

# The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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## **“Those Who Honor Me, I Will Honor”**

Recently, my oldest daughter and I watched a short cartoon about a great hero of the Christian faith. Eric Liddell, born in China to Scottish missionaries, became a great athlete in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (he ran so fast that he earned the nickname, “The Flying Scotsman”). He was selected to compete in the 100-meter race (his best event) in the 1924 Olympics, but he refused to participate because it would have required him to run on a Sunday. He later agreed to compete in the 400-meter race (which was run on a different day of the week), winning a gold medal in the event, and also setting a world record in the process. He also competed in the 200-meter race, winning a bronze medal. Eric Liddell’s story is depicted in the 1981 award-winning film *Chariots of Fire*.

Was Eric Liddell right for refusing to race on a Sunday? Considering that he was Scottish (I am not certain whether he was actually Presbyterian), that should come as no surprise, as he would have had a high view of the Christian Sabbath, or Lord’s Day. For Eric Liddell, honoring God was more important than running in a race, even if that race was the most important race in the world. There is, of course, an important lesson in that for us: in a day and a culture that places little emphasis on Sunday and the importance of worship. Honoring God is to be our priority, not what the world would consider to be most important.

But there are other aspects of Eric Liddell’s life that you may not know. One is the anger that was directed at him when it was announced that he refused to race in the Olympics on a Sunday. He was called a traitor to his country. The British newspapers denounced him. Yet, he still considered it best to honor God (today, he is considered to be one of Scotland’s greatest athletes and a national hero). One unusual aspect about Liddell was his running style. He would run with his head thrown back and mouth wide open, which was often ridiculed by others (his running style was described as “ugly” and was sometimes laughed at by fellow runners). Another interesting story is that on the day he won the 400 meters, he was handed a folded piece of paper prior to the race. On it were written words from 1 Samuel 2:30 – “Those who honor Me, I will honor.” Liddell would later say that he was profoundly moved when he read the note, as he was unaware that anyone other than his coach supported his decision not to race on Sunday.

A year after the Olympics were over, Eric Liddell returned to China, where he served as a missionary like his parents. He was born in China, and China would be the place where he would die. In 1943, during World War II, Eric Liddell was placed in an internment camp by the Japanese (who had invaded China and were occupying the country at that time). He died of an inoperable brain tumor in that camp in 1945, five months before the camp was liberated. Today, his grave is marked by a headstone with words from Isaiah 40:31 – “They shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary.”

Very few people are gifted to be Olympic athletes. Not many are called to be missionaries. But all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are called to honor Him. Sometimes that means enduring the ridicule of others. It may even mean being considered a “traitor” by the world around us. But to honor God is more important than what others may think of us. To know Jesus Christ is better than all the fame or riches that the world may offer. Therefore, let us honor Him above all else.

# Prayer List:

Bennett, Mary F – Shut in  
 Billings, Richard – (Denise’s Dad) Cancer  
 Boswell, Charles - Cancer  
 Boswell, Mike – Health issues  
 Bryant, Ty – Infant, Heart  
 Cothran, Bill – Health issues  
 Goulder, Helen – Brookhaven Senior Living  
 Goulder, Martha Jean – Shut In  
 Hopper, Claude – Shut in  
**London, Peggy**  
 Erwin, Royce – (Denise’s Uncle) Hospice  
 McCain, Pat – Health Issues  
 McCain, Ken – Health Issues

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**Moncla, Luke**  
 Moore, Martha Lou – Shut in  
**Moss, Charlie**  
**Otis, Mike**  
 Pugh, Kaleb – (Laura Kiphart’s grandson)  
**Stitt, Sam – Health issues**  
 Trotter, June – Shut in  
 Williams, Sandy – (Huffman family)Cancer  
 Wilson, Glenda – Bone Cancer  
 Winford, Sherry – Health issues  
 Yarbro, Ina – Health issues  
 Heath, Kristin - Cancer

**UPDATES NEEDED! Please**

Rivercity Reformed Presbyterain Church – Church plant in Little Rock Arkansas

**Military**

Donahoo, Tim	Starnes, Austin	Hill, Debra	Hunt, Boyce
Dooley, Rod	Heathman,Matthew	Young III, Robert “Trip”	

**Missionaries**

Coad, Jim & Gala    Rebekah Carson

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- |                      |                       |                    |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Paul Brubaker      | 16 Zoe Angeline Hoots | 27 Delaine Trotter |
| 2 Glenn Goulder      | 20 Slade Templeton    | 28 Robin Rowell    |
| 3 Meredith Cavin     | Cole Templeton        | 30 Peter Simonton  |
| 8 Jennifer Templeton | 22 Joel Palmer        | 31 Charlie Canon   |
| 11 Claude Hopper     | Shasta Smith          |                    |
| 15 John W. Yarbro    | 27 Alison Gray        |                    |
| Phil Trotter         | David Templeton, II   |                    |

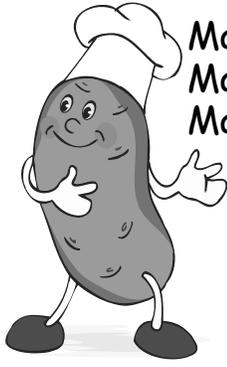
**NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

May 7	Lydia Maxwell
May 14	Alton Woods
May 21	Denise Moore
May 28	Helen Woods

**CHILDRENS SERMON**

May 7	John Moore
May 14	Slade Templeton
May 21	Margarett Alsbrook
May 28	Ashley Goulder

## May Menu



May 10 Sloppy Joes  
 May 17 Corn Dogs/Fries  
 May 24 Hamb/Hot Dogs

Cost: \$3.00 person  
 \$10.00 Family

# Upcoming Events

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-674-3851 or e-mail at [chris\\_gravley@bellsouth.net](mailto:chris_gravley@bellsouth.net).

**THE DEACON OF THE MONTH** is Nick Goulder. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Nick at 901-837-3532.

**PLEASE NOTE** If anyone is sick, in need of prayer or a visit, please contact Milton Murphy 901-476-2808.

**PRAYER LIST:** Thank you for the updates on the Prayer List. There are names still on the list that people do not know or have any information on. **Keep the updates coming!** Thanks!

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** The Sunday Bible Study at 6 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Photo's of the different church events are needed for the Website. If you have photo's that you don't mind sharing please send to Nick Goulder at [nick.goulder1@gmail.com](mailto:nick.goulder1@gmail.com)  
Subject: Church Photos

**PLEASE NOTE:** Start making plans! The MVP Camp is July 10 – 15. The cost is usually \$260 non-members \$130 Members. If you would like to start sponsoring the kids attending it would be greatly appreciated. As usual they could always use counselors that week.

**VBS: SPREAD THE WORD** - Vacation Bible School will be June 11 – 15 starting @ 6 p.m. Theme: Faith EXPEDITION "God's Treasure Revealed". Ages: Pre K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Adult Bible Study will also be available. If you would like to help in any way please see Linda or Ashley.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a joint Webinar Teaching session on Tuesday May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Basement. Title is "Partnering with Parents". All are welcome so hope to see you there.

# Personal Mention

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our 2017 Graduate Ms Lilly Kate Alsbrook will be graduating from Brighton High School on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Way to go Lilly.