



GENERAL INFORMATION

Sunday Morning Worship

Our young people join us for the first part of our Sunday morning services and then have their own groups:-

Crèche: Babies and Toddlers

Primary: Pre-school, Reception & Years 1 & 2

Junior: Years 3, 4 & 5

Intermediate: Years 6, 7 & 8

Senior: Years 9, 10 & 11

For further information phone 01403 250021

Prayer & Bible Study meetings

These meetings are held on a Wednesday evening at 8pm, either at the church or in various members' homes.

For further information phone 01403 266193

WAM—Young Mum's Group

This group meets at 10am on Friday mornings in various homes and a crèche is provided for children.

For further information phone 01403 241067

Afternoon Fellowship

This group meets fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm.

For further information phone 01403 263397

Little Verse

For parents with babies or toddlers. Meets Monday mornings at 10am. Singing & action songs followed by coffee or tea and chat

For further information phone 01403 255055

Pathfinders

This Group, for young people in school years 6, 7 & 8, meets at 8pm on Friday evenings.

For further information phone 01403 250021

HighWay

This Group, for young people in school year 9 upwards, meets at 8pm every first Friday of the month.

For further information phone 01403 256525

Pastoral Elder:

Steve Piggott, Littlehaven Cottage, Rusper Road, Horsham,
W. Sussex RH12 5QW

Tel: 01403 264830

Mobile: 07712 685 336

Email: stevepiggott@gmail.com



Rehoboth Baptist Church
New Street, Horsham RH13 5DU

Newsletter
April 2008



**Whoever claims to live
in (Christ) must walk as
Jesus did. 1 John 2:6**

Visit our Website -
www.rehoboth.org.uk

REHOBOTH

Where e'er you walk?

I realise that I'm missing out on my theological education in that I have not yet visited Israel and had a tour of the places associated with the Lord when He was on earth. Maybe someday I'll put that right.

There's an old gospel song that says,

"I walked today where Jesus walked, in days of long ago. I wandered down each path He knew, with reverent step and slow."

Can't say that it was ever a favourite of mine, but I suppose that's what you do when visiting the Holy Land. It occurs to me, however, that more important than walking **where** Jesus did, is to walk **as** Jesus did. Did you notice the verse on the front – John says, 'Whoever claims to be in Him, must walk as Jesus did.' Is it possible that sometimes people can be taken up with physical pilgrimage to what have become known as 'holy places', when the holy place should be in the heart, and the pilgrimage the daily walk of faith with Jesus, thus seeking to walk as he did?

So what did characterise Jesus' 'walk'?

Perhaps first and foremost was the fact that Jesus lived and walked in the light. We see in 1 John 1: 5 that 'God is light and in him there is no darkness at all'. Thus in v7 we're told that 'if we walk in the light (seeking to honour and please him in every part of our lives), as he is in the light, we have fellowship

with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, purifies us from all sin.'

Secondly, Jesus always obeyed his Father. Pervading our Christian walk must be the overarching desire always to obey God, whether in (what we see as) the most important decisions in life, like jobs, relationships, marriage and so on - down to what we might consider merely our preferences and of little importance to him. Imagine it – Jesus walking through life always obedient to his Father. That's a challenge, surely. But then John says (2:5) 'If anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him.'

Which leads me to the third aspect, I notice, of Jesus' walk. That is, the way he loved. His was a deep love **for** the world, but not love **of** the world. Loving the world and all its depraved and perverted desires means, says John, that 'the love of the Father is not in him'. But the love God had for the world was such that he sent his only Son to save those who would repent and believe in him. The American Bible teacher, John MacArthur recommends: 'Study Christ's great love, compassion, and tender mercy. You can study great men and women in church history, but ultimately you must understand the heart of Jesus. As 1 John 2:6 says, "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."

Where we walk in this life is important, but **how** we walk is crucial, above everything.

Steve Piggott
Mobile: 07712 685 336
Email: stevepiggott@gmail.com

Monday	21st	10.30am	Little Verse - Rehoboth
Wednesday	23th	10.30am 8.00pm	Greenways Home 1/4 Members Meeting - Rehoboth
Friday	25th	10.30	WAM Bible Study Paige Court Service
Saturday	26th	8.30am	Early Prayer
SUNDAY	27th	10.30am 6.30pm	WORSHIP SERVICES David Chapman David Chapman
Monday	28th	10.30am	Little Verse - Rehoboth
Tuesday	29th		Afternoon Fellowship
Wednesday	30th	8.00pm	Prayer & Bible Study : 16 Little Bridges Close, Southwater.

