

Eynsford Baptist Church

Church ... not for me anymore!

For a range of reasons there's a significant constituency of people, nowadays, who feel that they can no-longer sign-up to church membership or even attendance. Not a few have dropped out of church, some indeed having been very active at one time, perhaps even in leadership. In most cases, there is a residual faith in God, indeed often a real appreciation of some aspects of their heritage, but they find there's just so much about church and religion that they can no longer embrace authentically.

Apart from feeling out-of-sync with the way church is done, there are often unresolved questions about how to view some of the very complex dilemmas of 21st century life. And there's also the matter of how to take the Bible, given its roots in a pre-scientific age and hugely different cultures. Others, very sadly, have had negative experiences in churches and feel hurt and aggrieved.

Those who see faith as a private and personal matter are probably content to pursue their faith journey alone. On the other hand, others feel isolated. In such a situation how does one meet 'kindred spirits' – others in the same situation? Where does one go for what church-goers would call 'fellowship'? There are a number of useful books written on this theme, (I've read some), – but they are not a completely satisfying substitute for conversation with others in the same position.

Does this resonate with you? Well, here's an offer. The pastor of Eynsford's Baptist church is willing to be a catalyst for some sort of forum where people can meet together from time to time to discuss experiences and perspectives. The particular shape of that forum would be entirely a matter for the participants to decide. If that's of interest to you, feel free to give me a call on 07411 278637.

Chris Moffett

Church Notices

Next lunch on **Thursday 12th September**, come and join us for steak and kidney pie followed by summer fruit sponge! All welcome - phone Dave on 01959 439741 to pre book, or just turn up on the day.

Next "Your kingdom come" Bible teaching on **Friday 6th September at 7.30**, upper room - come early for a coffee!

Services Sunday at 10.30 a.m.

Everyone welcome!