



Hello February

Park Life

Welcome!

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

This month at Park we're going through a series that takes a fresh look at some familiar Bible stories from Genesis. We're also meeting midweek for a new kind of Bible study looking at an overview of the Old Testament.

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.

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

16th February

Guest Preacher: Rev. Linda Turner (*Communion*)

23rd February

Joint Service at St. George's Theatre - Café open from 10am

1st March

Stories Worth Telling: Hagar & Ishmael - Genesis 16

8th March

Stories Worth Telling: Abraham & Isaac - Genesis 22:1-18

15th March

Stories Worth Telling: Isaac's Blessing - Genesis 27:1-29 (*Communion*)

22nd March

Stories Worth Telling: Jacob Wrestles God - Genesis 32:22-32

29th March

Stories Worth Telling: Joseph Sold Into Slavery - Genesis 37

5th April

Palm Sunday - Luke 19:28-44

12th April

EASTER SUNDAY - JOINT SERVICE AT ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE

Joint Prayer Evening

Our next joint prayer evening is Friday 6th March, 7pm. As per this month's event, it will involve a mixture of sung worship, space to pray in groups or alone and opportunities to share. All are welcome.

Women's World Day of Prayer

On 6th March we will be hosting the Great Yarmouth prayer meeting to mark the Women's World Day of Prayer. The final details are still to be confirmed but it is expected to take place in the afternoon. If you'd like to help set up or serve refreshments please speak to Denise Jackson.

Hiding Henry!

Please note that the hoovers downstairs are now stored in the Hall cupboard, not at the bottom of the stairs. This is due to health & safety concerns about them being a trip hazard and obstructing the fire exit.



Joint Services at St. George's

Following agreement at the recent Church Meeting, we have booked St. George's Theatre and Cafe for Sunday 23rd February.

We have also requested its use for Easter Sunday, This would be instead of a March service, as the theatre is unavailable.

During the service only one offering will be taken but it is suggested that in addition to their regular giving, church regulars make a minimum donation of £1 to cover the hire costs (£150 per service).

Building Project: Planning

Great Yarmouth Borough Council have recently released their latest Supplementary Planning Document for the regeneration of North Quay.

There is an open consultation to offer feedback until midnight on 23rd February. The document can be found here: <https://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/planning-consultations>

Church members are once again asked to read the document and offer feedback to the Council to encourage them to include space for a church/community facilities within their plans. For further details please speak to Peter.

The Living Room

The Living Room is continuing to provide overnight accommodation for those sleeping rough in Great Yarmouth through the winter months, but we need more help!

We 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. Numbers so far have been averaging around 5 each week. Food is served around 7.45-8pm.

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?



Connect Groups



**CONNECT
GROUPS**

'Connect Groups' are replacing the existing House Group network in an effort to refocus our effectiveness in growing as disciples of Jesus. Here's all you need to know...

From March our new Connect Groups will start meeting at various times and places throughout the week. Here's the current list of groups being launched from week beginning 2nd March:

Day	Venue	Host	Group Facilitator
Tuesday, 7.30pm	Central GY	Pat Hillier	Nigel Parrott
Tuesday, 7.30pm	Ormesby	Su Robinson	Claire Hamilton-Deane
Wednesday, 7.30pm	Caister	Brian & Marilyn	Claire Timothy
Wednesday, 7.30pm	North Denes	Louise & Pete	Louise & Pete
Thursday, 11am	Central GY	Sandra Grey	Lessie & Richard
Thursday, 7.30pm	Bradwell (Men's Group)	Nick Symeou	Peter Timothy
Friday, 3pm	Central GY	Pat & Andy	Pat & Megan

The key purpose of the groups is to seek God's presence together so that we may be renewed by the Spirit. It is hoped that these might become places of encounter with God so that we might be made more like Jesus and grow in our faith. It is also hoped that this will help deepen our relationships with each other so that we might help and support one another better as we face the ups and downs of life.

Meetings will entail a variety of things; from times of prayer and waiting on God, to Bible studies, social time and space to practice/develop the gifts of the Spirit.

On **Friday 3rd April, 7pm** our regular joint prayer meeting will be devoted to a celebration evening in church to worship, pray together and share the highlights of what God has been doing in each group.

Prayer Meetings

Our current weekly prayer meeting on a Thursday has now changed. We will instead be meeting as a whole church for an informal time of worship, prayer and fellowship on the first Friday of the month, 7-8pm.

Our intercessors team will continue to meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 7.30pm.

The prayer room will be open on the first and third Thursdays, 7.30pm, to provide an optional place for Connect Group leaders to come, receive from God and be recharged/renewed.



Stamp Collecting For Mission...

Did you know there's money to be had from your old stamps? For several years we have collected used stamps to send to our partner mission agency, BMS, who have been operating a stamp bureau for almost 100 years. Once received, BMS collate and sell them on to collectors and dealers. The income raised goes directly to BMS to support the work of transforming lives around the world. Believe it or not, this raises over £10,000 per year!

All you have to do is to trim the stamps from your envelopes with a maximum of 5mm (1/4 inch) of the envelope showing all round, but be careful not to damage any part of the stamp, including the perforations.

Any envelopes with first day issues, pre-decimal or older foreign stamps, unusual postmarks, designs or other marks on them should be left intact - they could be especially valuable.

There is a basket on the Information Table upstairs for you to place your stamps.

For more information please speak to Brian Robinson.



Who Cares? Vision Evening

Several years ago we took part in a county-wide initiative called 'Who Cares?' This involved engaging our community by asking a one-question survey: 'What hurts the most?' The results were recorded online and once analysed by the Who Cares team, were returned to churches with a breakdown of the issues that are causing the most pain in people's lives. The church was then invited to respond to those needs in any ways it deemed most appropriate.

The results helped to shape our mission planning and were partly behind our decision to partner with CAP, so it was a significant piece of outreach by the church.

This survey is being run again, and an 'East Coast' team comprising churches in Great Yarmouth borough, Lowestoft and Beccles are holding a vision night for anyone interested in taking part. This could be a good opportunity for us as a church to engage with friends, family, neighbours, colleagues and those around us. The vision evening includes an introduction by Bishop Sandy Millar (former Vicar at Holy Trinity Brompton), and will include more details on how to get involved and what it requires from churches. It takes place on **Tuesday 17th March, 7.30pm** at the **King's Centre, Queen Anne's Road**. All are invited.