

THE WINDOW



Number 140
January/February 2022



FARNBOROUGH
BAPTIST CHURCH
Queens Road, Farnborough

Our Regular Church Activities

Sundays

10.15 – 10.30: Prayer time in the vestry

10.30: Morning Worship

Young Church Classes are held during the service. Activities are available for all age children.

Communion:

1st Sunday of the month

Family Service:

3rd Sunday of the month

(Family services will alternate between an All-Age Service and Café Church service each month – starting in January with Café Church)

Tuesday

10.00am

Morning weekly prayer with Zoom attendance (link given below) to if you would like to join in.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81637233415?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81637233415?pwd=QIFmZWQ4NDZlYkZMUMU1MUcvZz09)

pwd=QIFmZWQ4NDZlYkZMUMU1MUcvZz09

Meeting ID: 816 3723 3415

Passcode: 251888

Wednesdays

Thursdays

7.00 pm – Deacons and Church Meetings as advertised

Fridays

10.30am 'Altogether' Coffee Morning & Soup Lunch.

Saturdays

10.00am – 12.00 noon, Coffee morning

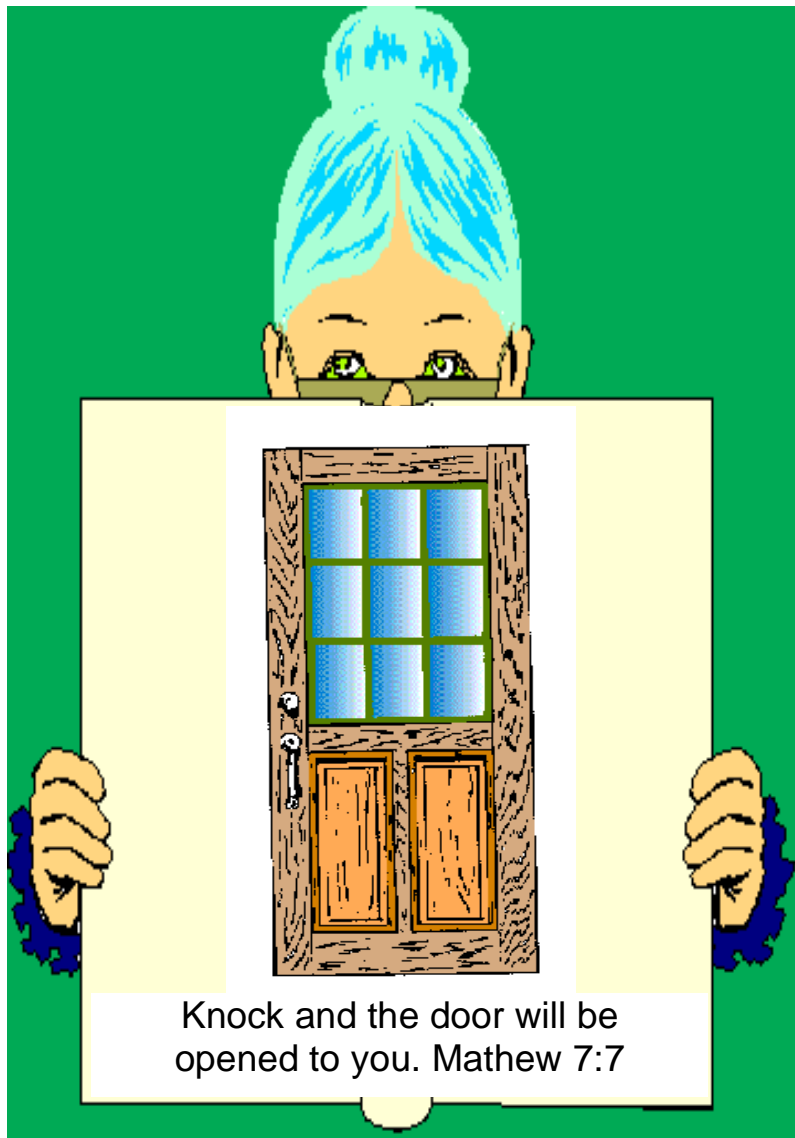
(When we can start it again.)

