



# Romford Baptist Church

# Grapevine

IND

Romford Baptist Church

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ROUND

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TUIT

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TUIT

**Family Magazine**  
February 2017  
and  
March 2017  
No. 182

# From the Editor

Although I am not much of an early bird, and prefer not to get up before sunrise unless I really have to, I do love seeing a lovely sunrise. There's a peacefulness about that time of day, and the promise of a fresh new start.

Since sunrise is currently quite late, I've been able to enjoy some spectacular morning skies on my way to work recently. And, as usual, a song from my formative years often pops into my head. This time, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end – they are new every morning..."

The NIV version goes as follows:

*Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him" (Lamentations 3:22-24).*

What encouraging words for us to remember - that God is there for us, His love and compassion never fails. So in all our circumstances, both good and bad, let's continue to rely on Him, to place our hope in Him and to be thankful for His faithfulness.

**Cheryl Schulte**

## Editorial Team

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Bernd Schulte	Layout and Production
Kathy Pomeroy	Proof Reader
Ruth Wiggins	Printing
Sheila Cross	Collation
Daphne May	Distribution

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## Team Minister

### (Church and Community Life)

Rev. Vikki Bunce

## Team Minister

### (Youth and Children)

Rev. Jan Loveard



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Our purpose is to take the life-changing message of Jesus Christ to all, with the goal that they become His loyal disciples.



## *Pastor's Page*

Out with the old, in with the new. We are already a month into this new year and in the famous words in the song by John Lennon (War is over) "A very merry Christmas and a Happy New year, let's hope it's a good one without any fears".

Can we really live our lives without any fears?

Almost every day I talk to someone who is afraid or anxious (which is generalised fear). Maybe you fear what people think of you.....not having enough money..... public speaking.....flying.....making big life-changing decisions.....being far from home.....failure or rejection....losing a loved one.....disease or pain.....death.

We know that most of us will have to deal with some or all of the above in our lives at some point, but how we cope with these situations can differ greatly from person to person.

How many "Fear nots" are in the Bible?

It's been said that there are 365 "Fear nots" in the Bible, one "Fear not" for every day of the year - actually there are more than that... not that I've actually

counted... thanks to Google! But it does seem that God was really trying to help us see that we should not fear anything.

The Psalms can be so helpful when we fear that life is closing in on us, one example is Psalm 56. David has been seized by the Philistines and he starts to become afraid, but instead he sets his vision on his Lord and saviour in his midst. He praises God and His word to him: "Fear not!" He puts his trust in the Lord.

As we journey forward with God through this next year, let's remember God is not aloof from suffering, He understands what we are going through and, like David, we need to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, and to trust in the peace He offers to us.

"Peace. It does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart." Author unknown.

*Sandra O'Neal  
(Pastoral worker for Youth  
and Evangelism)*

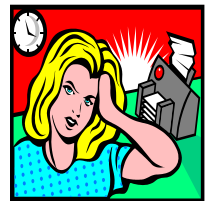


**The deadline for the April 2017/May 2017  
edition of the Grapevine is  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Please give any items to Cheryl Schulte, put them in  
the tray on the Welcome Desk or email them to

Cheryl at:

**[grapevine@romfordbaptist.org.uk](mailto:grapevine@romfordbaptist.org.uk)**



## Twiddlemuffs

### Have you heard of 'Twiddlemuffs'?



They're knitted (or crocheted) muffs with items attached to keep dementia patients' hands active and busy. They contain strands of textured ribbons, beads and various fabrics with interesting bits and bobs attached, both inside and outside.

People with dementia often have restless hands and like to have something to keep their hands occupied. It provides a wonderful source of visual, tactile and sensory stimulation, and keeps hands snug and warm at the same time.

Many patients with Alzheimer's, arthritis and dementia find them comforting and therapeutic as they help encourage movement and brain stimulation.

