



Albany Park
Baptist Church

News

April 2024

Prayer Topics for this month

- Pray into a situation you have been thinking about. What country or situation has God laid on your heart?
- Pray into our community. Has God placed a group or shop or organisation on your heart?
- Pray for family members or work colleagues or friends that God has laid on your heart.

What's On

| Date | Event | Date | Event |
|-------------|---|------------|--|
| Mon 8 April | Coffee Morning 1030-1200 | 22-Apr | Community Fitness 1845-1945 |
| 09-Apr | | 23-Apr | |
| 10-Apr | Traditional Service 1030 | 24-Apr | Traditional Service 1030; Worship Night 1900 |
| 11-Apr | Community Fitness 1845-1945 | 25-Apr | Community Fitness 1845-1945 |
| 12-Apr | | 26-Apr | Bible Journalling 1900-2100 |
| 13-Apr | | 27-Apr | Family Fitness 0930 |
| Sun 14 Apr | Service (Revival - Glenis) 1030 | Sun 28 Apr | Service 1030 (Galatians 3 - Nat) |
| 15-Apr | Coffee Morning 1030-1200 (to be confirmed) | 29-Apr | Coffee Morning 1030-1200 |
| 16-Apr | | 30-Apr | |
| 17-Apr | | Weds 1 May | |
| 18-Apr | Community Fitness 1845-1945 | 02-May | Community Fitness 1845-1945 |
| 19-Apr | CRIBS Quiz night at St Johns, Danson Lane, Welling. 1930 (£10 - £5 for U16) | 03-May | |
| 20-Apr | | 04-May | Ladies Breakfast 0900, the Toby at Crook Log |
| Sun 21 Apr | Service (Galatians 2 - Nat) 1030; Messy Church 1530-1700 | Sun 5 May | Service (Sabbath - Mark B) 1030 |

Link for YouTube available on our website for Sunday morning services
AP Tots: Thurs 10-11.30 am. AP Play (5-11 year olds): Thurs 3.45-5.45pm. Both Term time only.
 To be announced: Sunday Night Worship and Community Connexions



Intentionality

Identify Your Strengths and Weaknesses; Define your goals; Set Priorities; Create a Timeline; Develop Strategies; Stay Flexible; Seek Support and Accountability; Monitor Progress; Stay Committed; Reflect and Evaluate.

The above is a roadmap design for building and developing success in the corporate world, as we hold tightly this year to the notion of: *Intentional Living*

What does that look like for us as a small to medium sized church in South East, London?

Below, is a roadmap that encourages us to view that collective strategy from a Christian-Discipleship model, walking with and alongside folk, as we ourselves seek growth obedience & faithfulness and living more as an apprentice to the Way of Jesus Christ.

Discipleship: *'Discipleship is entering into the wholeness, fullness and potential that God has prepared for you in Christ. Your discipleship is a gift from God uniquely for you. By not being disciplined for whatever reason you rob yourself and others of the more whole you. The greater version of what you could be in your fuller self and representation'* - Rev Tim Saiset.

Prayer and Spiritual Discernment; Community Needs Assessment; Leadership Development; Engagement and Outreach; Worship Experience Enhancement; Small Groups and Discipleship; Technology and Communication; Hospitality and Follow-Up; Continuous Evaluation and Adaptation; Cultivate a Culture of Evangelism.

As a church we are deeply committed to progress, it is missional, it is instructional (Matt 28) - It is our reason for meeting and being. We are not a cosy-club - Church is not a transactional place where we receive, but a place where we ask before Jesus, 'What can I give' — The community here at AP is God's plan A for mission and discipleship.

I have some questions and would like you to respond with your thoughts please:

How can I help encourage and equip you the members to share your faith and invite others to church through your personal relationships and providing evangelistic events?

How would you like AP to provide training and resources on evangelism and outreach, with particular emphasis on the importance of sharing the love of Christ with others?

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Income | |
| General Offerings/General offering | £6,496.90 |
| Mission giving | £50.00 |
| Hall Hire/Community Mission | £11,945.79 |
| | £18,492.69 |
| Expense | |
| Church Expenses | -£16,668.98 |
| Community Mission | -£1,801.10 |
| Mission giving | -£163.75 |
| | -£18,633.83 |
| Net Position | -£141.14 |
| AWO | £479.00 |
| AWO (Budget) | £500.00 |

Thank you to Sarah for this financial update which shows our average weekly offering (AWO) is almost at the level we hoped it would reach. Questions to her please!



We don't have any birthdays for the BMS scheme until September

BUT

You can find out about the Birthday Scheme by asking **Christine**. It's a really good way to support mission work in other countries. And you are guaranteed a birthday card.



Thank you

To everyone who helped with our services and events over the Easter period.

We were truly blessed.

Sandra very kindly gave me a poem for this newsletter, but when I looked at the web references I was left uncertain about whether it was copyright free for reproduction, so I've erred on the side of caution. It's sometimes difficult to be sure what can be printed. However, I think it's alright to give the title and name of author in case you want to check it out for yourself.

Forgive As You Have Been Forgiven - Acrostic #3
by Cynthia Buhain-Baello

Connie has given me an extract from a Daily readings book for 2020 which uses a delightful story from a *Peanuts* comic strip where Lucy was complaining and ended up saying 'I don't want to feel better'.

It struck a chord with me because sometimes it does feel easier to be miserable than attempt to break out of it...and I know that telling me to 'snap out of it' rarely works, even if I want to try!

The reading is based around Philippians 2:14 which says 'Do everything without complaining'. The author goes on to quote Jesus in John 8:32 where he said 'knowing the truth will set us free.'

He then makes the very interesting point that 'time alone doesn't heal, *insight does!*' The point is that once we are willing to face the truth about our attitudes and do something about it, then our life will start to improve. I'm sure that our personal characteristics and the sheer variety of the situations we find ourselves in make this easier for some than others...but what struck me was the phrase 'insight does'...is that something worth thinking about? And what role might prayer and the support of others play in giving us insight? George.

The flowers always look lovely in church and we are very grateful for everyone who contributes by arranging them or by paying for them.

Would you like to join the flower rota—perhaps to remember a special event or someone who was special to you. Details on the notice board - or ask Maureen.

Contributions for the newsletter are always welcome.

Photos always need those being shown to have given permission, especially where children are involved. Poems and any other items written by someone else also need to be free to publish - and that is not always obvious...but we will do our best to keep the church on the right side of the copyright law!

Thanks to all the contributors. George.



In March the **Coffee Morning** welcomed Cathy from the Alzheimer’s Trust Bexley . She came to chat personally to anyone who wanted to know more about going forward with this terrible disease. It was a very helpful meeting to many and she will be returning in June to talk about living with Alzheimer’s. Also on that morning we had a charity swop shop and any unloved gifts came with one person and went home with a new owner who donated monies towards the Food Bank.

We very successfully raised enough funds with the help of a discount from Morrison’s to purchase 40 Easter Eggs that were gratefully accepted by Avery Hill Christian Fellowship who run the local Food Bank. Thankyou to all those who made this happen.

Please feel welcome to come along on a Monday morning to see what else we get up to whilst having fellowship together with laughs and prayer . Sue G

Upcoming

Quiz Night

 Friday 19th April '24

 7.30pm

 St John's, Danson Lane, Welling, DA16 2BQ

 £10/£5 U16s

To book, email info@cribsonline.org





Fun at the Easter Eggstravagansa



The dedication service for George and Lainey—and their parents, Anneka and Callum on March 24th