

FAMILY NEWS

Thank you so much to the Pastoral Care Team (PCT) for leading the service today! Pastoral care is a wonderful way that we can stay connected to God and each other. Lent is a great reminder of the presence of hope at the end of the wilderness, with Jesus' resurrection being the end of the Easter story. This time each year can be a powerful time where we take ourselves into our own personal wilderness for moments of prayer or fasting. However, the last thing we want is anyone in our fellowship or community to be in an unintended wilderness. Therefore, pastoral care and our PCT team is a great way to try and avoid that. If you are feeling lonely or on the edge of church life, please do get in contact - as that is the last thing that we would want. You are valuable and we appreciate you, we want to get to know you better, to be praying for you and support you. God bless you.

Please also pray this week for...

Thelma Bickford who's husband Jack died this week
Gwen Eyre, Liz, Hud, Alex & Jenna - as they're all having a tough time at the moment.

Kim and John

Ted Robson

Tricia and Ian

Matt Webster

Judith, Simon, Alice, Thea and Victoria.

Kirstie Ricketts

Eli Kirolos

Jean Barnicoat

Jean Edwards

Mike and Wendy Jeffs

Elizabeth Billingham

Julie and James Bright

Margret Harrison who has had surgery after having another broken leg

Lin's grandson, Alex Westwood who is in hospital with severe psoriasis.

Anne and John Dawson.

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 remember 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; Ted Robson; 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



Anne Brown
Cherry Sutherland
Lin and Brian Gray



Voice@PBC

3rd March

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 leave the service for Children's Church 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 having a break from our Daniel series as our pastoral care team (PCT) will be leading the service. The reading will be 1 Corinthians 12:12-27.

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 5th March	- Prayer Meeting	- 10.30 am
Wednesday 6th March	- Mummy and Me	- 9.30am - 11.30
Thursday 7th March	- Garden Cafe	- 9.00am - 2.00
Thursday 7th March	- Preston Food Club	- 10.00am - 1.00
Friday 1st March	- PBC Toddlers Group	- 9.30am - 11.00

Looking Ahead

Saturday 30th March	- Easter Event	- 1.00 - 3.00pm
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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.

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

Thank you Terena

Terena has been supporting Messy church and cooking their meals for nearly 15 years! Tirelessly exhibiting the most amazing servant heart and blessing so many children and families. Terena is stepping down from this ministry. On behalf of all at PBC and in the community, Terena we thank you and we appreciate you. God bless you and your family.

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.

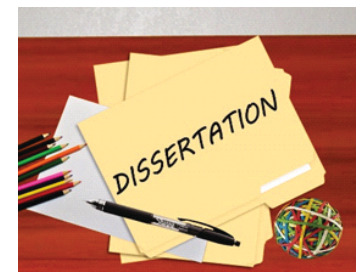
www.swym.org.uk/spree-sw/



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

Preston
bake off

EGG HUNT

GAMES - CRAFT

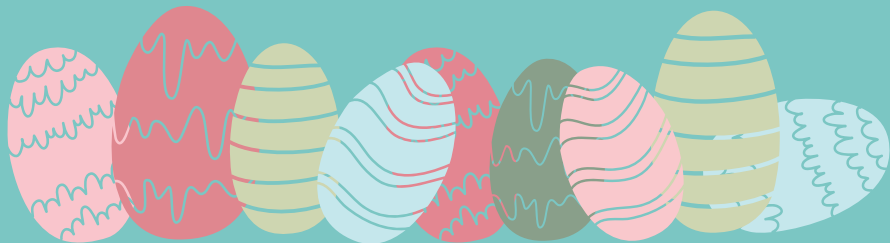
BOUNCY CASTLE

SATURDAY 30TH MARCH

1-3PM

PRESTON BAPTIST CHURCH

62 OLD TORQUAY RD, PAIGNTON TQ3 2RB



Easter Event

On Saturday, 30th of March we're looking to hold another Easter event for the church & community. This is a wonderful opportunity to open our doors and allow the blessings of God to pour out. The plan will be similar to previous years with food (possibly a BBQ), bouncy castle, crafts, activities/games etc and something in the church space that shares the Easter message.

There will be an information sharing meeting and opportunity to volunteer straight after the service on 25th February.

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 aspects, please make every effort to be at the meeting. You can also speak to Tina who is co-ordinating the event. Thank you and God bless you

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 joannereynlds@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.

Children's Church

We thank God for each and every one of our wonderful children and pray that in His perfect time they will each make their own profession of faith.

We have a committed and dedicated Children's Church team of volunteers, but really need to expand so that all the children receive age-appropriate input, and for our volunteers to be able to enjoy being in the service sometimes.

Please do pray about whether God could be calling you to serve Him in this important ministry - leading or helping once per month. More information is available from Julie or James.

We welcome visits to our sessions, with no expectation that you will join the team - we are just grateful for the interest shown in our work. If you aren't able to join our team, we would appreciate your prayers for our ministry. Thank you
Julie Matthews



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.



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.

Our service on the 3rd of March is the beginning of raising awareness of the PCT and creating discussions around it. If you'd like any more information, please see James, the leaders or any of the PCT.

Thank you also so much to 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.

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!



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



Fabric Team Leader

We are looking for someone who could head up the voluntary team looking after the church building. No prior experience is required. We can talk through what the expectations are. If you might be interested in helping us out, please speak to James or one of the leaders. This is a great opportunity to serve God by helping us care for this building, so it continues to be an asset that blesses the church and the community. Thank you.

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.

