

# Feltham Evangelical Church *Newsletter: October 2010*

*A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith*

## Calendar

### w/c 26<sup>th</sup> September

26th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Zac Mollallegn)  
26th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (David Legg)  
26th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
28th 9.30.a.m. Prayer Meeting  
28th 5.45 p.m. Lighthouse  
29th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study (Phil Symes)  
1st 10.00.a.m. Open House  
2nd 10.30.a.m. Town Centre Evangelism

### w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> October

3rd 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper  
3rd 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)  
3rd 11.15 a.m. Sunday School  
3rd 5.45.p.m. "Together"  
5th 5.45 p.m. Lighthouse  
6th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
8th 10.00 a.m. Open House  
9th 9.30.a.m. Distributing Harvest Invitations  
9th 7.00. p.m. Feltham Bible Focus (Hugh Hill; *What Makes Churches Grow?*)

### w/c 10<sup>th</sup> October

10th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Hugh Hill)  
10th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Hugh Hill)  
10th 1.00.p.m. Fellowship Lunch  
10th 2.15.p.m. Afternoon Service (Hugh Hill; *God has been good to me!*)  
12th 9.30.a.m. Prayer Meeting

12th 5.45 p.m. Lighthouse  
13th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
15th 10.00.a.m. Open House

### w/c 17<sup>th</sup> October

17th 9.30.a.m. Prayer and Praise  
17th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables) including Lord's Supper  
17th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
19th 5.45 p.m. Lighthouse  
20th Prayer / Bible Study  
22nd 10.00.a.m. Open House

### w/c 24<sup>th</sup> October

24th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper  
24th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)  
24th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
26th 9.30.a.m. Prayer Meeting  
27th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study (Phil Symes)  
29th 10.00.a.m. Open House

### w/c 31<sup>st</sup> October

31st 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper  
31st 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)  
31st 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
2nd (November) 5.45 p.m. Lighthouse  
3rd 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
5th 10.00.a.m. Open House  
6th 10.30.a.m. Town Centre Evangelism

## News

Prathibha Kumar is due to return to India on September 29<sup>th</sup> to prepare for the birth of her and Vinay's first child.

Bob Roaf is due to be married on October 2<sup>nd</sup> to Pat Morris. Pray for them as they come together in marriage.

## Notes

Together From October we intend to seek to use the first Sunday evening of the month to meet together. This is called "Together" on the basis that it is intended as a time to share our lives together. So we plan to learn, pray, share, eat and be together. This is due to commence on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5.45.p.m.

Feltham Bible Focus is next due to take place on October 9<sup>th</sup>. The subject is "What Makes Churches Grow". Hugh Hill from Lincoln is due to be the preacher. This is a very important subject which bears directly upon our desire to be a "Church Planting Church".

Fellowship Lunch is due to be held on October 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be on a bring-and-share basis. Mr Hill will also be with us on this day. At the afternoon service Mr Hill will speak about his experiences of God's goodness to him. For further information about Hugh go to: <http://www.e-n.org.uk/4772-I-did-it-his-way.htm>.

Harvest weekend is on 9/10 October.

- This provides a good opportunity to introduce friends, family, work colleagues to the church. At the 11.00.a.m. and 2.15.p.m services Mr Hill will seek to clearly explain the Christian message.
- If you would like to bring some produce to be displayed in church for harvest then please make sure it is at the church by 9.30.a.m. on 9<sup>th</sup> October. All the collected provisions will be distributed to the local Age Concern operation.
- The collection / offering on October 10<sup>th</sup> will be passed to help Christians in Pakistan affected by the recent floods. The gift is to be passed through Barnabas Fund.

Invitations On October 9<sup>th</sup> at 9.30.am we intend to meet at the church building to distribute some invitations for the Harvest Services which will contain details of Hugh's story.

Web-site The Church website has been overhauled and now contains some of the sermons preached at the church. These can be downloaded and listened to. The web-site address is: [www.felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk](http://www.felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk). Pray that the web-site might be useful in the service of our God.

Food Provision We continue to be blessed by the LORD in enjoying times when we can have food together. As a cautionary reminder please remember to cook any food properly so that we do not encounter any unnecessary health problems.

