

The Tidings

Gillingham Baptist Church, Green Street,
Gillingham, Kent. ME7 5TJ



March/April 2026

Issue 30

Stay in touch:



GBCKent19@gmail.com



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Welcome to our monthly community newsletter from Gillingham Baptist Church (Kent). Read on for a blog from our Minister the Rev. Stephen Greasley, as well as an overview of all our services and activities happening this March & April.

About Us

Situated near to the High Street in Gillingham (Kent), we're a friendly, welcoming, multinational worshipping community with a heart to share Jesus and serve the people of Gillingham. Find out more about us on our website:



gbc-kent.org.uk

Rev. Stephen Greasley



Blog - The Lord is my Shepherd

During my sabbatical study leave in February I spent quite a bit of time thinking through who God is and what God is like. There are several Old Testament pictures. One of the most famous is from Psalm 23 where the Psalmist writes, 'The Lord is my shepherd'. Although most of us no longer live in rural communities, I think we can still understand what the psalmist is trying to tell us through this picture. The bond between shepherd and sheep was very close in those days. The shepherds at the time when Jesus was born 'lived out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks by night' (Luke 2:8). Shepherds not only cared for their flock, but they invested themselves in the lives of their animals. They stayed with them and knew every detail of their lives.

In John chapter 10 Jesus picks up this same metaphor. He proclaims himself to be the Good Shepherd. But then he adds a new and crucial element to this old metaphor. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep'. (John 10:11) John is trying to find ways to explain and interpret Jesus' death on the cross, and this old metaphor suits his purposes perfectly. Jesus' death wasn't simply a tragedy. It wasn't simply an act of grave injustice – although it most definitely was that. Jesus' death was an act of love. Flowing out of his attachment to us and his love for us, Jesus was willing to sacrifice his own life to save us.

This Good Friday and Easter Sunday we remember this magnificent act of sacrificial love. Why not come and join us?

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Come and Join us

We'd love to see you at one of our services.

Sunday - 15 March

10.30am - Mothering Sunday Service

Sunday - 22 March

10.30am - Morning Worship

Sunday - 29 March

10.30am - Palm Sunday Service
Preacher: Sarah Rai

Sunday - 5 April

10.30am - Easter Celebration

Sunday - 12 April

10.30am - Morning Worship

Sunday - 19 April

10.30am - Morning Worship
Preacher: Sarah Rai

Sunday - 26 April

10.30am - Church Anniversary Service
Preacher: Rev. Luke Bacon, Minister at St John's Church, Chatham



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Prayer & Bible Study at GBC

At Gillingham Baptist Church we prioritise prayer and Bible Study and have a variety of different opportunities for both throughout the week and the Church year. Some activities only take place during school term time so please check before leaving home.

Sundays - we aim to meet before every Sunday service at 10am in our designated church 'Prayer Room'.

Wednesdays - Lunchtime prayer meeting every week from 12noon-12.40pm in the Lighthouse. 'Prayer and Bible Study' on Zoom on a Wednesday evening every fortnight from 7.30pm.

Thursdays - Good News @ 10 - Bible Study meets alternate weeks at 10.00am-11.30am in the Lighthouse.

Fridays - 'Half nights' of prayer periodically throughout the Church year in the Lighthouse.

Other activities:

We have a number of 'Home Groups' that meet throughout the week during the day and evenings.

The Borstal fellowship usually meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10.00am at Borstal Village Hall.

For further information please contact our Church office.

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Weekly Activities

We run a number of mid-week activities. There is normally no weekday activities during school holidays.

Monday

ALPHA: An introduction to Christianity course at 9.30am in the Upper Room. Breakfast included.

STEPS: 10 to 11.15am: A play and chat group for mums, dads and carers with their young ones (under fives).

Tuesday

BORSTAL FELLOWSHIP: Meet at Borstal Village Hall once a month between 10-12noon. Everyone welcome.

ALPHA: An introduction to Christianity course at 7.00pm in the Lighthouse. Meal included.

Wednesday

FRIENDSHIP MORNING: Everyone is welcome to come between 10 & 11.45am to enjoy company, tea/coffee and biscuits in a relaxed atmosphere.

PRAYER TIME: 12 noon in the Lighthouse. Everyone welcome.

BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER ~ Fortnightly at 7.30pm on Zoom only. **Next meeting 18 March.**

Thursday

GOOD NEWS @ TEN (to 11.30am). Alternate weeks.

CRAFT TIME: 10 to 12 noon: Alternate weeks.

Friday

CAP DEBT CENTRE DROP IN: 10am to 12 noon in the Upper Room.

1st GILLINGHAM BOYS' BRIGADE and GIRLS' ASSOCIATION:

6.15pm Anchors & Juniors 7.30pm Company & Seniors.

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GBC Worship Songs on Spotify

Our [Spotify GBC Worship Songs Playlist](#) has had a makeover with some fresh new tunes! Check out a collection of old classics as well as some you may not yet have heard. Stream to your listening device today by scanning the QR code.

If you have any favourite Worship songs please let us know.



Baptisms @ GBC



Photo: Andrew Rai

We've been blessed with a number of baptisms taking place over the past year at GBC. One of the most memorable is when our Minister in Training, Sarah Rai, was able to baptise her brother in a recent Sunday morning service. During the service he shared about his journey to baptism and what it meant to him to take this step. If you are interested in finding out more about baptism please get in touch with our Minister, the Rev. Stephen Greasley.

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GILLINGHAM
BAPTIST CHURCH
in KENT, UK



Easter Services

Maundy Thursday - 2 April

10.00am - Communion

(As part of Good News at Ten.)

Good Friday - 3 April

10.30am - Service

Easter Sunday - 5 April

9.15am - Breakfast

10.30am - Easter Celebration

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