

Feltham Evangelical Church

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Newsletter: April 2020

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Calendar

w/c 29th March

Sun 29th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.

Sun 29th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship

Wed 1st 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study.

w/c 5th April

Sun 5th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.

Sun 5th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship.

Wed 8th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study

Fri 10th 10.30.am. - Good Friday Service

w/c 12th April

Sun 12th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.

Sun 12th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship.

Wed 15th 7.30.pm. - Mission Prayer / Bible Study

w/c 19th April

Sun 19th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.

Sun 19th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship.

Wed 22nd 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study

w/c 26th April

Sun 26th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.

Sun 26th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship.

Wed 29th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study

News

Dmitri and Meggi Filchev welcomed their first grandchild on March 6th. Their daughter Iliana gave birth to Samuel.

Notes

Services Given the present prevailing circumstances related to the coronavirus outbreak we are seeking to conduct to our services online. We are operating with a basic structure of services at 9.30 and 11.00 on Sunday morning and our prayer and Bible Study on Wednesday evening. We hope to be arranging other activities. Details of these will be publicized as necessary. Contact the elders Philip and Zach for further information

Finances In order to continue to serve the Lord in our ministry of giving please contact Olu.

Practical Help The circumstances of the present time mean that practical needs may arise among us such as the need for shopping or medicines. If you have need of such then please contact David Henderson who is seeking to coordinate this.

Spiritual Notes

It's Not The Best.....

.....but it is wholesome. What I'm referring to here is the use of computer technology in order to facilitate churches meeting together. The reason why it's not the best is that we are appointed as churches to actually come together to see each other's faces when we meet. In Acts 2:46, we read **And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,** Also, in Hebrews 10:25a, we read that we should be **not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another.**

Church life as it is understood to be in the New Testament is that of the people of God being together to worship and serve the Lord. However, we do live in unique circumstances at the present time, due to the coronavirus outbreak. On account of the emergency associated therewith, we have been prevented by the government from meeting together. The present necessity means that we should seek to fulfil the call of God to be together as much as possible without being together physically. This raises all kinds of difficulties because of the inherent contradiction of the fact of being together whilst not actually being together. However, we have been providentially gifted to have computer technology with us at this present time. Accordingly, it would seem sensible that we would make the best use of this provision.

In using the technology, though, we should not deceive ourselves into thinking that this is church life at its best. It is a temporary means of making sure that fellowship continues in the best possible way without it being what it properly should be; that is having face-to-face contact with real tangible interaction with one another. Notwithstanding that though, we should not give up in despair saying, *"We cannot meet together, therefore we can have no fellowship."* We should be seeking to make sure that our fellowship is as genuine and as vital and as useful as possible.

One thing that we need to remember through this time is that the church really is people and is not a building. Sometimes, we can confuse ourselves and think that we only do church when we come together in a

building. The adage that the church is not the building, but the people of God, is so true. We can know the reality of that truth especially at this time.

So, at Feltham Evangelical Church, we are seeking to move through this time so that we are strengthened as a fellowship. We want to support each other and encourage each other in the Lord. We want to be able to continue to meet together as best we can through the technology available. This is a completely new time and a completely new venture and inevitably, there will be teething problems and a need to sort out what actually works best. And sometimes, we may just simply do things that are not very helpful. However, the determination through this time is to do all in our power to make sure that the people of God are built up and that all is done for the glory of God.

This time can also give opportunity for many who would not normally have contact with church to be aware that the church is alive and well in Feltham. We need therefore to think about how our online presence is maximised so that during this time of uncertainty, people would know that there is a place where they can find solid answers amid all the perplexities and insecurities of this time.

So let us seize this opportunity as a church to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. Let us be interacting together and sharing together and speaking of the Lord together. Let us be aware of one another and let us continue to support one another and encourage one another so that we move on to love and good works (see Heb. 10:24).

And finally, may this time be a time when we do not just exist and wait for everything to pass, but be a time when we make radical progress in the knowing of our God and be strong and vibrant witnesses to our Lord.