

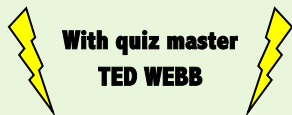
NEWSLETTER

1st April 2018



**Sunday 15th April
at 5pm.**

At Battle Baptist Church
Pick up a booking form today
and book as an individual or as
a team.



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

A moment in time - a timeless moment...

It occurs to me, how there will be some reading this on Maundy Thursday. The excitement and exuberance of the triumphal entry that was Palm Sunday, would have no doubt begun to ebb away some 2000 years ago. Perhaps an uncertainty hanging in the air as the disciples - certainly bar one - followed Jesus into the garden. They would have been unaware of how the events that we remember over the Easter weekend, were about to launch into dramatic motion.

Others will cast an eye over this I'm guessing on Good Friday. A sense of dread would have hung over the day as it dawned, the disciples now scattered, each wondering how the coming hours would unfold. The denial by the fireside swamping Peter's thoughts? Questions abounding following the news of the various interrogations and brutally extreme physical mockery of Jesus. As the horrific scenes of that day were witnessed - the great plan seemingly totally derailed - any glimmer of hope would have no doubt felt permanently snuffed out.

Perhaps some will see this on Easter Saturday. If ever there was a morning after the night before that had nothing going for it, surely it must have been this day. Within less than forty-eight hours, the world of those disciples had to all appearances completely bottomed-out, on a scale that is hard for us to even begin to imagine. Speechless. Probably with no desire to eat or drink or even the ability to think straight. They wouldn't have been waiting for anything, it was over. All they had to do was now, well, what were they to do? Loss, despair, grief, anger, frustration, sheer disbelief...

The majority I'm guessing will cast an eye over this on Easter Day, Celebration Sunday! Talk about a complete turn around of events. It would have started out another pointless,

directionless day. Yet as the account reminds us, that couldn't have been further from the truth as to what was in store. First the women discover the empty tomb, they then encounter Jesus in the garden, before sharing the news with His disciples who in turn meet their risen Lord - what a day! A day of hope, a day of celebration, a day of new birth, new life and a day that proves with God anything is possible!

Reflecting this week with others who gathered for the early morning devotions, one conversation over breakfast touched on how it can be so easy to simply work our way through the Easter story. Do we find ourselves unfurling the events of Holy Week, taking them for granted if you will, knowing the order and exactly what is to come.

Obviously there may be those who will not cast an eye over this article till some point beyond the Easter weekend. Having not checked one's emails or through having taken but not read a printed copy - it doesn't actually matter how or why. The awesomeness of God though is clearly demonstrated in the fact that the Easter story, its effect and life-changing influence is not contained in one weekend. Life was never going to be the same after those few days. Jesus' willingness to go to the cross, paying the price for each one of us, providing the opportunity for each of us to know God again - talk about a pivotal moment in all existence!

However and whenever we do stop and engage with all that took place, may we find ourselves asking God to reveal afresh the enormity of that week, each moment within it and the impact it can have on our lives and the lives of those around us, today.

Be blessed, Ed Jones

PRAYER POINTERS

EASTER

Pray that we would have opportunities to communicate the message of Easter.

BBFC

"Lord, fill the footballers with energy & passion, help them to compete with fairness and give them the grace to accept success or defeat."

SPORTSREACH

Pray that God would move mightily & with transforming power amongst the children this week.

NEWSLETTER

1st April 2018



Bringing Life to the Heart
of 1066 Country, and beyond

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

WORLD MISSION PRAYER MEETING: Join with others every 1st Thursday of the month to pray for mission and issues around the world. 2-3pm in the prayer room.

THE TRUSTEES: are pleased to announce that they have asked the firm of church architects A P Rilfool to prepare plans for the building of a Bell Tower on the land between our chapel and the Catholic church. Its height and the number of bells to be hung are not yet decided. Members comments are welcome. Please contact the architect concerned, Itza Oakes, on 07790 342893.

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 CAKES: please deliver cakes to the church office (shop bought or homemade) by Tuesday morning. Thank you.

MEMBERSHIP: an application has been received from Rebecca Lewis. If any member has any observations concerning this application, please talk to one of the pastors.

CHURCH AGM: 7.30pm Monday April 30th.



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

NEXT SUNDAY

8.45am

10.45am

ALL-AGE SportsReach & creche

5pm

with Sunday club & youth group

PRAYER & PRAISE

Join us this THURSDAY at

7.45pm

EASTER WALK

Today at 5pm from the church. Please wear suitable footwear as it may be muddy in places

What's on this week

We are taking a break from some of our normal activities this week...

Easter Sunday, April 1st.

- 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** with creche, Sunday Club and Youth Group. ● 5pm: **All-Age Walk**.

Wednesday, April 4th.

- 5pm-6pm: **BBFC Youth team &**

6pm-8pm: **BBFC training** at Claverham 3G. ● 7pm: **Battle Baptist Runners** meet at the Church.

Thursday, April 5th.

- 9.30-10am: **prayer for Sunday gatherings** in the prayer room. ● 2-3pm: **World Mission Prayer Meeting** in the prayer room. ● 7.45pm: **Prayer & Praise**.

Friday, April 6th.

- 7.30am: **Early Morning Prayers** in the Youth Room followed by a 'do it yourself' breakfast.

Sunday, April 8th.

- 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: **SportsReach All-Age Chapel Gathering** with creche. ● 5pm: **Chapel Gathering** with Sunday Club and Youth Group.