

# NEWSLETTER

11th March 2018



## BBC Good Friday Buffet Lunch

at The Royal Oak in Watlington 1.15pm

**Everyone** welcome!



£5 adults/£2 children

Pick up a booking form today



## COMING UP...

### EASTER:

#### **Maundy Thursday:**

Chapel Gathering @  
7.30pm

#### **Good Friday:**

Chapel Gathering @  
8.45am

10am Marbles on the  
Abbey Green

11.30am Walk of Witness  
starts from the Emmanuel  
Centre (refreshments from  
11am).

12noon walkers arrive for  
prayers at St Mary's  
Church.

12.30pm Hot cross buns at  
BBC

1.15pm Meal at The Royal  
Oak, Watlington.

#### **Easter Sunday:**

8.45am & 10.45am

Gatherings and a walk at  
5pm.

### SPORTSREACH:

4th—8th April

## All that is good about God's family available on the High Street?

We had a wonderful time at the Prayer and Praise meeting last Monday and we would want to encourage you to make this a regular item in your diary! During the evening Emma Jones mentioned to folk that she, with Rita Reading and John Southam, were travelling to Nottingham on Tuesday to visit Ruth Rice, who was the Baptist minister of a church that had setup a "Renew Café – a quiet shared space where it's OK not to be OK".

We had heard reports of this work at the conference both Emma and John had attended earlier in the year – but hearing about, or seeing a web site, about something, is not the same as visiting in person, experiencing it and being able to ask questions. The passion of this church was to see whether they could make all that is good about God's family available on the high street to improve the wellbeing of their local community.

It was exciting to see that in a nice quiet area of Nottingham, where mental and emotional wellbeing is a real and growing concern (just like everywhere else), the local church is responding. They have set up a small, shared, café style space where anyone can feel able to become part of an inclusive community.

Based upon relationships formed between the church, the local council mental health team and a local café, they have taken the adjoining property to the cafe and established a Renew Wellbeing space where you are known by your name, not a label. It is a place to belong, to share hobbies or learn a new skill. The ability to signpost folk to the things that a Renew space cannot (and should not) do were also fundamental, as is a quiet space with a rhythm of prayer three times a day.

Ruth Rice told us that "the link between church and renew space is vital". But everything had to be kept as simple as possible. A Renew space is a space to show up and be human. It is not a service provider for service users, clients or volunteers. It is a community space overtly inclusive for anyone with mental or emotional health issues, which encourages everyone to play their part in making the place home. Come – and bring a hobby to share. We saw folk knitting, playing chess, or just chatting with one another. The church had provided two hosts who were DBS checked and had been trained in Safeguarding, but they simply joined in the activities and made everyone feel welcome.

We now seek your prayers over the next few months (this is not something that can happen overnight). Is this something which God can provide in Battle? We need to continue with our "mission Base" here in Mount Street with the many activities and the support from so many of us (unless God tells us otherwise). We have many fabulous opportunities to use our premises in all sorts of ways and for folk of all ages. Yet there remain some who will always find it so hard to cross the threshold of a church. Jesus said "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field". If we are being led to pursue this particular vision then God needs to speak pretty clearly – and a few miracles need to happen which will provide clear guidance one way or another. Wherever we are led, we need to be certain that we are led by Him to walk His way – and to love our neighbour as much as we love ourselves.

Yours in Christ, John, Rita & Emma

## PRAYER POINTERS

### MOTHER'S DAY

Pray for those hurting today.  
Pray that God would renew,  
comfort and strengthen  
them.

### DEACONS

Thank God for blessing us  
with deacons. Ask God to  
pour his Holy Spirit  
generously into their lives.

### EASTER

Pray for opportunities to  
share the good news. Pray  
that those we meet would  
open their hearts to Him.

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Bringing Life to the Heart  
of 1066 Country, and beyond

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP:** three people are needed to help, once a month, with either Sunday club at 10.45am, Sunday club at 5pm or creche at 10.45am. Please speak to Esther if you can help or are interested in any aspect of service at BBC.

**SPORTSREACH HELP:** is still needed with: providing evening meals, buying/baking cakes, the BBQ serving team for Saturday 7th April, clear up on Saturday 7th April and support Coaches for netball & football. Please speak to Andy if you can help.

### THE TURNING DATES:

[May 2nd](#): Half night of prayer.

[May 31st](#): 7.30pm Launch of The Turning at Victoria Baptist Church, Eastbourne.

[June 3rd](#): Worship and prayer evening at His Place in Hastings.

[4-9th June](#): The Turning –outreach on the streets.

**MELVYN:** is preaching at Lewes this morning and Ashburnham this afternoon. Please pray for him.

**LENT TAIZE EVENING:** Tuesday 13th March at 7pm at the Roman Catholic Church (this was postponed due to the snow last week).



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)

## NEXT SUNDAY

Only **ONE** gathering at 10am.  
With creche, Sunday club and youth group.

## SPORTS REACH

Football and netball schools  
4-8th April.  
Pick up a booking form  
today

## PRAYER & PRAISE

Please note the new date  
and time:  
**Thursday 5th April at  
7.45pm**

## What's on this week

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

[Sunday, March 11th.](#) ● 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 and Sunday Club. ● 5pm: **Chapel Gathering** with Sunday club.

[Monday, March 12th.](#) ● 9-11.30am: **Caterpillar parent & toddler.** ● 3.45-5.15pm: **Chosta** in the Youth Room.

[Tuesday, March 13th.](#) ● 9.15am:

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

[Wednesday, March 14th.](#) ● 10-3pm: **Arts & Craft**, bring a packed lunch £1.50. ● 12-2pm: **Lent Lunch** at St Mary's Church. ● 5pm-6pm: **BBFC Youth team** & 6pm-8pm: **BBFC training** at Claverham 3G. ● 7pm: **Battle Baptist Runners** meet at the Church.

[Thursday, March 15th.](#) ● 9-11.30am: **Caterpillar parent and toddler.** ● 9.30

-10am: **prayer for Sunday gatherings** in the prayer room.

[Friday, March 16th.](#) ● 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.**

[Sunday, March 18th.](#) ● 10am: **Chapel Gathering** with creche, Sunday Club and youth group. Refreshments after the gathering.