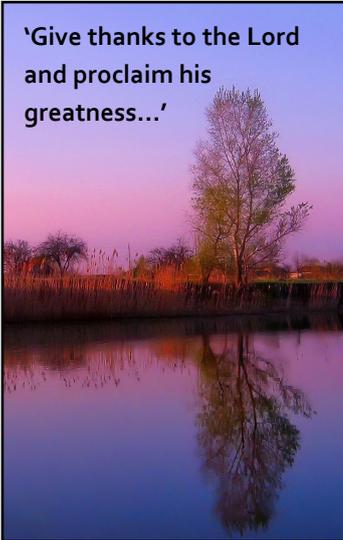


Battle Baptist Church

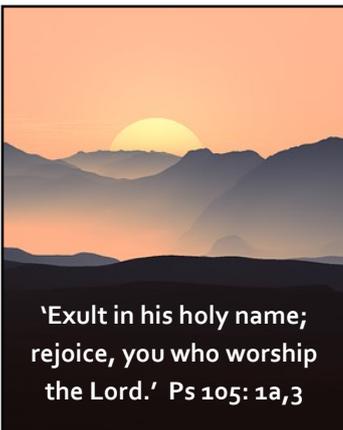
Being Transformed Together



18th July 2021



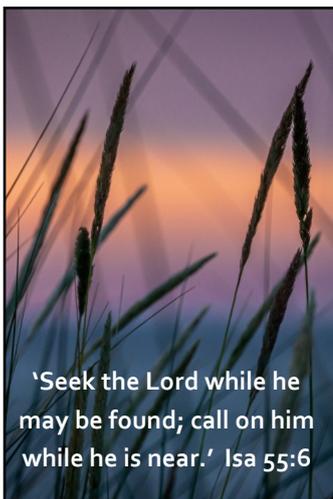
'Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim his greatness...'



'Exult in his holy name; rejoice, you who worship the Lord.' Ps 105: 1a,3

"Come to me with your ears wide open. Listen and you will find life."

Isaiah 55:3



'Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.' Isa 55:6

The Power of Pausing...

"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." (Matthew 11:28-30 MSG)

For the past two weeks Renew 1066 has been open on Wednesday mornings in the Cherry Gardens. Renew 1066 is a wellbeing space, 'where it is okay not to be okay'. It has been started in connection with Renew Wellbeing the national charity. A Renew space is a safe space to just come and be, an opportunity to slow down, show up and pause.

Jesus' words in Matthew's gospel remind us of the importance of slowing down and pausing. The Message paraphrase says, 'Are you tired? Worn out?'. So many of us might say 'yes' to those questions. You might say 'I need to finish this task first', or 'if I slow down and pause, I might not be able to keep going.' We come to Jesus, just as we are, not as the finished, refined, article, but as authentic selves in any given moment. As we come in humble simplicity to him, he meets us at our point of need and shows us how to take a real rest.

Jesus knew the power of pausing. Throughout the gospel accounts we read that He would go to quiet solitary places to pray, particularly if he had had a busy schedule. The beauty of pausing is that it can last as

long as is needed. When you keep company with Jesus, when you walk with him on your daily faith journey, he will lead and guide you, teaching you how to live freely and lightly.

This quote from Rick Warren is thought provoking

'I developed a long time ago some habits. One of them is what I call "divert daily, withdraw weekly, and abandon annually." "Divert daily" is everyday you do something that's not work-related. You do something that relaxes you. Then you "withdraw weekly". The Bible says every seven days you take a day off. And then "abandon annually" means you just go out and forget it all.'

I wonder, do you have regular habits, that help your grow 'the unforced rhythms of grace' Jesus talks of? These aren't things that become a straitjacket, heavy and ill-fitting, but rhythms and practices that are the perfect fit. A simple start is to pause for 1 minute in silence focusing on phrase 'Come to me'. When your mind might wander, just gently bring your attention to phrase 'come to me' and just be.

'Get away with me and you'll recover your life.' (Jesus)

Peace be with you.

Emma

PRAYER POINTERS

Afghanistan

A military and diplomatic vacuum has opened up in Afghanistan now that US troops have left, with its neighbours Iran, Pakistan and Russia all involved. It is estimated that 1m Afghans will seek refuge from the Taliban in Iran.

Schools & Colleges

Pray that staff and students may have a truly restful break after the uncertainty and extra strain that the pandemic has caused this year. For those in our fellowship who are moving on to new places of study.

Love and loss

Pray for all those who have lost loved ones during the pandemic. For those who felt unable to say goodbye as they would have wanted to, and for whom 'delayed grief' is weighing them down. And especially For Tony Rymell and his family.

