

# 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 <b>The Christmas Gospel <i>contd.</i></b>	LEADER
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup></b> 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	
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>The Diversity of God's Calling</u></b>	
<b>HC</b> 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	
<b>Sunday 21st</b> 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	
<b>Sunday 28th</b> <b>FHC</b> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> January** at 1.00 p.m. To book your place please speak to Pamela Thiele or Maureen Thompson.

## **EBC YOUTH CLUB**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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**

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> January

**EBC** - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

**St Leonard's** - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January

**St Peter's Cassington** - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January.

## **EBC MONTHLY DAY OF PRAYER**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January** We are encouraged to pray specifically for EBC at some time during this day.

## **HOMELESS SUNDAY**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> January or Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> March** will be held at EBC this year. Further details to follow.

### **Sad News**

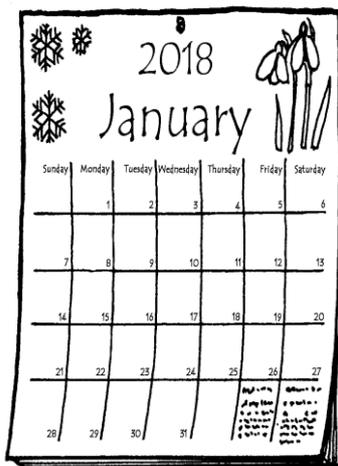
We send our deepest sympathy to Chris Ward whose husband Peter died on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017. We send our love and prayers to Chris and all the family, praying they will know God's comforting presence at this sad time and in the days ahead.

## Congratulations

to Grace and Cliff Gamage on becoming great-grandparents.  
Poppy Emilia was born on 20<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.twam.uk)

If you still have any unwanted tools to donate please let David have them by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:eynsham.baptists@btinternet.com)

**Church Hall Bookings** - 07900 066471 **Email:** [rdavidmiller@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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 21<sup>st</sup> January to:  
Lin Miller - Tel: 01865 881780 Email: [rdavidmiller@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rdavidmiller@yahoo.co.uk)**

