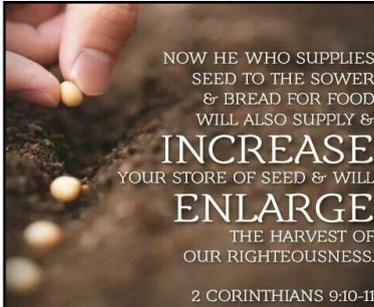


Battle Baptist Church

Being Transformed Together

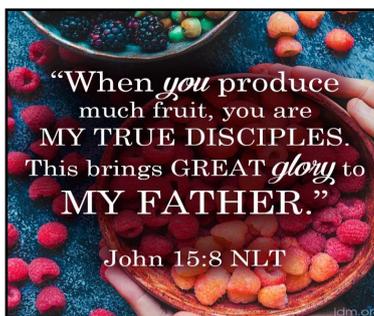


13th October 2019 -
Harvest



'Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things. Wealth and honour come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and at your discretion people are made great and given strength. O our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name! But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us!'

1 Chronicles 29:11b-14



Fixtures Sat 19th Oct:

1sts: Rock a Nore (H)
2nds: Hawkhurst United II (A)
3rds: (No fixture)

Two types of crazy

'You don't have to be crazy to work here, but it helps'.

One of the most common clichés found in working offices throughout the land. It has become a self-deprecating, self-knowing mantra that has probably now lost its currency. Relegated to join the likes of – *'Everyone brings joy to this office, some when they arrive and some when they leave'*. My favourite is an office poster I saw recently – *'Stay safe. Eat chocolate. Thin people are easier to kidnap'*.

We know that many people in the modern everyday society we are part of see Bible believing and working Christian communities as evidently *'crazy'*. We sometimes see it on a Friday evening at 4:12 when it comes to collection time. I can think of several parents who surreptitiously edge into the building rather than enter with confidence, and keep their backs firmly to the wall and close to the exit in case something or someone *'spiritual'* ambushes them (approaching them with a genuine smile and a warm handshake is great fun).

We know also that the Bible talks about how the true Gospel is foolishness to the world and we should not be surprised if we are eyed with suspicion especially when we model Christian family and community to a cynical world. What's the angle; what's the catch; what do they want from me? These God botherers are really weird, just crazy...

And boy how we modelled family last weekend... For me that was a point where so many aspects of who we are came together. There was worship; there was teaching; there was youth work; there was reflection; there was food; there was fellowship and there was family.

Celebrating the body of Christ with all our lumps and bumps. With all our variations and imperfections. We didn't so much *'retreat'* as a Church as come boldly forward together in a loving show of unity.

And that's there where the second crazy happens.

(Disclaimer time – to follow the rest of this you have to genuinely accept that the spiritual realm is fact. You have to accept that there is an enemy out there who hates our Lord and wages war against his people).

When we keep God's commands and hold fast to our testimony about Jesus. When we model the community of the Godhead.

When there is no real hierarchy: no one tries to fight or gossip for power. When everyone has their role, their responsibility, but it is all lived out with the foundation of love and respect. That's when the dragon is enraged (Revelation 12:17).

We will meet with spiritual *'push-backs'* both individually and as a Church. We have raised our heads above the parapet, we have stepped out in faith. We have put aside the petty concerns that divide and focussed on the One who unites. We are not ashamed of who we are.

Following a weekend where I felt humbled to be part of such a loving Christ-centred family, I have personally struggled through a week of several unexpected *'push-backs'*.

I am happy to be seen as *'crazy'* by an unbelieving world. I am happy to follow the *'crazy'* path of the One who calls us to stand up and be counted.

Yours in Christ

Charles

PRAYER POINTERS

Holiday Club

Josh Carter is once again leading our Holiday Club at half term. Please pray for him, Andy and the team as they share the love of Jesus with the children

Friday 4:12

Praise God for all the young people who came to last week's concert, and pray especially for those who responded to the message of the gospel. May this ministry produce much fruit!

NEWSLETTER

13th October 2019

Battle Baptist Church
Being Transformed Together

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

A message from Ed: 'A massive thank you to everyone who came and was a part of the recent Retreat Weekend. Thank you especially to all those who made it happen. I know there were many who did a whole variety of different things that brought the weekend together and made it possible, thank you so much.'

Harvest - this Sunday: Any donations of food will be passed to the Foodbank, which continues to be busy. Tinned and dried goods are ideal - and small packets eg of pasta are much more helpful than large ones. The monetary collection that we take on Sunday will be donated to the work of BMS. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Volunteers: We have filled nearly all of our staffing gaps - praise the Lord! Thank you to those who have offered to take on roles within the various ministries. We remain in need of more volunteers to staff Friday 4:12.

Cleaning: We hope to have cleaning staff appointed by the end of the month. Thank you for your understanding in the meantime: if we could all continue to tidy up after ourselves whenever using the church premises it would be very helpful.

Mount Street roadworks: Please note that because Mount Street is being resurfaced, it will be closed from the High Street to Virgins Lane from Sunday 20th October until Wednesday 23rd October (7am - 7pm). On Sunday 20th there will be **no access to Mount Street car park.**

Church Meeting: The next church meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th November from 7.30pm in the Chapel.

R.E.A.L. Women: We will be holding a Christmas Crafts event on Saturday 30th November from 1pm - 3.30pm in the Manna House. Places will be limited to 12, and there will be a small charge to be paid when booking. More details to follow.

R.E.A.L Women

Join us for our 'Just Desserts' event next Saturday, 19th October, at 7.30pm. Pick up a flyer for full details.

Community

BBC will be hosting a classical 'Coffee Concert' as part of Battle Festival on Sat 26th Oct from 10.30 am. It's free - why not come along?

Men's Events

The next Men's breakfast will take place on Saturday 16th November at 8am. Put it in your diary!

What's on this week....

The Caterpillar Pre-School is open this week Monday to Friday.

Sunday 13th October - Harvest

- 8am-8.30am **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**
- 6pm **Service of Thanksgiving** - Great Hall, Ashburnham.

Monday 14th October

- 9am - 11.30am **Caterpillar Parents and Toddlers**
- 3.45pm - 5.15pm **Chosta** in the Youth Room

Tuesday 15th October

- 9.15am **Prayer for Healing Group** (Prayer Room). Prayer for all who come at 10.45am.
- 10.30am -11.45am **Walking Football** at the Rec
- 2pm **Tuesday Fellowship** (speaker: Chris Doust)

Wednesday 16th October

- 10am - 1.30pm **Games Emporium** in the Manna House
- 1pm **Unity Prayer Meeting** in the Prayer Room
- 6pm - 6.45pm **Youth Home Group** @ The Shed
- 6pm - 7pm **BBFC** training at Claverham 3G

- 7pm **Battle Baptist Runners** meet at the church

Thursday 17th October

- 9am - 11.30am **Caterpillar Parents and Toddlers**

Friday 18th October

- 7.30am **Early Morning Prayers** in the Youth Room followed by do-it-yourself breakfast
- 10.30am **Coffee Club** in the Youth Room
- 3.15-5pm **After School Club** for primary age children
- 7pm-9pm **4:12 Youth Club** for teens

Saturday 19th October

- 7.30pm **R.E.A.L Women** 'Just Desserts' evening in the Manna House.

Sunday 20th October

- 8am-8.30am **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**
- 5pm - 6pm **Youth Gathering** in the Youth Room
- 6pm **Encounter** in the Chapel