

We are pleased that our own Minister in
Training Jo Hellenbrand is leading our 110thUsin
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coffeAnniversary service also celebratingcoffePentecost, which is on You Tube and in the
church at 10.00meet
our cThe Bible reading is from
Acts chapter 2:1-13coilWelcome to you all.insid
to you

Zoom Coffee is open for all to join in at home at 11.30 see details below .

Congratulations - Jo Hellenbrand MIT

On the 13th May, Jo had a meeting with the Ministerial Recognition Team which went very well and Jo will -when she finishes college in September-be added to the NAM [Newly Accredited Ministers] programme and will be a Regionally Accredited Minister. Well Done Jo!

Social Media

Follow us on **Facebook** to keep up to date with what is going on at Eastwood Baptist Church (look for the logo)

YouTube: Sunday Morning – a Link will be sent out on Sundays Website: www.eastwoodbaptist.org.uk

Zoom Gatherings

We have been having a great time spiritually and socially on Zoom! It has been wonderful to see you all and we have been impressed that so many of you have given it a go. Meeting together is one of those things that define us as Baptists!

If you are logging onto our Zoom meetings with your computer, please use the links that Val is emailing out. If you want to call in, which some of you are doing, please call **0330 088 5830** which is charged at a local rate.

Wednesday Prayers at 19.00 for 19.30 Meeting ID 874 3252 0589 followed by passcode 398166

Sunday After Service Coffee 11.30 Meeting ID: 899 3408 2687 followed by passcode 465701

Using our church for WORSHIP:

Services start at 10.00 in order for folk to be back home for the 11.30 Zoom coffee . The services will still be available via You Tube. At our Deacons meeting on 10th May, the Diaconate agreed to change the 2 metre rule for our church services to 1 metre ,with masks being worn as mitigation, this allows extra seating so there is no need to book in advance. All our Covid-19 protocols remain in place – that means currently socialising is permissible with groups of up to 30 meeting outside and groups of six inside also allowed. There is no heating in the sanctuary at present and the top windows will be open for increased ventilation so please dress accordingly. We are happy to see that more of our church family are now coming out to church. Thank you.

Original Hand Made Cards by Carole Collier

Lovely hand-made cards by Carole are available to purchase with proceeds going to EBC Carole can be contacted on 01702 511895 who will discuss your requirements and arrange delivery to any of our EBC family.

Thank you to Shelagh Turner for arranging the lovely flowers this week. Another welcome sign of resuming more activities!

Let's be persistent in our prayers.

Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.

(Ephesians 6: verse 18-The Message).

Israel and Palestine. Pray for urgent de-escalation of hostilities, for men and women of peace on both sides, for wisdom for world leaders and for protection for the most vulnerable.

The Persecuted Church. India has an 80% Hindu majority, and a Christian minority of about 4%. Hinduism is strongly connected to Indian identity and extreme Hindu nationalism under the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party(BJP) is growing. Persecution and anti-Christian violence have worsened in recent times, and the police response is often dismissive. Ask God to protect Indian Christians against discrimination and violence, and comfort those who have lost loved ones. Pray that rising Hindu extremism will be quelled and that political leaders will pursue peace rather than division.

The strict Covid lockdown in 2020 brought huge suffering in India. In some Indian states where the BJP holds power, Christian families were refused food aid by the distributors. Pray that in the even worse Covid situation currently being endured in India, that all people will be supported, regardless of their beliefs.

Give thanks that many people have had the opportunity this week to enjoy the recent easing of Covid restrictions. Pray that people will be sensible in what they do. Give thanks for the continuing reduction of Covid infections and deaths in this country. Pray that the recent problems created by the Indian variant in some areas will be resolved, so as to allow further easing of restrictions in stage 4 of the Government's road map from 21st June. Pray also that in other countries, where people are suffering from increased numbers of Covid infections and deaths, that governments and health services will work together to improve their situations.

In EBC, give thanks that as Government restrictions are eased, we are becoming enabled to open up more activities, as well as developing new ministries. Also give thanks that Jo Hellenbrand, our Minister In Training, has been approved to be a Regionally Accredited Minister from September. Pray for Jo, and also that God will guide suitable candidates to us in response to our application for inclusion in the Pastoral Vacancy List.

Continue to pray for the health and circumstances of so many in our church fellowship, our families and friends. Pray for those who continue to be sad, anxious or worried, and those who are wary of going out. May they have the comfort of friendship, and the deep peace of knowing they are loved.

The Baptist Assembly 2021 is now available to view on You-Tube. Go to www.baptist.org.uk and see the link to Baptist Assembly.

The Keynote speaker this year was Shane Calaiborne who is a speaker, activist and best-selling author. You can click on to whatever session you would like to view.

Please save all used stamps for RNIB and place in box in vestibule Thank you.

THIS WEEK 'S ACTIVITIES

Monday 24th April 10.00 Pinocchio 's

14.30 Women 's Fellowship

15.00-16.00 open for dropping off Food Bank donations

Tuesday 25th 10.00 Green FISH resumes

Wednesday 26th Food Bank open 09.30-11.00 for guests with vouchers to collect goods

19.00 for 19.30 ; Zoom prayer meeting via link

Friday 28th 10.00-11.00 Pinocchio 's

11.30-12.30 open for dropping off Food Bank donations

18.30-19.30 Friday Club now back in the church

19.45-21.00 Energise also in the church

Next week May 30th 10.00 church worship, which is also on You Tube , led by Simon Werrett followed by a ZOOM coffee meeting at 11.30 as overleaf

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our Gift Day, this is being used to finance replacement heating in the sanctuary and remains open until the end of May, see Andrew for details



Many thanks to **Barclays Bank** who sponsored loads of tinned goods from **Morrisons** and to the delivery man who arrived in the pouring rain! All donations welcomed and will go for central distribution across Southend

Val's Joke this Week!

My daughter was anxious to do some landscaping at her new home, but then she called up sounding discouraged.

"I don't think I'll ever get these flowers planted," she said. "It says to plant in full sun, but it's been cloudy for four days."



Contact Details

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If you need prayer or for any pastoral request, please contact. Graham and Val Back: gandvback@gmail.com tel: 01702 511303

Church Website: www.eastwoodbaptist.org.uk