

21st December 2008



A very warm welcome to our service today which is when our Life groups come together for worship.

If you're visiting us for the first time, you are invited to fill in a visitors card, which you'll find in the reception area. If you have children under 3, you're invited to take them to our parent & baby room when the other children leave. Please ask someone from the welcome team to show you where this room is. After the service, please feel free to stay behind and join us for a coffee.

Our Church exists:

To introduce people to Jesus Christ, equip people with a faith that works in real life and encourage people to make an impact wherever God sends us.

If you would like to come along to one of our weekly Life Groups, please speak to Julie.

Before Service Prayer Time

Please feel free to join those who pray before the service at 10:15 am in the coffee lounge.

After Service Prayer

The Prayer team are available to pray individually with people after the service, so please go to the back at the end of the service.

Contact Info

If you have any articles, stories or any other item that you wish to include in Breakthrough, please contact me, Matt, either by snail-mail, e-mail, telephone, or find me in church.

Deadline Thursday noon

Mail: 29 Lambs Farm Road
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 4DB
E-mail: break@thru.flife.co.uk
Phone: 01403 262660

Our website can be found at:

www.life-baptist.org.uk

Spread the word!
Tell your Friends!

Today's Service

Today Julie leads an All Age Christmas Carol service
'The Angel who couldn't sing'

We welcome visitors today. Do stay behind for coffee and angel cakes after the service.



'The angel said to them (the shepherds) ' Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David (Bethlehem) a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.' Luke 2:10

Life Latest...

Please note: Julie is taking time out between Christmas and the New Year.

An alternative venue possibility for Life?

A couple of weeks ago we didn't have heating during the service and we wrote and mentioned this. The Forest lettings lady was very apologetic and said another time if that happened to go across the hall in the Business and Enterprise Centre (BEC). 'Business and Enterprise Centre!' I said. Where's that??? Last Sunday after the service the caretaker took us across to see this lovely new building (2 years old) with a big hall (not as big as the one we use now), inbuilt sound systems, projector, kitchen, classrooms etc. I was astounded we had never seen this or known about the possibility of using it. It is a lovely building and I was very excited at the possibility. They are happy to let it to us but we need to ascertain whether it meets our needs compared to the main hall and rooms we use now. Hilary, Ray and I went up again this week to talk to the lettings lady and consider the option. Next Sunday (28th) we are suggesting that we finish the service earlier, clear up and the caretaker will take those who'd like to across to the BEC to have a look, and consider the feasibility of a move there. We could have a couple of trial services at the end of January and bring it to the CMM on 4th Feb and see, as a church, if the BEC would be better facilities for us. Julie



N.B It has been Life's general practice not to send Christmas cards to each other rather give the money to the Christmas Special Offering which will be Spurgeon's children's homes this year.

Welcome Team

Please consider if this small, but valuable role is something you could help with. All it requires is arriving at 10 am, approximately every 3 weeks, and a friendly face! The new rota starts in January and we would love to have extra help in the New Year. Please see Kay Morrish after the service or phone 731065.

Life Prayer Day Saturday January 10th

We have booked to use the chapel at BRBC for the whole day to pray for our church for 2009. The day will be divided in sections reflecting different aspects of the life of the church. Please come to at least one session. In between there will be opportunities for silent prayer and also opportunities for people to be prayed for to be refreshed and filled with the Spirit for the coming year. The day will end with a time of communion altogether from 7-8 pm. More details in due course but please make a note of this in your diaries.

The Prayer Day will conclude our 40 days of prayer for this church. Please keep faithful in prayer over these 40 days.

Christmas greetings from the Carr family



Hi all at Life. Just to let you know that as a family we seem fairly settled now. Thank you for all your prayers and gifts over these last months. We'd ask you to continue to pray for the house issue.

For those of you that haven't had an email from us with our prayer letter and want an update - speak to Anna who should have some printed copies.

Praying for you all - that this Christmas time would be one of Love, Joy, Peace and Hope. In Christ's love Scott, Fliss, Joshua and Simeon :)

Future Diary Dates

Wednesday 24th December
Saturday 10th January

Christmas Eve communion BRBC 11.30 pm
Life Prayer Day at The Chapel, BRBC



Special Christmas/New Year Faith in Action Shoe Packing Sessions

We're going to try and fit in one or two special extra sessions in order to process the shoes that have been accumulating.

It would be good to have several pairs of hands on deck to help assess, sort, and possibly clean them.

If you fancy helping out, think you might have a spare hour or two over the next few weeks, have never participated before etc. please register your interest with Frances (H. 261735) so she can let you know when we're going to be in the packing room in Hurst Road.

The Life Packers would be grateful for your assistance in the following ways

Please don't forget that good carrier bags (not the rusty type) are needed for Faith in Action. As they are helpful in the distribution process we are asked to put 10 in the top of each box we pack. We therefore need a constant supply. Please give them to Frances, Janine, Sue M or simply leave them on the doorstep of 76 Hurst Road when you are passing.

We are also continuing to collect **laddered nylon tights**. These are used to fill the air gap at the top of the shipping container and once in Malawi become the filling for mattresses. Perhaps you would consider collecting them in from friends, family or your workplace.

We would be grateful to know if **anyone is regularly in Three Bridges** and could drop off a bag of things to the homeless hostel in Stephenson Way, every so often.

We usually have **small sewing jobs** that need doing and would appreciate help from others. The current tasks are mainly shortening trousers (that have damage to the knees) into shorts and splitting duvets into two sheets and hemming them. If you have a sewing machine, or even know of someone else who might like to help, please speak to Frances.

Ladies Required

Life Ladies Retreat Day at Holmsted Manor, proposed for Monday 16th February 2009. An opportunity to set all your agendas to one side for one complete day and not only spend time with Jesus but with other ladies at Life (those wanting an overnight stay, this will be separately arranged for another time) In order we can get an idea of numbers please sign up, a list will be posted at the Welcome Desk until Mid January. Ideally, it'll be good to get at least 15 ladies for the day. For further details or any queries please speak to Julie Shimizu or Anna Pisani.

TheBigChurchDay Out Sunday May 24.2.30-10 pm Advance notice

This will be an all age family initiative for all churches in the region. It is hoped there will be over 10,000 people there. ' TheBigChurchDayOut will be something special. It will be a great festival alternative; with one of the last ever UK appearances from Delirious as well as Graham Kendrick, YFriday, Lou Fellingham, Cathy Burton, and The Kings Chamber Orchestra with many more still to be added. And the location - the beautiful country home of Wiston House in West Sussex - the perfect backdrop for a perfect family day out.' We will not have a Sunday service at Forest that day and we would like for as many as possible of us to go as a church group. It is obviously going to cost the organizers (Tim Jupp from Delirious is heading it up) a great deal and there is a ticket price. However there are discounted tickets for church groups. This will take some organizing and we will want to know early in the year. If you'd like to know more at this stage see www.thebigchurchdayout.com More details about our group booking will follow in the new year.



The House - Latest update

Unfortunately, the purchase chain has fallen through which has meant that the sale cannot proceed. Additionally, the other couple who were interested in the property have also withdrawn. It's now inevitable that we will have to pursue letting of the property. If we are able to introduce a tenant to the letting agency then there will be a possibility of better fee terms. If you know anyone looking for rental accommodation then please speak to John Milborrow. Your continued prayers will be appreciated, especially for Scott, Fliss and their family.

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Beginners Pilates Course

A new 12 week introductory course will be starting on 9th January at

Trafalgar Road Baptist Church.

The sessions will be held on Fridays 12.30-1.30 pm.

Places are limited and bookings are already being taken.

Pilates is a floor mat based exercise method which offers:

improved posture, flexibility and balance; strong toned muscles; relief and recovery from injury.

For more information or to book a place please contact Frances on 01403 261735 or fjfrv@btopenworld.com or 07973 285913

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

18th January - United Reformed Church

19th January - St Johns the Evangelist, Roman Catholic

20th January - London Road Methodist Church

21st January - St. Leonards Anglican Church

22nd January - Brighton Road Baptist Church

23rd January -Trafalgar Road Baptist Church

24th January -St Johns Anglican Church, Broadbridge Heath.

All of these meetings will be from 7 pm - 8 pm, you may come and go as you please. Material will be provided and can be downloaded free from

www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer

25TH JANUARY - UNITED SERVICE AT ST.MARYS CHURCH. 6.30PM.

Horsham Churches Together

Ladies Event in London 7 March 2009 Westminster Central Hall, London

'Do you have a longing to bring God's love into the world around you? To see lives changed by the transforming power of his Spirit? Come and be inspired, challenged and encouraged to step out of your comfort zone! A day of worship, teaching and ministry especially for women, hosted by Anne Coles - with Nadine Parkinson in Harrogate and Lindsay Melliush in London.' It's not quite Mandate, but if anyone would like to go up to this as a group of Life Ladies, please speak to Julie

Re: Book Review: The Shack

I read Kevin's article in this weeks Breakthrough (14th December 2008) with great interest and would like to add my own thoughts on this best selling book.

As Kevin points out, this is a novel and as such is not intended as a Christian thesis in any way. Its target audience are both established Christians and more importantly, non Christians whose interest has been piqued by the author daring to explore the very issues that most would use as a reason for not believing in God.

To me, this book was inspirational and heart warming. To take one of the points raised by Kevin, namely that Jesus was portrayed as clumsy, demonstrated a heart attitude that I often struggle with. Rather than get upset and angry when we have a mishap - my usual initial reaction - we should make more light of it. The issue here is about the response, not the act itself.

Our relationship with God is a personal one so we all meet God in our own unique way. The author clearly explains in the book the reason why God chose to appear as a woman to the character (Mac) and as such, the author is merely providing an insight into Mac's own very personal relationship. In my view, the book should be viewed in a holistic way and its value as a potential evangelistic tool should not be undermined.

Alan George



Horsham Healing Rooms every Sunday 4 - 5:30 pm (except bank holidays) at the Y Centre

Church Family Life...

This section of the Breakthrough is a place where you can place prayer requests, house moves, phone number changes and general information and news. Please contact the editor with entries.

Eric's New Personal Mobile no. is 07833 207277. I will not be reachable on my old number after Friday 19th December, when I hand my old 'phone back to RSA. *Eric*

Marilyn is recovering from a stomach operation. Please continue to be in prayer for her.

The Life Leadership Team

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