

# Park [life]

APRIL  
2019

## YOU ARE WELCOME!

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 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.

## IT'S FRIDAY...BUT SUNDAY'S COMING!

The Christian festival of Easter marks the most significant event in human history - the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

For many, it has simply become synonymous with chocolate eggs and two Bank Holidays, but its importance drills to the very core of who we are. If we pause to think about the events recorded in Jerusalem almost 2,000 years ago, we are left with a remarkable question to answer:

Did it actually happen?

Historians agree that Jesus lived and gained fame throughout the region, and that he was crucified. But did he actually rise up from the dead a couple of days later?

Our answer to this question will shape the entire course of our lives because, if true, it means that Jesus is the sole way to knowing God both now and into eternity (*John 14:6*). Following Him becomes our number one priority in life, as we seek to understand the things Jesus taught and, prompted by His Spirit who continues to live and be present in the world today, we can know the wonderful plans God has for our life. (*See Matthew 6:31-33 & John 15:11*).

The well-known preacher Tony Campolo is famous for his storytelling, and one story involves him recollecting a preacher who's entire message revolved around the phrase: "It's Friday...but Sunday's coming!"

Good Friday is a day of despair and darkness. But there is good news! Easter Sunday is coming, and it brings life and hope to all who want it. Will you choose to embrace that hope by embracing Jesus this Easter?





## NICK GETS SET FOR MARATHON!

For the 22nd time Nick Symeou is gearing up for the London Marathon, and once again he's running for charity.

This year he is running for 'Action Against Hunger'; a

charity which strives to eliminate hunger for malnourished children in the poorest countries in the world.

He is hoping to raise £2,000. There is a sponsorship form on the Information Table at Church if you'd like to support him.

## 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 with the Portuguese congregation for prayer at 7pm on the **FIRST FRIDAY** of the month.

However please note that our May meeting will be **FRIDAY 10th MAY** and will be focused on our potential building project.

Church members please make every effort to be there for this important time of seeking God.

## EASTER EVENTS AT PARK

In addition to our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday 13th (see back page), we have a number of special services and events taking place over Holy Week.

### MAUNDY THURSDAY (18th) 7.30pm, Church

A tenebrae service of shadows service including communion. *If you have not attended one of these before, then please ask other members as this has proven to be a powerful time of reflection and worship as we reflect upon the final hours leading up to Jesus' arrest.*

### GOOD FRIDAY (19th) 11am-noon, Church

A creative prayer time themed around the crucifixion of Jesus.

### EASTER SUNDAY (21st), 10.45am, Church

A joint service to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Bring your singing voices!



## CHURCH AWAY DAY - CHANGE

Due to a problem with the proposed venue for our church away day, we have been forced to postpone this event until **Saturday 6th July**, where Lighthouse Baptist Church, Sheringham have offered to host us.

This will be an all day event and transport will be provided from church for those needing it.

Further details will be circulated next month.



# PROJECT 18

We have some exciting news regarding our proposed building project involving a site which the Scouting Group wish to propose to church members as a possible new home.

This will take place at a special Church Meeting following the service on Sunday 5th May.

A presentation will be given by members of the group explaining the journey we have been on so far and introducing the proposed site. There will be time for questions before we call the church to one month of prayer and fasting as we seek God's leading on this hugely important moment in our church's history. We will then meet again to decide whether this venue is worth pursuing further.

A sheet explaining fasting will be shared nearer the time. The following events will also be held in **May**:

**Friday 10th, 7pm:** Joint Prayer Meeting

**Thursday 16th, 23rd, 30th, 7.30pm:** Prayer Meeting

**Saturday 18th, 5pm:** Site Visit & Prayer Walk

**Sat 1st June, 2.30pm:** Church Meeting followed by (lots of) food and a joint service at 6.30pm.

# URGENT PRAYER REQUEST



As a Baptist church we are part of the national network called 'Baptists Together' (formerly *Baptist Union of Great Britain*). This month the General Secretary, Lynn Green, called churches to pray for Rev. Stephen Keyworth, the national Team Leader for Faith & Society.

Stephen collapsed whilst in a meeting at Didcot and has since had emergency brain surgery and a further operation to clear an infection, but remains in critical care.

Stephen has played a significant role in our Union, from ministering in churches, to being a college tutor, to now working at national level.

Please pray for his wife, Liz, children Jon (*who trained at Regent's with Peter*), Tim and Naomi, and their wider family. Please also remember the rest of the team at Didcot.

# PIZZA & CAKE MARKS FINAL ETP

Vegetables and healthy eating were thrown out of the window recently for the final session of our after-school cooking club, ETP.

Amy and Louis decided they wanted to mark the occasion by baking a red velvet cake, which they managed with just enough time to spare (even if the warm sponge did melt the frosting a bit!)

It has been a brilliant 18 months where we have connected with around a dozen young people, teaching simple, healthy recipes on a budge, whilst creating a safe place to share.

We are stopping due to both a lack of female leaders and a sense that

perhaps this is no longer meeting the need we originally identified. We would like to do further youth work in the future, and would love to hear from anyone who feels that God might be calling them to serve in this area. Please continue to pray for those who have attended ETP, and thank God for Lester, Claire, Ali and Lorraine who have given many hours to help out on Tuesdays.







## CONTACT US

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**Park Baptist Church**



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## DON'T MISS OUT ON... OUR EASTER EGG HUNT

**Coming up on SATURDAY 13TH APRIL will be our first Easter Egg Hunt in the area surrounding the church.**

This is a fun, free social event for all ages (children must be accompanied by an adult) and we are hoping lots of our CAP families will be attending.

The fun starts at 11am and will be followed by hot food back at church at midday.

It would be great to encourage those in attendance who do not normally come to church, so please come on down for a couple hours of good fun together.



## SUNDAYS AT PARK...

### APRIL

**SUNDAY 7th** Fifth Sunday of Lent (Luke 19:11-27)

**SUNDAY 14th** Palm Sunday (Luke 19:28-44) **Communion**

**SUNDAY 21st** Easter Sunday (Joint Service)

**SUNDAY 28th** Guest preacher