

EBC GRAPEVINE

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

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

2 Corinthians 9:6

SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER

- 6th Spectrum All-Age Worship
- 13th Morning Worship
- 20th Morning Worship
- 27th Morning Worship with Communion
- 29th Morning Worship

WHO TO CONTACT

SENIOR MINISTER

Rev Andy Morgan
 minister@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

YOUTH MINISTRY WORKER/PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Tim McBryan
 tim.mcbryan@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

CHURCH CO-ORDINATOR FAMILY & WOMEN'S WORKER

Clare Shadwell
 admin@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk
 families@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

SENIOR'S SUPPORT WORKER

Marion Phillips
 supportworker@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WORKER

Kitty Morgan
 children@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

CARETAKER

David Thomas
 maintenance@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

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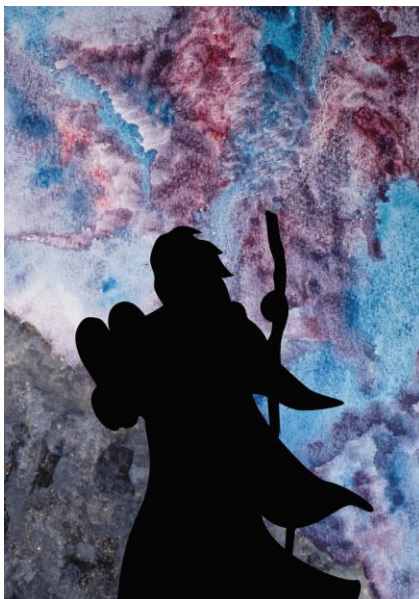
OCTOBER

LET US PRAY

- For peace in all the places where war and hostilities are destroying hearts, minds, and homes and threatening the stability of our world.
- Remembering those among us who have been bereaved, feeling lonely or unwell.
- Praising God for blessing us with life and the changing seasons where we see His hands at work in so many ways.
- Thanking God for the support of family and friends when needed and asking that we too can find ways to provide friendship and support to others.
- Giving thanks for our church, and all who work for its success in bringing God's Word and the love of Jesus in service to others and remembering those who are unable to worship without threat of persecution.
- Asking God to show us ways in which we can serve him effectively in our church and in our work and school communities. For faith and courage to say 'yes' to whatever He may ask of us.
- Praise God for The Message Trust youth event, No More Knives, that happened at EBC in September. Pray for the 70 young people who made commitments to Jesus. Pray that they would find churches who will love them and disciple them.
- Pray for the new leader of Enfield Council, Cllr Ergin Erbill. Pray for godly wisdom for him and for the council in all their decisions.

STUDY EXODUS – DEUTERONOMY

FOUNDATIONS OF GOD'S COVENANT COMMUNITY



These books may not be very familiar to us, Exodus through to Deuteronomy provide the basis for understanding the people of God in the Old Testament and are key not only to the Old Testament but also to many of the discussions and images in the New Testament. If we truly want to understand the background to Jesus and his discussions with the Jewish people of his day, these books are essential reading.

All you need for this course is the Bible. You will receive the course materials which you will go through at home. There will be a fortnightly tutorial where we will discuss what you have been studying. The Cost is £60 (if you would like to do the course but the cost is prohibitive, please let me know.)

For more information and a sample of the course please contact Andy, minister@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk.

A reminder that if you need to contact Claire Johnson regarding any church related issues, you should use: admintrustee@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk.

Congregational Letter

Success is a dangerous thing. We all want to be successful. We all hate the idea of failure. But there are three elements which are vital for us if we are to truly understand what real success is: 1. Being successful requires that we know how to handle failure 2. Failure helps us to be successful 3. God is the source of all our success – not us!

The big danger with being successful is that it easily breeds self-reliance and self-reliance leads to failure. Success can too easily make us run AHEAD of God instead of walking WITH God. A great example of this is in 2 Samuel 6. In chapter 5 we are told David wins EVERY battle against the Philistines. He is extremely successful. And his success is built on asking God what he should do in each battle.

But in chapter 6, David decides to go and get the Ark of the Covenant and take it to Jerusalem. He made a great show of this – 30,000 men go with him. David puts the Ark on a brand-new cart, there is dancing and celebration. The great, successful King David is bringing the Ark to Jerusalem.

But then failure strikes. The oxen stumbles and Uzzah reaches out to steady the Ark and he touches it – forbidden by God – and he dies.

V8 of Chapter 6 says David was angry because of what happened. He was possibly angry that he had realized he had left out one vital ingredient to bringing the Ark to Jerusalem. He did not ask God. He had run AHEAD of God. Out of his success, David forgot to see if what he was doing was right, or whether he was doing it the way God wanted.

