

Belvedere  
BAPTIST CHURCH



# Newsletter

MARCH 2017



**Spiritual and social transformation in Belvedere,  
Bexley, Britain and beyond**

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# **SUNDAY MORNING TEACHING PROGRAMME**

## **March - Home Groups**

When we look at the early church, we get a picture of small communities of people who followed Jesus together. The Book of Acts, especially Acts 2:42-47, gives us a great picture of the early church and a biblical community, which included both the temple courts and meetings in houses. These believers engaged in each other's lives through teaching, fellowship, communion, prayer, miracles and corporate worship. They spent time together eating, learning, celebrating, proclaiming the Good News, and supporting each other. This month we are going to be looking at home groups and how they can encourage and equip us into the service we are called in to.

## **5<sup>th</sup> - Sharing - 1 Corinthians 12:12-26**

We all know that we are part of a body, but we can easily go from Sunday to Sunday without seeing or talking to another member of the fellowship. The early church knew the importance of community and staying together to learn, grow, encourage and share together.

## **12<sup>th</sup> - Encouraging - Hebrews 10:24-25**

We live in a fallen world where the clear line between right and wrong is getting more and more blurred. We can suffer in silence and try to struggle on (this is what most people do), or we can encourage each other in love to "press on towards the goal" (Phil 3:14)

## **19<sup>th</sup> - Teaching - 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

Sunday is a great time for teaching, but do you ever want to ask questions? Home groups allow for a safe place to hear, question and grow in understanding together. We cannot do what the Bible says, if we do not know what it says.

## **26<sup>th</sup> - Equipping - Ephesians 4:11-13**

Contrary to popular belief, all of God's people are holy and expected to serve Him - not just the leaders. Home groups equip people for service and build each of us up into a working and active body of Christ.



**AT REFRESH  
BELVEDERE BAPTIST CHURCH  
10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017  
Doors open 7 pm for 8 pm start**

**FOR THIS EVENT TO BE A SUCCESS I NEED YOUR HELP:**

1. Selling tickets on the door on the night.
2. Stewards – two people who can be on hand to answer questions and help people generally.
3. Setting up and taking down after the event.
4. Helping David with the Sound desk and OHP
5. Security
6. Hospitality – the plan is to provide a light finger buffet, soft drinks and hot beverages.

TICKETS ARE BEING SOLD ONLINE AND ONLINE PRICE IS £7.36. THIS INCLUDES THE TICKET SELLER'S SERVICE CHARGES. ON THE NIGHT, TICKET PRICE WILL BE £8.00 ON THE DOOR. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS PUT *EVENTBRITE UK* INTO YOUR SEARCH ENGINE AND DO A SEARCH FOR WINTER JAZZ. YOU CAN FORWARD THAT LINK TO FRIENDS YOU WANT TO INVITE MAKING IT EASY FOR THEM TO PURCHASE THEIR TICKETS.

*Audrey Lumsden*





## **Hello people of Belvedere Baptist,**

I hope you're all doing well. It was so great to see some of you when we did our Skype link up. I'm praying for you all and looking forward to being with you in the summer.

I've been enjoying a few weeks' visit with my parents here. We've mostly been in Mumbai and they've been meeting my friends and spending time hanging at my new flat while I continued with a few work things (performances/rehearsals/meetings/admin tasks). We've just enjoyed our last day of a one week holiday where they visited the Taj Mahal and we saw a tiger this morning in one of India's national parks.



We were able to visit Srikant in Delhi too. Many of you have prayed for him in the past. He is a young guitarist who I taught at a shelter home in 2012. Since then I've been mentoring him and he's had many difficulties in his life. Most recently he was diagnosed with tuberculosis. Praise God, he's recovering quickly and his relationship with Jesus is growing

stronger through the experience.

The Arts Collective gave a seminar at a recent Pastors' conference about city transformation. We shared about engaging with the arts through developing and discipling artists. It was a brilliant session and the pastors who attended were from all over India. We were really encouraged by the reactions we got and to see how God wants to use us to bless India, not just Mumbai.

We have a women's retreat day coming up on 4th March. Please pray for that. I'm serving in worship there and our subject is "Rest".

