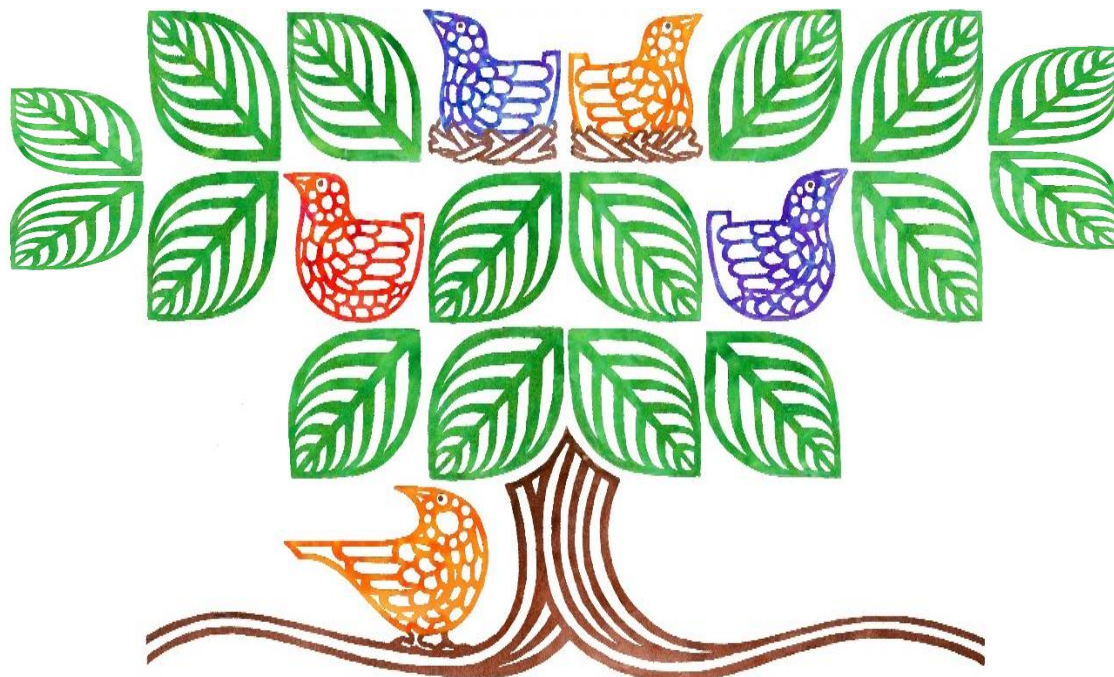


EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter - 10th October 2020

Keeping us connected



The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed - it is the smallest of seeds, but when it grows, it is big enough for the wild birds to come and build nests in its branches.

Matthew 13:31-32

SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER

SERVICE ON ZOOM at 10.30 a.m.

Leaders: Revd Richard Crippen and Janet Gaukroger

Parables of the Kingdom

Kingdom growth *Matthew 13: 31-33*

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499 Password: 024518

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75359341499?pwd=U1lYRzk3N1ppeTJDcjVPWG5kNFQwZz09>

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

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

OTHER SERVICES ON SUNDAY

8.10 a.m. BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship

1.15 p.m. BBC 1 Songs of Praise

Monday to Friday

9.45 a.m. BBC Radio 4 LW
Short daily service

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 telephone line. The line is available 24 hours a day.

SCBA REFLECTION

'**Halcyon Days**' by Colin Norris

<https://youtu.be/IEH00B0c9LE>

Birthdays list: please add Richard Crippen's birthday on 27th October.

EBC DEACONS MEETING

11.00 a.m. on Tuesdays. 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>

SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER

Service at 10.30am in EBC
(live-streamed on YouTube)

FACE COVERINGS MUST BE WORN

and we shall maintain social distancing. **Anyone one wishing to attend must let Sheila know** either by email sheila.wood1952@gmail.com or phone 01993 650263.

This will be followed by a **SPECIAL CHURCH MEETING** at 11.20am in the church. It will also be on Zoom, but anyone attending **in person must let Sheila know in advance.**

ONE WORLD WEEK SALE

Saturday 24th October

10 - 12 noon in The Square

The COVID rules are very important for everyone's safety and to abide by Council requirements. There will be a One-Way system set up to access and leave the stalls. **Please can all stall holders wear masks.** Many thanks.

