



**Sharing the love
of Jesus**

Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter

Sunday 12 July 2026

A Reflection

'Move forward in the confidence of the Lord!' by Hilary Forbes

If you're not interested in football, this is probably quite an annoying summer for you! I find myself in most sporting events rooting for the teams that no one expects to do well. We all love an underdog don't we! So does God!

Think of the Bible characters who were chosen by God for specific tasks! The first one who comes to my mind is David. He was the youngest of all Jesse's sons, looking after the sheep while his brothers were fighting the Philistines. David had spent his life up until now protecting his sheep and lambs. For this he most likely had become proficient in using the sling. The stones used were anywhere between the size of a snooker ball and a tennis ball. When they left the sling, they left at speeds of between 60 – 120 mph. In the book of Judges, when Israel was gathering an army another time, we read:

"Among all this people there were 700 select men who were left-handed; everyone could sling a stone at a hair's breadth and not miss." (Judges 20:16)

That is incredible accuracy!

Why 700 select left-handed men? Because a left-handed slingshot could bypass the shield in the enemy's left hand! Let's join the part of David's story when he is facing the Philistine's champion Goliath. Saul had just offered David his armour but it was too bulky and he couldn't even walk with it on. David clothed himself with faith instead. His years of protecting his sheep had been his God-given training for this moment!

"Then he took his staff in his hand; and chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine." (1 Samuel 17:40)

Let us move forward today with the faith that God has given **us**, and trust Him for the rest!

Our Service for the week beginning Sunday 12 July 2026

Our service on Sunday 12 July will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy (SPA). The service will be led by Bernie Williams and the speaker will be Joe Jones. The service will include Communion.

Our Activities for the week beginning Sunday 12 July 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 Bible Study Group 7:30pm at Oasis
- Thursday:** House Group 7:45pm by Zoom [Contact Ian Parsons for further details]
- Friday:** No meeting of Energize now until September
- Saturday:** Morning Prayer Gathering 8:30am-9:15am at Oasis

A Refrain for the week

'The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.'

Deuteronomy 31:8

Dates for your Diary

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| 26 July | <i>A Rocha Brook Wood to Wheelock Nature Stroll 2.30pm at the Crosses</i> |
| 2 August | Low mobility stroll and picnic in Crewe Park – after morning service |
| 6 September | Picnic and walk at Tittesworth Reservoir – after morning service |
| 19 September | Shoebox Transport Fundraising Event 10:00am-12:00noon at Oasis |
| 28 September | Quarterly Church Meeting 7:30pm at Oasis |
| 8 October | Cheshire Agricultural Chaplaincy Harvest Festival 7:30pm Yatehouse Farm Middlewich |
| 10 October | Walk around Buxton (with fair) |
| 11 October | Prisons Sunday |
| 17 October | Messy Church for Harvest 10:30am-12.00noon at Oasis |
| 18 October | Harvest Service |
| 7 November | Shoebox Packing Day |
| 8 November | Remembrance Sunday |
| 14 November | Slide Show of Galilee Fundraising Evening for Tek Ura |
| 28 November | Messy Church for Christmas 10:30am-12.00noon at Oasis |
| 30 November | Annual Church Meeting |

Church Contact:

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If you have any items for inclusion in the Newsletter please pass these to Andrea Jones by 9am on Thursdays.