4.00pm – 6.00 pm, Messy Church (1st Saturday of alternating months, Feb, Apr, Jun)

With the Covid/Omicron situation, we have to abide by the Government's advice. So, there may be changes from them in the weekly diary, or even the Sunday Services. Rest assured everyone will be kept informed. Praise God for leading us into this new year 2022 for our Church.

***We your people, the sheep of your pasture,
will praise you for ever; from generation to generation we will
recount your praise. Psalm 79, verse 13***

**Knowing God, showing his love,
serving the community**



SERVICE DETAILS FOR January/February 2022

At the time of writing, we do not know whether or not our services and other meetings will go ahead. If new Covid restrictions are imposed it may be necessary to make other arrangements or to cancel meetings. We will do our best to let you know of any changes.

It is really helpful to read and think about the Bible passage before coming to the service

January 2022

Shepherds & sheep

- 9th C. Josh Waldock – Ps.79
- 16th Simon Bodington – Ezek.34
- 23rd Josh Waldock - café church – Ps.23
- 30th Tony Bennewith – Is.53

Sun.30th Jan to Sun.13th Feb - Josh has a college placement

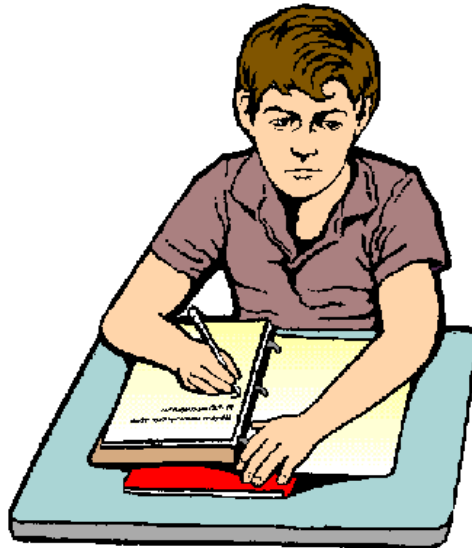
February

- 6th C. Josh – M.9
- 13th Russ Clark - Jn.10:1-21
- 20th Josh – Lk.15
- 27th Harry Page – Rev.7:9-17

March

Jonah

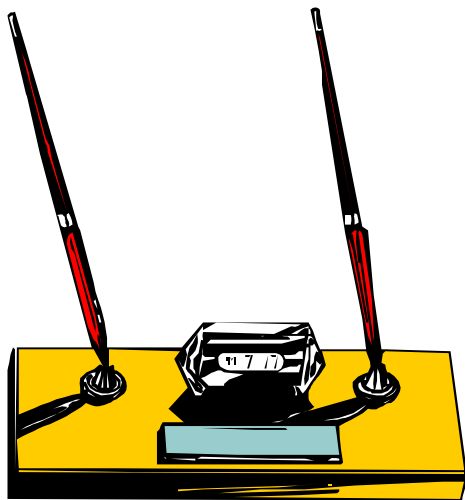
- 6th C. Josh – Jonah 1:1-16



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This Church is a member of the South East Baptist Association, Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Evangelical Alliance.

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JOSH'S LETTER

January 2022

One of my favourite things during this time of the year is to watch yearly review programmes on TV, there are probably too many of them if I'm honest – but programmes like Sports Personality of the Year are just fantastic at looking back at the best and funniest parts of the year.

Although, let's be honest it has been hard to find those great moments this year. Going in and out of worries and fears concerning the global pandemic has been tiresome at best. But while I was a youth worker and now as a Minister (in training) I am encouraged to regularly be reflective and to take time to pick out those golden moments of the day, the month or the term. So, I've become quite good at hanging on to the positives that are around while still trying to deal with the challenges that we face.

If you've got time, I encourage you to read 1 Samuel chapter 7. It is the story of the Ark of the Covenant returning to Israel. In this time of the history of the Hebrews, it was quite common for things to go wrong. In fact it followed a fairly repetitive cycle.

