

Welcome to Aylestone Baptist Church



GROWING, LEARNING, EXPERIENCING, & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Magazine

July & August

2026

Letter from the editor -

Dear friends,

I was looking for a birthday card for my son-in-law, who enjoys a joke, and came across this one:

*“A Little bird told me it was your birthday
And a mere cat sold me insurance – funny old world isn’t it ! “*

It certainly is a funny old world – and I have been guilty of saying: “it’s not like it was in my day” – where have I heard that before, Oh yes, my parents, and probably their parents too!

Wendy Hall has put together a brief history of our church, which you can read in this magazine. It began in a humble cottage in Aylestone when it was a small village before being swallowed up in the urban sprawl. How I’d love to walk those dusty roads and peer into those tiny cottages. Would I like to live there ? no washing machines, no bathrooms, no travel (trips to far-away places like Countesthorpe would have been unheard of) - probably not!

How things have changed, and yet how much stays the same. The lovely Aylestone Meadows, with its abundance of wild flowers, birds and animals, and the vision of those founding members in that little cottage in 1855 is still the same, they began the mission of bringing the love of Jesus to their neighbours and this has been carried on for the last 171 years, and we pray for many more to come.

I wonder what Mr. and Mrs. Crosher, Mrs. Issitt and Mrs. King would make of our church today – with our comfortable chairs and AV system, and worshipping together with folks from as far away as Africa, the Philippines, and even Countesthorpe ! I think we would be able to sit together and worship together as family, because what really matters is our faith in a constant and unshakable God – and summed up in a quote from 3-year old Rory (one of our younger members) when asked how he knew Jesus was born at Christmas, he said:

“Because I love Him.”

Have a wonderful and restful summer.

Dorothy

Technical upgrade :

The Church has a new mixer desk (A Behringer Wing Compact), this replaces the existing faulty one. The new desk is a digital mixer and provides the means to adjust gate, EQ and dynamics to cut down on feedback and improve sound quality.

We are able to now remote control the mixer from a tablet so this will give the church much increased flexibility.

The new desk is able to be upgraded with additional inputs and outputs using a digital stage box ensuring it will remain useful for years to come.



Rob Wells.

Dates for your DIARY:

July 27th – 31st Children's HOLIDAY CLUB

August 5th ABC TOTS Play day 11 – 1.30

August 18th / 19th / 20th Holiday@Home for the over 60s.

August 29th Garden Party & Fun Day for Sigma Charity.

November 28th Christmas Market.

A Brief history of A.B.C

I felt that for the friends who have joined the Church in the past years it would be interesting for them to know a little of where and when the Church came into being.

It all began in 1855 in Mr. Crosher's thatched cottage in the "Hollow" (probably somewhere near the Black Horse) with 15 to 20 attending

In 1859 Mr. & Mrs. Crosher, Mrs. Issitt and Mrs. King, who were all Baptised, expressed their desire to be united with the Church at Belvoir St., and the fellowship in Aylestone was established as a daughter church of the large and wealthy Belvoir St. Baptist.

From 1855 to 1869 services continued to be held in the Crosher's cottage, but room was tight and often services were postponed because of illness. 65 copies of a Church magazine, "Appeal", were circulated monthly reaching every cottage in the village, indicating the size of Aylestone at that time.

In 1868 the cottage meeting room was full, a prayer meeting was held on Sundays at 7am, and another meeting place was needed very quickly because the present dwelling is "falling down"!! There were about 50 people attending and the Sunday School had about 40 – 50 children.

A plot of land was secured and church built in Sanvey Lane in 1871. For over 55 years the Sanvey Lane Church served Baptists in Aylestone, and in 1926 a resolution was taken that the church would no longer be affiliated to Belvoir St. but have its own membership roll and be empowered to admit and receive members. The steady growth of the church and the rapidly growing district led to the employment of the first Minister, Rev. H.E. Abram.

The present church was built, with a very generous gift from Mr. Edward V. Stibbe, a Hosiery Manufacturer, in 1932. This was the "back hall", where all services, events and celebrations took place. The next part of the church, which is now our Sanctuary, was opened in 1955.

In 1992 the lounge was built and it is used for all kinds of events and has been a great asset to the church.

In 1965 we purchased the Manse in Morban Road, which served us well for many years, and then in 2022 the Manse in Montrose Road was purchased.

From the first full time Minister we have had 12 Ministers and 3 Moderators. The longest serving Minister was Rev. S.Brian Thomas who served the church for 22 years.

There have been many Baptisms, weddings, also funerals (recorded in the Memorium Book which is there for anyone to look at and for us to remember them with love). We celebrated the 125th and 150th Anniversaries. We have a lunch club and Open House for the older generation, ABC Youth Group, ABC Tots, ABC kids, Annual Holiday Club, also House Groups, and a vibrant music group to lead our worship. All run by volunteers.

