

# SUNDAY SERVICES & SMALL GROUPS

SHOEBURYNNESS & THORPE BAY BAPTIST CHURCH



As a church we are passionate about helping people to discover why they are here and what that means for their lives.

We believe we are here because God made us and wants to have a relationship with us. Sunday church services and weekday Small Groups are two key events in our weekly programme that help us to explore who God is and who we are; to connect with God and to deepen our relationships with each other.



## Sunday Services

Sunday services are times when the Church family comes together to express to God our thanks and praise, to learn more about Him and to express our care for each other.

**We have three services on a Sunday:**

**9.00am – 10.00am**

**10.30am – 11.45am**

**6.30pm – 7.45pm**

**Tea and coffee** are served between the morning services and after the evening service. On some Sundays lunch is served after the 10.30 am service.

There are activities for children at the 10.30 am service, including:

- **Crèche for babies to children aged three years**
- **PowerSource for children aged up to 18**

We regularly hold Family Services when children and young people stay for the whole service.

We try to make everything about our services user-friendly – with comfortable chairs, good lighting and sound, and a warm welcome!

**...we're making a *difference***



## Sunday Services *continued*

We aim to make the content of our services relevant to our culture and community. Our worship style is largely contemporary, each service being led by one of our five worship bands, each of which has very talented musicians and singers and we often make use of audio-visual presentations. We make sure that we **clearly communicate** what is going on at our services so that everyone attending is comfortable and understands what is happening. The words to the songs are displayed on a large screen, and a hearing loop system and large print words are available.

Twice a month we include **Communion** (also known as Eucharist or The Lord's Supper) in our services. Participation in Communion is open to all who are committed Christians, whether members of our church or not. We hold regular **baptismal services** for those who have become committed Christians. Six times each year we hold a service for **Senior Citizens**.

## Small Groups

We currently have around **20 Small Groups** (our name for Home Groups or Cell Groups). Most meet on **Tuesday evenings for two hours in homes**, although some meet at other times including some



that meet during the day. There are also two **Youth Small Groups** and a **Sixth Form Small Group**.

**Small Groups** are the key way to build close friendships within the larger church community. The groups are designed to meet the needs of those who know very little about the Christian faith as well as those who have been Christians for a long time but still want to deepen their relationship with God. Each group has around 10 members who meet together to **pray, explore the Bible** and to **help each other in living our daily lives** as Christians. Small Group Leaders are trained to lead their group through a discussion so all can be involved in the conversation and ask questions.

*Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet. We hope you will see that our Sunday services and Small Groups are here for you, and we warmly invite you to join us at these activities.*

*For further information, or to join a Small Group, please leave your name at the Reception Desk on a Sunday or contact the church office by:*  
phone: **01702 292620**  
email: **office@shoeburybaptistchurch.org.uk**



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