Starting with the people loving God. Then "stuff" often crept in until people loved both God and stuff. And time went on until the Israelites loved stuff and had forgotten about God. But somewhere in the middle there always came a messenger – often ignored, but that messenger always arrived.

And often slowly but surely the nation returns to God and prays for His help, and He delivers them.

In this particular case, in 1 Samuel 7, after the Israelites had started to worship other Gods and setting up idols in their worship, so the

Philistines turned up and invaded Israel. The Philistines won battles and they have taken back to their towns the Ark of the Covenant – the box that carried a number of items including the ten commandments – but it meant so much more than that to the Israelites, it lived in the centre of the tabernacle, in the place where man met God, and was very much the image of the presence of God. So, to have that out of their land was a disaster, it meant God had physically left them.

But it didn't mean that God was suddenly on the side of the Philistines. In fact, wherever they left the ark the people in that town got sick and died, so they sent it to another town, and those people got sick, and so they made a plan to send it back to Israel on the back of two cows (so no one even had to touch it), along with some golden guilt offerings (as that was their custom for being made right with God).

And it reminds me that God is always faithful, and that His faithfulness is not dependent on our actions. We see in this story right from the get go, the Israelites were surprised that the ark had been returned, they had not gone looking for it, they had not set up camp around the enemy in order to get it back.

But God had still made the plan to return Himself to His people, to make a way for their relationship with God, to go back to how He wants it to be.

We've just celebrated Christmas, the most famous time, where God repeats the act of returning to His people, calling them to come back to Him, inviting them back in to the relationship that He desires. It always, always, always starts with Him making the first move to us. Ephesians 2.4 puts it like this: *But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.*

But it doesn't mean that you don't have a role to play, in the same way that in all our relationships & friendships it starts with one person starting the conversation or making the first move. But if you don't respond, that's not a relationship that will last, and if a year,

two years, ten years down the line you stop responding the relationship will struggle.

And to fix that relationship, it will take someone making the first step to put it right, and that is God's role every single time. When Adam and Eve took the bite of the fruit, He came and looked for them, when Cain killed Abel, God came looking for him, When Noah was described as the last faithful man on the earth, God came looking for him. It's the same throughout the Old Testament, and it's the same for us.

The story goes on to demonstrate how the role of humans in this relationship restoration is often,

1. Consecrating an individual (setting someone aside to lead and to hear from God)
2. Listening to God's message through his messenger.
3. Repenting.

And that too hasn't changed. God hasn't changed the way that He works – Although the one who was consecrated for all of us has already come, died and was risen again.

In this story the leader is Samuel, he becomes God's mouthpiece to the people of Israel, and one of the final things that Samuel does as the leader of God's people in this passage, is to lay down a stone, a commemorative stone. And he says this far God has helped his people. The Israelites at that time said God has been faithful thus far – knowing the past victories but not knowing the ultimate victory of the cross.

We are in a place of great privilege that at the end of the 2021 we can raise our own Ebenezer saying God has brought us safe this far. And we know that not only has He been with us this far but that there are greater things to come.

There is victory in the cross and there is assurance in the empty tomb, and He will not stop being God despite the atrocities that occur across the earth. He is still faithful, He is still reaching out to

each and every one of us, longing for us to turn to Him in repentance.

Now I don't want to belittle the events of the past two years, and on a global scale they have been two of the worst years for this generation. But I know for me personally and for many people reading this, there have been worse years. But those past experiences tell me that there is hope, that we will get through to the other side.

And it tells me that God hasn't stopped being God, He's not on a break He hasn't stopped being faithful, but rather something is happening in the world, God is still at work and I look forward to the moment that we can look back on 2021 and say Covid was rubbish, but how good was it when God answered those prayers, how good was it that unchurched people engaged with faith, How good was it that God healed people.

And as a church we now move in to celebrating 100 years of being a Baptist Church on this site in North Camp, and we can declare, God has brought us safe this far. Knowing that He will lead us safely onwards in His will.