Clocks change On 31<sup>st</sup> October the clocks go back one hour and so remember to change them so you can be in church on time.

Supervision of Children. The Church takes responsibility for children during Sunday School and Lighthouse. However, at all other times parents have responsibility for their children. So parents if your children are not in either Lighthouse or Sunday School, you must make sure that they are safe and not behaving in a way which might lead to unnecessary accidents or problems.

## **Spiritual Notes** *Longing for each other*

Our Saviour said **By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another** (John 13:35). We show that we are true followers of our LORD by loving others who are also true followers of our LORD. Let us look at the example of Paul and consider how the true nature of his desire to follow the LORD was shown in his love for the Galatians.

Galatians 4:19 reads **My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you.**

**Paul had deep affection for these Christians.** He addresses them as "My dear Children". Even though they had disappointed him by getting taken in by false teaching he still cared for them deeply. What about us? Do we have similar affection and care? Or do we write people off if they do not match up to our standards? Remember as Christians we all have "W-I-P" on our T-shirts! We are all in the "Work-in-Progress" category. We should all be helping each other to make progress in Christ.

**Paul had godly goals these fellow Christians.** Paul longed that their characters might be transformed to be like Christ. Is that our desire for one another? It should be. Of course, we thereby need to know who Christ is and what it is to have His character. He was full of grace and truth. That should be the same for us. At Feltham Evangelical Church are we continually longing that our fellow brother and sisters in Christ are having their characters transformed? We should be crying out to the LORD that He might be bringing Christ-likeness into each other's lives. What we truly pray about for someone reveals what we truly want for someone. Then we can think about what we are actively doing to bring this about. We should think how we can teach the scriptures, encourage, exhort, rebuke, counsel and support each other.

**Paul's love meant he would put in a lot of effort to help them.** Paul uses a strong image to convey his effort on their behalf. The image is that of childbirth. In childbirth there is:

- **Pain.** Are we prepared to endure rejection, being misunderstood etc so that others might be benefited? Paul would later say to Timothy: **I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory** (2 Tim. 2:10). That all things included a vast array of suffering. But he had a passion that others would know Christ and he was happy to suffer pain to achieve this. Remember for a child to be born there must be pain and for us to be labourers in bringing forth the formation of Christ in people's lives means that suffering pain is very likely.
- **Energy.** So much energy is involved in giving birth to a baby. Do we expend our energies for the formation of Christ in each other. Giving birth is no casual pastime. It consumes a woman's whole attention. So much energy is expended. No doubt we must be wise in the use of our time and energy. However, we must also be aware that to help people grow in Christ we need to give of our ourselves. Teaching, praying and dealing with people all take energy
- **Personal Involvement.** Childbirth is not a spectator sport. Will we get involved in each others lives to help each other? We live in a very individualistic society. The unwritten rule is: *"you don't interfere in my life then I won't interfere in your life and we will get on fine"*. But Christianity is not like that. Christianity is a together religion. We need to be willing to get involved. All babies are born out of a another person. We need to be personally involved in each others lives that we might see Christ "born" in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ. This is not about being busybodies, but showing a loving interest in each others lives. The starting of "Together" on the first Sunday evening of the month is a further means to promote this.
- **Seeing it through.** The phrase *"I've started so I'll finish"* from the Mastermind TV programme is very appropriate here. Once labour has started there is no getting out. The mother cannot just walk away and say I no longer want to be involved. Rather the matter must be seen through to the end; there is no option. When we are seeking to help others grow in Christ there will be times when we want to walk away; times when we want to give-up. However, our being committed to one another means that we will seek to keep with things to the end..
- **Anticipation.** When a woman is in labour she is looking forward to one thing. She longingly anticipates the birth of the baby when all the pain will be over. We anticipate fruit from our labour when we seek to minister into each others lives. This will keep us going through the pain and hardship of discipling one another. The baby we look forward to being born is that of Christ being formed in the character of a fellow brother and sister.

And so we look forward to Christ being formed in each others lives. And behind all of this is love. By this shall all men that you are my disciples if you have love one towards another