

# Newsletter

## 20<sup>th</sup> March

### 2022

epsom  
baptist church

Leading: **June McMillan**  
Preaching: **Martin Southerland**  
Theme: **John 9:34 - 41**

The next **Deacons' Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022, at 7:30pm.

## Hybrid Service

This Sunday's service will be at church and online, with the online service held over Zoom, at 9:30am. Here is the code:

**899 4803 5597**

Or follow the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89948035597>

*(which you can access by clicking)*



Members  
Meeting

## Members' Meeting

There will be a Members' Meeting on **Wednesday, the 6th of April**, at 7:30pm.

Epsom Baptist Church, 4 Inverary Avenue, Epsom, AUCKLAND 1023  
Phone: (09) 630-6010 / 021882638      [epsombaptist@gmail.com](mailto:epsombaptist@gmail.com)

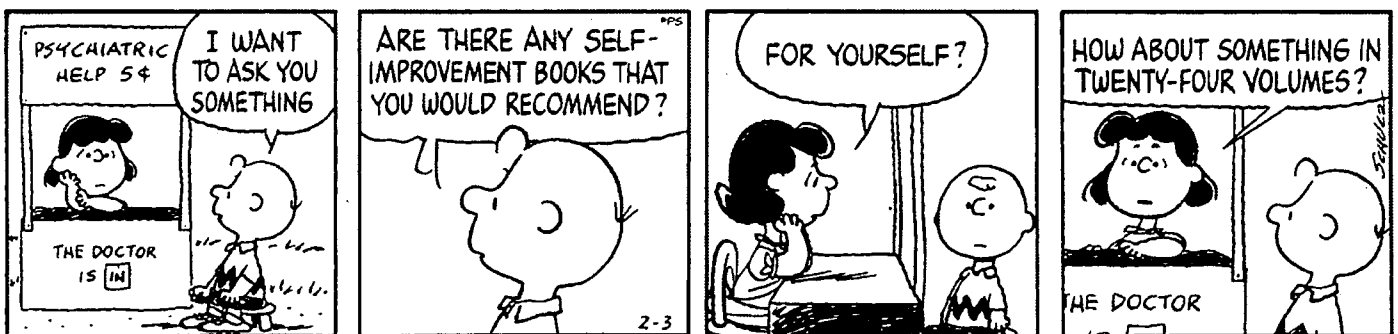
Senior Pastor: Pastor Daniel Choi

[epsombaptistchurch.org.nz](http://epsombaptistchurch.org.nz)      Check out **Epsom Baptist Church** on Facebook

## This Week's Message

During the second world war, planet earth must have seemed like a grim place. It would have been hard to maintain a positive outlook on life. A few people had the rare gift of making others feel better, though, even when the world was turning to ruin. Some will recall the great Vera Lynn singing that "we'll meet again some sunny day." Bing Crosby had a similar gift: the ability to bring sunshine into a gloomy landscape. Despite the war, Bing could make everyone dream about the imagined joy of a white Christmas. Vera and Bing were popular because they helped people forget their sad circumstances. In those violent days, sad circumstances were available in great abundance; many battled the invisible enemy of depression. Today we see a similar pattern developing. Some of us were already carrying deep concerns for our earthly habitat as a result of global warming. Then along came Mr Covid with his joyless retinue of afflictions and restrictions. Now, to make matters worse, we see the dark clouds of war gathering once more on the European horizon. Maintaining a joyful disposition has again become hard; the tentacles of depression too easily extended. As Christians, we need to know how to defend ourselves against this negative pressure and how to encourage others who suffer from its debilitating effects. We can start by remembering that the joy of the Lord is our strength and, if we ask, God can give us "the oil of joy for mourning and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." Importantly, though, we also need to remember that we are part of a body of believers. Asking for help does not indicate a lack of faith.

Grant Illingworth



## March 2022 Sunday morning rosters

**Flowers:** 6, 13 Donglan Zhang, 20, 27 Linda McBurney

**Morning tea:** Luanne & Alan Lau

**Communion preparation:** Luanne & Alan Lau

**Door and Offering:** Ian & Dawn de Stigter

**Scripture reading & Communion:** June McMillan

**Offering counting:** Dawn de Stigter and Anne Bartley