

Dear friends

Recently Sally and I were driving past some fields and there were some small lambs frolicking joyfully in the way that only they can. It was joyful to see their playfulness and lack of concern about what the rest of the sheep thought about them. It gave me two thoughts: it's almost Spring (woohoo!); and perhaps that's partly what Jesus meant by us becoming like a small child – simply enjoying being who we are and not worrying what others might think.

The 'it's almost Spring' thought fits in with an event at Hope Baptist Church from 1030 - 1530 on 15th March about living in a more environmentally sustainable way (see below). It's for all ages and is free. Do join in if you can and bring any ideas back to us.

Be blessed, be a blessing

Nick



<p>A YEAR LIVED SUSTAINABLY A TALK BY MARK & JANE BULLARD</p>	11 - 11.45am
<p>PLANT ID AND FORAGE A WALK IN CENTRAL PARK (WEATHER DEPENDENT) TESS WILMOT, FOOD PLYMOUTH</p>	11am
<p>PLYMOUTH CLIMATE CHOIR FRIARY MILL BAKERY PASTIES AVAILABLE DURING THIS HOUR</p>	12 - 1pm
<p>'WHAT IS THE COST OF CLIMATE CHANGE?' A TALK BY DR RUTH VALERIO</p>	1.15 - 2pm
<p>CAN WE AFFORD TO BE GREEN? A TALK BY DR RUTH VALERIO</p>	2.15 - 3pm

EXHIBITORS INCLUDE :

- Clean Our Patch
- Plymouth Energy Community
- Climate Connections
- Sockists
- Food Plymouth
- Just Money Movement
- Climate Action Plymouth
- Wembury Marine Centre
- Plymouth Scrapstore
- Borrow Don't Buy

COFFEE, TEA, SQUASH AND HOME-MADE CAKES

WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE DAY

Saturday 15th March, Hope Baptist Church, Peverell

Come when you can, leave when you must!

Journeying with Jesus

In our **Sunday morning services** we are joining with Jesus on his travels...

March

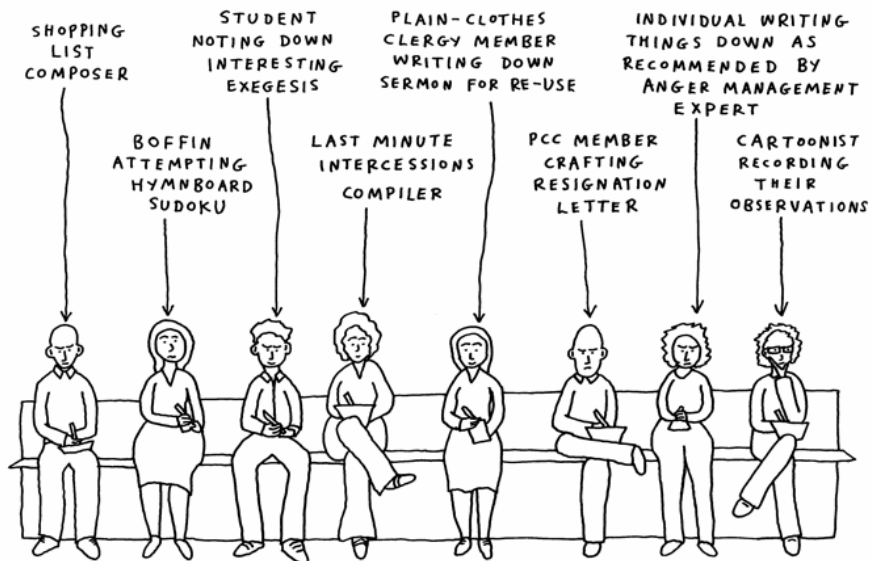
- 2nd Healing at a distance and close-up *Luke 7:1-17* (Nick)
- 9th Jesus takes a shortcut *Matthew 14:22-36* (Mike)
- 16th Youth and children take over (Beth)
- 23rd Climb every mountain *Matthew 17:1-13* (Nick)
- 30th A proud mum seeks to promote her boys *Matthew 20:17-28* (Nick)