Baphumelele Stall: It has been decided to ask anyone who has crafts or nearly new bric-a-brac for the Baphumelele Stall to bring them to the church on TUESDAY 20th October between 12 - 1pm please, where Angie will be ready to receive them. If you are unable to leave your home or manage that time, please let Angie Cox know and she will arrange a collection. This allows a good 3 days where items won't be touched.

Cakes need to be wrapped in cellophane or the like and brought to the stall by 9.45 am on the Saturday morning please. Pam Breeze has kindly offered cake wrap for anyone who needs it. Any further offers of cakes/jams etc. to Kay Jerred or Barbara Cook: a few more would be wonderful!

Helpers: If you could help serving on the Baphumelele stall on the Saturday morning, please do get in touch. Ideally we need two more people, so that others can take a break. **You will need to wear a mask and gloves will be provided.** There will be a few chairs if people need a sit down. Thank you for all the support so far; it's really appreciated.

Kay Jerred

Tel: 01993 209827

Mob: 07929867437

Email: kay.jerred22@gmail.com

Living in Harmony

(Philippians 4:1-9)

Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and my gold medal, stand firm in the Lord (...) I urge Euodia & Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help them, for they are co-athletes in spreading the Gospel. (vs. 1-3, ZBV).

Reflecting on the past year it become more and more clear to me that political rhetoric can cause lasting social division, so much so that people living in the same country could inhabit different worlds, watching different news channels, listening to different radio debates, reading different newspapers. We tend to have discussions with like-minded people and often lack having dialogues with people who hold different views, different opinions, different ways of life. Ever since the Brexit vote I feel that we are on the lookout to support or oppose causes. We had pro-Brexit and anti-Brexit demonstrations, Pro-lockdown and anti-lockdown protests, or pro-BlackLivesMatter and anti-BlackLivesMatter marches. It feels like a wedge is being driven into the core of our society.

In the Philippian church, the alleged conflict between Syntyche and Euodia seems to have bothered Paul. We do not really know the exact nature of this conflict. Maybe there is no conflict at all, simply different views, different positions. After all difference is a fact of life.

In spite of their differences, Paul here encourages them to “live in harmony.” Translated literally what Paul is saying “I encourage you to be likeminded (to think the same thing).” Moreover, in the next verse Paul describes both of them as people who were running in the stadium with Paul. Athletics in ancient Greece was for males only. Only males competed. Only males watched. By calling Euodia and Syntyche his co-athletes, Paul does two things at once. He silences people who promote gender-based division in the church and at the same time he insists on their cooperation.

Here Paul reminds Syntyche and Euodia (and us) that of course there are differences in the church, but what is also important to remember is our sense of togetherness, our collectiveness, what we have in common. Our differences should not hinder us from working together for the common good. This sense of togetherness is a way of life rather than a system of thought. It refers to an attitude that welcomes and works with others. It is no surprise, therefore, that when Paul speaks of rejoicing or gentleness in verses 4 and 5, he uses a plural expression – of doing these things together. The word rejoice in verse 4 is a plural verb, it refers to a collective rejoicing, a communal feeling of gladness. So, rejoicing in this text refers not to a personal state of being, but to a communal atmosphere of joyfully embracing difference. Instead of turning differences into an ugly fight, differences are to be welcomed in a joyful way. This does not mean that we should eventually think the same thing or achieve a North-Korean style uniformity, but it is about interactive togetherness and interrelated collectivity.

For example, fighting the spread of COVID-19 or global warming, should not be an *us-them* issue. Would it not be better that we all be “co-fighters” and “co-workers” in this unprecedented time in history when the virus has spread to every corner of the

world like wildfire? Or can we not set aside our political loyalties and see our response to global warming as a common fight for the future of humanity?

Prayer: *God who is One, You call us to be one, may we be one with all who are made in Your image. God who is Three, You call us to be community, may we find community with all who are called by Your name. God who calls us all by Your name, may find our place in Your eternal family. Amen*

Zoltan

A WALK AROUND EYNSHAM

Saturday 24th October
12 noon

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and as some of you know my daughter Sue is recovering from breast cancer surgery. She is organizing a walk around Eynsham at 12 noon on 24th October for **Breast Cancer Now**. If you feel you would like to donate she has a JustGiving page or donations can come to me.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/pinksue?utm_source=sms

There are a lot of requests for good causes at the moment so absolutely no pressure. Many thanks.

