



July 2019

Park Life

Welcome!

If you've just walked into our church for the first time then a special 'hello' to you!

We are a multinational church that holds services in English and Portuguese.

Our services are intentionally informal, so feel free to participate in as much or as little as feels comfortable.

Usually we spend time worshipping God through music, prayers and the collection of an offering, which sustains the work of the church and the organisations we support. Bible-focused teaching and sharing are also a key part of our services.

Junior Church is held downstairs in the hall. Volunteers are DBS checked and will accompany the children down at the appropriate time in the service.

We have a prayer team who are also available to pray with you should you wish. You can spot them wearing a yellow badge.

You are also invited to join us afterwards for free tea, coffee and biscuits as we get to know each other better.

For more information on who we are and what we do please check out our website:
www.parkbaptist.church

Coming up on Sundays @ Park

Peter will be continuing our study looking at the 'I Am' statements of Jesus in John's Gospel

14th July	John 10:1-21	Jesus Says..."I Am the Good Shepherd"
21st July	John 11:1-44	Jesus Says..."I Am the Resurrection and the Life"
28th July	John 14:1-14	Jesus Says..."I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life"
4th August	John 15:1-17	Jesus Says..."I Am the True Vine"
11th August	Rev 22:12-16	Jesus Says..."I Am the Alpha and the Omega"
18th August	Baptismal Service	Note: No Communion this week
25th August	Guest Preacher	Communion will be shared



Thinking about baptism?

We will be holding a baptismal service on Sunday 18th August and there is still time for you to be baptised!

Peter will be running another set of classes for anyone interested. The classes consist of three one-hour sessions which explore what baptism is, why it's important and how it links to membership of the church.

There is no pressure to be baptised at the end of the sessions - only once you and Peter are both happy that it's the right time will we organise a date for your baptism.

Not sure why baptism is important?

In a nutshell, baptism is something that Jesus

commands his followers to do (*Matthew 28:19*).

Jesus himself was baptised by being fully immersed in the River Jordan and is praised by God the Father for his obedience (*Mark 1:11*).

Baptism is a public declaration of our allegiance to Jesus. In doing this we also enact two important symbols:

1. Going under the water and rising again identifies us with Jesus and his death and resurrection (*Romans 6:4*).
2. The use of water reminds us that we are cleaned and forgiven of our sins by Jesus' sacrifice.

Speak to Peter if you'd like to find out more.

Bilingual services 3rd Sat every month

Jorge has recently introduced monthly bilingual services on Saturday evenings. The purpose of these are for Portuguese-speaking regulars to bring non-Portuguese speaking friends and family along to church and to help those with poor English to improve their language skills.

The hope is for a few English speakers to be present to help welcome newcomers and to develop links with the Sunday congregation.

All are invited to join in with this service on the third Saturday of each month at 6.30pm.

Please pray for...

Bradley Corteen - Who is considering an offer from his son to move in with him in Cambridgeshire.

Brian Robinson - Who has been unwell lately and struggling with ME.

The Frisby Family - Who continue to adjust to the change in lifestyle following Sam's move.

Jamie Dalton - One of our former CAP clients, who is suffering with osteoporosis and fibromyalgia.

Max Palmer - As he continues his summer working at camps in America.

Sandra Grey - As she continues her recovery from surgery and chemotherapy treatment.



CULTIVATING FAMILY

Peter reflects on our recent away day and what it means to be one church as we move into the future together

"The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry." So said Robert Burns, and so it was with our recent away day in Sheringham.

Despite several last minute hiccups, we were rewarded with a wonderful day together.

The time of worship was, I believe, particularly special, as it reminded us of how easily barriers are overcome when Jesus is front and centre.

In our discussion sessions we explored what it means to love one another in practice (*John 13:35*) and this raised the question of 'God's covenant of shalom' (*Ezekiel 34:25*).

In a nutshell this promise from God to his people is about a vision of living that brings a

fullness of life to all. It is immensely practical - rooted in a commitment to developing our relationship

**A CARING,
SHARING,
REJOICING
COMMUNITY**

with Jesus and with God's family - the church. It is a picture of a caring, sharing, rejoicing community, bound

by Christ's love for us and our love for Him.

If we want to truly be one family at Park then this is where we begin.

To commit to this vision of Godly wholeness requires us to ask how much are we willing to share, to care, to rejoice together? This is often costly; in terms of our time, our resources, even emotionally as we invest in each other.

But in the midst of this we find God's promise of shalom - a peace that both sustains and gives life and hope. This is church in its fullness.

Is this something you're willing to commit to seeing realised at Park?

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**REMINDER:
CHURCH MEETING
24.7.19
7.30PM**

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Men's Weekend Sept 6-8th

Following the success of last year's camping trip, we have organised another *jolly deeply spiritual* weekend away!

This time we're heading across the border and into Suffolk to a top-notch camp site, complete with extra large bell tents, proper beds, lots of hot showers and flushing toilets!

Oh, and did someone say hot tub? And sauna? That's right -

after great Bible discussions, games, worship and plenty of sausages (Nick's favourite!) we can kick back and relax in our very own hot tub!

Men's camping has never been so good! We leave Friday afternoon, returning after a pub lunch on Sunday.

Cost is £65. A £20 deposit to Nick is needed by 4th August.

For more details and photos see www.oaklodgetretreat.com



Church family BBQ 4th August

We're off to Bure Park again on Sunday 4th August for our annual church BBQ!

Everyone is invited and you're asked to bring along any food you'd like cooked or something to share (salad, dessert, drinks etc). We'll be playing games, spending time enjoying each other's company, and maybe even having a little sing-song!

We meet near the children's play area in Bure Park from 1pm.

We are also looking for a couple of volunteers to help share cooking duties with the Portuguese congregation and to help with transporting some tables etc from church. Please speak to Peter or Jorge if you can help.

Baptist praise & prayer evening

We will be joining with our local baptist family on Sunday 22nd September for a joint prayer and praise evening.

The idea is instead of our usual annual joint service, we join with the Eastern Baptist Association's 'Wave of Prayer' taking place that week. This is a regional initiative calling on churches to pray for our Association and our area, that the Holy Spirit may wash over us afresh, like a wave coming in from the coast and covering the Eastern region.

We are awaiting confirmation of the venue, but we are looking at a 6.30pm start time.

Previous joint events have always been encouraging and uplifting, so please make a note of this in your diary and more details will follow next month.