

NEWSLETTER

18th March 2018



BBC Good Friday Buffet Lunch

at The Royal Oak in Whatlington 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, Whatlington.

Easter Sunday:

8.45am & 10.45am

Gatherings and a walk at 5pm.

SPORTSREACH:

4th—8th April

Servanthood, not status

Wherever you are as you read this, picture your church congregation. If you are reading the on-line version, this will mean using that amazing mind that God has given you, which enables you to see clearly the faces of people you know, even though they are not with you in person. If you are in our chapel, quietly reading this before the next worship service begins, then you can take a surreptitious look around at those who are there with you. In that case, you might spot others doing the same thing; perhaps your eyes might meet, in which case, what will you do? Will you smile and mouth "Hello" and then look away or will you simultaneously realise both of you are responding to what you are reading now, and enjoy a quick chuckle? Whatever happens, when you picture your brothers and sisters in Christ, what do you see?

In Philippians, chapter two, the apostle Paul writes "In humility, value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others". Or as the songwriter Graham Kendrick puts it in one of his lovely God inspired songs, "Each other's needs to prefer". Paul goes on to emphasise the person and divinity of Jesus, to spell out to us the 'mindset' that is expected of us as Christian believers.

As we picture our church congregation, let's ask God to show us how we can demonstrate this 'mindset' of Jesus to those who are in this congregation with us. Who can you see or who have you brought to mind? Let's go into the building together. There's the person who welcomes at the door and gave us this newsletter. Good strong handshake and a cheerful smile. Perhaps a peck on the cheek. There's a small group of musicians on the front

stage and someone on the floor wrestling with an octopus of electrical cables. Our pastor is at the lectern checking his sermon. Words and pictures are being projected onto the front wall, so there must be someone on the balcony in charge of that. Some parents have brought in their children, who are playing on the three colourful carpets that someone took time to choose and buy. A few friends are missing, so they are probably upstairs praying before the service starts. Others can be heard clearing up the breakfast things and getting out the refreshment stuff for the fellowship time between the two morning services. The chair of trustees is warming up her flute and one of the associate pastors is getting out his saxophone. Chairs are filling up, a sense of anticipation is in the room as the pastor glances at the clock, which is accurate and ticking because someone has put in a fresh battery. Which of all these people is the most important?

Membership of a church is definitely not about personal status; it is about servanthood. This servanthood is not false modesty; it is about deliberately setting aside any status we happen to possess, because of birth, education, job or anything else. Paul says this is what Jesus did, and so we, as His followers, must do likewise. It's a simple message, yet so hard to put into practice. And it is a message for every one of us, for leaders, for preachers and for those on the coffee rota. This message of mutual submission and care is a common feature of Paul's writings and we need to resist asking "But who will look after my interests if I don't?" The answer from Paul is clear: "Your brothers and sisters in Christ will".

Yours in Christ, Rob Duffill

PRAYER POINTERS

DEDICATION

Pray for Craig and Katherin as they dedicate themselves to the task of Christian parenting.

MUSIC TEAMS

Praise God for those who are musical. Pray that God would inspire and protect them.

SPORTSREACH

Pray that God would be preparing the hearts of the children. Pray for safety and a positive time for all.

NEWSLETTER

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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

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

DATA PROTECTION: New laws mean that we have to be more rigorous in processing information about everyone connected with the church. Please bear with us as we contact you, over the next few weeks, to gain your consent to remain on our database.

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP: three people are needed to help, once a month, with either Sunday club at 10.45am or Sunday club at 5pm. 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 Sedlescombe this morning. Please pray for him.

EASTER SUNDAY WALK: Join us for an all-age walk at 5pm on 1st April starting at the church.

NEXT SUNDAY

Gatherings at 8.45am,
10.45am and 5pm.
10.45am is all-age

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 pre-school (Monday– Friday) and housegroups.

Sunday, March 18th.

- 10am: **Chapel Gathering** with creche, Sunday Club and youth group. Refreshments after the gathering.

Monday, March 19th.

- 9-11.30am: **Caterpillar parent & toddler.** ● 3.45-5.15pm: **Chosta** in the Youth Room. ● 7.45pm: **Pastors and deacons prayer meeting.**

Tuesday, March 20th.

- 9.15am: **Prayer-for-Healing Group** (prayer room). At 10.45am there will be prayer for all who come.
- 2pm: **Tuesday Fellowship**, speaker: Hilary Malpass.

Wednesday, March 21st.

- 10-1.30pm: **Games Emporium**,

- £1.50. ● 5pm-6pm: **BBFC Youth team & 6pm-8pm: BBFC training** at Claverham 3G. ● 6.45pm: **Battle Baptist Runners** meet at the Church.
- 7.30pm: **R.E.A.L Women Quiz Night.**

Thursday, March 22nd.

- 9-11.30am: **Caterpillar parent and toddler.** ● 9.30-10am: **prayer for Sunday gatherings** in the prayer room.

Friday, March 23rd.

- 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: **4:12 Youth Club.**

Sunday, March 25th.

- 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** with creche. ● 5pm: **Chapel Gathering** with Sunday club and youth group.