



**Sharing the love  
of Jesus**

# **Sandbach Baptist Church Newsletter**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 24**

## **Message from Alistair-**

There is an old saying that "Actions speak louder than words." And over the years, I've met so many people from whom the fruit of the Spirit just shines out of their lives- love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control- Galatians 5:22-23.

I think of a lady who suffered excruciating pain for many years. And towards the end of her life she was admitted to hospital. But even in the midst of terrible suffering, the joy of the Lord just seemed to radiate out from her. And she touched the lives of so many nurses and other patients with her gracious words and joy-filled life.

I think of another lady who struggles to sleep at night. But she has such a heart for God's mission and his people. And so she frequently pours out her heart to the Lord in prayer during the night as she pleads for the advancement of God's kingdom.

The Holy Spirit gave Jesus' apostles the ability to speak in many languages on that day of Pentecost written about in Acts 2. And the same Spirit enables us to speak and to act in winsome ways today. Through the power of the Spirit, God's kingdom is advancing, and he has called and equipped each of us to be his witnesses in whatever circumstances we may find ourselves.

On Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. But our celebration of Pentecost is not so much meant to be talked about as it is to be lived—in word and deed. By the power of the Spirit working through us, our words and fruit-filled actions are the tools God uses to build his kingdom.

## **Our Service- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 24-**

Our service on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May will be at 10:30am at Sandbach Primary Academy. It is an all-age service for Pentecost. Rev. Alistair Stewart will be leading the service. The Bible reading is Acts 2:1-21 and the title is 'Come Holy Spirit.'

Tea and coffee will be served after this service.

## **Our Activities- Week beginning Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 24-**

**Sunday-** Messy Church- 3:30pm-5:00pm at Oasis. [See notice later in the newsletter].

**Monday-** Welcome Bap- 10:00am-12:00 Noon at Oasis.

**Monday-** Leaders Meeting- 7:30pm by Zoom.

**Tuesday-** Tots and Co- 9:30am-11:30am at Oasis. Sue, Jo and Chris F are on the rota.

**Tuesday-** Messy Church Planning Meeting- 1:30pm at Oasis.

**Tuesday-** Encounter with God- 7:00pm-8:00pm at Oasis.

**Wednesday-** Ladies Fellowship- 10:30am-12:00 Noon at Oasis. A Study called 'The Holy Spirit - understanding and experiencing Him'.

**Wednesday-** Wednesday Evening House Group- 7:30pm at Oasis. A study on the theme of poverty.

**Thursday-** Knit 'n Natter will not be meeting for the time being.

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

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

### **Passion for Praise- Verses from Scripture that emphasise praise to our God-**

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. *John 14:16-17*

### **Wisdom for the Week- Christian quotes to inspire and encourage- Holy Spirit-**

'The Christian's life in all its aspects—intellectual and ethical, devotional and relational, upsurging in worship and outgoing in witness—is supernatural; only the Spirit can initiate and sustain it. So apart from him, not only will there be no lively believers and no lively congregations, there will be no believers and no congregations at all.' *J. I. Packer Anglican Theologian*

### **News for the Church Family-**

#### **From Mark Thompson- Christian Aid Week- 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> May 2024- Sponsored Bike Ride-**

Christian Aid week runs from 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> May, raising funds for work in Burundi. The final session of the bike ride, plant "sale" and refreshments will be on Saturday 18th May- 2.00 p.m – 4.00 p.m.

You are all welcome to come and support.

There is no sponsorship form this year, but envelopes will be on the table at the school and in Oasis. Please return them to church or direct to Mark.

If you would rather give online, you can use this link to his fundraising page where you will find more details. <https://bit.ly/3Q1QTP8>

#### **From the Messy Church Team- Our next Messy Church Event- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May-**

We would really value your prayers for our next Messy Church Event. It will be at Oasis this Sunday from 3:30pm-5:00pm. The theme is 'Looking After One Another.' [We will still have our morning service at the school as usual]. We have publicized Messy Church through Tots and Co, The Food Pantry, social media and the church website.

Messy Church is a way of being church for families and others.

It's Christ-centred. Messy Church helps people encounter Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

It's for all ages. Messy Church is for everyone. And every element aims to be relevant and accessible to all ages.

It's creative. Messy Church reflects the creativity of God through crafts, songs, videos, activities and food.

It's hospitable. Messy Church is outward-facing. And it welcomes everybody to enjoy the hospitality and unconditional love of God.

It's a celebration. Messy Church reflects the God of joy who wants people to have life in all its fullness. Please support us with your prayers.

### **From Alistair and the Leadership Team-**

Sandbach Primary Academy is beginning a major building project on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May that will last until around December. Whilst it shouldn't affect our use of the school hall, kitchen, toilets, car park etc, it is unlikely that we will be able to use the playground for our 'overflow' car parking. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

### **From George Hill- Church walk in Derbyshire postponed-**

Apologies, but the church family events walk at Castleton on Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup> has had to be postponed due to lack of leaders. Please can anyone who was interested talk to me and Howard. Thank you.

### **And finally....**

'Last night I thought I was being chased by a shark. But in the morning I realised it was just a bream.'

### **Contacts-**

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