

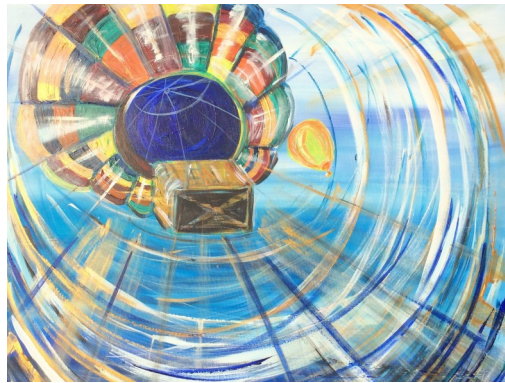
# NEWSLETTER

21st January 2018



## A birds eye view...

Thus far in life I have never been in a hot air balloon. I quite like the idea of it, although at the same time heights and I have an 'interesting' relationship, so I'm not quite sure how it would work out.



There is a print of this painting, just above my desk in the office Mark and I share. It was painted by Chris Duffett (he's also responsible for the 'If' painting in the Prayer Room). He says this painting 'is as an invitation to come on up and take a good view of things'. This can be really difficult to do amidst the brokenness, pain and confusion of this world, something we are no doubt more acutely aware of at this time of particular challenge in the life of this fellowship.

When I first saw the full-size painting I was captivated by it. The thought of taking a ride and enjoying a birds eye view of life, God's eye view if you will, gave me such a buzz. What would I see as I looked down during the journey, what does God see as He watches over us day after day?

As I look at this picture and think of God's view on everything, I'm reminded that He is both present right in the heart of our struggles, yet lifts us up out of them, inviting us to come and

have a look from His perspective as we seek to deal with and work through the trials we face in life. In John 13:34 we read:

*"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you."*

Reading those words of Jesus, without a doubt, this is a clear demonstration of Him raising the bar, seemingly to an impossible level. How can we ever love one another as Jesus has loved us? He gave everything for us. He left his rightful place in heaven at the father's side, coming to earth, offering His own life in our place. He came down amongst the muck and mire of this world.

It could be all too easy for us to see this is a mountain too great to even draw near to, let alone ever hope to climb. Therefore we could let ourselves off, release the pressure, lower the expectation to a more reasonable, earthly attainable level. That is not the call of Jesus on our lives though, we're not too settle for a lower common denominator.

As a church, looking into the days, weeks, months and years ahead, God invites us to love one another, to trust one another and to seek to sharpen one another. Where there has been hurt and pain caused, where there have been mistakes made, where we have not strived in Christ to be all we can be, we need to recognise these realities and continue to trust in the God who heals, renews and restores.

May God take us, use us and through us, see His Kingdom come.

Your fellow traveller  
Ed Jones

**There is no  
5pm today.**

**Instead why  
not attend the  
Unity Service  
at Kings  
Church  
Hastings from  
3pm.**

### COMING UP...

[28th January](#)  
ALL AGE GATHERING at  
10.45am

[28th January](#)  
Baptism at 5pm

[5th February](#)  
Prayer and Praise from  
7.30pm in the chapel

## PRAYER POINTERS

### PASTORS

Pray for Ed, Mark and Francis as they seek God regarding the leadership at BBC.

### SCHOOL VISIT

Pray for the children visiting the church this week from Battle and Langton school.

### SAXONWOOD

Thank God for our contacts with Saxonwood. Pray that God continue to use those who volunteer there.

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21st January 2018



Bringing Life to the Heart  
of 1066 Country, and beyond

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FELLOWSHIP LUNCHES:** starting with our first on 4th February, will be taking place regularly. These lunches are an opportunity to get to know others from across the three gatherings and enjoy some good food. In order to manage numbers, we will be doing this via invitation. Please speak to Carol Noel or Brenda Crew if you would like to know more or to be involved in helping to put these lunches on.

**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.



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](http://www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk)
- Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: [office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk)
- Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

**Church maintenance issues:**

[zionpremisesteam@gmail.com](mailto:zionpremisesteam@gmail.com)

## CHURCH MEETING

29th January at 7.30pm

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

## OFFERING

The Christmas offering raised £1206 for the Transom Trust (providing Christian supported accommodation for the homeless in Hastings) and refugee relief.

## BAPTISM

Ethan Phillips is being baptised at 5pm next Sunday - please be there to support him and pray for him as he prepares.

## What's on this week

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

**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.

**Monday, January 22nd.** ● 9-11.30am: **Caterpillar parent & toddler.** ● 3.45-5.15pm: **Chosta** in the Youth Room. ● 7.45pm: **Leaders meeting**

**Tuesday, January 23rd.** ● 9.15am:

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

**Wednesday, January 24th.** ● 10am: **Selfie Crafting** £1 ● 5pm-6pm: **BBFC** Youth team & 6pm-7pm: **BBFC** training at Claverham 3G.

**Thursday, January 25th.** ● 9-11.30am: **Caterpillar parent and toddler.**

**Friday, January 26th.** ● 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. ● 12.30pm: **Friday Lunch Club** for retired people. (Advance booking essential on 772192, weekdays between 6pm and 7pm.) ● 3.30-5pm: **After School Club.** ● 7-9pm: **412**

**Sunday, January 28th.** ● 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** with creche and Sunday club.