



Zion Baptist Church
In the heart of Tenterden

Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2020

Café Church is a time when we can meet together in fellowship in our church. However instead of sitting in rows we have a café. You can enjoy relaxing with your friends and chatting about God and related issues. It's a time for everyone from all walks of life, and we welcome you in. Our programme will vary from month to month from live musicians, games, storytelling, video, ...You name it we try it!!
Come, give us a try, it's casual, laid back and is for the whole family.

On **Sunday, 19th April at 3pm**

Baptism and Membership Lessons

Maybe you have questions:
What is baptism?
Am I ready to be baptized?
Is baptism necessary for salvation?
or
How to become a member of this church? etc...
We are going to start a series of lessons on these subjects.
Please ask Freddy or Elsie for details.

We are starting our
'Experiencing God'
course at the end of this month.
It will take place fortnightly.
My prayer is that this material
will help us in our walk with God
and will have an effect on our
lives and the lives of our families'.
Freddy

Church Diary

Sunday February 2nd

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

Thursday February 6th

7.30pm **Church Monthly Prayer Meeting**

Sunday February 9th

10.30am **Morning Service** led by Revd David Adkins.

Sunday February 16th

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

Sunday February 23rd

10.30am **Morning Service** led by Ian Banks, Elder.

Sunday March 1st

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

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

Dates for your diary:

Mothering Sunday, 22nd March: Family Service

Café Church: Sunday, 19th April, 3pm

Sunday, 26th April, 11.45: Church Meeting, Fish and Chips lunch

17th-19th July 2020: Church Weekend Retreat at Northiam

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

Please pray for

+our new Bible study "Experiencing God" starting at the end of the month

+our next family service on **Mothering Sunday, 22nd March**

+our Coffee Mornings

+our youth activities

Coffee Morning

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



February Birthdays

Adults:

13th Mrs Pat Adkins
19th Miss Jackie Goodsell

Children:

14th Rhys Hendry

BMS Secretary:
Miss Jackie Goodsell

Churches Together in Tenterden, Lent Lunches.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Lent lunches, on Fridays from 12-2pm, on the following dates and venues:

28th Feb St Mildred's Church Hall

6th March Zion Baptist Church

13th, 20th and 27th March St Mildred's

3rd April Zion Baptist Church, when our fellowship will be preparing and serving the food.

All donations will go to Christian Aid this year.

There is a **World Day of Prayer service at 2pm at St Mildred's**, following the Lent lunch at our church on 6th March.

Again, everyone is welcome.

SM

CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS:

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Letter from our Elder: From Where I Stand

The other morning, I looked at the calendar realising that we are already well progressed into the first month of the year, and I see that my diary is already well committed into the first half of 2020. Where has it all gone, and how will I fit in the things I have yet to do!

2020 has significance to me as it is the year in which I will reach the hallowed ground of retirement, something of which I am as yet uncertain as to what it will mean in terms of loss, or perhaps opportunity, and how I will deal with the situation when it finally arrives at the beginning of October.

One thing of which I am certain, it will take some getting used to, as to an extent I feel that my daily work, experience and professional capabilities define who I am, and how people regard me. The loss of these things will undoubtedly need to be counterbalanced.

Many have asked as to what I will find to fill my time, and what plans have been made in this respect. They probably expect the usual list starting with world travel and running down the list to tending the garden and painting the house.....in my case it's probably more to do with spanners and the burning of high-octane fuel, but time will tell!

Going back to what defines me, and possibly you as well.....

I'd like to think that at the end of it all, somebody might just say "..... You know he was a champion of God's work and sought every opportunity on a daily basis to do it to the best of his ability".

Doing things to the best of our ability, I'm afraid to say, always comes with a price tag.

If I intend to do the best I can, then it's probable that I will have to set some other things aside to allow more time to focus. Additionally, there is likely to be a cost involved as very little in this world apart from air comes free. Again, things done well often require some measure of preparation, and last but not least, will probably demand a bit of personal sacrifice.

One of my old favourites for a good quote is CT Studd, founder of the Worldwide Evangelisation Crusade, who is reported as saying,

"Let us not glide through this world and then slip quietly into heaven, without having blown the trumpet loud and long for our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Let us see to it that the devil will hold a thanksgiving service in hell, when he gets the news of our departure from the field of battle."

And again,

"If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him."

Well put CT.

So, whatever age you are, and whatever your circumstances..... if you love your Lord and Saviour and you want to be useful in His plans and purposes, leave the things that hold you back to one side, prepare yourself, make yourself available to Him. Define yourself in service to our Lord.....and, I'll see you on the battlefield!

Ian