I hope this gives you a small picture of what our Church is like, starting from a humble beginning to what it is today. If you want to know any more, please contact.....

Wendy Hall

Smile – a - while

Bike Job

I've just started working at a bicycle factory.
I'm their spokesperson.

The Retreat

A country conference centre which was much used by church groups had as its motto, "There are no problems here, only opportunities." A minister booked it for a weekend retreat with a group from his church. The day arrived and they all signed in and were shown to their rooms. A few minutes later the minister returned to the reception desk and said he had a problem. The receptionist responded with a smile and said, "Sir we don't have problems here, only opportunities." The minister said, "Call it what you like, but there's already a woman in my room."

The call of God

(This is a translation of a poster found in a church in France)

When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear 'the call of God'. However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving away.

Summer Fun on the Park

Our bi-annual event, together with other churches in Aylestone,

AYLESTONE 2026

took place on July 5th at Aylestone Hall Gardens.

The day began with an Open Air Service, with music led by ABC Worship Group, a talk from Anna Bland from St. Andrews and a Bible reading from St. Edwards.



God then blessed the day as families flooded in to enjoy the bouncy castles, games, children's races and crafts, face painting, treasure hunt and non-stop music from our Church group, brass bands, Granby children's choir and other music and there was ice-cream.



The Church tent gave out information and CAKES – almost 1,000 were given out, plus apples, bananas, oranges, cups of tea and coffee, fruit juice and water (all free).

The weather was warm and sunny, so the shade from the old pine tree in the park was very welcome, where people could sit and picnic whilst listening to the music.



The event was sponsored by Leicester City Council, to whom we are very grateful, but it was organised and run by volunteers from the churches who were there to show the love of God to our neighbours in Aylestone.



Quote of the day from 5-year old Jewel: “Can we have church on the park every week.”

BIBLE CHARACTERS QUIZ [ANSWERS ON P 18]

1. Who was called 'King of Salem & priest of God Most High'
[Genesis 14:18-20]
2. Which King of Babylon made an image of gold 90ft high [Daniel 3:1]
3. Who was the first King of Israel [1 Samuel 11:15]
4. Who defeated the armies of the Midianites with just 300 men each with just a torch in a jar and a trumpet [Judges 7:19-21]
5. Which Syrian army commander was healed of Leprosy when he went and dipped himself in the River Jordan as the prophet Elisha instructed
[2 Kings 5:13-14]
6. Which member of Israel's Sanhedrin donated the tomb in which Jesus was buried [Mark 15:43-46]
7. What was the name of the young man who fell asleep and dropped out of a window while Paul was preaching, he died and was raised to life
[Acts 20:9-10]
8. Which King of Israel was famous for his God given wisdom [1 Kings 3:12]
9. Traditionally what was the name of Herodias' daughter who danced for King Herod and asked for the head of John the Baptist on a platter as a reward.
10. Mary, the mother of Jesus visited her cousin while she was expecting. Her cousin was the mother of John the Baptist – what was her name
[Luke 1:39-40]
11. What was the name of the synagogue official whose daughter Jesus raised from death [Mark 5:22-23]
12. Who said to Jesus after her brother Lazarus died " I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day" [John 11:24]
13. Three Israelite exiles were put in a fiery furnace for disobeying the King of Babylon. God miraculously saved them – what were their names
[Daniel 3:26]
14. Sisera, a powerful Canaanite general was the victim of the 'tent -peg' murder – what was the ladies name who hammered it through his temples [Judges 4:21-22]
15. She is rarely mentioned in the Bible and we know little about her but what was the name of Moses wife [Exodus 18:2]

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CLUB 2026
EGYPTIAN ADVENTURE

AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

MONDAY 27TH - FRIDAY 31ST JULY

9:45AM - 12:15PM / CHILDREN AGED: 4 - 11

COST: £15 PER CHILD FOR THE WEEK

ONLINE BOOKING

SCAN THE QR CODE. IT WILL TAKE YOU TO

aylestonebaptist.com

CLICK ON POSTER TO REGISTER YOUR DETAILS



What's on for the 3rd Age.....

Lunch Club

Thursday July 9th – There will be a Service at 12-o-clock before lunch.

Lunch Club will then take a Summer Break - restart : 17th September



The Open House



Meet from 11am for coffee, board games, chatting,
With lunch served at 12.30am. Come along for a safe, warm place, find new friends or renew old ones, everyone is welcome. £5 includes lunch and unlimited coffee, tea & biscuits.

