



EBC GRAPEVINE

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

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.
Colossians 3:1-2

SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

1st Spectrum All-Age Worship
8th Morning Worship
15th Morning Worship with Communion
22nd Morning Worship
29th Morning Worship

WHO TO CONTACT

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SEPTEMBER

LET US PRAY

- Giving praise to God for our awesome world that he has created, and for the changing seasons full of surprises.
- Praising God for the many aspects of life we enjoy, the air that we breathe and the amazing blessings he provides us with, daily.
- Thanking the Lord for summertime and the enjoyable times spent together with family and friends.
- For the safe travels and return of those on holiday.
- For young people starting or returning to schools, universities and colleges to begin a new term with all its excitement and its challenges.
- Thinking of those who have received successful exam results and are pursuing new plans for higher education or the world of work, and for those whose results are not what they hoped for, that they will not despair but discuss their concerns with adults they trust and rely on the Lord to help guide their way forward.
- For those known to us who are ill, in hospital or awaiting appointments that their situations will be eased and resolved through the power Christ Jesus.
- Asking God to bring comfort to those known to us who have been bereaved, and to those families who have been bereaved through violent crime on our streets; that those who have the power to make changes for good be empowered to do so.
- That the presence of the Holy Spirit be felt in our land to put an end to hate crimes and hostilities in war torn areas in the wider world.
- For God to equip our ministers, deacons and all who serve at EBC, to continue to help others experience the love of Jesus in our fractured world.

CALLING ALL CHEFS



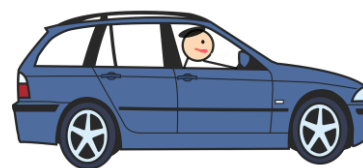
Would you like to help CAMEO, lunch club by providing a home cooked meal, either mains or dessert (but especially mains!) maybe 2 or 3 times per year?

Please join our lovely team of chefs. You can choose the date to provide a shared meal for up to 18 seniors who enjoy meeting and eating together on Mondays, on a fortnightly basis at CAMEO, here at EBC.

DRIVERS NEEDED

Did you know that we provide transport for some of our senior citizens for Sunday Church service and Tuesday afternoon Guild?

The more drivers we have the better! I would love to add you to our dedicated (but dwindling) team of drivers.



If you can help for either of these, I'd love to hear from you!

Marion supportworker@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

Congregational Letter

New Beginnings

September is traditionally a time for new beginnings. It's the time in the UK when children and young people start September to mid-December at college or school. It's a time for moving up into a new year group. Even if our formal education is long behind us, this is the time when we have finished the summer and we are beginning our regular schedules again – Home groups start up, coffee mornings begin and a whole host of interesting and exciting opportunities begin again. It's new pencils, new shoes and new notebooks time of year.

And with all this newness there sometimes comes a slightly worried, slightly sinking feeling. New expectations. "Am I going to do well this year?" "Will I cope with new responsibilities?" "Will the new people I meet be nice to me?"

Joshua, the man closest to Moses, had to face a whole load of new things when, as Moses drew near to death, he was appointed leader of Israel by God. He was appointed to be the man to lead the nation into the Promised land. (*Now aren't you glad you are only going back to a new classroom!*)

Interestingly, when Joshua is given his new job, Moses starts by reminding him that the job is already being done by God, who will go ahead of Joshua. Joshua needs to be "Strong and brave". He, along with the people of Israel, must remember the promise God gave to their ancestors, that He would give them the Promised Land. Joshua is assured that "The Lord himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you. He'll never desert you. So don't be afraid. Don't lose hope". (Deuteronomy 31: 8). Joshua accepts his new commission and even when Joshua worries that the people might not listen to him and follow his commands, provision has already been made for that circumstance.

After the death of Moses, the Lord reminds Joshua again of exactly what He said previously through Moses. He reminds Joshua that He will be with him as He was with Moses and again, He says: "I will never leave you. I will never desert you" (Jos 1:3) and He gives a reminder this time to obey the law that Moses had given to him. He tells him to not stop reading the law and to think about it both day and night and then make sure that he does everything written in it. With this in mind, the Lord promises that things will go well for him, and he will have great success.

Again, God commands Joshua: "Be strong and brave. Do not be terrified. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go." (Jos.1:9)

And then just in case Joshua still hasn't understood what God has said, the day before Joshua has to take action, in a quiet moment while Joshua stands before the walls of Jericho, the Angel of the Lord or commander of the Lord's army (most probably Jesus) reminds Joshua that it is the Lord who goes before him and is in charge of the work that He's given Joshua to do.

