

The Outlook

*Magazine of Hope Baptist Church
March/April 2009*

*Our mission is to be Christ's body in the community,
demonstrating the Kingdom of God and calling others
to become His disciples*



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Life at Hope

Sundays 10.30am Morning Worship Visitors are always welcome

On the 3rd Sunday of the month we share bread and wine as Jesus called us to do in remembrance of Him.

Family Services are normally on the last Sunday of each month – please check the diary in the centre pages of this magazine.

Coffee and tea are served at the back of the church after the services.

A **crèche** is provided for children under 3 (except in Family Services).

Realm is to be held 9 times this year. It is a vibrant and contemporary service. We meet for coffee/tea and cakes at 6.30pm and then begin at 7.00pm. The next meetings are on 29th March and 26th April.

Community Café Thursdays 10.00 am – 12.00 pm in the Church. All welcome.

Fellowship Groups Small groups meet for bible study, prayer and friendship at various times & days throughout the week. Contact: Helen Pugh 767124

Men's Group Social events for all men in the fellowship and their friends. Contact: David Brown 707577

menZone Men meeting for bible study, prayer and breakfast. Meet monthly on Saturdays at 8am. Contact: Andrew Gardiner 791993

Mums & Babies (0-8 months) Tuesdays 10.00 – 11.30 am Contact: Kelly Hopwood 518254

Open House Meet in the Church Hall on the 3rd Monday of each month at 2.15 pm. £1.50, refreshments included. Contact: Pam Smith 219844

Parents & Toddlers Tuesday 12.45 – 2.45 pm and Wednesday 10.00 am – 12.00 pm and 12.45 – 2.45 pm term time only. Contact: Beryl Brown 778019

Prayer Prayer groups meet regularly as detailed in the termly programme card.

Prayer chains are used to share requests for prayer with the fellowship. Contact: Debbie Houston 709909 or Margaret Pendock 768957.

Women's Rendezvous An informal gathering of ladies from the fellowship and their friends who meet monthly. Contact: Jenny Weeks 777416

Youth@Hope Activities for children and teenagers take place on Sunday mornings at 10.30am and weekday evenings. A full programme of activities is available. Contact: Andrew Gardiner 791993

18s-30s Programme of social activities and a fellowship group. Contact Karen Ponsford 785181

Well, that was fun...shall we do it again?

This article is written just a few days after yet another amazingly successful Peverell Community Fun day in February.....

I really must make sure I don' t take it for granted now....**524** guests came through the church doors in one day, that' s**FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FOUR PEOPLE !!!**

That is wonderful, incredible, brilliant !

Please add your own description here: _____

Perhaps even better and more important than that was the fact that, as a result of being at our Fun Day at least 5 people chose to come to the service the next morning.

I think some really strong messages are getting across....

1. It seems to me that the church as a whole have really got hold of the message; that this is something we need to do, and can do, together.

Yes! It is hard work, but worth it.

It doesn' t take a group but a small army to make it happen. Thank you to every one of you..more than 100 adults, teenagers and children who got stuck in to make this such a success.

2. The Lord of Mayor of Plymouth, representing the civic life of our City and the local authority certainly got the message. He and the Lady Mayoress could not have been more positive about what the church was doing to bring joy and fun to the local Peverell community in such bleak times.

3. Everyone who came in through the door got a message: the church isn' t about raising money for itself, or just running worship services..We are freely & generously giving of our time and energy to give good things into the lives of others.

Yes, we want them to come to know our loving God, but we will not do this by shouting the gospel at them from a distance. We need to engage with them, share with them, eat with them and earn the right to speak of what we know.

We will not just go ahead and organise a 4th Community Fun Day without prayer and thought to what we are achieving through all our efforts.

Please pray for the Outreach Committee as we consider this, and what else we can do as a church which will be effective in our work of bringing light and joy to Peverell. With love and thanks to you all. **WELL DONE !!!!**

Andrew

Matthew 5 vs 16

Open House

On Monday 16th March we will be welcoming Brian Cuff to “Open House”. Brian will be relating his experiences when he and his wife, Shirley, were in the Salvation Army and managed various night hostels around the country for homeless men. After his talk there will be time to ask him questions before we enjoy a light afternoon tea of sandwiches and cakes. The suggested donation for the tea is £1.50 and all proceeds will be given to Shekinah Mission.



Mike Munson is our guest speaker on Monday 20th April. He is a volunteer “Room Guide” at Buckland Abbey so will be talking about the Abbey and what his job entails. Mike would like us to give the donations to “The Happy Hospital Fund” which helps to make life in hospital brighter for children.

