

# BRIGHTON ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH



## BRBC Bulletin

**Sunday 6th April 2025**

**Welcome to our service today.**

### Events for the next week

**Sunday 6th April**

*Leprosy Mission*

**10:30am Sunday Service**

led by Ian Jepps  
with Wendy Piccinini

**10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)**

Meeting Rooms - Children will  
go from the main service

**Sunday 13th April**

*A message for Palm Sunday  
Communion Service*

**10:30am Sunday Service**

led by Julie Rudd  
with Rev. Stuart Davison

**10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)**

Meeting Rooms - Children will  
go from the main service

**The  
Leprosy  
Mission**



**SCAN ME**



Sunday 6th April 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 6th April 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Sunday 6th April 7:00pm	Prayer Gathering
Wednesday 9th April 8:00pm	Prayer Gathering
Thursday 10th April 12:45pm	Lunch Club
Thursday 10th April 2:00pm	Craft Club
Thursday 10th April 7:45pm	Worship Group
Sunday 13th April 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 13th April 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Monday 14th April 10:00am	Coffee, Cake & Company
Tuesday 15th April 7:45pm	Allsorts Housegroup
Wednesday 16th April 2:30pm	Johnson House Group
Wednesday 16th April 7:00pm	Hillside House Group
Thursday 17th April 10:00am	Art Group
Thursday 17th April 2:00pm	Women's Fellowship
Thursday 17th April 7:45pm	Worship Group
Friday 18th April 10:00am	Good Friday Service
Saturday 19th April 12:30pm	Saturday Kitchen
Sunday 20th April 10:30am	Sunday Service

# Weekly Message

## Seeing only skin deep?

The judge-prophet Samuel was charged with the task of anointing a new leader over Israel. God had sent him to Bethlehem, to the house of Jesse, saying “I have chosen one of his sons to be king.” ([1 Samuel 16:1](#)) God knew the person He had for the job, but hadn’t revealed all as yet. At this point, Samuel doesn’t have a name or a face of the next king in town.

So, presented one by one with seven sons, Samuel draws on past patterns and experience and relies on his natural senses and human reasoning to assume that Eliab, the oldest and tallest, must be the one whom God has chosen.

And in this vital moment of transition in the life of His people, God speaks clearly to Samuel and points out his error: “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” ([1 Samuel 16:7](#))

In this valuable verse, God shares His perspective on people and His criteria of choosing. God does not look at things the way we do, nor size-up, appoint or anoint according to human standards of external attribute and achievement. Likewise, God calls us, as His church, to see and do, discern and decide differently from a culture which follows and focuses on the façade. God reminds us to see past the superficial and home in on the heart.

God wants our heart. God wants your heart – surrendered and devoted to Him. And God already knows our heart ([Acts 15:8](#)). This is because God tests ([1 Chronicles 29:17](#), [Proverbs 17:3](#)), weighs ([Proverbs 21:2](#)), searches and probes the heart ([Jeremiah 17:10](#), [20:12](#)). God’s word “judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” ([Hebrews 4:12](#)). Therefore, God “knows the secrets of the heart” ([Psalm 44:21](#)). We can’t fool him, like we can fool one another.

It is from our hearts that our allegiances form, decisions are made, and our lives take on their shape - “As water reflects the face, so one’s life reflects the heart.” ([Proverbs 27:19](#)) Jesus taught that people bring out that which is stored in their heart, whether it be good or bad ([Luke 6:45](#)).

The Apostle Paul, recounting Samuel’s task, reminded his listeners, “After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’” ([Acts 13:22](#))

David the disregarded, the shoved-to-one-side shepherd, the youngest, the last and seemingly least of the eight (not seven) sons, was highlighted by God because of his heart – a man’s heart after God’s heart. Let us, like God, see past the skin, to the heart within.

Revd Michael Hogg

# Notices

## Easter Bulletin

Please note that next week's bulletin will cover both Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Notices to be included should reach the [bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk](mailto:bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk) address by 6pm on Wednesday 9th April.

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### Easter Week - Maundy Thursday

This year's United Maundy Communion Service on Thurs 17th April will be held at London Road Cornerstone Methodist Church - starting at 7:30pm (lasting around an hour). All are welcome. We shall be gathering with the Methodist, United Reformed and Life Community Baptist congregations for a "Tenebrae" service - involving a gradual extinguishing of candles symbolizing the darkness and abandonment experienced during Christ's final hour.

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### BRBC Art Group Meeting

The next meeting will be on the 17th April 2025 in the Main Hall from 10-12pm. All are welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

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### BRBC Lunch Club

The next Church Lunch Club is on Thursday 10th April. The 2-course lunch will be served at 12.45. We ask for a small contribution of £4. All are welcome.

If you wish to attend put your name on the list at Reception, email me on [valeriej.hardwick@yahoo.com](mailto:valeriej.hardwick@yahoo.com) or ring the Church office on 01403 211150 to book your place.

