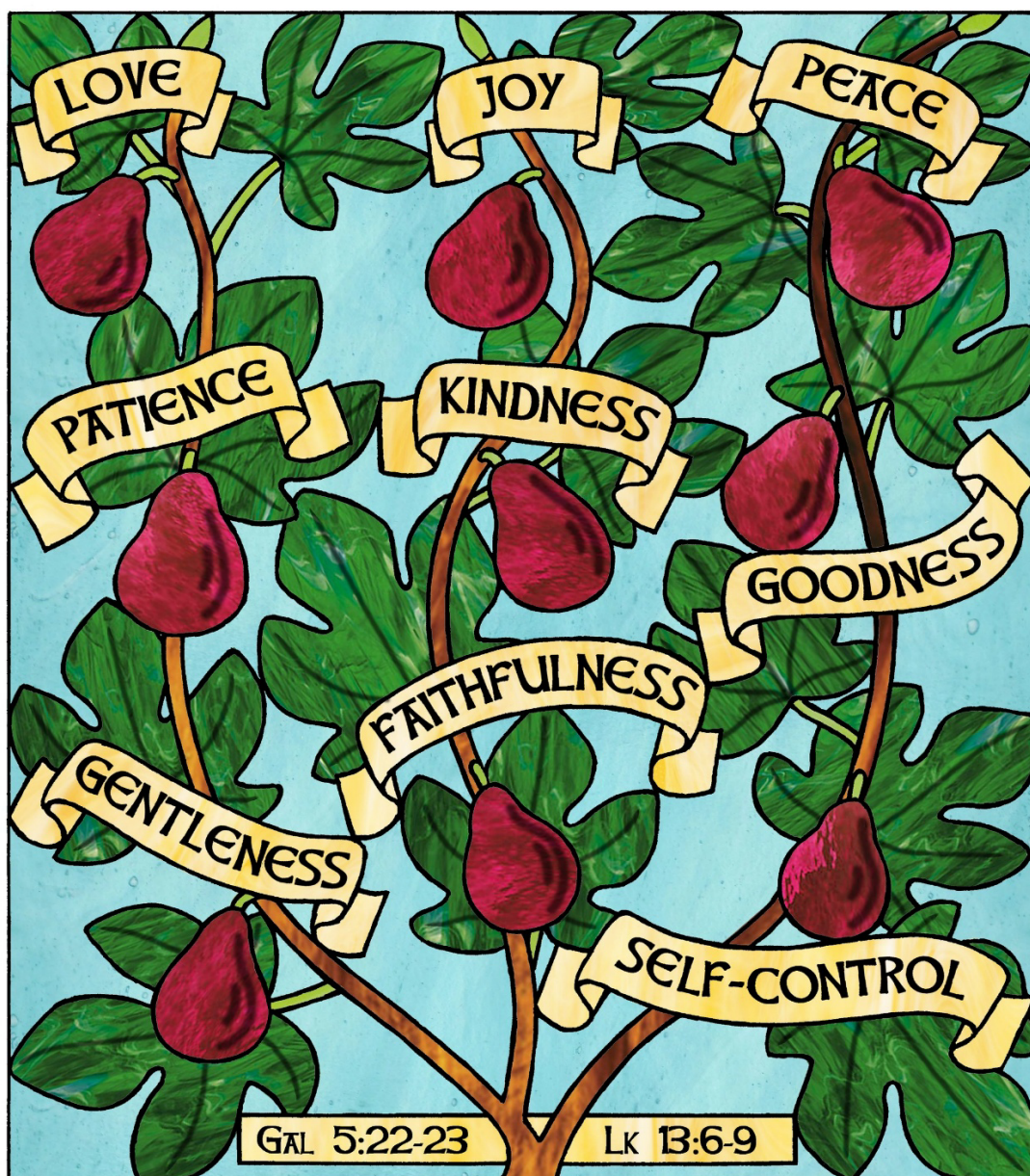




# Ferring Baptist Church

Fellowship News – 1 to 30 June 2025



## ***Welcome from Reverend Robin Brenchley***

What a wonderful picture adorns the front page of this edition of our newsletter, a reminder, if we needed it, that it is the Holy Spirit who trains us and moulds us so that we become ever more like our Lord Jesus.