Our meetings are held in the church hall and are open to everyone. They start at 2.15 pm and close at about 4.30 pm.

Secretary' s Report 2008

The past year has been one to GIVE THANKS for once again for all God' s goodness towards us as a Fellowship.

We have seen a growth in membership, met our budget requirements and seen witness to what God is doing in people' s lives through their baptisms. In times where doubt in the existence of God is expressed in so many ways it is the living proof that He is still touching people' s lives- the still small voice in the darkness reaching out and piercing that gloom. He is calling out to us His people to be steadfast in our faith in our community in every aspect of our Church life.

Discipleship has been identified as a key point from our discussions on ' Growing a Healthy Church' and ' Listening to God' through prayer for the ways he wishes us to do this.

' What we do when the Church becomes too small' has also been a subject discussed during 2008. It is important we find the right way so that our resources are used to their best and most resourceful. Realm has become established as an evening service and other ideas are being considered for further services such as ' Songs of Praise' . If we are ' Listening to God' he will show us the way.

The Deacons ' Away Day was spent at Hooe Baptist Church based around information from ' Growing a Healthy Church' and the Vision Group.

Our Ministers have started their Sabbaticals which are being taken over two years instead of one. Both have found them meaningful and refreshing.

From the spiritual to the more practical issues we have changed the Annual General Meeting from January to March to allow more time for the completion of year end accounts and their presentation. It also separates the Deaconate elections from the busyness of Christmas.

The year has seen the adoption by the membership of our Constitution which is necessary because we now have an income of over £100,000 which means we have to register as a Charity with the Charity Commission. The process of registration has commenced with the completion of a rather lengthy application form.

Information is being fed to us from The Baptist Union and the South West Baptist Association regularly on the importance of being accountable for all our actions. One really important aspect is ensuring that we follow the Safe to Grow requirements especially that all those working with children are CRB checked as the legal requirements are being tightened up.

At the end of each year we send an Annual Statistical Report to the BU. Our membership at 31 December 2008 was 125 which was up on last year by 6. This takes into account new members and those we have lost through the membership review and sadly through death.

The Church Administration Team (CAT) continues to meet fortnightly to look at the more mundane ongoing issues. CAT is made up of our Ministers, the Treasurer, the Secretary and our Administrator with information from meetings being reported to the Deaconate. We have carried out the Appraisals for all our paid staff.

If you have something which you would like brought to the attention of the Deaconate please speak to any of the Deacons who have the opportunity at their meetings to mention it.

All our Committees continue to meet regularly and their Minutes are passed to the Deaconate. This year we have seen the formation of the Hope Music Team made up of the music and sound members.

This is a great opportunity to EXPRESS THE THANKS of the leadership team to everyone in the Fellowship for all they do in whatever way. The Bible tells us the body of the Church is made up of many parts, each part being equally as important as another just as it is with our own bodies. Everything done by everyone involved in all our organisations and activities is really appreciated and valued. God honours our commitment to our witness for Him which allows the Church Body to function at its best.

We pray for God's blessing on everyone in every circumstance during the year of 2009.

Beryl Brown, Secretary

Women' s Rendezvous

In December the ladies of Women' s Rendezvous enjoyed a Christmas party at the home of Andrew and Katherine Gardiner.

There was fun and games and good food as well as Andrew entertaining us with his T Rex tribute act. Loved the silver lurex coat, Andrew!

In January, 13 ladies travelled to the Lynham Inn for a delicious carvery meal and an evening of fellowship. We all agreed that the meal was good value for money and would go there again.

Our AGM was held on 28th January when the committee was re-elected en bloc and it was decided to adopt " Happy Hospital Children' s Fund" as our charity for the coming year. We will be holding a fund raising event for this charity in November. Last year we were able to donate almost £400 to Highbury Trust so we are hoping to be able to equal or even surpass this amount when we have the Christmas Fayre in November.

Our next meeting is on 25th February when our speaker will be Shirley Cuff who will be telling us all about the visit she made to China last year. We are looking forward to an interesting evening.

Women' s Rendezvous meet on the last Wednesday of the month in the Youth Centre. Meetings commence at 7.30pm (unless otherwise advertised) and refreshments are served during the meeting. Subscriptions are £1 per session. The new programme for 2009 will be available as soon as dates for speakers have been confirmed. Keep a look out at the back of the church for the new programme (on the table in front of the prayer room.)

