

March 2020



AND NOW THESE
THREE REMAIN:
FAITH, HOPE AND
LOVE. BUT THE
GREATEST
OF THESE IS
LOVE.

1 Corinthians 13:13

Who to contact

Minister

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Serving Elders

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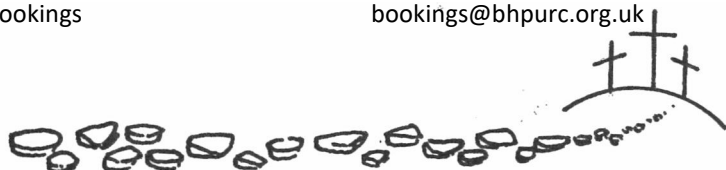
Youth activities

Boys Brigade	bb@bhpurc.org.uk
Girls Brigade	gb@bhpurc.org.uk

Other activities

Baby & Toddlers	toddlers@bhpurc.org.uk
Book Club	bookclub@bhpurc.org.uk
House Group	housegroup@bhpurc.org.uk

Weekly news sheet	link@bhpurc.org.uk
Newsletter	newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk
Hall & Room bookings	bookings@bhpurc.org.uk



We are part of a group of United Reformed Churches in the London Borough of Enfield. If you would like to know what we are all doing please subscribe to our NewsShare mailing list at: <http://eepurl.com/dHm8TH>. Emails are only sent once or twice a month so you can keep up to date without getting too many emails, you can unsubscribe at any time.

The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly on the last Sunday of the month. Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship or representative of church policy.

Has the gospel message reached your bank account yet?

Jesus met up with a young man. He approached Jesus. Came up to him and asked a question. He was searching for peace, for answers to the emptiness that, deep down in his heart, was present in his life. He recognised Jesus was someone special. “Good Teacher”, he called him.

There was some discussion between them, about what commandments were important to follow.

The discussion still left the young man feeling empty. He had done everything that the religious leaders had recommended. He kept on performing in the way in which he had understood he should behave, always doing the *right* thing, always doing the *good* thing.

But he was still empty inside.

There was a spiritual hunger deep within, a yearning for truth, for peace, for goodness...and he thought that Jesus would have the answer to that hunger that he had.

But he wasn't expecting what came next – it was a big surprise to him.

And it remains a big challenge to the church in 2020, and to each one of us as individuals.

It affected something close to our hearts, sadly, something close to his heart on that day when he met Jesus.

“If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” (Matthew 19:21)

Nobody had mentioned money in this way before. Nobody had spoken about possessions in the way that Jesus spoke about possessions.

“Give it all away.”

He could not handle at that time what was said to him. The gospel record states that *“he went away sad, because he had great wealth”* (Matthew 19:22).

Did he later reflect and change his mind? Did he sell up and follow Jesus?

He may have done – that may be the reason we have the story. But at that moment in time, just then, he struggled to face up to what he was being asked to do.

The challenge though, still remains, not just for that young man but for us as well.

That's why we pose the question that we ask at the top of the page – **has the gospel message reached your bank account yet?**

Because...if Jesus asked that one young man to sell all he had and give to the poor, does he not also ask us the same question? **Give up what you have, what you possess, and come and follow me.**

As we consider our own lives we find ourselves challenged by Christ's words consistently. We are able to live very comfortably and we wonder whether, actually, what we need to be thinking about when we hear Christ's words is whether we need to work on an excuse as to why we haven't sold all our possessions and given the money we raise to the poor... and then been able to truly follow Jesus?

Can we truly say we are followers of Christ if we give Jesus no influence over what we use our money and possessions for?

It has been said that Jesus isn't interested in how much you give – to church, to charities, to others – that Jesus wants to look at what you have left after you have given.

The widow gave little in monetary terms into the temple treasury but Jesus praised her:-

"I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on." (Mark 12:43,44)

If you're wondering how to respond to the gospel message this Lent, if you're interested in following Jesus, then let the gospel message affect your bank account this year.

One way that you can do that is to pick up one of the **"Count Your Blessings 2020"** booklets which are available in our churches, produced by Christian Aid.

It's a booklet designed to encourage you to think carefully about what you have... and to give in response to what you read there. It provides opportunity to pray, to reflect, and to engage with the wider issues that we as a race, the human race, should be facing up to as we live our lives.

It's a booklet that does what it says on the tin...encourages us to **Count our blessings.**

Why don't you join with us in doing that this year through Lent.