One of the things that first attracted us to this church was the love that we were shown when we visited, and the evident love that the church had for each other. We have been reminded of this again over the past two months as we have dealt with two family losses: and yet, in the midst of it all we have been very much aware of being upheld in love.

There is nothing more attractive than a church that is operating in the fruit of the Spirit, especially in God's love. Sadly the opposite is also true, because - and we must be clear about this - if we aren't operating in love, then we are worse than useless to God. Paul himself said "If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal." [1 Corinthians 13:1] and the same is just as true of us.

God wants nothing more than to have us partner with him in His mission to save men and women who would otherwise perish, but he cannot use us if we aren't operating in the fruit of the Spirit, because we might do harm rather than help.

So, if there is someone in the church, or nearby that you find it difficult to love, perhaps because you disagree with them about something, make all the more effort to love them. None of us want to be useless, or worse yet, put God in the position of having to remove us from the ministry we love to stop us causing harm.

Because, it will be no good us telling God what they did to hurt us, or how wrong they were. He expects us to forgive just as completely as Jesus did from the cross, and will hold us accountable for failing to do so.

No, He doesn't reject us and this won't change where we are going, but it may steal some of our joy on the journey.

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As usual things will be subject to change in the summer months, with some groups closing over August as we concentrate on Holiday Club 2025. Marion and I are away on holiday this month and so you will see some other familiar friends at the front of the church whilst we are away.

### ***Church Activities 1 to 30 June - all held at the Church unless otherwise stated:***

<b>Sunday 1</b> 10:30 Afterwards	<b>Morning Worship and Holy Communion*</b> Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Robin Brenchley
<b>Wednesday 4</b> 14:30 -15:30	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Everyone welcome

<b>Thursday 5</b> 14:00 – 16:00	<b>Dabblers</b>	Pauline Parkinson, Julie Appleton
<b>Friday 6</b> 17:30 - 19:00	<b>Young Explorers and Youth Group</b>	Karen Parsons
<b>Sunday 8</b> 10:30 Afterwards	<b>Morning Worship*</b> Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Stephen Goddard
<b>Tuesday 10</b> 14:30 – 16:00	<b>Afternoon House Group</b>	Trish Aze
<b>Wednesday 11</b> 14:30 – 15:30	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Everyone welcome
<b>Friday 13</b> 17:30 – 19:00	<b>Young Explorers and Youth Group</b>	Karen Parsons
<b>Saturday 14</b> 09:30	<b>Deacon's Meeting</b>	Leadership Team
17:30 – 19:00	<b>Youth Group</b>	Karen Parsons and Jane Melvin
<b>Sunday 15</b> 10:30 Afterwards	<b>Morning Worship and Holy Communion*</b> Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Phil Gilbert
<b>Wednesday 18</b> 14:30 – 15:30	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Everyone welcome
<b>Thursday 19</b> 14:00 – 16:00	<b>Dabblers</b>	Pauline Parkinson and Julie Appleton
<b>Friday 20</b> 17:30 – 19:00	<b>Young Explorers and Youth Group</b>	Karen Parsons
<b>Saturday 21</b> 09:00 – 11:00	<b>Men's Breakfast at the Henty Arms</b>	Gordon Rickwood
14:00 – 15:00	<b>Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Olive McCarten</b>	Rev Philip Tout
<b>Sunday 22</b> 10:30 Afterwards	<b>Morning Worship*</b> Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Tony Mayes
<b>Tuesday 24</b> 14:30 – 16:00	<b>Afternoon House Group</b>	Trish Aze
<b>Wednesday 25</b> 14:30 – 15:30	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Everyone welcome
<b>Thursday 26</b>	<b>Church Members Meeting</b>	All Church members are welcome
<b>Friday 27</b> 17:30 – 19:00	<b>Young Explorers and Youth Group</b> <b>Summer Party</b>	Karen Parsons
<b>Saturday 28</b> 17:30 – 19:00	<b>Youth Group</b>	Karen Parsons and Jane Melvin

<b>Sunday 29</b>	<b>Morning Worship*</b> Refreshments and Fellowship Time	Rev Robin Brenchley

*\*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 will be away from 2<sup>nd</sup> June to 23<sup>rd</sup> June inclusive.
- On Saturday 21 June at 2pm there will be a Service of Thanksgiving for the life and service of Olive McCarten.