A warm welcome is extended to all ladies of the church and their friends who came along to Women' s Rendezvous. If you want more details see Jenny Weeks, Marian Brown or Christine Eascott.

March Diary

Sun	01	1030	Morning Worship: This Is My Story John 1:35-51
	01	1900	Evening Discipleship Course
Sat	07	0930	Moor Spirituality Prayer Day
Sun	08	1030	Morning Worship: Arrest John 18:1-27
	08	1900	Evening Discipleship Course
Sat	14	1915	Community Quiz Night
Sun	15	1030	Communion: Trial John 18:28-40
		1900	Evening Discipleship Course
Mon	16	1415	Open House, Church Hall
Sun	22	1030	Morning Worship: Sentencing John 19:1-16
Sun	29	1030	Family Service
		1900	Realm (1830 for coffee and cakes): Holding onto Truth

April Diary

Sun	05	1030	Morning Worship: Crucifixion John 19:17-42
Thurs	09	1930	Maundy Thursday Service
Fri	10	1030	Good Friday Family Service at Pennycross Methodist Church, followed by March of Witness and Soup Lunch
Sun	12	0700	Sonrise service, Clearbrook
		1030	Morning Worship: Resurrection John 20:1-23
Sun	19	1030	Communion: Proof John 20:24-31
Mon	20	1415	Open House, Church Hall
Sun	26	1030	Family Service: Call
		1900	Realm (1830 for coffee and cakes): Swayed by Sexual Power

Weekly events

Monday 1900 – 2000 Prayer Meeting, Prayer Room
Tuesday 1000 – 1130 Mums and Babies
Thursday 1000 – 1200 Peverell Community Café

Weekly events term time only

Parent and Toddlers

Tuesday 1245 – 1445
Wednesday 1000 – 1200
1245 - 1445

HY-Powered (school years 3-6)

Thursday 1830 – 2000

The Hype (school years 7 – 9)

Friday 1900 – 2130

RE-ACT (school years 10 – 13)

Friday 2015 – 2200

The Outlook

This edition of the Outlook had been edited by Helen Pugh. The deadline for articles for consideration for the May/June 2009 Outlook is:

Wednesday 15th April

Please send articles for consideration for the next issue to Claire Preston

claire.preston888@btinternet.com

Please note, any articles forwarded by email will be acknowledged **after 8th April**.

Parents and Toddlers' Report 2008

We have had another busy year. The three groups have continued to function despite being stretched at times with leadership and help.

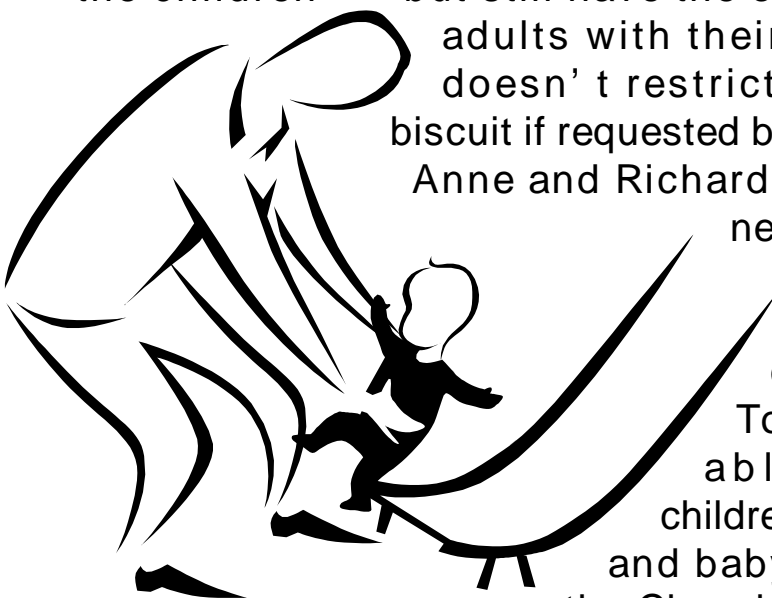
Sadly, Marilyn Fray's health caused her to relinquish leadership of Wednesday Mornings. Everyone was sorry to see her leave and thank her for coming down to Toddlers on days when she was struggling with mobility. We are pleased to welcome Kelly Hopwood to the Leadership of this Group and Louise McIntyre as a helper. We have also been pleased to welcome Anne Adeney as the Tuesday Afternoon group Leader supported by Richard Adeney and Hazel Duke as a helper. Anne's wealth of talent has brought a new dimension to this group.

