



**Sharing the love
of Jesus**

Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter

Sunday 23 August 2026

A Reflection

'The Lord hath yet more light and truth to break forth from His Word' by Hilary Forbes

On 12 August, about an hour or so before sunset, we were treated to a partial eclipse of the Sun. A partial eclipse is not that rare, but this particular eclipse was, because it was so close to totality. For us in Sandbach and surrounding areas, nearly 93% of the Sun was covered by the Moon.

As I was standing on the side of Mount Pleasant Road, projecting the Sun's image onto a piece of card, trying to take photos, and thinking I really could do with three hands, the Moon slowly began its journey across the face of the Sun, eclipsing nearly all of it, except for about 7%. Yet that 7% was still bright enough to be too dangerous to look for any length of time without special glasses, and it still gave us a blue sky and lit up the landscape.

I began to think about Jesus. How even a brief glimpse (perhaps we might say a 7% glimpse), a real encounter with the Holy Spirit, with our living resurrected Lord, illuminates our entire lives. No matter how short a time, no matter how little we know Him, He knows us. 7% of the Sun lit up the Earth and sky. Think of the brief times you get a sudden insight from the Holy Spirit, or one of those times that you sense God's majesty, or feel enveloped in His great love! It might only be for a nanosecond, yet it is enough to change our day, our week and sometimes our lives.

Let's ask the Lord of life to bring us even closer to Him this week, as we read the last verse of the hymn 'We limit not the truth of God':

*O Father, Son and Spirit, send us increase from above;
Enlarge, expand all Christian hearts to comprehend Thy love;
And make us all go on to know with nobler powers conferred:
The Lord hath yet more light and truth to break forth from His Word.*

George Rawson (1807 – 1889)

<https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/h/817>

Our Service for the week beginning Sunday 23 August 2026

Our service on Sunday 23 August will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy (SPA). The service will be led by Andrea Jones and the preacher will be Rev Sue Thompson.

There will be no Sunday School but there will be a table at the back of the hall where children can amuse themselves with some craft activities.

Our Activities for the week beginning Sunday 23 August 2026

Monday: Welcome Bap 10:00am-12:00 Noon at Oasis (with entertainment and food)

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: No meeting of House Group until September

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

Words of Paul in 1 Timothy 3:16:

'Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great:

He appeared in the flesh,
was vindicated by the Spirit,
was seen by angels,
was preached among the nations,
was believed on in the world
was taken up in glory.'

News items

From Ian Parsons: IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT regarding the service on Sunday 30 August

Due to many people being away on **Sunday 30 August**, including our musicians and preachers, we have decided to have a shorter service **at Oasis**. It will be an informal sharing service and perhaps you could prayerfully consider whether you have anything to share with the fellowship during the service. It could be a poem, song, particular bible passage or anything at all that the Lord has laid on your heart.

Please let Ian know if you would like to contribute in any way to the service or speak to him if you have any questions

From Andrea Jones: Saturday 5 September

Please note that on Saturday 5 September we will be hosting two NWBA Safeguarding Courses at Oasis so the usual **morning prayer gathering** at Oasis will **not be happening** that day. ... But please don't let that stop you praying at home at the same time. 😊

From the Shoebox Team: Love in a Box 2026!

We are now actively collecting all the gifts to put inside our Christmas shoeboxes, which will be distributed to children aged 3-14 in Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania. Items needed are:

Toothpaste
Toothbrushes large and small
Bars of Soap
Flannels/Sponges
Wash Bags

Woolly Hats/Gloves/Mittens

Pencil Cases
Notebooks/Small Exercise Books
Pencils/Crayons/Ball Point Pens

Small Soft Toys
Small Toys/Games

Combs/Hair Bobbles/Hair Slides
Small Packets of sweets/chocolate (dated best before no earlier than June 2027)

If you are able to donate any of these items please leave them at Oasis (if possible in the back office under the sign on the wall) or bring them along on any Sunday morning and leave them at the back of the hall clearly labelled.

For Information and Prayer

Please remember in your prayers Nefyn E Camp running 22-29 August for 12-14 year olds. Two of the young people from our Energize group are on this camp so please pray for them; a girl and a boy who have both been to camp before so prayers for a meaningful and fun-filled week for them would be appreciated.

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	All Age Harvest Service 10:30am at the School
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	All Age Advent Service 10:30am at the School
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.