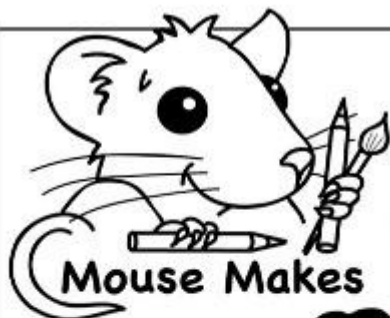
The RBC Needlecraft group have over the last few weeks been making Twiddlemuffs to give to those who would benefit from having one. We have al-

ready been able to share them with three Church members but would love to know of anyone who would like to give one to a relative, friend or neighbour. They can be customised to suit the individual. Many people find security in having a key attached, have a particular interest in football or cooking, or maybe they have been in the armed forces and a medal would bring back memories. We are only too happy to accommodate in reinforcing these memories by adding specific items.

We hope to extend our giving into the local community through a dementia home or hospital. If anyone knows of those who would be interested in receiving Twiddlemuffs, or would like more details, please get in touch with me.

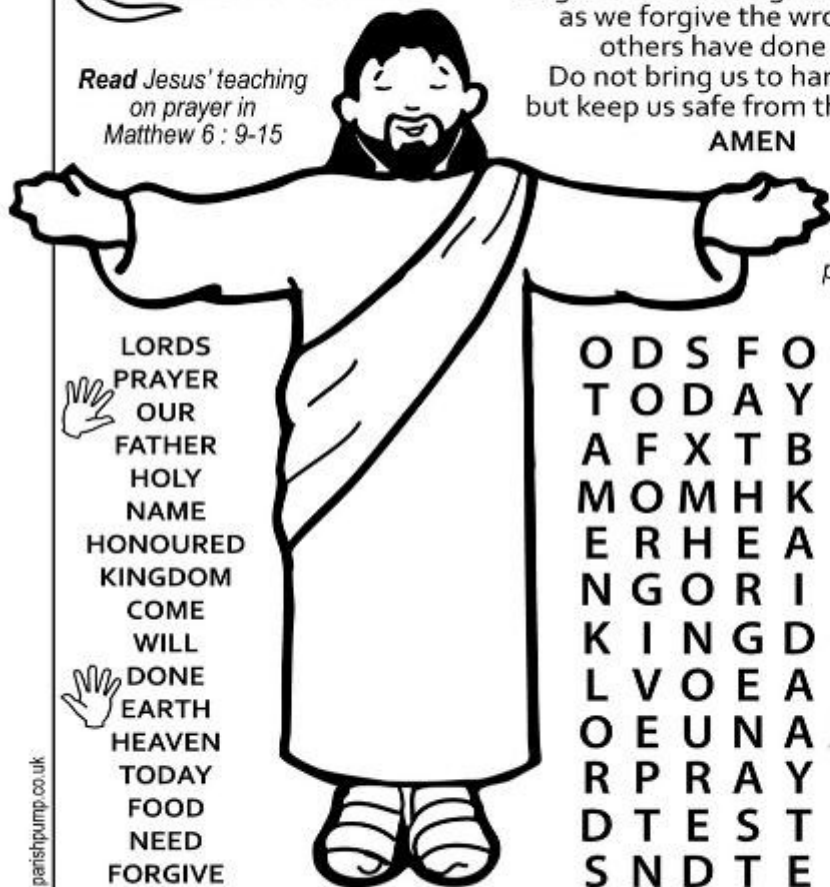
*Sue Sharp*





# Mouse Makes

Read Jesus' teaching on prayer in Matthew 6 : 9-15



**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven:  
 May your holy name be honoured;  
 may your Kingdom come;  
 may your will be done on earth  
 as it is in heaven.  
 Give us today the food we need.  
 Forgive us the wrongs we have done,  
 as we forgive the wrongs that  
 others have done to us.  
 Do not bring us to hard testing,  
 but keep us safe from the Evil One.

