



Beckenham Baptist Church

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Church Profile

Beckenham Baptist Church is a thriving community of about 300 people. The church has grown rapidly in recent years under the ministry of Jim and Julia Binney. We currently have 150+ members with more joining us all the time. Typically 150 attend Sunday morning worship and 40+ our interactive, more alternative, reflective evening services.

The church is united in its belief in the Trinity and the saving grace of Jesus Christ through his death and resurrection as revealed in scripture. The church is friendly and welcoming to all and values diversity. Members have a diverse range of theological backgrounds and a strong social conscience. We are committed to the 5 core values and operate a purpose led programme. The congregation is ethnically mixed with 30+ countries represented reflecting the local area. The entire age spectrum is equally represented in the congregation.

The church has a tradition of liturgical worship and is currently committed to what has become known in recent days as 'blended worship', or 'ancient future worship'. This seeks to combine the best of the old with the best of the new, in a living liturgical approach to worship in a way that enables the whole congregation to participate in worship. We make good use of a data projector in worship and the particular emphasis that Jim and Julia Binney seek to bring to our blended worship is the dynamic presence of the Holy Spirit within a liturgical form of worship. Our musical style is diverse using organ music, a choir for special services and a worship band. We have a number of very talented musicians and songwriters (producing their own CDs) and cover the whole range of music in worship from classical to contemporary.

We have a strong Sunday Club. Young people are encouraged to take an active part in church life, planning and participating in services, for example, providing music, drama and leading prayer. We operate a Safe to Grow policy.

The church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the London Baptist Association and Churches Together in Beckenham. It gives regularly to the Baptist Missionary Society and Home Mission.

Our local community

Beckenham is a relatively affluent suburban area in the London Borough of Bromley. Many of our congregation live in Beckenham and the surrounding area. Some commute to London for work but others work locally in businesses, schools, the NHS etc.

The church is situated in a highly visible, central location. Nearby are: the sports and leisure centre, library, GP surgery, language school, job centre, MIND. We have strong links with a nearby primary school and a girl's comprehensive.

Church Activities and Outreach

We have a regeneration project underway to renovate our extensive premises and renew our vision to be '*A Caring Christian Church at the heart of the Community*'.

- Church prayer meetings held on a weekly and monthly basis. Prayer groups also meet to support parents and our BMS link missionaries: Ann Bothamley and Margaret Gibbs.
- Homegroups meet regularly following material related to the Sunday morning service themes
- 'Welcome to the family group' meets, regularly as needed, for new friends to find out more about our fellowship – following this many have asked for Baptism and/or church membership.
- Sunday club provides Christian teaching and a range of activities for 3-16yr olds.
- Youth club (ERYC) for 14+year olds meets in our brand new garden room for faith exploration, prayer, games, activities etc. and holidays to e.g. Soul survivor.
- Choir, music groups and Band rehearsals. Drama club for young people
- Popular Pre-school (50 children) Toddler club for parents/carers and pre-school children
- Uniformed organisations: beavers, cubs, scouts, rainbows, brownies (2 packs), guides – total membership 140 plus leaders (some of whom are church members). We hold 4 parade services a year which are well attended by members and their families.
- Together (for older people) and Friendship clubs. Men's group. Regular Social activities
- Social action projects run with other local churches: Homeless project, Street Pastors, Refugee Project.
- A number of our members work for, or support, Christian charities e.g. Tearfund, HopeUK. We support these and others such as Christian Aid, Spurgeons childcare, Tools with a Mission.
- Traidcraft stall. Committed to Fair trade.
- Posters – we display prominent thought provoking posters often commented on by passers by.