

FAMILY NEWS

Happy International Women's Day and Mother's Day!

On Friday 8th of March it was Internal Women's Day. On Sunday 10th of March it is Mother's Day. Therefore this Sunday we are going to be celebrating women during a moment in our service. We are holding these two things together, not because we believe that motherhood is in every woman's story or purpose, but that Women are important whether you are a mother or not. Therefore, we want to include all women in this moment of thanksgiving and celebration on Sunday.

Jesus valued women incredibly highly, often overtly (John 4, Luke 10:38-42, John 20:11-17) as vital and equal children of God. Unfortunately, historically, this has not always been the narrative of the wider church. Being the body of Christ was always, and should always have been about holding together the valuable parts of difference, In love without prejudice.

Women and girls - we welcome and celebrate you. We thank God for you. The church and the world is better with you.

Please also pray this week for...

Ted Robson - who has been in hospital recently
Gwen Eyre, Liz, Hud, Alex & Jenna - as they're all having a tough time at the moment.
Kim who sadly lost her husband John this week.
Judith, Simon, Alice, Thea and Victoria.

Kirstie Ricketts	Thelma Bickford
Jean Barnicoat	Cherry Sutherland
Lin and Brian Gray	Jean Edwards
Mike and Wendy Jeffs	Elizabeth Billingham
Julie and James Bright	Matt Webster
Margret Harrison	Tricia and Ian
Alex Westwood (Lin's grandson)	Eli Kirollos
Anne and John Dawson.	Anne Brown
Daphne and David Lockett	



Jack and Sylvia as their daughter Anne has recently been diagnosed with cancer.
Rita and her family particularly at this time as we remembered the anniversary of Neil's death on the 4th of March.

Please continue to pray for... Peter Lawrence; Fred and Shirley Stapleton; Dot and Roy Bagnall; Ron Godfrey; John Stone; and Diane Radford, Nora Andrews.

All of these folk have long-standing medical issues and they really appreciate your ongoing prayers.

Let's pray too, for all those in care homes, as well as those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

Your prayers are very precious to all of us on this list.

Please don't get weary of lifting these people before our living, healing Lord.

Father, you know the needs of all those who are named here as well as those who aren't. Please shelter them in the shadow of your wings and hear the cry of our heart for each of them. Amen



Voice@PBC

10th March 2024

WELCOME and VISION

We are a Church at the heart of the community in Preston

Our Vision is ...

- P Putting God first**
- B Being Christ's body together**
- C Compassion shared out to others**

You are welcome to worship with us in our service at 10.30am each Sunday morning. Our children and young people leave the service for their own ministries after the first 15 minutes or so.

An unsupervised parent led creche is available for under 3's in the church lounge, located through the glass doors and on the right.

We share communion together on the first Sunday of each month.

If you would like to know more about us, please ask one of our stewards for a contact card and we will add you to our distribution list.

This week we are up to Daniel 6. The lions' den!

Please speak to one of the team If there's a way we could help make our services more accessible to you or to help you feel more included.

CONTACT DETAILS

Rev James Brown – Minister – Tel: 07769 406273

james.brown@prestonbaptistchurch.com

Church Office Tel: 01803 522541

Church Wi-Fi - Guest

Password - &John316

Dates and Events

Tuesday 12th March	- Prayer Meeting	- 10.30 am
Wednesday 13th March	- Mummy and Me	- 9.30am - 11.30
Wednesday 13th March	- Craft Group	- 10.00 - 12.00
Thursday 14th March	- Garden Cafe	- 9.00am - 2.00
Thursday 14th March	- Preston Food Club	- 10.00am - 1.00
Friday 15th March	- PBC Toddlers Group	- 9.30am - 11.00

Looking Ahead

Saturday 23rd March	- Men's Breakfast	- 9.00am
Sunday 24th March	- Palm Sunday	- 10.30
Saturday 30th March	- Easter Event	- 1.00 - 3.00pm
Tuesday 16th April	- Church Members Meeting	- 7.00pm

Easter Services

We really look forward to welcoming you to our Easter services this year.

Palm Sunday - Sunday 24th March - 10.30 PBC

Good Friday - Friday 29th March - 10.30 PBC

Easter Day Sunrise service - Sunday 31st March - time TBC - Preston Sands beach by the boathouse

Easter Day Family Service - Sunday 31st March - 10.30 PBC

Paignton church family service - Good Friday 29th March 10.30am

Paignton Church family is an ecumenical collection of churches whose leaders meet regularly for prayer and fellowship. James is a part of this group.

This year we will be having an ecumenical Good Friday service in Palace Avenue Gardens. Service starts at 10:30 with pre-service worship starting at 10 am.

Therefore you have a choice of services on Good Friday!