May God bless you richly as you do.

*Your ministers,
Mark and Melanie*

Smile Lines

Books

Compiling Dictionaries	by Lex E. Con
Horror Stories	by Frank N. Stein
Learning to Read	by A.B. Sea
Stationery Catalogue	by N.V. Lope
The Book of Suffering	by Ann Guish
The Encyclopaedia of Everything	by Noah Lot
To be Continued	by Cliff Hanger

A senior moment

I made a list. I checked it twice. I left it at home.

Wet

Physics Professor: "What happens when the human body is immersed in warm water?"

Student: "The telephone rings."

Prayers

When my daughter was young, she was glad to say her prayers, but she always worried whether God would know which little girl she was. One night after the usual 'Amen', she dropped her head upon her pillow and closed her eyes. After a moment she said, "Lord! This prayer comes from 203 Seldon Ave. I'll get you the postcode tomorrow."

And then....

Teacher: "What is the difference between results and consequences?"

Bright pupil: "Results are what you expect; consequences are what you get."

Here is the News

Building Fund update

Thank you to everyone who has donated towards our building fund and the church upgrades. We now need to raise £300,000 to allow us to refurbish our Hall and ensure that it is asbestos free and as environmentally friendly as possible.

The ceiling and stage surrounds need to be removed to allow asbestos to be removed. We then have to replace these items, insulating them and installing energy efficient lighting.

The walls need repair and decoration and finally the floor will be replaced.

This is the largest project the Church as considered in living memory.

We ask that you prayerfully consider making a donation to allow this work to be completed. You can donate online (anonymously if you want) at www.give.net/bhp2 or in the church offertory using an envelope marked "Building Fund".

Thanks you for your support.

World Water Day – 22nd March

This year, it is all about water and climate change - and how the two are linked. There is a website offering good ideas and resources if you would like to join in. Please go to: <https://www.worldwaterday.org>

Eating Disorders Awareness Week - 2nd – 8th March

A staggering 1.25 million people in the UK are living with an eating disorder. And every one of them is affecting other people by that disorder. In fact, it is reckoned that as many as five million of us in the UK are struggling to help someone whom we care about, who has an eating disorder. If you know anyone with an eating disorder, or if you have an eating disorder, there is a website may help. Please go to: <https://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk/edaw>



During Lent 2020, we are inviting you to journey with us towards radical change for the climate.

As a global community, we are facing new and significant challenges. 2020 welcomes in a crucial decade, in anticipation of the 2030 deadline the IPCC set to curb global carbon emissions and avert catastrophic damage to the environment. The “rapid, far reaching and unprecedented” changes required to prevent this call for commitment at every level of society.

How do we respond as Christians? We know that our lifestyles and choices mean we have played a role in damaging creation. But many of us are also desperate to change, as we hope to see creation flourish as God designed. So where do we begin?

We recognise that responding to the climate crisis is not just an activity, but a lifestyle. That’s why during Lent, we’re inviting you to take the first step, by making a positive commitment towards change.

During Lent, could you:

Attend the Tenants of the King Lent series? [Ed: see page 14]

Go single-use plastic free?

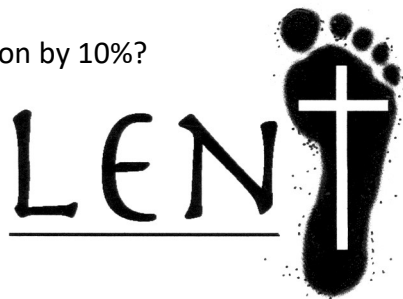
Go vegetarian or vegan?

Commit to using alternative forms of transport?

Commit to buying locally sourced products?

Buy nothing new?

Reduce your electricity consumption by 10%?



A Scientist Discovers God

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Isaiah 40:12

Allan Rex Sandage, the greatest observational cosmologist in the world—who deciphered the secrets of the stars, plumbed the mysteries of quasars, revealed the age of globular clusters, pinpointed the distances of remote galaxies, and quantified the universe’s expansion through his work at the Mount Wilson and Palomar observatories—prepared to step onto the conference platform.



Few scientists were as widely respected as this one-time protégé of legendary astronomer Edwin Hubble. Sandage had been showered with prestigious honours from the American Astronomical Society, the Swiss Physical Society, the Royal Astronomical Society, and the Swedish Academy of Sciences, receiving astronomy’s equivalent of the Nobel Prize. *The New York Times* dubbed him the “grand old man of cosmology.”

