



**Sharing the love
of Jesus**

Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter

Sunday 27th July 2025

Message from Alistair-

A little while ago, I went to Delamere Forest early one Saturday morning. There happened to be lots of people taking part in a 5K run. And I was walking along the trails near the finish line and some of the runners were running towards me. I was struck by 3 things. Most of them said good morning but seemed so out of breath they could hardly get their words out. Some of them looked like they wouldn't make it to the finish line! And most of them looked like they didn't really want to be there- which confirmed my long-held suspicions that you never see a happy jogger!

Marathon runners speak about 'hitting the wall'. It usually happens to runners around the 18-22-mile mark. Your legs simultaneously feel like they are made of jelly yet also weigh 10 tons each, every step is an absolute triumph of will, and you start to seriously doubt that the race even has a finish line! At that point, the best thing to do is to slow down your pace, walk if you need to, stretch, catch your breath to recharge, take on fuel, and keep going. Or, of course, you can just give up!

Some of these things can be true in life too. Many times things get hard and we may begin to feel that we might just as well give up. However, when we quit we often miss out. There is power in finishing the things we start. It's easy to start something, but sometimes it's finishing that shows character.

God has called us to something. Today, with the help of the Holy Spirit resolve to work hard to finish what God has called you to do. Don't be a person that starts things but never finishes things. Follow the example of the Apostle Paul- 'I run toward the goal, so I can win the prize of being called to heaven. This is the prize God offers because of what Christ Jesus has done'- Philippians 3:14.

Our Service- Sunday 27th July 25-

Our service on Sunday 27th July will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy. It will be a 'sharing service' led by Bernie Williams.

Tea and coffee will be served after the service.

Our Activities- Week beginning Sunday 27th July 25-

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

Tuesday- Tots and Co has broken up for the summer. It will resume on Tuesday 2nd September- 9:30am-11:30am at Oasis.

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

Wednesday- Ladies Fellowship is not meeting over the summer. It will resume on Wednesday 3rd September- 10:30am-12:00 Noon at Oasis.

Wednesday- Wednesday Group is not meeting over the summer. It will resume on Wednesday 3rd September- 7:30pm at Oasis.

Thursday House Group- Thursday House Group is not meeting over the summer. It will resume on Thursday 4th September- 7:45pm by Zoom.

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-

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. *James 1:22*

Father, may your Holy Spirit help me to be an authentic disciple of my Saviour. And may he help me not just to listen to his words, but to do what he says as I seek to consistently honour and obey him in every part of my daily life. Amen.

News for the Church Family-

From Mark Thompson- Concerned about the Planet?

There is a meeting at Oasis on Wednesday 30th July at 7:30pm [not linked to any specific organisation, church or group but open to everyone] to share thoughts about some of the major issues affecting our planet- temperatures, wildlife, flooding, pollution etc.

Invitations have been sent to churches, community contacts and businesses in town. There will also be a bit of press publicity. Further meetings are planned for 20th August and 24th September. For more information, please email catp@gmail.com.

And finally....

I'm sure there will never be an edible version of Scrabble. But if there is, I'll eat my words!

Contacts-

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