Thursday July 2nd / 16th

The Open House will then take a Summer break – restart: 10th September

Tuesday Group

Meet from 11 to 11.30 for coffee and chat, then a time to look at a Bible passage and have discussion and questions relative to our age group. You are welcome, whether you are a long standing Christian, or beginning to search – it's never too late !



Tuesday July 14th We will be going out for a meal.

Restarting after the Summer Break on: 8th September.

HOLIDAY@HOME for the over 60's.

Not able to get to the Sea-side? Come and join the Holiday@Home here at Aylestone Baptist on Tuesday 18th/ Wednesday 19th / Thursday 20th August.

The itinerary :

Tuesday 18th : Church is open at 11am for coffee, quizzes & games.
Followed by 2-course lunch.

Then an afternoon of crafts – from flower arranging to Water-colour painting, all guided & lots to have a go at.
Finish about 4.30pm after a light tea.

Wednesday 19th 2pm Posh Afternoon Tea, with quizzes & games.

Thursday 20th Church open at 11am for quizzes & games. Followed by lunch
Then watch a film. Tea before bedtime.

Cost: £20 for the 3 days. Book with Dorothy or Sandra.

Café Harmony

Caring for people with dementia & their carers



Every Monday 11am – 1pm

Come and enjoy crafts, music & much more

A light lunch is provided

Further details – 'ph Hazel 07342902999

A warm welcome awaits you

Note- closed in July

Forever in my heart

The service in June was very beautiful, with some lovely and comforting words.

The following were the concluding words by Chris Kingsley-Mills which we hope will bless you:



CARRYING OUR LOVE – (FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS)

written by Chris Kingsley Mills

The death of someone we love is not a wound that heals; it is a landscape we learn to live in.

We sometimes feel tortured because we are trying to find them, or we are used to them being in a place they no longer inhabit.

Their absence can feel like an abyss, never endingly deep, because we love them so much.

Love can be like a container, or a tether. When that container is broken, or the tether is cut, the soul can feel as though it's drifting.

We are not weak for feeling broken; we are simply feeling the magnitude of what was built and what we had together.

Our tears, every drop, are each an acknowledgement of precious memories.

I am learning not to fight the storm of grief but to let it be. A mountain does not fight the wind or the storm; it simply remains. The wind and storm eventually pass, the mountain remains.

I bring my hands to my heart and I feel the beat. That rhythm is the continuation of their song, of the love we had for each other.

They are no longer a person to be held, but a presence to be felt.

I wonder if our task is not to get over their death, but to become a vessel wide enough to carry both the sorrow and the love, together with the joys of what we had, all at once.

To breathe for them; to walk for them; to BE for them.

Let our LIVING healing be the monument we build in their honour.

When the pain feels too much, I return to my breath and to my heart. These rhythms form the bridge between the seen and the unseen worlds.

When we are walking through the shadows, we do not have to walk the path alone.

God loves us so much and He invites us to draw close to Him and to walk beside each other finding the light together.

*We are not alone; He is with us
Always.*

Christine Kingsley-Mills



Church Family News

It was lovely to welcome Joe and Talia Elliott back to the church to have a Christian blessing on their marriage. Wendy Hall led the blessing, and we wish them a long, happy and God blessed life together.

Congratulations to David & Erica Statham who celebrated their Golden Wedding. We wish them many more years of loving partnership.

We rejoice with Mary Shipton as she welcomes a new granddaughter, Harley. We pray God will watch over her all her days and wrap His love around all the family.

We thank God for a good recovery for Sophie Gray after minor surgery.

Laura Westwood has two reasons for celebration – a successful knee operation and a new grandchild. We pray God's blessing on baby Frank and his parents.

Jessica Satchell has graduated, with a 1st from Creative Academy of Dance. Who would have thought that little girl who danced her way through our services would one day have a degree in her favourite pastime. We pray that a good career will open up for her. A thank you to Cindy Elliott who, in her dance school, coached Jess through her early days exams.

Our prayerful sympathies to Pauline Hornby, whose husband Bill passed away. They had been married for 69 years so Pauline's heartache can only be imagined. We thank God for Bill's faith and that assurance that he is now in the safe arms of Jesus.

We welcomed Erica Statham into membership and pray she will be a great blessing to our fellowship here.

We are blessed to have appointed three new Deacons to the leadership team of our church : David Billet : David Statham : Robert Wells.

Continuing to serve are Hazel Turner, Mari Walters, Jill Walton (Secretary) and Lucy Satchell (Treasurer).

We pray God will give them guidance and wisdom, patience and understanding as they serve our church.

Please continue to pray for members who have ongoing health problems.

