



# Ferring Baptist Church

## Fellowship News – 6 to 30 April 2025

*Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.*

*Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.*

*And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*Colossians 3:15 to 17*



## ***Message from Robin & Marion***

*Dear Ferring Baptist Church,*

*Hello once again and welcome to this monthly Fellowship Newsletter. Ordinarily I'd be looking back at a full and enjoyable month in church, however, this month I have been dealing with the sudden and unexpected death of my dear mum, Pat, following a fall.*

*I want to first of all thank you all so very much for the care and concern you have shown to us as a family. For the many cards we have received and for your prayers. I have felt upheld and very loved indeed by you all.*

*There is much that I need to do in the coming weeks, including arranging her funeral, which will be in Tunbridge Wells near where she lived on 29th April, and sorting out the 101 different things that must be done at such a time.*

*But before that we have Easter, which this year falls on 20<sup>th</sup> April. On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Palm Sunday service. Then on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> we are having a fellowship tea of bread and soup followed by communion starting at 5.30pm; and on Good Friday we have our time of reflection, which this year has moved to a new time of 3pm.*

*Then on Easter Sunday we have a 6am 'sunrise' service led by Rev Shirley on the Beach at the end of Patterson's Walk by the Bluebird Café carpark, followed by our usual 10.30 am Easter Celebration.*

*Can I ask a favour? If something has happened that you think I should be addressing, please do let me know. At the moment there is every likelihood that I am unaware. I hope to be back to normal as soon as possible, but in the meantime, thank you again, and may God bless you.*

***Robin***

*On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June Marion will be taking part in the Night to Remember walk to raise funds for St Barnabas House, our local hospice. If you would like to sponsor Marion please speak to her after the service and she will have a sponsor sheet available. Alternatively you can go to*

<https://stbarnabashospice.enthuse.com/pf/fbc-young-at-heart>

***Church Activities 6 to 30 April - all held at the Church unless otherwise stated:***

<b>Sunday 6</b> 10:30 Afterwards  13:00 – 15:00	<b>Morning Worship and Holy Communion</b> Refreshments and Fellowship Time  <b>Freedom in Christ 9</b>	Marion Brenchley
<b>Tuesday 8</b> 14:30 -16:00	<b>Conversational Bible Study - please read Micah before you come.</b>	Rev Philip Tout
<b>Wednesday 9</b> 14:30 -15:30	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Everyone welcome
<b>Friday 11</b> 17:30 - 19:00	<b>Youth Group</b>	Karen Parsons
<b>Saturday 12</b> 09:30	Deacon's Meeting	Leadership Team
<b>Sunday 13</b> 10:30  Afterwards  13:00 – 15:00	<b>Morning Worship</b>  <b>Sunday Youth Explorers' Group</b>  Refreshments and Fellowship Time  <b>Freedom in Christ 10</b>	Rev Robin Brenchley  Karen Parsons
<b>Tuesday 15</b> 14:30 – 16:00	<b>Afternoon House Group</b>	Trish Aze
<b>Wednesday 16</b> 14:30 – 15:30	Prayer Meeting	Everyone welcome
<b>Thursday 17</b> 14:00 – 16:00  17:30 – 19:00	<b>Dabblers</b>  <b>Maundy Thursday Fellowship meal with Holy Communion</b> (sign up sheet on the noticeboard)	Pauline Parkinson, Julie Appleton  Revs Robin & Marion Brenchley
<b>Friday 18</b> 15:00 – 16:00	<b>Good Friday reflection</b>	
<b>Saturday 19</b> 09:00 – 11:00	<b>Men's Breakfast at the Henty Arms</b>	Gordon Rickwood
<b>Sunday 20</b> 10:30 Afterwards	<b>Easter Morning Celebration</b> Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Robin Brenchley

<b>Tuesday 22</b> 14:30 -16:00	<b>Conversational Bible Study</b>	Philip Tout
<b>Wednesday 23</b> 14:30 – 15:30	Prayer Meeting	Everyone welcome
<b>Thursday 24</b> 19:15 – 21:00	<b>Holiday Club Meeting</b>	Everyone who would like to help is invited to attend.
<b>Sunday 27</b> 10:30 Afterwards	<b>Morning Worship</b> Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Robin Brenchley
<b>Tuesday 29</b> 14:30 – 16:00	<b>Afternoon House Group</b>	Trish Aze
<b>Wednesday 16</b> 14:30 – 15:30	Prayer Meeting	Everyone welcome