We would like to thank our new Treasurer, Peter Brown, for keeping the financial records in good order and also ensuring we record the money handled each week correctly. Peter took over from Laura Wood our previous Treasurer when she felt unable to continue. Thank you for all you did Laura.

Toddlers would really benefit from someone who would coordinate the three groups giving oversight and nurture to Leaders and Helpers. It is such a wonderful source of outreach into the community. The mums, dads and carers are all great people, not to mention the children.

We have introduced fruit and fruit juice at refreshment time for the children but still have the option of biscuits for the adults with their tea and coffee. This doesn't restrict the children having a biscuit if requested by their carers.

Anne and Richard have introduced some new ideas to Toddlers with toys and equipment and re-organised some of the shelving in the Toy Store. We have been able to purchase new children's tables for the hall and baby changing facilities in the Church toilets from our funds.



We continue to donate monthly to Christian Resource Project and Hope and Homes for Children.

Throughout the year we have had Cake Sales, Outings to Pennywell Farm during the summer and a meal out at Christmas. The children's parties at Christmas were a great success with a bouncy castle, soft play and a visit from Father Christmas who brought gifts of books for the children. Healthy eating was put aside for once. Together with Nutkins we also supported Smile International with Gift Boxes at Christmas.

The loyal support of those involved week by week is really appreciated. We also thank everyone who stepped in to help in an emergency.

As we continue into another year we ask you to pray God will guide, bless and care for the work of Toddlers at Hope.

Beryl Brown

www.hopebaptist.net

Check out the Hope website for all the latest Hope news, videos, forthcoming events and much, much more!

Can you help me please?

I am a lovely little church magazine called 'The Outlook'. I am produced six times a year and I am looking for some new editors.

Some people read me through paper copies and some through the Hope website and sometimes I am even sent around the world. I am an important means of communication within our church fellowship and the local community.

I am looking for one or more people to edit me – you will need to be confident at word-processing, have access to email, have a little bit of time and sometimes a little bit of patience! If you are interested in being one of my editors or would just like to give it a try once to see how you get on before deciding then please speak to Andy Saunders.

Minister' s Report

Andrew and I both appreciated the opportunity to take part of our sabbaticals during 2008. I returned from my two months with a very strong sense that Hope was a great church to be ministering at. The church is growing, there is a very positive sense of unity together and there are lots of opportunities for service and outreach in the local community.

In terms of new progress I would highlight the development of the music ministry through worship at services, the beginnings of a choir and the Big Band. The team are exploring ways of supporting smaller churches and of using music in outreach.

Hope's outreach to the community is well established through Parents and Toddlers, Mums and Babies, the Community Cafe, the Fun Day and Youth Work. It has now been enhanced by the monthly Lunch Club aimed at senior citizens. All of these activities are staffed by volunteers with a heart to share the love of Jesus.

The Growing a Healthy Church process highlighted two areas in which the church needed to grow: Discipleship and Listening to God. Having put a lot of work into discussing discipleship a number of new opportunities such as courses, coaching and spiritual direction are now available.

As numbers attending services have increased we have explored two possible new developments which would enable continued growth. We may need to move to having two morning services or we could look at planting a church (possibly in an alternative style, more geared towards outreach). As yet we have not felt it right to proceed with either idea but continue to be open to God's leading.

It is a challenging time to build a church. Much in our contemporary culture militates against seeking for spiritual reality in a church and against the surrender of one's life to Christ. Few churches in our land are growing. I believe that the heart of church growth must be relevance to the issues facing our world and individuals who joyfully put Jesus first in all they do. Quite a challenge for 2009.

Andy Saunders

Holocaust Memorial Service

Thelma Smale was really taken by this poem, written and read aloud by Jessica Wright at the Holocaust Memorial Service.

Standing Up to Hatred

This is our Rwandan poem,
Of how people lost their lives
Hiding from machine guns and
Bloody machete knives.

Who are these people running from? Each other?
Different people from different tribes,
Previously living the same lives.

