

# Park [life]

JANUARY  
2019

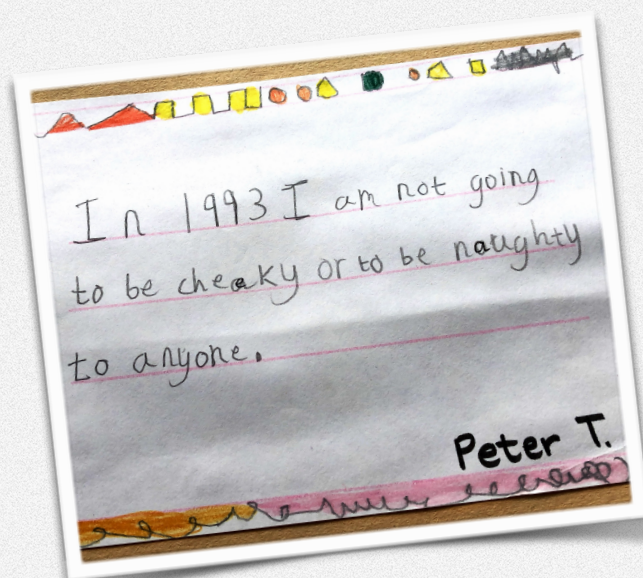
## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

And just like that, Christmas is over and we start afresh with 2019. I love the opportunity for a clean slate that a new year brings and of course the chance to make resolutions. Last month I helped my parents move house and stumbled across some old schoolwork. One piece was a New Year's Resolution from 1993, when I was seven years old. It (rather optimistically) read: "In 1993 I am not going to be cheeky or to be naughty to anyone." I have a sneaky suspicion this may have been broken before I even returned to school...

I wonder if you have resolved to do anything this year? One of the best resolutions we can make is to give greater attention to God. Seeking to know Jesus intimately is the most rewarding thing we

can do. It requires time and perseverance, but Jesus is longing to show you his incredible love and grace.

Why not start by reading a few verses from the Bible every day or downloading a Daily Reading App? We meet for prayer every Thursday at 7.30pm in the church - maybe you could commit to attending on a regular basis? Resolve to go deeper with God this year and you will not be disappointed!



## SUNDAYS AT PARK

If you're joining us for one of our services then a special welcome to you!

We hold services in both English and Portuguese and you'll notice lots of similarities and a few differences in each one.

Both involve a mix of singing, prayers, Bible teaching and sharing. We also include an offering which sustains the work of the church and the organisations we support.

Junior Church is held downstairs in the Hall. Volunteers are DBS

checked and will accompany the children downstairs at the appropriate time in the service.

Please join us afterwards for free tea, coffee and biscuits downstairs as we get to know each other better.





## COOKING FOR THE LIVING ROOM

We are desperately in need of some volunteers to provide an evening meal for our homeless visitors on a Sunday evening.

We usually cater for 10-12 including volunteers and provide a hot main meal and a dessert. This is usually served between 7.30-8.30pm.

There is a sign up rota on the board next to the Pastor's office. Speak to Peter for more information.

## WHAT'S ON AT PARK

*Want to include something next month? Email: [peter@parkbaptist.church](mailto:peter@parkbaptist.church)*



## JOINT PRAYER MEETINGS

We continue to meet together with the Portuguese congregation

for prayer on the **FIRST FRIDAY** of the month at 7pm in the church.

This is an important time for the church as we gather together before God in prayer. If you are a church member in particular, then please prioritise this monthly date in your diaries.

Our next meetings are Friday 4th Jan & 1st Feb.



## CAP MONEY COURSE

We are looking for some new volunteers to deliver the CAP Money Course on an as-required basis to our CAP clients. This is a budgeting course and full training is being provided on 22nd June in Norwich by CAP.

Please speak to Pat Hillier if you might be interested in this.



## ALPHA COURSE

Got friends who are interested in exploring Christianity? Then invite them along to our next Alpha course, starting next month!

