

Family News

3rd June 2023

Reflection

As I was preparing the reflections of this week, I had a feeling that God was speaking to me. I could feel, more than actually 'hear' God steering my heart in a direction of stillness.

"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."
Psalm 46:10 (NIV)

Now that seems pretty clear.

God highlighted to me the difficulties in looking back (although repentance and forgiveness is ever so important); and also, of the distractions of looking ahead. Every Friday I have a habit (deliberately so) of looking at the next week in my diary and planning ahead; work and social. Our prayer lives can also often take such a view, aiming to include God in our plans; which is a great thing to do.

But right now, God asked me to just "be still" and BE with Him. Jesus wants to take away all my anxiety, all my fears, my regrets and the noise in my life; by just being 'in the moment' with Him.

So, if you feel that this is also for you, may I encourage you to do the same thing in our hour of prayer; just be with Jesus.

Don't ask for anything, don't thank God for anything (I know that sounds strange; even to me as I'm typing this), don't even ponder anything 'religious'... Just allow yourself an hour to be in His presence, zero agenda.

Find the place that works for you; your bedroom, your garden, anywhere; but make sure you will be alone and not disturbed.

I pray that this time with Jesus will fill you up with the Holy Spirit; and that is my hope for me also - Amen.

Pieter

BLESS GREEN ST GREEN FREE MUSIC EVENT

Saturday 17th June 2023

Enjoy an afternoon of music and craft activities,
Healing and prayer.

12 noon Green st Green Baptist church band
1pm The Word by Martin Chapman
1.30pm a time to enjoy your own picnic with others
2pm GSGBC Messy church
With Healing and prayer
2.45pm Andy Mayo and Band
From Ministry for Music.
4pm The Word by Martin Chapman
4.20pm a time to come forward to
engage with the ministry team

In the event of bad weather we will relocate
to the Baptist Church at 1 Worlds End Lane



If anyone would be willing to help with this event from
12noon-6pm, please contact

Richard Crowley on: evangelism316@gmail.com

Westminster Theology Centre (WTC) Kingdom Theology Event

Thursday 8th June at 7pm

Christ Church Anerley,

197 Anerley Road, London SE20 8ER

You are warmly invited to come and join Freddy Hedley from WTC for a Kingdom Theology Event. In his talk, Freddy, an Old Testament scholar, will be exploring the subject of Moses. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and also to find out more about studying with WTC. Please invite any Christians you know who you think might be interested in studying theology part-time with WTC.

Places at this event are free of charge but please reserve one at

<https://wtctheology.org.uk/events/kingdom-theology-events>

Kind regards

Melissa Hutchings, Hub Director: South London
southlondon@wtctheology.org.uk

Sunday 4th June 2023 **Trinity Sunday**

10.30am Holy Communion

Welcome, Notices

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

The perfect wisdom of our God
I will rise
Strength will rise

Bible Reading

Proverbs 4 v 1-9

Sermon

Intercessions

Peace

Worship

In Christ alone

Holy Communion

Worship

Shine Jesus shine

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Evening Worship – Go Deeper

For online zoom coffee after morning church **today**
(Sunday 4th June 2023)
join Heather from 11.45am:



<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/84610974627?pwd=Z1g4TzIvVFVtcEUxeGRWblFLUDVuZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 1097 4627

Passcode: R4V5My

ROCK CHOIR AND KENTONES CONCERT **In aid of BROMLEY BOROUGH FOODBANK** **Saturday 10th June, 7.00-9.30pm**

At Christ Church Chislehurst

40 Lubbock Road Chislehurst BR7 5JJ

Interval refreshments included in ticket price (£12)

"If you would like to give to Christ's work here at Christ Church, the best way to give is via our bank account, Sort code 40 52 40, and account number 00095465, or by sending a cheque payable to 'Christ Church PCC Orpington'

to 165 Charterhouse Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 9EP

Notices for next issue of **Family News**

please send to Vernon by

Midday, Friday 9th June please

Email is vandjmapp@gmail.com

Bromley Guild of Church Flower Arrangers

Monday 5th June at 8pm

A demonstration by Christine Milburn at
St Mary's Church, College Road,
Bromley BR1 3QG

Community Club, Tuesday 6th June

Communion Service at 11am. Tea and coffee served from 10.30am. All welcome

On the Menu:

Carrot and tomato soup

Roast pork and apple sauce, roast potatoes
and seasonal vegetables

Trifle

Tea or Coffee.