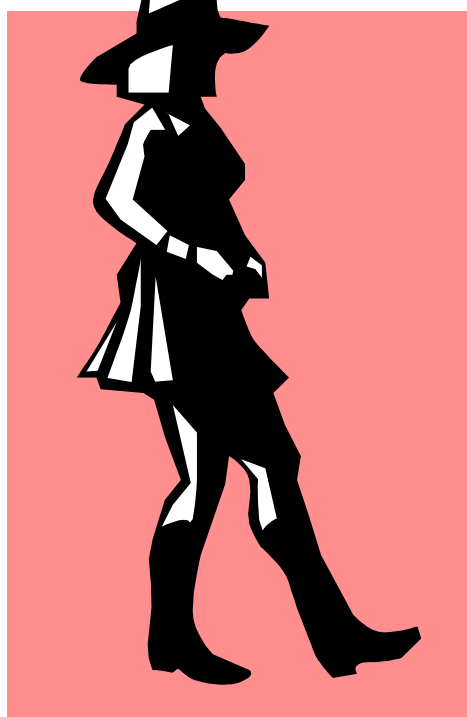
It happened in the past, for far too many days.
We don' t want another urgent news flash.
Why can' t people change their prejudiced ways

Friends and neighbours
Turn their backs
How would you feel
If yours did that.

This world needs more conscience,
That' s something that we lack,
This is our Rwandan poem.

Our message is as relevant today as ever,
May our poem' s message last forever.

Reprinted with the kind permission of Jessica Wright from
Ridgeway School, Plympton



Saturday 2nd May 2009
7pm til 10pm

In aid of Hope' s Mission
Fund

Barn Dance

Cost

Adults ~ £3.50

Children ~ £2.50

Includes a Pasty

For more information or to book your place
contact Debbie on 709909 or Janet on
511392



BMS Birthdays

March

01 Mr Tim Hart

April

23 Mrs Beryl Brown

Church Flower Arrangements for March 2009

1st Mrs Val Hart. To celebrate Tim' s Birthday.

8th Sue and Ed Holt. To celebrate their Wedding Anniversary.

15th Mrs Pat Dodd. In Loving Memory of her Mother.
22nd Mothering Sunday.

29th Beryl and Peter Brown. Celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Church Flower Arrangements for April 2009

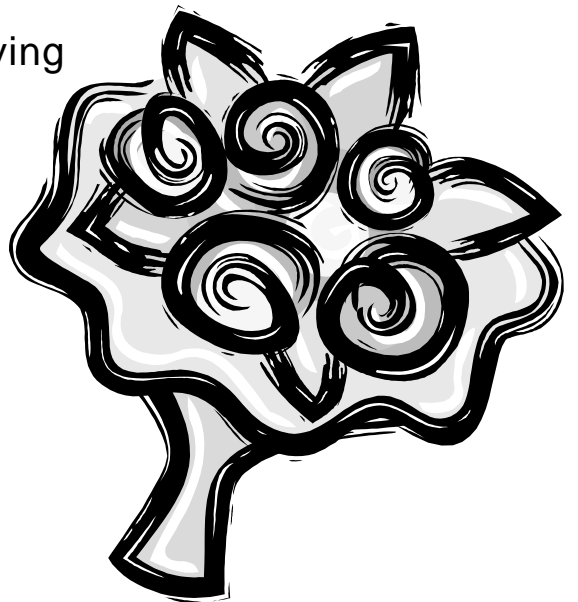
5th Mr David Pendock. In Loving Memory of his parents,
Minnie and Arthur Pendock.

12th Easter Sunday.

Kim and Richard Brown. In Loving
Memory of Kim' s Mother.

19th Flower Fund

26th Flower Fund



Who's Who at Hope

Minister	Andy Saunders	772809
Minister	Andrew Gardiner	791993
ALPHA	Andy Saunders	772809
Administrator	Justine Spence	708090
Caretaker	Honore Iyakaremye	
Children's Advocates	Chris Houston	709909
	Sue Syers	703077
Fellowship Groups	Helen Pugh	767124
Flower Co-ordinator	Pam Smith	219844
Men's Group	David Brown	707577
menZone	Andrew Gardiner	791993
Minibus Bookings	Paul & Nicky Hatherell	770186
Ministry Support Worker	Lynda Henagulph	309916
Mums and Babies	Kelly Hopwood	518254
Open House	Pam Smith	219844
Parents and Toddlers	Beryl Brown	778090
Prayer Chain	Margaret Pendock	768957
Safe to Grow Co- ordinator	Margaret Underdown	01822 - 854093
Secretary	Beryl Brown	778019
The Outlook	Claire Preston	700739
Treasurer	Tony Jopson	781792
Women's Rendezvous	Jenny Weeks	777416
Youth@Hope	Andrew Gardiner	791993
Youth Worker	Sarah Apps	07505 840 093

Church Office

Monday-Friday	10am - 2pm	708090
Email	hope-baptist-church@tiscali.co.uk	
Website	www.hopebaptist.net	