



**Sharing the love
of Jesus**

Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter

Sunday 2 August 2026

A Reflection

Make drudgery divine by Hilary Forbes

Much of our day is spent on what we might call mundane activities; cleaning, tidying, putting the bins out and so forth. I don't have a dishwasher, so I spend time washing the dishes, yet this is where I often pray and hear the Lord. I was reminded this week of my dad's favourite hymn by George Herbert. He especially loved the line "Makes drudgerie divine." This hymn is worth reflecting on because it is really about gratitude. It isn't always easy to feel gratitude at times, but it is a habit worth nurturing because we are created, or *hard-wired* in modern-techy-speak, for finding joy in the little things. When we live intentionally looking for things to thank the Lord for, we find them, and somehow this lifts our mood, raises us into that realm where we see God is with us in all we do, and raises what we think of as mundane into thanksgiving for our very breath, and for each new dawn.

'In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ for you.' (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

*Teach me, my God and King,
In all things thee to see,
And what I do in anything,
To do it as for thee:*

*Not rudely, as a beast,
To runne into an action;
But still to make thee prepossest,
And give it his perfection.*

*A man that looks on glasse,
On it may stay his eye;
Or if he pleaseth, through it passe,
And then the heav'n espie.*

All may of thee partake:

*Nothing can be so mean,
Which with his tincture (for thy sake)
Will not grow bright and clean.*

*A servant with this clause,
Makes drudgerie divine:
Who sweeps a room, as for thy laws,
Makes that and th' action fine.*

*This is the famous stone,
That turneth all to gold:
For that which God doth touch and own,
Cannot for lesse be told.*

by George Herbert¹

Our Service for the week beginning Sunday 2 August 2026

Our service on Sunday 2 August will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy (SPA). The service will be led by Sandra Murphy and the speaker will be Dave Murphy. Dave's theme is "You Wouldn't Put One in a Fruit Salad" and the reading is Ecclesiastes 3:10-14.

Our Activities for the week beginning Sunday 2 August 2026

- Sunday:** Low Mobility Picnic and Stroll at Queen's Park Crewe after service (see below)
- Monday:** Welcome Bap 10:00am-12:00 Noon at Oasis
- Tuesday:** No Tots and Co meeting until September
Encounter with God 7:00pm-8:00pm at Oasis
- Wednesday:** No meeting of Ladies Fellowship until September
No meeting of the Bible Study Group until September
- Thursday:** House Group 7:45pm by Zoom [Contact Ian Parsons for further details] *This is the meeting which was moved from 30 July.*
- Friday:** No meeting of Energize until September
- Saturday:** 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

'Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things'.

Philippians 4:8

News items

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, so if you can help with transport, please contact me.

From George Hill: Tek Ura new website and latest report

The Tek Ura project in Albania now has a new great website. Please take a few moments to visit it at www.TekUra.org

And one thing on it is the latest 2025-2026 Tek Ura Impact Report. You can download this from the website or directly from this address: www.TekUra.org/impact-report

The total collected in 2026 towards our pledge of £2500 in 2026 for Tek Ura is at least £2411.29, so we are nearly there! There will be one more fundraising event later in the year.

Very many thanks for everyone's prayers and practical support.

For Information and Prayer

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.

It would be good if over the summer we could focus some prayer time on the locations where we worship and work; for protection and for guidance. So you may like to lift up to the Lord in your personal prayer time; Oasis (and particularly the finalising of the purchase); the School (and particularly the work to ensure there is clear projection); and also the Nefyn Camp Field (and particularly the smooth running of the new electricity generator). May God bless these locations and we His people as we seek to extend His Kingdom from these places.

Please also remember in your prayers the Nefyn B Camp running 2-8 August for 15-16 year olds. Howard will be the Warden on this camp.

Dates for your Diary

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
27 November	Decoration of Oasis for Christmas!
28 November	Messy Church for Christmas 10:30am-12.00noon at Oasis
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:

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