

GIFT OF GRACE Ephesians 2 v. 8

Celebrations often involve gift-giving. We get presents on our birthday. Our parents might give us a gift when we graduate. When we get married, family and friends give us gifts to help us begin a new chapter of life. And when we make the decision to believe and accept salvation, God celebrates with us by giving us the gift of grace.

In **Ephesians 2 v. 8**, Paul wrote, ‘**God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God**’ (NLT). The word ‘grace’ comes from the Greek word *charis*, meaning ‘pure joy.’ Although none of us deserve God’s grace, He considers saving us to be a ‘pure joy’.

In John’s Gospel, the Pharisees caught a woman in the act of adultery. The law of Moses was clear; she had to be stoned. And the Pharisees were ready to do it. She didn’t have anyone to defend her or to be a character witness. The woman probably thought that Jesus, being righteous, would agree with the Pharisees. But suddenly Jesus stooped down and began to write in the sand. We don’t know what He wrote, but when He looked up, the woman’s accusers had gone. There was nobody left to condemn her. He said to her, ‘**Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more**’ (John 8 v. 11 NKJV). That day Jesus lifted her from a position of undeniable guilt to one of unconditional pardon. She didn’t deserve that grace; she probably didn’t even know it was possible. We could all say something similar about ourselves.

We’ve all done things that deserve condemnation and punishment, but God’s amazing gift of grace means that we’re lifted up and receive love and forgiveness instead.

Olive Reed

After a short stay at St. Mary’s Hospital, Olive sadly passed away on the evening of Wednesday 18th April

The funeral service to celebrate Olive’s life will be held at the church on **Wednesday 2nd May at 10.00am**. This will be followed by burial at **Springwood Burial Grounds, Newchurch**. Please continue to pray for Olive’s family at this sad time.



Many Thanks Today Goes To . . .

Serving Tea & Coffee today are . . .
Elaine Carrington

Flowers today were provided by . . .
Paula Bashford

Our Stewards today have been . . .
Sheila Rayner & Rene Duff

PRAYERS POINTERS

- Pray for those of our fellowship who are still unwell at this time.
- Please pray for the staff, pupils and parents of Sandown Bay Academy and The Bay C. E. Primary School
- Pray for the future of our fellowship here at Sandown. Pray for our Pastor Ian as he leads us, and continue to pray for the various activities that go on during the week.
- Give thanks to God for St. John’s CE Church who have appointed a new Vicar ~ Rev. Jonathan Hall.
- Give thanks to God for the continuing growth of the children’s work.

BMS AND HOME MISSION STAMPS

*Are you wondering what to do with all the stamps that you have?
Maybe there is a simple answer!*

BMS and Home Mission appreciate used English and Foreign stamps which they are able to sell for their much needed funds. High value and commemorative stamps are especially welcomed and received. If you would like to contribute any used stamps that you have, then please would you trim each stamp before placing them in the containers that can be found in the church vestibule. Thank you for the anticipated stamps.



Earl Mountbatten Hospice

Spirituality Study Day

Saturday, 28th April 2018 10am – 4pm in the John Cheverton Centre at Earl Mountbatten Hospice.

This innovative event will consist of a series of presentations and workshops focussing on spirituality across Health and Social Care. The event will also see the launch of a new book, Spirituality in Hospice Care, which includes chapters from staff at Earl Mountbatten Hospice.

Entrance to the day is free with a small charge for lunch.



To book your free place

contact Val Sprack on 217303
or val.sprack@iwospice.org

Numbers are limited. Please book early

FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORY

Each year as a church we produce a Fellowship Directory with the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of all those who are either church members or friends of the church. If you would like your details published in the new Fellowship Directory then please speak to John Graney ASAP.

CHURCH FINANCES FOR THE MONTH TO 15th APRIL 2018

Budgeted offerings needed (incl. Gift Aid) for the month of April =
£3,479.17

Cumulative offering for April = **£2,230.97**

Gift Aid still to be claimed for April = **£380.62**

Shortfall from budgeted offerings for the month of April = **£867.57**

(Shortfall is determined by Gift Aid still to be claimed)

CHURCH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 23rd April

Play & Praise Toddler Group 9.30am – 11.00am

Tuesday 24th April

Prayer Meeting 10.00am - 11.00am

Wednesday 25th April

Coffee & Bible Study 10.00am - 11.45am

S.O.C. (Sandown Outreach Club)

4.15pm - 5.15pm (ages 5 – 7)
5.30pm - 6.30pm (ages 8 – 11)

Thursday 26th April

Housegroups 7.30pm

Friday 27th April

Noah's Ark Toddler Group 9.30am - 11.30am

Sunday 29th April

Morning Worship 10.30am

(Rev. Ian Lovell will be leading the service today)

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Minister:

Rev. Ian Lovell Tel: 01983 402119 E-mail: pastor@sandownbaptist.church

Children's Co-Ordinator:

Olga Lovell Tel: 01983 402119 E-mail: children@sandownbaptist.church

Church Website: www.sandownbaptist.church



Welcome to SANDOWN BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Vision is to . . .
Reach others with Christ's love as we learn to follow Him

SUNDAY 22nd APRIL 2018

10.30 am Morning Worship ~ Family Service

Worship Leader: Michelle Moore

Preacher: Michelle Moore

Theme: Trust And Obey

Reading: Philippians 2 v. 5 - 18



As Faith Grows
so comes the
Blessing of Obedience

We give a warm welcome to everyone who has joined us today, especially if you are new here or are just visiting us for the day.

If you are visiting then please take the opportunity to sign our visitor's book before you leave today. If you are new to the church and wish to find out more of what we do here, then please make yourself known to our Minister or one of the Welcome Team.

Please stay seated throughout the service if you prefer. Refreshments are served at the end of the service in the vestibule and you are very welcome to stay and fellowship with us.

Our Church Text for 2018

I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart;

I will tell of all your wonders.

I will be glad and rejoice in you;

I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Psalm 9 v. 1 - 2