

# VICTORIA *Life*

Sunday 8th March 2026



“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

Ephesians 4:11-13



## The Essential Church

*“Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of Him who is the head, that is Christ.”*

*Ephesians 4.15*

Those of us blessed to have children are always pleased to see them grow. It’s common in houses with children to see marks on the side of a door frame or on a kitchen wall charting their growth over the years. We look back at their baby shoes in wonder that they were ever as small. We see them plodding around the house in our (relatively) enormous shoes only to find, a few years later, that their feet are bigger than ours. Growth is an essential sign of health.

So it is with the Church. We are rightly concerned about the numerical growth of the Church, but Paul’s concern is our growth in Christ. Paul’s goal for the Church is Christian maturity:

“attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ” (v.13) and becoming “in every respect the mature body of Him who is the head” (v.15). This week we’ll consider what that means and how it benefits us, how we grow, and



You can find the Life Group notes for today’s message through this link:

<https://victoriabaptist.org.uk/midweekgroups/life-groups/resources/most-recent-bible-studies.php>

**This evening** - Our monthly evening service takes place at 6pm.

## Next Week (15<sup>TH</sup>)

Our live@10 service next week will be an All-Age service, led by Emily Jenkins and Simon Grimes.

At 6.30pm we will be having our fortnightly/twice-monthly Prayer Meeting .

- Sun 8 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office  
 10.00am live@10 with Chris Short  
 12.30pm Bring & Share Lunch  
 6.00pm Evening Worship  
 7.00pm Sunday Evening Youth
- Mon 9 6.00pm Girls Brigade
- Tue 10
- Wed 11 7.00am Prayer Meeting  
 8.15am Community Fridge  
 10.00am Vicky Bees  
 12 noon Funeral for Daphne Phillips at Eastbourne Crematorium  
 6.45pm Alpha - Who is Jesus?
- Thu 12 7.30am Men's Prayer Meeting  
 Men's Fellowship - next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> March  
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Chris Short  
 6.45pm Omega (contact Tim or Ruth Nunn for details)  
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 13 10.00am Outreach Prayer  
 10.00am Vicky Bees  
 5.00pm Kids Club  
 7.00pm Friday Night Youth
- Sat 14 8.45am Made for You - Women's Conference ( see p. 4)
- Sun 15 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office  
 10.00am All-Age Service with Emily & Simon  
 6.30pm Prayer Meeting  
 7.00pm Sunday Evening Youth

**The Week Ahead**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Corrie Paxton's Thanksgiving Service 12.30pm.

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Pearl Rendall's Thanksgiving Service 1.30pm (see p.4)

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Messy Easter

**Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Prospective Members Meeting

## **PEARL RENDALL**



Most of you will be aware that Pearl went to be with her Lord on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Her family would like to invite you to join them at her Thanksgiving Service here at VBC at 1.30pm on Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in the Welcome Centre if you will be joining the family for refreshments after the service.

## **Thank You**

Thank you very much for praying for myself and my family following the death of my son in January. The Lord has been most gracious to us, such that Andy's funeral and thanksgiving on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February went far better than one might expect in such circumstances. Family, friends and colleagues were able to focus on the good that came from Andy's life, rather than sadness that it ended much sooner than we wanted. Please do continue to pray for us as we settle into life without him. There is now a huge hole in our family.

**Robin Lane**

## **ANTONY MILES**

Some of you may remember Antony who, along with his wife Maree, was a member at VBC for a number of years. He passed away recently, and his family would like to share the details of his funeral service in case anyone would like to attend. It is at 12 noon on 10<sup>th</sup> March at St. John's Meads. The family have asked if people would please wear colourful clothing.

## **Cavendish Connections**



Are you a Christian parent/carer with a child at Cavendish School? If you'd like to meet up monthly and pray for the staff and children, please contact Caz Kelly

[caz@livingstoneschurch.co.uk](mailto:caz@livingstoneschurch.co.uk) or 07421 816802

## PRAYER DIARY : 9<sup>TH</sup> - 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

*Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

Hebrews 4v16

**Monday:** As we consider the above verse let us pray. Heavenly Father You experienced utter darkness in the last three hours of Your life on the cross and so You know what it is like for us in our darkest times. We thank You that You are with us when life is really tough, we know we are not alone and so we gladly sit quietly with You and share our struggles with the One who truly understands us and our situations.