**AMEN**

Write a prayer of praise to God

LORDS  
 PRAYER  
 OUR  
 FATHER  
 HOLY  
 NAME  
 HONOURED  
 KINGDOM  
 COME  
 WILL  
 DONE  
 EARTH  
 HEAVEN  
 TODAY  
 FOOD  
 NEED  
 FORGIVE  
 WRONGS  
 TESTING  
 SAFE  
 EVIL  
 AMEN

ODS FOODH  
 TODAYGCW  
 AFXTBPOR  
 MOMHKVMO  
 ERHEAVEN  
 NGORISBG  
 KINGDOMS  
 LVOEARTH  
 OEUNAMEO  
 RPRAYERS  
 DTESTING  
 SNDTEHLF  
 AEOTVOUR  
 FENWILLD  
 EDEHLYGR

Can you find all the words from the list in the wordsearch?

## BMS Birthday Scheme

Thank you very much to all those who have made a donation to the BMS Birthday Scheme on their birthday during 2016. It is greatly appreciated as it helps to support some very worthwhile projects.

Hope Home, which cares for children with severe disabilities in Thailand, is just one example.

For those who are not aware of the Scheme, it is organised by the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS World Mission) to specifically support their medical/health projects.

By committing to giving a gift on your birthday, of any amount, you will be helping to support health projects in many areas in the world.

If anyone is interested in knowing more about the scheme, I will be happy to give you further details.

With thanks on behalf of BMS and best wishes for 2017.



*Christine Brown*

## BMS Birthday Scheme

### February 2017

- 12<sup>th</sup> David East
- 16<sup>th</sup> Sheila Cross
- 25<sup>th</sup> Cameron Townson
- 26<sup>th</sup> Margaret Coles
- 28<sup>th</sup> Megan Walden



### March 2017

- 5<sup>th</sup> Audrey Gostling
- 7<sup>th</sup> Don May
- 14<sup>th</sup> Rosemary Loveard
- 18<sup>th</sup> Keith Carter
- 30<sup>th</sup> Laura Salter
- 31<sup>st</sup> Ruth Henson



## Flowers

### February 2017

- 12<sup>th</sup> Jan and Neil Walden
- 18<sup>th</sup> Thulisa Sithole



### March 2017

- 5<sup>th</sup> Audrey and Geoffrey Gostling
- 12<sup>th</sup> Iris Knight
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mavis and Arthur Poutney
- 26<sup>th</sup> Fay and Brian Veares



## New Year's prayer



Thank you Lord for giving me  
The brand new year ahead  
Help me live the way I should  
As each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom  
That I might help a friend  
Give me strength and courage  
So a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty  
Help me fill it with good things  
Each new day filled with joy  
And the happiness it brings.

Please give the leaders of our world  
A courage born of peace  
That they might lead us gently  
And all the fighting cease.

Please give to all upon this earth  
A heart that's filled with love  
A gentle happy way to live  
With Your blessings from above.

*Author Charlotte Anselmo  
Submitted by Claire Brown*



## Pause to smile

An avid young golfer finished work early one afternoon and thinks to himself, if I hurry I could get in nine holes before it gets dark. So he drives to the course and rushes to the first tee. He is just about to tee off when an elderly chap walks up and asks if he might join him. The young man politely says he would be glad of the company, but wonders about how long the nine holes will now take. To his surprise, the old chap hits his ball and strides briskly after it. This is great, thinks the young man, and is greatly enjoying the game with the older man ... After they have played eight holes in very good time, the young man finds he has driven his ball off the fairway and into the rough and there is a large tree between his ball and the green. After several minutes of debating how to hit the next shot the older man says "When I was your age, I was in a spot very near where you are now and I took a wedge and hit the ball over the tree and onto the green". The young man takes out his wedge and hits the ball as hard as he can. The ball hits the top of the tree and falls back behind it The old chap then says "Mind you, when I was your age the tree was twenty foot shorter".