**Note about Olive McCarten.** Olive served as a school teacher in the Belgian Congo with the Unevangelised Fields Mission. In 1964 Congo was granted independence, but without any preparation. Hoards of "Simba rebels" scoured the county "killing whites" and many missionaries died. Olive was rescued by mercenary soldiers. Ferring Baptist Church has the honour and responsibility to hold a Thanksgiving Service for what she did in the Lord's service. You may not have known Olive, but **please join us and form a congregation; meet her relatives, and praise God for his goodness. Thanks Philip Tout**

- On Saturday 21st 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>
- Assisted Dying Bill – Mary Tout wishes to remind everyone that the Bill is returning to the commons on 13<sup>th</sup> June. Cards are available in the Church entrance – to send to your MP to urge them to vote against the Bill at its third reading.
- July 6th - Pop in Social at the Glebelands hosted by Ferring Baptist Church. 2 to 4:30 - everyone is invited. If you are able to help, please let Karen know. Thank you to those who have already volunteered.
- The next edition of Fellowship News will be on the 29 June and will be the July edition. Fellowship Bulletins will be used to communicate anything urgent while Robin is away.

### **Inspirational Quote:**

We do not need to wait for the Holy Spirit to come: he came on the day of Pentecost. He has never left the church.

**John Stott**

"Wisdom is knowing the right thing to do and doing it at the right time to get the desired result. It is also the correct application of knowledge."

— **Patience Johnson, Why Does an Orderly God Allow Disorder**



## **Smile:**

### **Sweets**

I gave my four-year-old grand-daughter money for sweets and the church collection plate. Later, seeing her enormous pile of sweets, I got suspicious and asked if she hadn't also given some money to God in church that morning. "No," she replied sweetly, "He wasn't there."

### **Good quote**

A certain bishop had a fondness for using Bible quotations whenever he visited a function. When he arrived to open a new Maternity Home the organisers thought: "Now we have him stumped." However, after a few well-chosen words, the bishop smiled and said: "I know you are waiting for a quotation, so here it is: 'We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed!'"

*{Both taken from Parish Pump}*

## **BMS Birthdays:**



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

4th John Clarke  
11th Robin Brenchley  
11th John Wigley  
12th Maureen Warden  
15th Mary Tout  
17th Gordon Steer  
27th John Appleton  
28th Viv Clarke  
30th Barry Reading

## **Prayer for June:**

Dear Lord,

June is the loveliest month, with long days and the beauty of summer all around us. Thank you that, in the church's year this month, we remember one of the loveliest of your followers – Barnabas, known as the Son of Encouragement.

He encouraged the believers in Antioch to *remain true to the Lord* with all their hearts. Through his ministry of encouragement, a great number of people were brought to know you.

Lord, we all thrive when we are encouraged. And we, your people, so need to be encouraged today in this world which can seem so confusing and discouraging.

So, thank you for those who have encouraged us in the past, and for those who encourage us now. Help us to read your living unchanging Word and to remain true to you with all our hearts. Help us to be a *Barnabas* to those we know who might be struggling. May we bear fruit in our discipleship.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

### ***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 that all those without food in Gaza will soon receive supplies;
- We pray for the new Pope – Pope Leon XIV;
- We pray for our brothers and sisters at St Andrews that they will continue to serve in our local community;
- 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:
  - Trish Aze
  - Brenda Elliott

- Val & Ron Boot and family
- Robin and Marion and family as they mourn Robin's mother Pat and stepmother Mary;
- Simon and Kelly and family as they mourn Simon's mother Janet;
- Chris and Wendy Fogg
- H Kitchen
- Khristina
- Pat May (Pauline's sister)
- Sheila Palmer
- 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, studies, Afternoon Housegroup, Youth Group, Young 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.
- We pray for all our young people as they take their exams, with your guidance Lord may they be able to focus on their exams;

***Thank you from Maggie Downing:***

Maggie says "heartfelt thanks for your church's prayer for me over the past couple of months. I am pleased to say my recovery is going well, and I no longer have to visit Brompton Hospital. I've been referred back to my local hospital for their cardiac care and rehab".

### ***Thank you from Karen Parsons:***

Thank you for your prayers, love, support and cards for my brother and I while we mourn the passing of our mother. She said that she felt the Lord's presence with her throughout her illness in hospital and that he looked after her very well.