As you reflect on the year over the next few days, or as we look back over the last 100 years, I encourage you to think on these things,

- Go back and find the moments that God has shown His faithfulness to you personally.
- Go back and recall the moments that He showed up in the small way.
- And recall the moments that He showed up in a big way.
- And note them down.
- Remind yourself, not of your sin, but of your need to repent daily.
- And remember that God has brought you this far, and He will go with you until the end of this journey.



DIARY DATES

These are meetings and events other than services,

January

- Thurs.6th 7.00pm, deacons' meeting
- Fri.7th from 10.30am, Altogether
- Sat.8th 9-5, Druglink booking
- Sun.9th week of prayer begins
- Mon.10th 2.00pm, Wimborne House Communion service
- Fri.14th from 10.30am, Altogether
- Sat 15th FBC prayer event
- 18th–25th Week of prayer for Christian unity
- Thurs.20th7.00pm, Church Meeting
- Fri.21st from 10.30am, Altogether
- Fri.28th from 10.30am, Altogether

February

- Thurs.3rd 7.00pm, deacons' meeting
- Fri.4th from 10.30am, Altogether
- Sat.5th Messy Church
- Mon.7th 2.00pm, Wimborne House Communion service
- Fri.11th from 10.30am, Altogether
- Fri.18th from 10.30am, Altogether
- Mon.21st Fri.25th – Half term week
- Fri.25th from 10.30am, Altogether

March

- 1st-3rd SEBA Ministers' Conference
- Thurs.3rd 7.00pm, deacons' meeting
- Fri.4th from 10.30am, Altogether
- Sat.5th 9-5, Druglink booking

Announcing



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!**

JANUARY 2022

**TONY SMITH 1ST
LYNN MOSS 7TH
JACQUELINE NORRIS 13TH
JANE EVANS 14TH**

FEBRUARY 2022

**RUTH SMITH 3RD
VALERIE HARWOOD 10TH**

From all at Farnborough Baptist Church

Ed Note: Please forgive us if we miss any of you or have made errors in any part of the list, it is not intentional.

Pray without ceasing!

Sundays are highlighted

Please keep this list near at hand so that we can keep each other in our prayers.

January 2022 Prayer

- 1st Dayo & Eunice Aroyewun, Philip and Esther in Southampton
- 2nd Dave Williams and our e-service**
- 3rd Eileen Weinling and Family
- 3rd Farnborough Central
- 4th Erwin Mendison
- 5th Please pray for the local Baptist Churches in Aldershot & Cove
- 6th Fabio Sousa
- 7th Gill & Harry Page and Family
- 8th Gill Brand and Family
- 9th Please pray for today's service and Josh who is leading our worship**
- 10th Ivy & Barry James and Family
- 10th Aircraft Esplanade, Maitland Road, Shoe and Forge Lanes and Vine Close
- 11th Please pray for the local Baptist Churches in Frimley & Mytchett
- 12th Jacquie Norris
- 13th Josh & Laura Waldock and Family
- 14th Jane Evans & Family
- 15th Jenny Smith and Family
- 16th Please pray for today's service and Simon Bodington who is leading our worship**
- 17th Jose & Dalia Sousa
- 17th Queen's Gate
- 18th June Warnes & Family
- 19th Karen & Simon Woolley and Family

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- 20th Please pray for the local Baptist Churches at Church Crookham and Fleet
- 21st Karenne & Fred Budden & Family
11
- 22nd Ken Fuller
- 23rd Please pray for today's service and Josh who is leading our worship**
- 24th Levina Quintal and Family
- 24th Lynchford Road and Lane
- 25th Lynn Moss and Family
- 26th Margaret Palmer
- 27th Mary & John Hawyes and Family
- 28th Pat Brigden and Joyce
- 29th Ralph & Kate Brigden and Family
- 30th Please pray for today's service and Tony Bennewith who is leading our worship**
- 31st For friends who are unwell
- 31st Park Road

FEBRUARY 2022 PRAYER

- 1st Ruth & Howard Smith and Family
- 2nd Shelia Allwood & Family
- 3rd Simon & Jackie Bodington
- 4th Sue & Pete Hillier in Wales
- 5th Tony Smith and Family
- 6th Please pray for today's service and Josh who is leading our worship**
- 7th Valerie Harwood and Family
- 7th South Street
- 8th New friends coming to Church
- 9th The Triangle Bookshop
- 10th North Camp Schools
- 11th Sofia Thomas & Fatima (G/mother)
- 12th Our church leadership team
- 13th Please pray for today's service and Russ Clark who is leading our worship**

- 14th Joe & Lois Ovenden and Family
 15th Noah & Mikyung Lee
 16th Farnborough Food Bank
16th Ash Wednesday
 17th Pray for the work of the Baptist Missionary Society
 18th Pray for persecuted Christians, that they may know God's strength and courage in their daily walk with him
 19th Parent & Toddler families
20th Please pray for today's service and Josh who is leading our worship
 21st Outlook friends
 21st Queen's Road
 22nd Coffee Morning friends
 23rd Friday Altogether friends
 24th For your contacts in the community
 25th Messy Church families
 26th For contacts from our church website and on Facebook, that they may be blessed by what they read
27th Please pray for today's service and Harry Page who is leading our worship
 28th For Club Connect children and Staff
 28th Camp Road

Please pray every month in the

1st week for Our Lady Help of Christians

2nd week for St. Mark's Church

3rd week for the Methodist Church

4th week for the Baptist Church

5th week for the Ebenezer Fellowship/Society of Friends/Plymouth Brethren





FLOWER ROTA

A new list has been put up next to the missions notice board in the rear room. Please have a look and see if there's a Sunday when you can provide flowers for the church. You may like to mark an anniversary or birthday by giving flowers to honour the Lord as we worship Him. When flowers are given, they are normally taken to someone who is unwell or unable to attend church, or sometimes given to the wife of a visiting preacher. I will arrange flowers if required, and even buy them if you prefer to just make a donation.

Thank you in anticipation of your names on the list! Gill P

Dear Church Family

I wanted to share my reading for today (January 1st, 2022) from Isaiah 43:18-19 as word of encouragement to you as we go into this new year.

*“...Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland...”*
“Behold, I Will Do a New Thing.”

Each of us needs newness in our lives. We crave it and we must continually seek out the new to replace and refresh the old. And meanwhile God is in the business of providing “new things.” As he says through Isaiah, Behold, I will do a new thing. Now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it?

What does a “new thing” look like for you? Did you know that God longs to do a new thing in and through you? Not just once but every single day?

Perhaps you need supernatural intervention. Maybe the “new thing” for you looks like a breakthrough in this season. I have good news – we serve a God of breakthrough.

Both freedom and provision are promises that accompany a new thing.

In what area of your life do you need supernatural breakthrough, or God’s intervention, or provision and freedom?

Remember, He is the God of more.

Maybe, the new thing you have your eyes set upon requires the favour of God. Once again, He is the God of favour.

The Lord wants to favour you and shower His mercy upon you. His companionship can be a source of blessing and fullness in your life that you could never have imagined – and simply staying on the path of relationship with Jesus is all that it requires.

Whatever “new thing” you need, expect it, look for it, and move towards it.

I love the conversation God has with Moses in Exodus when this tired leader relays the fears and hesitation of his people to the Father. God’s response to his question is this: “Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward” (Ex 14-15).

What kind of “new thing” do you crave?

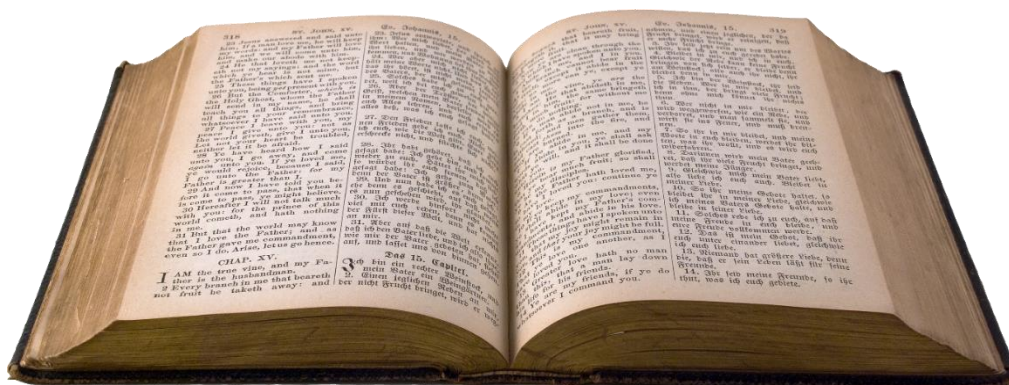
Ask God to surprise you with his goodness and favour.

Prayer:

Father God. I know that you are faithful and good. You have given us new life and love us as your children.

You are with us on our best days and carry us through the worst. You protect and guide us. Please continue to show us how you are working in our life and the lives of those around us.

Help us to focus on our future with you, and to be a witness to your work. In Jesus name, Amen.



Every blessing **Lynn**

Ed Note: Welcome back Lynn. Thank you so much!

THE EDITOR'S PAGE



Happy New Year to you all! I prayed for a very special and Happy Christmas for you all, and whether you did or didn't, just know that I felt reassured that God was with you throughout the festive season.

New Year is always exciting in that Resolutions are sometimes made, or made and broken. Quite funny really. Diet plans come to mind. With all the goodies that are given and eaten during

Christmas and New Year, it is so easy to not just look at the goodies but try them as well. On a serious note, I have put on enormous weight, so I didn't make a resolution, but just started taking my weight more sensibly. With caring for John, the exercise isn't good. Though, I have to say, when I'm busy doing things for him, there is plenty of exercise there. John is so good though, as much as he can't do much at all these days, and breathing is a spasmodic state of now you see the oxygen, now you don't. He does worry for me as well, because he doesn't like putting pressure on me to do the things I have to do. But that is part of being a wife, and having taken vows, which I thoroughly believe in, and to the end of his life I will do all I can to assist and be with him as he slowly declines. Only our good Lord knows the future, but witnessing the changes that occur along the journey isn't all that good. He is definitely eating a little more which is good. Community Nurses and Phylis Tuckwell still visit and assist where they can, and are phenomenal. Praise the Lord for that!

***We your people, the sheep of your pasture,
will praise you for ever; from generation to generation we will
recount your praise. Psalm 79, verse 13***

I must confess I do like our 2022 Motto this year. As Josh says in his pages, we really do need to praise Him for life, for healing the sick and just the reassurance He gives for us believers. Our awesome God, who will lead the way through this year and beyond as well.

John and I had a very quiet Christmas, after our children and their families came over for a pre-Christmas celebration on the 18th. We had told them that it would be unfair to carry all the equipment that John needs to whoever we stay with, and the anxiety it would cause John would not help him at all. So they all came to us for a short period on the 18th. John cannot handle long visits as he gets anxious, and doesn't want to spoil their fun. So all the turkey trimmings were dealt with that day in a buffet type lunch. It was a very special day for me to have all our grandchildren together.

With the above said, on Christmas Day my sister Carol and John, her husband, were due to visit, but Carol went down with bronchitis so it all happened with us four on New Years Day instead, which turned out really nice to, with a progressive Christmas meal. Carol did the main meal, and I did the starter and pudding. All went well and we had a really nice day. Plus, with me not being able to get out much, Carol cut my hair and I must admit, she did a really good job for me to. It had grown so long. Now it's managable and easy to deal with. I'm so pleased.

Well with 2022 now well on it's way, and with Josh, our MIT, at our helm, I feel sure that we are in for a God Blessed year ahead, and our Diary Dates look really busy. That's how the future should look in God's Church too.

Before I close, I must thank all contributors last year for your input into our Window. I really appreciate it, and any article that any one of you think our congregation would like to see, please feel free to email, text or phone. You can rest assured it will be published. It's also great to have a contribution in this, our first Window of the year from our Lynn. After an absence I find it exciting to receive new articles from you again Lynn, If you have time, it would be nice to receive more. But only if you have time.

God Bless, may you all have a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

See you next Window, Mary.

DEADLINE
FOR
NEXT WINDOW



Monday 28th February 2022!