*The Church Mouse*



## Prayer Diary for February 2017

Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	EBA planning for the Assembly at RBC on 10 <sup>th</sup> June. Pray for Nick Lear, our Regional Minister.	NJUHI Hannah
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	"Mainly Music" session for toddler group leaders this morning. CAP Job Club at lunchtime.	NKENG Cecilia
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for the many "events" weeks led by many Christian Unions in the universities this term.	NORMAN Doris
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>	Remember those who will be baptised tomorrow, praying that they will grow daily in their faith.	ODUYEMI, Caroline
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	Baptismal service. Annual Autism Service this afternoon at St Albans Church, led by Ian.	OFORI, Gladys
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Pastoral care meeting this evening. Continue to pray for those on the Sunday sheet.	OGUNLEYE Adekunle & Ronke, <i>Maria</i>
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>	Local Baptist Ministers' lunch at RBC today. "Fit 4 Life" group continues this afternoon.	OGUNLEYE, Christabel
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	Small Group Leaders come together this evening.	OGUNLEYE, Emmanuel
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	Remember Ami and the music group as they meet this evening. Pray also for the Gospel Choir.	OLAWUYI Anne & Abiodun, <i>Chelsey &amp; Clinton</i>
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for the Additional Needs group this morning, leaders and participants.	OLIVER Iris
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for Parkside, thanking God for the loving care received by the residents	OLOFINJANA Bunmi, <i>Tobi, Dianne, Feyi (Bankole)</i>
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	Jan leads All Age Worship this morning and Vikki leads this evening.	OLSON Dawn, <i>Katie, Oliver &amp; Harry</i>
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	Remember Ian, Vikki, Jan and Sandra as they seek God's will at an Awayday today.	OLUSOJI, Laura & Moses, <i>David &amp; Toluwalope</i>
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday Fellowship recommences today after a winter break.	O'MILEGAN, David & Tahnee, & <i>David</i>
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Across Havering church leaders have lunch together today. Small Groups continue this evening.	O'NEAL Sandra & Dave , Sophie & <i>Georgia</i>





## Prayer Diary for February 2017

Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Ian is in Amsterdam today for the European Baptist Federation. Pray for the NHS as the Blood Service use our hall today.	OPOKU Peace ; <i>Victoria, Nicholas, Caroline &amp; Aviel (Tetteh)</i>
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for the Street Pastors, emergency services and A&E as they cope with the Friday night excesses in Romford.	OPRENOVA Ami
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup>	Next Step Fostering use our hall today. Pray for this important service.	OSHO Adetola & Abisoye, <i>Antonia, David &amp; Victoria</i>
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	Ian leads the worship this morning and this evening. Fellowship lunch in the Willow Hall. Remember to bring some food to share. Details in the notice sheet.	OWOYEMI, Idowu & Yetunde; <i>Bibooluwa, Inioluwa, &amp; Iyioluwa</i>
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup>	Thank God for the teenagers, praying for them and the schools they attend.	PALMER Gordon & Barbara
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for a primary school near you – the staff and pupils, and those who attend Energise tonight.	PARKINSON Iris
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> <b>March</b>	Bible Study at the church this evening, led by Ian.	PHILLIPS Adrian & Sue
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pray for Andy and Rianna and their preparations to serve God overseas.	PIDGEON Mel & Greg, <i>James &amp; Elizabeth</i>
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Women's World Day of Prayer at RBC this afternoon at 1.45, led by Vikki	PIDGEON Rob and Shirley, <i>Robert</i>
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>	"Prospects" service led by Ian at St Peter's. Youth Alpha Awayday. "Boost" SU training event at RBC.	POMEROY Kathy
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	Worship today led by Ian.	POPOVA Ilinka
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Continue to pray for the drop-in café at lunchtime and the food bank.	POULTNEY Arthur & Mavis
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	Leadership meeting this evening, pray again for Ian, Vikki, Jan, Sandra & the deacons.	POWELL Brian & Margaret

If you have any items for inclusion in the March 2017 Prayer Diary, please contact the Church Office.

