



**Sharing the love
of Jesus**

Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter

Sunday 17th March 24

Message from Alistair-

There was an article in *The Guardian* a little while ago saying that there has been an “explosion” in anxiety in Britain over the past decade. Research has shown that the financial crash, austerity, Brexit, climate change and social media have contributed to massive rises in the condition. It is enough to make us wonder if the Apostle Paul was out of touch with reality when he wrote, ‘Do not be anxious about anything’ Phil.4:6!

‘Be anxious for less’ would have been a sufficient challenge. Or ‘Be anxious only on Tuesdays-Thursdays’. Or be anxious between 9:00am-5:00pm. But Paul doesn’t seem to offer any leeway here: ‘Do not be anxious about anything.’

Could you use some calm? If so, you aren’t alone. Thankfully, Paul doesn’t just tell us not to be anxious about anything; he also tells us how we can discover calm.

Celebrate God’s goodness- ‘Rejoice in the Lord always’- Phil.4:4.

Ask God for help- ‘In every situation, by prayer and petition’- Phil.4:6.

Leave your concerns with him- ‘With thanksgiving, present your requests to God’- Phil.4:6.

Meditate on good things- ‘Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things’- Phil.4:8.

C-A-L-M. Trade your cares for calm. Then you’ll discover that ‘the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus’- Phil.4:7

Our Service- Sunday 17th March 24-

Our service on Sunday 17th March will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy. It is an all-age service led by Rev. Alistair Stewart. We are continuing with our series which will take us through the Lord’s Prayer. On Sunday, we’re looking at ‘Give us today our daily bread.’

Tea and coffee will be served after the service.

Our Activities- Week beginning Sunday 17th March 24-

Monday- Welcome Bap- 10:00am-12:00 Noon at Oasis.

Monday- Church Members Meeting- 7:30pm at Oasis. [See notice later in the newsletter].

Tuesday- Tots and Co- 9:30am-11:30am at Oasis. Mark, Jo and Gill are on the rota.

Tuesday- Encounter with God- 7:00pm-8:00pm at Oasis.

Wednesday- Ladies Fellowship- 10:30am-12:00 Noon at Oasis. A Lent Study called 'Fleeting Shadows' by Malcolm Duncan. The study helps us reflect on the Cross and the power of Christ in our own lives as we walk through the trials and tribulations of life.

Wednesday- Wednesday Evening House Group- 7:30pm at Oasis.

Thursday- Knit 'n Natter meets at Oasis on the 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons of the month from 1:30pm-3:30pm.

Thursday- Alpha- 7:45 by Zoom. Session 4- How can I have faith? [See notice later in the newsletter].

Saturday- Saturday Prayer Gathering- 8:30am-9:15am at Oasis.

If you would like to join any of the midweek groups, please contact Alistair and he will put you in touch with the group leader.

Passion for Praise- Verses from Scripture that emphasise praise to our God-

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. *Ephesians 1:3*

Wisdom for the Week- Christian quotes to inspire and encourage- Peace-

'If God be our God, He will give us peace in trouble. When there is a storm without, He will make peace within. The world can create trouble in peace, but God can create peace in trouble.' *Thomas Watson- 17th century English Puritan preacher.*

News for the Church Family-

From George Hill- Ordinary Church Members Meeting - 18th March 2024-

Dear SBC Member or Friend,

This is the Notice of our forthcoming Ordinary Church Members Meeting, which will take place on Monday 18th March 2024 at 7:30pm. This meeting will be held at our Oasis Community Centre, 36 Green Street Ground Floor, Sandbach, CW11 1GX.

In separate emails, you should have received:

1. The agenda for the Meeting.
2. The minutes from the Annual Church Meeting on 27th November 2023.
3. The finance report for the Meeting.

Non-members (non-voting) in the congregation are also warmly encouraged to attend.

From Ian Parsons and Churches Together in Sandbach- Easter Passion Play is coming to Sandbach-

The Christian Theatre Company: 'Lamps Collective' is coming to Sandbach and will be presenting 'The Passion' at St Mary's Church at 6:00pm on Palm Sunday- 24th March 2024. The presentation lasts for approx. 75 minutes with no interval.

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite people along to a moving and memorable retelling of the Easter story through the eyes of Peter, Mary Magdalene and a Roman Centurion called Marcus. Please note that the recommended minimum age is 12+.

Tickets are £5.00 and must be purchased in advance, but we are also offering a "pay forward" service, if you know of anyone who would like to come but can't afford the ticket price. This is also ideal if you are unable to come but would still like to donate to the event.

Tickets and flyers will hopefully be available from early/mid-February. You will be able to get them from me, but please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in attending so we can gauge the response.

We have also been asked to provide accommodation and a meal to the team to help reduce costs, and therefore if anyone can support the team in this way, please let me know.

We are all very excited to be able to bring the Easter story to our Town in a fresh and new way and hope you will be able to support the event through prayer and by inviting people along.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

From Chris Nash- Oasis work party: Saturday 23rd March-

We invite helpers for a work party at Oasis, starting at 9:30am (after the prayer meeting) on Saturday morning 23rd March. Likely tasks include:

- 1) covering the untiled floor with carpet tiles
- 2) clearing out old and unwanted items from the back rooms
- 3) any small necessary repairs
- 4) any necessary equipment maintenance
- 5) possibly fitting display lighting

If anyone could lend a hand with any of these tasks it would be much appreciated (and there will be refreshments and cake!!).

It would be helpful if you could let me know if you are able to come please.

From Alistair and the Leadership Team- Alpha-

Our Alpha course will continue on **Thursday 21st March at 7:45pm by Zoom**. It is Session 4- How can I have faith?

Here is the Zoom link for Alpha, which will be the same for every session.

Ian Parsons is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Alpha Group

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9074373769?omn=83841564364>

Meeting ID: 907 437 3769

Dial by your location

- +44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 907 437 3769

If for any reason the link doesn't work, you can still join the meeting by downloading Zoom onto your device and entering the Meeting ID - there will be no further password.

From George Hill- future diary notes

Details of the Easter services will be given shortly; to start with, there will be a Maundy Thursday service at Oasis at 7.30pm on Thursday 28th March.

And much later on . . . the Delamere Forest picnic and walk will now be on Sunday September 15th, not Sept 8th.

And finally....

A friend told me they used milk instead of shaving foam. 'Pasteurized?' No, just around my chin!

Contacts-

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