April

- 6th Are you coming or going? *Matthew 20:29-34; Luke 18:35-43* (Nick)
- 13th Journeying into Jerusalem *Luke 19:28-44* (Nick)
- 20th Coming out of the tomb *John 20* (Beth and Nick)

MAKING NOTES

WHY PEOPLE ARE WRITING THINGS DOWN DURING THE SERMON



If you struggle to hear what is happening in the service, many smartphones now have apps already installed that transcribe spoken words to text. If you can't find one, Royal National Institution for the Deaf recommends live transcription apps on your phone – you can see them from this QR code.



(Just be aware that it may also pick up what people are saying around you!!)

We have a hearing loop for those who have that facility on their hearing aid – just switch it to the 'T' setting.



The background for text on the screens in the Sanctuary is designed to make it easier to read for those who have dyslexia.

WhatsApp Community

We have set up a WhatsApp Community for the church and would love you to join in. This is a really useful way of us being able to get in touch with you with news and updates about church events and activities: for example, if a group has had to be cancelled at short notice.

It's free to join and nobody will see your details.

To join just scan this QR code.



12 hour Mission Prayer Chain

We are trying to pray in different ways in the church at the moment, and this month instead of a gathered prayer meeting we are trying out a prayer chain for the Ingrid and Roger Hamlet and their children Mark and Joel, who are this month's prayer focus for the church. They are one of the families serving with BMS World Mission with whom we are directly linked.

The invitation is for as many of us as possible to pray for just 15 minutes on 3rd March. If you can sign up for a specific time slot on the sheet at the back of the church that would be great. If you are like me you will need to put a reminder in your diary so don't forget to do that at the same time as you sign up.

You can find out about the Hamlet family and what they will be doing in Chad at <https://bmsworldmission.org/irhamlet> The family arrived in Chad in January this year, following language training. They will be working at Guinebor II hospital in N'Djamena, Chad, where they will set up a Prosthetics and Orthotics Department.

Give thanks that the language studies have been completed and pray that they will be able to use those new skills naturally in their day-to-day life and work.

Give thanks for a safe arrival in Chad. Pray that they will all settle into their new home, the boys will settle into their new school and the family won't experience too much culture shock.



For your prayers

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:18

Our March mission prayer focus is on **The Hamlet family**, who are serving with BMS World Mission in Chad. In March you can join in with the 12 Hour Mission Prayer Chain for the Hamlets – see the previous page for details. The latest BMS prayer letters from Pastor J in Cambodia and the Hamlets in Chad can be downloaded from <https://bmsworldmission.org/mission-partners>

We thank God for healing and well-being experienced following surgery or treatment. We thank God too for all the medical and support staff in the NHS who work out calling to serve in remarkable ways. We continue to thank God for answering prayers and the many blessings we receive personally and as a church.

Please give thanks to God for all who generously support this church financially, with their time and gifts, and with their prayers. We cannot do this without God or you.

In most morning services we have **Mutley Matters** time – where we can share encouragements and prayer needs together. If you would like to share something but would rather not speak, please write it down and give it to Nick or whoever is leading the service and we'll include it.

If you would like to follow Christian Aid's Lent course 'Act on Poverty' then you can sign up here www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/act-poverty-course-2025



Please bear with us...

We have installed a new sound desk and are busy upgrading and improving other parts of the system, but occasionally that means we will experience some gremlins as we work out how this new system works. Please bear with us and accept our apologies if you experience squeaks or whistles sometimes.

We are also really sorry that because of an internet outage beyond our control we were unable to connect those who usually join our service on Zoom (see below) with the morning baptismal service on 3rd February. The outage was not finally fixed until the following.

Mutley Baptist Church online

Our Sunday morning services are usually available on Zoom. You can use these login details: Meeting ID: **828 9596 2650**
Passcode: **155595**



If you would prefer not to be seen by those watching the live stream please sit in one of the side sections as the camera is focused on the platform.

