



Website: wymondhambaptist.org

Facebook: @Wymondhambaptistchurch

Verse for the Year: 'Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes' - Isaiah 54:2

News Sheet - 21.3.2021

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We welcome you to our service this morning which is held on zoom. Mark McAllister is leading our worship as Paul is at college today. We will be looking at Luke 6 v 27-36

Log in meeting ID - 87015605160

Passcode - 606355

Services during March:-

March 28th - Paul Smith - Matthew 5 v 11

Bring a Brew:-

Our next Bring a Brew will be held on **Tuesday, 23rd March 2.30p.m. - 3.30p.m.** Make a cuppa and come and share a time together. How about inviting a friend or neighbour who might be lonely to join the session.

Zoom Log in details - Meeting ID - 821 0340 9922

Passcode - brew

If you would like to make a direct payment/donation/standing order to the church, the church account details are:-

Sort code: 30-99-08 A/c No: 22019560. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation, this would add 25% to your giving at no extra cost to you, please contact the Treasurer or the Church Office (office@wymondhambaptist.org).

Please remember in your prayers, thoughts and actions:-



Jane and David, Dave and Ann and family, Jenni and family, Gill, Jean, Alan and Rose, Lara and family, Jack and Kevin Cooper. Please continue to remember in your prayers the Youth Alpha course and the young people attending. Remember the fellowship at Earls Colne Baptist Church, a small fellowship in Essex. Pray for them particularly as they begin looking for a new minister to take over in September when their current interim minister starts her training at Bristol College.

MISSION NEWS:-



News from France – There is a worrying situation for the French church and Rachel has sent this update:

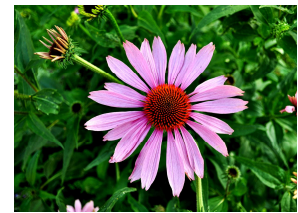
..... there is a law currently being debated in the French parliament that would significantly increase restrictions on religious groups. The law has been proposed in response to Islamic separatism and radicalisation but would apply to Christian associations and churches as well. If the law goes through as it was proposed, it could mean that teaching and preaching is monitored, foreign missionaries are not allowed to work as pastors or church leaders, and there could be increased restrictions on finances. The National Council of Evangelicals (like the EA) is in discussion with the government to try and get some of the proposals amended.

There is an article in Christianity Today
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2021/february/france-terrorism-law-evangelical-churches-muslim-separatism.html> that has a lot more information and gives a good perspective on the situation.

Annual Reports - If you are responsible for an annual report please make sure it is sent to the Office ASAP and certainly by the end of March. Thank you.

BISHOPS HOUSE OPEN GARDEN DAY –

The Matthew Project Charity are hosting a garden open day with the kind permission from Bishop Graham and Rachel Usher on Sunday 16th May 2021. If you would like to make a visits, tickets are £5 per adult. Follow the link to 'newsletters' on the Matthew Project website – www.matthewproject.org



Harmony



One Sunday, recently, I was in the middle of a common dilemma. Singing along to a youtube song I had to decide whether to be a soprano and struggle to reach the highest notes without squeaking, or drop an octave and fail to reach the lowest notes. It reminded me of a conversation, a few years ago (with Neil?). I asked if, with any particular melody, it was possible to set it in a key that would enable everyone to sing the whole tune comfortably. He said 'No.' Each of us has our range of notes, and we're all different. So we are left with a choice. If we want to make a noise, joyous to others and ourselves, do we try to meet the challenge of the difficult notes, or do we keep switching octaves, or do we learn to harmonise, leaving the melody behind but using notes that sound well with what other people are singing. If disharmonies happen, as they will (often when the different notes are too close together), then resolving them as the song continues are pleasing actions in themselves. I find myself doing a bit of all three.

As we move forward in our Christian lives it can be a job to know whether to stretch ourselves, or keep within our comfort zones by switching away from the hard things, or learn to work with others in such a way as to provide a harmonious result. Oh, for Wisdom. 'It is the Lord who gives wisdom' (Prov. 2:6 Good News Bible). What a comfort that, if we pray for the answer with an open mind, we have a Lord who is able to help. It might not be instant or quite what we want, and it might take a bit of trial and error, but we also have a Lord who can resolve some of the messes we get into.

Frances

Feeling Grateful.

I want to encourage you all!

In the last 21 months I have experienced such a tangible out pouring of God's love from you.

Prayers, which have carried me and supported David on our journey as well as emotional support has seen us experience God's love in a very real way.

Covid has certainly seen WBC respond, revealing the true definition of "outreach". Look what we have achieved together over the last year. Meals provided and pleasant surprises left on the door step. Boxes of food for family's struggling, shopping done and a kind word of support and encouragement at the end of the phone. Maintaining our contact in the fellowship through Zoom and Home groups and of course our own "Bring a Brew". Prayer has underpinned all of this I know.