Please let us know if you have any dietary or allergy requirements. Any requiring lifts to or from the church please contact Chris Gargano - Phone 01403 266229 or email - [kcgargano@gmail.com](mailto:kcgargano@gmail.com)

## **Horsham Churches Together Good Friday Service**

You're invited to this year's Horsham Churches Together Good Friday Service in Horsham town centre. With uplifting sung worship led by Trafalgar Road Baptist, and an inspiring gospel talk by Colin Squires from Kingdom Faith, we stand together to publicly declare the good news of salvation through Jesus' death and resurrection. As we count down the days to Easter, we encourage you to pray for the person you will be inviting to discover more about Jesus this Easter.

Where: Carfax Bandstand, Horsham Town Centre

When: 11:15– 12:00 on Friday 18th April 2025

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## **Easter Saturday 19th April - Sense of Holy Week @ URC**

A Walk-Through Sensory Experience of the days Leading up to the Resurrection - Come and experience the sights, smells and tastes of that moving week at the  
Horsham United Reformed Church - Saturday 19th April 10am to 12 noon.

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## **'Plant to Plate Festival'**

Join Horsham Eco Churches on Saturday 26th April from 10am–4pm at this exciting day packed with local food, expert talks and eco-friendly fun that will inspire individuals and families to live more sustainably. This will be occurring across four venues in central Horsham:

- Quaker Meeting House - food-based talks.
- Unitarian Church Hall and Gardens - interactive wildlife-friendly gardening activities and stalls advising on reducing waste, recycling and composting. There will be talks on growing food and caring for our soils.
- United Reformed Church will host the usual Sussex Green Hub activities.
- Bishopric Market will have live music, Eco Float and interactive activities looking at carbon footprints and other ways to have a smaller impact on the environment.

## **Baptist Ministry for the Gospel in the 21st Century**

A study day for ministers and church members, organised by Walderslade Baptist Church.

Speaker: Rev Steve Finamore, President of the BUGB 2024-25, and Principal Emeritus of Bristol Baptist College (Principal 2006-23).

Monday 28 April 2025, 10am-4pm, Walderslade Baptist Church, Catkin Close, Chatham, KENT ME5 9HP – near junction 3 of M2. Nearest train station: Chatham. Cost: £10 per person

Programme: Steve will lead four 1-hour sessions around the theme above, relating to:

- Biblical/theological foundations
- Witness: evangelism and serving
- Discipleship: nurturing spirituality and maturity
- Pastoral care

Steve will speak for 30 mins, followed by informal questions and discussion. Please bring your own lunch.

All Bookings and enquiries: by email to [waldersladebaptist@gmail.com](mailto:waldersladebaptist@gmail.com)

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## **Thanksgiving Service for the life of Helen Elliot**

This will be held on Tuesday 29th April at 11:30am at Findon Crematorium (Worthing). All are welcome to attend the service, and also afterwards at Findon Manor for refreshments. Please let Angie Booker know in advance for catering purposes (Mobile: 07894856123). Please "wear what you are comfortable in, no need for black – Mum liked bright colours."

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## **Election for Baptist Union President 2026-27**

Thank you to everyone who took part in the discernment process and voted in our Presidency election. As a result of this process, Alex Afriyie has been elected to serve as our President in 2026-27 and will take office at Assembly 2026. His theme as President will be 'Walking Worthy'. An interview with Alex will be published in the Baptist Times in the coming weeks. We remind you that, as no nominations were received for the 2025-26 President, and following a proposal from CLT and Trustees, Council agreed that there would be a fallow year with no President in 2025-26.



## BMS Birthday Scheme

The BMS Birthday Scheme enables you to support the work of BMS World Mission by making a donation on your birthday. If you would like to join the scheme, contact Brenda Rowley – email: [bren151@talktalk.net](mailto:bren151@talktalk.net)

Celebrating a birthday this week is William Stevens on Friday 11th April.

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## For Prayer

Let us pray for those affected by the earthquake in Myanmar and for all the various agencies seeking to bring assistance in a very difficult situation. Pray for the many who have lost family, homes and livelihoods, especially that they will be able to find help in their time of need. Pray, too, for an end to the civil war.

## Mission Prayer Request

Give thanks for the translation teams working in the Guera area of Chad and for the New Testaments that have been completed. Pray that these New Testaments will be used effectively by the churches in the area. Pray for the teams now working on the translation of the Old Testament. A consultant will be going through the book of Exodus with one of the teams this week.

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Notices for the weekly bulletin should be sent to [bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk](mailto:bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk) before 6pm on Wednesday.

Brighton Road Baptist Church is part of God's family, where anyone and everyone is made welcome, and we are all equipped to live our lives for Jesus with a shared sense of unity and purpose. We warmly welcome you to our worship today and hope that you feel at home among us as we worship God together.

Church Office [\(01403\) 211150](tel:01403211150)  
Monday to Friday 9:30am – 4:30pm  
Leader of Community Evangelism – Rev Michael Hogg [07926 045598](tel:07926045598)  
Church Secretary – Ken Carter  
[www.brbc-horsham.org.uk](http://www.brbc-horsham.org.uk)