Either 10.30 at PBC for a quieter reflective service or 10.30 for an outside evangelistic ecumenical service.

Spree

PBC youth and our PBC older children will be going to spree this year!

Spree is a Christian youth festival run by South West Youth Ministries. Spree is an exciting and powerful opportunity for young people to encounter God in a fun and relevant way.

James, Louise, Alice and a few other adults will be going as leaders. If anyone else is interested, please do come and speak to us.

We're encouraging all children connected with church aged 8 to 17 to come along. We're also encouraging them to invite a friend from school. The cost is £78 per child - food and transport are included.

We would love to make this affordable for everyone - so we will be looking to fundraise. Also, if you would like to sponsor a child or donate to support children going please place it in the offering with a note.

We would like to book before the 31st of March, so if you're interested or would like more information please come and speak to us.

www.swym.org.uk/spree-sw/



James' Dissertation

Until March 29th James is going to be a little stretched - trying to manage completing his essential dissertation. Therefore, please be patient over this next three months as James may not be able to be as available as he would normally like.

As soon as it is done, James is very much looking forward to being able to be 100% back present with all the wonderful aspects of church life.



FREE

ALL
WELCOME

Easter Event

Music by
Eclipse
choir

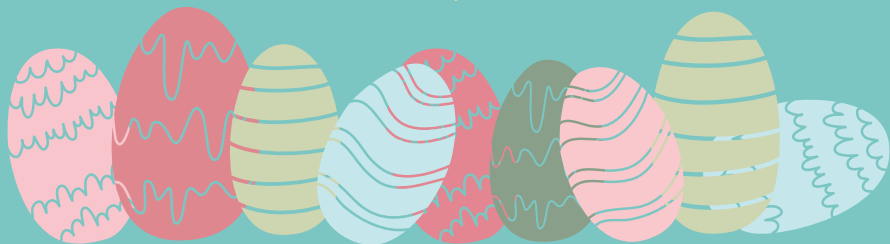
FREE BBQ
EGG HUNT

Preston
bake off

GAMES - CRAFT
BOUNCY CASTLE

SATURDAY 30TH MARCH
1-3PM

PRESTON BAPTIST CHURCH
62 OLD TORQUAY RD, PAIGNTON TQ3 2RB



Easter Event

On Saturday, 30th March we are holding an Easter event for the church & community. This is a wonderful opportunity to open our doors and allow the blessings of God to pour out. There will be a BBQ, refreshments, bouncy castle, activities/games, children's crafts and a Community Collage. Meanwhile in the church space we will show a series of recorded dramas conveying the Easter message, have a number of prayer stations, The Guitar Lads performing some of their favourite numbers and performances from Eclipse Choir.

There are volunteer sign-up sheets in the foyer by the Garden Café and in the Church porch.

I'm keen to ensure volunteers only work for one hour at the most, leaving another hour free to enjoy the event! The more volunteers we have, the easier this will be to accomplish.

If you would like to be a part of the event, or feel able to help in any way with cooking, organising or facilitating any aspect, please add your name to the sign-up sheet.

If you need any more information or feel unsure as to how you might be able to help, do speak to myself or Louise. Thank you and God bless you.

Tina xxx

Walk of Witness

I've just had an email from CDFB co-ordinator for SW (Janet). We are joining in with the walk of witness on Good Friday at Newton Abbot. We are doing a dance as part of this. Ideally, we need 4 more people of reasonable fitness. If you know of anyone who might be interested, rehearsals for this are at The Avenue Church, Newton Abbot on Sat 9th March and Sat 23rd March 10.30am-12.00.

Please contact me via
joannareynolds@torbaycdt.org.uk
for further info if anyone is interested.
Many thanks
Lorraine (Llewellyn) xx



Church for All (Ages 60-100ish session)

James and the leaders are passionate about church here at PBC being as representative of the kingdom of God as possible - welcoming all people and representing all ages, stages, neuro diversity, physical diversity, cultures and socio-demographics. Therefore, on Sundays after church we occasionally run sessions called Church for All. The sessions are aimed at different themes each time and are interactive so we can hear your feedback and discuss ways we can welcome others. The next one we would like to discuss is church for those aged 60-100ish. If you fall in that age bracket we would love if you could come along. To just listen or to input into the discussion regarding how we can make church a space where you can meet Jesus in a space that's welcoming and inclusive to you. It will be after church on Sunday the 14th of April, please bring your own lunch if required. However, we might be able to rustle up some snacks too if you forget. Thank you for coming along to help us be the body of Christ.

