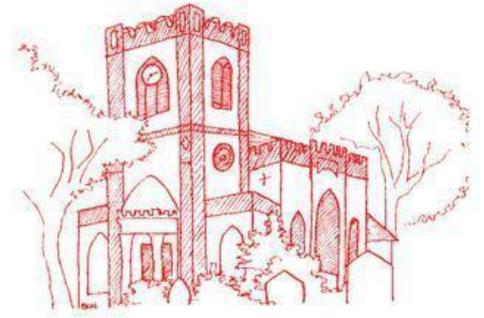


DPC News

Dagenham Parish Church

July 2014



Dear Friends,

‘All Aboard’ : October half term holiday club

What’s so important about holiday club? **Children!** At DPC we’re committed to teaching kids in our church family, our outreach clubs and holiday clubs about the Lord Jesus.

Our main aim at ‘All Aboard’ will be to faithfully teach the Gospel to the kids. Having fun and getting to know them is a bonus! The natural interest and inquisitiveness of children means we have a great opportunity to share the Gospel with them and to tell them what we believe God has done for us through Jesus.

In most cases, children have not yet reached the age where they have become jaded and confused by the inconsistent information about church and God which is bombarded from the wider secular world. Kids often have questions to ask their Christian teachers about the hope we have in the future.

We believe the best way to nurture the faith of children is to work in partnership with parents but for those children in our community who do not attend church or our outreach groups, holiday club is an ideal opportunity to get to know new families and share the Gospel. Parents will receive information about the Bible stories taught and will be invited to a session at the end of the club. They’ll see what the children have been doing and hear the Gospel message themselves.

Please pray about this and consider helping at holiday club. Please don’t be put off if you have not done this before - we won’t ask you to do something you are uncomfortable with or not trained for.

It won’t be boring or dull - together we will tell the kids about the love of the Lord Jesus, make some wacky crafts, and play games to illustrate the Bible stories. We will support and train you if this is the first time you have done this.

It may be a bit tiring, it may be costly to spend your holiday this way but it will certainly be worth it! For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise. Please pray about this and consider sharing in our great adventure.

Jesus told his disciples: “let the children come to me and do not hinder them for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these”. (Luke 18:16)

Kathy Playle

Church BBQ



**Thanks to everyone who came along to our BBQ lunch on 22 June!
Special thanks if you helped to organise the lunch, helped cook,
provided food, helped to set up, served food or helped to clean up.**

Interregnum update

The truth is, we'd love to have a new vicar right now. However, as Mark explained at our Annual Meeting, there are several steps that we need to follow.

We would welcome your prayers during this time.

Please pray for helpful communication between our PCC and our Diocese.

Please pray that we will continue to have good communication with our patrons, the Church Society.

Please continue to pray for discernment and wisdom, especially for those on the PCC who are involved in this communication. Please ask God to strengthen them.

Please pray that God will help us to be patient and to be wise. We need to be walking with God through this process and honouring Christ.

Finally, please thank God that He is sovereign and that He loves us deeply.

Eternity Changes Everything

Airbrushed models and payday loans whisper 'we can have it all' on one newspaper page. War, famine, abuse and corruption scream out from the headlines.

We're pushed from suffering to envy, and from despair to greed.

How can understanding eternity change the way we live?



Chrunch

Joy: Hope in the future.

At our Chrunch meeting in June, Aly explained that we shouldn't expect perfection now because we live in an imperfect world. Looking at Revelation, we learned that God will remove all pain and that even death will pass away.

When Christ returns, many good things will return with Him. We discussed the things that will be renewed and far better than we can imagine. Think about what it'll be like to have an intimate relationship with God and a flourishing, eternal life...

What if we had an unshakeable belief in the future that God promises us?

We long for perfection because our hearts are longing for heaven. Thanks to Jesus, God's promises are not too good to be true - they ARE true! Imagine if we confidently trusted in these promises. How would your outlook on life change?

How should we deal with our imperfect world and sinful hearts?

We learned that we must not resort to ungodly behaviour to change our circumstance, or put material gain first in our quest for 'perfection'. We can't shortcut our way to heaven and we can't create perfection on earth.

Suffering seems so overwhelming ...

We can fall into the trap of letting sin, suffering and sadness overwhelm us. Perhaps we fight back against everything or put all our might into 'fixing the world'. Suffering should make us long for the future - for God's promises to be fulfilled.

Why doesn't Jesus come now?

We considered how we're waiting in order for our unbelieving friends and family to come to Christ. If Christ had come 50 years ago, how many of us would be saved?

Chrunch meetings are for women in our church family. Meetings take place regularly, often on a Saturday morning. We meet for brunch and to hear from God's word. A creche is available and we ask for a suggested donation to cover the cost of our food.



Fete



Laughter, yummy food, great games ... Sounds good doesn't it?

We're having a **Fete** to celebrate a great year of children's and youth work on **Friday 18 July**

Primary School aged children (5-11) are welcome from **6 to 7:30pm**

For young people in Secondary School, come along from **8 to 9.30pm**

Can you help?

We need your help make this a very special and joyful evening. If you're free that day, we'd love to hear from you. We need people to help run stalls where kids will play games and also help us to serve food.

If you love to make delicious food, could you make a salad or some cakes for us?

Please speak to Kylie if you can help or if you have questions. You can reach her on 07429 343218 or kylie.swan88@gmail.com

Our website: www.dagenhamparishchurch.org

Please visit our website to listen to the latest sermons, catch up on the weekly notices, download the latest copy of DPC News, or just find out more about our church family

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