Please pray for me this month too as I will be applying for a visa extension. Work has been quite low for 2 months so I'd appreciate prayer on that too.

Thank you all for your prayers.

*Heather*



Kathy Gower has been running **Evergreen Knitters** for 3 years now and is appealing for a volunteer to take over the running of the group. You don't have to be an expert knitter - just able and willing to commit to one Thursday morning per month (the third Thursday) from 10 am to 12 noon. You will be responsible for encouraging the ladies involved and organising the occasional stall where knitted goods can be sold in aid of Evergreen Care's valuable work with the elderly. You can find out more by speaking to Kathy or e-mailing her at [ktmgower@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ktmgower@yahoo.co.uk).

## **Notice: Ladies Discipleship group**

In March the course will be on the second Saturday, namely, **Saturday, 11th March**.

On **April 1st** we will be having an away day at the **Woman to Woman conference** in London so no course at BBC that month.





## **A Bible solution to a High-Tech problem**

When I first became a Christian, one of the elders of the church encouraged me to memorise a number of key verses of Scripture, and each week he would ask me to repeat the verse that he had given me the previous week, and then give me another verse to learn in the coming week.

I have problems these days in repeating all of the verses that I learned, mainly because I learned them from the Authorised Version of the Bible (now I find that I get mixed up between the AV, NIV, NLV, and Amp.), but they are still with me, and I am glad to have been encouraged to build that foundation. The trouble is keeping that good foundation in place.

If you have not yet got around to digging down to the bedrock of your faith, this might help you!

The most pressing problem that I encounter these days is generating and remembering Passwords. When I was still working, I was required to change my password every month. I usually forgot to do it, and so every now and then, when I turned on my computer, I would get a message saying, "Please change your password". I then had to come up with a new password, which had to have a minimum of eight characters, including at least one numeral, and both upper and lower case letters. Having been caught on the hop, it often took a couple of attempts to come up with an acceptable solution.

Then I came up with the idea of using one or other of the Bible verses that I had committed to memory. Not the whole verse, just the reference.

It works like this:- Take, for example, the verse most Christians can remember; John 3:16. You could use a number of variations of this reference e.g. John3v16. This gives the required eight upper and lower case characters,

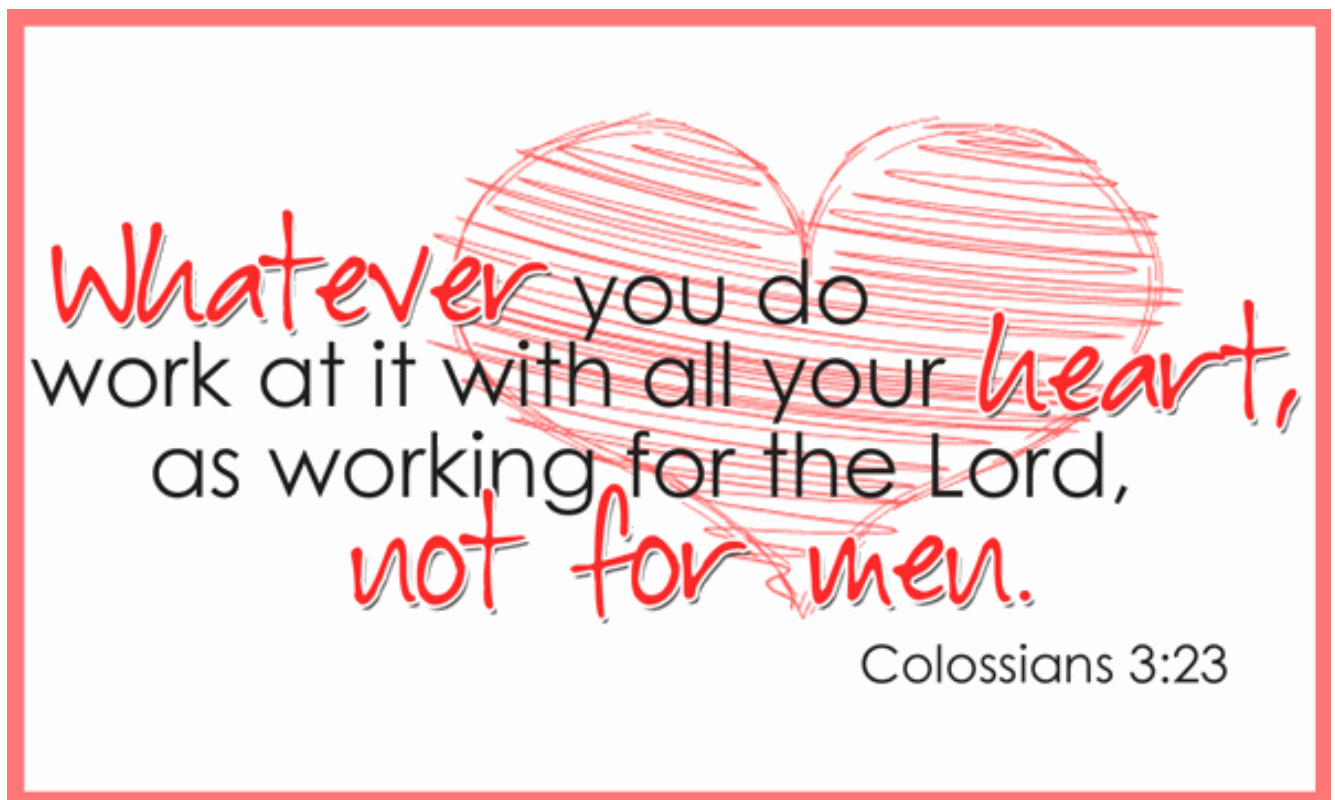
but you can vary it by using either uppercase or lower case "J" & "V", or you could type "verse", or type John3&16.

