

WESTERHAM HILL BAPTIST CHURCH



HARVEST & 130th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES 2017

Sunday October 1st 11.00am Pastor

Sunday October 1st 6.30pm Pastor

*Harvest gifts to London City Mission
Waterloo Centre for the homeless*

Tuesday October 3rd 7.30pm

Guest Speaker

George Kider

Chairman Pastor

Refreshments after the service on Tuesday

God's Two Books of Revelation

As we prepare to celebrate both our harvest thanksgiving and 130th church anniversary on the first weekend of October, I was struck by thought that that this combination presents us with a symbolic reminder of God's own revelation of himself (his self-disclosure) in both nature and in scripture. These two forms of revelation cohere and complement each other, although we often fail to see it, and remind us that all truth is God's truth. But, because of our sinful natures and our darkened minds our natural disposition is to neglect and then reject what God has shown us of himself i.e. his eternal power and divine nature (Romans 1). This is why we need the Holy Spirit's illumining power opening up the scriptures to show us the glory of his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the perfect revelation of the Father.

So we have a double cause for celebration and thanksgiving: firstly, the wonder beauty and provision that God's creation gives us in such abundance and for the blessings of science, music, art and everything else that we enjoy that flows from our Creator's hand. Secondly, the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ that comes to us in God's infallible word of scripture and the blessing of eternal life that comes from and is found in Him alone.

As I am writing this piece, we are also anticipating the visit of four young men from the St. Helen's church plant in Stratford who will, God willing, on four of the next five Sundays expound the first two chapters of Colossians. It is my prayer that through their preaching, as well as over the church anniversary weekend, that to quote Colossians 2:6b-7 'we will continue to live in Christ Jesus, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as we were taught and overflowing with thanksgiving'. Our desire is that our roots will be so deep in Him that, unlike some of the trees in my road this past week, we will be able to stand in the storms of life and face the onslaughts of the forces of evil all around us whilst maintaining a clear witness to the saving and keeping power of our Saviour. To this end, we will be looking again on Sunday evenings in October and November at some of the vital gospel truths recovered at the Reformation on this 500th anniversary year.

Friends do join us if you possibly can at some stage in the coming weeks and celebrate with us the goodness of our God.



Secretary's Notes

A warm welcome to our Harvest and 130th Church Anniversary services on , Sunday October 1st at 11.00am & 6.30pm when services will be taken by our Pastor Kevin Tibble. We continue on Tuesday October 3rd with a service commencing at 7.30pm.

This year our guest speaker on Tuesday evening will be George Hider who for many years was at London City Mission. The chairman for the evening will be our Pastor.

As the Chapel is 130 years old we feel that it is a special reason to give "Thanks" to an Almighty God for all His provisional care over these many years. We do hope that you may be able to join us at some time over that weekend. After the service on Tuesday evening there will be refreshments and the cutting of a special anniversary cake.

Our gifts and giving will both go to The London City Mission Waterloo Centre for the homeless.

MBC

Pesonalia

Sadly over these last weeks two funerals have been held here. Sue New's husband Derek passed away on July 19th . Derek had been in poor health for some time and he was looked after with such devotion and love by Sue and the family. We miss him, most especially seeing him walking his dogs past the Chapel every day.

To Sue and the family we assure them of our continued love and prayer.

Also the funeral took place of Emily Cooper who had lived in Biggin Hill many years ago. The family wanted to come back to the Chapel they knew in their youth and where Mr Uden was Pastor for so many years. We remember them in prayer at this time of sadness.

There are other in the fellowship who during these last months have endured ill health and times in hospital. For each person we "Thank God" for answered prayer and pray for ongoing blessings as they continue to recover.

A message from Cissie

As most folks are aware, Cissie, our newsletter editor, has been resident in a nursing home for some months. She sends her love to everyone and in doing so “Thanks” everyone for coming to see her . She hopes you will enjoy the newsletter.

The care Cissie receives is a joy to behold, she is very content and peaceful. It is always a pleasure to visit her although we miss her greatly in her place here. It is a great comfort to know that she is secure in her faith and content in the Lord where she is.

MBC

As we do not send out a Contact Magazine at Christmas anymore we would like, in advance, to send the seasons greetings to you all and wish you a peaceful and blessed Christmas. We hope that each one will be able to spend time thanking God for His precious gift to us in the person of His Son and our joy will be seen by those we spend time with over the festive period.



