



**Sharing the love  
of Jesus**

# **Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 24**

## **Message from Alistair-**

For decades, Titanic enthusiasts have speculated about what caused the ship to sink on its maiden voyage. Was it a faulty rudder, or poor communications on board the liner, or the course taken by Captain Edward Smith before it hit the iceberg? A later study by scientists has suggested that the explanation for the disaster could be as mundane as second-rate rivets!

Jennifer Hooper McCarty and Timothy Foecke are a pair of scientists and academics who have studied the downing of the cruise liner for decades. Their work analysed 48 rivets found in the wreck of the Titanic and they believe the shipbuilders used cheaper iron to make them than was originally planned. These rivets popped under the stress caused by the ship's contact with the iceberg, resulting in the flooding of five or six watertight compartments. Had the rivets been stronger, fewer compartments would have been compromised and perhaps the mighty ship would have remained afloat for several more hours- enough time for the nearby RMS Carpathia to rescue all those on board.

It's so easy to make a ship wreck of our faith and often it begins by simply drifting away. We don't spend time alone with the Lord. It's been many weeks since we opened our Bibles. We've become increasingly casual about worshipping with God's people on a Sunday. We need to make sure the hull of our convictions can withstand the stress of any collision. How sturdy are the bolts of your belief? Reinforce them with daily Bible reading, prayer, worship and fellowship.

## **Our Service- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 24-**

Our service on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy. Steph Radcliffe will be leading the service and Rev. Alistair Stewart will be preaching. The Bible reading is 2 John 1-6 and the title is 'Love and Truth.' Please note the sermon contains some adult themes.

Tea and coffee will be served after the service.

## **Our Activities- Week beginning Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 24-**

**Sunday-** Celebration of the work of Lifeline Debt Advice [Sandbach]- 4:00pm in the Wesley Centre, Sandbach. [See notice later in the newsletter].

**Monday-** Leaders Meeting- 7:30pm at Oasis.

**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.

**Tuesday-** All-Age Planning Meeting- 8:45pm by Zoom.

**Wednesday-** Ladies Fellowship- 10:30am-12:00 Noon at Oasis. A Study called 'Portraits of Jesus.'

**Wednesday-** Wednesday Evening House Group- 7:30pm at Oasis. Studies in the Gospel of John.

**Thursday-** Alpha- 7:45pm by Zoom. Session 15- What about the church? [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-**

You called out to God in your desperate condition; he got you out in the nick of time. He quieted the wind down to a whisper, put a muzzle on all the big waves. And you were so glad when the storm died down, and he led you safely back to harbour. So thank God for his marvelous love, for his miracle mercy to the children he loves. *Psalm 107:28-31 The Message*

### **Wisdom for the Week- Christian quotes to inspire and encourage- The Storms of Life-**

'Hope is like an anchor. Our hope in Christ stabilizes us in the storms of life, but unlike an anchor, it does not hold us back.' *Charles Swindoll- American pastor and writer*

### **News for the Church Family-**

#### **From Alistair and the Leadership Team- Shoeboxes-**

Just a quick reminder that we are meeting at Oasis this Saturday [2<sup>nd</sup> November] from about 10:00am to Noon to pack the shoeboxes.

#### **From Lifeline- Celebration of the work of Lifeline Debt Advice- 3<sup>rd</sup> November 24-**

There is an invitation to the celebration of the work of Lifeline Debt Advice [Sandbach] which is closing after having served the community for 15 years. It will be at 4:00pm in the Wesley Centre, Unity Methodist Church, Wesley Avenue, Sandbach, CW11 1DG on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 24.

RSVP to Ian Parsons

Tea and cakes will be served afterwards.

#### **From Christine Hill - Prayer for Jackie Chilvers-**

Those of us who use the BMS Prayer Guide 2024 will have noticed that the prayer request for yesterday (Wednesday) was for our old friend Jackie Chilvers. [Brian and Jackie Chilvers were our link BMS missionaries at SBC]. Jackie is now the BMS Safeguarding Lead nationally- a very challenging role,

and we thought folks not using the Guide would like a reminder to pray for her work. Please let me know if you would like the BMS Prayer Guide sending to you. Thank you.

### **From George Hill - Cae Canol Urban Saints Houseparty-**

A very warm thank-you from the Urban Saints leaders for your prayers for our houseparty! We had a series of unexpected events! But all were sorted and it was a great weekend with nine youngsters hearing a real challenge to the Christian life from our speaker Pam. The behaviour was much better than last year. The weather was glorious and the rain bands fitted our timetable perfectly. Ta in His Name!

### **From George Hill- Forthcoming SBC Annual Church Meeting-**

This is an advance notice that our church AGM will be held at 7:30pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November at Oasis. The formal notice and papers will be sent out in and after next week's Newsletter.

### **From George Hill- Annual Group Reports-**

Please send me your annual reports for SBC groups you are involved in by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

### **From Mark Thompson- White Poppies for Peace-**

Last year at this time I wrote this: "At a time of spiralling conflict, how can we stand for peace?" and referred to the many conflicts causing great suffering around the world. And this year it seems to be even worse – Gaza, Lebanon, Iran, Sudan, Ukraine...

Remembrance Day is a time to recognise the true human cost of war, and to try and stand up for peace. We can still buy our red poppies and support the work of the Royal British Legion. But we can also commit to the ongoing struggle for peace, and remember all victims of all wars, past and present.

The Peace Pledge Union promotes the wearing of white poppies in the lead up to Remembrance Day. In wearing a white poppy we can show that we stand for three things.

- Remembrance of all victims of war, military and civilian.
- A challenge to war and militarism as a normal way of solving problems.
- A commitment to peace and to seeking nonviolent solutions to conflict.

If you would like to wear a white poppy in this remembrance season, please ask me for one – I have a supply.

### **From Alistair and the Leadership Team- Alpha-**

The final session of our Alpha course will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 7:45pm by Zoom. It is Session 15- What about the church?

The Zoom link for Alpha is available from Ian Parsons

### **And finally....**

I like jokes about stationery, but rulers are where I draw the line!

### **Contacts-**

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