















REGULAR EVENTS @ ALLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH: For further information on any event, please email: office @abcmaidstone.co.uk



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NEWS FROM ALLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

JANUARY 2024

Message from our Pastor, Martyn Colley

Out with the old, and in with the new!

January is a great time for making a new start, and I know many will have made New Year's

Resolutions in the last few days. I wonder how you're getting on with them?



Oprah Winfrey, the well-known American chat show host says, 'Cheers to a new year, and another chance for us to get it right.'

It's an optimistic view, but I note that many other commentators are more cynical. As one writer says, 'A New Year's Resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other!' Or that old cynic Mark Twain said, 'New Year's Day. Now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual!' Or as Oscar Wilde said, 'Good resolutions are simply cheques that men draw on a bank where they have no account!'

If you've made any resolutions, I wish you well. It's great to have targets to aim at, but possibly we need something more than human willpower and a new start to really change.

The New Testament repeatedly speaks of 'new birth' (James 1:18, 1 Peter 1:3, John 3:3) from God, which brings new life to all who trust in Him through Jesus Christ. So also, the Apostle Paul says, 'If anyone is in Christ, he [or she] is a new creation: the old has gone, the new has come.' And that kind of gospel transformation can really change our lives for the better. It doesn't make us perfect in this life, but it does give new life, new power for living, new peace, new joy and new hope, which nothing else compares with in my experience.

So may I wish you all a very Happy New Year. And here's to a 'New Year, New Lifestyle' moment in all our lives.

Allington Baptist Church is made up of a welcoming group of people of all ages and different backgrounds. Our main Service takes place on Sunday Morning at 10.30am and we provide activities for children and teenagers, and a crèche for pre school children as well. Our services consist of lively worship and a Bible message which is relevant to life today. Once a month, usually on the second Sunday of each month, we hold an all age family service which may be a good way of introduction if you have not been a regular churchgoer, or are out of the habit of attending. Why not make this a part of your New Year routine.

INFORMATION ON A COUPLE OF OUR ACTIVITIES

Church is not just for Sunday though and we hold a range of activities throughout the week for different age groups. Here is information about two of them. Firstly, **Messy Church**

Making Child friendly Craft

Enjoying time together

Singing action songs of worship

Sharing a Simple Meal together

You are welcome to join us



CHURCH in this format is different, aimed at families. We want to break down any negative ideas you may have that "church isn't for us". Why not give us a try. At present we hold **Messy Church** five Saturdays a year and our next one is on **Saturday** February 3rd from 3.30 – 5.30pm. We look forward to seeing you. [from **The Messy Church Team**]

Secondly, **Get Together** is a drop in group for people over 60. We meet twice a month on the first and third Thursdays from 2.00pm – 3.45 p.m. Our programme includes board games, table quizzes, speakers on a range of subjects and a short bible talk. Recently we have based these talks on familiar hymns. We have plenty of time for chat and for tea, coffee and cake. Our next meeting is on 18th January and our team would love to welcome you. Our building is warm and accessible, and we have car parking beside the church, accessed from Leafy Lane. [From: **The Get Together Team**]



A VERY WARM WELCOME DETAILS OF SERVICES JANUARY 202\$



| Sun 7 th Jan | Into The Bible Service (10.30am) Martyn Colley speaks on The armour of God (1) Taking our stand, Eph 6:10-13 Just 10 Video 6.30pm – (6) How to keep the peace with our parents |
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| Sun 14 th Jan | Early Morning Communion Service (9.15am) led by Glenda Cheeseman (Lighthouse Hall) Into The Bible Service (10.30am) Martyn Colley speaks on The armour of God (2) The belt of truth, Eph 6:14a Just 10 Video 6.30pm – (7) How to prevent burnout |
| Sun 21 st Jan | Into The Bible Service (10.30am). The elders share the leading of this service and Martyn Colley speaks on our Motto verse for 2024 Just 10 Video 6.30pm – (8) How to take God seriously |
| Sun 28 th Jan | Into The Bible Service (10.30am) Includes Communion Stephen Brown speaks on <i>The armour of God (3) The</i> breastplate of righteousness Eph 6:14b Just 10 Video 6.30pm – (9) How to know God |

If you would like prayer for anything or a visit from someone at Allington Baptist Church, please contact: elders@abcmaidstone.co.uk

