

# EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2026

## SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MAY



**10.30 a.m. SERVICE**

**Led by Peter Taylor**

**Preacher Revd Stephen Gaukroger**

'The Holy Spirit in Action: The birthday of the church'  
(Acts 2: 1-13)

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

## THIS WEEK

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May

**3.00 p.m. 114 CLUB.**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May

**10.30 a.m. BIBLE STUDY** We meet in the hall and all are welcome to join us.

**12.00 noon COMMUNION** A short, reflective service at which all welcome.

## FURTHER AHEAD

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July

**EYNESHAM FLOWER FESTIVAL** in St Leonard' Church, theme 'Nature'. Denise Launchbury will be creating EBC's display this year.

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July

**EYNESHAM CARNIVAL** EBC will have a stall at the Carnival this year '*EBC in the Village for the Village*' for which help is needed, on the day and beforehand.

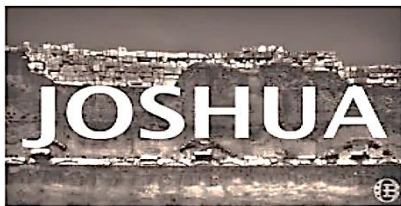
**Please speak to Ruth or one of the Transition Team for details of how you can get involved.**

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July

**3.00 p.m. SUMMER SONGS OF PRAISE** a Cafe Style service where we sing favourite hymns and enjoy fellowship over refreshments.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July

**3.00 p.m. MESSY CHURCH PICNIC**



## **Taking the Promised Land**

Five studies from the book of Joshua:  
June 3, 10, 17, 24, July 1

7:30-9:00 p.m.

1 Penelope House Cobbetts Close  
led by Bob and Janet—do ask us about it!

**open to everyone**

Don't worry if you can't make every week.  
If you aren't sure about it, do come and give it a try. If  
it's not for you, no worries.

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

- **Larry, Nick G. Audrey, Gary, Jane, Norma, Kay, Chris W. Margaret, Mary S.** and all those in our church family going through tough times with health and other issues.
- **Our stall at this year's Eynsham Carnival** and this opportunity to show people who we are and to present the Gospel. Please pray for all the practical things needed to make this happen, as well as plenty of help on the day.

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*May these hands be the hands of Christ in the world,  
may they do no violence.  
May these eyes see those who are overlooked,  
may these ears listen to those who are unheard,  
may these voices be raised for the voiceless,  
lest our songs of praise be empty.  
May these feet take us where Christ leads,  
and may these hearts and minds be open to your Spirit.*  
(From An Order for Communion – Thursday communion at EBC)

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## **THE FUTURE OF EBC - The next 10 years**

*This is a reminder of what was discussed at the recent Church Meeting, and information for those that could not attend.*

**Current Issues:** 1) Future ministry  
2) The Building refurbishment programme  
3) Demographics – of members and friends of EBC

**What is our vision?** Our call to serve and proclaim the Gospel in Eynsham  
The importance of pastoral care  
Changes in Models of Ministry  
Priorities; Where to start – target groups  
Update/create our online presence  
Provide an information/welcome pack

## **Building maintenance programme**

**Phase 1:** Repairs and upgrades to the sanctuary;  
Outer walls erosion repairs and damp proofing;  
Guttering and downpipes repaired /refurbished;  
Inner walls painted;  
New wood panelling;  
Entrance doorway refurbished;  
New lighting;  
New Floor covering;  
Heating, Insulation & ventilation.

**GOAL** is to make for a warm and welcoming building.

## Human Resources

## Finance

## Timescales

**The Future of EBC:** The 3 issues before the church as shown above are future ministry, building refurbishment and the demographics (ages!) of the church family.

1. Firstly, we need to ask what is our vision? We need to acknowledge that ministry has changed and continues to do so. People called to this vocation are not expecting to simply lead Sunday services and support those in difficulty. Some may well have pastoral skills, others would want to focus on reaching out to young families and young people. They will use I.T. much more than many of us do. How can we best serve the people of Eynsham - and how do we most effectively share the gospel message? Many now use electronic aids to work and communicate. We need to improve our 'on-line' presence and have available a welcome/information pack. But it is also true that relationships are key and personal contact will always be needed beyond the I.T. tools.

2. Our church building needs to contribute to the warm welcome we want to give to all. We have some catching up to do here. Our priority is then both essential repairs and maintenance and making the sanctuary a vibrant and warm place of welcome. There is quite a lot to do. We will prioritise the essential external repairs and the internal face lift for the chapel. This is phase one!

3. We are aware that many of those who contribute to the life of the church are pensioners. We need to recognise reduced energy levels and to encourage others to step up for the tasks that would otherwise not get done. The repairs and improvements to the building will cost £10,000s. We have sufficient to do phase 1 but will need to provide additional funds to complete all that needs doing. We are starting on a project that will last for several years and more.

We all need to reflect upon what our individual contribution will be. This is definitely not just about money but about how we reach out and offer support to those in need and how we forge relationships with those around us. It is also a call to prayer.

Do ask any of the Trustees or Transition Team members if you have any questions about any of the issues raised.

**Bob Thiele**

## *Stop Press !*

**SHOCK NEWS!!!!** The builder will be starting on the outside of our church buildings this coming Tuesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> May. On the 28<sup>th</sup> May they will be digging up the flower bed at the front of the church to install a new drainage system.

**Please watch where you walk - there will be signs and barriers, please follow them.**

For a few days, it will probably be impossible to park at the front of the church (right outside the doors) - **please call Peter in advance on 07736 227 247** to see how we can work around this OR ask another driver to drop you off (driving in to drop off may be ok, but not parking).

**Peter**

### **EYNHAM BAPTIST CHURCH**

Lombard Street, Eynsham OX29 4HT  
Email: [eynsham.baptists@gmail.com](mailto:eynsham.baptists@gmail.com)  
<https://www.eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk>

**MINISTER** - post vacant at present

### **TRUSTEES**

Bob Thiele, Anne O'Connell, Marcus Thompson

### **CONTACTS**

#### **Asylum Welcome**

Marcus Thompson 01865 881808  
<https://www.asylum-welcome.org/>

#### **Care and Support**

Denise Launchbury - 01865 881128  
Malcolm & Barbara Cook - 07896 271905  
or 01865 375730

#### **Food Bank**

**Call 07450 328530 to request help**  
Donations welcomed in Co-op, Spar and Market  
Garden <https://bit.ly/Eynsham-FB>

### **Hall Bookings**

Rebecca Carley - 07554 012535  
[bookings@eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk](mailto:bookings@eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk)

### **Lunch Club**

Maureen - 01865 881808  
Pamela - 01865 426203

### **Messy Church**

Maureen - 01865 881808  
June - 01865 375130  
Sue - 07796 955472

### **Newsletter**

Lin Miller - [linmiller25@gmail.com](mailto:linmiller25@gmail.com)  
Available on church website and by email  
Print Deadline mid-day Fridays  
(*subject to space/editorial discretion*)

### **Teens**

June - 01865 375130  
Sue - 07796 955472