### ***Children and Young people update:***

We almost always have at least fifteen young people on a Friday night but not necessarily the same fifteen. We have had two new children start and their father Mark joins us too. Ali, (a father and coach at Ferring FC) has helped to take the youngsters over the field when the weather has been good.

We have split the group into 5 to 9 (although we also have two lovely babies and a wonderful three year old girl) and 10 to 15. 5 to 9 are the Young Explorers and 10 to 15 the Youth Group.

Arts, crafts, and Chess still continue to be popular and several have had Chess sets as presents from relatives allowing them practice sessions at home. The crafting is different according to the age group. Chess for little ones bears little resemblance to Chess but they enjoy it.

In June, the Youth Group will be meeting on 14th and 28th and then the last Saturday in the month. We are aiming for smaller numbers and will be following Rooted and Move it, both from Scripture Union. We plan to support our young people as they transit from primary school to secondary school and onwards. The group will be jointly run by Karen Parsons and Jane Melvin. Jane has a wealth of experience with young people having been a qualified youth leader and a youth leader trainer for many years. The youngsters will explore the Christian faith with a wide range of activities, games, and guest speakers. Refreshments will also be included. So far it has been well received by parents.

I also wanted to say a huge thank you to those who volunteer to help on a Friday, those who offered to help while Robin was away and the extra volunteers who help at the social events that we hold - it is all greatly appreciated.





Holy Spirit,  
sent by the Father,  
ignite in us your holy fire;  
strengthen your children  
with the gift of faith,  
revive your Church with  
the breath of love, and  
renew the face of the earth,  
through Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

*Paul Judson*





## Mouse Makes

PENTECOST • WIND • FIRE  
 HOLY • SPIRIT • TONGUES • RESTED  
 JERUSALEM • JEWS • GALILEANS  
 HEAR • LANGUAGE • ARAMAIC • GREEK  
 HEBREW • PARTHIANS • MEDES  
 ELAMITES • MESOPOTAMIA  
 JUDEA • CAPPADOCIA • PONTUS  
 ASIA • PHRYGIA • PAMPHYLIA  
 EGYPT • LIBYA • CYRENE  
 ROME • CRETANS  
 ARABIANS • GOD



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It was fifty days since **Passover**, and Jews from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to celebrate Passover. As the **Apostles** were gathered together the **Holy Spirit** came upon them and they began to speak in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them.

The crowd that were listening were amazed as they heard about God in their own language.

*How many people heard, believed and were baptised that day?*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The Bible or parts of the Bible have now been translated into over 3,000 different languages since it was first written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt 2:1-12, Mk 9:1-8, Lk 5:17-26

The Pharisees had come to Jesus' home in Capernaum to make sure he wasn't breaking any of their religious rules...

So many came to hear Jesus speak that they filled his house... and the streets outside.



Four men brought their paralysed friend to Jesus for healing

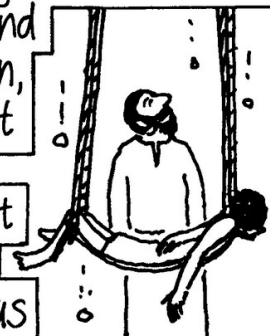


But the crowd wouldn't let them get close



so they climbed up to the roof and took off some tiles.

They lowered their friend down, right in front of Jesus

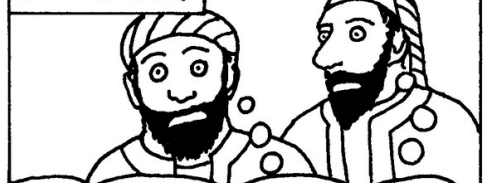


Jesus was so impressed by their faith, he said to the paralysed man



Your sins are forgiven.

The Pharisees were shocked!



Only God can forgive sins...so this fellow is insulting God!

But Jesus knew what they were thinking.



Why are you thinking such wrong thoughts?

Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Get up, take your mat, and walk'?



But I want you to know that I do have the authority to forgive sins...

Get up, take your mat and go home!



He got up, picked up his mat and walked home, praising God



The crowd was amazed...



We have never seen anything like this!

### **WSK Update:**

As a Church we support the Worthing Soup Kitchen. 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. The following items are required please:

- 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

### **Fellowship News Contacts:**

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Website: [www.ferringbaptist.org.uk](http://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](mailto:Karen1.parsons@uwclub.net) by Wednesday each week.