

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter - 3rd October 2020
Keeping us connected



SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER

SERVICE ON ZOOM
at 10.30 a.m.

Leader: Revd Zoltan Biro

Parables of the Kingdom

The location of the kingdom (everywhere) - Matthew 13:24-30

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499

Password: 024518

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75359341499?pwd=U1IYRzk3N1ppeTJDcjVPWG5kNFQwZz09>

You can also join on one of the following phone numbers: key in the Meeting ID followed by # and then Password also followed by #

0203 481 5240, 0203 481 5237, 0203 051 2874, 0131 460 1196

OTHER SERVICES ON SUNDAY

8.10 a.m. BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship

2.00 p.m. BBC 1 Songs of Praise

Monday to Friday Short daily service at 9.45 a.m. on BBC Radio 4 LW

DAILY HOPE - 0800 804 8044

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England. The line is available 24 hours a day.

SCBA REFLECTION

(Southern Counties Baptist Assoc.)

Thanks to Denise for sharing these links: they are always well worth watching.

'3mph' by Joth Hunt

<https://youtu.be/z8ZdsS8qONQ>

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Marta (2nd), Maureen R (12th), Denise L (18th), Nick W (20th), Kathy (24th)

EBC DEACONS MEETING

Tuesdays at 11.00 a.m. Please pray for Zoltan and our Deacons.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 11 a.m. All are welcome. We are studying the book of Ruth.

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Passcode: 994274

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82120898795?pwd=ejN4RU8rSkpDRFlxYlJQbEhHUytlZz09>

FORTHCOMING

SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER service in EBC at 10.30 a.m.

The service will also be live-streamed on YouTube

Following this service there will be a Special Church Meeting at 11.30 a.m. This is for more discussion on EBC's future plans: no other items on agenda.

FACE COVERINGS MUST BE WORN at the service and the meeting and we shall be maintaining social distancing. **Anyone one wishing to attend must let Sheila know** either by email sheila.wood1952@gmail.com or phone 01993 650263.

PRAYER

We pray this week for Messy Church, and our Junior Church members who have started back at school after a long break. We particularly pray for Anna as she has now left home for University: we pray that she will know God's guiding presence as she embarks on this new phase of her life. We also remember Zoltan, Marta, Philip and Patrik as they deal with this change in their family life.



This was held on the playing field and 18 Mums, Dads and children attended - all sat in their bubbles! We had a great time in the sunshine playing games, singing, playing football and eating cakes!

You may feel that you cannot run obstacle races or play football, but you may wish to make a few cakes occasionally and most important of all you can pray. Please pray for our young families that we may be able to show them Gods love and welcome them into our church even in these difficult times.

June

Christ at the core! (Philippians 3: 4a-14)

Every advantage that I had gained I considered lost for Christ's sake... For his sake I did in fact suffer the loss of everything but compared with being able to be with Christ, I considered it useless dung anyways (vs. 7&8, ZBV)

What we value the most in life is often reflected in how we spend our time and resources. People who like to experience different cultures and explore new places often spend their time (and money) travelling.

At one point apostle Paul spent all his time and resources pursuing a successful career as a devout Pharisee, but by the time he writes to the Philippians, the course of his life changed, so that he spends all his time and energy pursuing Christ. Previously he was pursuing and imprisoning Christians, while at the time of writing he himself was imprisoned for Christ.

In our text, the apostle uses business accounting language to explain how the value of his self-confidence diminished and was replaced with a confidence in the faithfulness of Christ.

Paul describes how in his old "religion" personal virtues were acquired by fulfilling certain external requirements, such as provenance, circumcision, dedication, self-restraint and being above reproach. From the perspective of the Pharisees he was classed as blameless. From the outside his life looked perfect – he was a respected member of the Jewish society destined to become an influential national leader in the Jewish council.

But in verse 7 Paul contrasts his old mindset and actions with new ones, using phrases such as "gain" and "loss". In order to make a profit, he counts all

his external advantages as "loss" and counts knowing Christ as "gain." The apostle uses extraordinarily strong language here, he asserts that the highly rated aspects of his previous life are no more than a pile of manure on the road. Using this language, the apostle highlights that profitable living in the household of God means more than achieving, wealth or earthly status, it means "attaining to the resurrection of the dead" (verses 11, 12, and 14).

