

# **Feltham Evangelical Church**

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

## **Newsletter: January 2018**

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## Calendar

### **w/c 31<sup>st</sup> December**

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Philip Venables)

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Marc Khunan)

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> 5.30.p.m. - Together

Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting.

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The Word.

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> 2.40.p.m. - Audrey Carpenter's Funeral

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> 10.00.a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Evangelism.

### **w/c 7<sup>th</sup> January** (Week of Prayer and Fasting)

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Jospeh Michael)

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Diana)

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> 5.30.p.m. - Together

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer Meeting

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> 6.30.p.m. - Engage.

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (Zach Mollallegn)

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> 9.15.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> 9.00.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> 7.00.p.m. - What Is My Responsibility Towards The Elders? (John Benton, Chertsey Street Baptist Church - Guildford).

### **w/c 14<sup>th</sup> January**

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Paul Davies)

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Paul Davies)

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Trish)

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 1.00.p.m. - Fellowship Lunch.

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> 6.30.p.m. - Engage.

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting.

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Mission Prayer / Bible Study (Paul Fountain: Sri Lanka report)

Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. - Church Members Meeting.

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Sat 20<sup>th</sup> 9.00 a.m. - Cleaning and Maintenance.

### **w/c 21<sup>st</sup> January**

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Marc Khunan)

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Sheila)

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 5.30.p.m. - Equip (Forgiveness)

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> 6.30.p.m. - Engage.

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study. (Mark Henderson)

Thurs 25<sup>h</sup> 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> 10.00. a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> 9.00.p.m to Sat 27<sup>th</sup> 1.00 a.m. - Revive

### **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. (Trish)

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> (Feb.) 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

## Notes

**Social Media** In order to maximise our presence online and advance the message of the Lord's grace please consider using the “like” and “share” buttons on the church's Facebook and Twitter pages. These can be found via the Church website. Please do the same concerning all the posts linked to the 'EveryoneMustKnow' pages on social media.

**Together** We have two “Togethers” coming up. On December 31<sup>st</sup> we intend to look back over a further year and consider how God has worked. Then on January 7<sup>th</sup> we want to focus on looking ahead. As part of that evening Joseph Michael from Amyand Park Chapel will speak his plans as he begins studies with European Mission Fellowship.

**Fellowship Lunch** On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January we intend to have a bring-and-share fellowship lunch together. Paul Davies from Albanian Evangelical Mission is due to be with us. We have supported them now as a church for some eleven years. During the day Paul will be sharing something of the work in which they are involved.

**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.

**Church Members' Responsibility** Feltham Bible Focus on January 13<sup>th</sup> sees us looking about the responsibility of church members towards church leaders. John Benton who was formerly Pastor of Chertsey Street Baptist Church is due to be preaching.

**Church Members Meeting** A meeting is arranged for church members on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30.pm. Pray that we might have a good time of fellowship as we consider the life of the church together.

**The YY Group** has concluded for the time being. We thank the Lord for the ministry exercised in YY since its inception in September 2014 and for those who have served therein. We believe significant blessing has come as a result.

**Equip** This month we look at the issue of forgiveness. When do we forgive people? Do we always have to forgive someone who has wronged against us? Come on January 21<sup>st</sup> at 5.30pm to learn together.

**Week of Prayer and Fasting** This is due to be during the week commencing on January 7<sup>th</sup>:

- As we move into the new year this gives us an opportunity to pour out our hearts in prayer to God, desiring that He might glorify Himself among us. See calendar for the details of when the prayer meetings are due to take place.
- As we seek the Lord, it is good to think about the call of the Lord upon us to fast. Why not think of missing one or two (or more) meals during the week as we pray into the life of the church. In particular we plan to use the period of 8.30.a.m on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to 8.30.a.m on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> as a fasting time. From 8.30.a.m on the Saturday we intend to break-fast together at the church building.

**The Feltham Journey** As we enter 2018 we continue into the second year of our plan to read through the Bible in two years on a chronological basis. “The Feltham Journey” gives a great opportunity to get the reading of Scripture into our daily lives. The reading plans are in the entrance hall at church. You can get involved right now. See Mark for further information.

## Spiritual Notes

### The Priority of Worship

King Hezekiah was king of Judah around 2,720 years ago. King Hezekiah was a good man; he lived well for the glory of his God. If we are sensible, that is exactly what we should desire for ourselves. Hezekiah set a good example that we should want to follow. It is striking to note in respect of Hezekiah, that he set himself to go in the right way right from the start of his kingship. And as we set ourselves to be for God in 2018, we can glean much help from Hezekiah to guide us into the right way. In particular, we can learn what is the main priority of a man who desires to live a good life to the glory of God.

We read these words concerning Hezekiah **He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, just as his father David had done. In the first month of the first year of his reign, he opened the doors of the temple of the Lord and repaired them** (2 Chron. 29:2-3). This establishes a significant principle for us. It is that worship must have, not just 'a' priority in our lives, but 'the' priority in our lives. When we lose this focus, then our lives are always impoverished. Worship should be at the centre of our lives. Hezekiah teaches us that here. He could have done a multitude of things as he sought to move the ways of God forward after the indecisive leadership of his father, Ahaz. But he was wise and put worship at the centre; he made the worship of God a priority.

Hezekiah realised the temple must be operating appropriately if ever the people of God are to be functioning properly. The temple at that time was the main place for worship among the people of God. To have the temple working well, meant that the worship of the people was going well, which in turn meant that the people themselves were doing well. What a lesson this is? It must apply:-

- **Personally.** Each of us must get worship flourishing in my life. We should be going to the Word to find material to bring praise to our great God and His Son.
- **Collectively.** When we prioritise any other thing or person (or whatever) over worship in our churches then we are always likely to go adrift. As we venture into 2018 let us get worship flourishing in our lives. If Feltham Evangelical church is to flourish in 2018, then worship must be flourishing.

As we think about these implications, both personally and collectively we need to realise that our worship should be genuine. The church at Sardis, it appears, had very impressive worship, but the Lord's view is different. He says. **I know**

**your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead (Rev 3:1).** As regards to genuine worship our Saviour Himself said **a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks (John 4:23).** Our worship should be according to the truth as it is found in scripture and not what others determine or we construct ourselves. It should also be through the Spirit working in our hearts. It cannot be just for show.

Moreover, as we think about us getting our worship in place we need to think about what action we are to take to make sure this is happening. Hezekiah did not just have a good idea, he also set about making sure it happened. So if we return to 2 Chronicles 29, we will see that he took action. He opened the doors of the temple (v3), he recruited the priests and Levites to get rid of all the rubbish that had accumulated in the temple area (vv4-5). Then he moves on to removing all the spiritual damage done to Judah by their fathers as he enters into a prayer of repentance (vv6-11).

This all reminds us that to be worshipping aright in 2018 we will need to take action; we will not just drift into getting our worship sorted out. Practically and spiritually, we will need to get things sorted. On a personal level that will simply involve setting sometime aside everyday to adore the Lord; get good books to help you in this. Talk to others and seek to get help. Then there is the continuous need for confession of sin and repentance.

**And as we think of ourselves as a church we should be wanting our worship to be enhanced in 2018. So please speak to the elders if you have any thoughts and ideas on this. We do not want to be complacent because this is such a vital aspect of church life.**