

Battle Baptist Church

Being Transformed Together



19th September 2021

'His salvation extends to the children's children of those who are faithful to his covenant...' (Ps 103:17,18)

A member of our wider family in Hastings has been reflecting on the amazing account of the life of his grandfather named Charlie. This man was a 30-year-old Welsh coalminer around the time of the Welsh Revival of 1904/5. He had a serious drink problem, so life was tough for his wife with several children to support.

One Sunday morning, under the influence of alcohol, he was walking home past a Baptist chapel where one of the revivalist preachers was in full flow. He did not go in but paused long enough to hear the gospel being preached. He fell on his knees outside the chapel and asked the Lord Jesus to forgive him. When he got home, he told his wife what had happened and then said, "Agnes, I'll never touch a drop of alcohol again." He was as good as his word. He went on to become a deacon in the same Baptist chapel and served there for the rest of his life.

What follows is the effect of God's hand on this one man getting saved and praying for his family which eventually grew to 10 children:

One of his sons never married but led the children's work in the church into his 60s.

Another son was a gifted musician who led worship before moving away and becoming a church elder for 40 years. A third son led a small Baptist congregation in a nearby town into his 80s.

One daughter married another church elder and shared his ministry.

A second daughter became a vibrant Christian headmistress at a local school.

Two more daughters emigrated to the USA and were active in the life of their local church.

Three further daughters moved to the south of England where all three had children who were active members of their local churches.

Of the subsequent grandchildren from this large family, one was a Christian singer/worship leader, another was a full time elder in a local church in East Sussex. Another married a lay-reader and had a healing and prayer ministry for over 50 years and two more married pastors and served their congregations for decades.

It is wonderful what the Holy Spirit can do in the hardened life of an ardent unbeliever!

It would be good for us all to reflect on the love of God shown through the life, death and resurrection of his Son Jesus. When John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus and his ministry, he said, "I baptised you with water, but one more powerful than I will come... and He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire" (Luke 3:16).

When Jesus spoke to the Pharisee Nicodemus in John 3, he said, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is born again." He added, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit."

Jesus went further and declared, "For God loved the world so much that He gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not die but have eternal life" (John 3:16)

These words are so familiar to those of us who know Christ as our personal Saviour. In the life of Charlie the Welsh miner, they would prove to be so true as all of his children, many of his grandchildren and an unknown number of his great-grandchildren are walking in the light of Christ.

Laurel and I are so grateful to God that our son, his wife, and three of our own grandchildren are numbered among those whose walk with Jesus can be traced back to Charlie and his moment of repentance leading to a powerful faith in Christ.

Keith

PRAYER POINTERS

Kenya

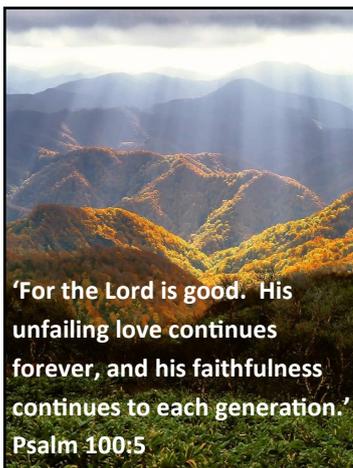
Drought in north Kenya means that 2.1m people are at risk of starvation. Swarms of locusts have made things worse, and COVID has led to fewer people being able to carry out essential communal labour. Please pray!

For our fellowship

Please pray for those in our fellowship who are ill, and for those with long term health issues affecting them physically, mentally and emotionally. That they may 'hold fast to the confession of [their] hope without wavering.'

Caterpillar Toddlers

Please pray that adults and toddlers alike will feel warmly welcomed as we restart this activity. Pray for Tim, Caroline, Pauline G, Jenny C, Sharon L and Sue P as they seek to forge relationships and show the love of Christ to our community.



'For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation.'
Psalm 100:5

NEWSLETTER

19th September 2021

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Battle Baptist Church is part of Life with Hope Trust; registered charity 1134288, Mount Street, Battle,

East Sussex TN33 0EG.

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- Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

Church maintenance issues:

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Rhythms: A reminder that weekly prayer meetings take place on Mondays and Thursdays at 9.30am, and on Friday from 7.30 - 8.15am. Why not join us in spirit?

Sunday Club: Tim would really value more volunteers to support him as he leads this important ministry. Please could you prayerfully consider whether you might be able to contribute to this? Thank you!

BBC's **AGM and an Ordinary Members' meeting** will take place on Monday 27th September at 7.30pm at the Chapel. If you are unable to attend in person you will be able to view proceedings online - but you will not be able to comment or vote on items under discussion.

Tuesday Fellowship will restart from 28th September. Join us at 2pm for worship, good company, and a chance to hear a variety of speakers. And refreshments, of course!

Harvest Festival will be celebrated here on Sunday 3rd October at 10am.

Coffee Club restarts on Fridays at 10.30am from 8th October. Drop in for a cuppa and a chat!

Church Weekend, 15th - 17th October: Sharon Roberts will be leading this event. Pick up a flyer to find out more!

Audrey Hawkes: we have been made aware that Audrey passed away a little while ago - as perhaps some members already know. "But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles." (Isa 40:31a)

WORLD VIEW

We give praise that God is moving in the lives of people in Turkey, leading them into life-transforming relationships with himself. We invite you to celebrate what God is doing and cry out for more to encounter the love of Jesus.

Gardens Tidy Up

A working party will meet at the premises on Weds 6th October at 9.15am. Refreshments provided!

Prayer meeting

October's prayer meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th from 7.30pm - 9pm here at the chapel.

Emma Jones' Induction

...will be held here at the Chapel on Sunday 3rd October at 4pm.

What's on this week...

Caterpillar Pre-School is open Monday – Friday this week.

Sunday 19th September

- 10am **Worship Gathering** with communion at the Chapel followed by refreshments in the Manna House
- 5.30pm - 6.30pm **Sunday Breakout** online for teens

Monday 20th September

- 9.30am **Prayer Meeting**
- 9 - 11am **Caterpillar Toddlers**
- 3.45 - 5.15pm **Chosta** for years 7 –13. Come along for games, chat, discussion and cheesy chips!

Tuesday 21st September

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

Wednesday 22nd September

- 6.30pm **BTFC Runners** meet at the chapel

Thursday 23rd September

- 9.30am **Prayer Meeting**
- 3.15 - 5pm **After School Club** for KS2 children

Friday 24th September

- 7.30 - 8.15am **Early Morning Prayers** in the Youth Room followed by do-it-yourself breakfast.
- 7 - 9pm **BBC Youth** Laser Tag and crazy games

Sunday 26th September

- 10am **Worship Gathering** at the Chapel followed by refreshments in the Manna House
- 4pm **Family Service** (in person only) Join us for craft, music, games and fun with puppets!