June

Anna has gone off to uni in Bournemouth this week. Her course will not start until October 12 but current restrictions mean that the students are moving in gradually. So it's rather quiet in the accommodation block, and none of the usual freshers events are happening. Post is always welcome for students, so please do send her a card or a letter so she will feel supported by her EBC family: Anna Biro

804F Oxford Point
13-17 Oxford Road
Bournemouth
BH8 8GS

Email: annabiro4@gmail.com

Janet

BAPHUMELELE GIFT DAY

The total amount given for Baphumelele Children's Home has reached the wonderful sum of £1,175. Many thanks to everyone who gave and to those who have held the children and staff in their prayers.

This will be added to the amount raised at the Baphumelele Stall for 'One World Week'.

Kay

EYNSHAM CAR SCHEME

Eynsham Car Scheme which takes older village residents, and those with restricted mobility, to their health care appointments is back in business post lockdown, but with a much smaller volunteer team than in the past. And now the NHS is trying to catch up. So we need to find more volunteer drivers who are under age 70.

There is no regular commitment – just look at the list of requests on email and offer what you can. Even one or two journeys per month would help us not to turn down people who need a lift. We pay your mileage expenses.

To learn more, call the car scheme number: 07469 764174.

Dora Durbridge



Kay has shared this photo of the headstone in St Leonard's churchyard, for the many friends of Dora and Roy who were unable to attend dear Dora's funeral because of COVID and who may not be able to visit the churchyard in person (*with kind permission from Shirley, Julie and Joy*). It would have been Dora's 97th birthday on 13th October. The plaque on the memorial bench at EBC has been updated to show both Dora and Roy's name.

PRAYER

There are many people in our families and community needing our prayers and we continue to remember them all. Also we particularly focus on two events this week.

World Mental Health day Saturday 10th October 2020

Heavenly Father, we bring to you all those struggling with their mental health just now.

We pray:

for everyone who is smiling, when
inside they are in pain;

for everyone who is saying they're fine,
when inside they feel drained & empty;

for everyone struggling with fear and
worry as the easing of the lockdown
brings new anxieties.

Be with them in their suffering, as so
much of their world has been stripped
back and emptied. When loved family
and friends have been taken by illness,
or made distant by lockdown.

Pour your healing balm into their pain
and sadness. May you walk with them
besides still waters. May you speak to
them in a still small voice. May you heal
them, and fill them, and bless them with
your abundant love and fullness of life.

And may they know that they are loved
by you for the beautiful unique person
that they are, created in the image of
their heavenly creator and loving Lord.

In the Name of the Father, the Son and
the Holy Spirit, Amen.

by Revd Peter Crumpler - in Parish Pump

Prisons Sunday Sunday 11th October

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.
We pray for those in prison. Break the
bonds of fear and isolation that exist.
Support with your love prisoners and
their families and friends, prison staff
and all who care. Heal those who have
been wounded by the actions of others,
especially the victims of crime. Help us
to forgive one another, to act justly, love
mercy and walk humbly together with
Christ in his strength and in his Spirit,
now and every day. Amen.

Monday 12th October marks the 175th anniversary of the death of prison reformer and philanthropist **ELIZABETH FRY** (1780 - 12th October 1845). I hate the modern word 'activist', but have long admired this remarkable woman.

She was born in Norwich, Norfolk to a prominent Quaker family - her father was a partner in Gurney's Bank, her mother a member of the Barclay family, among the founders of Barclays Bank. She re-dedicated her life to Christ at the age of 18, devoting herself to helping the downtrodden, continuing to do so after marriage to London merchant Joseph Fry (and eleven children).

She was a minister of the Society of Friends, travelling in England and Europe inspecting prisons, and writing reports that helped transform gaols from "pits of indecency and brutality" to more humane places with an interest in reform. She made frequent visits to Newgate Prison in London, suggesting radical improvements that were adopted both there and in other prisons. She read the Bible to inmates and gave Bibles away and became known as 'the angel of prisons'. In 1818 she became the first woman to present evidence in Parliament, giving evidence to a House of Commons committee on conditions in British prisons. Her insights led to the Prison Reform Act of 1823.

Much admired during her lifetime, and since, she was depicted on the British £5 note from 2001 to 2016.

Large Print New Testament & Psalms

available for anyone who has need of it. It is a hardback copy in the Authorised King James Version. Email or ring Lin linmiller25@gmail.com - 01865 881780.

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.

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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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 the Deacons aware of any pastoral needs.

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