

Newsletter

MARCH 2018



Spiritual and Social
Transformation
in Belvedere, Bexley,
Britain & Beyond

50, Nuxley Road, Belvedere, Kent. DA17 5JG

Tel: 01322 446688, Email: church@belvederebaptist.org

SUNDAY MORNING TEACHING PROGRAMME



March: Leadership

We lead in church, we lead at work and we lead in the home. There are good and bad examples of leadership in the Bible – we can learn from both. This series is designed to help us in our own lives and also with the process of choosing new deacons.

4th - Eli the Priest & Leadership in the Family: 1 Samuel Ch1-4

Eli got his priorities wrong in parenting – but we don't have to! He put his sons and his own honour first before God's honour. As a result, both sons died from a curse, and Eli eventually lost the priesthood.

11th - Samuel the Prophet: 1 Samuel 7

He prayed and sacrificed on behalf of a repentant Israel and God stepped in mightily to deliver them from the Philistines. Samuel shows that true leaders intercede for others, so if you're someone who prays for our church or community – you could be a leader for the church!!
It's also Mother's Day...yay!

18th - Saul the Jealous King: 1 Samuel 18

Insecurity led to comparison, comparison led to jealousy, jealousy led to hate, and hate led to death. How sad! Our internal level of security is so important as we lead at church, work or in the home.

25th - David the honourable King: 1 Samuel 26

Character is so important in leadership and David had it in buckets! He sought no revenge or retaliation on Saul or his family whilst alive or dead. What a great example for us to follow.

30th - Good Friday Service: 2:30pm – 3:30pm

We shall be marking the cry of Jesus at 3pm during the service and discovering what this means for us, whilst also looking forward to Easter Day. It will be a family service involving children and we'll have hot cross buns afterwards!

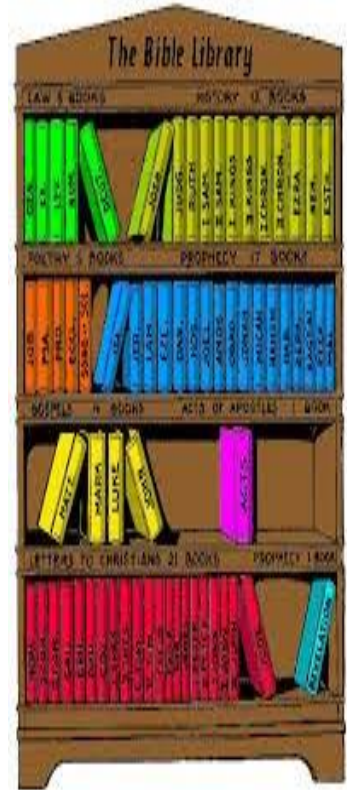
REFRESH LIBRARY

Unfortunately we are closing the Refresh Library over the next few months.

We would like to thank Domi for all the hard work that she has put in to make the project work, and running it.

For those who have donated or loaned books and who wish to take their books back please could you do so over the next few weeks.

Thank you,
Charlotte



Cleaner Required

*We are seeking a new cleaner.
If you are interested, or know of
someone that is, please could you
contact Charlotte or Chris
for more details.*



*We would like to thank Marcel
for all his commitment and hard
work and wish him all the best in
the future.*

GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST

This year's Good Friday Breakfast is being hosted by Emmanuel Baptist Church, Thamesmead at 8:30am on Friday 30th March with Peter Dunn, BMS Director of Mission, as the guest speaker. Tickets cost £3 and need to be booked in advance through the church office (emmanuel_church_da18@yahoo. co.uk or 0208 311 3976). Places are limited.

Why Home Groups?

God himself exists in a perfect community in the three persons of the Trinity - the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - and this is how it was from the beginning. So it is not surprising that from the beginning, God created us to be in community with one another. Genesis states: "It is not good for man to be alone" and although this can be used as a template for marriage, it also speaks to our fundamental need to be connected with one another in Christian community. Even the early church combined time at the temple or synagogue with meeting in homes and home groups are a great way to share in fellowship with one another as we learn and grow together as a family of God.

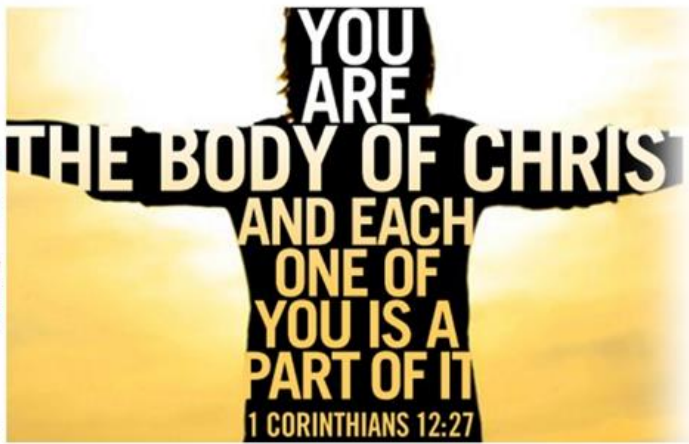
There are currently four home groups that meet up and their details are:

Host:	Savannah Lahtinen
Leader:	Alison Fraser
When:	Wednesday 7:30 - 9:30pm
Spaces:	1-2 extra
"We love to learn how we can live our lives in the knowledge of God's love and redemptive power."	

Host:	Doug and Beryl Morten
Leader:	Doug and Beryl Morten
When:	Wednesday 7:30 - 9:30pm
Spaces:	2 extra (3 with a squeeze)
"We start with coffee/tea and a chat, followed by a Bible study. We are a relaxed group with everyone feeling free to ask questions. Time is spent in prayer and occasionally we hold communion."	

Host:	Jill Grant and Helen Bennett
Leader:	Spero Mifsud
When:	Wednesday 7:30 - 9:30pm
Spaces:	1 extra (2 with a squeeze)
"A friendly and talkative group keen to learn how to apply biblical examples to our personal lives. Light-hearted teaching with practical application"	

Host:	Brenda & John Wilson
Leader:	Linda Tythe
When:	Wednesday 7:30 – 9:30 pm
Spaces:	None at present



Biblical Reason three 3

If we become members of the Body of Christ through salvation (Eph 3vs6), what's the point of local church membership?

Answer: So we know who to disciple.

Matthew 20vs19: Jesus told his disciples not just to preach the gospel and lead people through repentance to faith, but then also to disciple them in the way of the Lord as Jesus had disciplined them. Jesus taught them about God's kingdom, how to do miracles, how to serve and what God's love looks like. These things are taught in an intentional, long-term relationship between a learner and a mentor. This is so much more than just attending a church service on a Sunday! When someone enters into church membership in a local church, that long-term, mentoring relationship can occur in house groups, 1:1 or through training courses such as we have started to run here at BBC.

Matthew 18vs15-17: Within this life of discipleship, there are always times in our lives when, as learners, we all need discipline to spur us on, keep us on the right track, and bring out God's nature in us for His glory. Jesus gave a 4 step process to this and unless a church knows who its members are, it cannot enact this kind of discipline. The word discipline is similar to disciple – and that's because it has similar connotations and is a key part of our Christian growth. Proverbs 12vs1 says that a wise man invites correction, but a fool spurns it. So becoming a member of your local church is a wise thing to do to open yourself up to these kinds of relationships and so aid your Christian growth.

We pray you will take the step from being an attender to becoming a disciple through church membership here at BBC.



Rev. David Hazeldine: Lead Elder (and married to Sam!)



Mick Harvey: Elder & Refresh Project Lead



Wendy Harvey: Children's Team Leader



Spero Mifsud: Elder



Margaret Baderin: Youth Team Leader



Chris Bryant: Church Secretary (Deacon)



Gwen Gowers: Treasurer (Deacon)



Steve Wheatley: Alpha Team Leader



Marolin Watson: Admin Deacon



Steph Harris: Teaching Team

Matt Harris: Worship Deacon



Sue McCarthy: Hospitality Team Leader



Olive Gibson: Welcome Team Leader & Women's Own

Kath Gower: Prayer Co-ordinator



Brian Mansfield: Buildings Deacons



Charlotte Kenton: Church Office and Refresh Centre Manager (Staff)

Belvedere BAPTIST CHURCH LEADERSHIP

For info: Elders and Deacons are elected, and team leaders & staff are chosen by gifting. Collectively, we all make up the BBC Huddle Team.





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 via standing order (forms on the back table), but 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.

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You can make your regular giving go further if you're a tax payer by filling in the 'gift aid' forms on the back table. 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.

You can also give anonymously by cash or cheque in the offering containers as part of our Sunday worship. On gifts up to £20 we can also collect gift aid, and this can include loose change, cheques or notes.

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

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



MARCH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday, 1st	10:00 am	Crochet lesson
	2:30 pm	Women's Own - Lilian Piddington
Friday, 2nd	9:30 am	Tots' Club
Saturday, 3rd	10:00 am	Ladies' Discipleship Group
	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
Sunday, 4th	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service with Communion
Weds, 7th	10:00 am	Flower arranging with Rita
	7:30 pm	House groups
Thursday, 8th	2:30 pm	Women's Own – To be confirmed
Friday, 9th	9:30 am	Tots' Club
Saturday, 10th	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
	2:30 pm	Tea Dance
Sunday, 11th	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
Monday, 12th	10:00 am	Calligraphy
Weds, 14th	7:30 pm	House groups
	7:30 pm	Worship Team practice
Thursday, 15th	10:00 am	Evergreen Knitters & Crochet lesson
	2:30 pm	Women's Own – Linda Tythe
Friday, 16th	9:30 am	Tots' Club
Saturday, 17th	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
Sunday, 18th	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
Weds, 21st	7:30 pm	House groups
Thursday, 22nd	2:30 pm	Women's Own – To be confirmed
Friday, 23rd	9:30 am	Tots' Club
Saturday, 24th	9:00 am	Worship team practice
	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
	2:30 pm	Tea Dance
Sunday, 25th	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
Monday, 26th	10:00 am	Calligraphy
Weds, 28th	7:30 pm	House groups
Thursday, 29th	2:30 pm	Women's Own — Dennis Roberts
Friday, 30th	9:30 am	Tots' Club
Saturday, 31st	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you