NEWSLETTER

18th July 2021

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:

zionpremissteam@gmail.com



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 - Easing of Restrictions: From tomorrow (Monday 19th) all legal restrictions relating to the pandemic will be lifted. However, we are all urged to proceed with caution and care. Trustees and Elders have met this week to discuss what changes to our current protocols might be appropriate and a letter explaining these will be sent out early next week.

Family Service: Please note that the family service planned for 25th July has been cancelled.

Marriage Course: Janet and Gary Walsh will be leading HTB's Marriage Course on Tuesdays from 27th July to 7th September via Zoom. Please contact the office if you'd like to participate.

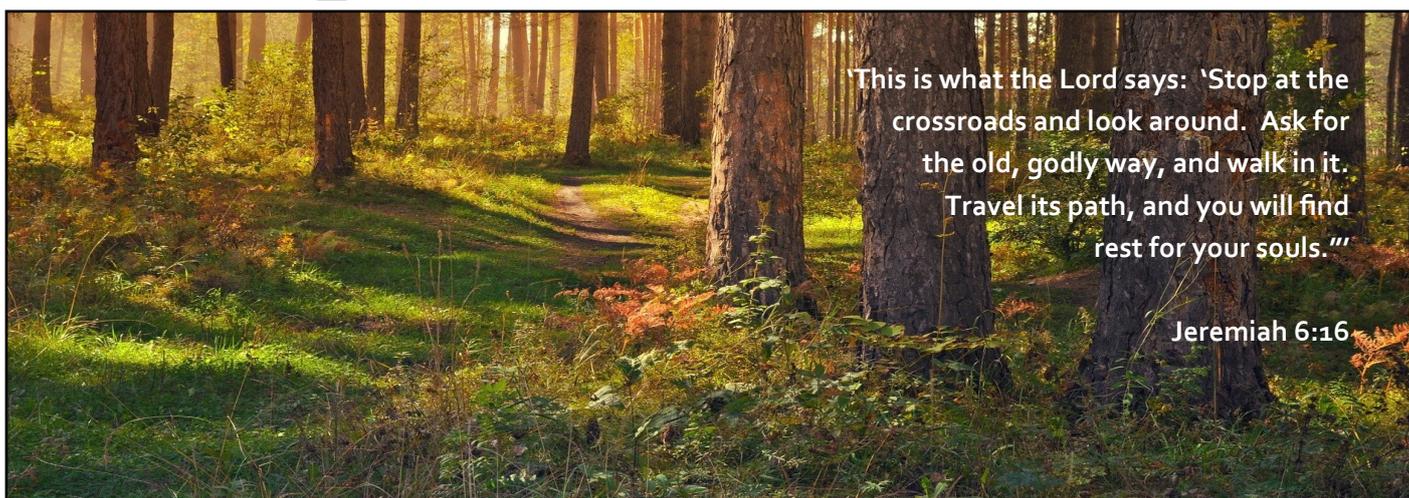
Men's Breakfast: At last! Please join us for breakfast at The Chequers on Saturday

4th September from 9am. More details to follow.

Church Weekend - Correction: Provisional dates for this are 15th- 17th October: so sorry about this error! (Jo)

Membership: An application for church membership has been received from Kieran Dudgeon. As is our custom, if any member would like to comment on Kieran's application, please get in touch with the Elders.

Battle **Foodbank** needs a treasurer. It's a voluntary position, needing someone who can give about a hour a week and can use excel spreadsheets and do online banking. For further details please see Steve Reading or contact him on 07535 899 350.



What's on this week....

The Caterpillar Pre-School is closed for the summer holidays

Sunday 18th July

- 10.30am **Worship Gathering** with communion: online or at the chapel (please book your seats in advance)
- 5.30 - 6.30pm **Sunday Breakout** online for teens

Monday 19th July

- 9.30 - 10am **Prayer meeting**
- 3.45 - 5.15pm **Chosta** for years 7-13. Come along for games, chat, discussion and more.

Tuesday 20th July

- 10 - 11am **Walking Football** at the Rec

Wednesday 21st July

- 10 - 12 noon **Renew 1066** at Cherry Gardens
- 12 - 12.30pm **Prayer meeting** via Zoom
- 6.30pm **BTFC Runners** meet at the chapel

Thursday 22nd July

- 9.30 - 10am **Prayer Meeting**
- 1 - 3pm **Worship Working Party** in the Youth Room

Friday 23rd July

- 7.30 - 8.15am **Early Morning Prayers** in the Youth Room
- 7 - 9pm **BBC Youth** Check Instagram for exact details of timings and activities.

Sunday 25th July

- 10.30am **Worship Gathering** online or at the chapel (please book your seats in advance)
- 5 - 6pm **Sunday Breakout** online for teens