

CLARENCE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

UPDATE

April 2022

WORSHIP God **GROW** Together **SERVE** Others

AGM

Annual General Meeting

IN THIS EDITION

Church Heating update

Covid Restrictions

Sunday Live streaming

Renew Wellbeing

Nominee Profiles for Deacons election

Details of Church AGM 2022

Deacons Elections & AGM 2022 Voting Form

CHURCH HEATING

Can we firstly say a huge thank you to you as a church for your bearing with us as we continue to find a way forward for heating the sanctuary.

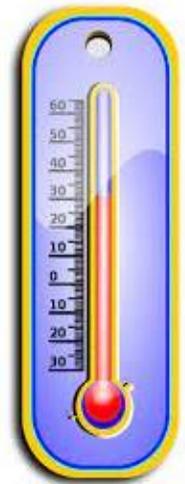
It has not been an easy task balancing the needs of our fellowship with the advice relating to health and safety and Covid-19 especially with the church heating.

The church leadership had been exploring different heating engineers for advice in how we move forward, and we owe a huge thanks to Jonathan and Paul for pursuing this.

As in a previous announcement – we can reduce the amount of recycled air into our boilers by continuing to have the front door and door well doors open when the heating is on. This enables us to mix more fresh air into the boiler when heating. We will need to continue to follow government advice and have side windows open to allow for ventilation.

Whilst this will enable us to be warm. This decision does come at a cost, as the boiler is designed to use already warm air and not to constantly use colder air which will cause it to work harder meaning that the expected life of the boilers will be reduced. It will also mean that our gas costs will be higher than expected, which in turn, has prompted us to be thinking longer term about how we can heat the church.

So, moving forward – please be prayerful for warmer weather (especially on Sundays) where we do not need to use the heating!



COVID RESTRICTIONS

Can we please remind everyone that whilst the mandatory wearing of face coverings and social distancing in England has been removed, the government advice is still in place that face coverings are advised in crowded indoor spaces.



We have seen locally a rise in the number of people who have been infected, and so can we please encourage you to also use the hand sanitiser provided when you come into the building.

If you have covid symptoms or are feeling unwell you should stay away and not attend activities in order to help protect others.

SUNDAY LIVE STREAMING

Thank you to all those on our tech team for facilitating the live streaming each Sunday. We know that many watch if they are unable to be with us in person.

Over several weeks, the YouTube broadcast was being trolled and inappropriate or offensive comments were being left during the service.

Consequently, we turned off chat temporarily. This has now been done permanently and we would like to encourage those who are local to come in person on a Sunday to engage with our church family rather than just engage online.



Renew Wellbeing

Finally – the centre is opening. Please pray for those involved and if you would like to be a part of the team please speak to Steve.

Renew 193 Wellbeing Space

A quiet shared space
where it's ok not to be ok

Opening Monday 4th April 2022

Monday 10am-12noon

Tuesday 10am-12noon & 2pm-4pm

Wednesday 10am-12noon & 2pm-4pm

Thursday 2pm-4pm

(Closed on Bank Holidays)

Are you feeling low? Anxious? Lonely? Isolated?
Do you want to improve your wellbeing and mental health?

Come along, slow down or bring and share a hobby if you wish. Craft resources/activities are available and free.

You are welcome to relax and enjoy peace in our quiet/
prayer space. Pop in or come along for the whole 2 hours.
Always a kind welcome, a good cuppa and someone to
listen.

Renew 193 is hosted by Clarence Park Baptist Church, Milton Baptist Church and Worle Baptist Church - all are welcome.

193 High St, Worle, Weston-Super-Mare BS22 6JS

For more information email: renew193worle@gmail.com
www.renewwellbeing.org.uk

NOMINEE PROFILES DEACONS' ELECTION 2022

The Church AGM will be held following the morning service on Sunday May 15th.

As we continue to live with the challenges of the pandemic, we announced in January that our Deacons election will be held by postal ballot only. At the AGM here will be other items that those meeting in person will need to hear and vote upon.

At the AGM this year John, Liz, Jayne and Kaye will be coming to the end of their term of office. Whilst we want to thank all four and for the hard work that they have put into serving the church, especially during the pandemic, Jayne had indicated that she would not be allowing her name to be put forward for an additional term of office. And so, we want to thank her and acknowledge that she will be deeply missed as the leadership seek to serve and move the church forward together.

