

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter - 9th May 2020

Keeping us connected while staying apart



EBC SERVICE ON ZOOM

SUNDAY 10th MAY at 10.30 a.m.

This week's service will focus on Christian Aid week.

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

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499

Password: 024518

(Connection details are the same each week.)

You can also join these meetings on the telephone by calling one of the following geographical numbers and keying in first the Meeting ID followed by the # key and then keying in the Password also followed by the # key.

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

OTHER SERVICES ON SUNDAY

BBC Radio Oxford 8.00 a.m. Service

BBC1 at 10.45 a.m. Sunday Worship (*do check as times are often subject to change*)

BBC1 at 1.15 p.m. Songs of Praise

KIDLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH at 10.30 a.m. livestream on

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTELwMgnV32L3Uf6jTXnOog>

NORTHWEST BAPTIST ASSOCIATION at 10.30 a.m.

www.nwba.org.uk

DURING THE WEEK

VLOGS IN THE TIME OF CORONA

Stephen Gaukroger's daily encouragements on www.clariontrust.org.uk/our-thinking

A TOUR THROUGH THE BIBLE

Revd Dr Helen Paynter's daily vlog <https://youtu.be/pww5eFHVop4>

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

At the beginning of the week László Péntes, the emergency nurse from Southampton, (*a school friend of Zoltan*) was still on a ventilator and as the days were passing had less and less chance to recover. However, our prayers were not in vain. On Thursday afternoon he was taken off the ventilator and out of the coma. He is a long way away from full recovery, so let us continue to pray for him and his family.

We also remember Jane Hale in our prayers who is in hospital and pray for her recovery to full health. (*Jane is OASIS Secretary.*)

DEACONS' MEETING

11.00 a.m. on Tuesdays via Zoom - please pray for Zoltan and the Deacons as they meet together.

CHURCH BIBLE STUDY on Zoom

Thursday 14th May at 11.00 a.m.

1 Thessalonians. EVERYONE IS WELCOME (connection details the same each week).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82120898795?pwd=ejN4RU8rSkpDRFlxYlJQbEhHUytIZz09>

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Password: 994274

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 10th - 16th May 2020



The Christian Aid red envelope has long been symbolic of Christian Aid Week and the commitment of volunteers who deliver it each year. This May we need to do things differently so Christian Aid have launched an e-Envelope. You can create and send a personal message, picture or video to friends and family continuing to raise funds for people living in poverty around the world - more important than ever with the coronavirus: go to website on <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week> For people without internet access unfortunately under the current circumstances regarding Covid-19 there is a delay in processing donations by post. Please call 020 7523 2269 to donate by telephone.

OASIS

The OASIS Committee have decided that, as it is not possible to hold the May Spring Reunion or arrange the activity days in August due to the present uncertainty, we will organise a Day of Celebration as soon as restrictions are lifted. Details and posters will be put around the village when there is a date.

The value of a person

(1 Peter 2:4-10)

“You, however, are special people, a chosen lineage, a royal house, a priesthood, a holy nation, this is why you are to proclaim the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were nobodies, but now you are God’s people. Once you knew nothing about mercy, but now you have experienced mercy.”
(vs. 9-10 ZBV)

In the first century Mediterranean society *honour* was a pivotal value, and this was precisely what the recipients of this letter lacked in the eyes of their unbelieving neighbours. For these early believers becoming a Christian was more than just a private matter. As Christians they renounced the polytheistic worldview not only intellectually, but also in their conduct. Disregarding the spring fertility festivals (Floralia) brought not only dishonour to them and their families, but at times of low crop yields they were directly blamed for displeasing Juno the “Queen of Gods” and the God of Fertility.

During such times early Christians were often ostracised and socially isolated. The value of their life was in a state of negative equity. They not only had to deal with low crop yields themselves, but their community looked at them as *“a stumbling block and a rock of offence”* (v. 8). Under these circumstances most of us would feel worthless and would be tempted to give up faith in favour of social recognition (honour).

Apostle Peter recognises the dilemma of the addressees and acknowledges that their insecurity springs from being lonely and rejected by their community. So, he reminds them that the real value of a person can only be determined by God the Master-builder, who chose them to be His V.I.P.’s. They are royalties, priests, and exceptional human beings. They were nobodies, but by experiencing God’s mercy they came out from the shadows to become champions of the light.

During the current crisis, many honourable individuals crumbled under pressure and at the same time others as cornerstones offered valuable moral standards and like capstones maintained their integrity. After all, as Martin Luther King once said *“the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”*

Prayer *Lord, it is a privilege and an honour to be chosen by the Almighty God. I pray that You will continue to help me to live in Your mercy. And with Your help I will forever remain in Your marvellous light as light will always overcome darkness. In Jesus name. Amen.*

Zoltan



A free phonenumber of hymns,
reflections and prayers

0800 804 8044

Are you in need of some daily
hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone
line for you to ring to hear
comforting hymns, daily prayers
and reflections.



CONNECTIONS

unable to join online church services in mind. Callers to the line hear a short greeting from the Archbishop before being able to choose from a range of options, including hymns, prayers, reflections and advice on COVID-19. The service is supported by the Church of England as well as the Connections group based at Holy Trinity Claygate in Surrey and the Christian charity Faith in Later Life.

(Taken from an article in Parish Pump)

DAILY HOPE

A free phone line offering hymns, prayers, and reflections 24 hours a day while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus received more than 6,000 calls in the first 48 hours. Calls came from across the country and have so far spanned more than 50,000 minutes, with some of those accessing the service listening to the music, prayers and reflections for up to 50 minutes at a time.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, recently launched 'Daily Hope' as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes, during the lockdown period. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those

The truth is...

(1 Corinthians 15:19-26)

“If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied “

Christ has indeed been raised from the dead!
This is the true, real and wonderful good news story.

Thank God that in this world of chaos,
Lies and fake-news messengers and moaners
Here is truth to sustain and encourage ...

Christ has indeed been raised from the dead.

He has overcome the world.
He has overcome death.

Everything is bearable, faceable and possible,
Sense and purpose restored, because ...

Christ has indeed been raised from the dead.

Easter changes everything.

Love wins.
Hallelujah!

Daphne Kitching

Shared by Annamae

EBC Junior Church

To Everyone,
Hope you are all well and I will see you all soon. I hope you like my poem.
Love Annamae x

Can you see the sun shining in the sky?
Lambs being born and birds flying high
Trees are swaying as the Winter starts to die.
Don't worry about the future
Just be happy with what you have
Water to drink and food to eat
So cheer up and don't be sad.

SPECIAL PLANT SALE (Eynsham Country Market)
Thursday 14th May at 11 - 5 p.m. outside 24 Old Witney Road.

Inner Peace

*If you can start the day without caffeine,
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
If you can conquer tension without medical help,
If you can relax without alcohol,
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,
Then You Are Probably The Family Dog!*

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(subject to the usual editorial discretion and space constraints).

EYNSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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PLEASE MAKE ZOLTAN OR DEACONS AWARE OF ANY PASTORAL NEEDS.