And on this day, there is a whole new beginning for the people of Israel. From this day onward they are no longer going to be a nomadic people, they are no longer going to dwell in tents and the Manna that has been provided by God is no longer going to appear because the people are going to eat the food that has been grown on the land where they are going to live. Finally, they will have their own space, their own address, their own rose bushes and probably they are a little apprehensive as well as Joshua.

So, in the new things we are facing what can we expect from God? We can expect that God is the same yesterday, today and forever. As Jesus said Matthew 28 v 20: "and you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end."

Congregational Letter (cont.)

So, when you go into the new classroom, new activity or that new office, remember the Lord has gone before you and has prepared the way for you. Remember to be brave and strong. Do not be terrified, do not lose hope. The Lord is with you everywhere you go. Remember that He's giving you His promise in the same way He did for Christians who have gone before you. Remember that the way to success is reading and thinking about God's word and seeking to obey His commands. And if, in a moment of panic in you forget these things, don't worry, Jesus will remind you all over again!

Many blessings

Kitty Morgan

P.S. If you are not sure of the promises and the story of God – don't worry, we've got you covered – we will be going from Creation to Revelation in our Sunday services and Ablaze classes.

From the Pastor's Bookshelf

Spurgeon: A Life by Alex DiPrima

This is a new, one volume, biography of Charles Spurgeon which was released in August of this year. The last one volume biography of Spurgeon was published in 1985 by Arnold Dallimore. To be able to fit the life of The Prince of Preachers into one manageable volume without leaving huge gaps is a feat, and DiPrima manages to do it very well.



By the time Spurgeon took charge of the famous New Park Street Chapel (later to become Metropolitan Tabernacle) at the age of 19 years old in 1854 Spurgeon had already preached 600 sermons since his conversion 3 years previously.

He arrived at New Park Street when its membership was 252; at the time of his death in 1892, the Metropolitan Tabernacle was 5,311 people with over 14,461 members who had come and moved on in the course of his ministry. When Spurgeon died 20% of all Baptist Ministers had been trained by Spurgeon's Pastors' College.

When you talk about 'Baptists' Charles Spurgeon is perhaps the most famous. But how much do Baptists know about this remarkable man.

This is an excellent and enjoyable book and one which I think all Baptists should read. It covers Spurgeon's life well, highlighting the ups and downs of an amazing ministry. Specifically, this biography gives an excellent account of the Down-Grade Controversy which Spurgeon's wife Susie said shortened his life. It shows us that for decades of his life Spurgeon ministered while in great physical pain due to gout and Bright's disease which affects the kidneys.

Spurgeon's ministry is perhaps unrivalled even in today's world of the mega church. Indeed – Spurgeon's Tabernacle was the largest protestant congregation in the world at its peak – Spurgeon was a mega church pastor before the mega church was invented. Highly recommended.

WHAT'S ON



**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.

ABLAZE
FAMILY LUNCH
Sunday 7 September
Upper Hall

See Clare Shadwell for more info



Read the Bible Together

Read the Bible Together for this month is Exodus

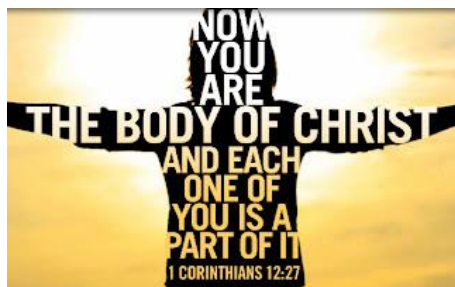
If you would like to be a part of a group that meets monthly to discuss what you have read then please email Andy:

minister@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

Sept 8 - Rich Young Ruler
Sept 22 - Sin of Fear and Worry

SERMONS IN SEPTEMBER

- 8th September: Creation, Fall and Flood
- 15th September: Patriarchs - Abraham
- 22nd September: Exodus - Moses
- 29th September: Law - Martin Higgins from Chase Family Church



Church Meeting

Sunday 22nd September in the Sanctuary

Members have the opportunity to put forward points for discussion, these need to be emailed to Andy by Saturday 21st September: minister@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk The agenda and minutes from the last meeting will be emailed prior to the meeting.

Creation to Revelation:

Exploring the Bible Together 2024/2025.



In this exciting new venture, we will all be studying the story of the Bible in just one year - September 2024 to July 2025!

Part one will happen from September to the end of November during our Sunday services. The adult sermon and Ablaze will be looking at the story of the Old Testament.

Pete Desmond and Kitty Morgan have been working on a new, original song to help everyone learn the significant events.

We hope that you will enjoy exploring the Bible together and that it will provide fun discussions over Sunday lunch. After all - it is His Story!