

# Barnt Green

## Baptist Church



June 20th 2021



### **This Week**

- \* Cathryn will be leading the service and Pete will be preaching
- \* The Sunday Service will stream on YouTube at 10:30 am and will also be available to watch later on YouTube if required

Find us on <https://www.bgb.org.uk/> and



Dear friends

As we start to work towards a delayed exit from the covid restrictions we have had for the last 18 months and become a gathered church again I want to highlight some ways forward.

First the bad news. The announcements made this week (and due for a vote in parliament today as I write this) make it clear we are not able to sing in church till late July at the very earliest. It also means we must keep all the restrictions around social distancing, masks, and particularly cleaning in place for the next month at least. We are reliant on volunteers for this and will be making decisions at our leadership team on Thursday as to how often we can meet with the numbers of volunteers we have.

One of the things that has been communicated to me as minister is that a number feel uncomfortable leading and taking part whilst the church is still visible to the whole world on YouTube and Facebook. I do totally understand that and, as such, we will, after 18<sup>th</sup> July be doing things differently. First there will be no live stream of our services. Second. Instead the sermon (when there is one) will be recorded and posted to Facebook and YouTube as a stand-alone, hopefully topped and tailed by worship songs. Third when we have services with different emphasis like communion, these will not be broadcast at all. I hope that gives you the security to feel able to lead and participate with freedom as we start to meet.

Services, as I have said before, will be slightly different. As we come back from this exile we need to start to rebuild, and find patterns that are sustainable for us as a church with the resources we have. We also need to be faithful to the marks of the early church in Acts 2. So we will be starting back with different emphases each service. We will still have some worship, and time to be together responding to God in each.

First Sunday – Communion will be our emphasis with the service given over to meeting around the table in prayer and worship. Where we can both hear from God, and talk to God, whilst celebrating all that Jesus has done in our lives.

Second Sunday – Worship will be our emphasis. Initially these will be led by me. Any word or message will be shorter and the aim will be for us to be a worshipping community and in that atmosphere of worship giving the Holy Spirit chance to move in convicting, healing, forgiving and restoring us as his people.

Third and fourth Sundays – Teaching. These will be more like the services we have been having over lockdown. A much shorter time of worship and a focus on teaching. They will be a chance to open up God's word and hear from it in depth. My hope is that these Sundays can also be used for the basis of what is discussed in our small groups as we go forward.

Fifth Sunday – Fellowship. These Sundays will be a chance for us to meet and be with each other. Whether it is going a walk, sitting and talking and praying together, having a barbecue, organising some games on the field, whatever it is, these times will end with a short act of worship and prayer.

We are hoping to start this pattern in July. Please keep an eye open for announcements.

Pete

## Sunday Morning Service **10:30** in the building

### Just a few reminders

- We still need masks on
- The windows will be open so remember your layers
- Please make sure we record your attendance on our tick list just in case contact tracing is required.
- When Kids Church is running the children will be in the Lounge for the whole service, when it is not running due to PHE regulations your children will need to stay seated with you (sorry!)
- We won't be doing coffee just yet so you might want to bring your own

The building is cleaned by the last group in the building and is then professionally cleaned by OCD on Saturday, the chairs are only used by us and sanitised after each use.

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### Outreach update – important news!

A new **Alpha** course has started, on a Wednesday evening online with the option for those who can, to meet inside somewhere, if restrictions allow.

Please pray for this. There are already a couple of takers. Pray for wisdom and opportunity to pop the question to whoever it is God has put in your path. It's fine to offer to come along with your friend/neighbour/colleague.

Equally fine is to offer yourself to help out, whether that's just being there to support those leading or managing the Zoom call. If you're curious, let me know.

Steve

# Calling Men of Barnt Green Baptist

Christian study focuses on a formal study course and prayer



## BGBC Men's group CHRISTIAN STUDY & PRAYER

Weds July 7th & August 4th

Contact [outreach@BGB.org.uk](mailto:outreach@BGB.org.uk)  
for Zoom joining details



## BGBC Men's group SOCIAL DROP IN

Weds July 21st & Aug 18th

Contact [outreach@BGB.org.uk](mailto:outreach@BGB.org.uk)  
for Zoom joining details

Social DROP IN is a forum to join for as long as and whenever you like. There is no expectation on timing or commitment !

Everyone is welcome so please join us

Please email [outreach@BGB.org.uk](mailto:outreach@BGB.org.uk) for the Zoom joining details