Pastoral care team (PCT) - You matter to us

Because, **you matter to us**, we have a Pastoral Care Team at PBC. We see this as a valuable part of discipleship and of being the body of Christ together. All are welcome to be included in this. It involves having someone that would be your point of contact at PBC. This is someone that you could go to if you wanted to communicate anything, but also it would be their responsibility to regularly be praying for you and offer support if needed. Although the nature of support might be limited, as this is a volunteer service, we see it as a valuable potential offering to support each other in our emotional and spiritual well-being. It is not just for those who have practical needs or cannot attend church. We want everyone to feel that they can access this, as we believe this is a really helpful way to stay connected with the God and each other as we be the body of Christ together here at PBC

Thank you to the PCT for leading our service last week. Such a wonderful time of worship and raising awareness of the PCT. Thank you for all you do and all you are. God bless you. We really appreciate you.

If anyone would like to join the PCT, please do get in contact, there is training available.



Small Groups/Faith Groups

In the spring, we will be looking to encourage a focus on individual and group discipleship. We will be focusing on a pattern of Know - Grow - Flow. If you would be interested in being part of a small group, faith group, a New Christian course or an Alpha course please do make contact with us. Let us know what you might be interested in.

Thank you! We look forward to supporting each other in faith.

Friends Together Group

We are a group of ladies who meet on the 1st Thursday of the month for fellowship. Our group is now wishing to spend more time together in fellowship, so we have decided to meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month between 10am -12 pm. We aim to make prayer and some Bible study part of our meeting, as well as sharing life's experiences. We have also given ourselves a name - " Friends Together Group".

If you would like to know more about this group please speak to Christine Petrou or Christine Newman

Greetings Cards

Lin Gray has some greetings cards for sale, made by a friend. 50% of the proceeds are going to church funds, and 50% towards cost of materials.



Lanyards

We will now be using lanyards to help identify volunteers when serving on teams. This is as part of our commitment to safeguarding all at PBC.

Jo Collis is very kindly responsible for producing the photo cards. Please speak to Jo if you require a lanyard and photo card (or if yours is done and you need to collect it). Also please speak to Susan regarding your DBS if you need one or to find out your renewal date, so it can be included on the back of your photo card.

Thank you all, for assisting us in ensuring all are safe and free to worship and be welcomed at PBC.

Parents/Carers Meeting

A very short meeting will be held after the service on 17th March for all parents/carers of our children and young people. This is to update you on our plans for Sundays with some exciting new developments.

Messy Church Catering

We are looking to put together a team for the catering at Messy Church. This way no-one is cooking every month and the load is shared.

It would entail planning a meal, getting the food (from Messy Church money) and cooking/serving it.

We are also looking for more volunteers to help with the crafts each month. We have a planning meeting once a term and Messy Church is the 2nd Friday of each month. If you could help with either of these things please see Susan

Christmas Shoebox Update

We have been notified that all our lovingly packed shoeboxes went to 2 different destinations: Belarus and Central Asia. The total number of shoeboxes sent from the UK was 237,735, including 27,141 online. We sent 200 of those! Isn't it wonderful to be part of this incredible ministry bringing joy to needy children and sharing the love of Jesus?

For those reading this online you can click on the links below to read personal stories of the children who were blessed in both Belarus and Central Asia. You might even spot one of our boxes!

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/belarus>

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/central-asia>



Reusable Mugs

As there is now the option for hot drinks in the welcome area at the front of church. To reduce our environmental impact and save money, please feel free to bring a reusable mug with you, if you would like a hot drink before service. However, if you forget or you are new, please don't worry - absolutely fine we have Compostable ones





Because
family life
matters

"Rob Parsons of *Care for the Family* will be speaking at Plymouth Christian Centre on Wednesday 20th March & at Belmont Chapel, Exeter on Thursday 21st March 2024.

For more information please check out the Care for the Family website: <https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/events/tourevents/an-evening-with-rob-parsons/> or speak to Geraldine & Roger.

Admin

Might you be able to support our growing admin team as we look to better communication and organisational management at PBC. Please speak to James or one of the leaders if you could volunteer and support. Thank you, your help is much appreciated.

STAMPS!

Just a reminder to save your used stamps to bring to church.
Please leave a 1-2mm margin around the stamp as you remove it from the envelope.

PBC collect stamps in aid of HospiceCare. This charity provides specialist care to patients and their families living with life-limiting illnesses across Devon.

Every blessing, Tina x



New faith group

We will be starting a new small group in April. This is aimed at those relatively new into faith and was suggested after the New Christian course last year. Therefore, if you'd like to be a part of this, please speak to James.

You'll get a free book called the purpose driven life which we are encouraging people to read as part of the group. However, if reading isn't your thing, please don't worry - you can just come along to the group without the book or without reading it.

We look forward to starting this new journey in fellowship together soon.



Men's Breakfast

The next men's breakfast is to take place at the Four Seasons cafe on

Saturday 23th March at 9 am.

Please let Brian know if you are interested in attending.

