



EBC GRAPEVINE

Welcome to the July issue of “Grapevine”
Our way of letting you know what is going on each month

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save.
He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you
with his love, He will rejoice over you with singing.

Zephaniah 3:17

SUNDAYS IN JULY

- 7th Spectrum All-Age Worship
- 14th Morning Worship
- 21st Morning Worship with Communion
- 28th Morning Worship

WHO TO CONTACT

SENIOR MINISTER

Rev Andy Morgan
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YOUTH MINISTRY WORKER/PASTORAL ASSISTANT

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CARETAKER

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JULY

LET US PRAY

- Giving thanks to God for all that we are and all that we have - counting our blessings daily
- Praising God for the long-awaited summer sunshine, even if for some it may get too hot
- Thanking God for our Minister Andy and all that he does with his team and the Deacons to keep our church operating efficiently to the glory of God
- For the forthcoming general election, that regardless of the result, God will influence the hearts and minds of those in power to cultivate caring regimes for those most in need in our country and a healthy economic standard of living for us all
- That Solutions can be found for the street crimes that plague our cities and particularly for young people who see gangs as their only way forward in life
- For those known to us who are recently bereaved, those feeling unwell physically or mentally, and those waiting patiently for NHS appointments or results, that God will help us find ways in which we can support them through challenging times
- Remembering young people still taking exams and those who have finished and eagerly awaiting results to determine their future.
- Asking God to help each of us to continue to find ways to support newcomers to EBC in ways that they can see the love of Jesus shining through us.

HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM

Do you have a heart for prayer and would like to be part of the team that prays after the service on a Sunday morning? If so please get in touch with Andy as he is planning on running a new healing prayer training group.

Contact Details

Should you need to contact Claire Johnson for Deacon-related matters then please email: admintrustee@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk.

Also, a gentle reminder that Clare Shadwell's mobile is her personal number, if you need to contact her regarding any admin/family work matters please use the relevant email address.

MESSAGE FROM FINANCE SQUAD

Should you be able to financially support the work of our church then please give via the collection plate or giving machine at the rear of the church. If you are able to Gift Aid your offering kindly complete an envelope which can be found in the dispenser on the wall outside the sanctuary entrance.

A more helpful way is to give regularly, by setting up a bank standing order or using Internet/Telephone Banking. Please contact Chris or Lynn Murphy for details:

If you would like to offer your God given talents and gifts in the life of our fellowship, then we would love to hear from you. Please do get in touch with Rev. Andy Morgan.

Congregational Letter

Imagine that at the end of each week, the Lord sent us a report card - a report card based on how we had done that week on representing Christ. Imagine that we are graded on how we behaved with people - how we spoke to them in public and how we spoke about them in private. Have we complained and grumbled about people and circumstances? Imagine that we are also graded on how we use our money and resources – are we selfish or generous? What if we were graded on our **thoughts** about people?

What grade might you expect for this past week?

Each of us this past week were representing the Lord in our homes, workplaces, neighborhood's, stores and roadways, with our actions and with our words. The Lord was watching.

1 Peter 2:12 says *12 Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles, so that in a case where they speak against you as those who do what is evil, they will, by observing your good works, glorify God on the day of visitation*

How we live as Christians is so important because we represent the living God - and we can do this well or we can do this badly.

In fact, I would argue that how we live day to day is a reflection of how we respond to God's goodness to us. The danger is that we can misrepresent God to those around us.

Exodus 20:7 says, "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name."

Sadly, many have reduced this command to simply not swearing by using the words 'Jesus Christ', which is ludicrous. Literally, in the original language, it says *You shall not lift up the name of the Lord your God to waste*. Hebraic thought takes this command to mean this: you must never make a false oath; you must never make a falsehood appear as true; you must never claim God agrees to something that is evil.

You can summarize all this by saying - *You shall not represent the character of the Lord God falsely. You must NOT misrepresent God.*

This is why Jesus is so angry with what He finds when he walks into the temple and starts to turn the tables over. He sees how the spiritual leaders are acting, and He is furious because the Pharisees and the leaders of the temple have shown Jesus that they are misrepresenting God and God's character to the people.

