



Park [life]

WELCOME!

Whether you're a visitor or a regular member of our congregation, we welcome you in the name of Jesus and invite you to join us as we worship God together.

This month we celebrate the most important date in the Christian calendar - Easter - and we have some special services to retell and celebrate the story of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Our services are typically informal in style, with a mixture of singing, prayers, Bible-centred teaching and sharing. As part of our worship an offering will be taken during the service, which supports the work of the church.

Feel free to participate in as much or as little as you feel comfortable with.

After the service tea, coffee and biscuits will be served downstairs in the hall. You are welcome to join us for those too.

April services @ Park

Saturday 1st	Rev. Jorge Damasceno Portuguese Service
Sunday 2nd	Rev. Peter Timothy God's Justice in the Psalms
Saturday 8th	Rev. Jorge Damasceno Portuguese Service
Sunday 9th	Rev. Jorge Damasceno Palm Sunday
Thursday 13th	Maundy Thursday Communion Meal 7pm
Saturday 15th	Rev. Jorge Damasceno Portuguese Service & Meal
Easter Sunday	Sunrise Service 5.45am Brittania Pier - bacon rolls afterwards at church Joint Service 10.45am
Saturday 22nd	Rev. Jorge Damasceno Portuguese Service
Sunday 23rd	Rev. Peter Timothy Communion Service
Saturday 29th	Rev. Jorge Damasceno Portuguese Service
Sunday 30th	Rev. Peter Timothy Matthew 13:1-23

Prayer matters



Our prayer room is a peaceful space where anyone can go to either pray alone or receive prayer. It can be found through the door to the right as you face the stage.

We pray at 10.15 before every Sunday service and our prayer ministry team are available to pray with you after the service. You'll spot them wearing a yellow badge!

Prayer requests can be written on a yellow card, available from one of our Welcome Team, and can be given in during the service (at the same time as the offering), where they will be prayed for at our prayer meetings.

TOP 10 Things to pray for this month



01

For our leaders as they meet on Wednesday 6th for their monthly meeting.

06

The Spring Weekend organised by Unite YFC at the end of April; for the young people signed up and for those leading, including volunteers from Park.

02

For Mel Damasceno as she travels back from Brazil this month, and for Jorge as he takes both services on the 8th & 9th.

07

Pray for chaplains in our town who serve and support those in hospital, seafarer's entering the port, and in schools and colleges.

03

Give thanks and praise to God for sending Jesus into the world, especially at Easter time when we celebrate God's victory over death.

08

Pray for the future of local Christian organisation TLC, and for its founder Jan Tapp, as she prepares to move back to the Isle of Wight.

04

For the planned CAP Money day on Saturday 22nd for existing Debt Centre clients and their families.

09

For God's peace to fall upon the young people who regularly gather outside McDonald's in the town centre.

05

Those with ongoing health problems, including: Millie Bishop, Myrtle Catchpole, Bradley Corteen, Grace Dale, Robin Day, Dean Maddison, Marilyn Robinson

10

Pray for those who serve in our emergency services - for God to strengthen and equip them in their work.

The Living Room

From January through to March, local churches and support agencies united to open a night shelter for the homeless. As 'The Living Room' closes until next year, volunteers Nick and Lester reflect on its impact.

The Living Room, based at the Minster Mission building on Admiralty Road, is a new project by Churches Together & local charities to help the homeless people in our town. This year it has been run as a pilot scheme on Saturday nights, during the cold winter months of January through to March.

A typical Saturday night would consist of guests arriving at 7.00pm for a coffee and a chat. During the evening they would take part in organised activities such as board games, followed by a meal. Lights out is around 11.00pm. The guests sleep in the hall until breakfast time, departing at 8.00am.

We have at least two different volunteers on each of the shifts; 6.00pm - Midnight, Midnight - 6.00am and 6.00 - 8.30am.

Lester and I have mainly been on duty for the night shift! It has been great to get to know and hear the stories of the guests. Numbers have been fairly small, with four being the most had attend on one night, but some have become regulars which allows for relationships and trust to develop.

Funding was secured to allow us to hire a project co-ordinator on a temporary basis, and Ana has done a superb job of getting the project up and running.