The course is free and includes a hot meal, video introducing the theme for the week and then a 45 minute discussion around tables.

We begin on **THURSDAY 7th FEBRUARY, 6.30-8.30pm.**



## ALPHA VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for some volunteers to help facilitate discussions around tables (training provided) and to prepare one of the meals. The course is 11 weekly sessions.

Please speak to Peter (discussion facilitator) or Elizabeth Saunders (food).





# THE BIG STORY

## *Peter considers what it means to share Jesus with others in 2019...*

Claire and I recently spent a few days with friends at a cottage near the north Norfolk coast. It was a great opportunity to get away and relax, but upon returning I also felt I was missing this opportunity to talk more about Jesus with some of the people I care most about.

It led me to thinking about how we share our faith and whether people outside the church make the connection between the work of the church and Jesus.

N.T. Wright talks about a 'holistic approach' to sharing Jesus and argues the need for presenting a 'beautiful Jesus'; one who will take the ugliness of the world away and replace it with a beautiful creation.

This resonates with me because I know when talking to my friends about church, there is a genuine interest in the actions of the church as it helps the poor and fights for justice for the oppressed. My role is in helping them connect the dots to show how the Gospel is about putting the world right, and how Jesus is the facilitator of this Godly process. This seems to me to be a more natural way of introducing Jesus to the uninitiated than jumping into the deep end with loaded words like 'repentance', 'sacrifice' and 'sin'.

When the church is visibly counter-cultural, we will find people asking us about Jesus, rather than having to awkwardly shoehorn opportunities into conversations. Faith and deeds go so well together because they each point towards the authenticity of the other.

This begins with the church because it is the lived community of the church that is key to evangelism. When we live out something visibly different - in the way we treat and speak about each other, in the way we commit together and support each other, fuelled by a desire to know Jesus better, then it provides a basis upon which the Word of God can be shared - and most importantly - heard.

In a few weeks we begin an Alpha course at church. This is a great way of helping people connect the dots about Jesus and to reflect on the meaning of their own lives. But it presumes the individual is already interested in Christianity. Alpha does not provide us with an excuse for talking about Jesus to friends and family. Rather, it should be an incentive for each of us to be talking more about the work of Jesus through the church and how it affects our lives, so that we can maximise the opportunity that Alpha provides.





## CONTACT US

Park Baptist Church

14a Crown Road

Great Yarmouth, NR30 2JN

[www.parkbaptist.church](http://www.parkbaptist.church)



**Park Baptist Church**



## REV. PETER TIMOTHY

**Email:** [peter@parkbaptist.church](mailto:peter@parkbaptist.church)

**Mobile:** 07985 142 125

**Day off:** Monday



## REV. JORGE DAMASCENO

**Email:** [jorge@parkbaptist.church](mailto:jorge@parkbaptist.church)

**Mobile:** 07757 495 959

**Days off:** Monday & Tuesday

# DON'T MISS... JOINT COVENANT SERVICE

*Sunday 20th January, 10.45 am*

Our next joint service is a special one as we will be renewing our covenant promises to each other and to God.

We first held a service like this last year, and it is an important moment for church members as we remember why we choose to commit to God at Park, and to renew the bonds that bind us together by saying promises to God and to each other.

We will then be sharing communion as one church. Please make every effort to attend this service, especially if you are a church member.

Following the service we would like to have some cakes to share, so if you are able to bring a cake (either homemade or shop-bought) then please bring them to the kitchen before the service.

## SUNDAYS AT PARK...

### JANUARY

**SUNDAY 6th** Rev. Peter Timothy

**SUNDAY 13th** Rev. Peter Timothy

**SUNDAY 20th** Rev. Peter Timothy **Joint Service (c)**

**SUNDAY 27th** Rev. Peter Timothy

### FEBRUARY

**SUNDAY 3rd** Rev. Peter Timothy

**SUNDAY 10th** Rev. Peter Timothy

**SUNDAY 17th** Rev. Peter Timothy **(Communion)**

**SUNDAY 24th** Rev. Peter Timothy