

# BRIGHTON ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH



## BRBC Bulletin

**Sunday 13th October 2024**

**Welcome to our service today.**

### Events for the next week

#### THIS SUNDAY

A matter of life and death

Gal. 2.17-21 - Communion Service

**10:30am Sunday Service**

led by Ken Carter with Julie Shimizu

**10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)**

Meeting Rooms - Children will go  
from the main service

#### NEXT SUNDAY

Abraham believed God Gal. 3.2-6

**10:30am Sunday Service**

led by Michael Hogg

**10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)**

Meeting Rooms - Children will go  
from the main service

Sunday 13th October 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 13th October 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Monday 14th October 6:00pm	BMS Claire Bedford
Tuesday 15th October 1:00pm	BRBC Babies & Toddlers Group
Tuesday 15th October 4:00pm	Toy Library
Tuesday 15th October 7:45pm	Allsorts Housegroup
Wednesday 16th October 2:30pm	Johnson House Group
Thursday 17th October 10:00am	Art Group
Thursday 17th October 10:30am	Men's Coffee Morning
Thursday 17th October 2:00pm	Women's Fellowship
Thursday 17th October 7:45pm	Worship Group
Friday 18th October 2:00pm	Afternoon Stroll
Sunday 20th October 9:15am	Mission Prayer Meeting
Sunday 20th October 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 20th October 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Monday 21st October 10:00am	Coffee, Cake & Company
Monday 21st October 2:30pm	PMA
Tuesday 22nd October 1:00pm	BRBC Babies & Toddlers Group
Tuesday 22nd October 4:00pm	Toy Library
Wednesday 23rd October 7:00pm	Hillside House Group
Thursday 24th October 2:00pm	Craft Club
Thursday 24th October 7:30pm	Roffey House Group
Thursday 24th October 7:45pm	Worship Group
Friday 25th October 10:00am	Listen and Pray
Sunday 27th October 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 27th October 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Monday 28th October 10:00am	Coffee, Cake & Company

# Weekly Message

## Am I a Christian?

Jean-Paul Sartre invites us to consider a waiter in a café, who gets up at 5 am, sweeps the floor and puts on the coffee before the customers arrive; when they do, he waits on them, solicitous of taking their order, and then bringing it to them, skilfully balanced on a tray. Is this man a waiter? No, says Sartre, not in the sense that an inkwell is an inkwell or a glass is a glass. The man chooses to act out the socially prescribed role of being a waiter, but he cannot – he must not – be defined by his behaviour or his work. Instead, he is a conscious being who transcends the role he plays.

So, what about me? Can I say that I am a Christian? Well, yes, I am a Christian, and in a more fundamental sense than I am a Baptist minister. I could resign from the ministry and still be the same person, but I think that something fundamental would change if I turned my back on my faith. That's not to say I don't choose to behave like a Christian every day. Actually it's really important that I choose to pray and read the Bible, that I go to church, that I seek to make Jesus Lord of who I am and how I live and relate to others. I am not a 'passive' Christian. Living the Christian life should be an active choice, but when I choose, I am not acting out a role that other people expect of me. It must go much deeper than just fitting in with church culture.

According to existentialism, who we become is constantly developing as a result of our own choices and actions. But if I say, 'I am a Christian,' then I am making a static statement about myself. Instead of constantly choosing who I will become, I am saying that this is the essence of who I am. And actually I'm very happy with that, because this is my God-given identity. After all, Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last' (John 15:16). If my Christian life depended on the daily choices that I make, then it would be pretty rattly and fragile, because I am nowhere near as consistent as I would need to be to sustain my own faith. But that's where grace comes in. It's grace that keeps me, even when I get it wrong. In fact, we could push it further and say that it is only by God's grace that I can declare, 'I am a Christian,' and mean it. And in the future, who I will become? Well, that's in God's hands too: as people

saved by grace, we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do' (Ephesians 2:10). Thank God for that!

Tim Carter

## **Notices**

### **Coffee, Cake and Company**

No meeting on Monday 14th October but there will be on the 21st October.

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### **Meeting with Claire Bedford**

A reminder for those who signed up to come at 6pm on Monday 14th October to meet Claire Bedford of BMS World Mission, on home assignment from Chad. After a light afternoon tea meal, Claire will share the latest news about what is going on at the Guinebor 2 Hospital and tell us how we can continue to pray for her.

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### **Election of Deacons**

You will be aware that the members of BRBC have agreed that up to twelve deacons work alongside our ministers and that we currently have eight serving deacons. Deacons also act as Charity Trustees, defined by the Charities Act 1993 as "persons having the general control and management of the administration of a charity."

As well as the current vacancies, the term of office for Deborah Packham and Marion Richardson comes to an end in December. We intend to hold an election of deacons at the November Church Members' Meeting and you are invited to prayerfully consider who should be nominated for this position. If you would like any further information about what the role entails, please do speak to a minister or one of the deacons.

Nominations must be submitted in writing with the supporting signature of two church members and the consent of the candidate, who must also be a member. Forms can be obtained from the church office or from Deborah Packham, Acting Church Secretary.

Nominations must be received by Deborah Packham or the church office by 12 noon on Sunday 10 November.

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### **BRBC Toy Library Light Party**

BRBC Toy Library is hosting a Light Party from 4:00pm - 6:00pm on Friday 1st November.

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### **Walks**

If you would enjoy an afternoon stroll in the local countryside, meet at church at 2.00pm on Friday 18th October. The exact location will partly depend on the weather. The next Saturday walk will be on November 2nd probably around Petworth.

Mary Breeze

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### **Christmas Choir**

It is almost time to start rehearsing for our Christmas Carol service, so if you would like to be a part of the choir please let me know as soon as possible, but no later than Sunday 3rd November. It would be lovely to see previous participants and to welcome new singers too.