I am sure our Heavenly Father has been smiling with delight as his children reach out to others and each other. In doing so we are strengthening the body of Christ. In doing so we are actually acting out exactly what he asked us to do, "Love one another as I have loved you". This is the love that he is talking about. It starts in the heart and flows out into actions and gestures and words, kind words. In this we are witnessing and being his light in this world. I feel a song coming on

How wonderful

How marvellous

Is the love of God

Bringing healing, forgiveness, Wonderful love!



Bring a Brew

Just for Easter week, **Bring a Brew** will meet on Good Friday (2nd April) from 10.30am – 11.30 am. (so NO meeting on Tuesday 30th March)

We will be having some relaxed reflection on the Good Friday resources that are on the church website. (www.wymondhambaptist.org). We do hope that you will be able to join us for this time of quiet reflection, worship and (perhaps!!) a bit of music.

The log in details for this Zoom session are:

Topic: Nicki Waterworth's Zoom Meeting

Time: Apr 2, 2021 10:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85291910437?pwd=WWp6RE1kODhwUU1BQkR5bHgveFBSdz09>

Meeting ID: 852 9191 0437

Passcode: goodfriday



Do you have something you would like to share - any ideas to share, please let us have your thoughts and contributions, so that we can support and encourage one another.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - CENSUS

census 2021

Sunday is Census Day - have you completed your form yet??

Over the last few weeks we have been reading about censuses in the Bible. Of course, the one we all know about is the census taken at the time of the birth of Jesus. Thankfully we do not now have to travel to our 'home' town, but instead sit at our computer and fill in loads of information about our past and current situation. (As you get older remembering dates of when and where you worked can prove challenging.) If you are into looking into your ancestry, census records prove very interesting. In completing the form we are told that 'we are providing vital information to help plan future services to our towns and villages'.

This information is already known to our heavenly father, but does he know what our future needs will be? Yes, he does and we can be certain that he will be there to meet all our needs.

I read this quote from Russell Moore, a Southern Baptist pastor and leader, he writes, 'You are not your genealogy. You are not your family tree. You are not your family. After all, if you are in Christ, you are a new creation.' In Christ we are a new creation and God knows the future and what our needs are and will be. Matthew 6 v 31-32 says 'So do not worry, saying 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.'

MISSION FOCUS - MARCH - OUR YOUTH

Father God,

We bring the youth of WBC to you as they develop spiritually, mentally, emotionally and physically.

Father draw close to them as they come to know you more and grow in their faith.

We pray that they would boldly share Jesus with their friends and that the relationships built during the early stages will continue to build in future years. Father help those entering their teenage years to find the answers to their questions and walk their journey with their eyes fixed on you. We pray for authentic, lasting heart transformation in the lives of the children of the church. Father we bring all those involved with the youth ministry to you, we pray for wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit as they seek to be spiritual leaders. We also pray for the parents, that in the busyness of life, they would make church a priority in their family's life. Father God, help us all as a fellowship to understand the importance of our witness to the youth, recognising that we all have a role to play.

In Jesus name

Amen



GOD'S STORYBOOK

This is part of what you may have read in a daily reading, but it may be interesting for the children. Wanting to enjoy the beautiful day, I headed out for a walk and met a new neighbour. He stopped me and introduced himself. My name is Genesis, and I am six and a half years old.

Genesis is a great name! It is a book in the Bible, I replied.

what is the Bible? he asked.

It's God's storybook about how He made the world and people and how He loves us.

His inquisitive response made me smile. Why did He make the world and people and cars and houses?

And is my picture in his book?..

Where do you see yourself in God's story??

Answers to last week's question for our Youth Church:-

What is the Sunday before Easter called - Palm Sunday

Why do we give eggs at Easter? - Eggs are a symbol of new life and are said to represent Jesus' emergence from the tomb and resurrection.



Questions for this week - Who was the criminal that was set free in place of Jesus??

Who came to visit Jesus at his burial site, only to discover he wasn't there??

EASTER CELEBRATIONS –

Maundy Thursday (1st April) – The church will be open from 9a.m. – 9p.m. for private meditation at the Stations of the Cross. Please book your time - <https://rsvp.church/r/iepgkEVd> or contact Cathy in the church office (01953606520)

Good Friday (2nd April) – Bring a Brew – see above. Reflection resources are available on the 'Resources' tab on church website – www.wymondhambaptist.org

Easter Saturday (3rd April) – Bake your own bread for breakfast on Sunday

Easter Sunday (4th April) – All age worship and breakfast together – 10.00a.m.



Another musical memory.

At our mixed primary school there was a bunch of irritating fellow pupils. They were 'boys'. (Well, not all the boys.) A few years later, in a girls secondary school, our choir prepared for a huge mixed performance by several schools. We practised the soprano and alto parts and then found ourselves in the final rehearsal. It was stunning. We suddenly heard the contribution by the tenors and bases. The music was complete, and the result was thrilling. Those boys had their value after all!

We can all be irritating to somebody. But - in God - we have the most wonderful choir master ever, and - in the Bible - the greatest song book. The church is being listened to (sometimes by accident) by all sorts of people in our audience. Each of us has a contribution to make to the whole impression. Can we not only join in, in our own unique way, but also accommodate even the most unpromising members of our church family?

Frances