Two Dates for your Diary for 2018

1. **Graham Chewter** from the Trinitarian Bible Society will be visiting us on:-

Tuesday June 5th 7.45pm

2. **General Lord Dannatt** GCB CBE MC DL, the President of SASRA and former Chief of the General Staff, will be the guest speaker at the SASRA Annual General Meeting, held on:-

Monday June 11th at:-

St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks 7.15pm refreshments
8.00pm meeting commences

Dates for your Diary 2017

Sundays

	11am	6.30pm
Oct 1 st	Pastor Harvest, 130th Anniv	Pastor
Oct 8 th	Trainee Speaker	Pastor
Oct 15 th	Trainee Speaker	Pastor
Oct 22 nd	Peter Dunn	Peter Dunn
Oct 29 th	Brig I Dobbie	Brig I Dobbie

Nov 5 th	Pastor	Pastor
Nov 12 th	Pastor Remembrance Sunday	Pastor
Nov 19 th	Trainee Speaker	Ed or David
Nov 26 th	Trainee Speaker	Malcolm Martin

Dec 3 rd	Trainee Speaker	Malcolm Martin
Dec 10 th	Trainee Speaker	Pastor
Dec 17 th	Pastor Requested Carols	Pastor
Dec 24 th	Richard Francis	Carols by Candlelight
Dec 25 th	Christmas Day Service	10.30am
Dec 31 st	Pastor	TBC



Grateful thanks to everyone who assisted at Derek's funeral
On August 2nd
We feel enveloped not only with the Lord's unfailing love
but that of the members of WHBC.
Kevin's guidance and support have been so appreciated
and Martha's tribute and floral arrangements were wonderful.
Thanks also to the support team who so generously gave up
their time to help with the catering and car parking.
Your love and kindness is helping us at this sad time.

Sue New and Family

Missionary News

September seems to have come very quickly and already the memory of long hot summer days is fading.

After our Easter magazine we concentrate our thoughts on Missionary events since then.

We look back to May when we had our Home Mission annual collection and we were able to add £53 to the total from our Home mission Boxes.

June brings us to the SASRA AGM meeting at St. Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks. This is always a time of great blessing. We presented them with a cheque for £450 which was collected in our SASRA drums.

Graham Chewter, from the Trinitarian Bible Society, visited us in June and he was able to tell us about the recent work of the Society. He always brings bibles, books and cards for us to buy.

In July Andrew Wilson from Release took our morning service as did Alice Cooper from the London City Mission in September. We thank God for the work of both of these societies.

Thank you for all your prayers and support for our missionary work.

May God continue to bless us.

Shirley

Dohnavur

We are about to send parcels out next week at this time of writing so that they reach them in time for Christmas.

Thank you to all who have provided items for these parcels. They will be gratefully received and enjoyed.

We need more toiletries, small travel size ones, as these go down well with the teenagers. Also crochet blankets, as they are lighter than the knitted ones and shawls for the elderly.

Thank you so much for your care and love with this work.

Sheila

Prayer

Samuel Chadwick, a minister at the turn of the 20th Century summed up the spiritual battle in a profound and challenging manner:

"Satan dreads nothing but prayer. His one concern is to keep the saints from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, he mocks our wisdom, but he trembles when we pray."

"Prayer is the acid test of devotion."

"A season of silence is the best preparation for speech with God."

"The reason so many people do not pray is because of its cost. The cost is not so much in the sweat of agonizing supplication as in the daily fidelity to the life of prayer."

"In these days there is no time to pray; but without time, and a lot of it, we shall never learn to pray."

"True prayer is a lonely business."

"The great souls who became mighty in prayer and rejoiced to spend three and four hours a day alone with God were once beginners."

"Hurry is the death of prayer."

"Prayer turns ordinary mortals into men of power. It brings power. It brings fire. It brings rain. It brings life. It brings God."

"Intensity is a law of prayer. God is found by those who seek Him with all their heart. Wrestling prayer prevails. The fervent effectual prayer of the righteous is of great force."

Submitted by Andrew



The Twenty-Third Psalm

(JEHOVAH-ROHI) The Lord is my Shepherd.

Jehovah God my shepherd is,
with blood He purchased me;
I heard His voice, He calls my name,
His only would I be.

(JEHOVAH-JIREH) Genesis 22:14 The Lord will provide.

I shall not want with such a God,
The Lord He will provide;
My every need by Him is met
Whilst walking at His side.

(JEHOVAH-SHALOM) Judges 6:24 Peace be unto you, fear not.

There Lord doth make me down to lie,
Within His pastures green,
And by the quiet waterside
The peace of God is seen.

(JEHOVAH-TSIDKENU) Jeremiah 23:6 The Lord our Righteousness.

Within the paths of righteousness
My shepherd now doth lead,
For His namesake and by His grace,
My soul from sin is freed.

