

Open Door Church Sunbury April 2019 Newsletter



Welcome to our monthly Newsletter letting you know what's going on at Open Door Church. This Newsletter can be accessed through our website www.opendoorchurchsunbury.com/. In this issue you will find:

- Easter Time – a time of new beginnings
- April's Calendar
- Please Pray for . . .
- Future Diary Dates & Information

Easter Time – a time of new beginnings

Welcome to our very first Open Door Church Sunbury monthly newsletter, replacing our weekly newsletter; saving both administration time and a number of trees as we print less paper.

This seemed like the best time to start the monthly newsletter; Easter, when we are thinking of new life in Christ. Each year, as we remind ourselves about the cross and God the Father's great love for us in sending His one and only Son, I am constantly in awe of the price paid by God for us. The magnificent exchange of all my sin, for all Christ's righteousness. This is a time to celebrate but also a time to reflect on, chew over, rest upon all that was achieved by the Lord for us on the cross. It is a message we must never get tired of and must always be ready to proclaim. This Easter time as we look to the cross at our Good Friday meeting and celebrate the Resurrection at our Easter Sunday meetings using the flier below, why not be bold and courageous and invite those along who do not know Jesus as Lord and Saviour, who do not know His forgiveness and His love.

A vertical flier for Easter celebrations. The background is a sunset over water with a bright light on the horizon. At the top left is the "Open Door Church" logo. In the center, a white cross is superimposed over the text "HE IS RISEN". Below the cross, it says "COME AND JOIN US IN CELEBRATION". There are two columns of text listing events: "Good Friday April 19th" and "Easter Sunday April 21st". At the bottom, there is a quote from Luke 24:5-7.

Open Door Church

HE IS
RISEN

COME AND JOIN US
IN CELEBRATION

Good Friday April 19 th	Easter Sunday April 21 st
Communion Meeting	Family Celebration
10:30 am	10:30am
Open Door Church Centre	Sunbury Manor School
Rooksmead Road	Nursery Road
TW16 6QQ	TW16 6LF

Luke 24 vs 5-7 "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'"

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I will leave the final exaltation to my hero Charles Haddon Spurgeon:

“We owe all to Jesus crucified. What is your life, my brethren, but the cross? Whence comes the bread of your soul but from the cross? What is your joy but the cross? What is your delight, what is your heaven, but the Blessed One, once crucified for you, who ever liveth to make intercession for you? Cling to the cross, then, put both arms around it! Hold to the Crucified, and never let Him go. Come afresh to the cross at this moment, and rest there now and for ever! Then, with the power of God resting upon you, go forth and preach the cross! Tell out the story of the bleeding Lamb. Repeat the wondrous tale, and nothing else. Never mind how you do it, only proclaim that Jesus died for sinners!”

Jesus died for sinners; even for you and for me. He died that there may be a way back to God. Only Jesus can reconcile humans back to God. Let us this Easter time tell this “Good News” (evangel) to all! To the people we work with, the family we live with, to the man on the train and the woman running the training course at work, to the mother at the school gate, the young person at SALT to the older person we meet at the bus stop; to all! Everywhere! Christ had died, Christ has risen! Christ will come again! And you can know Him! Time once again to commit ourselves to telling the “old, old story of Jesus and His love!” to a generation that does not know Jesus nor what he has done for them.

Be blessed this Easter time and we pray blessed by our newsletter.

Much love

Andy Phillips – on behalf of the Elders.

April's Calendar

Tuesday 2nd 10.15-12.30: Coffee Pot @ ODCC (next Coffee Pot after Easter is 23 April)

Wednesday 3rd 13.00–14.45pm: ESOL classes @ ODCC (next ESOL after Easter is 24 April)

Thursday 4th 07.00–07.30: Early Morning Prayer Meeting @ ODCC

10.30–12.30: Tea Pot @ ODCC

Friday 5th 10.00–12.00: Mini Steps mother and toddler small group @ ODCC (next Mini Steps after Easter is 26 April)

19.00-21.00: SALT (Yrs 7-13) @ ODCC

Sunday 7th 10.00 Prayer meeting & 10.30-12.15 Sunday service, both @ SMS. Speaker Andy Phillips. There are crèche facilities and children's work for those aged 0-11 (Yrs 0-6).

19:00-21:30: Church Prayer meeting @ ODCC

Thursday 11th 10.30am–12.30pm: Tea Pot @ ODCC

Sunday 14th 10.00 Prayer meeting & 10.30-12.15 Sunday service, both @ SMS. Speaker: Testimonies Sunday

10.30-12.15: Kidz Klub in Sports Hall @ SMS for those aged 5-11 (Yrs 0-6). There are crèche facilities for those aged 0-4 (pre-school)

Thursday 18th 10.30-12.30: Tea Pot @ ODCC

Friday 19th 10.30-11.30am – Good Friday Communion Service @ ODCC. Refreshments afterwards.