Paul values knowing Christ because he has come to see that only in union with Christ, and not on account of his natural qualities or achievements, may he stand before God. The only result of the self-accomplishment mumbo-jumbo is that directs our attention from the greatness of God to satisfying ourselves. So, in the pursuit of everlasting contentment this concept is useless.

In light of this, what do we value most as individuals and as a church community? Perhaps we value certain inherited characteristics of our building or worship, maybe we value our achievements as "gains" even to the point when they come before God.

Prayer: *Loving God, help me to live out faith not only by ticking boxes, but by becoming one with Christ. Through the power of your Holy Spirit help me to count nothing of value above knowing Christ and press on towards the ultimate prize, of being one with him. And may God's perfect word revive my soul; May Christ Jesus be my saviour and my rock; and may the Holy Spirit strengthen me to press ever onward. In the name of Christ. Amen.*

Zoltan



ONE WORLD WEEK SALE

Saturday 24th October

10-12 noon in The Square

There will be stalls for Baphumelele, BMS and the Bronze project in Uganda (updates for Baphumelele and Bronze below). There may be one or two others, but these are the only confirmed ones so far. Offers of help would be appreciated.

BAPHUMELELE STALL

Thank you so much to Ann Gurdon, Margaret Hedges, Christine Russell and Pam Breeze who have organised and run this stall for several years. I hope they enjoy their well-deserved retirement from the organisational demands, although I know there will still be some baking and crafting!

This year ours will be one of 3/4 stalls set up in The Square and meeting the legal requirements of the present COVID situation.

Please could I ask for 2 or 3 volunteers to help run the stall on the Saturday morning? Gazebos will be set up to provide some shelter. **Masks would need to be worn.**

We will sell cakes/biscuits/jams and pickles. There will also be an area for craft (Ann is already making her cards & crackers) and another for bric-a-brac in good condition please. We already have some nearly new DVDS and jigsaw puzzles (Ravensburger) but any

unwanted gifts and nearly new items would be gratefully received.

Please could I ask people to contact me or Barbara Cook with offers of cakes?

They can be one large cake, tray bakes or individual small cakes. These would need to be wrapped well in cellophane or something else transparent, as part of this year's necessary COVID measures and to enable people to see what they are buying! I will provide sticky labels for pricing.

We are very lucky to have Lin preparing the Newsletter for us each week so we can all keep in touch and there will be further information appearing in future editions.

I'm coordinating the stall this year, so please do ring or email me if you have any queries or can offer help on the day or with making cakes.

Kay Jerred

Email: kay.jerred22@gmail.com

Tel: 01993 209827 Mob: 07929867437

Baphumelele staff are thrilled we are making these efforts to help them in these extremely difficult times.

Thank you to everyone who gave Gifts at the Harvest Service and we will put this money with the amount from the stall and get it straight to Baphumelele.

With grateful thanks,

Kay

BRONZE HEALTHCARE INITIATIVE

the latest from Larry & June

Uganda has been very successful in preventing the spread of Coronavirus, and has so far restricted the number of deaths to 75. As for many nations around the world, the toll on their economy is huge, but they are managing to get people back to work. Busia is a border town, lying between Uganda and Kenya, and a huge number of trucks pass through in both directions every day. Sadly, the lorry drivers tend to be spreaders of disease, whether it be HIV/AIDS in past years or COVID-19 today, so the population is somewhat susceptible to these influences.

Sam and Julian are continuing to offer a wonderful service to their maternity patients, and are gradually recovering from the massive drop in income in March to June. EBC members have



been so generous in their financial support, and we continue to send over £600 each month to them. The amount they are able to divert to the new building is

increasing, and this month, two church members kindly provided one-off gifts of £100. We were rather tickled that this



cash was used to titivate the new toilet block, which now boasts an African-style squat loo, and a shower with lovely tiling, and a final coat of paint. A posher, sit-down toilet will

follow as the money allows.

