

# Battle Baptist Church

## Being Transformed Together



12th June 2022

'By the word of the Lord  
were the heavens made,  
their starry host by the  
breath of his mouth.'

Psalm 33:6

'The Lord passed in front  
of Moses, calling out,  
"Yahweh! The Lord!  
The God of compassion  
and mercy! I am slow to  
anger and filled with  
unfailing love and  
faithfulness.'"

Exodus 34:6

'Father to the fatherless,  
defender of widows, this  
is God whose dwelling is  
holy. God places the  
lonely in families; he sets  
prisoners free and gives  
them joy.'

Psalm 68:5

"Here is my servant,  
whom I uphold, my  
chosen one in whom I  
delight; I will put my  
Spirit on him and he will  
bring justice to the  
nations. He will not shout  
or cry out, or raise his  
voice in the streets. A  
bruised reed he will not  
break, a smouldering wick  
he will not snuff out.'"

Isaiah 42:1-4

### 'The Good Samaritan' Luke 10:25-37 ...and who is my neighbour?

The story begins with an expert teacher in Jewish law asking Jesus, "What must I do to receive eternal life?" Jesus responds by referring the lawyer to the law itself, "How do you understand it?"

The lawyer proceeds to quote Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind...and love your neighbour as you love yourself". Jesus commends the lawyer for his reply and then the man goes on to ask, "And who is my neighbour?"

Jesus then goes on to tell the lawyer a parable of the good Samaritan. But what makes this parable so powerful is that divisions between Jews and Samaritans were so great because of a number of ancient historical and religious reasons. By the time of Christ, Jews would rather cross the river Jordan and back again when travelling north to Galilee instead of passing through Samaria.

The lawyer, hanging on every word of Jesus is challenged to work out exactly how a Samaritan could be neighbourly to a Jew even if he were badly injured. But then the parable goes on to tell us that the Samaritan sets aside time and energy to care for the wounded man. He carries out first aid. He puts the man on his donkey and walks alongside until they reach an inn. He pays for his accommodation and ongoing care, promising to continue the financial support until the man has recovered. All this in contrast to the two high profile religious leaders whose principles had caused them to ignore the man

and "pass by on the other side of the road".

So, when Jesus asks the question, "Which of these three men was a neighbour to the man who was attacked and robbed?", the lawyer answers "The one who was kind to him and had mercy on him". Jesus challenges us to face up to our Christian commitment of love and compassion. He has no time for empty religious resolves and promises if there is no intention of taking action.

Our neighbour might be the grumpy person next door, or the needy elderly couple five doors down. In these days, our neighbour may be the young single parent we know of with three children to support in a world of rising inflation. Further afield our neighbour could be a Ukrainian refugee living in a nearby foreign country having lost his family, home, and business in a bombing raid. Our neighbour may be one of thousands of God's people living in grinding poverty in Africa or India; or subject to persecution in China or North Korea.

So how do we respond to such situations in our life's journey? Who are the marginalised in the society in which we live? Will we commit precious time or resources to help relieve poverty or loneliness or sickness; or the provision of clean drinking water or for the printing of bibles?

Perhaps our own resources and practical abilities are limited, but we can pray for those of whom we are made aware. Scan the weekly church newsletter; follow national news broadcasts - and may we be equipped to be good Samaritans ourselves.

Keith

## PRAYER POINTERS

### Food Security

Please pray for politicians and diplomats from Turkey, Ukraine, Russia and the UN as they seek to negotiate a safe sea corridor for grain exports. Pray for those countries particularly vulnerable to shortages: Syria, Yemen, Egypt and Lebanon.

### Our local community

Please continue to pray for our neighbours in Mountjoy and Mount Street. Pray too for our town councillors, especially Vikki Cook as she takes on the mayoralty. For local independent businesses - that they may be resilient.

### Emma Jones

Emma takes up her 'Pioneer' placement this month as part of her ministerial training, and she also has her second training residential from 16-18 June. Please pray for strength, wisdom and protection for the whole family at this busy time.

# NEWSLETTER

12th June 2022

**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](http://www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk)
- Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: [office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk)
- Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

Church maintenance issues:  
[zionpremisesteam@gmail.com](mailto:zionpremisesteam@gmail.com)

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Stuart Davison** retires this August having given over 20 years' service to SEBA. There will be a celebration service to mark the occasion at Crawley Baptist Church on Sunday 17th July at 5.30pm, with tea and cake available from 4pm. Everyone is warmly invited - but naturally space is limited! Jo will be coordinating the booking of places for BBC - please get in touch with her before 21st June if you would like to go.

**Mash Up Thursday:** Please note that this activity will not take place this week.

**Men's breakfast - save the date!** The next breakfast will take place at The Chequers on Saturday 16th July. More details to follow.

**Prayer Requests:** If you like, you can send your prayer requests to [prayer@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:prayer@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk) and Chris Doust will deal with them.

**Staff team:** Please note that Tim is on annual leave from 12th - 16th June.

**Alpha Course:** Peter and Pennie plan to run an Alpha course in the Autumn. Please be praying about this!

### WORLD VIEW

**Estonia (pop 1.4 million):** There is a desperate need for the power of the Holy Spirit to flood this small country. Religious freedom exists but this is also an open door for theological error. Mormons have more missionaries in Estonia than any Christian agency. In a recent poll, 11% of Estonians expressed an active interest toward pre-Christian pagan religions. Please pray for the truth and light of Christ to be declared and established in this country.

[Source: [Operation World](#)]



“Praise be to you, O Lord, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.”  
1 Chronicles 29:10b, 11

## What's on this week...

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

### Sunday 12th June

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

### Monday 13th June

- 9 - 11am **Caterpillar Toddlers**
- 9.30 - 10am **Prayer Meeting** in the Prayer Room
- 3.30 - 5pm **Chosta** for years 7-13

### Tuesday 14th June

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

### Wednesday 15th June

- 10am - 12 noon **Renew 1066** in the Manna House
- 6.30pm **BTFC Runners** meet at the Chapel
- 7 - 8pm **Prayer Meeting** (for Ukraine & current affairs) in the Prayer Room

### Thursday 16th June

- 9am **Prayer Meeting** in the Prayer Room

### Friday 17th June

- 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 19th June

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