

A very warm welcome to our service today.

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.

## This Week...

**Julie** is leading an Easter themed All Age Service - "The Greatest Day In History"

*The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, 'He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples.... Matthew 28:7*

## Next Week...

There will be no service, as we are unable to use the BEC

*Our next service will be on April 18<sup>th</sup> when **Simon** will be leading, and **Wally** will be speaking on Upside Authority Part 1*

## Life Headlines...

### Faith in Action

Just to keep stock moving, so the clothes avalanche doesn't get us, we shall be having an Easter holiday packing session on **Tuesday 6th April from 7.30 - 9:00 pm**

If you are available to come and lend a hand it would be lovely to see you (@76 Hurst Road) youngsters are welcome too. Ask Janine, Sue M or Frances if you want more info.

### Moldova Chronicles: news update

If you didn't pick up a copy of our Spring update last week, with a report on our recent visit and the latest on our ministry with Agape and the Moldovan young people, please come and get one from us today. We also have another newsletter charting the history and development of our work and relationships for those who perhaps aren't so aware of what this is all about!

As Jo said, if you'd like to know more we'd be happy to chat or come along to any group you're involved with, or even visit schools, to share something about the country and what we do.

Finally: watch out for more details about the **BBQ and family activities** afternoon and evening we have planned for **Sat. 15 May**. This is to help us raise the funds we need to support the Moldovan children and young people to be able to attend our Summer Camp.

*Rob & Jo*

### Fellowship Fund

As you are aware we have a Fellowship Fund which we use to support one another in the congregation at various times of need (gifts for each other cannot legally come out of our General Fund). This really does need topping up again and we will use the time we next have communion on 18<sup>th</sup> April to take a separate offering for the Fellowship Fund. Envelopes are available at the welcome desk or put in an envelope clearly marked Fellowship Fund. So please lets give generously to support each other in the church when or should those occasions of need arise.

Thank you, *Julie*

### Andrew Palau 21 April at CLC

On Wednesday evening 19.30 on 21<sup>st</sup> April Andrew Palau, son of Luis Palau, is coming to share his testimony at CLC. I have attached a flyer with the details. This is a great opportunity to invite family and friends to hear a powerful story of how he came out of drink and drugs to find faith. If you could please give a notice out and encourage those in your churches to bring along those they feel would benefit from this that would be great. He is very good communicator and is an international evangelist in his own right. It would be really wonderful to see lives changed through this. I hope that some of your members will be able to come and also that they could pray for a fruitful evening.

Many thanks

*Pastor Steve Fishpool*

Christian Life Centre, Horsham

**Please note:** Julie will be taking a break and not be available from April 5th to Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>

### Baroness Cox at Brighton Road Baptist Church, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2.00 pm

We are pleased to invite you and your congregation to an open meeting with Baroness Cox at Brighton Road Baptist Church on Sunday 25th April at 2.00 pm. Baroness Cox will be speaking during our morning service but has also agreed to speak more informally at an additional session for a wider audience with an opportunity for questions.

Her presentation will include details of her work with HART (Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust) of which she is Chief Executive. Since 1990, Baroness Cox has also worked with Christian Solidarity Worldwide through which she has visited many countries where there has been, and still is, war, destruction, slavery and oppression waged by governments upon minority groups, often including the persecution of Christians.



**Encountering God Growing in faith Making a difference**

## The Mandate 2010

If you are planning on coming to this years Mandate Conference, your money for the ticket would be greatly appreciated as soon as possible. Please see Simon. Many thanks.

## Introductory Pilates Course

I have the opportunity to do another introductory Pilates course after Easter on Thursday lunchtimes at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church. Pilates is an exercise method that promotes improved posture, flexibility and balance; strong toned muscles; relief and recovery from injury. If you would like to know more please speak to Frances on Horsham 261735 or [fjfray@btopenworld.com](mailto:fjfray@btopenworld.com)

## **Prayer For Our Nation - Parliament Watch...**

### EQUALITY BILL

This will be a new feature in the Breakthrough, particularly for the run up to the General Election. We'll highlight parliament news, including those affecting Bible morals. This week it'll be on the latest concerning the **EQUALITY BILL**:

