



**Sharing the love
of Jesus**

Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter

Sunday 21 Dec 2025 – Sunday 4 Jan 2026

★ Please note this newsletter is a three-week edition! ★

Reflection

Grace and Truth by Hilary Forbes

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1 verse 14).

We can imagine John, thinking back to the whole of Jesus' life, and trying to find a way of summing it all up. Out of his reed pen pours those words, and we glimpse his worship, love, and awe as he writes, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

While there is no account of the events leading up to the birth of Jesus in the Gospel of John, many of the words from John chapter 1 are frequently read out in carol services up and down the country. Those words, "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" speak of a pivotal time in the history, not just of our world, but of the entire Cosmos. These are words which reflect and interpret the meaning of Jesus' birth, rather than the written record of Matthew's and Luke's accounts. It is impossible to think about the Word becoming flesh without immediately thinking of Jesus' entrance into the world.

We are now in the fourth week of Advent. As we approach Christmas Day itself, and the end of 2025, it is perhaps a good time to pause, and reflect on our own relationship with Jesus, the grace and truth He pours out on us, and how we can be grace and truth for one another and for those in our lives.

As we approach 2026, none of us knows what the year will hold, but we can walk into the New Year in the presence of the living God, with our friend and Saviour Jesus Christ, and in the love and fellowship of the Holy Spirit, with the assurance that gives us the confidence and certain hope to declare,

"You will show me the path of life; in your presence is fullness of joy" (Psalm 16 verse 11)

Our Service Sunday 21 December 2025

Our service on Sunday 21 December will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy (SPA). This will be our ♪ Carol Service ♪ led by the All Age Service Team. Coffee/Tea and Mince Pies will be served at the end of the service.

Our Service Thursday 25 December 2025

Our service on Christmas Day will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy (SPA). This will be taken by Dave Murphy.

Our Service Sunday 28 December 2025

Our service on Sunday 28 December will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy (SPA). This will be led by George Hill and the preacher will be Rev Jennie Wakefield.

Our Service Sunday 4 January 2026

Our service on Sunday 4 January 2026 will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy (SPA). This will be led by Steph Radcliffe and the preacher will be Brendan Bowles. This will include a brief update on the plans for seeking a new Minister.

Our Activities for the week beginning Sunday 21 December 2025

Monday: No Welcome Bap

Tuesday: No Tots and Co
Encounter with God 7:00pm-8:00pm at Oasis

Wednesday: No Ladies Fellowship
No Wednesday Group

Thursday: Christmas Day Service at the School 10:30am
No House Group

Friday: No Energize

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

Our Activities for the week beginning Sunday 28 December 2025

Monday: No Welcome Bap

Tuesday: No Tots and Co
No Encounter

Wednesday: No Ladies Fellowship
No Wednesday Group

Thursday: No House Group

Friday: No Energize

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

Our Activities for the week beginning Sunday 4 January 2026

- Monday:** Welcome Bap 10:00am-12:00 Noon at Oasis
- Tuesday:** Tots and Co 9:30am-11:30am at Oasis
Encounter with God 7:00pm-8:00pm at Oasis
- Wednesday:** Ladies Fellowship 10:30am-12:00noon at Oasis
Wednesday Group 7:30-9:00pm at Oasis
- Thursday:** House Group 7:45pm by Zoom [Contact Ian Parsons for further details]
- Friday:** Energize 6:45pm–8:45pm
- Saturday:** Morning Prayer Gathering 8:30am-9:15am at Oasis

A Refrain for Christmas and the New Year

'My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour' Luke 1: 46-47

Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?
Mary did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered will soon deliver you.

Mary did you know that your baby boy would give sight to the blind man?
Mary did you know that your baby boy would calm a storm with His hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod
And when you kiss your little baby you've kissed the face of God?

Mary did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb
And the sleeping Child you're holding is the great I Am?

Words by Mark Lowry from the 21st Century song.

News items for the Church Family

We are not producing a general Church Christmas card for people to sign this year, but if you would like to send your own Christmas card to the fellowship, you can pin this to the notice board in the foyer at the School. Alternatively, there will be some squares of card if you want to write a greeting and pin it up. If you wish to donate the money you would otherwise have spent on Christmas cards, we would welcome donations to the TEK URA fund. The donation box will be on the table as usual. Thank you.

Dates for your 2026 diary

17 January	SBC Day of Prayer <i>[Please note this has moved from 10 January]</i>
22 January	Churches Together in Sandbach (CTiS) AGM
24-25 January	TEK URA Albania focused social evening and weekend
1 February	Sunday Service guest speaker is from Healing Rooms
1-7 February	SBC Bible Reading Week
8 February	Sunday Service guest speaker is NWBA Regional Minister Rev Jane Henderson
22 February	Tearfund Hunger Lunch and Quiz
28 February	TEK URA 10 th Anniversary Celebration Whetstone Baptist Church, Leicester
1 March	Sunday Service guest speaker is Rev Steve Hodgkinson from New Life Congleton
6 March	World Day of Prayer
8 March	Sunday Service guest speaker is NWBA Transitional Minister Rev Neil Brighton
14 March	Messy Church
15 March	Mothering Sunday
22 March	Sunday Service guest speaker is from Open Doors
27-29 March	Energize Juniors House Party at Cae Canol
30 March	Quarterly Church Meeting

Church Contact:

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**May the Joy of the Lord sweep across
the world and bring peace and good
will to all people!**

Merry Christmas Everyone!

If you have any items for inclusion in the Newsletter please pass these to Andrea Jones at
andrea.jones200@gmail.com by 9am on Thursdays.