It took three months for David to get over this and while the Bible does not tell us explicitly that David asked God how to bring the Ark to Jerusalem, implicitly it is clear he did because when David does go back to collect the Ark, he follows the Lord's instructions as given in Exodus and Leviticus on how to transport the Ark. Not on a new cart – which is how the pagan unbelieving Philistines has transported the Ark - but with Levite priests carrying it on poles as instructed by God. And David sacrificed animals in praise and worship on the way.

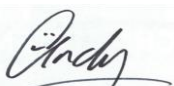
The greatest danger to success is that we can too easily fall into the idea that WE are responsible; **I** built this programme up; **I** made this event happen; Look at how many come to this or that programme; look how good **I AM**.

All of which is a recipe for disaster.

When we think success is because of us, we start to think that we should be congratulated. And when we don't receive sufficient recognition then we become upset or even resentful and angry.

We must never let our success mean we run ahead of God – we must always remember that God is the author of our successes, and we must realise that true success is how we deal with failure. And of course, ultimately, it's not our success that really matters – all that matters is the Lord and His glory. The privilege of serving Him is all the success and recognition that we should need.

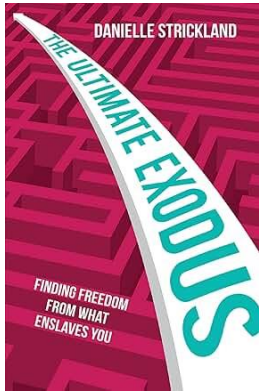
With my love and prayers



From the Pastor's Bookshelf

The Ultimate Exodus: Finding Freedom from What Enslaves You

Danielle Strickland



Danielle Strickland is a Major in the Salvation Army and a very gifted speaker. In the Ultimate Exodus, Strickland has written a very engaging book that cleverly intertwines the Exodus Story in the Old Testament with modern life, showing how we too can break the bonds which tie us up and enslave us today, often without us realising.

While this is really a fun book with LOTS of (very memorable) stories, Strickland also has some interesting and thought-provoking insights into the Exodus story. This is one of those books that mixed in with the fun stories are some real nuggets that might transform our lives.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sound Desk Operators

We need to recruit two more people to join the team that operate the sound system on a Sunday and at some other times. No experience required as full training will be given, any age but reasonable hearing is helpful. Generally you would be on the rota once a month and need to arrive for the rehearsal at 9.00am.

Please contact Barry

LITTLE BUDS

Little Buds run on a Friday morning in the lounge and supports mums with toddlers from the age of one to two. Volunteers are needed to be with the toddlers in the extension lounge so that parents can relax in the lounge.

If you are interested, please email: families@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk.

Events Team

We are considering future events at EBC and to ensure that these run smoothly we are creating a couple of teams of people who would be willing to help. One team would be to help with setting up/clearing away and the other would be for catering, ie, serving drinks/food, training will be given where necessary. You would be under no obligation to commit to every event, just willing to be asked.

If you are interested, then please email: admin@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk. Please do consider offering your help as we can only run events with the help of volunteers.

Night stop By Andy Briers

Michelle and I have been Nightstop hosts for over 10 years hosting young people (aged 17 to 25) who through no fault of their own find themselves homeless. We provide emergency accommodation which consists of a meal, a shower, a bed and someone to talk to. The young people have a rich and varied background and have many encounters and experiences that have shaped their young lives. For some London is not their home and English is not their first language. Some have arrived in the UK after enduring harrowing experiences, others have witnessed the trauma of domestic abuse in the home. But one thing that is true of them all is that they are vulnerable and many just seek a bed and a meal for the night.

We have spent many evenings as a family talking with our guests over a meal or watching football together on the television. Our boys have grown up with these guests in the house and have grown to appreciate and understand that life is not always fair and certainly not equal. It has helped form their characters and provided them with a sense of justice and appreciation of life and has had an influence on their careers and outlook on life.

Many of the young people choose to share their story of homelessness and their fears as well as aspirations as they journey through life. What is true of them all is that it is not their fault that they find themselves in this vicious cycle of homelessness. They tell us about the hopelessness of sleeping rough and how they develop strategies to keep safe on the streets and survive. Many of them resort to riding the bus networks from one side of the Capital to the other. They rely on 24-hour food outlets to keep them warm and in the public eye where they hope there will be less chance of being victimised.

The Homeless Myth

They explain that they are regularly labelled when it comes to homelessness. The same label I used to apply to homeless young people- "you choose the lifestyle, you are unkempt, you are dirty, you don't have a job, you spend all day begging or stealing, you harass others, you are anything but a victim".

