

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter - 14th November 2020

Keeping us connected



SUNDAY 15th NOVEMBER

**SERVICE ON ZOOM
at 10.30 a.m.**

Leader: Revd Zoltan Biro

Parables of the End Times - Being ready - *Matthew 25: 1-13*

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499 Password: 024518

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

You can also join on one of these phone numbers - enter ID & Password when prompted: 0203 481 5240, 0203 051 2874, 0131 460 1196, 0203 481 5237,

OTHER SERVICES ON SUNDAY

8.10 a.m. BBC Radio 4 Worship
1.15 p.m. BBC 1 Songs of Praise

Monday to Friday

Daily service at 9.45 a.m.
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 at the end of a phone - 24 hours a day.

SCBA REFLECTION

'Fear Not!' by Amy Allen

<https://youtu.be/E3zcm4rs6QE>

EBC DEACONS MEETING

11.00 a.m. on Tuesdays. Please pray for Zoltan & our Deacons.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Thursday at 11 a.m. All are welcome.

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Passcode: 994274

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82120898795?pwd=ejN4RU8rSkp-DRF1xYlJQbEhHUytIZz09>

ADVENT QUIET DAY ON ZOOM

Saturday 28th November

10 - 12.30 p.m.

Due to the current Covid19 lockdown, we are, unfortunately, unable to hold our Advent Away Day at Freeland Convent. However, Zoltan will be leading a virtual Advent Away Day for those who have access to the internet.

This will take place on Saturday 28th November commencing at 10 a.m. and closing with Holy Communion at 12.30 p.m.

You will not be required to sit at your computer screen continually as Zoltan will arrange the time so people can “dip in and out” as necessary.

Please contact Zoltan or Denise if you wish to join us for this time together.

Maureen Roberts Funeral

Maureen's funeral will be held on Monday 23rd November at 12 noon at South Oxfordshire Crematorium. Due to current restrictions attendance is limited to family, but there will be a live webcast of the service so people can join virtually with George and the family to pay their respects. Login on Website:

<https://www.obitus.com/>

Username: Biso3448

Password: 695971

PRAYER

We give thanks for answers to prayer: Margaret Hedges is now out of hospital and so is Zoltan's father and both are recovering at home. We send our love and prayers for a swift return to health for both of them. We pray for all those suffering ill health at the moment.

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of His glory, He may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through His Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:14-21 (NRSV)

ASYLUM WELCOME

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

EYNESHAM 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.

Being satisfied by God

(Deuteronomy 11:10-15)

In Egypt when you planted grain, you had to work hard to irrigate the fields with your foot; but the land that you are about to enter is a land of mountains and valleys, a land watered by rain. The Lord your God takes care of and watches over it throughout the year. (Vs. 10-12, GNT)

Among the biblical books Deuteronomy is portrayed as the farewell message of Moses before he passes away. After leading Israel out of Egypt and guiding them for 40 years in the wilderness he passes on his staff to Joshua.

Some commentators interpret this book as a series of lectures on the application of the Law. It describes Kosher behaviour which includes food, sacrifice, and clothing, but it also addresses the issue of why the law should be obeyed?

In our passage the “lecturer” explains that faithful obedience to the law is the natural outcome of acknowledging God’s provision. Unlike in Egypt where human effort and inventiveness could produce crops even without rain due to the constant flow River Nile, in the Promised Land they are dependent on seasonal rain.

In Egypt, they dug trenches, canals, and transport water from the Nile to irrigate the land. The expression, “with your foot” probably refers to some kind of pumping wheels, propelled by foot. In a way, the land can be watered by human effort and there is no need to depend on rain from the sky only on hard work, toil and sweat.

BUT not so in the land of Canaan. Filled with mountains and valleys, with the River Jordan miles away, people had to dig wells to get water. The Promised land is a place where the provision of water depends on “God sending rain”.

The result of this is that “*there will be grain, wine, and olive oil for you, and grass for your livestock. You will have all the food you want.*” (vs. 14,15)

Trust God to provide and you will be *satisfied!* In Egypt, you depended on human efforts, however when you step into this Promised Land, you have to depend on God. This new land will be different than what you were used to in Egypt where you could rely on your own effort, but if God has provided you for the last 40 years in the wilderness, you should trust Him to provide you in the new land that has limited resources.

When God puts us in a situation that seems to be beyond our ability to survive, it is never a comfortable place to be in. BUT it is in such a circumstance that we learn to depend on God fully. It is through such times we grow spiritually and our trust in God deepens.

As a church we are in a similar situation as Israel was before they entered the Promised land. As we seek the future of the church, we know we have to cross the Jordan, but it is frightening. Egypt is out of the question, the wilderness is only a temporary solution, but we only have limited resources. What we are left with in this situation is God’s presence and provision which I believe should be enough.

Prayer: *Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come? Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home? When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He: His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free. For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.* (Civilla D. Martin, 1905)

Zoltan

**Shared by Mary, Shirley's
sister-in-law**

Will your anchor hold
in the storms of life,
When the clouds unfold
their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift,
and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift or firm remain?

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
Steadfast and sure while the
billows roll;
Fastened to the rock which
cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the
Saviour's love!*

Will your anchor hold
in the straits of fear
When the breakers roar
and the reef is near?
While the surges rage,
and the wild winds blow,
Shall the angry waves then your bark
o'erflow?

Will your anchor hold
in the floods of death,
When the waters cold
chill your latest breath?
On the rising tide
you can never fail,
While your anchor holds within the veil.

Will your eyes behold
through the morning light,
The city of gold and
the harbour bright?
Will you anchor safe
by the heavenly shore,
When life's storms are past
for evermore?

*Priscilla J Owens
(1829 - 1907)*

Shared by Kaye Pritchard

A Titanic Sacrifice

A letter written on Titanic stationary, dated April 11th, 1912, by **Pastor John Harper** is to be auctioned on November 14th at the Henry Aldridge Auction House in Devizes, Wiltshire.

At the time of the Titanic disaster, Harper, who was 39, was a widower with a six-year-old daughter, Annie Jessie, and was pastor of **Walworth Road Baptist Church** in London. He was travelling with his daughter and sister Jessie Leitch to Chicago to preach for several weeks at the Moody Church, where he had been guest minister the previous Autumn.

His daughter and sister were put on a lifeboat and survived, but Harper stayed on board and gave his life jacket to a fellow passenger. Contemporary accounts state that Harper preached the Gospel to the end (especially Acts 16:31), first aboard the sinking ship, and then afterwards to those in the freezing water, before succumbing to the inevitable.

The letter is estimated at £30,000 to £50,000, but the sacrifice John Harper made was beyond price.

What an inspiration! I hope it gives us all to think of what we would be prepared to sacrifice.

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Lombard Street, Eynsham, OX29 4HT

Tel: 01865 882203

eynsham.baptists@btinternet.com

MINISTER: Revd. Zoltan Biro

Tel: 01865 881670

Mobile 07846 653457

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Sheila Wood - 01993 650263

CHURCH TREASURER:

Bob Thiele - 01865 426203

DEACONS:

Angie Cox - 880563

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*).