*\*Young persons' activities are available - please ask for details on arrival. All leaders are DBS cleared in accordance with our Safeguarding Policy*

### **Notices:**

- Now that Maureen has stepped down from her role as Church Secretary, please note that the Church Office will not be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- 24<sup>th</sup> April, 19:15 - planning meeting for the Holiday Club. Please come along if you would like to help at Holiday Club.
- The next edition of Fellowship News will be the 20 April. Fellowship Bulletins will be used to communicate anything urgent.
- If you would like to receive the Fellowship News by email then please contact Karen - Karen1.parsons@uwclub.net. Thank you.

### **Dates for your Diary:**

- July 6th - Pop in Social at the Glebelands hosted by Ferring Baptist Church. 2 to 4:30 - everyone welcome.
- August 5th – 8th Holiday Club - further details soon.

### **Smile:**

#### **Letter to God**

A Sunday School teacher invited her children to write a letter to God. They were to bring their letter back the following Sunday. One little boy wrote, "Dear God, we had a good time at church today. Wish You could have been there."

**Thoughts:**

Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.

Melody Beattie

**BMS Birthdays:**

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

To all those in the fellowship blessed with a March birthday including:

11<sup>th</sup> Julie Appleton

19<sup>th</sup> Helen Pierpoint

27<sup>th</sup> Ron Pavier

29<sup>th</sup> Christine Anderson

**Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Brian Mepham 10<sup>th</sup> April:**



***Many congratulations to Norma and Mike Brazier:***

Congratulations to Norma and Mike - we pray God's blessing upon their union and wish them both a long and happy marriage.



***Thank you from Cliff:***

Cliff Warden would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers and support while he was in hospital. They have been very much appreciated.

***Thank you from Sheila Palmer;***

Shelia sends her grateful thanks to all those who write to her. She gets great pleasure from the letters that she receives but due to increasing frailty she is unable to reply.

**Poem:**

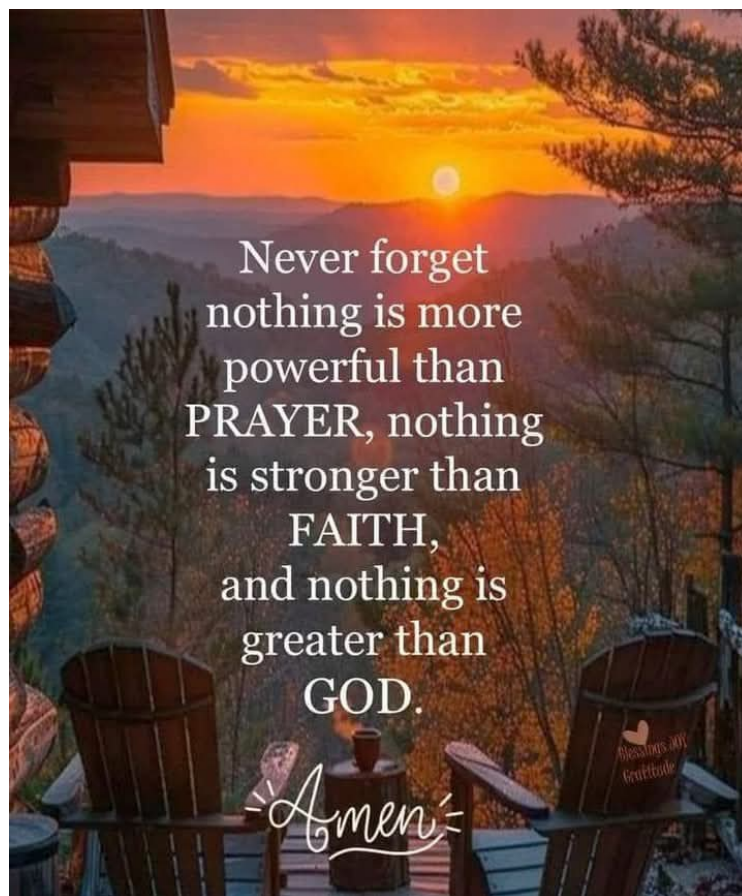
**The Gift**

Saved by grace lest any should boast  
Such is His gift obtained at great cost,  
God's Son was given to set men free,  
Redemption made ours as He hung on the tree.

