



**Sharing the love
of Jesus**

Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter

Sunday 8th June 2025

Message from Alistair-

Sometimes being alone is great. Perhaps your favourite time of the day is in the stillness and the silence, when you sense God is present, his Holy Spirit gently moving in the room and in your heart.

But our thoughts can drift to other times and to our impressions of people's aloneness – the person sitting on their own on a bench in Sandbach Park, a couple who, although together when you see them in a restaurant, seem alone in their thoughts as they wait for their meals; or the group of teenagers sitting in silence on the bus engrossed in their phones. Sometimes you can recall aloneness in a meeting at work where unity and goodwill seem to be lacking. Sometimes you can recall aloneness at home where relationships have become distant and strained and meaningful conversations have become a thing of the past.

The good news of Pentecost is that we are not alone. The Holy Spirit has been given to all God's people. Acts 2 records that there was no discrimination in who received the Holy Spirit on what we now know as 'the Day of Pentecost'. Without exception, 'all' of the 120 people waiting in an upper room in Jerusalem for what Jesus had promised, were 'filled with the Holy Spirit'.

And what happened in the room reverberated outside. The whole city was stirred. Fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, God broke into the human experience in a momentous way. Everything changed. As people asked what was going on, the Apostle Peter announced that it was the fulfilment of 'what was spoken by the prophet Joel: "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people"' (Acts 2:17).

Praise be to God who acted decisively that day, once and for all time. We are not alone! The Holy Spirit is with us – the companion of our souls.

Our Service- Sunday 8th June 25-

Our service on Sunday 8th June will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy. It is Pentecost Sunday and the Bible reading is Acts 2:1-15. Howard Jones will be leading the service and Rev. Jennie Wakefield will be preaching. The service will include communion.

Tea and coffee will be served after the service.

Our Activities- Week beginning Sunday 8th June 25-

Sunday- Churches Together in Sandbach- Service for Pentecost Sunday- 4:00pm St Winefride's Church, Sandbach. [See notice later in the newsletter].

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

Tuesday- Tuesday- Tots and Co- 9:30am-11:30am at Oasis. Sue, Mark, and Chris F are on the rota.

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

Wednesday- Ladies Fellowship- 10:15am-11:45am at Oasis.

Wednesday- Wednesday Group- 7:30pm at Oasis. Philippians- Session 2- Host Susie.

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.

Wisdom for the Week-

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit- *Galatians 5:25*.

Father, thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit. May your Holy Spirit guide my thoughts, words and deeds to mould me to be more like Jesus. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

News for the Church Family-

From Alistair, Eunice and Susie- Retirement-

As you know it's been my intention to retire over the summer. All being well, work will start shortly on the house we intend to move in to. Hopefully, all the work will be completed in about 6-8 weeks- though of course it could be completed more quickly or take longer. At the Leaders Meeting on Monday night, we agreed that my last Sunday with you will be Sunday 31st August after which I will retire.

It goes without saying how much we appreciate your prayers for all of us at this time. Family life is also difficult as dad had a fall recently and broke his hip. He is currently in hospital recovering from surgery. Assuring you of our love and prayers for all of you too. God bless, Alistair, Eunice and Susie.

From Alistair and the Leadership Team- Notice of SBC Ordinary Church Members' Meeting on Monday 16th June 2025-

Dear SBC Member or Friend,

5th June 2025

This is the Notice of our quarterly SBC Ordinary Church Members' Meeting on Monday 16th June at Oasis at 7:30pm. Non-members are very welcome to attend but may not vote.

The following papers will be sent in a further email, or will be delivered personally if necessary:

1. The Agenda. This will include a resolution to be passed regarding the receiving of interest free loans by the church.
2. The Ordinary Church Meeting financial statement.
3. The minutes of previous meetings to be approved.

Yours warmly in Christ Jesus

From George Hill- TEK URA (Albania) Impact Report for 2024/25-

Folks - the latest Impact Report for Tek Ura is available to read online (40 pages), if you would like more details to assist your prayers and support.

You can access it with a 'CTRL + click' on the following link (or please ask me if that doesn't work for you): https://issuu.com/tekuraalbania/docs/tek_ura_impact_report_2024_5

From George Hill- Friends of A Rocha and other friends nature walk- Sunday 8th June-

All are welcome on our next nature walk of the summer, through Brook Wood towards Wheelock. Please meet at Sandbach Crosses at 2:30pm on Sunday 8th June, weather permitting.

Please have reasonable footwear. Not suitable for buggies. No unaccompanied under-18s and all walkers at personal risk.

From Churches Together in Sandbach- Service for Pentecost Sunday- 8th June-

Everyone is warmly welcomed to Ecumenical Vespers (Evening Prayer) at St Winefride's Church, Sandbach on Sunday 8th June [Pentecost Sunday] at 4:00pm. There will be refreshments afterwards in the hall behind the church.

From George Hill- Date change for Tittesworth picnic-

The church family picnic and stroll at Tittesworth Reservoir will now be on Sunday 14th September, not Sunday 31st August.

From Chris Nash- Shoebox Appeal 2025

Well, it's that time of the year again! Just to let everyone know that we will definitely be running the Shoebox appeal again this year. We have been very blessed with the response over the years – so blessed in fact that it's come to a point where I feel I must ask for a bit of help. We will be sewing and crafting as usual and I've had some offers of help in coordinating some of the things we collect, which is brilliant, but I'm asking if anyone would be willing to organise a Saturday coffee morning in late September which goes towards the transport costs. I would continue to help with it but don't feel I can organise it any more. If anyone would be willing to step in, just let me know and we can have a chat about it.

I will be printing lists again of the items we need but the usual things are:

Soap, flannels/sponges, toothpaste, wash bags,
Small notebooks / exercise books, colouring pencils
Woolly hats /gloves

Small toys/cars, skipping ropes / soft toys

This time we won't be needing any more toothbrushes, graphite pencils or ball point pens as we had enough from last year.

Thank you all for your support

And finally....

Saw a fantastic film about a very large insect. It was XL Ant!

Contacts-

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