



Ferring Baptist Church

Fellowship News - March 2025

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity.

Jeremiah 29:13-14 - NIV



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Welcome from Reverend Robin Brenchley



Well, I don't know about you, but I did not see that coming!

Someone said to me that baptisms are rather like busses, you wait for ages and then five come along at once, and it is true the last baptism here in Ferring Baptist Church was before Marion and I arrived.

Nevertheless, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Peter, Pat, Linda, Angela and Lawrence for heeding the call and entering the water to be baptised as believers by full immersion.

And I'd also like to thank all those who worked so hard to make the church look especially nice for the service – you know who you are!

We will be continuing our current series on Ephesians until June and there's plenty more for us to uncover in the coming weeks. After that, well, we will have to see where the Lord leads.

What is clear, is that He is building His church. Just as He promised.

As you read this, Marion and I will have just come back from the SEBA Ministers' Conference. Was it any good? I'm sure it was, but as I'm writing this before I go there, I can't tell you what happened just yet! So more on this next time.

Thank you all for your continued prayers, Robin

Deanna Clark:

Robin announced last Sunday that our beloved Sister in Christ Deanna, has gone home to be with Our Lord. We give thanks for having had Deanna in our Church family and the many ways that she contributed to the Church and its activities including leading the Afternoon Housegroup. She will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her children Janet and Jonathan and her many friends in our Church, local community and further afield.

Further information and details of her funeral will be given when Robin returns.



Church Activities 2 to 31 March - all held at the Church unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 2 10:30 Afterwards	Morning Worship and Holy Communion * Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Bryan Pickard
13:00 – 15:00	Freedom in Christ 4	
Tuesday 4 10:00 – 12:00	Church Office Open	Maureen Warden, Church Secretary
14:30 – 16:00	Afternoon House Group	Trish Aze
Wednesday 5 14:30	Prayer Meeting	Everyone welcome
Thursday 6 10:00 – 12:00	Church Office Open	Maureen Warden, Church Secretary
14:00 - 16:00	Dabblers	Pauline Parkinson, Julie Appleton
Friday 7 17:30 – 19:00	Youth Group	Karen Parsons
Sunday 9 10:30 Afterwards	Morning Worship Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Philip Cook
13:00 to 15:00	Freedom in Christ 5	
Tuesday 11 10:00 – 12:00	Church Office Open	Maureen Warden, Church Secretary
14:30 -16:00	Conversational Bible Study	Philip Tout
Wednesday 12 14:30 -15:30	Prayer Meeting	Everyone welcome
Thursday 13 10:00 – 12:00	Church Office Open	Maureen Warden, Church Secretary
Friday 14 17:30 - 19:00	Youth Group	Karen Parsons
Saturday 15 09:00 09:30	Men’s Breakfast at the Henty Arms Deacon’s Meeting	Gordon Rickwood Leadership Team
13:00 – 19:00	Freedom In Christ - Ministry Day	
Sunday 16 10:30	Morning Worship	Rev Robin Brenchley
Afterwards	Sunday Young Explorers’ Club Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Karen Parsons
13:00 – 15:00	Freedom in Christ 6	
18:30 – 19:30	Evening Holy Communion	Rev Robin Brenchley

Tuesday 18 10:00 – 12:00	Church Office Open	Maureen Warden, Church Secretary
14:30	Afternoon House Group	Trish Aze
Wednesday 19 14:30 – 15:30	Prayer Meeting	Everyone welcome
Thursday 20 10:00 – 12:00	Church Office Open	Maureen Warden, Church Secretary
14:00 – 16:00	Dabblers	Pauline Parkinson, Julie Appleton
19:15 – 21:00	Church AGM	Church members
Friday 21 17:30 - 19:00	Youth Group	Karen Parsons
Saturday 22	The Marriage of Norma Drew and Michael Brazier	
Sunday 23 10:30 Afterwards	Morning Worship Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Robin Brenchley
13:00 to 15:00	Freedom in Christ 7	
Tuesday 25 10:00 – 12:00	Church Office Open	
14:30 -16:00	Conversational Bible Study	Philip Tout
Wednesday 26 14:30 – 15:30	Prayer Meeting	Everyone welcome
Thursday 27 10:00 – 12:00	Church Office Open	
Friday 28 17:30 - 19:00	Youth Group	Karen Parsons
Sunday 30 10:30 Afterwards	Morning Worship Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Robin Brenchley
13:00 to 15:00	Freedom in Christ 8	

