

Eynsham Baptist Church

Lombard Street, Eynsham, Oxford OX29 4HT
Minister - Revd Zoltan Biro

Newsletter – January 2018



SERVICES IN JANUARY

Sunday morning services include Creche and Junior Church. **Pre-service Prayers** in the church from 10.00 - 10.15 a.m. at which all are welcome.

HC = Holy Communion FHC = Family Holy Communion (creche have their own activities)

DATE	THEME FOR SUNDAY SERVICES The Christmas Gospel <i>contd.</i>	LEADER
Sunday 7th 10.30 a.m. <u>Epiphany Sunday</u>	The Gospel according to the Magi Matthew 2: 1-12	Revd. Malcolm Cook
Thursday 11th 12.00 noon	Mid-week Communion A short reflective service - all welcome	
Sunday 14th	<u>The Diversity of God's Calling</u>	
HC 10.30 a.m.	The calling of Simon Peter (Recognition) Luke 5: 1-11	Revd Zoltan Biro
3.00 p.m.	SONGS OF PRAISE - 'Cafe Style'	Revd Zoltan Biro
Thursday 18th 12.00 noon	Mid-week Communion A short reflective service - all welcome	
Sunday 21st 10.30 a.m.	The calling of Zebedee's sons (Departure) Matthew 4: 18-22	Revd Zoltan Biro
Thursday 25th 12.00 noon	Mid-week Communion A short reflective service - all welcome	
Sunday 28th FHC 10.30 a.m.	The calling of Matthew (Redemption) Matthew 9: 9-18	Revd Zoltan Biro

Lord of all, Creator of all, please shine your light into this dark world.
Reveal yourself afresh we pray. Bring new sight and understanding
to eyes blinded by commercialism, materialism, self-seeking
and cynicism.

At the start of this New Year, Lord, soften hearts and give wisdom,
so that many will search and find you, just as the wise men
searched and found you.

And for we who already know and love you, Lord, shine on us
that we might reflect your light and make a difference, day by day.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

by Daphne Kitching

DEACONS MEETING

Thursday 4th January at 7.30 p.m. Please pray for our Minister and Deacons as they seek God's leading for the church.

DEACONS AWAY DAY

Saturday 13th January from 10.00 a.m. at the Community of St Clare at Freeland. We thank God for Zoltan and our hard-working Deacons and pray that this will be a time of spiritual and physical refreshment for them as they reflect on the past year and seek God's guidance for the year ahead.

LUNCH CLUB

Thursday 18th January at 1.00 p.m. To book your place please speak to Pamela Thiele or Maureen Thompson.

EBC YOUTH CLUB

Friday 19th January from 6.30 p.m. Please continue to pray for those who attend. If anyone can offer help please speak to Zoltan.

CHURCH MEETING

Sunday 21st January 12.00 noon. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting at the start of a new year.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

22nd - 27th January The theme this year 'That All May Be Free' comes from the churches of the Caribbean, and addresses some of the problems which affect the people there, but also worldwide: human trafficking and modern-day slavery, addiction to pornography and drugs, the debt crisis: family life continues to be challenged by the economic restrictions which lead to migration, domestic abuse and violence. The village churches will be open for times of prayer as follows:

St Peter's Eynsham - Monday 22nd January

EBC - Tuesday 23rd January

St Leonard's - Wednesday 24th January

St Peter's Cassington - Thursday 25th January.

EBC MONTHLY DAY OF PRAYER

Thursday 25th January We are encouraged to pray specifically for EBC at some time during this day.

HOMELESS SUNDAY

Sunday 28th January is an opportunity for Christians to pray, reflect and take practical action to help the homeless in our communities. Many people in Eynsham already support Gatehouse by making cakes etc every 6 weeks. If you would also like to be involved you can get more details from Raymond & Revel Elliot on 01865 881346.

COFFEE AND CARNATIONS.

Monday 29th January We will be going to Yarnton Garden Centre. Please sign the list if you need or can offer a lift. We meet there in the cafe at 10.30 a.m.

HOME STUDY GROUPS and BETA GROUP

If you are not already in a group and would like to find one join please speak to Maureen Thompson.

TRADCRAFT STALL

Each Thursday between 9.45 - 11.15 a.m in our main hall. Derek sells Fairtrade goods and cards, as well as local free range eggs. **N.B. No stall on Thursday 4th January or Thursday 18th January.**

FOOD BANK

Collection points are Derek's Traidcraft stall, or the CO-OP. Donations go to the North Oxfordshire Food Bank whose area includes Eynsham. **All need to have at least 6 months to run on the 'use by date' please.**

ASYLUM WELCOME

There is a box at the back of the church for donated items: see Marcus Thompson for more details of how to help or see www.asylum-welcome.org

THE 114 CLUB

Tuesdays 7 - 9 p.m. at 114 Spareacre Lane - a sociable evening playing games like Rummikub, cribbage, etc - speak to David or Lin Miller for more details.