(JEHOAH-SABOTH) Isaiah 1:9

'The Lord of Hosts my Saviour is,
Why should I ever fear,
For even in the vale of death,
His rod and staff are near.



(JEHOVAH-NAKAH) Isaiah 58:11 The Lord shall guide thee.

Through pastures fair and valleys dark
The Lord will be my guide,
Within His footsteps I shall walk
And in His shadow hide.

(JEHOVAH-NISSI) Exodus 17:15 The Lord will defend.

His banner over me is love
Like Moses rod held high,
A table hath the Lord prepared
The victory feast is nigh.

**(JEHOVAH-MEKADISHKEM) Exodus 31:13 The Lord is holy and is
The one that sanctifieth.**

It is the Lord that sanctifies
And keeps me in His way;
My head He doth with oil anoint,
From Him I will not stray.

(JEHOVAH-SHAMMAH) Ezekiel 48:35 The Lord is there.

In any place why should I fear,
I know the Lord is there.
His goodness always follows me,
His mercy and His care.

(JEHOVAH-ROPHKAH) Exodus 15:26 The Lord that keeps me safe.

My wounds are bound, my soul restored
The Lord that healeth me
Will keep me safely in His fold
For all eternity.

Ivy



You may recall in our Easter edition of Contact, an item from our member Roy Savery, on the charity cycle ride for the Jela foundation in Haiti. Roy set out from Lands End with a small group of people on their bikes to cycle to John O’Groats; an incredible feat by anyone’s standards. The weather was not kind in places being very windy, wet and cold especially as they were north of Manchester. Also road surfaces were found wanting to the cyclists. This resulted in sapping energy levels and exhaustion. Amazingly Roy managed to cycle all the way to Fort William which is situated in the shadow of Ben Nevis in Scotland. He was taken to the finish line by the support vehicle and was able to cycle over the finish line to receive his medal. We all want to congratulate Roy on his momentous achievement. Most of us, I’m sure, wouldn’t have got further than Cornwall itself so very well done!

Day 0 – Arrive at Penzance. Transfer to Land’s End

Day 1 – Land’s End to Gunnislake – 92 miles

From the tourist complex at Land’s End the route takes you via Penzance through the heart of Cornwall, to the Tamar Valley.

Day 2 – Gunnislake to Cheddar – 104 miles

Leaving Cornwall for Devon we pass around Dartmoor and continue through CREDITON and TIVERTON into Somerset, before crossing the Somerset Levels to Cheddar.

Day 3 – Cheddar to Ludlow – 96 miles

Today’s route takes us around Bristol, across the Avon and Severn rivers and along the River Wye. We then continue through the rolling countryside of Herefordshire and Shropshire.

Day 4 – Ludlow to Chorley – 116 miles

A longer day that takes us through Shrewsbury, across the Cheshire plains, around Manchester and through the industrial heart of Lancashire.

Day 5 – Chorley to Carlisle – 102 miles

We continue through the rolling hills of Northern England, passing through the Lake District on our way to Carlisle on the Scottish border.

Day 6 – Carlisle to Cumbernauld – 108 miles

After crossing into Scotland we continue through the Southern Uplands, before crossing the Clyde Valley and passing around Glasgow.

Day 7 – Cumbernauld to Ballachulish – 100 miles

We pass Loch Lomond and through the Trossachs National Park and then continue through the Grampian Mountains, crossing over Rannoch Moor before a long descent takes us down to the shore of Loch Linnhe.

Day 8 – Ballachulish to Evanton – 90 miles

We pass through the 'gateway' to the Highlands, Fort William, and then continue along the Great Glen, passing Loch Lochy and Loch Ness. We then continue over the hills to Cromarty Firth.

Day 9 Evanton to John O'Groats – 102 miles

The final days ride takes us across the Dornoch Firth and then along the coast to the small settlement of John O'Groats at the northernmost tip of the UK.

Day 10 – Transport from John O'Groats to Inverness from where you continue your journey home

This trip offers the challenge of riding the 'End to End' in a challenging nine days. Full back up is provided – luggage transfer, support vehicle and mechanic

This trip uses a slightly different route from our other 'End to End' holidays – more direct, though still very pleasant riding – and the trip is aimed at fit, experienced cyclists who want to ride the 'End to End' as quickly as possible.

Starting from Land's End the route takes you through southern Cornwall, then around Bodmin, over Dartmoor, and into Devon. You continue across the Black Hills into Somerset, passing around the edge of Bristol. After crossing the magnificent bridge over the River Severn you continue north through the lovely rolling countryside of Herefordshire and Shropshire, before skirting around the urban sprawl of Manchester, and heading around the Forest of Bowland and the Cumbrian Lake District.