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

Notices:

- Robin and Marion are away until 11 March for a conference and study leave, but both will be in Church for the Women's breakfast on 1 March and on Sunday for Freedom in Christ.
- March 1 – 50th Wedding Anniversary of Lawrence and Angela Kenward. On 2 March Lawrence and Angela have invited everyone to celebrate with them during fellowship time.

- March 1 and 2 – Marilyn Catterill from St Andrew’s Church will be selling cards in the Church entrance.
- March 2 - Pop in Social at the Glebelands hosted by Ferring Football and Social Club, 2 to 4:30 - everyone welcome.
- March 7 - World Day of Prayer at St. Richard’s Church, Maybridge at 10.30 am, and at All Saints Church, Findon Valley, at 2.30 pm.
- March 20 - Church AGM including the election of Deacons.
- The next edition of Fellowship News will be 15 March. Fellowship Bulletins will be used to communicate anything urgent.

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 in the April Newsletter.

Thought for this month:



BMS Birthdays:

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

To all those in the fellowship blessed with a March birthday including:
7th Philip Tout
16th Rae Cloke

The Marriage of Norma Drew and Michael Brazier:

As you know, Norma and Mike are getting married on Saturday 22nd March at 12 noon in the Church, and they invite the fellowship to join them at their service and followed by tea/coffee & wedding cake. Hope you can come.

Yours Norma and Mike



Congratulations:

Many congratulations to Angela and Lawrence Kenward on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



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O Lord we Give Thanks:

- For you, Our Heavenly Father who is always with us;
- For our recent Baptismal service and the baptisms of Pat Wigley, Angela and Lawrence Kenward, Linda Sekeramayi and Peter Dorrington;
- For our brothers and sisters in our Church family who give us love, support and encouragement when we need it;
- For all those who run and help with Church activities - you are greatly appreciated;
- For Maureen Warden our Church Secretary and John Appleton our Church Treasurer;

Prayer Pointers:

- Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill the Church with His presence and guidance;
- We pray for all those in need in our World especially those caught up in war, conflict, living in captivity, persecution and those living in poverty. We pray for an end to these situations and may those affected come to know you, your love, peace and grace;
- We pray for the leaders of our World that they will reflect and where there are Wars, change direction, talk and desire Peace;
- We pray for our Prime Minister and his Government as they face difficulties in which they lead our Country, give them wisdom Lord and guide them in their decision making in finding solutions;
- We pray for King Charles, Princess of Wales and anyone currently receiving treatment for cancer;
- 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
 - Val & Ron Boot and family
 - Mary Brenchley
 - Pat Brenchley
 - Norma Drew
 - Chris and Wendy Fogg
 - Tony Hayes
 - H Kitchen
 - Pat May (Pauline's sister)
 - Sylvia Mephram and her sister Maggie Downing
 - Sheila Palmer
 - Karen Parsons and her mum Betty
 - 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 very 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 come and enjoy the activities, get to know you and that we provide the answers that they are searching for;

'He gave us eyes to see them': 'Menorah' by Roger Wagner

In the midst of the dreaming spires and Gothic splendour of Oxford stands the Ashmolean Museum. Its classic proportions are a contrast to the buildings around. Within, the addition of thirty new galleries has doubled the exhibition space, and the visitor to the museum will discover a wealth of beautiful and impressive works – Renaissance drawings, Eastern art and British paintings. The last category includes this month's work: 'Menorah' by Roger Wagner. It was painted in 1993 and at that time it was the largest contemporary painting acquired by the Ashmolean. It is now on loan to St Giles' Church at the northern end of the city.