As he approached the stage at this conference on science and religion, there was little doubt where he would sit. The discussion would be about the origin of the universe, and the panel would be divided among those scientists who believed in God and those who didn’t, with each faction sitting on its own side of the stage.

Many of the attenders probably knew the ethnically Jewish Sandage had been a virtual atheist even as a child. Others undoubtedly believed that a scientist of his stature must surely be skeptical about

God. As *Newsweek* put it, “The more deeply scientists see into the secrets of the universe, you’d expect, the more God would fade away from their hearts and minds.” So Sandage’s seat among the doubters seemed a given.

Then the unexpected happened. Sandage set the room abuzz by turning and taking a chair among the theists. Even more dazzling, in the context of a talk about the big bang and its philosophical implications, he disclosed publicly that he had become a Christian at age fifty.

The big bang, he told the rapt audience, was a supernatural event that cannot be explained within the realm of physics as we know it. Science has taken us to the first event, but it can’t take us back to the first cause. The sudden emergence of matter, space, time, and energy pointed to the need for some kind of transcendence.

“It is my science that drove me to the conclusion that the world is much more complicated than can be explained by science,” he later told a reporter. “It was only through the supernatural that I can understand the mystery of existence.”

For me, the road to atheism was paved by science, but, ironically, so was my later journey to God. Good information, I am convinced, points us to a good God.

Mark Middelberg

From the Lee Strobel devotional via BibleGateway.com



Forest Church

Good Friday



Celebrate:

Community

Creativity

Creation

and the

Creator

6.30pm Friday 10th April

The Scout Field

The Paulin Ground

Ford's Grove

Winchmore Hill N21 3ER

For further info :

Rev. Melanie Smith

revd.melanie@gmail.com



Enfield
**United
Reformed
Churches**

The courage of Oscar Romero

An Archbishop was presiding at Mass when a hired gunman shot him in the back. That was 40 years ago this month. Archbishop Oscar Romero was the Roman Catholic primate of San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador: a small, populous country in South America with a history of political intrigue, violence and corruption.

The assassin, a professional hitman who has never been caught, was working for an extreme right-wing junta and its supporters, who felt threatened by Romero's sermons and his hugely popular radio broadcasts.

Oscar Romero was not a natural agitator. The emphasis of his ministry had been on personal holiness and he had been slow to draw attention to the unscrupulousness which pervaded his country, but when a socially active priest-friend was murdered, he felt he had to follow the same path. He highlighted the torture of prisoners, the censorship of the press, closure of schools and the plight of the poor.

In 1980 he criticised the United States for their support of the junta. In a sermon on 23rd March 1980 he ordered the army to stop killing people: "In the name of God, and in the name of this suffering people whose cries rise to heaven more loudly each day, I beg you, I implore you, I order you, in the name of God, stop the repression!" That was his death warrant.

The next evening, at Mass in a hospital chapel, Romero had finished his sermon and moved to the altar when a car stopped outside the open door. A gunman got out, aimed his rifle and fired. Romero died instantly. He had said, "As a Christian I do not believe in death without resurrection. If they kill me, I shall arise in the Salvadoran people."

Oscar Romero is commemorated as one of 10 Christian martyrs whose statues adorn the West front of Westminster Abbey. The day of his martyrdom, 30th March is remembered annually in the Anglican Lectionary, and by the United Nations because of its significance for human rights. In 1997 the Roman Catholic Church made him a Saint. Did Oscar Romero mix religion with politics? He said, "I want to reaffirm that my sermons are not political. Naturally, they touch on politics, and they touch on the reality of the people, but their aim is to shed light and to tell you what it is that God wants."

Charity Dance

Raising money for Enfield Winter Night Shelters

**BJ Cole, Joe Papa, Kevin Neave
Jamie and Nick
of Jamie Williams Roots Collective
Tig Trafford
& more!**

Saturday 14th March 8pm till 11pm

Bush Hill Park Bowls Club, Abbey Road EN1 2QP

Tickets £10 from Bush Hill Park Bowls Club

Tel: 0208 363 0977

**All funds raised will be shared between
Enfield Churches' Overnight Respite & All People All Places
Charity No. 1139885**

Looking for Befrienders

We are pleased to say that we will shortly be joined in Enfield by another family under the Government's Resettlement of Refugees scheme. As a result of this we are looking for more befrienders to help. If you're interested in becoming a befriender please let either Mark or Melanie know or contact Alan Seldon by e-mail at alan.seldon@voneus.com.