At the AGM this year we will have **FIVE** vacancies for the diaconate, and our previous letter/ email in January to members asked for nominations.

Three names were put forward from the church members, as John, Elisabeth and Kaye are all willing to be re-elected.

To be elected each candidate will require at least 50% of the votes cast.

Attached are the profile(s) of the nominees.

Please read and prayerfully and consider before God who he leads you to vote for.

Elisabeth Speakman



I very first came to CPBC as a 9 year old child in the very distant past! I attended Sunday School at Clarence until my teenage years and then took a time out from church. I returned to worship at Clarence in my 20's and Kevin and I were married here in 1981. I came to worship each Sunday with Kevin and our daughter Emily, but it was not until the mid 1990's that I answered my Lord's call and was baptised.

Since my baptism I have been sought to grow in my faith and have sought to honour God in all aspects of my life, always seeking his will. I supported Kevin in his role as deacon for many years whilst doing my own work for God's kingdom.

I was first elected to the deaconate in March 2016 and God has constantly been working in my life; always challenging me to step out of my comfort zone to do His work. I was asked to consider becoming church secretary very soon after joining the leadership team and finally after much prayer agreed to try the role out. God has strengthened me and indeed held my right hand along this journey every day since it began.

It would be privilege to be able to continue my role on the leadership team and support the Lord's work here at Clarence Park. I know that as a fellowship we are being called to be good disciples and to bring many more of our community to a life in Christ.

Kaye Cooke



God quite literally led me to Clarence Park Baptist Church in 1999 and I was baptised and accepted into membership later the same year. Tim and I married in 2003 and he later became a church member. In 2007 we were blessed with our beautiful daughter Elsie.

Some of you will know that having served 21 years I was medically retired as a police officer ten years ago. God has continued to use many of my professional skills and I now run my own safeguarding training and consultancy business. I conducted the Historic Case Review for the Baptist Union of Great Britain and still consult when allegations are made against Accredited Baptist Ministers. I am a member of the BU Safeguarding Contacts Group and train all trainers who deliver Excellence in Safeguarding nationally, as well as delivering the training at Bristol Baptist College and wherever else I'm asked around the country. During lockdown I completed my BSc(Hons) and MSc in Forensic Psychology and I am now working on my PhD, considering how forensic interviewing of children might be improved.

I have been involved in singing and leading worship at Clarence Park almost since I joined the church. I am a founder member of the Caprione Community Choir and have sung for many years as a soloist for Roger Jones and Christian Music Ministries, both in the UK and abroad. God has asked me to serve in other ways too and I have had the privilege of leading the Stepping Stones course several times and serve as your Trustee for Safeguarding.

After twelve years as one of your leaders here at Clarence Park I decided it was probably time for me to step down and allow others to use their gifts. However, once again, God seems to have other ideas! I place myself into your hands, trusting that God will reveal His purpose through your decision.

John Dawkins

Who am I?

I am 64 and married to Julie. You may have seen both of us at the front of the church at various times as part of the music team. I usually play the keyboard or the organ. We have been living in Weston-super-Mare since August 2017.



I have a full time job with Bakers Dolphin, driving coaches. I have an interest in all forms of historic transport and I drive vintage buses from time to time.

Julie and I have three grown up children, all now married with children of their

own.

Since joining the fellowship here we have become fully integrated into the church family and we have both enjoyed the prayerful support of many friends through some tough times. The Lord called me to serve as a deacon in 2018 and I believe that this calling is ongoing as we journey together into an exciting post-pandemic phase, so I feel it is right to stand for re-election.

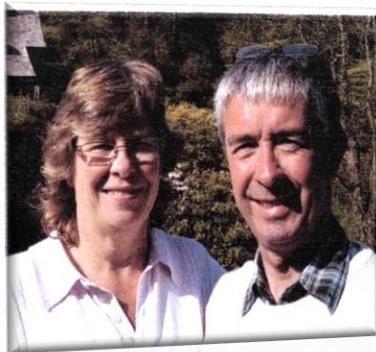
What about my Christian faith?