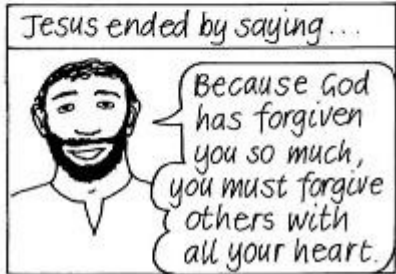


# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Matthew chapter 18 verses 21-35

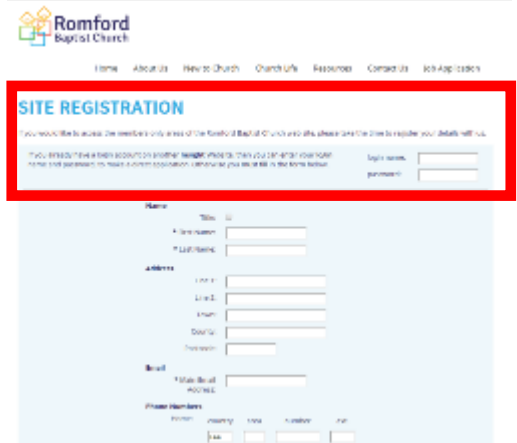
Jewish teachers used to say you only had to forgive people three times before getting revenge, so Peter asked Jesus...



# Website Registration

Only 80 people have registered with the current website. If you have not, please register.

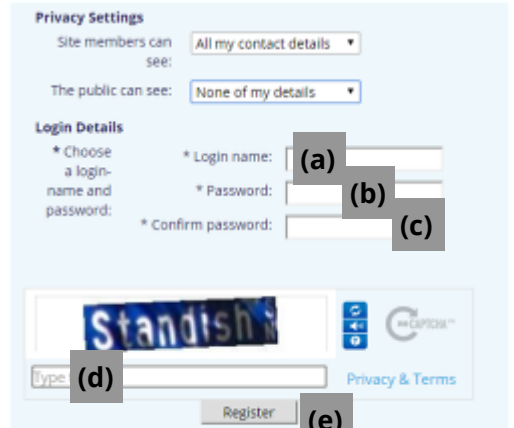
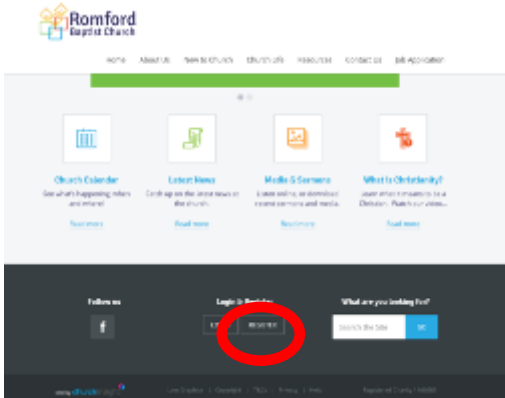
the information once you are logged in.



## To Register:

1. To Register.
2. <http://www.romfordbaptist.org.uk/>
3. Scroll to the bottom, and click the register button.

## 5. Almost done.



## 4. Ignore the first two fields.

Fill in the rest, this information will be used for the Online Church Directory; it will only be seen by people who have a logon. You are able to change/update

find out how we use this information.

(a) Your Login name, must be unique, not only to the Church but to ChurchIn-

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

sight (the website host). So you may have to have several tries to find a unique one.

**(b)** Your password needs to be at least 8 characters long, and contain at least 1 non-alphabetic character.

**(c)** Confirm the password.

**(d)** The last bit is to type in the CAPTCHA bit, this confirms that you a person and not a machine. If you cannot read it, use the top blue button to generate one which you can read.

**(e)** Now click the Register button.

## 6. You should now see this screen.



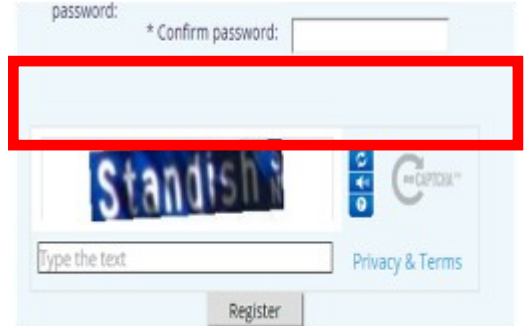
## 7. If you are unable to register, check the following:

- a) Have you left the top two blocks empty (see point 4)?
- b) Is your login name unique?
- c) Is your password at least 8 charac-

ters long, and does it contain at least 1 non-alphabetic character?

d) Did you get the CAPTCHA correct?

Error messages usually appear in this area.



