

# **Feltham Evangelical Church**

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

## **Newsletter: February 2018**

Feltham Evangelical Church, Manor Lane, Feltham TW13 4JQ

T:020 8844 0352

W:[www.felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk](http://www.felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk)

E: [info@felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk)

# Calendar

## **w/c 28<sup>th</sup> January**

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Philip Venables)

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship (Philip Venables)

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Sheila)

Tues 30<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 30<sup>th</sup> 6.30.p.m. - Engage.

Wed 31<sup>st</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study. (Lloyd Mushambadzi)

Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> 6.30 a.m. Prayer Meeting

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> 11:00.a.m. - Evangelism

## **w/c 4<sup>th</sup> February**

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Philip Venables)

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Diana)

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 5.30.p.m. - Together

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> 6.30.p.m. - Engage.

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting.

Wed 7<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (Is. 59:1-11)

Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 9<sup>th</sup> 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> 7.00.p.m. - Feltham Bible Focus (Tell Me About Baptism - Bill James, London Seminary).

## **w/c 11<sup>th</sup> February**

Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Bill James)

Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Bill James)

Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Trish)

Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 1.00.p.m. - Fellowship Lunch.

Tues 13<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Wed 14<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (Isaiah 59:12-21)

Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 17<sup>th</sup> 9.00 a.m. - Child Protection / Safeguarding Training

## **w/c 18<sup>th</sup> February**

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Philip Venables)

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Sheila)

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> 5.30.p.m. - Equip (Important Salvation Words)

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> 6.30.p.m. - Engage.

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting.

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Mission Prayer / Bible Study. (Is. 60:1-9)

Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> 10.00. a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.00.p.m. - 1.00.a.m. Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> - Revive.

## **w/c 25<sup>th</sup> February**

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Trish)

Tues 27<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 27<sup>th</sup> 6.30.p.m. - Engage.

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (Marc Khunan)

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> (March) 10.00. a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Evangelism

## Notes

**Open House** continues on a Friday Morning from 10.00.a.m until midday. During that period the building is open for anyone to drop-in.

**Engage** takes place on a Tuesday evening at 6.30.p.m. This is a great opportunity for the “teens and twenties” of the church to learn of the great truths of God through the study of God's Word. Pray for Marc who leads this time and for all those who attend.

**Equip** On February 18th we plan to look at the key words that help us in understanding the wonderful salvation we have from God.

**Feltham Bible Focus** is due to take place on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Bill James, who is Principal of London Seminary is due to be speaking about baptism. Many Christians have different views on this subject. Come along and learn.

**Fellowship Lunch** On February 11<sup>th</sup> we are planning to have a “bring-and-share” fellowship meal. Over lunch we plan to have an interview with Sharon James who works with the Christian Institute, and is wife of Bill who is preaching with us that day. The interview will focus on “The State of the Nation”.

**Membership Sunday** On January 28<sup>th</sup> we plan to have a Membership Sunday where we focus on the privileges and responsibilities of church membership. There is due to be a lunch for members after the morning services.

**Elders Time Away** Zach, Philip and Marc are due to be away on February 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> to pray, study and consider the life of the church together. Pray this would be a valuable time for them and the church.

**Hymn Singing** At some of our services we use the words which are projected on to the screen. If you would prefer to have the words on sheets in front of you then please speak to those who are doing “door duty” or on the sound / recording desk.

**Flowers** Trish continues to faithfully arrange flowers for the church. If you would like to contribute towards the flowers then please put your name down for the relevant week on the list on the noticeboard, then shortly before that week pass your money to Trish.

### **Child Protection / Safeguarding**

- The Church now has an updated Child Protection Policy. All those involved in serving in the church among children should have read this.
- We are also hosting a morning of training on 17<sup>th</sup> February. This is being run by the The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS). All those involved in work with children in any way in the

church should attend this. Please be there for 9.00.a.m. for an introduction at 9.15.a.m. It is due to finish 1.30.p.m. Please inform Zach by 7th February to confirm attendance.

**Web-site** The church web-site ([www.felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk](http://www.felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk)) has up-to-date information about the life of the church. Please visit it and publicise it to others as we seek to make known the wonderful message concerning Jesus Christ.

## Spiritual Notes

### Forgiveness by God

Forgiveness of sins is a glorious reality which the Christian experiences when they come to faith in Jesus Christ. David knew something of the wonder of forgiveness when he said **Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered** (Ps. 32:1). There are four key ingredients in the workings out of forgiveness and we want to look at them in the light of our forgiveness by God.

#### **Fracture**

Forgiveness is about opening up the way to the restoration of fractured relationships. We must start then with our fractured relationship with God. How we might long that it was not like this. However, reality bites and we are fools if we deny the truth that in the Garden of Eden our first parents led us into rebellion and we have all followed on thereafter. Adam falls from his beautiful state of perfect communion with and enjoyment of God and we all, in him, have fallen too. Our relationship with God is fractured. In Isaiah 59:2 we read **But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.** This is stated about the relationship of the nation of Israel to their God, but it is true of us all.

#### **Repentance**

In order to come into a restored relationship with God there has to be repentance. David, the forgiven man of Psalm 32 knew this and he tells of his repentance in Psalm 51. True repentance feels the terribleness of our fractured relationship with God and pleads guilty to causing it. "I am the problem" is the cry of the repentant sinner. "My sin has separated me from God. I need to repent." So the continual message of the New Testament is that repentance must be preached. Our Lord Jesus did it, **'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'** (Mark.1:15b), Peter did it on the day of Pentecost **Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins** (Acts 2:38a) and Paul followed suit as he preached to the Athenians

**but now he commands all people everywhere to repent** (Acts 17:30b).

### **Release**

Forgiveness is about the removal of the barrier which has led to fractured relationships. At the heart of the Bible's message about forgiveness is that it comes only through the shedding of blood; **without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness** (Heb.9:22b). If there is no shedding of blood then there is no way our fractured relationship with God can be restored. But the blood has been shed that brings restoration. So it is all different now because the blood of Jesus Christ has been shed. Paul sums up the beauty of forgiveness in Ephesians 1:7 when he says that **in him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding.**

In the Old Testament The Day of Atonement had been key to the life of the nation of Israel. Through the elaborate ritual of that day, which is shown in Leviticus 16, there was an annual renewal of the relationship between Israel and their God. However, the offering connected with that day and the whole religious system of Israel could never take away sins. **But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins. It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins** is the summary statement of Hebrews 10:3-4. But now Jesus has come the one who John the Baptist declared to be the taker away of sins of the world (see John 1:29), salvation has come; there is forgiveness. When we come as repentant individuals, trusting in Jesus Christ, then we can know forgiveness.

### **Restoration**

There can be a tendency among Christians to leave the issue of our situation before God at forgiveness, but forgiveness is not the endpoint of God's purposes. The end-point of God's purposes is a restored relationship with Himself. I Peter 3:18 states God's glorious purpose **For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.** God forgives our sins and thereby removes the barrier that fractures our relationship with Himself, in order to bring us to Himself. Yes we should glory in forgiveness, but we should never forget that it is the means to the great end of knowing God and enjoying being with Him. Praise Him!