Preaching out this month

13th D Ansell - Dorking am
S Piggott - Redhill am
20th D Ansell - Chartwood
27th D Ansell - Slinfold pm



Please advise Steve or Elspeth of any future preaching out dates by the 25th of each month

Praying and caring for the Community
Roads for prayer this month – Brighton Rd and Gorings Mead

APRIL CALENDAR

Tuesday	1st		Afternoon Fellowship - D Piggott
Wednesday	2nd	8.00pm	Prayer & Bible Study : 30 Cambridge Road
Thursday	3rd		Banner Group
Friday	4th	10.30am 8.00pm	WAM Pathfinders
Saturday	5th	8.30am	Early Prayer
SUNDAY	6th	10.30am 6.30pm	WORSHIP SERVICES Andrew Cooke + Communion Rick Warner
Wednesday	9th	8.00pm	Prayer & Bible Study - 165 Tanbridge Park
Saturday	12th	8.30am 8.00pm	Early Prayer Bible Study - 4 Kings Platt, Shipley
SUNDAY	13th	10.30am 4.30pm 6.30pm 8.00pm	WORSHIP SERVICES Stuart Beadle Horsham Hospital Steve Piggott Home Evangelism Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	15th		Afternoon Fellowship - David Sayers
Wednesday	16th	11.00am 8.00pm	Mill River Lodge 5th West District Prayer Meeting - Twickenham
Saturday	19th	8.30am	Early Prayer
SUNDAY	20th	10.30am 6.30pm	WORSHIP SERVICES Roger Lindie + Communion Roger Lindie

Fellowship Matters: Please continue to pray for Jacqui Stephens that her knee re-placement will continue to strengthen and that she will be fully mobile again very soon.

Please remember Wesley Fermor (Sue's son) as he awaits an operation on his appendix. Pray that it will be able to be performed satisfactorily and that he will be well.

Doris Hopkins continues in our prayers. She is very frail and needs the comfort and assurance of the Lord's presence with her.

Please pray for Andrew Hawes as he acts as main carer for his father, Stephen and as support to his mother, Doreen. Remember them as a family in what are stressful and wearisome days. May the Lord be very real to each of them in His grace and comfort.

Pray for our friends at Brighton Road Baptist as they anticipate moving into their new building in the near future. Remember them, too in decisions needing to be taken with regard to future leadership in the church. Please also remember Christine Richardson and family in their needs at this time.

Dates to remember

Christian Resources Exhibition, Sandown Park, Esher Tues 13 – Fri 16th May. If you would be interested in going to this, please let Steve know before the end of April in order to purchase advance tickets. It is cheaper to order this way, and if ordering 5 or more, cheaper still. On door prices - £7; Over 60s & students £5; under 16 free. Advance bookings – group of 5 or more - £3.50 each. You can enter as many times and days as you wish

Wintershall – Life of Christ 2008. Tues 24th -28th June

If you would be interested in going to a performance this year (praying, of course for fine weather!) please let Steve know. We've missed the early discount, but prices are adults £15; children £7.50. It was made difficult last year by the rain, but is worth another try. Check out the Wintershall web site for details www.wintershall-estate.com

Grace Baptist Mission Open Day at Mission Centre, Abingdon. Sat 21st June

It would be good is as many as possible of us could commit to going to the open day this year. Please let Steve or Kevin know if you can come. It will make an enjoyable day out, with informative sessions to help us in our support of the work. Please say you'll come.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 2:12

Strangers Among Us - Ray Pountney 01/03/08

Those of us who attended the Church away day at Pilgrim Hall did so for various reasons. Some to learn, some to get free time away from the children, some because they simply felt they should. Whatever the reason each of us came home knowing we had been part of a special day where the Lord had reminded us of the importance of the church family and what we can give to each other and, to the world, when we make the effort to share in his Word.

Judges 11

In the story of Jephthah we learned about alienation that can occur from within our own families. Jephthah was made a stranger due to no fault of his but the circumstances of his birth. This judgement on him pushed him away from any opportunity to study and learn about God and his purposes. His family did not see his worth and he settled in the land of Tob, where a group of adventurers gathered around him and followed him.