Sunday 21st Easter Sunday 10.00 Prayer meeting & 10.30-12.15 Sunday service, both @ SMS. Speaker Andy Phillips. There are crèche facilities and children's work for those aged 0-11 (Yrs 0-6)

Tuesday 23rd 10.15-12.30: Coffee Pot @ ODCC

Wednesday 24th 13.00–14.45: ESOL classes @ ODCC

Thursday 25th 07.00–07.30: Early Morning Prayer Meeting @ ODCC

10.30-12.30: Tea Pot @ ODCC

Friday 26th 10.00–12.00: Mini Steps mother and toddler small group @ ODCC

19.00-21.00: SALT (Yrs 7-13) @ ODCC

Saturday 27th 7.00-10.00pm Cheese and Wine and Quiz night – Invite your friends!

Sunday 28th 10.00 Prayer meeting & 10.30-12.15 Sunday service, both @ SMS. Speaker Graham Whitworth. There are crèche facilities and children's work for those aged 0-11 (Yrs 0-6)

Tuesday 30th 10.15-12.30: Coffee Pot @ ODCC

Please Pray for...

- **Our Nation** and its leaders – for unity and clarity, especially for Brexit negotiations
- **Sarah Page** who has Multiple Sclerosis for healing
- The **Hawthorn family** as they help Jez's mother who is very unwell
- **Carole Vermeulen** who needs healing from an infection after an operation
- **Bishop Wand**. Andy P is taking an assembly on 26th April
- **Rachel Smith** as she undertakes her FP Training year at Hope Church, Exmouth
- **Rolando de Guzman** and **Cavite Open Door Commission Church**. Please pray for continued growth and for the new proposed Church Plant in Bicol.
- **Andy Bell** and the mission to Liberia and for lasting fruit and lives changed and bodies healed.
- **Miro Fic** and his church in Silbas and the emerging apostolic work in the Balkans

Future Diary Dates & Information

Cheese & Wine Quiz Night on **Saturday 27 April** - 7.00-10pm. We as a church believe that it is important for us all to meet in fellowship with each other and enjoy the company of friends. And what better way to do that than with some tasty cheese, good wine and harmless competition. £5 a ticket on the door, with wine and cheese served at the break.

Curry Pot on **Thursday 30th May** – 7.30pm onwards at Shahin Restaurant, Lower Thames Street, TW16 5QF. We have organised a meal @ £15 per head Meal with an "After Dinner Talk" from Dr Simon Walmsley on Being a Christian involved in Environmentalism. Over coffee we will hear a short talk on the life of Dr Simon Walmsley who works for the World Wildlife Fund and is involved in Environmental projects around the world and its relation to his Christian faith

ODC Men's Weekend Away 2019: We have once again arranged for an ODC Men's weekend away from **Friday 05 July to Monday 08 July**. This will be held in the Lake District and accommodation will be in a bunkhouse. Places are limited and so to register an interest please contact Mike Sivyer @ mike_sivyer@ntlworld.com. More details about the weekend and costs to follow. This is a great time to grow friendships with non- Christian friends and men @ ODC

NEWDAY Booking Is Now Open: It's that time of the year again! Time to book your teenagers into Newday 2019. This year Newday will be taking place on the **29 July to 03 August** at The Norfolk Showground. Early Bird tickets cost £125, which will increase to £140 on the 29 March; so book in quickly for the cheapest price. If finances are keeping your child from attending then please feel free to contact one of the Elders.

Last Ever WESTPOINT 22 to 26 August 2019. Please don't miss out on Westpoint this year at Exeter as it is the last one to be based there; from next year we shall be gathering at the Royal Bath Showground in Shepton Mallet (a reduced drive!) and the event shall be called "Connect Festival" in 2020. It is a great time to be in the presence of God in worship, to hear some excellent speakers, to get to know people better and to relax in the evenings with some good entertainment. There are many opportunities to serve and receive a significant discount and so maybe this is something you can do to make the event happen. To book please go to: <https://www.commission-together.org/westpoint/> We want as many people as possible to come this year, and if finances are your reason for not going, then please come and speak to an Elder or your Small Group Leader.

ODC Philippines Mission Trip. The team are flying out on **Thursday 31 October to Friday 15 November**. Please pray that they'd bless and be blessed by stepping out for God in this evangelistic trip.

Set-Up Teams Could you please consider whether you could help on the Setup Team on a Sunday morning. There is a real need for a couple of people to volunteer and it will work out that you will be on the rota once every 4 weeks. Please email the office at office@opendoorchurchsunbury.com if you are able to help.

Christian Dating Websites: If you are single, and would like to look for a partner, we would encourage you to consider looking at online Christian Dating sites. One in four relationships now start from meeting on an online dating site and a number of relationships have started this way within Newfrontiers churches. A site we would recommend is www.christianconnection.co.uk. Please be wise and pray if you decide to use this site.