



August 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 recently updated website:

www.parkbaptist.church

Coming up on Sundays @ Park

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	<i>Communion will be shared</i>
1st September	"A Faith That Acts"	Rev. Peter Timothy
8th September	Guest Preacher	
15th September	"A Faith That Acts 2"	Rev. Peter Timothy <i>Communion will be shared</i>
22nd September	"A Faith That Acts 3"	Rev. Peter Timothy



Thinking about baptism?

We currently have five people across our congregations who are considering baptism, and so we've added another baptismal service into the diary! In addition to **August 18th** we will also be celebrating baptisms on **October 13th**.

Peter will be running another set of classes for anyone interested in September. 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.

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...

Sandra Grey - As she awaits the results of a recent PET scan.

Bradley Corteen - As he trials living with his son and daughter-in-law in Cambridgeshire.

Brian Robinson - Who has been unwell lately and struggling with the effects of M.E.

Parents - For patience and energy throughout the summer holidays.

Christian - One of our CAP clients, who recently suffered a family bereavement.

Robin Day - With his ongoing dialysis treatment three times per week.

Peter Chapman - Ahead of his baptism on August 18th and in the weeks that follow.



PLAY IT AGAIN...

In the first of an occasional series, we explore the meaning behind the lyrics of a recently introduced song, starting with Phil Wickham's 'Living Hope'

Over Easter we introduced a new song to the church called 'Living Hope'.

Only released in 2018, it is proving to be a popular addition to congregation playlists both in the UK and the US, largely thanks to its singable melody and lyrics which fixate on the gospel of Jesus, our living hope.

The song picks up on the words of 1 Peter 1:3-9, where the apostle speaks of Christ having caused us to be born again into a living hope - an inheritance kept in heaven that will never fade.

The claim to have a living hope is a wondrous thing - it is not a theory, or a construct, but a person who will never die - the resurrected Jesus!

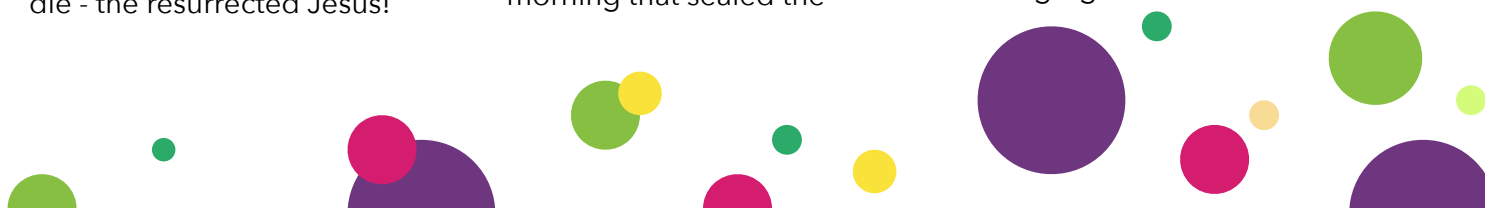
In verse one, we are given a picture of what happens when our helplessness is met by Christ's work. "Then though the darkness, your loving kindness, tore through the shadows of my soul." This powerful image is both stirring and a lead into the second verse, whereby we celebrate God coming down from heaven to rescue us.

As the chorus kicks in we are invited to respond to God's salvation with cries of 'Hallelujah!' before giving firm declarations that "You have broken every chain; there's salvation in your name; Jesus Christ, my living hope."

The final verse opens with the standout line "then came the morning that sealed the

promise" - a poetic description of the resurrection and its meaning for us, and indeed, a return to our main theme: Jesus Christ, our living hope.

The focus on one standout theme makes the song memorable, and while the melody is unmistakably modern, there is something of the classic hymn buried in there. Perhaps it's the fairly simple verse-chorus arrangement that turns its back on the complicated bridges and repeats favoured by Hillsong and the like, or perhaps it's simply a well-written song with clear and solid scriptural roots, that is accessible to everyday congregations.



**NEXT JOINT
PRAYER MEETING
FRI 6TH SEPT
7PM**

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Quiet Waters Open Day Saturday 31st August

We have been invited to attend a special open day at Quiet Waters, a Christian retreat house in Bungay.

The open day is from 2-5pm on 31st August and will include the opportunity to explore the house and gardens which extend to the river and have beautiful countryside views.

Refreshments, a beekeeping stall, fruit and veg from the

garden and plenty of homemade cakes will also be available.

If you haven't been to Quiet Waters before it is a great place to find peace and tranquility and the chance to reconnect with God.

For more details contact Debbie at Quiet Waters: 01986 893201 or quietwaters.org.uk



Baptist praise & prayer evening

We will be joining with our local baptist family on **Sunday 22nd September, 6pm** 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.

This will take place at **Gunton Baptist Church** at **6pm**.

Everyone is welcome. If you need a lift please speak to Peter.

Church Social: Games Evening!

Our next church social event is the return of our popular games evening! We'll be meeting on **Friday 13th September** at **7pm** for a couple of hours of fun together.

Bring along your favourite table-top game and snacks to share, while hot and cold drinks will be provided.

This is a great opportunity to invite friends and CAP clients along to a fun evening which also serves as a gentle introduction to church.

The idea is we have several games available and we can rotate around the games throughout the evening so everyone gets a chance to play the games they like.