As well as streaming our services on zoom, you can find out a lot more about us including our beliefs, vision and values as a church and our activities on our website www.mutleybaptist.co.uk You can follow links on the *What's On* page to book for our youth, children and families activities. You can listen to sermons from previous mornings in the 'Sunday Services' page under the 'What's On' tab.

Church Meeting

Our next Church Meeting for members is on Monday 7th April at 7.30pm in the Sanctuary and on Zoom. If you are a member it would be great if you are able to join with us to listen to God in and through one another.

Paperwork for this meeting will come out in advance and we will also give advance notice of some possible Constitutional changes we are considering.



On Sunday evenings at 6pm we gather for an informal service to explore how we love God and love people.

We usually start with refreshments and the service will last for about an hour.

Our March sessions, leading up to Easter

KUMI PRISON by John Parsons

'We're invited to a prison this afternoon, Guys,' said our project leader. 'To take a religious service.' My team were engaged in voluntary community work in Uganda and a prison wasn't my first choice for a relaxing afternoon. As it happened, it was completely different to what I had expected.

Inside the prison, in a wooden hut, some seventy prisoners were sitting on the floor in yellow T-shirts and short trousers. Immediately we were greeted with applause and rhythmic music from traditional African string instruments that set my feet tapping. Team members introduced themselves. After some enthusiastic singing of sacred songs came the serious bit: Adam, a team member, told of his descent into drug and alcohol abuse and his road to recovery. He stressed the importance of placing one's faith in God.

Adam was followed by Peter, a psychiatric nurse, who talked about mental health. His theme was the consequences of making bad choices. His unforgettable quote was, 'Making a bad decision does not make you a bad person.' You could have heard a pin drop.

As the service was concluded and several men were kneeling on the ground to place their faith in Jesus Christ, the officer-in-charge said, 'They have never heard anything like this before.' And our project leader concluded with the words, 'It was a little bit of heaven in a bad place.'

It certainly was for me.

General information

Address: Mutley Plain, Mutley, Plymouth, Devon, PL4 6LB (01752) 203346

office@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk (10am to 5pm Tues - Thur)

Rev Nick Lear (Minister) - nicklear@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk 07869 809064 (not Saturday)

Beth Hemes (Children's Families' and Youth pastor) - beth@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk

Fiona Spicer (Community pastor) - fiona@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk

Sunday Services in the Sanctuary

10am (with groups for children and young people) and 6pm (a more informal service)

Home Groups (term time)

Hartley and Zoom	Tuesdays	Joy Sutton
Plympton	Tuesdays	Malcolm Wells
Woolwell	Tuesdays	Paddy and Karen Allen
Eggbuckland	Wednesdays	Jill Heaton
Mutley	Wednesdays	Fiona & John Spicer
Stoke	Wednesdays	Kate & Steve Brown

Contact Joy Sutton, or the church office for more details, or pick up a card.

Youth children and families groups (term time)

contact Jane Frost or Kelly Thomas - yfadmin@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk and book online on our website

Buzzy Bees Messy Mondays - Monday mornings

Buzzy Bees Stay and Play—Wednesday mornings

Baby Bees— Friday afternoons

Lighthouse Café and Supernova Thursday evenings

MY1 and MY2—Thursday evenings

Mutley Youth, Kids' church and Creche—Sunday mornings

Cosy Corner Tuesdays from 12-2pm in the Lounge (Closed in School Holidays)

Bigger Table Thursdays 12noon—1pm in the Hall meal and bags of food (£1.50 each)

Mission Prayer usually 1st Monday each month in the Lounge at 7.30pm.

Pastoral team Wednesdays 11am - nicklear@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk

Please send any items for inclusion in the next edition of Mutley Matters to Nick by 24th of the preceding month. There's always up to date information on our Facebook & Instagram pages and the 'What's on?' section of our website: www.mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk