



Newsletter

APRIL 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



April Service Themes: Grace

Grace is one of God's major characteristics and it fills everything He does. Humans can find it hard to understand this facet of His nature, and just as hard to accept it and show it. God wants to help us this month to do exactly that!

1st EASTER DAY - GUEST SERVICE: SAVED BY GRACE! *Ephesians 2vs8-9*

The basic message of God's good news is that we're saved by God's grace. All we have to do is simply believe it! This service will be 1 hour long, be café style and aimed at families and guests, with an Easter Egg Hunt in the middle of it!!

8th SAVED TO DO GOOD WORKS, NOT SAVED BY GOOD WORKS

Ephesians 2vs10

God is working on our motives so that we stop trying to do good things to get saved, but do good things out of thankfulness because we're saved. This way, God is glorified and not us.

15th DEAD IN OUR SIN, BUT MADE ALIVE IN CHRIST *Ephesians 2vs5*

Dead means dead! There was literally nothing we could do to save ourselves. So our only hope was to be made alive with Christ. This way God's grace can be revealed in its fullness!

22nd GOD IS RICH IN GRACE *Ephesians 2vs6-7*

God is gracious by nature and we experience Him through His gift-giving nature. He is showing His grace to the world through the cross in all the goodness He brings into our lives.

29th BY OUR NATURE WE DESERVE WRATH. *Ephesians 2vs1-4*

God's love is gracious. And this grace is made all the more sweet when we fully realize what we've been saved from. How amazing is that!

MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES

Pastoral Ministry

The purpose of Pastoral Ministry:

The team here at Belvedere Baptist Church seeks God for the wisdom and discernment to give support to the members of our church and the wider community.

Responsibilities:

- To provide day-to-day pastoral care, support and discipling relationships to the members, and encourage growth in ministry.
- The team undertakes hospital and home visits, and provides home communion, especially to those who are sick or with other acute needs.
- This ministry also provides oversight to groups within the church, providing care, support and prayer to group members.
- Woman's Own also plays a major role within the pastoral care team, providing support to those who attend.
- Christina Hulme – Makes and sends special cards to the fellowship when people are ill.
- Sue McCarthy, Mick Harvey, Sharon Barker, Charlotte Kenton, and David Hazeldine – Visit members at home and in hospital.
- Kathy Gower – Provides prayer support.

Looking back over 2017:

We have visited those who were in need of God's love, listening to them and praying with them. We have also visited people in hospital and, where required, taken people out for lunch. We have also helped by providing food packages – a service which has also been extended to the local community where required.

Looking forward to 2018:

We would love to have more members join the pastoral team. We need to spend more time in prayer as a team to let God lead us into the year ahead and into the future of pastoral care in our fellowship.

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:	2-3 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

A Tribute to Women's Own

We spend an hour or two together
Every Thursday afternoon
A hymn or two, some choruses,
A speaker is a boon

We remember friends with illnesses
And some that have gone before,
Our prayers for those in trouble
And others still at war!

We come together in God's name,
To comfort and to learn
The stories of the Lord above,
His teachings we do not spurn

And when we've said our final prayer
It's time for tea and cake
I am guided to my special seat
Of goodies to partake

So thank you ladies for the joy we
share
A chat and a laugh or two
When I get home I'm happy
For the time I've spent with you.

Marjorie

Audience of one

"God shapes the world by prayer. The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil." E. M. Bounds

"Prayer is the exercise of drawing on the grace of God." Oswald Chambers

"All I know is that when I pray, coincidences happen; and when I don't pray, they don't happen." Dan Hayes

"Prayer is not eloquence, but earnestness; not the definition of helplessness, but the feeling of it; not figures of speech, but earnestness of soul." Hannah More

"Since God knows our future, our personalities, and our capacity to listen, He isn't ever going to say more to us than we can deal with at the moment." Charles Stanley

"The greatest gift we can give to others is our prayers." Unknown



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



Mick Harvey: Elder & Refresh Project



Wendy Harvey: Children's Team Leader



Spero Mifsud: Elder



Margaret Baderin: Youth Team Leader (Staff)



Chris Bryant: Church Secretary (Deacon)



Gwen Gowers: Treasurer (Deacon)



Steve Wheatley: Alpha Team Leader



Marolin Watson: Admin Deacon



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, Refresh Centre Manager (Staff) & Pastoral Team Leader

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.

giftaid it

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)!



APRIL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday, 1st	10:30 am	Easter Sunday morning guest service
Weds, 4th	10:00 am	Flower arranging with Rita
	7:30 pm	House groups
Thursday, 5th	10:00 am	Crochet lessons with Kathy Gower
	2:30 pm	Women's Own – Open meeting
Saturday, 7th	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
Sunday, 8th	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
Monday, 9th	10:00 am	Calligraphy
Weds, 11th	7:30 pm	House groups
	7:30 pm	Worship Team practice
Thursday, 12th	2:30 pm	Women's Own – to be confirmed
Saturday, 14th	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
	2:30 pm	Tea Dance
Sunday, 15th	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
Weds, 18th	7:30 pm	House groups
Thursday, 19th	10:00 am	Evergreen Knitters & Crochet lessons
	2:30 pm	Women's Own – John Rice
Friday, 20th	9:30 am	Tots' Club
Saturday, 21st	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
Sunday, 22nd	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service
Monday, 23rd	10:00 am	Calligraphy
Weds, 25th	7:30 pm	Members' meeting
Thursday, 26th	2:30 pm	Women's Own – Maureen Varrell
Friday, 27th	9:30 am	Tots' Club
Saturday, 28th	8:00 am	Worship Team breakfast and practice
	10:00 am	Refresh is open to serve you
	2:30 pm	Tea Dance
Sunday, 29th	10:30 am	Sunday morning worship service

