



Zion Baptist Church
In the heart of Tenterden

Newsletter

JANUARY 2020

Cafe Church

**Sunday
12th January
at
3pm**

NEW YEAR

It's a New Year, and this is the first month. Maybe some have made their New Year resolutions; others may have given them up already. Perhaps we are planning to embark on a new business or a new project. We have made up our mind, and we want to change the way we do something or we want to start doing something for ourselves, for our families, for our church or for our society.

Whatever we may have in mind for 2020, we have three verses from the Book of Proverbs that give us some instructions about what to consider when we want to do something in our lives.

Proverbs 16:1-3 says;

¹ “To humans belong the plans of the heart,
but from the LORD comes the proper answer of the tongue.

² All a person's ways seem pure to them,
but motives are weighed by the LORD.

³ Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.”

The writer encourages us to do something, we are to be proactive:

“To humans belong the plans of the heart”

God has created us, we have the gift of life, we have been placed on this planet to do something and our verse says that we are supposed to plan.

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Church Diary

Sunday January 5th

10.30am **Morning Service** led by Revd Freddy Farias-Palacios.
Including Holy Communion.

Thursday January 9th

7.30pm **Church Monthly Prayer Meeting**

Sunday January 12th

10.30am **Morning Service** led by Revd Freddy Farias-Palacios.

3pm **Cafe Church Service**

Saturday January 18th

8.30-10.30 **Men's Breakfast** at St Mildred's

Sunday January 19th

10.30am **Morning Service** led by Revd Freddy Farias-Palacios.
Including Holy Communion.

11.45am **Church Meeting** - all welcome, followed by a
Bring and Share Lunch - all welcome!

Sunday January 26th

10.30am **Morning Service** led by Revd Freddy Farias Palacios.

We meet for prayer:

Sundays: 9.45-10.00, before Sunday service

Tuesdays: 10-12noon, church open for prayer

First Thursday of the month: 7.30pm, Church Monthly Prayer Meeting
Note: in January second Thursday!

Youth activities

Juicy Grapes youth club: 6.30-8.30pm, 1st and 2nd Friday of the month, term time only

Rainbow Tots: parent and toddler group, Wednesdays, 9.30-11.30 term time only

Coffee Morning

Fridays, 10am-12noon
Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat



January Birthdays

14th Mrs Gwen Griffiths
16th Mrs Mandy Lewis
23rd Mrs Christine Hendry

BMS Secretary:
Miss Jackie Goodsell

Rainbow Tots

Tots Christmas Party was fun-filled: we heard the Christmas story, had a sing song around the tree, made Christmas crowns and ate lots of food. Each child received a sticker book containing the Christmas story.

Our Nativity Service on Sunday 8th Dec was attended by several families from Rainbow Tots. The children enjoyed dressing up and being part of the Christmas story. The service was led thoughtfully by our pastor and we had a wonderful time.

We welcome a new church member: Joan Mason



“After my husband Tony died in 2018, I was very unwell on my own, until I was invited to go to Zion Baptist Church in Ten-terden, to assist Freddy the minister and his wife. I felt the call to go as in my quiet time, the Lord spoke

to me, ‘go and finish the missionary work you should have taken many years’, so here I am. The people are very friendly and it is good to be here.

Yes! I know I am getting on in age, but I feel I am doing something worthwhile, with the rest of my life.”

Joan Mason

Church Monthly Prayer Meeting

Usually held on the first Thursday of the month, but this month on 9th of January at 7.30pm.

Make prayer a priority in 2020

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

We listen, we pray, we sing.

Please come and join us!

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As a church we are having our first business meeting this month. We will have the opportunity to hear about and discuss the plans for our fellowship.

It has been said that there is a law that works in the natural world that is also operational in our lives: 'If we do nothing, we will get nothing'. Nevertheless, we should be careful about our hearts because sometimes our plans are not the best ones. We can feel we are right and in reality we are wrong.

Verse two says; ***“All a person’s ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the LORD”.***

God can see our real motives, He knows the truth about us. He weighs the spirits in a just and unerring balance, He knows what is in us and passes a judgment upon us accordingly.

King Solomon the writer of the book of Proverbs had a clear objective in mind (to build the temple), but he knew that the temple would not build itself. He did not over-spiritualize his dream by saying, “If the Lord wants this temple built, it will happen in His way and in His time.”

If we look at Solomon, we will discover that this wise king worked from a well-developed plan. However, the best way to prepare our plans is to commend them to the Lord, this is what we read in verse three:

“Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and He will establish your plans”.

Committing our plans to the Lord is when we leave them with Him, by faith and dependence upon Him, submission and resignation to Him. It is only then that the will of the Lord be done. We may then be easy when we decide that whatever pleases God shall please us.

As we start 2020 (a new decade!), let's start with optimism for our personal spiritual growth, new opportunities and breakthrough in our personal challenges. As a church we anticipate new activities, new families and new workers for the Lord's vineyard. The road will not be easy, but, let's pray continuously, let's give our plans to God, and ask Him to bring about the best result.

Yes! We cannot control our own plans. We do not even know what will happen tomorrow. However, if we commit our plans to the Lord, He will establish them for His glory.

Happy New Year!

Freddy

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