



**Sharing the love
of Jesus**

Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter

Sunday 14th April 24

Message from Alistair-

I've always liked the Graham Kendrick song 'Servant King' [written in 1983- the same year we got married!]. It begins with these familiar words,

From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled,
not to be served but to serve
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King;
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

Would we do what Jesus did? He swapped the glories of heaven for the grime of a stable. He exchanged the worship of angels for the company of killers. I wouldn't do that, but Jesus did.

If you knew that only a few people would care that you came, would you still come? If you knew that those you loved, would mock you, spit on you, beat you and nail you to a cross, would you still come? Jesus did. As Paul tells us, 'And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!' Phil.2:8.

The 'hands that flung stars into space, to cruel nails surrendered.' Why? Because that's what love does. It puts the beloved before itself. He loves you that much, and because he loves you, you are so precious to him.

Do you want to love others as God has loved you? Well, God invites you to come to him and drink deeply of his love for you. Ask him to fill your heart with a love worth giving.

Our Service- Sunday 14th April 24-

Our service on Sunday 14th April will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy. Bernie Williams will be leading the service and Rev. Alistair Stewart will be preaching. The Bible reading is Luke 24:13-27 and the title is 'Encounter on the Emmaus road- Part 2.' This service will include communion.

We're sorry but we're not able to serve tea and coffee after the service.

Our Activities- Week beginning Sunday 14th April 24-

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

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 Study called 'The Holy Spirit - understanding and experiencing Him'.

Wednesday- Wednesday Evening House Group- 7:30pm at Oasis. Continuing the Lent Studies.

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

Thursday- Churches Together in Sandbach Business Meeting- 7:30pm at St. Winefrides.

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-

Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done. Sing to him; yes, sing his praises. Tell everyone about his wonderful deeds. Exult in his holy name; rejoice, you who worship the Lord. Search for the Lord and for his strength; continually seek him. *Psalms 105:1-4*

Wisdom for the Week- Christian quotes to inspire and encourage- Longing after God-

'I want deliberately to encourage this mighty longing after God. The lack of it has brought us to our present low estate. The stiff and wooden quality about our religious lives is a result of our lack of holy desire.' *A W Tozer- American Christian pastor*

News for the Church Family-

From the Messy Church Team- Our First Messy Church Event- 21st April-

We would really value your prayers for our first Messy Church Event. It will be at Oasis on 21st April from 3:30pm-5:00pm. [We will still have our morning service at the school as usual]. We have publicized Messy Church through Tots and Co, The Food Pantry, social media and the church website.

Messy Church is a way of being church for families and others.

It's Christ-centred. Messy Church helps people encounter Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

It's for all ages. Messy Church is for everyone. And every element aims to be relevant and accessible to all ages.

It's creative. Messy Church reflects the creativity of God through crafts, songs, videos, activities and food.

It's hospitable. Messy Church is outward-facing. And it welcomes everybody to enjoy the hospitality and unconditional love of God.

It's a celebration. Messy Church reflects the God of joy who wants people to have life in all its fullness. Please support us with your prayers.

From Alistair and the Leadership Team- Baptismal Service- 28th April-

We are very much looking forward to baptizing Sarah Carter in a service of believer's baptism at 10:30am on Sunday 28th April at Union Street Baptist Church, Crewe. Our friends at Union Street have kindly invited us to join them for worship. George Hill will be leading the service and Rev. Alistair Stewart will be preaching. There will of course be no service at Sandbach Primary Academy on that day.

Although there is some parking near the church, it is somewhat limited. You may wish to consider sharing lifts, and, of course, offering lifts to those who need transport. There is a map showing the location and giving further details at: <https://www.usbccrewe.org.uk/>

The address of the church is- Union Street Baptist Church, Union Street, Crewe, Cheshire, CW2 7DJ. Please continue to pray for Sarah on this special occasion.

From George Hill- Friends of A Rocha and others- Nature Walk-

All are welcome to accompany me on a nature walk on Sunday 14th April, meeting at Sandbach Crosses at 2:30pm. This is a longer walk than usual (3 miles, including Park and Rail Trail), the majority on roadside pavements, and will cover the first part of the new Sandbach Fine Trees Circuit. Walkers accompany at their own risk. No unaccompanied under-18s please.

From George Hill- British Wildlife slideshow for Tek Ura – 20th April-

Everyone is welcome to a fundraising PowerPoint show of (mainland) British wildlife, to raise money for Tek Ura. <https://tekura.squarespace.com/> The evening will include a large number of my own images of all sorts of UK wildlife, starting with local ones and with many rare species (especially flowers), taken by me over some 40+ years! We will finish with a wildlife picture QUIZ. Admission and drinks are free. It will be at Oasis Community Centre, 36 Green Street, on Saturday 20th April at 7:00pm.

Please note the start time is now 7.00pm, not 7:00pm for 7:30pm as previously stated.

And finally....

Really good idea to start making polos without a hole in the middle. They must be making an absolute mint!

Contacts-

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