Role of befriender

The role of the befriender is to work with others in the befriending team to help a Syrian family to adjust to life in a new country, offering valuable support to ease the process.

Your tasks

- Showing newcomers where to find local amenities
- Delivering practical assistance, such as help to buy clothing and essential items.
- Accompanying newcomers to official appointments
- Listening to concerns and worries
- Supporting and offering advice where appropriate or, with the befriending coordinator, finding the right service to help
- Responding appropriately to safeguarding and protection issues
- Working with an interpreter (training to be given)
- To receive regular supervision from the befriender coordinator, to whom the befriender will be accountable for their work with the family and receive support, advice and guidance.
- To receive periodic clinical supervision from the group supervisor. This will involve meeting with befriender colleagues, coordinator and the clinical supervisor to explore common themes in the work with the family and its impact.

A befriender is

- A good communicator and empathetic about the situation of refugees
- Sensitive to cultural issues, including those relating to gender
- Able to use support skills in a calm and responsible manner



**Join us at St. John's each Tuesday in Lent
at 7.30pm for 8.00pm**

3rd **My Property?** Why did God create the world?

Revd. Alex Mabbs, from Operation Noah

10th **Creation groans** If God created a good world, what went wrong?

Revd. Kevin Snyman, from the Joint Public Issues Team the Baptist Union, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church

17th **Do not fear!** Is 'care for creation' a lost cause?

Ruth Musgrave, a local activist from Vine Church Ilford

24th **Speak up** Do Christians have any real influence on those in power?

Andy Campbell, from Christian Aid

31st **What next?** Next steps for us in our churches

**CHURCHES
TOGETHER**



**IN PALMERS GREEN,
WINCHMORE HILL
& GRANGE PARK**



**OPERATION
NOAH**

Faith-motivated. Science-informed. Hope-inspired.



The Parish Church of
St John the Evangelist
Palmers Green N13 4DA

Diary

March

See also Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities

The diary is also online at www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar

Sun 1st	10:00am	Communion with Revd Mark Meatcher
Fri 6th	10:30am	Praying with Zimbabwe (World day of prayer) at Enfield Baptist Church
Sun 8th	10:00am	Parade with Revd Barrie Thompson
Sun 15th	9:30am 10:00am	Prayers in the church Worship with Laura Marlow
Sun 22nd	10:00am	Worship with Chris Hall
Sat 28th	3:00pm	Family Film Feast - see page 27
Sun 29th	10:30am	Battalion Parade with Revd Mark Meatcher

**Next newsletter deadline:
Sunday 15th March**

All material for inclusion should be emailed to
newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk

Prayer Diary

MARCH 2020

Trust in the Lord forever,
for the Lord,
the Lord himself,
is the Rock eternal.

Isaiah 26:4

Sunday 1st

Thanks for our Brigades as they help local girls and boys to learn useful skills

Monday 2nd

Tony

Tuesday 3rd

Persecuted church in Syria

Wednesday 4th

Lincoln Crescent

Thursday 5th

Member of Parliament for Edmonton - Kate Osamor

Friday 6th

Children and staff at Al-Shurooq School in Bethlehem who we support as a church

Saturday 7th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 8th

Thanks for our ambulance, medical services and the air ambulance helping to save lives

Monday 9th

Vikie

Tuesday 10th

Persecuted church in India

Wednesday 11th

Lincoln Road

Thursday 12th

Member of Parliament for Enfield, Southgate - Bambos Charalambous

Friday 13th

Those suffering from motor neurons disease and the charities who seek to find a cure

