

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays	10.30am	Morning Worship
Tuesdays	9.00am	Prayer Meeting
	10.00am	Little Treasures
	5.15pm	Kingsquad (Yrs 3-6)
Wednesdays	9:00am - 12.00pm	Friendly Bean Community Café
	2.00pm	Ladies' Fellowship
Thursdays	9:00am - 12.00pm	Friendly Bean Community Café
	7.00pm	Housegroup (Church)
Fridays	10.30am	Fellowship Group (Church) – <i>Alternate Fridays</i>
	7.30pm-9.30pm	Powerhouse (yrs 7-11) – <i>1st & 3rd Fridays in the month</i>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April

14	Palm Sunday – All Age Service
14	Members' Meeting & AGM
18	Maundy Thursday (7:00pm at St Matthew's Church)
19	Good Friday (10:30am)
21	Return of Smartie Tubes

CONTACT US!

Minister:	(Vacant)
Elder/Treasurer:	Bryan Johnson ☎ 842283
Elder/Secretary:	Suzanne Rogers ☎ 07809 433723
Deacons:	Lynda Gilbert ☎ 686671 Jan Rogers ☎ 868136
Website:	www.borstalbaptistchurch.org.uk

Borstal Baptist Church

To know Christ and to make Him known



Welcome to our church. We pray that you will meet with God here. There is a loop system in use, just turn your hearing aid to the 'T' position. Children are welcome to stay in the service or go out to Sunday School. You are warmly invited to stay for coffee or tea after the morning service. If we can help you in any way, please don't hesitate to ask. Do please sign the visitors' book before you leave.

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give
you a hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

APRIL 2019

From the Deacons:

A quick reminder that on 14 April we will hold our AGM, when the election of deacons will be on the agenda. We hope that you have been prayerfully and strenuously considering who might serve our fellowship in this capacity. Nominations forms are available from Bryan and Suz.

On Palm Sunday we will have an all-age worship service – please don't panic! We will be celebrating that entry into Jerusalem in a way that, hopefully, will enable all of us to engage meaningfully with the loud hosannas of the crowd and the Servant King's arrival on a humble donkey.

As we look ahead in anticipation of Easter Day and the joy of the resurrection, let us not forget that, without the sorrow and pain of Good Friday, there would have been no resurrection. We will meet on Good Friday morning for a quiet and reflective service, when we look at the events leading up to the crucifixion and Christ's sacrifice for the salvation of mankind. We do hope you are able to join us at 10:30am for this.

Bryan, Suz, Lynda and Jan

CAN SCIENCE EXPLAIN EVERYTHING?

By John Lennox (Reviewed by the Rev Dr Ernest C Lucas)

John Lennox is Emeritus Professor of Mathematics at Oxford University. He is a well-known speaker and writer on Christian apologetics, especially in the area of science and faith. This book is intended to be an introduction to the "Science and God Debate". It is especially written for those who think that "God and science don't mix".

In response to the claim that it is not possible to be a scientist and believe in God he points out that many of the outstanding pioneers of modern science were convinced believers in God, and that more than 60 percent of the Nobel Prize winners from 1901-2000 identified Christianity as their religious preference.

So why do so many people think the God and science don't mix? One reason is that the media give prominence to scientists who are atheists and make that claim. Unfortunately, people often fail to recognise that the fact that something is said by a scientist doesn't mean that it is a scientific statement. Carl Sagan's oft-quoted statement that "The cosmos is all that is, or ever was, or ever will be" is not a statement based on science but on his own atheistic belief. The same is true of Richard Dawkins' assertion that God is a delusion that harms people's lives. Indeed, Lennox quotes evidence from psychiatric studies which show that religious involvement correlates strongly with human wellbeing. Dawkins' has not done his homework before making a statement in an area beyond his own scientific expertise.

Lennox deals clearly and cogently with a number of the "myths" that are perpetuated in the debate about science and God. Science is not the only way to truth. It does not compete with God as the explanation of something, it gives a different kind of explanation. He "busts" the myths that religion depends on faith but science doesn't, and that science depends on reason but Christianity doesn't.

He makes clear that it is important to understand the nature and purpose of the Bible. It is not given to teach us science. In the words used by Galileo, it teaches us "how to go to heaven and not how the heavens go". The laws of nature describe what happens in the universe, they do not cause it. They do not rule out the possibility of miracles. This leads Lennox to discuss the evidence for the resurrection of Jesus, because, he says "Disprove the resurrection, and the whole of Christianity would disappear in a puff of smoke". He shows how strong the evidence is.

The book ends with a couple of chapters which set out the essence of the Christian good news and challenge uncommitted readers to test whether it is true by committing themselves to Christ. This is a book well worth buying, reading and then lending to friends who think that "God and science don't mix."

The Rev Dr Ernest C Lucas is Vice-Principle Emeritus of Bristol Baptist College and a former research biochemist

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