

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter - 30th May 2020

Keeping us connected while staying apart



EBC SERVICE ON ZOOM

SUNDAY 31st MAY at 10.30 a.m.

We shall be celebrating communion at this service (with bread only) so please have a piece of bread ready. The service sheet is attached. Those not able to join us on Zoom can still join with us whilst at home.

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499

Password: 024518

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

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

9.00 a.m. BBC Radio Oxford Service

11.00 a.m. BBC1 Sunday Worship (*times subject to change*)

1.15 p.m. BBC1 Songs of Praise

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



DEACONS' MEETING

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

BIBLE STUDY on Zoom

Thursdays at 11.00 a.m. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

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

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Password: 994274

PRAYER

We continue to pray for Jane Hale who has had a second operation and is still in hospital. Prayer is also asked for David's great-niece Katy who is in hospital with pneumonia. Katy has Down's Syndrome and, although responding to treatment, is very anxious. Please also pray for Katy's parents. We also remember Margaret and Kay and anyone who is recovering from illness or injury.

ASYLUM WELCOME

Donations are still very much needed please: speak to Marcus Thompson on 01865 881808.

EYNESHAM COMMUNITY LARDER (FOOD BANK re-named)

There is a well-stocked food larder, funded by Eynsham residents for residents of Eynsham and surrounding villages. 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 your number to eynshamhelp@gmail.com and ask for further information. There is a collection point for donations in the Co-op.

“Many churches across the country have reported that more people are visiting their services streamed live online than have ever come to their church buildings in normal times. We thank God for this opportunity to welcome them as we express and share our faith in Sunday worship. It is clear that this is a time of great challenge but also an unprecedented opportunity.”

(reported in 'Parish Pump')

Pentecost: God's Power on Display

(1 Corinthians 12:4-13)

There are different kinds of service to God, but it is the same Lord we are serving. The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church.

(1 Corinthians 12: 5&7, TLB)

When I think about Pentecost the picture that comes to my mind is an explosion. Not a destructive kind of explosion, but more like a fireworks display. The explosion of Christian faith at Pentecost displayed God's power to transform the world. According to Luke the last words of Jesus to his disciples was that when the Holy Spirit will come upon them, they will receive power to testify about him with great effect (Acts 2:8). In other words, the disciples including the apostles were ready and prepared by Jesus, just like firework mortars are pre-loaded with the necessary explosives. However just like fireworks need electricity to kickstart the jaw dropping spectacle, so did the disciples needed to be energised by the Holy Spirit to display God's power.

Interestingly when Apostle Paul writes about the Holy Spirit to the Corinthians, he uses the same picture of displaying God's power. So, it is hard to ignore that for Christians the Holy Spirit is a renewable energy source. Talking about renewable energy in general one of Europe's leading ecologist recently said that "there is enough energy in the ebb and flow of the tides, in the running of the rivers, in the winds and in rays of the sun to supply our needs if we would give time and attention to these. On the one hand many energy supplies are limited and will run out, while on the other hand all around us there is power that we do not even realise."

This means that we do not have to go along on our own limited resources and strength until we run out of supplies, but we can rely on a Spirit fuelled renewable energy source, who equips us with skills and amplifies our wisdom, knowledge, communication skills, creativity, sensitivity and compassion.

Prayer: *Breathe in us, Holy Spirit that we may think what is holy.
Move in us, Holy Spirit that we may do what is holy.
Attract us, Holy Spirit that we may love what is holy.
Strengthen us, Holy Spirit that we may guard what is holy.
Guard us, Holy Spirit, that we may keep what is holy.*

(St. Augustine of Hippo)

Zoltan

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills -
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
The LORD will keep your going out
and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.



During the Corona virus lockdown, I have, fortunately, been able to undertake gardening at home and at EBC whilst keeping to the social distancing rule. After gardening sessions at church, I have been blessed to be able to sit in the sanctuary for my own time of prayer and contemplation. The Communion table is laid including a Bible open at Psalms of God's Protection and Psalm 121 which I read every visit, has particular meaning for me as it gives encouragement and assurance of God's love, comfort and hope especially during these difficult times. When reading Psalm 121 and seeing the photo I took of irises in the church garden, I hope you will feel God's presence in your life not only now but always.

NEWS FROM BAPHUMELE



EBC has supported Baphumelele Children's Home in South Africa since 2003 - but it is not clear at present whether we shall be able to hold our usual fundraiser in the autumn.

Kay Jerred shares the latest news from Rosie Mashale.

"Thank you very much for reaching out to me and Baphumelele Community The pandemic has hit hard our township, it is the epicentre now but with God's grace and mercy we are all safe and none of our children, patients and staff have been infected, we have put a strict plan to screen the staff daily, not allowing visitors, children are indoors but been bored and sometimes nagging to go out to play with their friends. The most difficult part is to feed them and the budget has sky rocketed because of not getting in-kind donations like before, funny enough is that the government has pledged millions to support initiatives like ours but that support doesn't even reach the people who need that most I do hope and pray that God will hear our prayers and clear this pandemic, I never thought 2020 will be so miserable and economy will shut down so quick, maybe there will be a better life after this pandemic has stopped, God is preparing us for another level and this will pass too we are desperately in need of a support during this trying times, hence your support all these years has not gone unnoticed. Give my regards to all and stay safe, you are always in my prayers.

*All the best,
Rosie Mashale*

BMS



Angie Cox has received a call from a gentleman called Edwin Penman from BMS and can report that the workers at BMS are praying for churches each week and this week they will be praying for EBC. For strength and discernment for the church and it's leaders in the days and months to come and for the strengthening of relationships being built during this difficult time. They also wanted the churches to know how much they appreciate the prayers and finance that the churches give to them. Without this support they could not continue to do their work. THANK YOU.

Shared by Lin

TODAY

Forgive me Lord, for all the wrongs
That I before have done,
Help me to be more kind and true
To everyone.

Help me to listen to Thy voice
As I go on my way;
Guide me in thought and word and deed
For all today.

Help me to leave tomorrow to
Thy tender care,
You tell me not to worry Lord,
For You are there.

When evening comes, and sunset rays
Bid me to take my rest,
Help me a 'thank you' Lord to say
For You know best.

Kit Taylor

(Kitty was a friend and neighbour of my Mum's for many
years: no relation although they shared a surname.)



Editors's Note: Following Zoltan's reflection, you might be interested in Steve & Cynthia's Wedding Fireworks <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcubgcXINqQ>

CONTRIBUTIONS to Lin on linmiller25@gmail.com or telephone on 881780 (subject to the usual editorial discretion and space constraints).

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Lombard Street, Eynsham, Oxfordshire OX29 4HT

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.