Saturday 14th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 15th

Thanks for those who entertain us, make us smile and show us other worlds

Monday 16th

Yvonne

Tuesday 17th

Persecuted church in Iran

Wednesday 18th

Leighton Road

Thursday 19th

Member of Parliament for Enfield North - Feryal Clark

Friday 20th

Elijah, our sponsored child in Zambia

Saturday 21st

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 22nd

Thanks for our service men & women

Monday 23rd

Valerie

Tuesday 24th

Persecuted church in Eritrea

Wednesday 25th

Main Avenue

Thursday 26th

Local government decisions

Friday 27th

Child carers and the charities who help with support and enjoyable events

Saturday 28th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 29th

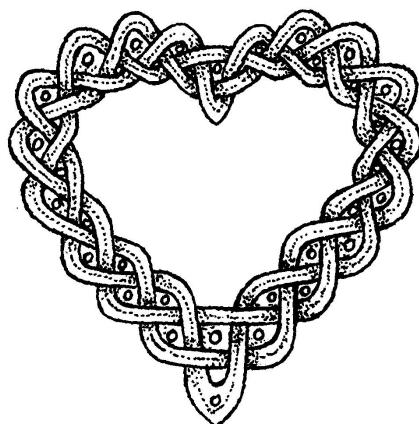
Give thanks for answered prayers

Monday 30th

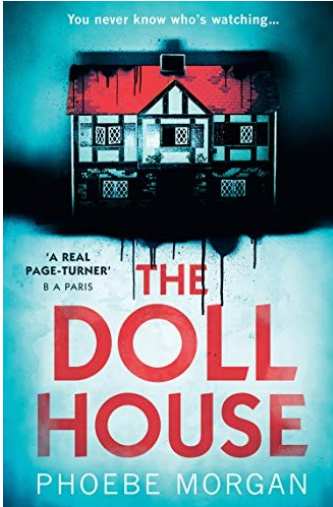
Alison

Tuesday 31st

Persecuted church in Yemen



Book Club



The Doll House by Phoebe Morgan

This is a suspense novel and focuses on two sisters, living very different lives. Both are emotionally fragile from the death of their much-loved father a year before, and both are about to have their worlds torn apart.

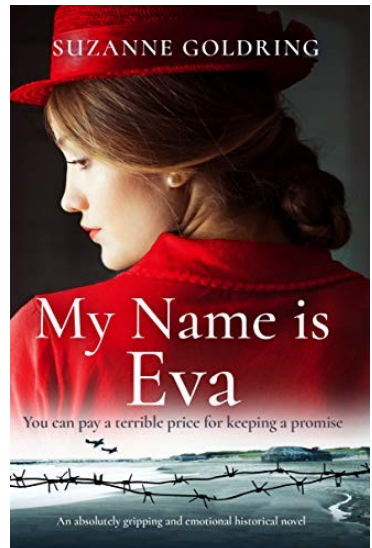
Corrine is desperate for a baby and after three failed IVF attempts, borrows the money from her sister for a fourth, and final attempt. To everyone's delight, this one is successful, and her life was going to be just perfect. However, one day Corrine finds a little chimney outside her flat, which she recognises as belonging to her old dolls house, very strange. Then more items turn up, which she also recognises from her childhood ... and someone inside her flat. Someone knows her past: someone is watching her - but who, and why?

The reviews were mixed for this book, perhaps it being redeemed a bit by the last few pages!

Yvonne

My name is Eva by Suzanne Goldring

Set in the present but going back into late War World II and after, this tells the story of how a woman widowed by the RAF copes by writing letters to the love she so misses; at first on paper and then



in her mind. Hoping to seek revenge for the loss of her husband so young, she joins the ATS and when her language skills are recognised, she is posted to Germany to help those interviewing prisoners of War. Here she meets the Officer responsible for the mission in which her husband was killed. The story unfolds and decisions must be made.

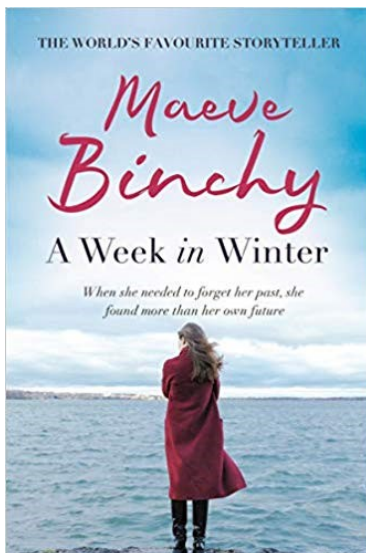
Years later she meets him again in the UK and invites him to the family home where she lives alone, and he starts to organise her life.

When she cannot manage on her own, her niece arranges for her to enter a care home. Eva manipulates the staff who think she is senile. In clearing the home, various items of her past are found, including photographs which intrigue her niece, and later the Police. ...

It was read with mixed views by our group.

Our next meeting is at 10:30 on Monday 9th March. Once again, we could not decide so it is a choice between 'To die in Vienna' by Kevin Wignall or 'A week in Winter' by Maeve Binchy.