In wonder the angels saw Him go  
From the glories of heaven to our world below,  
This earth once fair now corrupt from the fall,  
Fellowship broken and lost to all.

Bought back with a price that we could not pay  
The taint of our sin by His blood washed away,  
Reconciled to the Father, all this we have gained  
Salvation His gift if we call on His Name.

*By Megan Carter*



## ***Prayer Pointers:***

- Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill the Church with His presence and guidance;
- We pray for our World, that these wars and destruction that we see around us will cease and that peace talks will bring a lasting settlement. We know that you are the Prince of Peace;
- We pray for all those who have lost loved ones or been severely affected by war;
- We pray for our Prime Minister and his Government, for wisdom and right direction, that their decisions will be made for the good of the many. We pray for Christians in high authority, that their Godly influence will be felt and acted upon;
- We pray for our King and Queen that they will increasingly know how much you love them as they serve our country;
- We pray for our King as he navigates his journey with treatment for cancer. We pray that his health is restored;
- We thank you for our growing congregation and we pray that you will cast your protection around all Church members and attendees;
- Loving Saviour we bring to you our whole Church family asking for your peace, your grace, your healing and encouragement;
- We especially pray for comfort and healing for:
  - Deanna's family and friends, especially her children Janet and Jonathan
  - Brenda Elliott
  - Norma and Mike as they settle into married life together
  - Val & Ron Boot and family
  - Mary Brenchley
  - Robin and Marion and family as they mourn Robin's mother Pat
  - Karen Parsons and her brother Steve on the passing of their mum Betty
  - Chris and Wendy Fogg
  - H Kitchen
  - Pat May (Pauline's sister)
  - Sylvia Mephams's sister Maggie Downing
  - Sheila Palmer
  - Janet Stuart (Simon's mum)
  - Kelly and Simon Stuart
  - Cliff and Maureen Warden
- We pray that you will be with the many Missionaries in the World to protect them as they bring the basic supplies - food, medical supplies, and shelter to people;
- We pray for Open Doors, Mission Aviation Fellowship etc to bring your Gospel of Hope and Healing in difficult places;
- We pray for Judy Cook in Thailand and all of the staff and children at Hope Home;
- We pray for the continuing safety for Jaco and Corrina Loenen (with Pioneer and MAF) in Australia;
- We pray that our Church will be successful in our assistance to Worthing Soup Kitchen food parcels/community pantry;
- We pray for all the Church activities and meetings taking place here - Dabblers, Bible studies, Afternoon Housegroup, Youth Group, Sunday Explorers, for those organising it and that the village continue to enjoy the activities, get to know you and that we provide the answers that they are searching for.



## ***WSK Update:***

Thank you very much for your food donations - it really does make a difference to how much the WSK are able to help those more vulnerable in our community.

With the Children's Easter holidays approaching WSK would be grateful for some Easter Eggs and Chocolate items please if possible.

The following items are also required:

- Tins of Ham, Tuna, Spam etc;
- Tinned Meals such as Spaghetti Bolognese, Meatballs, Pies;
- Tea;
- Coffee;
- Sugar;
- Jams and spreads etc for sandwiches;
- Jars of Sauce;
- Pasta;
- Rice;
- Squash;
- Long Life Milk;
- Cereals;
- Biscuits;
- Snacks;
- Boxes of washing powder (they divide the box up);
- Toiletries.

WSK have opened a new shop at 147 Montague Street – please drop any non-food donations into there. The food pantry is not moving.

Thank you very much.

Karen

## **Looking at God – The Real Easter:**

*Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers the effect of Easter...*

In CS Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, the lion Aslan is put to death by the White Witch. The stone table on which He is killed cracks in two, but Aslan meets with Lucy and Susan alive again. He explains the Witch's failure:

*'her knowledge goes back only to the dawn of time. But if she could have looked a little further back, she would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor's stead, the Table would crack, and Death itself would start working backwards.'*

This is a great picture of what Jesus' cross and His resurrection has achieved. As Paul writes, *'I want to know Christ, to know the power of His resurrection'* (Philippians 3:10). To understand the real Easter, we should experience the same power that raised Jesus from the dead!

*New Hope:* Like the girls in the story, Easter highlights the sadness and confusion that loss brings. Yet the resurrection of Jesus brings new hope, as it demonstrates the victory secured by the cross over sin, Satan and death. We can face life's difficulties knowing that Jesus walks beside us.

