

SPRING LANE BAPTIST

Making God's Love and Salvation known

SUNDAY WORSHIP 4.00PM

January 2018

Date	Speaker	Musician	Topic
7th	Ken Hawkings	Recorded	Communion
14th			
21st	Ken Hawkings		Sunday Lite
28th			

If you are visiting us on a Sunday afternoon we extend a very special welcome to you. Please stay and join us for a cup of coffee/tea, and biscuits and a chat, or for a time of personal prayer

SUNDAY 21st January Church Unity Sunday @ St. Thomas 9.45am

Weekdays at the Centre

Monday	Bumps and Babies	10.00am 12.00pm	Except holidays
Monday	Messy Church	3.30pm - 5.30pm	2nd Monday
Wednesday	Lunch Club (CCS)	12.30pm	3rd Wednesday
Wednesday	Residents Association	7.00pm	LAST of MONTH
Thursday	Art Group	9.00am	01217049054
Thursday	WI.	7.00pm	FIRST of MONTH
Friday	Yoga	10.00 - 12.00	07734284144
Saturday	Art Group	10.00am	01564782349
Café in the Park	2nd Sunday each month	2pm — 4pm	Family Time
Umberslade Church is open on the last Sunday of the Month from 2.00 - 4.00pm			



On Behalf of Spring Lane Baptist Church.. My I wish you a HAPPY NEW YEAR
Derrick Hancock

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Minister:
Secretary:-

Rev. Ken Hawkings
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FAITH MATTERS

So, we now know that Brexit will be visible to millions of Britons in that their passports will change from a burgundy colour to a blue one. I know that this ages me, but when this pronouncement about passports was made a couple of weeks ago, I immediately thought of the lyrics from a George Harrison song...

You don't need no passport
And you don't need no visas
You don't need to designate or to emigrate
Before you can see Jesus
If you open up your heart
You'll see he's right there
Always was and will be...

George was clearly spiritually aware by the time he had penned these lines in 1970. Although I cannot embrace his religious philosophies, I can welcome the lyrics quoted above. Indeed, we don't need a passport or a visa to enter the Kingdom of God. There are no restrictions based on nationality, ethnicity, criminal history, nor financial or social status. This does not mean, however, that the actual passage into God's Kingdom (God's Heaven) is a free-for-all affair.

People are used to thinking of the fanciful image of St Peter standing guard at the pearly gates vetting who will enter and who will be turned away. Christians prefer to stick to biblical teaching about such things. Here we do find a divide at the point of entry, but not one that is based on brownie points accrued on the 'goodness' scale. Instead, Christians are trusting in Jesus Christ to personally vouch for them before God both now and into eternity. Jesus himself is their passport into his Father's kingdom. The Gospel writer, John, assures us that Jesus and his Father are one in this matter. 'who ever acknowledges me before other people,' says Jesus, 'I will acknowledge them before my Father in heaven.'

Men and women have been known to pay a high price to secure a British passport. Jesus paid with his life to become the passport which brings his people to God.

If you want to know more, why not resolve, at the start of 2018, to seek out a church which runs sessions such as Christianity Explored; the Alpha course or the Uncover course.

Stephen Richards
www.solidrocknews.co.uk

Our Centre is available for hire subject to terms and conditions.

Allocation Manager: Mrs. Joan Hohmann 0121 439 7650