Sylvia



Interview

How long have you lived in this area?

I have always lived in what is now the borough of Enfield. My parents moved into their house in Palmers Green when I was 3 months old, and I lived there really until I got married. I was taken to Fox Lane Congregational Church by a next-door neighbour when I was 3, and when I was 17 become a church member. I was married there (on a Sunday as my parents had shops), and my eldest daughter was baptised there. With a young baby I stopped going to church. I was worried that a baby crying would disturb the congregation.

What made you choose our church to come to?

When the children were young, we moved to First Avenue and the girls would watch the girls brigade band march past our house. That is why we started to come to church! First the girls attended GB, and then Ruth Hamblin persuaded me to help, and I renewed my membership and became a church member.

What makes you go to church at all?

I enjoy church. I enjoy the feeling of community and fellowship that you get by belonging to a church family. We support each other, learn from each other, and grow each other. I also feel that I can be used by God if I come to church.

Do you have a favourite hymn? What is it, and why?

When I was younger my favourite chorus (because in Sunday School we learnt a lot of choruses) was

*Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey*

This chorus got me through all my teenager troubles, arguments and heartbreaks.

Now I am older my favourite is

*Father, I place into Your hands,
The things I cannot do.
Father, I place into Your hands
The things that I've been through.
Father, I place into Your hands
The way that I should go,
For I know I always can trust You.*

It helps me remember that though we all have troubles God is always there to help and support us, and our friends and family, even if they don't have their own faith.

Do you have a favourite Bible passage? What is it, and why?

My favourite bible passage is 1 Kings chapter 19 verses 11 and 12
Then the LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD. Behold, the LORD is about to pass by." And a great and mighty wind tore into the mountains and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12After the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a still, small voice.

Has your faith in God helped you at different times in your life?

My faith has helped me through my life by giving me support in trouble, and now as I (not that I am there yet!!) get into old age it gives me comfort.

What would you say to someone who is not a Christian, but would like to know more?

I would say to anybody who is not a Christian "God still loves you, and please, come and find out more. Come and meet us, give us a go".

Lynda

Rotas

	Door welcome	Reader	Tea and Coffee	Flowers	Sound room
1st	Alison	Robin H	Yvonne	Yvonne	Tony
8th	Evelyn	Bill	Ivy & Jane		Tony
15th	Kath	Anne	Sylvia		Tony
22nd		Sue	Valerie		Robin H
29th					Tony

If you can fill in the gaps above please put your name in the sheet on the wall in the lounge.

If you would like to do any of the above but feel you'd need a little guidance first please talk to Lisa, she'll make sure you find the right person. The sound room is easier than you think - go on, volunteer!



Safeguarding Statement

Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).

We expect all of our leaders, volunteers and those who use our premises to share this commitment and value the support of those who worship here in achieving this. Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).

Please visit <http://www.bhpurc.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding> for further information.

Prayer

A new thing

God who does new things,
help us to look forward
to the new things that are possible with you,
the new creation heralded by Sprint and resurrection.

Give us a vision of rivers in the desert:
where there is dust and dryness
 may we know your cleansing, reviving Spirit;
where there are no signposts and we fear getting lost
 may we know your way and purpose revealed in Jesus.

Help us to forget the things that lie behind us,
 the failings that nag at us,
 the guilt that weights us down,
 the mistakes that trip us up.

Help us to press on,
 Motivated by your call in Christ Jesus,
 That we may join in your work
 for unity, healing and peace.

Simon Walkling

From the URC prayer handbook 2016 for 13th March looking at Isaiah 43:16-21, Psalm 126 and Philippians 3:4b-14

Ed: If you have a prayer you would like put in the newsletter instead (or indeed as well as...) do email it to newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk. If you want it in a particular month make sure you meet the deadline for that month, usually the second Sunday of the month. Thanks.

Hearing God (1)

How do we know what God is saying to us? How do we work out what God's plan for our lives is? God tries to communicate with us in many different ways, and over the next couple of months we'll look at some of these briefly here in the magazine.

Through the written word – God speaks to us through what we have recorded in the bible. *“Just as lovers express their love in writing: through poems and plays, sonnets and love-letters, so God has written down his love for us. As St Augustine put it, the Bible is ‘our letter from home’. But this letter is unlike any other letter we shall ever read. It possesses a peculiar power to penetrate our innermost being: to heal, to console, to challenge, to confront”* (Joyce Huggett).

