

# **Feltham Evangelical Church**

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

## **Newsletter: April 2019**

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# Calendar

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

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

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> 11.00.am. - Morning  
Worship. (Peter Philpott)

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> 6.30.pm. - Prayer Meeting  
for Abraham

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

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

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible  
Study (Andrew Heron)

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.00. am. to 12.00.p.m. -  
Open House.

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> 11.00.am. - Evangelism.

## **w/c 7<sup>th</sup> April**

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

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Morning Worship  
(Ravin Pradham)

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 5.30.pm. - Together.

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

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> 6.30.pm. - YY Group

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible  
Study. (Paul Biddle)

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 10.00 am. to 12.00.pm. -  
Open House.

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

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.  
(Marc Khunan)

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Morning  
Worship. (Andrew Heron)

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

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

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm. - Stanwell Cong.  
Ch. (Chris Bennett)

Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm. - Cranford  
Baptist Ch. (Mostyn Roberts)

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30.am. - Good Friday  
Service

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm. - Hayes Town  
Chapel (Bill James)

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

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.  
(Dmitri Filchev)

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

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 5.30.pm. - Equip (Womens'  
Workers)

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

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> 8.00.pm. - Elders Meeting

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible  
Study (Robin Asgher)

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm.- Feltham  
Journey Discussion

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> - 10.00 am. to 12.00.pm. -  
Open House

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> 9.00.pm. To Sat 27<sup>th</sup> 1.00.am.  
- Revive

## **w/c 28<sup>th</sup> April (Week of Prayer and Fasting)**

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

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Morning  
Worship. (Chungman Shon)

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 6.30.pm. - Prayer Meeting

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm - Prayer Meeting.

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

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> (May) 7.30.pm. - Prayer /  
Bible Study (2 Corinthians 4:7-15)

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer meeting

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> 9.15.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.00 am. to 12.00.pm. -

Open House

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer Meeting.

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> 9.00.am. - Prayer Meeting

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Evangelism

## Notes

**Fellowship Lunch** On April 14<sup>th</sup> we are planning to have a “bring-and-share” fellowship meal.

**Food Preparation** It is good for us to be able to share meals together as a church. We thank the LORD for His good blessing upon us during these times. One caution we need to continually have in mind is that of making sure the food we share together is appropriately prepared. Let us therefore make sure that any cooked food is thoroughly cooked.

**The Feltham Journey** If you have not joined the journey why not take the opportunity of the start of a new month to join. The reading schedules are in the entrance hall.

**Prayer For Revival** There is a “Concert of Prayer for Revival” in our churches and nation on April 6<sup>th</sup> at Christ Church, Teddington from 10.30.am. to 12.00.pm.

**Preaching Meetings** In the week preceding Easter (17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April) 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. As a result of these arrangements there is due to be no prayer meeting and Bible study on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Mobile Phones** Please make sure these are turned off during the services so there is no unnecessary disturbance.

**Equip** On April 21<sup>st</sup> we plan to consider how “Women Workers” should be a part of our church life.

**Our Church Outing** is due to take place on the second bank holiday in May (May 28<sup>th</sup>).

**Biographical Lecture** At Amyand Park Chapel on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (10.30.am.-12.00.pm.) on Allen Gardiner, Missionary to Patagonia. The speaker is due to be Bill Hughes (North Wales).

# Spiritual Notes

## Real Christianity

So easily in church we present a sugar coated view of Christianity. We indicate, by the way we present the faith to people, that if they will come to have faith in Jesus then they will have lives which are sweet and easy. The Bible is not guilty of such misrepresentation. The Bible presents faith in the hard realities of life. Psalm 13 is such a psalm. In this psalm David is cast down by many internal struggles and God seems far away from him. Such an experience is quite familiar for many of God's people and so we should have much to learn from this psalm.

An Absent God; The Reality (vv1-2). David is desperate to know the sweet awareness of God's presence in his soul. He feels forgotten by the Lord. He is in turmoil within and aware of enemy hostility against him from without. All kinds of things of disturbing character are running around in his mind and it seems to be going on day-after-day.

We notice how David does not dress-up his situation to give an appearance that all is well. He is in deep pain in his soul and he is recounting it to the LORD, who He longs to have fellowship with. For all who feel turmoil in their hearts and minds, this psalm shows that they are not on their own. Even godly David had such turmoil. But the key thing for David, and us, is that he is perseveringly turning to the Lord. And so should we be in our struggles and turmoil.

An Absent God; The Consequences (vv3-4). David is not seeing a way ahead; it all seems bleak. He feels that if God does not come and give light then he only has death to look forward to. His sense of desperation is overwhelming.

Furthermore, he is aware that his spiritual defeat and ultimate

death will give opportunity for his enemies to gloat. They will see it as a victory and rejoice thereby. The implication is that this would be not only dishonouring to David, but also dishonouring to his Lord.

An Absent God: The Faith (vv5-6). Given what has gone before, the last two verses seem to come from nowhere. We are not expecting them. But they are the response of a man of faith; he is a man recalling what he has known of God and bringing that knowledge into his present perplexities.

Critical to the response of faith is the statement at the end of the psalm: **"for he has been good to me."** In order to move on through and beyond the hardships which come into our minds and hearts because we feel God is absent, we need to remember what God has done for us and been for us in the past. Most particularly, we need to remember how He has saved us and brought us from death to life. Our salvation always reminds us that God is good to us even when our feelings say otherwise. With the goodness of God prevailing in his mind David can make three outstanding declarations.

Firstly we see his trust in God's unfailing love (see v5a). He knows that God is an eternal refuge, and has everlasting arms, and he is happy to rest his being in such a God. But he goes further, he goes on to rejoicing in this God of his salvation (see v5b). And finally we find him singing (see v6a). This is amazing given the depth of hardship in his soul. But we learn so much here. We need to be talking to ourselves in like manner the psalmist, when we are having desperate struggles in our inner being.

Oh, how marvellous this psalm is as we see how to move through and out of desperation, despair and depression in our inner beings. When all seems to be bad in us and around us; we must remember that God is for us and we must praise Him.