After crossing the Scottish border the route takes you across the Southern Uplands, around the edge of Glasgow, then through the Grampian Mountains to the shore of Loch Linnhe. You then continue through Fort William and along the Great Glen, passing Loch Ness on the way. The final section of the route takes you around Dornoch Firth and along the coast to the small settlement of John O'Groats on the northern tip of the Scottish mainland.



**“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest,
cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will
never cease”**

Genesis 8:22



Harvest is a time when we naturally think about God's provision through the natural world for our physical needs. Indeed the harvest of crops this year has been particularly abundant due to long bouts of sunny weather and sudden down burst of rain. On my allotments crops grew that I did not even sow, but were self seeded and have done exceedingly well even though resulting in a bit of a higgledy piggedly state.

In the Bible there are many reminders that God through His Son created the world and the universe all of which is held in God's hands and is under His control not man. All the good things around us have been provided by God for our comfort and wellbeing.

In the book of Job the Lord spoke to Job and asked him question after question whether he could control or set up any part of creation even extending His questions to the constellations of Pleiades and Orion, whether he could control the rain, clouds, lightening, the seas, the seasons, or the very order of day followed by night etc. Job's response is to acknowledge God's supreme control on our world and our lives and repents from complaining to God and admits that he was talking about things he did not understand and should not have questioned God's wisdom.

Psalms 104 exhorts us to praise the Lord from our very souls for the greatness splendour and majesty of God and the provisions and blessings He has given us through creation.

The Bible is full of examples of the goodness of God to mankind and His own people. He gave Adam life-giving breath and a suitable companion to help him Genesis 2:7 & 18-24. After Adam and Eve sinned God still cared for them by giving them clothes to wear Genesis 3:21. When Cain, their son, gave God an unacceptable sacrifice and killed his brother, Abel, in revenge, God sent Cain away but in His mercy put a mark on him to protect him from violent men Genesis 4:1-16

Noah was also protected from God's judgment. After he had done all that God had commanded in building the Ark and had entered it with the livestock and his family, it was God who closed the door behind him Genesis 6:9-22 & 7:1-16. God gave a promised son to Abraham and Sarah even though it was humanly impossible Genesis 21:1-8 and a ram to replace that son, Isaac, as the sacrifice Genesis 22:1-14.

Abraham sent his son, Ishmael and his mother away, under God's direction. When they were in a desperate state with no water in the wilderness, God provided a well and a promise Genesis 21:9-21.

Moses was given assurance by God that He would be with him when he went back to Egypt to lead God's people from slavery Exodus 4:17

Meat, manna and water were given to the Israelites whilst they were wandering and complaining to God in the wilderness, after He had rescued them from Egyptian slavery in a miraculous way Exodus 1-17.

God protected Moses in the cleft of a rock so he would not die when God passed by Exodus 33:18-23

God gave the Israelites the Law but he also gave them the Sabbath on the seventh day Exodus 20:8-9 and the Sabbath year every seventh year for rest and recuperation Exodus 25:1-7.

When Moses died at 120 years old he was still as strong as ever and still had good eyesight by the grace of God Exodus 34:7

The Israelites clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell up all the while they were in the wilderness Deuteronomy 8:4

Elijah was fed by ravens sent from God and by the poor widow who only had a drop of oil left.....1Kings 17:1-24

God closed the lion's mouths and protected Daniel, He also saved Daniel's friends in the fiery furnace Daniel 6 & 3

Jonah was saved by the fish sent by God when he was thrown out of the ship on his way to Tarshish when fleeing from the Lord Jonah 1

Then God provided Jonah with a tall plant to protect him from the burning sun Jonah 4:1-6

We are given a way of escape from every temptation 1 Corinthians 10:13

We could carry on picking out God's protection and provision for the mankind but the supreme provision that he has given us is in the person of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him he has given us the gift of eternal life and forgiveness from our sins.

Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord to whom shall we go?

Thou hast the words of eternal life.

John 6:68

Abraham Lincoln once said "I have been driven to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go; my wisdom and that of all around me seemed insufficient for the day"

Only in Thee, O Saviour mine, dwelleth my soul in peace divine,
Pleasures of earth, so seemingly sweet, fail at the last my longings to meet.

Only in Thee, my bliss is complete,

only dear Lord in Thee.

Thomas O. Chisholm

May this be our experience this harvest time that God through the person of His Son is all we need. He is in supreme control and we can rest in Him.

Catherine