According to 2 Timothy 3:16 *“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness”*.

Whilst the definition of what was considered scripture at the time those words were originally written would not have been the bible as we have it today the truth of those words are no less significant in my personal view. Everything that we have written down in our bibles contain words that somehow are God-given.

We might argue about them, we might debate what they mean but essentially what is written in the book is of use to us, can help guide us in the decisions that we have to make in our lives.

There are accounts in this book of most incidents that we might experience in our lives. There are accounts where people made the right decisions and there are other accounts where people have made the wrong decisions.

1 Corinthians 10:11, for example, talks about the early experiences of the Israelites and records that:-

“These things happened to them as examples and were written

down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfilment of the ages has come.” (1 Corinthians 10:11)

All that we have written down here can help us. All of it can encourage us, can help to build us up, can strengthen our faith and can help us to grow in our knowledge of God.

Some bits might frighten us, might scare us, might cause us to ask more questions but the bible stands as a sourcebook for us, a tool that we can use to understand our Creator and Lover.

So when we have a problem, when we have a question, we can use the bible to help answer the question, help us to make the decisions we need to make.

It is important however that we do read the written word in the right way, especially when we are looking for guidance. We do not want to go down the track of the person who, when worrying about what they should do next, what the right course of action was opened the bible and decided that whatever they read first of all would be what they would do and turned to Matthew 27 and verse 5; *“So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself”*.

Dissatisfied with that verse of scripture he turned to Luke 10 verse 37 and read *“Jesus told him, ‘Go and do likewise”*.

At this point a note of panic began to come on their face and so they decided, one last time, to turn to another verse and then read John 13 verse 27 *“What you are about to do, do quickly”*.

Not a good way to read the bible!

We need to review what we are reading with our mind, with our understanding and above all by asking the Holy Spirit to guide us in all that we are doing, all that we are reading, all that we are considering.

(Look out for other ways we may hear from God in the months ahead)

Mark



Daily devotion app

Lectio 365 is a daily devotional resource that helps you encounter God and shape your life by praying the Bible every day.

Each day

Make time to P.R.A.Y. 'P': PAUSE to be still. 'R': REJOICE with a Psalm and REFLECT on a Bible passage. 'A': ASK God to help us and others, and 'Y': YIELD to His will in our lives.

Each week

Explore a theme or practice with a leader from the 24-7 Prayer movement. Throughout the year journey through six practices that help us shape our lives around the three great loves at heart of Christianity.

Discover how we love God through prayer and creativity (Matt 22:37), love one another through justice and hospitality (Matt 22:39) and love the world through learning and mission (Matt 28:18–20).

Special seasons

In seasons like Advent and Lent explore a special focus with guest authors from the international 24-7 Prayer movement.

Try something ancient

Lectio 365 is inspired by Lectio Divina, a way of meditating on the Bible that's been used by Christians for centuries. Each day we read the same passage twice and come expectant that God will speak through it.

Read or listen on the go

Lectio 365 is available in both text and audio each day of the year. You can access each day at a time or choose to download devotionals up to a week in advance to read or listen to them later.

Free* Family Film Feast

3.00pm 28th March



When Hiccup discovers Toothless isn't the only Night Fury, he must seek "The Hidden World", a secret Dragon Utopia before a hired tyrant named Grimmel finds it first.

PG 2019 1h 44 Minutes



Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church

25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ

www.bhpurc.org.uk

Boys' Brigade News

Continuing their work on their alternating badge classes the year 7s and 8s have also been doing some science experiments. These included inflating a balloon with salt and cola and getting a boiled egg into a glass bottle. As well as this they have explored the effects of sugar in water by adding food colouring to four different pots of water each with an ascending amount of sugar in each. When put together the four colour water separated by density leaving four clear colour segments. This was furthered by putting chocolate bars in a tub of water seeing how some floated, some partially floated and how some completely sank. They have also been continuing their first aid work in aiming to gain their badge.

Meanwhile the year 9s and upwards have continued working on their Duke of Edinburgh along side a puppet show for the Battalion Church Parade on March 29th. Some of the boys are coming towards the end of their Bronze DofE award whilst others are begging. For this there are four sections to be completed; Physical, Voluntary, Skill and Expedition. For the Physical, Voluntary and Skill the boys have a choice. They have to do two of them for three months and the third for six months. The expedition they'll be doing last for two days and one night. One thing is for sure and that is that the puppet show is certainly worth looking forward to! The excitement has been growing for the puppet show as all the boys involved seem to be enthusiastic and enjoy the puppeteering!

