



## May 2023 Newsletter

### STILL THERE'S MORE TO FOLLOW

"Love's redeeming work is done, Hallelujah!  
Fought the fight, the battle's won. Hallelujah!  
Jesus accomplished it all by His death and  
Resurrection, but the disciples needed  
something more. In the next forty days He  
gave them undeniable proofs that He really  
had conquered death. He also showed them  
how this had fulfilled all the Old Testament  
story so that they could pass this on to others.  
Yet they still needed something more.  
It came at Pentecost. This remarkable coming  
of the Holy Spirit enabled those disciples to  
interpret the meaning of that which had so far  
eluded them. It also empowered them to stand  
before the people who had condemned the  
Messiah to death and proclaim fearlessly that  
He was now Lord and that they needed to  
repent.

Such an amazing experience was never  
repeated but the Spirit remained as Jesus had  
promised. His coming was the ultimate aim of  
His Incarnation. God was now in them and is  
in all of us who believe and follow Jesus.

Great experiences may come but they will go.  
We all live very ordinary lives. The Spirit is in  
every aspect of them, high or low.

The Spirit also enables us to find and follow  
God's will for our lives so that everyone of us  
has a story to tell. We should find  
opportunities to tell them sometime in our  
worship services.

Who knows what the future holds for us?  
spiritually and bodily. He will reunite all His  
redeemed people to enjoy His presence, love  
one another as we should and serve Him  
forever. What a hope! It should inspire us as  
we wait an unknown future. Happy Pentecost!

Rev: Fred



### Community Bank Holiday Opening

With the extra bank holiday given to mark  
the coronation of King Charles III, we will be  
opening the doors for the church family,  
friends and our neighbours to come in for  
free activities.

There are plans for live music, light  
refreshments, bouncy castles, TMO vintage  
bus ride, dominoes and crafts, and a  
Commonwealth dress competition.  
Bring national flags and bring cakes.

**The doors will be open from  
11am to 3pm.**

If anyone has any ideas for other activities to  
add please see organiser Sheila W before  
May 7.

### Guest Preachers

**7th May:** Maxine Chamberlain

**From:** GLBC

**14th May:** Adam Bhardwaj

**From:** Bilston Resource Centre

**21st May:** Jackie Humphries

**28th. May:** Simon Bhardwaj

**From:** Bilston Resource Centre



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### Prayer & Bible Study Meetings

After various changes in days and times for group midweek prayer and Bible studies since the pandemic started, it is perhaps time to re-view how these are being done.

The Sunday night Study is going okay with new people joining.

It is currently held via WhatsApp video due to our circumstances. If anyone is able to organise or lead a separate in person daytime Study please see Deb or Maxine, as the aim is to grow a healthy and inclusive congregation with the people resources that we have. We are conscious that a significant section of the fellowship is unable to access online activities and we want to address this.

As for church family prayer times, the deacons are looking at the possibility of reviving the monthly prayer breakfast on Saturdays in the warmer weather.

We would need families, and friendship groups to agree to take turns to volunteer to prepare food to get it off the ground. Please consider whether this is something that you can do to help as we prayerfully seek to grow in faith and fellowship together to be a healthy church.

### Road to Renewal

This month we are continuing the preaching themes based on Revelation chapters 1-4 and God's messages to the seven churches in Asia Minor. We'll be hearing about what the angel carrying the seven stars had to say to the early Philadelphia and Laodicea saints.

Do ask questions and give feedback to the preachers or the deacons.

### Together Festival 2023 at Himley Park

Remember to book tickets for the churches day out Together Festival at Himley Park near Dudley, July 8th, leaflets are in the lobby. Guests include Tim Hughes with Gas Street Band and Guvna B.

- A Celebration Zone, with a large stage hosting professional Christian music and worship from across the Black Country and the nation.
- A Family Zone with free children's activities and Christian entertainment.
- A Youth Zone for teenagers.
- A Creative Zone celebrating local Christian creativity.
- An Explore Zone, showcasing the work of local and national Christian charities and businesses.
- Local street food vendors.
- Funfair.

Plenty of space for families to bring a picnic, play safely and enjoy the festival ambience.

### HEBA (Heart of England Baptist )

It's AGM season and five representatives attended the HEBA (Heart of England Baptist) AGM on April 22nd at the new regional office in Chester Road, Sutton Coldfield. There was much to be encouraged about. New staff and new area Moderator are in post. The address given by outgoing Moderator Duncan will be made available to the churches shortly. You can find HEBA bookmarks are in the lobby along with newsletter request cards.