From the outset we saw how easy it is to turn in on ourselves and look for the familiar and acceptable face of the church family. But as we discovered, God finds his leaders outside of this inner circle of self-righteousness, in the hard places, ganglands, amongst the adventurers.

We must nurture the Strangers among us, without judgement on them for their circumstances, how they look or where they come from. We have a responsibility to help in their teaching and building up of their faith so, that when God's plan becomes clear, their zeal can be harnessed with understanding of God's laws. Jephthah's lack of understanding led to the death of the only daughter.

Toreevie

The issue of the body language of the Church to strangers or visitors came to the fore as the main thread of the days teaching. This was no more clear than in Toreevie's story that he unfolded before us.

Toreevie has been made a stranger from his own land, Zimbabwe, due to his unwillingness to be part of a corrupt regime and help destroy the lives of his neighbour, a white farmer. His own countrymen have destroyed his family life and his living from the farm. His family are living in a country made destitute by a dictatorship that has driven any economic stability into the ground. Toreevie had no choice to leave or he would have been killed. He found himself a stranger in a foreign land when he entered the UK and effectively didn't exist. He was left humiliated and alone by a system not set up to provide any support to someone in his position.

It is vital to understand that when no one else will help it is the job of God's people to stretch out a hand of help to those whom God brings to us. We learned that sometimes strangers will come to our Church but, if they are hurting badly or are scarred by their experiences they may not feel like they fit in, they are lost, strange, isolated. If we have the wrong body language we may push these people away without meaning to. We must turn and face outwards and have a welcoming spirit to everyone we meet. It is Gods will that we walk like Jesus and love our neighbour as ourselves.

Caring for strangers in a foreign land

It became clear that what has helped Toreevie, beyond the hand of God in his life, is the willingness of fellow Christians to support him at this time. People, looking beyond the church door and helping him in many different ways, have helped him build his education and allowed him to follow what was clearly his passion, alternative fuels for the benefit of his people. He still has many sorrows to deal with, he cannot return home as his family know he would be in grave danger, but with God's people by his side he can go on in hope.

We learned that the key to breaking down the barriers within and without the church is to adopt the principles of "The Church Unleashed."

So often we see examples of what we learned could be termed as "The Fortress Church" where the atmosphere is insular, lacking in vision, non-invitational and limited in outreach. In these churches there is a real lack of diversity and any new ideas are seen as a threat to all the theology and doctrines.

It was stated that nowadays more than ever God is bringing the world to us and we need to be looking out for it at all times; accepting the differences, celebrating the diversity and identifying the sections of modern society that could benefit from our acceptance and support. We need men and women who understand the times we live in... 1 Chronicles 12 v32. This should involve taking the Gospel to the people not waiting for them to come to us.

In conclusion it was clear that cultures and personalities are different the world over. These differences can make people strangers at home and in other places. God requires his people to, "Proclaim the Gospel of Christ to the world." To do this we must be willing to accept diversity in the church and take the message to people where they are. In simple ways and through faith and love for our neighbour we can build bridges to the isolated, the alone and needy; the strangers who live among us. We should reach people with the simplicity of our faith in Christ with an understanding of our weaknesses before God as Paul tells us in his letter to the Corinthians.

When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. 2 For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. 4 My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, 5 so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power. (1 Corinthians Ch2)

John Polson

The Association of Grace Baptist Churches—Prayer Diary **April**

6th BASILDON

13th WATFORD, DERBY ROAD (T Forryan) We are glad to welcome one or two new Christians as a result of our outreach. Please pray for fruit from our holiday Bible Club just after Easter, and for good ongoing links with local families. We have our Anniversary Weekend at the end of April, with Ivan Watson from Dunstable as our main Preacher.

20th COLCHESTER (P Shircliffe)

27th TWICKENHAM (C Clarkson) We praise God that He has enabled us to continue in our work and witness despite our small size. The mid-week children's clubs maintain a good attendance which is encouraging but we are concerned at the erratic attendances at our Sunday School as this is where the main focus of Christian teaching is, our Sunday School anniversary will be on Sunday 11 May (D.V.).

WOOD GREEN (B King) We thank God for the opportunity to be involved in training ministers and church planting. Pray we will continually be strengthened for this good work.