As a company we fared very well in the Swimming gala with

our oldest age group consisting of Josiah, Antony and Jahsiah, coming 1st in their age group. In typical fashion they decided to jump into the pool to celebrate the victory (even if the certificate did get a little soggy). All the boys did very well and we had a great turn out from both the Company and Junior sections. There's a badminton competition coming up too. This month also sees us go to the drill competition where we'll be hoping to retain our titles from last year. We'll also be entering two new recruits as well as the small squad, single line and colours competitions. The weekend after the drill competition is the company section weekend away. Last year the boys that went really enjoyed the weekend and are looking forward to going again. This year for company supper we showcased the talents of the boys in our company. Jahsiah and Charlie did some ventriloquism with Greg and Larry (their puppets) and Antony played the piano whilst Josiah demonstrated his dance abilities.

Much praise goes out to Miles for his Quiz night which raised over £600 for the company as well as raising some for the church hall. At time of participation our company were 1st and second in the crystal maze competition, our Seniors team managed a massive 107 gold tokens in the Crystal Dome but our Company section boys pipped them to it with an even bigger 110 gold tokens. Final results will be revealed and more about it in next months article.

That's the latest run down on what is a jam-packed term. More updates to follow next month.

Joe Nicolaides

Wordsearch

Lent lasts for 40 days. Sundays in Lent are 'oases'; as Sunday is never a day of fasting, but a weekly celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. Christians have used Lent as their '40 days in the wilderness', when they set aside the indulgences of life and instead look inward, seeking spiritual renewal and growth. Lent looks towards the Cross and the Empty Tomb, with the assurance of redemption and new life in Christ. The daffodils in our gardens are golden trumpets to proclaim the wonderful message of Easter! The English word for Lent is not at all religious; it is an abbreviation of the Old English word 'lencten', or 'lengthen'. At last winter is over, and the days are getting longer...

Lent
Forty
Days
Sundays
Fasting
Weekly
Celebration
Resurrection
Jesus
Wilderness
Indulgences
Inward
Spiritual
Renewal
Growth
Cross
Empty
Tomb
Redemption
Daffodils
Lencten



Other local church activities

March

Date	Time	Activity	Location
1st	3pm	Tea and worship in the hall	BHP Methodist
16th	2:15pm	Friendship Club <i>Ghosts of Enfield - Joe Studman</i>	Christ Church
26th	10.30am	Community coffee morning	BHP Methodist

Weekly

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Sun	6.30pm	Service (1st of the month is Café style, 4th of the month is Contemporary with the band)	Lancaster Road
Mon	10am	Ladies Bible Study	Living Room
	7.30pm	English Conversation Club	Living Room
	7.45pm	Prayer at Betty's (Fortnightly)	BHP Methodist
Tues	10am	Tots and Toys	Gospel Hall
	10.30am	United Prayer (1st and 3rd of the month)	Winchmore Hill Baptist
	1.30pm	Open House (Coffee and Chat)	Living Room
Wed	9.45am	Bible Study (Fortnightly)	Lancaster Road
	10am	Prayer (Fortnightly, alternates with above)	Lancaster Road
	2pm	Wednesday Fellowship (Talks from a variety of speakers, see Margaret Barbour for detail)	BHP Methodist
Thurs	1pm	Back to Life (Support Group / Board Games) starts with lunch	Living Room
Fri	10am	Shoppers Coffee Morning	Lancaster Road
	4pm	EPIC (Club for kids in years 3-6)	Gospel Hall
Sat	9am	Breakfast Club (1st and 3rd of the month)	Christ Church

Weekly Activities

- Monday** 6.15pm Boys' Brigade Junior Section
 7.30pm Boys' Brigade (Company Section)
 8.00pm Book Club (Once a month, see inside for date)
- Tuesday** 8.00pm House group (2nd & 4th Tuesday)
- Wednesday** 9.30am Baby & Toddler Group
 6.15pm Girls' Brigade
- Thursday** 7.30pm Boys' Brigade Company Section circuit training (when advised)
- Friday** 10.00am Baby & Toddler Group
 6.00pm Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
- Sunday** 9.30am Prayers (3rd Sunday)
 10.00am Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday)