Roger Wagner was born in 1957. He graduated from Oxford and now worships at the Romanesque church of Iffley. He works on a small scale with book illustrations, but also creates large canvases that juxtapose traditional religious images with contemporary symbols in a startling and arresting way. The background of 'Menorah' is Didcot Power Station, which can be seen from the windows of the Oxford-London train. The central chimney and the cooling towers around form the shape of the seven-branched candlestick of Judaism. In front of them are the three crosses of Calvary. Around the scene of crucifixion we can see a couple consoling each other in the foreground and isolated individuals wandering in the mud in grief and perplexity. They are dressed in Hasidic robes.

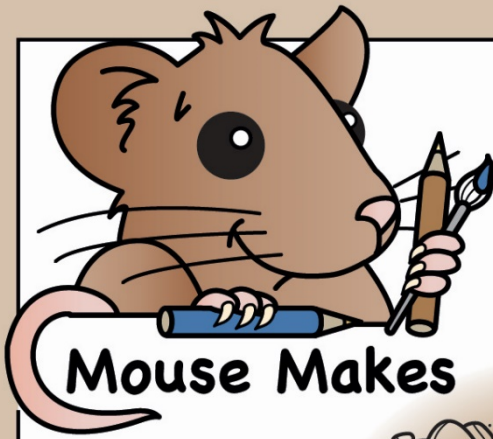
An earlier work of Roger Wagner's is 'The Burning Furnace' where angels are painted in the setting of a Victorian iron works. It is the same contrast of ancient and modern in this painting: the Good Friday of 2000 years ago and an industrial, bleak landscape of today. The artist is also contrasting the menorah of Judaism and the cross of Christianity – the suffering of the Holocaust and the suffering of the Saviour.

The menorah would burn in front of the Holy of Holies as a sign of God's invisible presence. In the book of Revelation, St John describes his vision of Jesus the Lamb in the midst of the same seven flaming torches, moving with grace and glory. Here in 'Menorah' the figure of Jesus is insignificant against the immense scale of industrial buildings spewing out pollution into the bright sky.

But it is that figure of Jesus on the Cross who draws us this month in Holy Week and draws us in this painting. The mourners around look like figures in a concentration camp: victims of man's inhumanity to man. The cooling towers are a vivid reminder of our violation and destruction of mother earth. And in the centre we see our crucified Lord. We hear Isaiah's song of the suffering servant that there is no sorrow like this sorrow. We also hear Jesus crying 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' And we can ponder this painting as we ask, Is it a sign of the absence of God, or, like the Menorah lit in the temple, a sign of the presence of God? There is human chemistry creating the destruction of life and earth as depicted by Roger Wagner. Can we proclaim a divine chemistry at work which will transform suffering and death into the new life of Easter in the power of the Resurrection?



{Editor: This year the Revd Michael Burgess surveys works of sacred art that can be found in various museums...you can see the image by googling the title of the painting and the artist}.



Mouse Makes

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised who led him into the wilderness?

Luke 4:1



For how many days was Jesus tempted by the devil?

Luke 4:2



Who did Jesus say you should ONLY worship and serve?

Luke 4:8



READ
the story in
Luke 4:1-13

Jesus said not to put the Lord your God to the...

Luke 4:12



What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into?

Luke 4:3

What happened after the temptation of Jesus?
see Luke 4:14-15

- JESUS • LED
- WILDERNESS
- DESERT
- TEMPTATIONS
- DAYS • DEVIL
- HUNGRY • SON
- STONE • ROCK
- KINGDOMS
- WORLD • GLORY
- WRITTEN
- SCRIPTURE
- WORSHIP • ONLY
- SERVE • LORD
- JERUSALEM
- HIGH • TEMPLE
- THROW • DOWN
- JUMP • ANGELS
- HANDS • HOLD
- LIFT • FOOT

R	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	H	A	N	D	S	D
L	I	F	T	W	P	A	H	D	J	U	M	P	A
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B	S	H	O	E	H	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	S
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E	O	O	N	V	G	G	O	C	E	V	Y	L	N
A	O	W	V	E	H	O	L	D	K	I	W	E	
D	T	E	S	T	V	D	W	O	R	L	D		

Find the words from the questions too!