*New Love:* Our relationships are often characterised by a lack of forgiveness, hurt and betrayal. Yet Jesus' resurrection opens the possibility of new love, as His power enables us to accept others and forgive them.

*New Life:* When we are trying to make sense of life, like the girls in the story, Jesus offers us a living relationship with Himself. It's a friendship with God through Jesus that can begin today and continue for eternity.

When Lucy met Aslan again, she cried: *'Oh, you're real, you're real!'* We too can find the real Easter through a life changing encounter with the living Christ.

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Lk 22:1-13, Mt 26:14-19, Mk 14:10-16

It was just before Passover, when Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt. Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem..

The Chief Priests were plotting



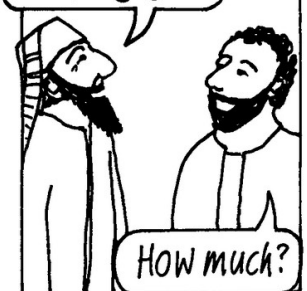
How can we get rid of Jesus?  
He always has crowds around him.

Jesus' disciple Judas came to them...



I could help you.

We'd be happy to pay you

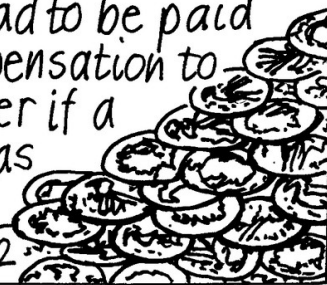
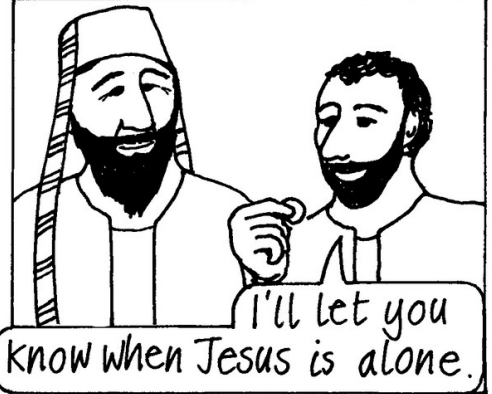


How much?

30 silver coins



30 silver coins happened to be the same amount that had to be paid as compensation to the owner if a slave was killed Ex.31:32

A black and white illustration of a large, overflowing pile of silver coins, some showing the profile of a head.

I'll let you know when Jesus is alone.

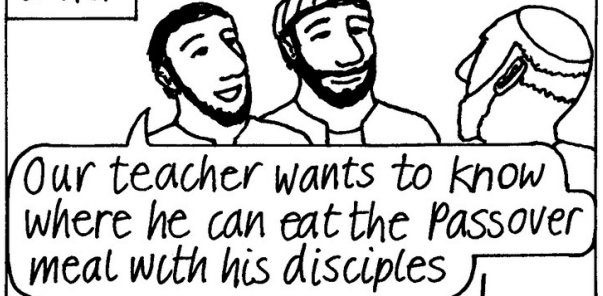
Meanwhile, Peter and John asked Jesus...



Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?

Go into the city and follow the man carrying a water jar to his home

They did, and asked the house owner



Our teacher wants to know where he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples

The room is upstairs on the roof, ready to use



Peter and John got the meal ready



That evening, Jesus and his 12 disciples went to the room to eat the Passover meal.



***Palm Sunday Blessing Easter:***

May the blessing of God  
who resides in our hopes and our dreams  
grant us peace.

May the blessing of Jesus  
Who rides to wild acclaim and waving palm  
branches  
grant us peace.

May the blessing of the Spirit  
Who holds us through our fears and our  
nightmares  
grant us peace...

...on this Palm Sunday  
through the events of Holy Week  
to the cross of Good Friday  
and beyond  
to look for the hopes and dreams  
of the dawning of an Easter Morning.

Clare McBeath and Tim Presswood, 2009

***Fellowship News Contacts:***

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YouTube/Facebook: Ferring Baptist Church

**Note from Karen (Editor):**

Editing the Fellowship News is a privilege and one which to truly reflect our fellowship will benefit from your contributions and dates for the diary etc so please send to [Karen1.parsons@uwclub.net](mailto:Karen1.parsons@uwclub.net) by Wednesday each week.