The reverse is true - these young people have jobs; attend college and university, they have aspirations and dreams to succeed. They are polite and so very grateful for the support and generosity; they are often embarrassed because they know they cannot repay you and feel inadequate and often ashamed to reach out for help. They find themselves homeless because of circumstances beyond their control - a death in the family, a violent partner, losing their job, the cost of living to name but a few. Life as we know isn't always fair and the young people have found this out the hard way through no fault of their own. They share the same fears as every other young person of fitting in, making friends, only this is exacerbated by worry of where they are going to sleep, can they afford to eat, where will they do their washing, will they be assaulted or attacked? How will they get to college and what will be the stigma attached to them if anyone finds out?

Teachers and authority figures are often unaware of the circumstances these young people endure, because they do their best to hide it - they wash and try to keep themselves and their clothes clean, the last thing they want is to admit they are homeless and need help.

We have met so many amazing young people who are trying to make their way through life. Their stories are complicated, often messy, intertwined with issues of low self-esteem, mental health, and trauma. But despite all of this so many of them display such resilience and hope that things will get better. Every young person has a story- every young person has a journey and we feel that as a family we should do what we can to listen to and play an active part to getting them back on their feet.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Nightstop host then click on [nightstop hosts: Andy and Michelle - Depaul UK](#)

WHAT'S ON

Bridge of Hope Sewing Bee

Wednesday 9th October: 10 am – 1 pm in Room 1.1

Please join Kate and Rosemary in making shorts/skirts for children in Uganda. This will be a fun social event for those with lots, little, or no machine sewing experience. Rosemary and Kate will be on hand to show you what to do and support you at every step of the process. When your skirt or shorts are completed, you will be invited to write a short message to the child, Rosemary and Kate hope to visit Uganda with the BoHCM team in January and will deliver the skirts and shorts to children personally.

What do I need to bring?

Everything you need will be provided i.e.. Sewing machines, materials, and refreshments
All you need to bring is £10 to pay for the skirt or shorts you make. Do bring your own sewing machine if you would prefer to.

If interested, then please email katy.solomon@icloud.com or 07782 644532.

Do join us and help make a child's life a little bit brighter with a new outfit

Read the Bible Together

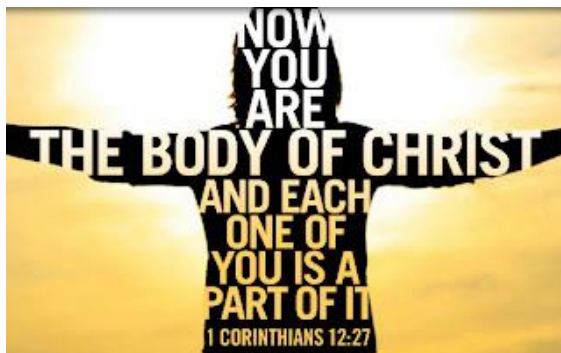
This month's book is 1 Samuel. If you would like to be a part of a group that meets monthly to discuss what you have read then please email Andy: minister@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk.

SERMONS IN OCTOBER

13th October: Land - Jericho
20th October: King Saul/David/Solomon
27th October: Prophets - Elijah/ Jeremiah



6 October - Applying the Bloody
20 October - Forgiveness



Church Meeting

Sunday 13th October in the Sanctuary

Members have the opportunity to put forward points for discussion, these need to be emailed to Andy by Friday 11th October: minister@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk

The agenda and minutes from the last meeting will be emailed before the meeting.

Harvest Service

Sunday 6th October



Please join us at our Harvest Service where we will be focusing on Thanksgiving for God's provision and connecting with the natural world God has made.

Don't forget your non-perishable donations for the North Enfield Food Bank! We would be grateful if you could bring them to the SpArklers room before the service, they will then be put into baskets for the children to present during the first hymn.

After the service there will be a Nature Walk through Enfield Town Park, with a scavenger hunt for those who would like to join in. The walk is pushchair and wheelchair accessible.

At 1pm we will join together for a bring and share lunch in the Upper Hall, if you haven't already signed up then please do so via ChurchSuite or emailing the church office, admin@enfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk. Kindly bring your contribution on a serving plate, dish, or bowl, and drop it off in the kitchen before the service begins. To help things run smoothly, please bring food that is ready to serve, as we will not be able to heat any dishes. Finger foods are ideal for easy sharing! Some ideas for what to bring, but not restricted to: Sausage rolls, chicken pieces, quiche, cheese and crackers, salad, sandwiches.....

During the lunch there will be a "Weird Vegetable/Fruit" competition so keep your eyes open and bring these to the lunch.