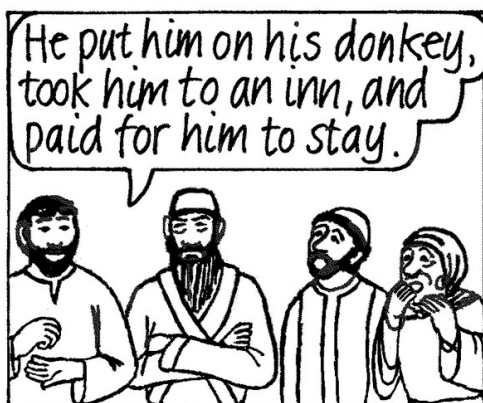
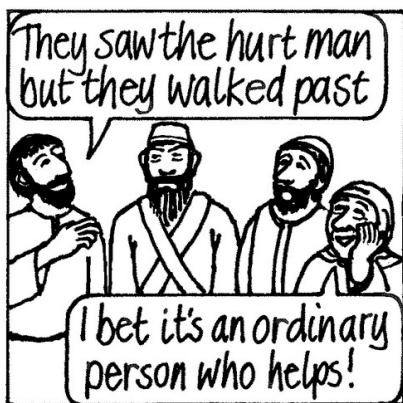
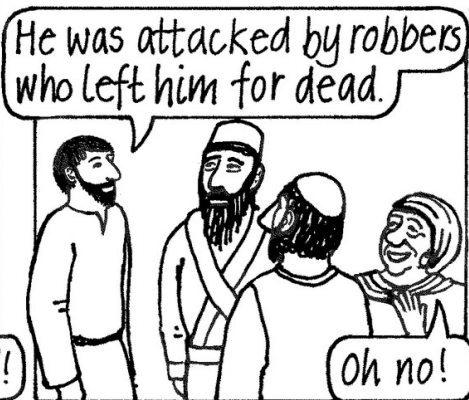
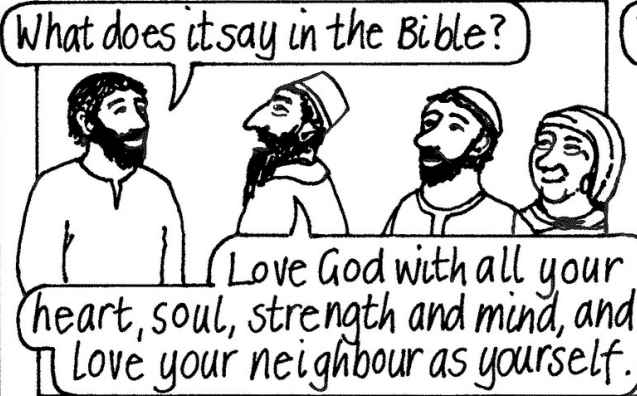
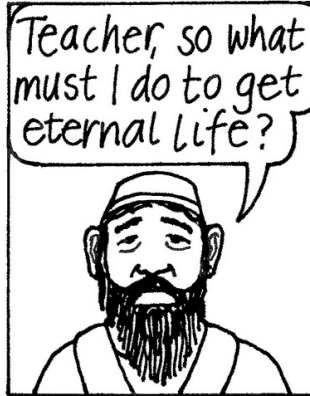


Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 10:25-37

An expert in the Law of Moses wanted to test Jesus' knowledge of the laws in the Bible, so he asked Jesus a question.



WSK Update:

WSK has been in contact to thank us for our donations and to ask for the following items 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.

Thank you very much.

Fellowship News Contacts:

Minister - Rev Robin Brenchley: 01903 249996 (Day off: Monday)

Address: Greystoke Road, Ferring, W. Sussex, BN12 5JL. Tel: 01903 503679

(Church office is usually open Tues and Thurs 10:00 am -12:00 noon)

Emails: minister@ferringbaptist.org.uk OR contact Maureen Warden at secretary@ferringbaptist.org.uk

Website: www.ferringbaptist.org.uk

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 by Wednesday each week.