

Feltham Evangelical Church

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Newsletter: April 2018

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Calendar

w/c 25th March

Sun 25th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Marc Khunan)
Sun 25th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Mark Henderson)
Sun 25th 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Trish)
Tues 27th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Tues 27th 6.30.p.m. - Engage.
Wed 28th 7.30.p.m. - Stanwell Cong. Ch. (Jonny Dyer)
Thurs 29th 7.30.p.m. - Cranford Baptist Ch. (Paul Williams)
Fri 30th 10.30.a.m. - Good Friday Service.
Fri 30th 7.30.p.m. - Hayes Town Chapel. (Bruce Powell)
Sat 31st 8.00.a.m. - Men's Breakfast.

w/c 1st April

Sun 1st 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Michael Venables)
Sun 1st 11.00.a.m. - Easter Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)
Sun 1st 5.30.p.m. - Together. (Ask Philip)
Tues 3rd 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Tues 3rd 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting.
Wed 4th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (Isaiah 61:1-11)
Thurs 19th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Fri 6th 10.00. a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.
Sat 7th 11.00.p.m. - Evangelism.

w/c 8th April

Sun 8th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Neil Kinghorn)
Sun 8th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Neil Kinghorn)
Sun 8th 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Trish)
Sun 8th 1.00.p.m. - Fellowship Lunch.
Tues 10th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Wed 11th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (Marc Khunan)
Fri 13th 10.00. a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.
Sat 14th 7.00.p.m. - Feltham Bible Focus - Pornography – The Hidden Cancer In Our Churches – (Keith Wilson, Ashford Congregational Church).

w/c 15th April (Week of Prayer and Fasting)

Sun 15th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Philip Venables)
Sun 15th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)

un 15th 11.15.a.m - Sunday School. (Sheila)
Sun 15th 6.30.p.m. - Equip (Big Salvation Words)
Mon 16th 7.30.p.m - Prayer Meeting.
Tues 17th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Tues 17th 6.30.p.m. - Engage.
Tues 17th 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting.
Wed 18th 7.30.p.m. - Mission Prayer / Bible Study. (Isaiah 62:1-12)
Thurs 19th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Thurs 19th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer meeting
Fri 20th 9.15.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Fri 20th 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House
Fri 20th 7.30.p.m. Prayer Meeting.
Sat 21st 9.00.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

w/c 22nd April

Sun 22nd 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Dmitri Filcheva)
Sun 22nd 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)
Sun 22nd 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Trish)
Tues 24th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Tues 24th 6.30.p.m. - Engage.
Wed 25th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study. (Isaiah 63:1-6)
Thurs 26th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Thurs 26th 7.30.p.m. - Church Members Meeting (Annual General Meeting)
Fri 27th 10.00. a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.
Fri 27th 9.00.p.m to Sat 28th 1.00 a.m. - Revive
Sat 28th 7.00.p.m.- Men's Curry Evening (Simon Arscott - Undecided)

w/c 29th April

Sun 29th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper. (Philip Venables)
Sun 29th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)
Sun 29th 11.15.a.m. - Sunday School. (Sheila)
Tues 1st (May) 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Tues 1st 6.30.p.m. - Engage.
Wed 2nd 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study. (Isaiah 63:7-19)
Thurs 3rd 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.
Fri 4th 10.00. a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House.
Sat 5th 11.00.p.m. - Evangelism.

Notes

Preaching Meetings In the week preceding Easter (28th, 29th, and 30th March) we are again invited to the series of meetings arranged at local churches (see details in calendar). These are occasions when we can hear good preaching and benefit from fellowship with others.

Men's Breakfast is due to be held on 31st March from 8.00.a.m onwards.

Week of Prayer and Fasting

- This is due to be during the week commencing on April 15th:
- As we move towards summer 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 20th to 8.30.a.m on Saturday 21st as a fasting time. From 8.30.a.m on the Saturday (21st) we intend to break-fast together at the church building.

Feltham Bible Focus is due to take place on Saturday 14th April at 7.00.p.m. We deal with the vile and destructive phenomena of pornography. We need to be aware how destructive pornography is to lives. Keith Wilson from Ashford Congregational Church is due to be preaching

Equip On April 15th we plan to look at the key words that help us in understanding the wonderful salvation we have from God.

