



**Sharing the love  
of Jesus**

# **Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter**

**Sunday 26 July 2026**

## **A Reflection**

### **"They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace" by Hilary Forbes**

Do you remember that poem by A. A. Milne? The fifth stanza goes like this:

*They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace -  
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.  
A face looked out, but it wasn't the King's.  
"He's much too busy a-signing things,"  
Says Alice. <sup>1</sup>*

They were indeed changing the guard at Buckingham Palace on Monday. At the same time King Charles was busy signing off Keir Starmer, and signing in Andy Burnham as our New Prime Minister ... and our seventh in a decade! No matter what our political views are, let us keep our focus on Jesus and His kingdom. As Ian reminded us on Sunday morning, the kingdom of God is the right-way-up kingdom governed by these truths that Jesus taught us:

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek,  
for they shall inherit the Earth.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they shall be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful,*

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<sup>1</sup> 'They're Changing the guard at Buckingham Palace' by A.A. Milne  
<https://www.dltk-kids.com/World/england/mmilne-buckinghampalace.htm>

*for they shall obtain mercy.  
 Blessed are the pure in heart,  
 for they shall see God.  
 Blessed are the peacemakers,  
 for they shall be called children of God.  
 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,  
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*  
 (Matthew 5:3-12)

We pray for Andy Burnham and our new government; that they seek wisdom; have integrity; and restore justice where there is injustice. Let's pray that all of us, who know Christ in our land, will be salt and light, so that our presence, actions, and words can be the seasoning of grace, mercy, and peace, and make the kingdom of God visible as a light for all to see.

### Our Service for the week beginning Sunday 26 July 2026

Our service on Sunday 26 July will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy (SPA). The service will be led by Howard Jones, and Brendan Bowles will be bringing the message, as Jennie Wakefield is currently feeling unwell. The theme will be 'The Armour of God' from Ephesians 6.

### Our Activities for the week beginning Sunday 26 July 2026

|                   |                                                                                                        |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday:</b>    | Nature Walk 2:30pm at the Crosses (see below)                                                          |
| <b>Monday:</b>    | Welcome Bap 10:00am-12:00 Noon at Oasis                                                                |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | No Tots and Co meeting until September<br>Encounter with God 7:00pm-8:00pm at Oasis                    |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | No meeting of Ladies Fellowship until September<br>No meeting of the Bible Study Group until September |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | House Group 7:45pm by Zoom [Contact Ian Parsons for further details]                                   |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | No meeting of Energize until September                                                                 |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  | Morning Prayer Gathering 8:30am-9:15am at Oasis                                                        |

If you would like to join any of the midweek groups, please contact Bernie and he will put you in touch with the group leader.

## A Refrain for the week

Purify my heart  
Let me be as gold and precious silver  
Purify my heart  
Let me be as gold, pure gold.

Refiner's fire  
My heart's one desire  
Is to be holy  
Set apart for You, Lord  
I choose to be holy  
Set apart for You, my Master  
Ready to do Your will.

Purify my heart  
Cleanse me from within  
And make me holy  
Purify my heart  
Cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

Refiner's fire  
My heart's one desire  
Is to be holy  
Set apart for You, Lord  
I choose to be holy  
Set apart for You, my Master  
Ready to do Your will.

Brian Doerksen (1965-2026)

In memory and in tribute to Song-writer Brian Doerksen who died on 21 July.

## News items

### From George Hill: Nature walk for friends of A Rocha and other friends Sunday 26 July

All are welcome on my next accompanied nature walk of the summer. This one will follow Brook Wood down towards Wheelock.

Please meet at Sandbach Crosses at **2:30pm** on **Sunday 26 July**, weather permitting. Please have reasonable footwear. Not suitable for buggies. No unaccompanied under 18s. All walkers join at their own personal risk.

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### From George Hill: Low Mobility Picnic and Stroll Sunday 2 August

On Sunday afternoon 2 August, after church (and weather permitting), we will hold our annual Low Mobility Picnic and Stroll at Queen's Park, Crewe, for those able to walk only a limited distance.

We may struggle to find enough transport, because of the need for some of our guests to have front seats. If you can help with transport, please contact me.

### For Information

Please note that during August there will be no Sunday School but there will be a table at the back of the hall where younger members can amuse themselves with their own activities. NB Parents - please can you bring activities with you as there may not be anything provided on the day.

Please remember in your prayers the first Nefyn Camp running 25 July – 1 August for 16-18year olds. No-one from the fellowship is on camp this week but it's still good to lift everyone up to the Lord.

### Dates for your Diary

|              |                                                                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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   | <b>Messy Church for Harvest 10:30am-12.00noon at Oasis</b>                         |
| 18 October   | Harvest Service                                                                    |
| 7 November   | Shoebox Packing Day                                                                |
| 8 November   | Remembrance Sunday                                                                 |
| 14 November  | Slide Show of Galilee Fundraising Evening for Tek Ura                              |
| 27 November  | Decoration of Oasis for Christmas!                                                 |
| 28 November  | <b>Messy Church for Christmas 10:30am-12.00noon at Oasis</b>                       |
| 29 November  | Advent Sunday                                                                      |
| 30 November  | Annual Church Meeting                                                              |
| 17 December  | CTiS Carols on the Cobbles 6:00pm                                                  |
| 20 December  | All Age Carol Service 10:30am at the School                                        |

### Church Contact:

Bernie Williams (Elder): or 07966 202913 [Church mobile]

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