



Newsletter

AUGUST 2017



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

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SUNDAY MORNING TEACHING PROGRAMME



August: We'll be having café church outside in the car park. It will be church, but not as we know it. There will be practical workshops of creativity, music and the like for different ages. Our teaching will be of an intensely practical nature too – continuing the theme of '**Ordering your life well**' and using God's wisdom to help us gain control of our lives from situations, circumstances and people.

6th - Foolish Lips: Proverbs 18vs6-7

Architects of our own downfalls? How can we stop situations from developing and reduce the number of personality clashes we can have?

13th - The secret power of discipline: Proverbs 19vs18-19

Calling all parents! Hands up if you love disciplining your kids? It's not nice, is it? Calling all friends! Hands up if you like seeing your friend make a mistake? We don't want to see it happen, do we? So what are these two proverbs on about then?

20th - Spot the sluggard: Proverbs 18vs9 & 19vs15

Why work when you can live off the state? Ever heard that before? It's not smart or clever; it's the road to limitation, low self-esteem and...destruction!

27th - Excuses, excuses! Proverbs 22vs13 & 26vs13

Ever met a melodramatic person who seems to have the whole world stacked against them? But why hide behind excuses as they only limit growth, stop potential and hinder the enjoyment of life?

September Newsletter Deadline: Monday, 21st August



Lark in the Park is a community event provided by churches in Sidcup which takes place during the summer holidays and provides kids' clubs, youth activities, fun days, a creative zone, an over-60's venue, community action projects, evening events and much more. No matter who you are, Lark in the Park has something for you!

This year it is running from Saturday 22nd July – Sunday 6th August and everything is FREE! **There's still time to visit**, so do put these dates in your diary so that you, your friends and neighbours or the children do not miss this opportunity to enjoy yourselves this summer and get involved with all that Lark in the Park has to offer.

Freda – Outreach Team

Projector and Sound Desk

The worship team play an important part in our services, and there are other roles besides singing or playing an instrument. Managing the sound desk and projector is also a vital role.

We arrive at church at 9 am - 9.15 am on Sunday to set the equipment up, do the sound balancing and prepare the list of worship songs for the projector.

The projector is relatively straightforward for anyone with decent IT knowledge. With a little training, it'll become second nature.

The sound desk can look frighteningly complicated, but it isn't as bad as it seems. Breaking it down in simple terms, each input (instrument, microphone, pc feed, etc) has its own column of controls to alter the volume, treble, bass etc.

If you would like to train to help out with these crucial jobs, then please contact Paul Fryer - paulf1988@gmail.com / 07708 923 347

AUDIENCE OF ONE

Support in prayer is vital for a Christian. I have experienced real help in situations when I know others are praying for me. I am currently working on a project where I clearly believe my involvement comes from God speaking to me. The project has involved meetings with several different people. I sought prayer from the small group who meet in the mornings at the church. I felt it would be great to know that I was being prayed for as my meetings were in progress. I therefore let the group know the dates and times of the meetings and received the assurance that prayer would be taking place during those times. I really felt the prayer support I received at these times and am so thankful for the people praying and to God for His guiding presence with me.

Chris Bryant

Hi BBC,



It was lovely to see you all while I was home in June. I had a really restful time catching up with friends and spending time with family.

I've been taking time listening and waiting on God for the last few months about my future in India. The money I've been earning from music has not been sufficient to meet the required salary of my employment visa for the last 6 months so I've been feeling for a while that God is bringing me into a season of change.

I've been discerning gradually that it is right to come back to the UK in September most likely till Christmas at least. I'm also sensing that God does have more for me to do here in India but how He will bring me back here is yet to become clear.

Thank you for your continued support. God is doing something amazing in the arts worldwide right now in cities. I feel like what He's called me into is just beginning.

Heather

Help needed!

Most groups do not meet during August – but because many people are on holiday, extra help is needed to keep church life going. Please consider whether you can help with the following:

CAFÉ CHURCH:

Can you help with:

- setting up and taking down
- children's activities



CHURCH CLEANING:

Marcel, the church cleaner, is on holiday from 7th – 27th August. Could you help with:

- cleaning the toilets and kitchen
- vacuuming the church worship area after activities and sweeping Refresh and the sports hall
- And finally, “**See it - Clean it!**”

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:

Charlotte will be on holiday from the 14th August for three weeks.

