

November 2019

Park Life

Above: The Park memorial tablet commemorating the men who fought in the Great War from this church.

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, biscuits (and sometimes cake!) 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

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 10th November | 9:30am Remembrance Sunday |
| 17th November | Guest preacher: Rev Dr Alan Palmer, Lead Chaplain, James Paget Hospital |
| 24th November | JOINT SERVICE IN ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE - SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS |
| 1st December | 1st Sunday of Advent |
| 8th December | 2nd Sunday of Advent - <i>Note: Communion will be shared</i> |
| 8th December | 5pm "Blue Christmas" Remembrance Service See page 2 |
| 15th December | 3rd Sunday of Advent - Family Service followed by Christmas Party |
| 21st December | 6.30pm Joint Carol Service - 'Christmas Around the World' |
| 22nd December | 4th Sunday of Advent |



The C Word...CHRISTMAS!

Taking a look at Park's plans this December



"Blue Christmas" Service

Sunday 8th December, 5pm

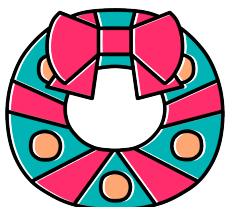
A 'blue' service is a chance to remember loved ones who are no longer with us and to invite God to comfort us. This short service involves the lighting of candles, space to reflect and pray and a very short message of hope. There is also the opportunity to make a personalised tree decoration to take home.



Family Service and Christmas Party

Sunday 15th December, 10.45am

Following the success of our Christmas Party last year, we'll be enjoying an all-age service followed by food, fun and games. This is a perfect opportunity to invite CAP families, friends and neighbours, especially those with children.



Joint Carol Service

Saturday 21st December, 6.30pm

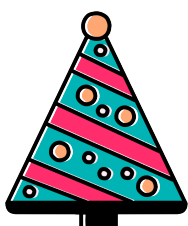
A fresh take on our traditional carol service with the sharing of Christmas from around the world as we join together for this Saturday-evening service. Followed by mince pies and other Christmas treats!



Carol Singing

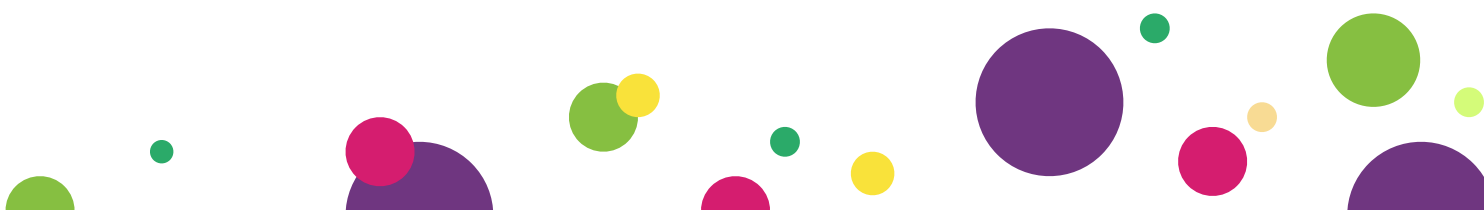
Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th December, 11.30am, Market Place (Outside Palmers)

We are joining together with other churches and the Salvation Army brass band to spend up to an hour carol singing on Christmas Eve as shoppers get some last minute bits. All are invited to join in as we trial this new time of carol singing together.



CHRISTMAS DAY! Wednesday 25th December

We meet at 10am for a short family service of around 45 minutes. Children are invited to bring an opened present to unwrap in the service and Christmas jumpers / outfits are definitely encouraged for all!



Quiz Night! 29th Nov

Our popular quiz night is returning!

On Friday 29th November we'll be hosting a quiz night aimed at raising money for our work with CAP.

Either find a team of 4-6 or tick the box marked 'wants to join a team' on the sign-up sheet on the

Information Table at church.

