

FREEMANTLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Testwood Road, Southampton

In focus

August 2026



Summer time



THE SUMMER is, for many, a time to get away from 'normal life' and have some holiday time. As I write this the big 'get away' is well under way: people off camping, to the seaside or flying further afield; but many will remain local, visiting parks and playgrounds. It is time to spend a valuable stretch with children once the schools break up.

A change is a good as a rest, we are told. And while, for some, it may not be true, for many the six weeks summer break is a welcome change from early mornings, routine, and a chance to spend time with family and friends, and to make some memories. Family and friends are a real gift, having people in your life that love you is treasure indeed.

God too, values family. He calls all that know Him His children. It might feel a bit odd thinking of God as family, but that is how He views us. We are His children; He loves us and He wants the best for us. He wants to shower us with His favour and His protection if we will but allow Him to. But as much as all that, He just wants to spend time with us.

He loves it when we talk to Him or sit quietly with Him with our coffee for a chat. He loves it when we notice His creation, a bird or a butterfly, or a flower. He just loves us, as only He can. So let me encourage you to spend a moment this August, as we all take a break from the usual routine, to make another routine of hanging out with God.

May you all have a very blessed and safe summer. Revd. Linda Hayes

Welcome

to our **AUGUST SERVICES** 10.30am

Our **Sunday mornings start with prayer** in the church **between 9.45am and 10.15am.**

You are very welcome to join us.

The services will be led by Revd Linda Hayes unless otherwise stated.

Sun 2nd

Subject: **Fruit of the Spirit: Self control**

Reading: *Proverbs 17:32 and Nehemiah 4*

Sun 9th **NEW SERIES: The Art of Celebration**

Subject: **Miriam sang**

Reading: *Exodus 14:21-22 and Exodus 15:20-21*

Sun 16th

Subject: **David danced**

Reading: *2 Samuel 6:12-15*

Sun 23rd

Subject: **The guests rejoice** *Les and Anita Pike*

Reading: *Matthew 9: 14-17*

Sun 30th :

Subject: **The leper praised** *Denise and Ian Ward*

Reading: *Luke 17 : 11-19*

Previous sermons are on our Facebook page

You are very welcome to join us any Sunday morning.

All ages welcome. Activities available for the young at heart.

Light refreshments are served after the Service.



Coming up . . .

Sat 1st Aug
Repair Café

In the hall
10.30-1.00pm

Sun 2nd
Prayer walk + Breakfast

Prayer: 8.45am
Breakfast: at 9.30am

Sun 9th
Church Picnic

Romsey Park
Approx 1.00pm

Sun 6th Sept
Fringe in the Park
Freemantle Lake Park

11.00am-4.00pm
A family festival for all.
FREE ADMISSION

Includes:
stalls, crafts,
tabletop sale,
juggling,
hula Hooping,
crepe truck
live music.

Weekly Meetings during August

WEDNESDAYS

Sunflower Café

12.30pm - 3.00pm

SATURDAYS

Impact Church 6.00pm

Polish church

SUNDAYS

Bethel Prayer House 3.00pm



When the Lord says to wait:

W - Walk in His timing
A - Align with His will
I - Invest in His Word
T - Trust in His plan



A BIBLE VERSE
FOR AUGUST

Where two or three are gathered . . . in My name, I am there.

Matthew 18:20

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A prayer for the holidays

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LORD, we pray for all the children and students who have broken up from school. We ask they will have a happy, refreshing six weeks.

Help them enjoy the time they spend time with friends and family, whether at home or away elsewhere.

For those who go to holiday clubs at churches or activities with the Beach Mission on sandy shorelines. Bless them Lord, enlighten their minds, help them to understand and remember what they have learnt and experienced. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

and pray for . . .

each other by name; thanking God for every person, praying that the Lord will bless their spiritual journey of faith, that it may grow deeper and stronger day by day and for His help with all the ups and downs of daily living.



. . . for your continued financial giving towards the work and witness of this church during July which came to £1,362, a weekly average of £340.50. It is always very much appreciated.

. . . to all those who attended the AGM on 26th July. It was good to hear everything that has happened over the last year and look forward to the up-coming year!

Two new welcome appointments include: Steve Hayes, Project Manager for the manse and Barry Marchment, Fire Marshall.

. . . to our waterers and weeders who have beautified and kept our front garden healthy during this hot weather.



OUR Livewires children enjoyed creating this first century scene on the shores of Lake Galilee which helped to tell the stories of the man lowered through the roof and the storm on the lake.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to **Jacqueline Holt** on 19th Aug and **Les Pike** on 20th.

Jon Fisher writes an
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

WHILST tidying up I found this affirmation that I made with Linda's help. I keep it on my bedside cabinet and find it does me good to have it around. It goes like this :

I Jon, believe in Jesus.

Jesus lived on the earth - Fact.

Jesus died on the cross for my sins.

He rose again and lives today.

He is God.

Jesus does not want me to be trapped by my feelings.

Jesus always invites me into his arms, no matter how I'm feeling.

Jesus is a safe space for me.

Jesus loves me, in the good, the bad and the awful.

This is what I believe,

I believe this when I'm well and when

I'm feeling not so well,

I BELONG TO JESUS



... and another puzzle completed by our dissectologists at Sunflower Café. *Well done!*
The Café will remain open during August every Wednesday between 12.30 and 3.00pm.

Do come and join us.

Solar Eclipse



*The amazing
natural phenomenon
happening on*

**WEDNESDAY
12th AUGUST**

A PARTIAL eclipse will take place over the UK when the moon will cover 90% of the sun's surface, making this as close to a total eclipse as we've seen in almost 27 years.

At around 6.15pm the moon will start to move across the disk of the sun. The eclipse's maximum will be at approximately 7.10pm.

The Royal Museums Greenwich is a good website to visit. *Only ISO certified eclipse glasses must ever be used to look at the sun.*

**The heavens declare the
glory of God;
the skies proclaim the
work of his hands.**