Dates for meetings

Wednesday 1st July 7pm youth meeting at Church

Wednesday 8th July youth group social – venue tba

Then break for the summer 😊



ABC Tots invite tots and their families to a Play Day at the church on

WEDNESDAY 5th AUGUST, 11am – 1.30.

Come along to have fun, and bring a picnic.

ANIMALS

BEGINNING

BIBLE

BIRDS

CREATION

CREATURES

DARKNESS

EARTH

EDEN

FISH

FRUIT

GARDEN

GENESIS

The Story of Creation

Word Search



GOD
HEAVEN
LAND
LIGHT
MAN
MOON
NIGHT
PLANTS
REST
RIB

SEVENTH DAY
SIX DAYS
SKY
SNAKE
STARS
SUN
TREE OF KNOWLEDGE
TREE OF LIFE
WATER
WOMAN

Garden Party

**Aylestone Baptist Church
Saturday 29th August 2 - 4pm**

Enjoy Various Stalls Featuring...

**Cakes, Books, Preserves
& Bric a Brac, etc.**

**Children's Bouncy Castle
Refreshments**



ALL PROCEEDS FROM GARDEN PARTY GO TOO...
"SIGMA" SUPPORTING INDIA GOSPEL MINISTRIES AKIVDU

BMS BIRTHDAY SCHEME

Happy Birthday and thank you to:

July 21st Grace Elliot

July 23rd Maxine Elliot

July 25th Duncan Ellis

July 27th Sarah Brazier

July 31st Steve Gray

August 4th Sophie Gray

August 18th Stanley Mackley – Happy 80th

If you wish to join this scheme please contact Denise Vernon.



Letter of thanks sent to Denise

Thank you for being a blessing !

By taking part in the BMS Birthday Scheme you're helping churches to be Jesus' hands and feet in the places of greatest need and to bring the love and good news of Jesus around the world. You've also helped a little girl called Amal to feel safe and loved after she fled her home in Syria. :

“My name is Amal, and this is my seventh year at the BMS-supported Clementia Learning Centre, in Lebanon. From the beginning the teachers helped me feel safe – safer than I felt at home at that time. They took care of me physically by giving me medicine, clean water and food, and they made sure I was Okay. They also taught me how to read and write in Arabic and English, and because of them, I now know maths and science as well.

What meant even more to me is that the church stood with our family throughout the years. They visited us often and supported us with food vouchers, heaters and gas bottles. They also provided us with blankets and winter clothes. I remember a time when we had problems with bedbugs and water pollution, and they intervened and helped us. All of this made me feel special and not forgotten.”

Thanks to your support, people like Amal get to learn, have their basic human rights met and grow to the person that God made them to be.

Thank you for standing hand-in-hand with BMS supporters in the UK and believers all over the world – bringing fullness of life and the good news of Jesus' salvation across the globe.

A donation from our Birthday Collections of £764 has been sent to BMS.

ABC MAN ALIVE



Thank you to everyone who helped at the car wash and coffee morning. Together with the collection in church, and a cake sale in Granby School Staff Room, £556 was raised for Christian Aid.

Next Meeting: 10th July – Crazy Golf. Please sign up on the form in the church lounge, or contact Don Walters.

LADIES' TOGETHER



The Ladies enjoyed a summer walk



and afternoon tea on a very hot Saturday afternoon.

Seven ladies (and 2 little dogs) walked, the other eight stayed cool in the church and prepared the tea.

As ever it was a great time to be together.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 25th August, 7pm, for a meal at the Glen Parva Manor. Please let Mari know so she can book.

1. Melchizedek 2. Nebuchadnezzar 3. Saul 4. Gideon 5. Naaman
6. Joseph of Arimathea 7. Eutychus, 8. Solomon 9. Salome
10. Elizabeth 11. Jairus 12. Martha
13. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego 14. Jael 15. Zipporah,

Answers to the Bible characters quiz

Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities:

[note some activities are not on over all July & August]

Sunday

10:30am Morning Service / Junior Church / Creche Facilities

Monday

11am Café Harmony - People living with dementia & their carer

Tuesday

11am Tuesday Fellowship (3rd Age Bible Study) meet Fortnightly

Wednesday

9:30am ABC Tots (For all babies & toddlers. Ages 0 – 4 in School Terms)

7pm ABC Youth Group

Thursday

11am Community Lunch Club (Meet Fortnightly)

11am The Open House (For the 50's & over. Meet Fortnightly)



Loop System Installed, Wheel Chair Access, & WC Facilities

To enquire about Baptism, Marriage, Funerals,
Church Membership, House Groups,
The Community Lunch Club, The Open House, or any other activity,

Please contact the church.

07476 923 382

0116 2832527 - answerphone

Don't forget to visit our website
<https://www.aylestonebaptist.com/>
A warm welcome awaits you.