

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH



Newsletter – Saturday 24th February 2024

SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2024

10.30 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE
Led by Revd Richard Crippen

Lent with the Beloved Disciple: From a different perspective (John 13: 3-15)

Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXSLz5V86D98t1FqLLAwWlg/live>

12.00 noon SPECIAL CHURCH MEETING
Hybrid meeting - zoom link

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/3885293839?pwd=aWZvZDNDK3FMK2IRdHdj3BTQU9VQT09>
or use **Meeting ID:** 388 529 3839 **Passcode:** BytP5t

At the Special Church Meeting last September we agreed to review the questions of finance, ministry and mission at the start of this year. At Zoltan's suggestion, we are holding this further Special Church Meeting. This is Zoltan's monthly Sunday free of church responsibilities. The Worship Team have asked Richard Crippen to take our service, and the Deacons have asked Maureen Thompson to chair the meeting and facilitate our conversation.

Nick Wood will introduce the meeting and will speak to the current financial situation and its implications for paid ministry over the next year or two. This will lead into a wider conversation about our priorities for ministry and mission. The Deacons are proposing that we frame the discussion using these four questions:

1. What do we currently do **well**?
2. What could we do **better**?
3. What **should we do** that we are not currently doing?
4. What **might we stop doing** if it is no longer appropriate or effective?

We do hope that all members of the church, and all regular worshippers at EBC, will give these issues their careful and prayerful consideration, and if at all possible, attend the meeting in person or via Zoom.

from Zoltan and the Deacons

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 27th February

3.00 p.m. 114 Club at David & Lin's. A sociable time playing Rummikub and cribbage.

Thursday 29th February

12.00 noon Communion a short, reflective service - all are welcome.

Friday 1st March

4.30 - 6.00 p.m. Teens meet in the hall.

Sunday 3rd March

9.00 - 1.00 p.m. Gatehouse Food donations to 15 Newland Street (*only at these times please as no storage is available*). Home-made cakes should be labelled showing allergens. Other donations also welcomed, warm clothing etc which can be dropped off at the same times.

FURTHER AHEAD

Saturday 2nd March

Lent Away Day at Freeland Convent. Signing-up list is on the coffee table.

Thursday 7th March

10.30 a.m. Coffee Morning + Derek's cards and bric-a-brac.

Saturday 16th March

9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. First Aid Training at EBC in the hall. More information from Maureen.

Sunday 24th March - Palm Sunday

12noon Church AGM The Deacons have extended the nomination period to give more time for prayerful consideration and **nominations will now close on Sunday 3rd March.**



World Day of Prayer 2024

Friday 1st March There is no formal event in Eynsham this year, but this global ecumenical movement, led by Christian women (*formerly known as Women's World Day of Prayer*) welcomes you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice <http://worlddayofprayer.net/index.html>

Thank You

Barbara and I would like to say a sincere "thank you" for all your love and prayers.

My health is gradually improving and I hope to be back with you soon.

Malcolm and Barbara

Thank you from the Teens



The Teens say a really big 'thank you' to everyone who came to their Pancake Party last Saturday. The hall was absolutely buzzing and £300.00 was raised for Bronze Healthcare Clinic in Uganda. This money will make such a difference to Sam and the mums and babies at Bronze so thank you everyone.

Notice from Annamae

I am taking part in a drama production of 'The Orchestra' by Charlie Josephine. It is being performed at the Village Hall Eynsham, before we take it to the North Wall in Oxford. It is **Saturday 9th March at 7.30 p.m.** It would be great if you could come!

Grace Gamage

Grace's funeral will be held on Tuesday 5th March at 11.00 a.m. in St Leonard's Church, Eynsham, following a private family cremation. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this difficult time.



Saturday 17th February

"Thither we make our way, still as pilgrims not yet at rest; still on the road, not yet at home; still aiming at it, not yet attaining it" (St. Augustine).

So, a pilgrim people are essentially a people always on the move, with recurring moves. A temporary location, subsequently undergoing dislocation, only to press on to further relocation. Such is the 'provisionality' rather than the permanence of all evolving life.

Prayer of the day: Lord, help me to develop the pilgrim mindset, to take delight in temporality, yet ache for eternity.

Sunday 18th February

Thought of the Day is delivered as a live reflection on Sundays either in church or online.

Monday 19th February

"[The author of the fourth gospel] is never named. It is as though our eyewitness does not want to get in the

way or deflect our attention from the principal character in this drama. He is simply a 'witness' who is 'testifying' [...] to the truth and significance of what he saw and heard, and all from the perspective of one who was closest to [...] the person of Jesus."

Prayer of the day: Lord help me, to put aside my ego and let Jesus shine through my life.

Tuesday 20th February

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you (John 15:16, NKJV)".

It's precisely when the human mind begins to seek and the heart begins to yearn and long for something better and for a greater meaning in life [... when] God meets us more than half-way, and frequently at our point of need [...] we love because God first loved us.

Question of the day: When was the last time I yearned for something better and then I met with God's love?

Wednesday 21st February

In an age of social media [...] there is a strong tendency to withdraw from personal encounters and [...] to substitute spending time with others with] texts, email, and Twitter. Yet 'God so loved the world' [...], that he did not send a text or an email, but 'sent his Son'.

Question of the day: What would be my preferred way to communicate with God?

Thursday 22nd February

"What do you want?" Jesus asked them. They replied, "Rabbi, where are you staying?" To which Jesus replied, "Come and see."

"Yes, indeed, the proof of the pudding whether literally or metaphorically (or

one might even say ‘sacramentally’), is in the eating. Discussion about the Christian faith can take us so far [...], yet sooner or later we need to spend time in prayer and worship in the real presence of Jesus to gain a different kind of “knowledge”.

Prayer of the day: Lord, help me to know you more, invite me into your presence, and may my life reflect this encounter with you.

Friday 23rd February

“They came and saw where he was staying; and they stayed with him that day. (John 1:39, NKJV)”

On their first meeting, “the two disciples were not seeking just a casual chat at the roadside: rather, what they wanted was to sit at his feet for an extended time of listening [...] Clearly, something life-changing occurred during that extended time with Jesus [...] this was so very much more than afternoon tea and cucumber sandwiches!”

Question of the day: when was the last time I lost track of time in the presence of God?

CONTACT NUMBERS

EYNESHAM FOOD BANK

Call on 07450 328530 to request help.

Food donations welcomed in Co-op, Spar and Market Garden <https://bit.ly/Eynsham-FB>

ASYLUM WELCOME

Marcus Thompson 01865 881808

<https://www.asylum-welcome.org/>

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HALL BOOKINGS

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CARE & SUPPORT

Denise Launchbury - 01865 881128

Malcolm & Barbara Cook - 07929 890422 or 01865 375730

NEWSLETTER

Available by email and on EBC website:

<https://www.eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk>

PRINT DEADLINE MID-DAY FRIDAYS

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(subject to space/editorial discretion)