. ● 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 and Youth Group. ● 3pm: **Unity Service** at Kings Church Hastings.