Hopefully having to remember the reference will help you to memorise the entire verse, and so build up a library of key verses, which will help build a solid foundation for your faith.

If you would like to try it, please come and speak to me, and I will let you have a set of twelve small cards, each one bearing an easy to remember verse that you can commit to memory, ready to be recalled the next time you have to come up with a new password. You can memorise them one at a time, and it helps if you always memorise the reference together with the verse. These twelve verses will give you at least sixty potential passwords. You can carry the cards around with you, as any villain who gets hold of them is unlikely to fathom out their significance.

Try it and see how you get on.

*Brian Mansfield*



## MARCH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Weds, 1<sup>st</sup></b>	10:00 am	Flower arranging
	7:30 pm	Meeting in Refresh – everyone welcome
<b>Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	10:00 am	Crochet lessons
	2:30 pm	Women's Own – Music afternoon
<b>Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	9:30 am	Tots' Club
<b>Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
<b>Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup></b>	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
<b>Weds, 8<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30 pm	Meeting in Refresh – everyone welcome
	7:30 pm	Worship Team practice
<b>Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup></b>	2:30 pm	Women's Own – Kath Reeves
<b>Friday, 10<sup>th</sup></b>	9:30 am	Tots' Club
	8:00 pm	Jazz at Refresh
<b>Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
	10:00 am	Ladies Discipleship Group
	2:30 pm	Tea Dance
<b>Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup></b>	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
<b>Monday, 13<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 am	Calligraphy
<b>Weds, 15<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30 pm	Meeting in Refresh – everyone welcome
<b>Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 am	Evergreen Knitters & crochet lesson
	2:30 pm	Women's Own – Dennis Roberts
<b>Friday, 17<sup>th</sup></b>	9:30 am	Tots' Club
<b>Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
<b>Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup></b>	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service and Communion
<b>Weds, 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	7:30 pm	Meeting in Refresh – everyone welcome
<b>Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	2:30 pm	Women's Own – Richard Payne
<b>Friday, 24<sup>th</sup></b>	9:30 am	Tots' Club
<b>Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup></b>	8:00 am	Worship Team breakfast and practice
	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
	2:30 pm	Tea Dance
<b>Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup></b>	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
<b>Monday, 27<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 am	Calligraphy
<b>Weds, 29<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30 pm	Meeting in Refresh – everyone welcome
<b>Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup></b>	2:30 pm	Women's Own – Richard Payne
<b>Friday, 31<sup>st</sup></b>	9:30 am	Tots' Club

### Future Events:

EASTER SUNDAY – 16<sup>th</sup> April 2017

BARN DANCE – Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017