Rehearsals will begin on Friday 8th November starting at 7.30, and finishing no later than 9 o'clock, meeting in the chapel. Practices will continue in the same place and at the same time until Friday 20th December when the final rehearsal will be in the Sanctuary.

The carol service will be in the evening of the 22nd December .

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### **Message from Horsham Matters**

Just a note to say a BIG thank you for the recent Harvest donation of 130.42 kg of food from BRBC to the Horsham District Foodbank. Your kind donation will help put food on the table for local households experiencing hardship. New YouGov data released last month showed that just over half (54%) of people claiming Universal Credit have cut down portion size or skipped meals entirely because they didn't have enough money for food. We continue to experience a high demand for support. So far this year, we have provided almost 7,000 individual food parcels, and we expect demand to increase as winter approaches. We

could not offer the support we do without the generous support from our church community. Thank you once again for your kind donation.

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### **Horsham Apple Day**

Saturday 19th October at the Unitarian Church & Garden, Worthing Road, Horsham, (opposite Bus Station) 10.30 am - 3 pm. Free Entry for all kinds of apple related activities. This is being run by Transition Horsham who run the Community Allotment.

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### **Oasis Fundraising Concert November 9th**

No Strings attached will perform at a fundraising concert in aid of Oasis on Saturday November 9th at the Roffey Club in Spooners Road. Tickets £12 from Eventbrite (no additional fees), link below.

No Strings Attached is an a capella group of five musicians who have been performing in Sussex for over ten years. They provide enchanting and unique vocal harmonies, with a repertoire including hits of the 60s, 70s and folk songs.

There is free car parking at the Roffey Club and the bar will be open from 7pm. Concert starts 7.30.

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### **Crawley Millennium Band Christmas Concert**

As we have now officially moved into Autumn, it's time to remind you to put the date for the Crawley Millennium Concert Band's Christmas Concert at Brighton Road into your diaries. The date is Saturday 14th December - start time 7pm and, as usual, entry is free. There will be some great music, Christmas carols, tea, coffee and mince pies. Look forward to seeing you there. Judy McMahon. Tele: 07813686020

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### **Beginning of Christmas in Horsham**

On Friday 22nd November 2024, the Horsham town centre Christmas lights will be switched on and St Mary's Church Choir and St Mary's School Choir will be leading a carol singing walk from 5pm to 5:45pm, singing carols in the Causeway, Forum, West Street and Market Square. Everyone will have carol sheets to join in the singing. Afterwards, the lights on the Christmas tree in the Market Square will be switched on, and the Capitol's panto cast will perform festive songs. There will also

be street food and late-night shopping.

Then, at 7:30pm, the Trinity Church Players will be carol singing around the Christmas tree in Piries Place. Everyone is invited to take part, as we declare through song the good news of Jesus' birth.

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### **Horsham Matters' Merry Melodies Christmas Concert**

Get into the Christmas spirit at the Horsham Matters' Merry Melodies Christmas Concert taking place on Saturday, 30th November at St Mary's Church in Horsham, featuring local talent including contemporary gospel choir, Singergy and local legend Jodie Munday plus a special guest. Doors open at 6:30pm with the concert starting at 7:00pm. There will be a bar providing mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets are £12 per person and can either be purchased from the TicketTailor website or in person at the Love it Again shop on West Street in Horsham town centre. Funds raised will help support the work in the community.

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### **Operation Christmas Child - Shoe-boxes for 2024**

A child's Christmas box says that they are loved by Jesus and his people. In 2023 the UK lovingly packed 237,735 shoeboxes for children in The Balkans, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Middle East, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine and West Africa. This year, a new destination for UK boxes will be the southern African country of Malawi.

Making a box :- Boxes and 'How To' leaflets will soon be at church on the reception display.

Donating boxes:- to BRBC Sun Nov 3 – Mon 11th - All information on the OCC website:- [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/)

Giving a shoebox On Line – order from this website and their warehouse will make up a box for you.

Last year you generously gave at least 90 boxes including by on-line, so please be generous again in 2024. Each BOX makes a Child Happy - Thank you, from - Keith & Alison Johnson 256596

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## Flowers in Church last Sunday

The flowers last week were given by Margaret Penn and Rosemary Tracey in loving memory of Margaret and Ray's son and Rosemary's mother.

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## Flowers in Church Today.

The flowers today have been given by June Parminter, in loving memory of her dear husband, Jim.

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## For Prayer

Our ever-present God,  
we pray that as we worship  
you will reveal yourself to us.  
By your grace forgive us  
and call us back to you when we are lost.  
In the fire of your Holy Spirit, warm us,  
by the wind of your Spirit, move us,  
with the love of Jesus, fill us

## Mission Prayer Request

After a period of political unrest and change, Peter and Louise Lynch ask that we join them in praying for a just, peaceful and free Bangladesh. Minority groups, including Christians, are particularly apprehensive about the future so pray for courage and peace for them at this time. Continue to pray also for the mission trainees working in outreach areas, including in the tea plantations.

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Notices for the weekly bulletin should be sent to [bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk](mailto:bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk) before 6pm on Wednesday.

Brighton Road Baptist Church is part of God's family, where anyone and everyone is made welcome, and we are all equipped to live our lives for Jesus with a shared sense of unity and purpose. We warmly welcome you to our worship today and hope that you feel at home among us as we worship God together.

Church Office (01403) 211150  
Monday to Friday 9:30am - 4:30pm  
Minister - Rev Dr Tim Carter (01403) 267587  
Leader of Community Evangelism - Rev Michael Hogg 07926 045598  
[www.brbc-horsham.org.uk](http://www.brbc-horsham.org.uk)