We are suggesting donations of £2 per person and all proceeds will go to CAP's work in Great Yarmouth.

This is a great chance to bring a friend along for a fun evening.

Doors open at 7pm.

CAP Christmas Hampers

As always, we are creating Christmas hampers to gift to our CAP clients and their families. This blesses some of the very poorest in our community at a time of real need.

We are collecting donations NOW, and there is a box in the Pastor's Office that you can add to.

Please make sure the expiry date is 2020 for any items you give.

Each hamper needs the following items:

- Bottle of Coke
- Bottle of Schloer
- Christmas Pudding
- Christmas Cake

- Crackers to pull
- Christmas serviettes
- Biscuits
- Tin of ham
- Tin of salmon
- 2 cans of soup
- Multipack of crisps
- 2 tins of custard

Small gifts are also needed for the following:

- 16x gifts for women
- 10x gifts for men
- 2x teenage boys
- 5x teenage girls
- 1x girl 18 month old
- 1x boy 3 years old
- 2x girl 4 years old
- 1x girl 5 years old
- 1x girl 6 years old
- 2x boy 8 years old

Thank you in advance for your support.

Joint Service 24th Nov

Following the success of last month's first joint service with the Portuguese-speaking congregation at St. George's Theatre, we will be returning there again on the last Sunday of this month.

The cafe will be open for refreshments from **10am**, so that we might have more time mixing together.

There will be children's classes in English and a separate collection will also be taken to cover the costs of hiring the building. We are suggesting our regular attendees give a minimum of £1 for this. A collection box will be in the cafe by the tea/coffee for this purpose. We were delighted that last month our costs were met by the generous giving of those in attendance - thank you.



The Living Room

On Friday 29th November The Living Room reopens its doors to provide overnight accommodation for those sleeping rough in Great Yarmouth.

We will again be hosting on Sunday nights and are looking for people to volunteer to cook an evening meal. We cater for up to 13 (10 visitors + 3 volunteers) and provide a hot main meal plus a dessert.

If you would like to do this then please see the sign-up sheet on the Information Table at church. Why not ask your house group to do it as an act of service together?

We run until the end of March 2020, so will need plenty of volunteers!

MINISTRY AMONG THE FALLEN

A brief look at the impact made by one chaplain ministering in the trenches



This month we mark Remembrance Sunday by joining with the service in St. George's Park and welcoming members of the civic party back to our church for refreshments.

It is always a time for contemplation as well as thanksgiving, and for Christians it raises many questions about the role of war, the quest for peace and the place of Jesus at the heart of such conversations.

In 1915, a vicar in Worcester was given permission to become an army chaplain and join the front line of the war. Believing that men should fight for what they believe in,

Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy would go on to become one of the country's most well-known chaplains, loved by troops for his habit of giving out packets of Woodbine cigarettes along with Bibles to send them off, earning him the nickname 'Woodbine Willie'.

Kennedy won the Military Cross at Messines Ridge in 1917 for bringing in wounded troops under heavy fire, but shrugged it off as no big deal. However having experienced the horrors of war, he returned a changed man; writing and talking extensively about peace. He found the slaughter of British and German troops both unnecessary and futile.

As returning soldiers found themselves in a different fight - against poverty and unemployment - Kennedy campaigned relentlessly for a socially-just society. He famously said: "I believe that hungry children make God mad."

His experiences led him to understand peace as not only the absence of war, but the absence of poverty.

As we remember the fallen and their sacrifice this year, may we, like Woodbine Willie, also resolve to walk the way of peace - in every sense of the word.

*Waste of Muscle, waste of Brain,
Waste of Patience, waste of Pain,
Waste of Manhood, waste of Health,
Waste of Beauty, waste of Wealth,
Waste of Blood, waste of Tears,
Waste of Youth's most precious years,
Waste of ways the Saints have trod,
Waste of Glory, waste of God,---War!*

'Waste' by Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy