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> March, this passed its remaining stages in the Lords while concerns about its impact on religious liberty persist. On the 6<sup>th</sup> April, the House Of Commons is expected to consider and is likely to eventually approve the Lords changes. The Bill looks set to become law ahead of the General Election. Although this Bill does include some positive changes to bring equality, the main areas of concern are:

- ✚ Amendments were successfully proposed that allow churches to hold homosexual civil partnership registrations. Although, at the moment, it will not force any religious group to do anything that is not compatible with their faith, concerns were raised about whether independent churches could be sued for discrimination for refusing to take up the new legal powers to register these types of partnerships. Whilst such a claim could be brought there are strong legal arguments available to churches which mean they should be able to successfully defend themselves in such event.
- ✚ It is likely the new provisions will not come into force immediately. Regulations must be agreed first. Experienced observers believe this could take some time because of the complexities involving marriage law, together with the many different types of religious bodies that are likely to be affected. The Government have promised there would be "extensive consultation" which would include faith groups.
- ✚ An amendment aimed at rescuing faith-based adoption agencies from being closed down by homosexual equality laws did not get voted on. The Leader of the Lords, Baroness Royall, told Peers that the amendment should not be debated for procedural reasons. The Government's Sexual Orientation Regulations, passed in 2007, have caused all but two of the 13 Roman Catholic adoption agencies in the country to become entirely secular or to close completely.

The area most of concern is that this is additional evidence that our nation is taking a further step away from God's will. The Bible quite clearly defines marriage as a life long exclusive union between one man and one woman and removing the prohibition for "homosexual and civil partnerships" taking place in religious premises is against biblical values. The inevitable next step will be that the concept of marriage, as defined in the Bible, will be "blurred" not only for our current but future generations to come.

If you want to pray individually or in your Life Groups, your prayers are suggested for the passage of this Bill as it goes into it's final stages. Some prayer pointers:

- For protection for all church leaders, Christian organisations, peers and MPs who publicly stand up and speak for righteousness and the Word of God
- There will not be division of opinions between the faith based groups involved in the further discussions
- That the Christian voice be heard through all the further consultations
- That the regulations (yet to be agreed) will not allow any homosexual or civil partnerships church registrations to be "marriage ceremonies based on God's Word and blessings"
- That amendments to the Bill will be able to go through which will allow Roman Catholic adoption agencies to act in accordance with their religious beliefs once more.
- That the forthcoming election will lead to changes of MPs who will stand on God's Word and values
- That there will be a hunger and thirst for God's Word throughout our whole nation.

Should you want further information there are 2 main websites with excellent information about this Bill

### **Christian Institute**

<http://www.christian.org.uk/news/equality-bill-passes-in-house-of-lords/>

### **Christian Concern For Our Nation**

<http://www.ccfon.org/index.php?tid=54>

If you're not on line then speak to Anna Pisani.

If you have any comments or would like to come together and specifically pray for our nation contact Hilary Smith, Eric Tansley, or Anna Pisani.

*Next week... some information about The Children, Schools and Families Bill*

## **Future Diary Dates...**

Saturday 24th April	<a href="#"><u>Ladies Prayer Breakfast 8 - 10</u></a>
Saturday 8th May	<a href="#"><u>Space to Pray (N.B. Changed from 1st)</u></a>
Sunday 9th May	<a href="#"><u>Digging Deeper Christianity and Politics</u></a>
Saturday 15th May	<a href="#"><u>Moldova Summer Camp BBQ event (see Rob &amp; Jo for more details)</u></a>
Wednesday 19th May	<a href="#"><u>Church Members Meeting (NOTE CHANGE FROM 26<sup>th</sup> MAY)</u></a>
Sunday 30th / Monday 31st May	<a href="#"><u>Big Church Day Out</u></a>
Friday 2nd July	<a href="#"><u>Ladies Social / BBQ</u></a>

## **The Life Leadership Team**

Rev. Julie Shimizu Tel. (01403) 218842  
Wally Fahrer Tel. (01403) 276040  
Ray White Tel. (01273) 930484  
Tim Jackson Tel. (01403) 266618

## **Breakthrough**

If you have an item that you wish to include in Breakthrough, please contact Matt, either by post (29 Lambs Farm Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4DB), e-mail ([break@thru.flife.co.uk](mailto:break@thru.flife.co.uk)), telephone (01403 262660), or find him in church.  
The deadline is Thursday noon. Items received after the deadline will be published the following week.