WANTED

OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS ARE:

- **Tinned Vegetables**
- **Tinned Cold Meat**
- **Desserts such as Sponge Pudding, Jelly, Angel Delight**
- **Coffee**
- **Ladies Deodorant**
- **Adult Toothpaste**

We would also like to start receiving **GLUTEN-FREE** and **REDUCED SUGAR** products if possible.

Please **DON'T** give us **FROZEN** or **CHILLED** items as we don't have refrigerated storage for them and they spoil before we can distribute them.

We've got plenty of: PASTA, CEREAL & BISCUITS

**TAKE A PHOTO OF THIS LIST
WITH YOUR PHONE TO
REFER TO WHILE YOU SHOP!**

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF FOOD SUPPORT
PLEASE CONTACT US ON 0800 9 20 23 24**

Café Mosaic

This week's special:

Homemade Chicken and Vegetable Pie,
Creamy Mash Potato and Cabbage

2023 Services at Christ Church Orpington

Sunday 4th June, Trinity Sunday

10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evening Worship – Go Deeper

Wednesday 7th June

10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 11th June

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect

Baptism?

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows? Confirmation?

Are you thinking about being baptised? If you would like to be baptised, then no matter what age you are, we would love to talk with you about baptism. Baptism is a once-in-a-lifetime commitment to follow Christ as your Lord and Saviour, and if you would like to know more, then we would love to speak with you.

If you would like to re-affirm your baptismal vows and make a fresh commitment to Christ, then we would love to speak with you.

If you would like to be confirmed, which involves a short course taking you deeper into discipleship of Christ and is the traditional way of being admitted to Holy Communion in the Church of England, then we would love to speak with you.

If you are interested in any of these, then please contact the office on ccorpington@talktalk.net and someone will get in contact with you. Thank you, Sharon

Rev'd Dr Sharon Smith
Vicar of Christ Church Orpington

The Data Protection Act 2018 is the **UK's implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**.

Everyone responsible for using personal data has to follow strict rules called 'data protection principles'. They must make sure the information is: used fairly, lawfully and transparently.

Meina is our GDPR representative and if anyone has any queries relating to GDPR to please contact her on: gdpr@ccorpington.org

Urgent request

Does anyone know a gardener locally who would be able to help a member of our Church with gardening on a regular basis please?

If so, please contact Greta Kitchener

Rochester Cathedral will be hosting a Thanksgiving Service on **Thursday 22nd June** to celebrate the **75th anniversary of Windrush**. This will be held at **5.30pm** and will seek to be intergenerational. Bishop Simon will preach and the service is being planned as a service with music, readings and prayer, which we hope will appeal to young and the older and we hope will attract a truly diverse congregation.

We would love you to come along that together we may pray, celebrate and give thanks for the blessing that the Windrush generation has been, appreciate their legacy and lament our failings in offering generous hospitality.

There is no expectation for anyone to robe. If robing however please just wear your cassock.

Kind regards

The Reverend Belinda Beckhelling
Acting Precentor & Chaplain to the French
Hospital



at Orpington Baptist Church

Station Road BR6 0RZ

Up the hill between Tesco and the station
Car park off The Drive

Wednesdays from 7th June for 6 weeks

With Orpington Christian Counselling Service

10.30 - 11.45am

Book your place:

Church Office 01689 877 265

or

office@orpingtonbaptist.org.uk

Do you have a story of how you came to faith?

I was regularly taken to church as a child, and I remember quite strongly the day I decided on my faith. I was seven.

I remember thinking – “If God was real and was a God of love, then people would be singing the hymns to Him with happy faces, not the dead-pan faces they seemed to have to my eyes. If God was real, then He was God 24 hours a day 7 days a week, and wouldn’t be fooled by people’s “Sunday Best” faces and clothes. And if God was real, all-powerful and heard prayers, then everyone would surely be asking Him about how to make every decision of every day, not just make their own decisions. And so, with all the childish wisdom of a 7-year-old, I decided that God wasn’t real, He was made up by clever people to make foolish people and children behave. And I wasn’t to be fooled! My disbelief in God was sealed.