A review of the project is currently underway and plans are in place to register

The Living Room as a charity ahead of it reopening in the autumn. We are hoping to run for two nights per week next winter but require more volunteers in order to do so, especially men. If you would like to be part of this worthwhile and rewarding project have a word with Lester or me.

For Lester, volunteering has been a deeply rewarding and transformative

experience. He said:

"Seeing such people in difficult positions happy, even if it's just for one night, makes you feel like you've done something worthwhile.

"These are just normal people going through difficult

times, and it made me

realise that once upon a time that could've been me.

"I'm so glad that God has led me to serve in this way. I would say to anyone who is interested to just come along and give it a go! We've had a lot of fun - with a poetry night, a film night, music nights - and just for a few hours it helps these people forget about how tough their lives are."

The
**LIVING
ROOM**



Nick



Lester

NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATION

As a church we are part of the Eastern Baptist Association, spanning Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire. Each month we feature some news from other Baptist churches. More detailed news is available from the EBA's 'FOCUS' magazine, found on the church information table.

CAP Debt Centre April Update

This month Pat will visit a number of clients with their befriender to go through their new budgets with them. Other clients still need to submit some paperwork, so pray that they will be able to do that. One client is preparing for baptism and is celebrating a new job, whilst another has recently been diagnosed with bowel cancer, so please remember him in your prayers.

April Communion

Please note that our regular communion service will not be on the third Sunday of this month, as it is Easter Sunday. We will share communion the following Sunday (23rd).

Giving Weekend Total!

On 25/26th March we held a giving weekend, where we collected a separate offering for our benevolent fund. We are pleased to say that an impressive **£697** was donated, and this will now go into the fund and be used to provide emergency support for local people in extreme need. Thank you to all who gave.

Men's Weekend Away

A planning meeting will take place at Nic Symeou's home (15 Cotman Drive) at 7pm on Wednesday 19th

April. Bring along £5 if you want fish & chips. All men signed up to the weekend need to be there.

Christian Aid Week 14-20th May

This year the focus is on refugees. Christian Aid was set up 60 years ago to support the work with refugees in Europe following WWII. Today tens of millions of people are fleeing conflict and disasters, making dangerous journeys in search of safety. As part of this year's fundraising there is a FISH & CHIPS QUIZ EVENING at Christchurch on 16th May, 6.30pm. Teams of 3/4 people. Cost £8 per person. A raffle will also be held and a brief talk about the work of Christian Aid will be given. On Saturday 20th May there will be a tombola stall in the market. Good quality donations are welcome. Anyone wishing to volunteer for an you can contact Jean Fisher on 07956301802. Envelopes for donations will be available from the church information table in May and can be added to the regular Sunday collection. Any further questions please contact Louise Lyle.

EBA Assembly 2017

The Eastern Baptist Association Assembly for 2017 will follow the format of recent years and be split into the different regions of the

Regional Ministers: Please pray for Richard Lewis, our Regional Minister, as he makes plans for his retirement, and for the incoming new Regional Minister Team Leader, Beth Powney, who will be inducted on 2nd September. Pray also for Beth and her congregation at Sandy Baptist Church, Bedfordshire, as they prepare to say goodbye.

association. Fortunately for us, Norwich Central Baptist Church are hosting the Norfolk gathering, on 22nd July. All are encouraged to attend and connect with our wider Baptist family.

Parental Guidance Workshop

26th April, 7.15-9.30pm, Colchester Road Baptist Church, Ipswich, IP4 4ST
Although a little 'off patch' this event may be of benefit...
It is designed to give parents, grandparents, carers, teachers, youth workers and anyone who works with children or young people practical advice and guidance on protecting children from the dangers of the digital world, and is suitable for people of all faiths, or none. Cost £3 and tickets can be booked here: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pg-workshop-tickets-32685877339.

50 Days of Mission

From Easter Monday until Pentecost, the EBA are releasing a story every day of current mission ideas and projects being run in our Association. The aim is to inspire churches to try new things in mission. Look out for our own contribution! www.50days.org.uk and via Facebook and Twitter #50Days.