Our lifestyle - our decisions - our actions - what we buy - what we focus on – how we talk about others publicly and privately reveals what we truly represent. The sad truth is that many Christians represent money, success, wealth, ambition and even gossip....and they misrepresent Christ.

Congregational Letter (cont)

My friends, how are we representing Christ today? Are we representing Him well or are we representing Him badly? What does the world see as our priorities? Can we say with Peter that our conduct, our speech, what we say is honourable and Christ-centred? What do people see and hear when they observe us at work, at home and at church?

May we *not lift up the name of the Lord your God to waste* and instead may we conduct ourselves as followers of Christ honourably wherever we are.

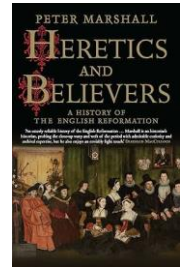
With my love and prayers



From the Pastor's Bookshelf

Heretics and Believers

By Peter Marshall



I debated whether to do a review of this book because it is 672 pages long. As you sit down with shock and outrage that I could even suggest a 672-page book for a church newsletter, let me say that Peter Marshall is a brilliant writer, and he is worth reading. Also, this book is about the English Reformation - an event that is very important in church history and in the history of this country. Henry VIII, Catherine of Aragon, and Anne Boleyn played an important role in the development of the church in England. Too often we see Henry VIII only through the eyes of popular stories about him which are not often true in history. One example is that most people believe Henry VIII wanted to divorce his wife Catherine of Aragon - he didn't - he wanted an annulment. And no, this is not a distinction without a difference.

If 672 pages of a non-fiction book seems utterly unreasonable to you then there is a brilliant Audible version, read by the wonderful and entertaining Napoleon Ryan (his name alone makes you happy), which I would highly recommend (I read the book and then listened to the Audible book).

What makes this book so good is that it focuses on stories of ordinary people in England, as told through discovered letters, journals, and diaries. This goes behind the popular facade of the English Reformation and dwells into details we almost never hear about in the 1500's. Have you heard of Thomas Hinton? He was a simple, ordinary Norfolk Priest, who was the first evangelical to be burned at the stake for his beliefs. He was regarded as a martyr by the evangelical people, but Thomas Moore (England's Catholic Chancellor and advisor to Henry VIII) said of Hinton that he was the "devil's stinking martyr."

The bottom line is that alongside the excellent writing (or listening if you opt for Audible) this book will show you the fascinating reality of how ordinary people fought for the truth of the gospel in reformation England.

Finally, let me say that we should not be afraid to read big books. Reading just 5 pages a day you will be surprised at how quickly you can get through a book of this size. And you will be glad that you did.

As part of Serve Enfield, EBC will be hosting a Fun Day in the Car Park, please spread the word and come and join in the fun!

Help is really needed!!!

Please get in touch with Kitty or Tim if you are able to offer your help in any way.



WHAT'S ON



Cafe at EBC

All are welcome to EBC Coffee Morning on Mondays, 10 am – 12 pm and Saturdays 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. A great opportunity to meet up with friends or make new friends over a warm drink.

Breakfast for Men...

...meets on a Saturday morning, once a month. Keep an eye on the noticeboard as dates will be advertised here. Invitations to sign up will be sent via ChurchSuite. If you have any questions, please see Graeme Allen or Mike Shennan.

Read the Bible Together

Read the Bible Together for this month is Mark. If you would like to be a part of a group that meets monthly to discuss what you have read then please email Andy: minister@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk.

SERMONS IN JULY

- 14th July: Job 42 - Worship and repentance
- 21st July: Mark 12:41-44 - Understanding Giving
- 28th July: Serve Enfield Mission Commissioning service - Guest Preacher TBC



Sunday 7th July: Rights of a First Born. What happens when a person dies?
 Sunday 21st July: Eternal Security



Bridge of Hope Children's Ministry

Thanksgiving Service

Saturday 7th September
 5:00 pm

BOHCM was a vision from God so this will be a time to celebrate and give thanks for His faithfulness over the past sixteen years.

There will be a service at 5 pm in the Sanctuary followed by refreshments in the lounge.



Music from the Movies

Monday 8th July
 12.30 pm

Enfield Baptist Church

Free entry to all, donations are welcome.