Oh dear! In my childhood “wisdom” I had judged whether God was real or not by His people.

It was a bit like choosing your spouse by the way their work colleagues acted. Or judging a book by the colour of its cover. I’m forever grateful that many years later God revealed Himself to me for the wonderful, kind, gentle, loving, holy, forgiving, generous, all-powerful, healing, and life-giving God He is.

The church is in the news a lot at the moment, showing a very painful picture of what can happen when leaders (especially) appear to abuse their position and leave their flocks with feelings of pain and devastation instead of life and healing. Can I encourage all who have been hurt by “the church” not to judge whether God is real or not by His followers, but instead go to His bible, speak to Him, and ask Him to reveal Himself to you, and show you who He really is. Please don’t judge God by His people as I had.

If you have been hurt or have a concern about anyone in the church, leader or otherwise, recent or non-recent, please can I encourage you to reach out for help. Here are some of the ways you can get support

Our Safeguarding Officer for our church is

Keith Miller on safeguarding@ccorpington.org

The Safeguarding Lead for the Diocese of Rochester is

Greg Barry on 07585 952174

The National Safeguarding Team on

safeguarding@churchofengland.org

Thirtyone:eight Safeguarding Helpline on 0303 003 1111 is staffed by trained professionals who provide safeguarding advice and guidance and operate an out of hours service for urgent calls, or email on info@thirtyoneeight.org

Safe Spaces, a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England, the Catholic Church of England and Wales or the Church in Wales available on 0300 303 1056 or info@safespaces.co.uk

In an emergency, especially if someone is in immediate danger of harm, you should always call 999 straight away and ask for the police.

Holding in my prayers all those who have been hurt by the Church and commending them for their bravery in speaking out.

Sharon

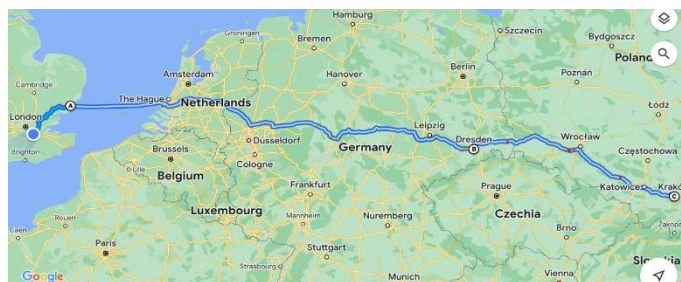
Support and Supplies for Ukraine

As many of you will know; Will Bisley & I are doing another trip to Poland to support Ukrainian refugees. The war is far from over and the circumstances of those displaced by the war are incredibly tough.

We have been absolutely blown away by the generosity of the Mens Ministry group. We put an appeal out for financial support to buy a solar powered battery pack, and within a fortnight we had all the funds. We subsequently bought it and it was dispatched in a previous van with Hope Church, so that they had more use during the sunny months. Kudos to the guys who responded so quickly.

So, we are taking further supplies as we did in December 2022, and we will be leaving Orpington on Saturday the 24th of June and arrive in Krakow late on Monday the 26th. We aim to be back in the UK on Wednesday the 28th of June.

We are planning the same route as before:



Things we really need are clothes, blankets & sleeping bags; as well as the items listed below 😊

If you can assist, please call/WhatsApp Pieter on 07949 031183.

items needed
-First Aid kits
-Vitamin supplements
-Paracetamol/Ibuprofen
-Antiseptic wipes
-Nappies including for the elderly
-Sanitary products
-Canned food - protein
-Rice
-Pasta
-Flour
-Batteries and torches
-Food for children - long-term and dry
-Warm blankets
-Warm children's clothes
-Warm adult's clothes and shoes
-Sleeping bags/roll mats

I have left a box for **Paracetamol & Ibuprofen** at the back of the church, so please let’s see if we can fill that.

With gratitude and thanks, Pieter