

Battle Baptist Church

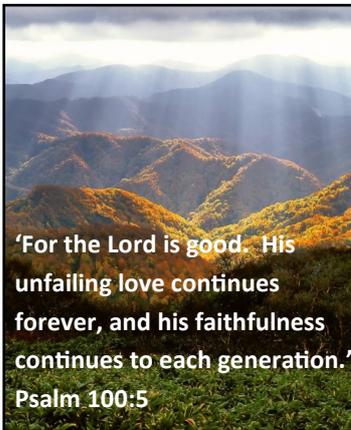
Being Transformed Together



9th January 2022

'Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name. Bring an offering and come before him: worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness.'

1 Chronicles 16: 29,30



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

Psalms 100:5

'Without question, this is the great mystery of our faith: Christ was revealed in a human body and vindicated by the Spirit. He was seen by angels and announced to the nations. He was believed throughout the world and taken to heaven in glory.'

1 Timothy 3:16



So let us come **BOLDLY** to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his **MERCY** and we will find **GRACE** to help us when we need it.

Hebrews 4:16

Taking stock and taking off...

Last Sunday Ed spoke about New Year Resolutions. As a young person, I made sure to consider my resolutions each New Year. Recently I looked in an old diary dating back to when I was 16 and found that that year I had made no less than thirteen resolutions. Did I keep them all? I doubt it – especially the one about working harder at school – but interestingly, six of those resolutions have become lifetime habits. Maybe they had to be on a list for several years before they became everyday habits, but it shows it's possible to be changed with persistence.

These days I still find the end of one year and the beginning of the new a good time for 'spiritual stocktaking'. How have things gone over the last year? What was God doing and saying in my life? What does He want for me, and of me, in the coming year? This, of course, leads on to Ed's other point. What are our dreams for 2022, personally and for our church and community? Perhaps one way to unite a resolution and the potential of our dreams is to determine, as far as possible to attend the prayer meeting each month. These meetings are called 'Ignite' and what a great picture that gives! One definition in the dictionary says, 'to cause to catch fire'. Just imagine what it could mean for each of us individually to be set on fire with the Holy Spirit, and for us collectively to be causing this community to catch fire. Obviously prayer must be the foundation of whatever we do, so what a great time to join in with these meetings, even if it's your first time, because without the Lord we will achieve nothing.

There are many opportunities for prayer within our church structure – with a personal prayer partner, in prayer triplets, in our Lifegroups, joining the weekly staff prayer meetings, as well as the monthly meetings mentioned above. We would love to see the prayer room used more often, so please remember that you can book in for a slot by contacting the office or via the website. Prayer is available from the prayer ministry team at the end of the Sunday gathering and we now have a designated email address for prayer requests. These may be open for anyone to hear about or more confidential for the group who are committed to pray in that way. How blessed we are with all these opportunities for prayer!

Both Old and New Testaments have prayers recorded and these can be so helpful when we run out of words ourselves or to inspire us to pray more effectively. Many of them demonstrate an openness and honesty before God and if you find more formal language unhelpful, try looking at them in the Message or Passion translations. There is such a rich collection throughout scripture to help us.

Let's together go on into 2022 with big dreams, good resolutions and an expectant attitude of total dependence on our Mighty God.

Chris Doust

PRAYER POINTERS

Kazakhstan

Please pray for the situation in Kazakhstan, where long-simmering frustration about the country's economy and political system has erupted into violence. Pray especially for the safety of the Nekounam family in Almaty.

COVID-19

Whilst illness seems to be less serious with the Omicron variant, its high transmissibility is putting huge strain on public services. Please continue to pray for key workers as they try to keep services open.

For our fellowship

Please continue to pray for those in our fellowship who are struggling with physical and / or mental illness. For those under pressure. For those making big decisions such as moving house or moving into residential care.

NEWSLETTER

9th January 2022

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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 • Email: office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
- Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

Church maintenance issues:
zionpremisesteam@gmail.com



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A message from Ed: For those who will remember him, **Roger Martin** received his home call on 24th December 2021, aged 76. Roger and his wife Suzanne were members here at Battle for a number of years before moving to Tenterden about 25 years ago. He will be dearly missed by all his family and friends. There will be a Service of Thanksgiving to take place at Charing Crematorium on Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 11.30am - all are welcome.

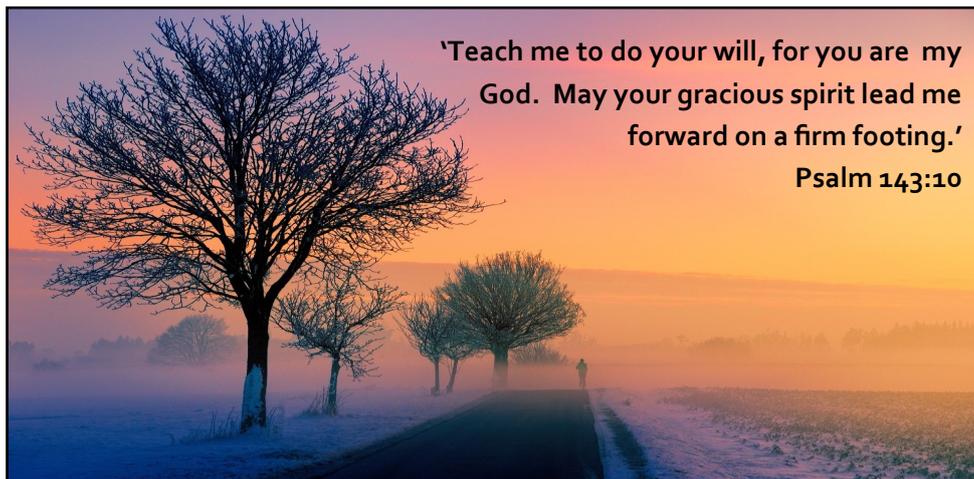
Sue Barter has written to thank you all for your kind prayers, cards and messages. She is feeling much better, and has settled in to her new home. She writes: 'My prayers are with you all and especially for a better 2022. God bless you all.'

After School Club: We have decided to delay the restart of ASC because of the pandemic. We will review this once the

Government have reviewed whether or not masks should continue to be worn in schools (26th January).

Social Event: Join us for a fabulous curry on Tuesday 25th January from 6pm at New Spice restaurant, Robertsbridge. All are welcome. Please contact Rob Hamilton to book your place.

RCO Ministries: the latest newsletter from the Kakishes is available. Please get in touch with the office if you would like a copy.



What's on this week...

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

Sunday 9th January

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

Monday 10th January

- 9 - 11am **Caterpillar Toddlers**
- 1pm **Prayer Meeting** in the Youth Room
- 3.30 - 5pm **Chosta** for years 7-13

Tuesday 11th January

- 10 - 11am **Walking Football** at the Rec
- 2pm **Tuesday Fellowship** Speaker: Rev David Laskey

Wednesday 12th January

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

Thursday 13th January

- 9.30am **Prayer Meeting** in the Prayer Room

Friday 14th January

- 10.30am - 12 noon **Coffee Club** in the Youth Room
- 7 - 9pm - **BBC Youth**

Sunday 16th January

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