Together With Philip due back from his months sabbatical on 1st April there is an opportunity at Together on that day to ask him any question you wish to.

Our Church Outing his due to take place on the second bank holiday in May (May 28th).

A Church Members Meeting on April 26th there is due to be a Church Members Meeting. This is for all Church members and is our Annual general Meeting.

Open House Fridays we have the opportunity to take part in a scheme that helps distribute newly expired food from Tesco. So during Open House times please feel free to come and help yourself to these items.

Church Hall Decoration On Saturday 21st April we are looking to paint the back hall of the church, please see Zach if you are able to come and help for a time or all day.

Men's Curry Evening on Saturday 28th April @ 7.00pm, it will be held at the church and will be £10 per person. The speaker is Simon Arscott from All Nations Church in Ilford and the title of his talk will be Undecided. It's an evangelistic event so please invite friends, neighbours and colleagues who are undecided about the Christian faith.

Spiritual Notes

Repenting Well.

Any careful study of the Bible will soon reveal that repentance is very important. The first message that our Lord Jesus preached focused on repentance. We read **From that time when Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near'** (Matt. 3:2). Repentance is the valve which releases the blessings of God into our lives. Paul could inform the Ephesian elders that when he was in Ephesus the focus of his message was **I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus** (Acts 20:21).

Over the last two months we have been looking at the matter of forgiveness; firstly by God (February), then by each other (March). At the heart of the process of forgiveness is repentance. If there is no repentance then there is no forgiveness. For the full restoration of fractured relationships there needs to be repentance. Moreover at our Bible Study on February 7th we considered this scripture: **'The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,' declares the Lord** (Is.59:20). Here we have revealed the Special One; the Redeemer. He is coming as the Redeemer with all the ability to retrieve people back to the blessing of God. And He is coming to the special place, Zion; the place of God's presence and favour. This is God's special location on earth for blessing. However, He is coming to Jacob's people; a twisted people. How can a twisted people, even though they are in a special place, know the blessing of the Redeemer coming to rescue their lives? It is through repentance; it is through the acknowledging of our sin and turning away from it. So we need to ask are we good repenters?

As Christians we should be quick and clear repenters. If this is not so we are denying the faith we profess. Let us look at David who, upon being confronted by the vileness of his sin in committing adultery with Bathsheba and the murder by proxy of Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, says:

**For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight; (Psalm 51:3-4a).**

Like David, for us to clearly see sin for what it is we need to start by realising what we have done is offensive towards God. It is the law of God, which is presented summarily and profoundly in the ten commandments, that presents God's holy standards

Moreover, when the broken prodigal returns to the father, he says **“Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.”** (Luke 15:21). When the word of conviction comes from God to our souls we should be looking **intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues in it – not forgetting what they have heard but doing it – they will be blessed in what they do.** (James 1:25).

A quickness to repent is contrary to our natural inclination to self-defence. Such an inclination first manifested itself in the garden of Eden **The man said, ‘The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.’** (Gen. 3:12). Men have been self-justifying ever since. Let us be slow to self-justify and swift to repent.

Not only should we be quick to repent, but we should also be clear in our repentance. When confronted about an issue we can sometimes respond with an evasive comment along the lines that *“I may not have done everything right, but it was not so bad what I did.”* Moreover our repentance can so easily be modified in a series of statements of self-defence. So we excuse our sin by saying we were provoked, for example. When we have done something wrong we should clearly say what it is. In 1 John 1: 9 we read **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.** This is a beautiful assuring verse and revolves around confessing our sins. The word “confess” means to tell over. So when we repent we tell over accurately what we have done wrong. We are clear.

We need to be very careful about how we express our repentance. There is a modern fascination with repenting about upsetting peoples' feelings. This flows from how the culture in which we live treats feelings as being more important than principles. This leads us to apologising for outcomes, that is hurting someone's feelings, rather than actions which are what we have done. True repentance as it is found in scripture always repents of actions.

When we truly repent we repent of what we have done, whether that be in word or deed.

Christianity is beautifully displayed in a life when it is wearing the clothes of repentance. Let us then be a quick and clear repenters. In so doing we will adorn the teachings of our Lord in our lives. And finally, oh to have a repenting church. That would surely please the Lord.