

Battle Baptist Church

Being Transformed Together



24th & 31st October 2021

'In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God... God created everything through him...'

John 1:1,3a

'Christ is the visible image of the invisible God... So he is first in everything. For God in his fulness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him Christ reconciled everything to himself.'

Col 1:15, 18b,19

'And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death - even death on a cross!'

Phil 2:8

'Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives... And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.'

Col 3:16a,17

Walking in the light of God's word

In the Road to Emmaus story from Luke 24:13-32, two disciples are met on their journey home by the resurrected Jesus. Their faith was at a low ebb; they were disillusioned, and they expressed their disappointment and confusion to the stranger walking with them. This stranger proceeded to teach them from their own scriptures that all they had observed in the arrest, crucifixion and rumours of resurrection was part of God's plan and not a disaster.

Later, the disciples share with each other that their hearts had "burned within them as Jesus had talked with them on the journey and opened the scriptures to them". Their lives were rejuvenated as they were enlightened by the teaching of the Word of God by the Son of God himself - what an amazing encounter!

The recent preaching by Ed from Colossians has encouraged us all in our walk with the Lord including an encouragement to "let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly" (Colossians 3:16). We can only effectively apply the teaching we receive from the Word of God if we do our part in the discipline of regular reading, studying and applying it to our daily lives.

Laurel and I have over recent weeks been reading through Philippians 1 and we have been struck by the exhortation by the apostle Paul to the church in that city to live and speak the Word of God courageously and powerfully; to live their Christian lives making spiritual progress and expressing joy in their faith; to stand firm as a fellowship of believers and not to be surprised at the spiritual opposition they will inevitably have to face. In a word they are to live **radical** Christian lives.

Peter writes, "in your hearts set apart Christ as

Lord, always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to provide a reason for the hope that you have, but do this with gentleness and respect" (1 Pet 3:15). In the world of education, the world of employment or the world of retirement, we must strive to live out our Christian lives radically, fearlessly, enthusiastically, peaceably, and respectfully among those we encounter each day.

One of the great challenges for the worldwide church today is the lack of basic biblical knowledge and understanding among believers. We are living in a time where many basic truths about what we believe, how we should live and our assurance of salvation and our continued life with Christ after our lives on earth end, are being questioned. But as we immerse ourselves in the truths of scripture, our faith will be strengthened, our joy and assurance will be reinforced and we will be better equipped to give an account of our personal relationship with Christ as the opportunity arises.

It is evident that areas of the world where the church suffers persecution, the scriptures are loved and highly treasured because they form the firm foundation of faith in Christ when all around them is falling apart.

Today, treasure, read and reflect on your regular bible readings and ask the Holy Spirit to fill you as you do so. We serve a wonderful God who loves us and has provided so much for us. He desires that we live more closely to Him, with a hunger for more of His Word, seeking to develop a more meaningful prayer life as a result.

Keith

PRAYER POINTERS

COVID-19

Thank the Lord for the development of two new antiviral drugs which can help reduce the risk of serious illness with the virus. Pray for leaders as they grapple with difficult decisions as we head into winter.

Renew 1066

Pray that the Lord will bless those who have dropped in to Renew. May they feel welcomed, accepted, known. Pray also for those from our fellowship who give of themselves as they get alongside our guests.

Family Service

Please pray for the Family Service which will be held next Sunday. That newcomers will return and feel welcomed. For Caroline and Tim as they prepare and deliver activities which can be enjoyed by all.

NEWSLETTER

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Battle Baptist Church

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

Church maintenance issues:
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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORLD  VIEW

From BMS:

The faith of the believers in Thailand is growing ever stronger. BMS World Mission is grateful for the opportunity to be part of expanding God's Kingdom there. Praise God for Paul and Sarah Brown who have served excellently with the New Life Centre Foundation and for all they have learnt about the hill tribes of northern Thailand.

Praise God for people who have recently come to faith in the Thai village of Wang Daeng and been baptised. Pray for BMS workers Helen and Wut Boondeekhun working there as they disciple new believers, and praise God that these new believers enjoy sharing stories about Christ.

Members' Directory: A revised version of the directory will be made available soon. Jo has a couple of draft copies to hand if you would like to double-check your data.

Staff team: Jo and Caroline are both on holiday next week, and the church office will be closed.

Dates for your diary: November's prayer meeting will be held on Monday 8th from 7.30 - 9pm in the chapel. Our next church meeting, at which we will be voting nominees on to the diaconate, will take place on Wednesday 17th November at 7.30pm.



What's on 24th October - 7th November...

Caterpillar Pre-School is closed for half term from 25th - 29th October and reopens on 1st November.

Sunday 24th October

- 10am **Worship Gathering** with Communion at the Chapel followed by refreshments in the Manna House

Tuesday 26th October

- 10 - 11am **Walking Football** at the Rec
- 2pm **Tuesday Fellowship**

Wednesday 27th October

- 10am - 12 noon **Renew 1066** in the Manna House
- 6.30pm **BTFC Runners** meet at the Chapel

Friday 29th October

- 10.30am - 12 noon **Coffee Club** in the Youth Room

Sunday 31st October

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

Monday 1st November

- 9.30am **Prayer Meeting**
- 9 - 11am **Caterpillar Toddlers**

- 3.30 - 5pm **Chosta** for years 7 –13.

Tuesday 2nd November

- 10 - 11am **Walking Football** at the Rec
- 2pm **Tuesday Fellowship**

Wednesday 3rd November

- 10am - 12 noon **Renew 1066** in the Manna House
- 6.30pm **BTFC Runners** meet at the Chapel

Thursday 4th November

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

Friday 5th November

- 7.30 - 8.15am **Early Morning Prayers** in the Youth Room followed by do-it-yourself breakfast.
- 10.30am - 12 noon **Coffee Club** in the Youth Room
- 7 - 9pm **BBC Youth**

Sunday 7th November

- 10am **Worship Gathering** at the Chapel followed by refreshments in the Manna House