CLEANING DAY – Saturday, 5th August



If you are around and are able to help with gardening, tidying or deep cleaning in and around the church, this is a great opportunity to work together and enjoy some fellowship at the same time.

FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 17 JULY 2017

Money in bank: £54,022
Cheques outstanding: (£1,844)

Restricted funds:

General £187.77
Youth fund (£1,211.07)
Gift Day for Church Heating (£13,149.10)
Heather (£70.80)

SUB TOTAL 1 **£37,559**

Less tithe for 2015/16 & 2016/17 (£13,363)

SUB TOTAL 2 **£24,196**

Plus Gift Aid for 2 years (still to be received) £16,030
Plus monies in London Baptist Property Board £4,654

SUB TOTAL 3 **£44,879**

Less Reserve (£19,000)

TOTAL **£25,879**

Reserves: The reserves figure is needed to pay outstanding wages, bills, etc, should the church cease to exist. It was agreed at a deacons/elders meeting that this should be a quarter of our estimated expenditure for the coming year. Based on expenditure for financial year 2016/17, this would amount to £19,000.

Good news: So far in this financial year (2017/18) our income is £12,764 greater than expenditure.

Awareness: However, as stated in April, we still should not be complacent as we now need to find someone to rent the upper office and there are still some uncertainties with regard to the BU pension deficit money owed.

Gwen



Financial Giving at Belvedere Baptist Church

Baptist churches like ours are self-financing. They receive no funding from the government or from a head office. For us, that means our staff, projects, equipment and buildings are currently paid for and updated by gifts from members and attenders. Thank you to all who currently support the church financially, it is very much appreciated.

If you are a first time visitor, please don't give. But if you are a returning visitor, regular attender or church member, please consider how you will financially contribute to the ministry of the church. The best way is to commit to regular giving though, of course, you can make one-off gifts. Regular giving helps us and you in two ways: Firstly, it helps us budget for the year ahead knowing what we expect to come in; Secondly, it helps you decide clearly (with your spouse...if you're married!) what you intend to give ahead of time, so you don't forget or feel pressurised at the last minute.

giftaid it

You can make your giving go further if you're a tax payer by filling in the 'Gift Aid' forms on the back table (ask a steward for help). Gift Aid increases the value of your gift by 25% (!!) because we can reclaim the basic rate of tax on your gift at no extra cost to you – this makes a massive difference to our income and we would encourage every person who contributes to do this, if possible.

At the moment you can give your gift either through the gift boxes at the front or back of the church worship hall, or direct to our church bank account (again, forms on the back table).

At our quarterly church family meetings for members we explain, discuss and pray about how this money is best to be spent.

Hope that helps and thanks again – and may you know the blessing of giving (Acts 20:35).





EVERGREEN HAS MOVED – BUT THEY ARE STILL A PART OF US

We wish Pete and Diane well as they begin a new phase at 22 The Pantiles, Bexleyheath.

Befriending volunteers are still needed. If you can help, contact the office at 01322 431765.

AUGUST DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Most regular events are suspended for August – if in doubt, check with the organiser)

Weds, 2nd	7:30 pm	(Some) house groups (check with leader)
Sunday, 6th	9:00 am	Café church set up – volunteers needed
	10:30 am	Café church
Weds, 9th	7:30 pm	Some house groups
	7:30 pm	Worship Team practice
Sunday, 13th	9:00 am	Café church set up – volunteers needed
	10:30 am	Café church
Weds, 16th	7:30 pm	Some house groups
Sunday, 20th	9:00 am	Café church set up – volunteers needed
	10:30 am	Café church
Weds, 23rd	7:30 pm	Some house groups
Saturday, 26th	8:00 am	Worship Team Breakfast and practice
Sunday, 27th	9:00 am	Café church set up – volunteers needed
	10:30 am	Café church

Future Events:

BARN DANCE – Saturday, 11th November 2017 from 7 pm - 10 pm