



# Green Lane

BAPTIST CHURCH

## AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

### Better than ENSA

During WW2 the Government produced ENSA (Entertainment National Service Association) to entertain troops and war workers. Its standards were varied and people soon dubbed it “Every Night Something Awful”. BMS has now offering very week “EBTE” or something “Even better Than Ensa”.

Every Thursday on its website, it tells a different story about some aspect of its work, or a new project or the story of a person or community who have been blessed by its work. The quality of its content. Its quality is assured. It opens our eyes to the varied work of the Society, to the commitment of its workers and the result of their labours often after having has to wait a long time to see it. We are having to wait for a long time at present for the fruition of our hopes. The podcast shows us that we are not the only ones. We sometimes think only about our situation. The podcast shows us that God’s work is worldwide. Sometimes we grow weary or despairing. BMS workers also need to remain faithful. We long to see results. The podcast tells us that we. Like they, will eventually see them.

So if you have a computer switch it on every Thursday and be informed, challenged and encouraged. If you don’t have one, pray for them and thank God. His programmes are Always better.

**Rev Fred S**

### Road to Renewal

Building on the previous ‘Revelation churches’ theme, over the summer we are looking at the Book of Acts some 40 years earlier, and the methods practised by the disciples/apostles to launch the early church. They had to grapple with issues as they arose in expanding the faith and taking the gospel of Jesus “to the ends of the earth”. Our approach is in the context of expectancy that the ministry of Green Lane will grow.

In the current series we have so far covered themes such as dealing with Persecution in the community, in the workplace or in our personal lives and how we can be Resilient in the face of hardship and adversity. Guest preacher Jackie Humphries last month also drew on the story of Gideon the prophet taken from the Book of Judges in the Old Testament to help us on our journey.

Upcoming topics include 'Overcoming disappointment', 'Praying Effectively', 'we are accountable to God' and 'Mission Adventures'.

### Walsall Christian Musicians

We will be hosting an evening service organised by the new Walsall Christian Musicians network featuring singers and instrumentalists from various churches in the town and including our own band on Sunday August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm. All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

### Picnic in the Park

Hopefully, we'll be able to enjoy a nice church picnic at one of the local parks, perhaps at the Bank Holiday Weekend which would be lovely. Last summer a group of us gathered at the Arboretum in Broadway North on a Sunday afternoon which was a fun and relaxing experience. More details will be announced soon.





### Rear View

Several folks connected to GLBC hot-footed to the Together Festival organised by the excellent Love Black Country network which aims to spread the gospel in this region by encouraging churches and Christian bodies to talk to each other and share testimonies in order to strengthen faith and resilience.

There was music, food, gift stalls; charity stands, for example, child sponsorship project Compassion and Black Country Food Bank - a fun fair, children's and teens' zones and of course a downpour right at the end of the day, but it was wonderful event held once more at Himley Hall and Park near Dudley. We saw many familiar faces too! See images on our Facebook page.

The next Love Black Country gathering will be held here in Walsall in the autumn.

### kitchen refurbishment

"Our thanks to those who have contributed a gift towards the refurbishment of the kitchen the Gift day total at present stands at £1,435.50 This will go a long way to us covering the total Cost of the kitchen update."

If you haven't contributed to our fundraising efforts you can, by obtaining a gift aid envelope from a deacon and mark it "kitchen fund" no matter how small the amount, we will be very grateful.

The work will be completed throughout the month of August.

### Guest Preachers For August

6th. August: Mike Buck our moderator - Communion Servie

13th. Adam Bhardwaj from the Bilston Resource Centre

20th. Jackie Humphries

27th. Simon Bhardwaj from the Bilston Resource Centre

### Themes Services

This September our themed Services will focus on individual Christian growth and development using the Alpha series to enable participation of everyone during our Church Services. The emphasis will be on 'Knowing Jesus' through the set series of talks which will inspire us together exploring in greater depth how we develop both knowing Jesus and living an enriched Christian life.

To achieve this, each Sunday our speaker will outline and lead a brief introductory talk based on the topic, after which we will share food and fellowship ending with small group discussions where questions and answers will provide greater understanding of who Jesus is and why we seek to serve and live for his purpose. This is also an opportunity to invite family and friends to our Sunday Services to share fellowship and a meal with us and to also explore whole Church Alpha as a tool for evangelism. In seeking to share our faith, welcome new friends and visitors joining with us exploring each topic which includes:

Who is Jesus?

Is there more to life than this?

Why did Jesus die?

How can I have faith?

How and why should I pray?

How and why should I read the Bible?

How does God guide us?

This is an exciting time and Green Lane Baptist Church looks forward to welcoming you to our Alpha themed services from Sunday 3 September 2023 as we journey together to knowing Jesus fruitfully in our lives.

Every blessing,

Maxine