



September 2019

Park Life

Above: Peter Chapman baptism, 18th August.

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

8th September

Denise Jackson

15th September "A Faith That Acts 2"

Rev. Peter Timothy *Communion will be shared*

22nd September "A Faith That Acts 3"

Rev. Peter Timothy

29th September "A Faith That Acts 4"

Rev. Peter Timothy

6th October Harvest Service

Rev. Peter Timothy

13th October Baptismal Service

Rev. Peter Timothy

20th October God, Justice and Slavery

Rev. Peter Timothy *Communion will be shared*

27th October Jesus, Light for the World

Rev. Peter Timothy

Fundraisers Needed!

We are actively looking to create a fundraising team to help raise funds for our building project. We would like individuals with either fundraising ideas, a willingness to research possible grants or individuals with

initiative. The group will work with Peter and Jorge to create a fundraising plan for the church.

This will be a crucial part of the project, so don't be afraid to put your name forward!

The Miller's Prayer Requests

There is much to pray for as we prepare for a move to the UK. Please pray for the following:

We have made an application for Conrad's British passport. Pray that we will receive it without complications and that it would arrive in good time.

Then comes Annet's application for a UK spouse's visa. This is normally a difficult process but it is particularly stressful in the current political climate. Annet has previously experienced a visitor visa refusal, and many of you will remember that Patience was born in Uganda because Annet was

refused leave to enter the UK to give birth. Please pray that we will find favour before the immigrations officials.

We will also face the challenges of re-entry into UK culture for me and adjusting to a culture that is new and unfamiliar for Annet and the children.

Pray that we all continue to experience good health as we experience this significant change.

Please pray that we can be a blessing to others during the remainder of our time in service.

Thank you again for your love and friendship. Annet & Damien.

Prayer for our nation

In light of the increased uncertainty surrounding British politics and the challenge to find consensus for a way forwards in Brexit, the Baptist Faith and Society team have written the following prayer to help us if we are struggling to know what and how to pray into this ongoing crisis:

Sovereign Christ,

We pray with you for your kingdom to come to our broken world.

In this time of political turmoil, we especially intercede for our nation, asking not for a quick fix, but for deep reconciliation and the peace that can only be given by you.

We pray for those in power over us, that they would use their authority to serve with compassion, to seek consensus and to find a common good.

In your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Please pray for...



Sue Lintern - Who is seriously ill in hospital. She would welcome visitors and at the time of writing is staying in Ward 3, Bay 4.



Jamie Dalton - Who is suffering with the effects of fibromyalgia and osteoporosis and is struggling particularly with the stairs required to access his flat.

THE MILLER'S IN MOZAMBIQUE

Some big changes are happening for our missionary partners Damien & Annet...



Since we last wrote to you upon our return from Mozambique, we have been praying for discernment and wisdom in decision-making regarding our future. God has answered those prayers and we now have more certainty over the way forward. As is often the way, our next step is not one that we were anticipating until God suddenly opened a door for us. Last month, Damien was invited to apply for a job in the UK and he made a speculative application whilst we were also exploring the option of serving with BMS World Mission in Kasese, Western Uganda. We spent much time praying and reflecting over this unexpected opportunity and decided that, if the application proved to be successful, it may well be the next step in God's plan for us. In short, Damien was the successful applicant and we accepted the offer for him to start this new position on 1st April 2020. Sadly, this means that we will be ending our service with BMS World Mission. We will continue to work with BMS through to 31st March 2020. The rest of 2019 will be spent working in

Uganda before we return to the UK in January 2020 to conduct our final Home Assignment in the UK.

The decision to leave BMS World Mission after seven years of service (eight for Annet) has not been an easy one. We both cherish the skills, knowledge, experience, and relationships that we have acquired over this time, not to mention the adventure of walking with God through so many challenges and victories. Through it all, BMS World Mission has collectively demonstrated the highest levels of vocational guidance, personal support and pastoral care. We would like to emphasise that our departure is not at all motivated by any dissatisfaction with BMS. However, for several personal reasons, the best decision for our family at present is to return to the

UK. Having been offered a suitable role in another Christian organisation, it is now the right time for us to come to the end of our service.

As we now prepare for our end of service with BMS World

Mission, we continue to finish off and hand over some of our remaining work for the Mozambican Association of Christian Lawyers (AMAC). Damien is completing a second illustrated album for community legal education training, this time on the topic of Gender- Based Violence. He is also finishing up some research conducted to assist AMAC in their strategic planning process. Annet is still on maternity leave much of the time, but has recently returned to work on a part time basis. We are also hoping to take on more responsibilities here in Uganda and to assist some of the local partners over the remainder of the year.

Following our medical issues a few months back, Annet and I are both experiencing more stable health conditions. However, Annet's blood pressure does still temporarily spike during times of anxiety.

We sincerely thank you for the love, prayers and support you have shown us while we served in Mozambique and Uganda. *Prayer Requests can be found on Page 2.*

Harvest Service & Party Sunday October 6th

**NEXT CHURCH
MEMBERS
MEETING WEDS
25TH SEPT
7.30PM**

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**NEXT JOINT
PRAYER MEETING:
FRIDAY 4TH OCT
7PM**

This year our harvest service will be on Sunday 6th October. We will be collecting donations for the food bank.

Please feel free to bring tinned or dry foods, toiletries - anything with a long shelf life. The food bank do not accept fresh food.

Following the all-age service, we will share a meal together in the Hall followed by family games back upstairs. We are asking church members to consider bringing a hot dish to share (e.g. a slow cooker dish) or a dessert. Please speak to Peter if you have any questions.



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.