

Feltham Evangelical Church

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Newsletter: July 2017

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Calendar

W/c 25th June

Sun 25th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper.

(Philip Venables)

Sun 25th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship.

(Philip Venables)

Sun 25th 11.15.a.m - Sunday School.

(Trish)

Tues 27th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 27th 5.00.p.m. - Engage.

Tues 27th 6.45.p.m. - YY Group.

Wed 28th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study.

(Lloyd Mushambadzi)

Thurs 29th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Thurs 29th 7.30.p.m - Feltham Journey

Discussion.

Fri 30th 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open

House.

Sat 1st 11.00.a.m. - Evangelism.

Sat 1st 6.00.p.m. - Ladies Meal

W/c 2nd July

Sun 2nd 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Matt Bater)

Sun 2nd 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Matt Bater)

Sun 2nd 11.15.a.m - Sunday School.

(Sheila)

Sun 2nd 5.30.p.m. - Together.

Tues 4th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 4th 5.00.p.m. - Engage.

Tues 4th 6.45.p.m. - YY Group.

Tues 4th 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting.

Wed 5th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (Mark Henderson)

Thurs 6th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 7th 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 8th 7.00.p.m - Feltham Bible Focus: *(Our Churches Need To Be Radicalized – Simon Arscott, All Nations Church - Ilford)*

W/c 9th July

Sun 9th 9.30.a.m.- Lord's Supper. (Simon Arscott)

Sun 9th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Simon Arscott)

Sun 9th 11.15.a.m - Sunday School. (Sheila)

Sun 9th 1.00.p.m. - Fellowship Lunch.

Tues 11th 9.30.a.m - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 11th 5.00.p.m. - Engage.

Tues 11th 6.45.p.m. - YY Group.

Wed 12th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Report (Robin Asgher)

Thurs 13th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 14th 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 15th 9.00.a.m. - Cleaning and Maintenance.

W/c 16th July

Sun 16th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)

Sun 16th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship (Philip Venables)

Sun 16th 11.15.a.m - Sunday School. (Trish)

Sun 16th 5.30.p.m. - Equip. (Giving)

Tues 18th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 18th 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting.

Wed 19th 7.30.p.m. - Mission Prayer/Bible Study. (Marc Khunan)

Thurs 20th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 21st 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Fri 21st 9.00 p.m. to Sat 22nd 1.00.a.m. - Revive.

W/c 23rd July

Sun 23rd 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Philip Venables)

Sun 23rd 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)

Sun 23rd 11.15.a.m - Sunday School. (Diana)

Tues 25th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Wed 26th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer/Bible Study. (Rob Goodgame)

Thurs 27th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Thurs 27th 7.30.p.m - Feltham Journey Discussion.

Fri 28th 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 29th 8.00.a.m - Men's Breakfast

W/c 30th July

Sun 30th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Marc Khunan)

Sun 30th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)

Tues 1st (Aug) 9.30.a.m. - Prayer

Meeting. Wed 2nd 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The Word

Sat 5th 11.00.a.m. - Evangelism

Notes

The EveryoneMustKnow project is now moving forward. Our desire is that everyone living within the boundaries of the map in the side-hall knows the true gospel of Jesus Christ. We have leaflets available for distribution; if you are able to do certain streets then please liaise with Mark. We long that many will come to faith in our Savior and so we pray. Please speak to Mark if you want further information.

Prayer and Fasting The development of the “EveryoneMustKnow” project provokes us to think about giving some extra energy to seeking the Lord. Accordingly, the period for 3rd- 5th July is to be given over for a time of fasting as we seek the Lord for His great workings.

Men's Breakfast is due to take place on July 29th. This gives the men of the church an opportunity to spend time together and thereby to be strengthened in the Lord.

Equip. This month our subject is “Giving”. Part of our discipleship is found in our financial giving. How is this to be undertaken. Come and learn on July 16th.

Flowers Do you want to contribute to the flowers that are displayed within the church? If so put your name down on the list in the entrance hall and give Trish the money when the relevant weekend arises.

At Together on July 2nd we focus upon how the Lord has been dealing with some of those connected with us. We want to share together and learn together.

Fellowship Day on the August Bank Holiday, August 28th we plan to spend a day together as a church based at the church premises.