**Tuesday:** The Lord's prayer says "hallowed be Thy name" Let's worship God in prayer. Lord Jesus You are the King of the universe and of all time, help me to give You my undivided allegiance. From Revelation 1v5&6 pray - To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God and Father, to Him be glory and power for ever and ever amen

**Wednesday:** In the news we read that generation Z are seeing signs and wonders drawing them to Christ. They may not be instantly running into conventional churches but their encounters are life changing. Let's pray for them. Father God we pray that You will meet with young people miraculously, we praise You that the work of Your spirit is life changing. We rejoice that Your reign is being ushered in.

**Thursday:** Quieten your minds so you can hear the still small voice of the Spirit. Pray - Lord Jesus You gave Yourself up, a lamb to be slaughtered, when all the while You were the one who made the universe. Help me to stand strong under pressure to conform, compromise and crumble at work, school and social settings. Amen. Remember that Peter crumbled under pressure when he denied knowing Jesus three times. Jesus already knew he would, but Jesus loved Peter anyway.

**Friday:** Jez suggested to us in a recent sermon that the church in the UK may one day face persecution. As 2 Timothy 3v12 says, "everyone who wants to live a godly life will be persecuted." As we consider how painful that would be for us emotionally and physically let us pray for the persecuted church who are experiencing the reality of that daily. Heavenly Father, by the power of Your Holy Spirit may they stand strong, strengthen their hearts in testing times. Speak to them, guide them and let them know You are there with them. And when they fail You, have mercy, pour out Your grace, forgive them and give them new hope we pray.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**

**Saturday:** Pray today that God will help you to encourage our church leaders, the CLT, home group leaders and all those in leadership roles in the church. May they be truly blessed and encouraged by our love and support.

**Sunday:** Let's praise God this morning using the words of Psalm 36v7 - "How priceless is your unfailing love O God! People of God, take refuge in the shadow of God's wing." Lord, we thank You for David's example to us to rise above everyday problems through worshipping You and for the encouragement His faith brings us. Praise be to God. Amen.



Bernhard Baron  
Care Home  
Care through Faith

# SPRING FAYRE

**Wednesday 18th March**  
**10am-12noon**

JOIN US FOR

HANDMADE GIFTS • TOMBOLA  
BRIC-A-BRAC • CARDS • CAKES • JEWELLERY • REFRESHMENTS  
CLOTHES • BOOKS • COMPETITIONS

**Entry £1 - Children Free**  
to include a cup of tea or coffee

Bernhard Baron Care Home  
Eastbourne Road, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 5HB  
T: 01323 483613 www.bbch.co.uk

Charity no: 1070891

## New CIO and Handbook

A final reminder of the 3 meetings for members who wish to ask questions or make comments about the new CIO and Church Handbook.

The meetings will take place on Saturday 7th March at 10.30am and on Monday 9th March at 10.30am and 7.30pm. Please inform the office of you wish to attend one of the meetings.

## Made for You

If you are attending this conference next Saturday, please arrive from 8.45 am for a 9.30am start.

Remember to bring a packed lunch and, if possible, a reusable mug for coffee/tea.

Let's pray for a powerful, life-changing day, where we encounter the love and presence of God.



## MADE FOR YOU

1 DAY CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN  
WITH *Lon Fellingham* + FRIENDS

 EASTBOURNE  
Saturday 14th March 2026  
With Cathy Madavan  
& Philippa Hanna

  
7 Eidon Rd,  
Eastbourne BN21 1UE

  
www.opendoors.org

TICKETS: MADEFORYOU.EVENTS

MADE FOR YOU



## Community Allotment

As mentioned at the recent Church Meeting, we have started work on creating an allotment at the back of the church. (Many thanks to Trevor, Sue, Kev and Rob for all their hard work.)

The idea behind this is primarily to grow food for Community Fridge and to develop a community growing space where all are welcome to come and help out, sit quietly and enjoy the fresh air, meet up with others and chat over a cup of tea, or simply to just sit and “be”.

There will be a growing area for Vicky Bees, vegetable beds, a wildflower bed, apple trees, a compost heap and, eventually, a polytunnel.

We pray that this will be a welcoming space for anyone to come along to, and that this ministry will develop as time goes on. It has already created a buzz of excitement in the Community Fridge community.

If you feel you would like to be involved in this project in any way, please chat to Sandra Taylor or Trevor King



## Flower Ministry

The flowers for 21st February were donated by a friend of Hope Lebedyn.



Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers I received for my birthday. PR

The flowers for 1st March were donated by Ian and Jane Parratt