FORWARD NOTICES

GATEHOUSE

Sunday 4th February Supporting Oxford's homeless shelter with sandwiches, fruit and cake (preferably home-made). Please indicate sandwich content (cheese, egg, tuna or ham are very welcome), date prepared and maker's name. Home-made cakes need to be labelled showing any possible allergens. During the winter months they would also be grateful for warm hats, gloves, scarves etc.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 2nd March will be held at EBC this year. Further details to follow.

Sad News

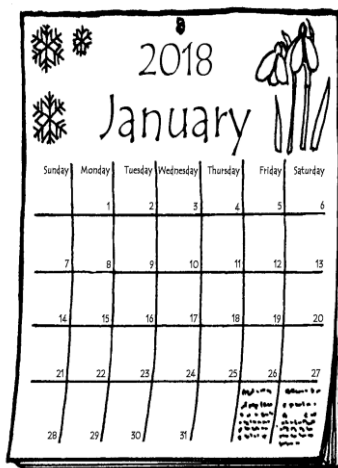
We send our deepest sympathy to Chris Ward whose husband Peter died on the 30th November 2017. We send our love and prayers to Chris and all the family, praying they will know God's comforting presence at this sad time and in the days ahead.

Congratulations

to Grace and Cliff Gamage on becoming great-grandparents.
Poppy Emilia was born on 20th November 2017
to Viki (Cliff's grand-daughter) and Andy.
We send our warm good wishes and prayers
for God's blessing on all the family.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS ?

At the start of a New Year while we all still have nice empty diaries



We could do with a few more people on the **Church Cleaning Rota** please. It only involves hoovering & dusting the church (not the halls, vestry or toilets) and if we had a couple more people on the list we would all only have to do it perhaps twice a year. Speak to Denise if you can help.

Please also remember to sign the **Sunday Coffee Rota** if you can either take a turn serving coffee after our morning services, or could occasionally provide biscuits and / or milk. Speak to Jean for more information.

TOOLS WITH A MISSION

a Christian charity sending tools across the world
www.twam.uk

If you still have any unwanted tools to donate please let David have them by Wednesday 3rd January at the latest.

Lester Amann (*writing in 'Parish Pump'*) considers what should happen AFTER we 'finish' Christmas:

Lights of the world

Our Christmas celebrations are over. As we tidy up and restore our homes to what they were like before Christmas, we might look back at our festivities and ponder on what was so special about it.

Jesus made clear that He came as light for the world. He came to give life in all its fullness. He came to show God's character - full of love, compassion, forgiveness and mercy.

So if, as we put away our Christmas decorations, we think there is no more to be said until next Christmas, we have missed out on a vital part of the Christian message. For Jesus also said that we, His followers, were to be the light of the world.....'*let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven*'. (Matthew 5:14-16). We are now involved! Jesus calls us, as His disciples, to be like Him this coming year - lights of hope, love, joy, healing and peace in a world that badly needs it.

A song by Graham Kendrick, 'Do Something Beautiful', urges us to: '*Do something beautiful in the name of Jesus*', and '*Go do something Jesus would*'.

Now that's a challenge for 2018 !

CHURCH CONTACTS

CHURCH OFFICE: 01865 882203 **Email:** eynsham.baptists@btinternet.com

Church Hall Bookings - 07900 066471 **Email:** rdavidmiller@yahoo.co.uk

MINISTER: Revd. Zoltan Biro - 881670 **Mobile 07846 653457**

Days off are generally Wednesday and Saturday: on these days please first contact Church Secretary or one of the Deacons. In an emergency Zoltan can be contacted by text or email. He will usually be in the church office on Thursdays.

CHURCH SECRETARY: Denise Launchbury - 881128

CHURCH TREASURER: Bob Thiele - 426203

CHURCH DEACONS: Angie Cox - 880563 Derek Malin - 884107
June Poole - 375130 Maureen Thompson - 881808
Sheila Wood - 01993 650263

Please make the Minister or Deacons aware of any in need of pastoral support so that they can initiate the appropriate action & offer prayer.

**Information for the February newsletter by Sunday 21st January to:
Lin Miller - Tel: 01865 881780 **Email:** rdavidmiller@yahoo.co.uk**

