

LENT 2022



Green Lane
BAPTIST CHURCH

MARCH 2022 Newsletter

Call to Pray Together

You are invited to the launch of a new initiative focusing on our prayer health starting at Lent. There will be a Prayer Breakfast on Saturday March 5th at 10am for a continental breakfast with hot drinks at the church. This is for the whole family to come along to.

The session will begin with breakfast followed by time to discuss themes arising out of last autumn's Vision Day whether you were there or not and opportunities to pray in a variety of ways for the future of GLBC.

Colouring sheets and other materials will be available for those preferring to express themselves using crafts or using written prayers. For journaling or painting please bring your own resources.

Over the coming months we will have different breakfast themes. We hope this can be a combination of prayer and showing love in practical ways to our community.

Jess K

A weekly prayer meeting is held via WhatsApp group call on Mondays at 8.30pm.



Lent Reflections

This year Lent is starting at the beginning of March. We will be using the free booklet 'Journey To the Heart of Easter' from the Our Daily Bread series for personal study. Print copies were being handed out thanks to Rob S.

Please ask your pastoral deacon if you haven't had one. Alternatively, it is available to read free online via website :

odb.org/resources/journey-to-the-heart-of-Easter?



Start of Lent Wednesday 2nd March 2022
Lent Ends: Saturday 16th April 2022

Sunday Services For March

6th. March:

Jackie Humphries from Tipton Pentecostal Church

13th. March:

To be advised (possibly a baptismal service)

20th. March:

Adam Bhardwaj from Bilston Resource Centre

27th. March:

To be advised (hopefully a speaker from BMS World Mission)

Dear Friends at Green Lane,

Well, having written “friends”, I immediately become aware of the fact that by no means will I know you all or all of you know me! However, my memories of being linked with the fellowship at Green Lane are many and precious. And we were ‘linked’, because in 2000 you accepted me as your BMS Link Missionary, and our partnership in proclaiming the gospel in Albania and our fellowship in the Lord continued until 2012. For that, I remain very grateful.

I have been asked to contribute to your monthly newsletter something entitled, ‘My life since Green Lane.’ How do I contract 10 years into a few words and what, about my life, could possibly interest you? Answer one, with difficulty. Answer two is easier, the things of God!

Shortly after my final visit to you in 2012, my dear mother died. I had returned to the UK to look after her in her last few months and I would not substitute that time with her for anything. We were so richly blessed by her godly life. She had taught us how to live as a Christian and showed us how to die as a Christian.

Readjusting to life in the UK and seeking the Lord’s will for my future was one of the toughest periods in my life. I had made a commitment to the Lord, asking Him to not let me put my feet up in ‘retirement’ and, if it was His will, to remain open to moving anywhere and anytime He directed me. There have been times when that commitment has been really challenged! I also discovered that discerning the Lord’s will does not necessarily get easier as we progress in the Christian life. I think it gets harder. Our Lord is always testing our faith, pruning His vine, making us more dependent upon Him.

In seeking to know where to live, I had spent many months visiting prospective homes and churches. Eventually, in 2014, with unmistakable leading from the Lord, I moved to my present home in North Staffordshire. I had found a good Baptist Church about 12 miles away but, equally clearly, the Lord directed me to a church in my new home town. The only tenable possibility was the local Church of England and I did not accept this leading easily. However, in what is now ‘my’ church family, the Word of God is honoured, the community is witnessed to and served in many ways, believers may be baptised by immersion, I serve as an elder, a governor for the CofE academy, a Growth Group leader, I am on the sound desk rota, help at Friday soup, have been involved in one-to-one discipline and have the privilege of serving pastorally.

Our Lord is faithful to His every promise, to lead us, sustain us, renew our strength and equip us to do His will.

I enjoy walking locally and in the Peak District. I had 5 years pleasure on a motorcycle but swapped that in 2020 for a pedal bike. I have a rich variety of bird life in my little garden. I have been able to enjoy a time at Keswick for several years. I have visited Albania twice and continue precious links with the church and individual believers there.

How long I remain where I am is in our Lord’s hands. There is no safer, no better place to be!

The Lord bless and keep you, faithful servant of the Lord and friend.

Graham S