I grew up in a Christian family but, as my late father used to say, being born into a Christian family doesn't make you a Christian any more than being born in a garage makes you a motor car! I met Jesus in a personal - albeit childlike — way at the age of nine one evening at our local church. I realised on that day that Jesus died for me and that I wanted Him in my heart. Since that time, thanks to the nurture of a Godly family and many others, my faith has deepened. I was baptised by full immersion in 1986. Life has not always been easy, but I have felt the presence of my Saviour Jesus throughout many difficult times.

I have many shortcomings, which make me all the more thankful for the forgiveness and renewal that God offers me through the once-and-for all sacrifice of His son Jesus.

Despite my failings, the Lord has graciously given me gifts to use in His service and I have sought to use them to encourage and build up my Christian brothers and sisters here at Clarence Park and elsewhere.

What's my vision for the future at Clarence Park?



I will continue to do my best to support our minister Steve as together we seek to lead the church fellowship into new ventures as well as re-kindling old ones, as the Lord guides us. My prayer and vision is that people of all ages will be enabled to meet Jesus and invite Him into their lives as Lord and Saviour. For those who have been Christians for some time, my prayer is that they would be encouraged to expand and deepen their faith.

Details of Church AGM 2022

Our AGM will be held in Person - Sunday 15th May following the morning service

Church officers and Gift aid Officer

At our AGM we reappoint the role of Treasurer, Secretary, Gift Aid admin and group leaders. This year we are asking you to approve the continued role of Elisabeth Speakman as Church Secretary (Aided by Kevin Speakman for Admin), Ruth Fuller as Treasurer (Aided by Paul Fuller and Paul Salmons (as bookkeeper), and for Michael Wedlake to serve and process Gift Aid claims for the church.

The names of group/activity leaders will be brought to the in-person portion of the meeting at the AGM.

Group Reports for 2021

These are still being collated and will be available before the meeting for members to collect and view. If you are a group leader, please can you prepare your report and return it to Kevin Speakman.

Deacons Elections & AGM 2022 Voting Form

Please note all votes must be received by the church Treasurer no later than Midnight 7th May 2022

Voting is postal only – we will not accept votes on the day of the meeting.

To Vote please print off the voting page, complete your response and either:

1. On a Sunday place your paper in the voting box near the coffee station at Church.
2. Post your response using the following details on the envelope.

Deacons' election

FAO The Church Treasurer

Clarence Park Baptist Church

Walliscote Road, W-s-M BS23 1ED

All votes will be held in confidence and once counted with another independent Deacon will be destroyed.

The candidates will be informed of the outcome before the AGM, but the results will be announced to the church and to those attending the meeting.

If you require a hard copy of the voting paper then these are available at church or can be provided if you contact Steve or Ruth to request one.

If you have any questions on the election then please contact either Steve or Ruth (please note that Liz will be unable to answer your questions as she is a nominee)

VOTING RESPONSE 2022

Name Of Member Voting: _____

(Names will be held in confidence by church Treasurer but will be used to monitor correct process for voting)

PLEASE PRINT OFF AN INDIVIDUAL FORM PER MEMBER RESPONDING

1. CHURCH OFFICERS & Gift Aid Processor

I agree to the appointment of church officers (Secretary (Elisabeth Speakman) and Treasure (Ruth Fuller)) and the Gift Aid officer (Mike Wedlake).

Please tick your choice:

YES

NO

2. Deacons Election 2022

Deacons may be elected from the membership of the Church to serve for a period of three years. The term of office will run until our AGM in 2025.

A list of those nominated is given opposite.

Please vote by placing a clear mark in the square provided against the name(s) of those you vote for.

There are 5 vacancies and so you may vote for any or all of the candidates.

Nominee(s)

Kaye Cooke

John Dawkins

Elisabeth Speakman

To secure election, any candidate must be voted for by **at least 50%** of the members returning Ballot papers.

**VOTES MUST BE RECEIVED
BY May 7th 2022**

ALL VOTES TO BE Placed in Votes Box at Church

Or POSTED TO: *Deacons' election, FAO The Church Treasurer*

Clarence Park Baptist Church, Walliscote Road, W-s-M BS23 1ED