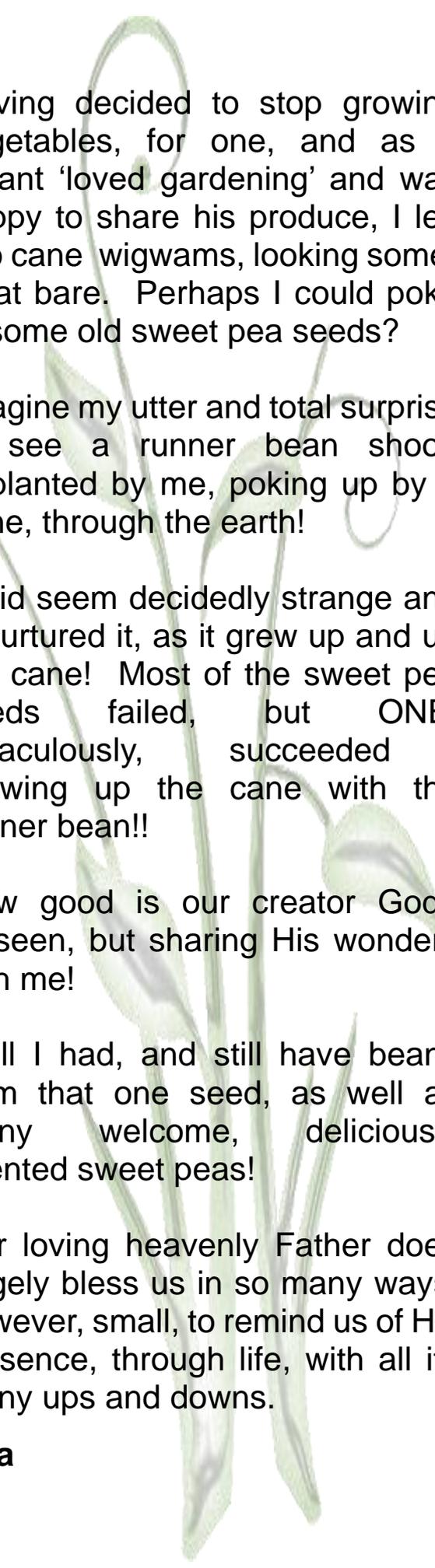
The water tower I mentioned last time is now complete, so they won't run out of water to flush or shower! For the time being, it is only the builders who can take advantage of these facilities, but it does ensure greater productivity on site!



Much of the infrastructure around the compound is taking shape. There is now an incinerator and a placenta pit. The current drive is to finish painting the inside and outside of the main building.

The next part of the project is to install an electricity supply (£1000) and wiring in the new clinic (£750). Anything you can spare to progress this work would be much appreciated.

Larry & June



Having decided to stop growing vegetables, for one, and as a tenant 'loved gardening' and was happy to share his produce, I left two cane wigwams, looking somewhat bare. Perhaps I could poke in some old sweet pea seeds?

Imagine my utter and total surprise, to see a runner bean shoot, unplanted by me, poking up by a cane, through the earth!

It did seem decidedly strange and I nurtured it, as it grew up and up the cane! Most of the sweet pea seeds failed, but ONE, miraculously, succeeded in growing up the cane with the runner bean!!

How good is our creator God? Unseen, but sharing His wonders with me!

Well I had, and still have beans from that one seed, as well as many welcome, deliciously scented sweet peas!

Our loving heavenly Father does hugely bless us in so many ways, however, small, to remind us of His presence, through life, with all its many ups and downs.

Una

ASYLUM WELCOME

Donations still needed. Please speak to Marcus Thompson on 01865 881808.

EYNHAM COMMUNITY LARDER

Anyone who is finding it difficult to buy the food they need can request help, either a regular or a one-off food parcel. If you, or anyone you know, needs help, call Bob Thiele on 07738 063083 or email eynshamhelp@gmail.com and ask for further information. **Donation points** in Co-op, Spar and The Market Garden.

EYNHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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Barbara Cook - 375730

Denise Launchbury - 881128

Derek Malin - 884107

June Poole - 375130

Maureen Thompson - 881808

Sue Law - 07796 955472

Please make Zoltan or Deacons aware of any pastoral needs.

Contributions to linmiller25@gmail.com or ring 01865 881780 (*subject to space constraints and editorial discretion*).