# **Bratton Baptist Church:**

October 2023



# **BBC NEWS**

# We meet in various ways ...

Sundays Morning service: 11am

Sing Praise: 8th @ 6pm (Church Institute)

Tea-time Service: 22nd @ 4pm

Home Groups: Monday & Tuesday evenings

Connect: 12th October @ 2pm

### Children & Family activities (term time)

Revive Café: 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd (Mondays @ 2.30)

Bratton Bugs: Fridays @1.45-3pm

Comets: Friday 13th at 6.30pm (for Key Stage 2 chn.)

Messy Church: Sunday 15th @ 4pm

Fusion: 6th October (for 11-14s) @ 6.30pm

"Early Bird" Joint Prayer Meeting: Wednesdays @ 7am

Pickleberry Ladies coffee & catch-up: Thursdays @ 11

Alpha: 5th October @ 7pm

Opportunity to worship: Friday 7pm

(see Steve for dates)

Leadership Team: Monday 2nd @ 7.30pm

# **Well-being Revive**

As from the 9th of October, every Monday from 1pm until 2.30pm (merging into Revive Café), "Well-being Revive" will be taking place in the chapel. This is an open space opportunity for everyone, to just come along, share a game or activity, meet some lovely people, etc.

There will be a short reflection half way through, for those who wish to participate. All, with the aim of helping to raise everyone's sense of wellbeing and belonging.



# **Update from Esther:**

Dear church,

Firstly, can I say how extremely delighted I am that you have called me to continue as your minister after I finish my training in the summer. To serve here at BBC

these last two years has been a

wonderful privilege and I'm so grateful that the Lord has called me to stay in such an amazing place with such fantastic people. Bear with me while I continue part-time and attempt to complete my last year of training, as well as submitting my PhD in March, and then relocating as a family to Bratton - there's a lot to do before September!

Regarding the coming month...each year at college we have an away block week. This year I will be going to Hebron Hall in Cardiff from the 17th to 20th. It appears to be a varied week including teaching on "gerontology" (I had to look that up!), youth ministry and exploring mental health. I will then be on annual leave from the 21st to 28th for some focussed PhD writing.

#### Every Blessing, Esther

In response, the church members are so thrilled that Esther has agreed to stay on as our Minister, and are therefore looking forward to serving with her as our Pastor. Bless you, Esther, and many thanks.

# **Other Notices:**

#### **Preachers during October:**

1st: Esther: Apostles' Creed 8

8th: Chris Smith

15th: Esther: Apostles' Creed 9 (Communion)

22nd: Martin Smith

29th: Messy Church Joint Service

## Forthcoming Events for your diaries:

Saturday 7th October at West End BC (7pm start):



See poster for contact details.

Entry cost £3 per person (inc. finger buffet). In aid of TEARFUND

# "TREATS ONLY"

Tuesday 31st October 6-8pm

Bratton Baptist Church

# Praying for each other ('23 Annual report):

- 1] To remember in prayer those who are finding life difficult at this present time.
- 2] For the members of **Connect** which is a daytime bi-weekly Bible study meeting at the church. Please pray:

  1. That we'll continue to grow in the Lord as we seek the scriptures;

  2. That we'll continue to grow in numbers;

  3. For a sense of continuity in the group with the challenge of long breaks when Esther is away or busy with college.

# Thanks for sponsoring (by Ian Humphrey) "Ride and Stride" on 9th September 2023

On this gloriously sunny Saturday I cycled one of my favourite local circular routes. Setting off at 0745, to get most of the uphill done before the heat of the day, I visited churches in Westbury, Warminster, Horningsham, Maiden Bradley, the Deverills, Sutton Veny, Bishopstrow Upton Scudamore, Old Dilton, Dilton Marsh, & Bratton.

Adhering to the touring cyclists rules of enjoying the scenery, pedalling only when necessary and eventually arriving safely, I meandered around Wiltshire's lovely B roads for 47.25 miles, pausing at Kingston Deverill's lovely village recreation ground for well earned cheese and chutney sandwiches, plus the obligatory mug of Earl Grey tea, brewed on my portable stove. Home at 1515, with tired legs, but without a sore rear end!

In total 21 Wiltshire churches were visited and, thanks to your generosity, £240 [£280 with GiftAid] has been raised, which will be equally shared between the Trust and Bratton Baptist Church.

# Bratton Hilly Walk (from Bev Salter):

Sincere thanks to everyone who supported the Bratton Hilly 11K walk on the 16th September, we were overwhelmed



by the response and generosity of everyone who turned up on the day and to date we have raised £855 for Alabare and the Church Institute Fund - two causes close to Jude's heart. Nearly hundred people of all ages turned out to walk the 7.3mile course in thankfully dry weather with many of Jude's family and friends in attendance, some of whom had travelled from Kent to be there. It was good to gather at The Duke afterwards and get the opportunity to chat everyone and share memories of Jude.

Many thanks again.

Bev.

# They say having a garden is good for you, but Janet is not so sure! (Janet Waring's fun day on the 17th)

I will not forget that day I got home and went in the rain to deliver beans to a nice builder who lives further along our road. I put them on the door-step with a cucumber, and pushed a note to tell them through the door, as no-one was in. I had a job to get it through, so pushed with my fingers'

Next thing I knew I had a dog bite my finger! I have never seen these people with a dog. I walked home with blood dripping. Had to go to hospital at Frome, 111 said. We set off, hand wrapped in a towel, and arrived to find the waiting room full. Lucky we had taken books to read.

We waited exactly 3 hours and was then seen by a nice nurse who had worked since 8 am. Had a tetanus jab and had to



explain when I took my top off why I had a tattoo of a rainbow on my arm!!! I was given antibiotics and 2 stitches and was told they do not usually like to stitch dog bites as they like any infection to come out, but it was deep and the nurse said two would hold it together and it would heal quicker. She said she has by law now to inform the police. It used to be only if a child was bitten, but now adults too.

I shall always remember the FUN day!!!

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Graham W.

warmingtongraham@gmail.com / 07759 725227