8. If all things have gone well, you will very soon get an email saying that you have been authorised to login to the website. This needs to be done by a human, so it may take some time.

Please note that it is important for the Online Church directory to have spouses registered, otherwise they will not appear in the directory. You can have many people registered under 1 email address as long as the user names are unique.

A bigger version of these instructions can be found at:

[www.romfordbaptist.org.uk/howtoregister](http://www.romfordbaptist.org.uk/howtoregister).

You can always ask me.

*Bernd Schulte*

## New Members



Rev Ian Bunce welcomes Tola Osho, Ami Oprenova, Richard Daley, Babra Kanya and Anthea McCulloch into membership, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

## Coughs and Sneezes



February seems to be the coldest time of the year – and most of us get a cold, complete with runny nose and sore throat

Well, 3<sup>rd</sup> February is the right day to have a sore throat because it is St Blaise's Day. Legend says that St Blaise was on his way to be martyred when he saw a young child choking with a fishbone stuck in his throat. The saint touched the child and the bone was

dislodged. This led to a custom of Blessing the Throats on St Blaise's Day which continues today in one London church.

Another way to celebrate the day was with big bonfires (before the Bonfire Night we keep in November was thought of) and that is probably why we say that bonfires blaze.

So you can sit in front of a blazing fire, sniffing into a tissue and think about the patron saint of sore throats.

## Ken's Retirement - 29<sup>th</sup> January 2017



This was my last Sunday before I retire as a paid employee of RBC. It's been a very hard decision to make, but I feel that this is the right one.

It has been a privilege to work for the church for nearly 13 years, and I will undoubtedly miss it: I will miss the opportunity to help people who visit the church; I will miss being able to help many of you – regularly or just occasionally, and I will miss being part of a great team – a team with much talent and gifting, integrity, and love and concern for others.

Over the years, I hope that I have been able to play a part in the building up of God's Kingdom at RBC, providing the required level of administrative and practical support. But it is now time to move over, and let someone else have a go. Ruth has already taken on much of the work I used to do, and she is an important member of the staff here and a great asset to the church.

Whatever I have been able to achieve is only because of the tremendous support and encouragement I have received from you – for which I would like to thank you. Some have helped with

the work, holding the fort during my holidays, or assisting with certain aspects of the work, or both. Others have been God's angels in encouraging me, and expressing their appreciation of what I do. There have been some difficult times, and the church office has been a lonely place at times, but your friendship and support, your prayers and your understanding at those times, especially, have meant more than words can say.

This is the end of a chapter for me, and, I guess, for RBC as well. But there's another chapter starting now, and I look forward to being able to serve God here as a church member, and as a volunteer in many areas of church life (but I won't say "yes" to every request I receive!) In addition, of course, I look forward to being able to spend more time with my family, whom I love dearly.

Finally, may I thank you for the "send off" I received this morning, including the kind financial gift I received from individuals in the church. I am humbled by the love and appreciation expressed – thank you.



*Ken Yates*



## Regular Church Activities

<b>Monday</b>	10 am	Parent & Toddlers
	11 am	Kerygma (Coffee Drop-In)
	12:50 pm	Parent & Toddlers
	6.45 pm	'Parksiders' (Social and Fellowship Group - first Monday in the month.)
	7 pm	Streetlight Youth Club (Year 7+)
<b>Tuesday</b>	10 am	'Stitch in Time' Needlecraft Group
	2.30 pm	Tuesday Fellowship
	6.15 pm	Energize and Re-Energize (Primary School age)
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.45 am	Parent & Toddlers
	8 pm	Midweek Meeting (Small Groups or central meeting)
<b>Thursday</b>	9.30 am	Focus (alternate Thursdays)
	9.30 am	Small Group (alternating with Focus)
	7.30 pm	RBC Music Team
<b>Friday</b>	10:30 am	Small Group for People with Learning Difficulties
	12.30 pm	Prayer Meeting
	12:30 pm	Small Group (Alternate Fridays)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>
	<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>Evening Service</b>

If you have any regular church activity which you would like to have advertised, please let the editor know.



"To think we grumbled when the Church used unintelligible archaic language!"