Ladies Meal on July 1st there is due to be a meal together at The Bulldog, Harvester in Ashford. See Amy for details.

Open House continues on a Friday morning. We want these times to be usefully used for contacting people in our community.

Feltham Bible Focus this month focuses on how our churches need to be transformed. Simon Arscott from Ilford is due to be preaching. The subject is “Our Churches Need to be Radicalized.”

Spiritual Notes

Turmoil - What Can We Say?

The facts are before us. We have had four terrorist attacks in the UK so far this year. All of these have led to loss of life. Moreover, we have had the worst disaster in England since the Second World War with the Grenfell Tower fire. The suffering we have seen is very grievous and as Christians we should feel the pain of those who have suffered in these terrible events. But as those who are representatives of our Lord Jesus what are we to say when asked for our view about these happenings? In giving our response we can be in danger of saying too much, but also in danger of saying too little.

We cannot say too much. - We cannot say that there is a definite link between a certain thing happening and a certain sin. We cannot say that Grenfell Tower was turned into an inferno by God because there was certain sin(s) being committed among its inhabitants. The Lord was faced with this kind of thinking when two contemporary tragedies were brought to His attention (see Luke 13:1-5). In responding to the first calamity involving the death of certain Galileans we read: **Jesus answered, Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish** (Luke 13:2-3). So in observing the calamities around us we have to be careful of making direct correlations between a certain event happening as a result of a certain sin being committed.

To inform us further on this way of thinking let us look at the experiences of Job and the accusations of his friends. The problem with his friends' way of thinking was not that they concluded that sin leads to judgement; that is an established fact of God's purposes. Their problem was that they saw suffering in Job and concluded that there must be some sin that had led to it. This was wrong because in the book of Job it states that Job **man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil** (Job 1:1b). God had other reasons for bringing suffering into Job's life, it was not directly because of sin. And we need to be careful of going on a sin witch-hunt when we see suffering. Just because there are calamities does not automatically lead us to conclude that sin has been committed.

We cannot say too little. - It is an established principle of God's ordering of things that sin does lead to punishment. Paul's observation that the **wages of sin is death** (Rom 6:23a) is pertinent. Jeremiah pointedly asks the question concerning a devastated Jerusalem **'Why should the living complain when punished for their sins'?** (Lam. 3:39). So when we see disasters happen we can make responses generally and specifically about

how God is working out His judgement on this world.

Generally. This takes us back to the Lord's response in calamities of his day in Luke 13:1-5. What He says is that when we see these things we need to repent. His reasoning is that we are all sinners in a dysfunctional world, which is dysfunctional because of sin. Since the fall in Genesis 3 we have been in a sin infected world and into such a world troubles come; they did not come into the sinless world of Genesis 1-2. All those troubles remind us of the fact that all is not well; this is a sin afflicted world. But further they remind me that I am a sinner who is a part of that sinfulness. As a result I need to repent.

Specifically. We need to be aware that God judges nations. It is helpful in this light to read a passage like Jeremiah 46-51. Here judgement is brought upon nations and that judgement is brought because of certain sin. It is not just God being nasty. It is rather the outworking of His holy justice. Moab is said to be judged, for example, because **you trust in your deeds and riches** (Jer. 48:7a), **she has defied the Lord** (Jer. 48:26b), her pride and insolence (see v 29) and her despising of God's people (see v.30). As a result of all these things Moab suffered all kinds of calamities as God outworked His judgement and those calamities were happening because of sin in the nation.

So for a country like ourselves which has rejected the Lord and despised His ways, and is determined to carry on doing so, we cannot be surprised that there are tumultuous happenings. So, consider the happenings over the last month. We had an election where all the main parties accepted that gay sex was not a sin. Subsequent to that election the Democratic Unionist Party was relentlessly attacked because they are against abortion and same-sex marriage. And on 19th June the BBC showed a programme positively affirming Lily as she transitions to being Leo.

All such things are symptomatic of a country which is morally rotting and under the judgement of God. It is pertinent to note from Romans 1 that gay sex itself is God's judgement (see vv24-27). In such a situation we should not be surprised that we see something of God's wrath being displayed in these calamities. It would rather, be surprising if they were not happening!

So let us be careful, not to say too much and not to say too little in this time when our nation is being shaken. However, we must not be quiet we must speak for God at this time.