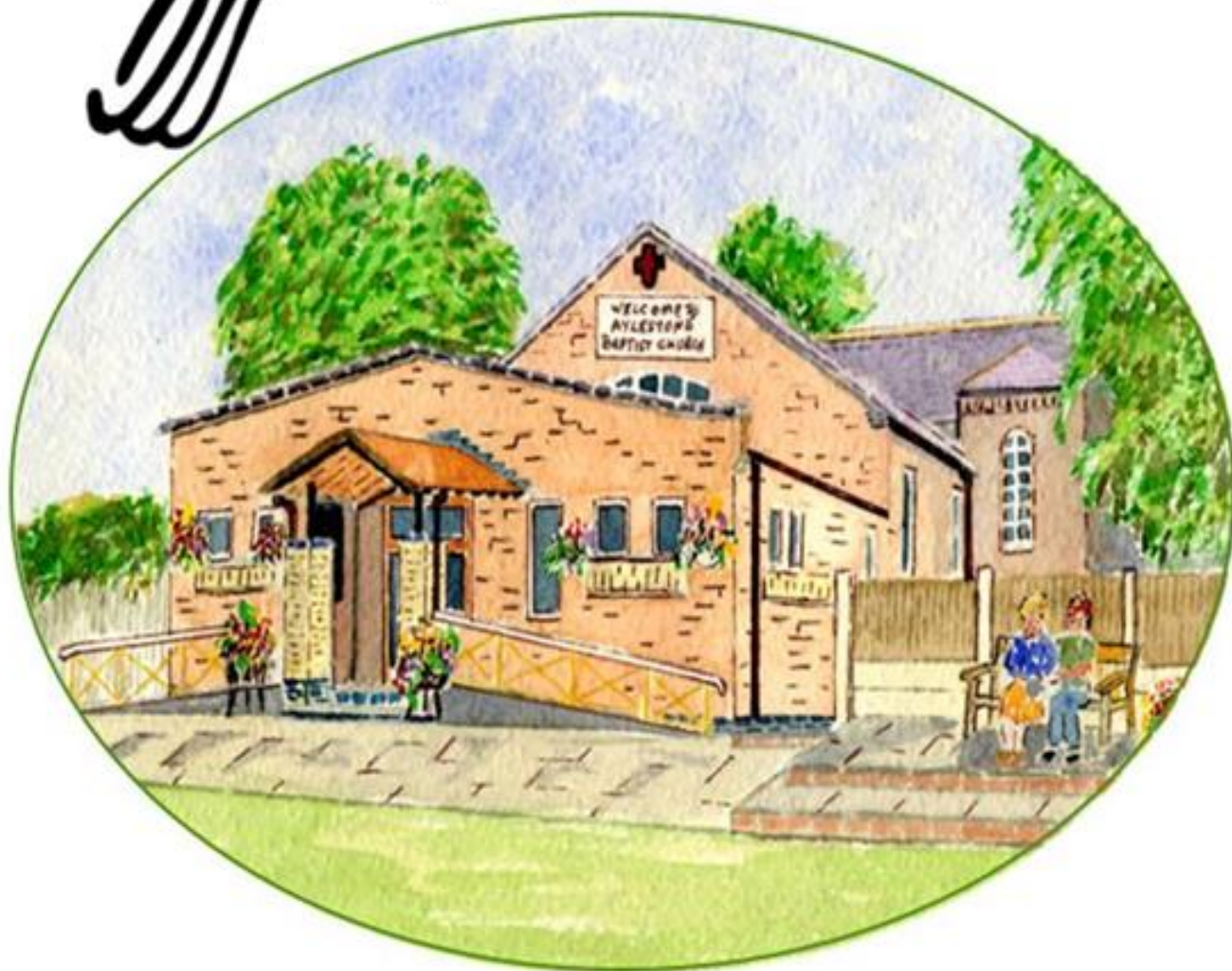




Aylestone Baptist Church

GROWING, LEARNING, EXPERIENCING & SHARING GOD'S LOVE



May & June
Church Magazine
2025

May/June 2025

There is so much to celebrate about what is happening at Aylestone Baptist Church. Recently we've had our church AGM (Annual General Meeting), which I sometimes refer to (perhaps jokingly) as our Annual Gratitude Meeting. There was a sense of excitement and unity in the room as we all shared highlights of the past year and made plans for an even greater year ahead.

Let me share some of what's been happening at ABC and how blessed we are as a church:

- The patio work is now complete, leaving us with a beautiful, useful space for outdoor activities.
- Our events and activities continue to bless our community. Our Third Age groups see a full house of people enjoying a warm meal, while our Fun Days see hundreds of people joining in for fun, crafts, and of course the bouncy castle.
- One hundred children attended Holiday Club in the summer – and we are already preparing for this coming summer!
- We've welcomed two members in the last year and are looking forward to welcoming four more new members this month.
- We've been through Sunday teaching series on the Ten Commandments, The “I Am” statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John, Jesus as the Light of Christmas, and a discipleship and spiritual formation series.
- Our house groups continue to grow steadily as they meet regularly for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer.
- Our weekly giving has increased 7%, and our income from hiring the hall was 4% higher than expected.
- So many members continue to serve faithfully each week. Each and every person is so important to the life of our church.

As we look toward the coming year, there are some exciting areas where we can move forward together as a church. Let me highlight just three:

First, we're thrilled to announce that we have approved a new part-time role for a Youth and Children's Leader. We are passionate about investing in the next generation and building on the great work already happening with our young people, from our babies to teenagers. Currently, our youth meet every other week during term time, but with this new role, we'll be able to offer even more opportunities for our young people to grow in their faith and community.

Second, we are eager to welcome even more people into our church family. I long to see more people coming to faith in Christ and following Him in baptism. Some Sundays, our services are very full, and I would love to see even more seats added to accommodate the growth God is bringing. We have been blessed recently with several new babies in the church – wouldn't it be wonderful to welcome even more new faces of all ages?

Third, in the next few weeks, we'll be focusing on the Bible and its significance for our lives today. We'll explore what the Bible says about itself, look at a bit of its history, understand why different translations exist, and learn how we can study it personally. Then, we'll dive deep into Psalm 119—a beautiful chapter often described as a love letter to God's Word (and the longest chapter in the Bible – there are a whole 176 verses!).

There is so much to be thankful for and so much to look forward to. We have certainly been blessed, but I hope we can agree that the best is yet to come. Let's keep praying, serving, giving, and trusting God together with faithfulness and joy. I'm excited to see what He will do in and through our church in the year ahead!

In Christ,
Will

Sunday Series: The Bible

4 th May	The Bible: Our Sword	Ephesians 6:10-17
11 th May	The Bible: God's Word	2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 4:12
18 th May	The Bible: True and Trustworthy	Psalm 19:7-14
25 th May	The Bible: Powerful and Practical	James 1:22-25, Romans 10:5-15
1 st June	The Bible: Our Guide	Joshua 1:8, 2 Timothy 2:15
June	Exploring Psalm 119	

PENTECOST - The Birthday of the Church

The Service on June 8th will be a celebration of the beginning of the church – guest preacher Dan Gower of Open Doors – and there will be CAKE !

EASTER BLESSINGS

Palm Sunday began our Easter Celebrations with a lively service led by Elaine Robinson, including a palm waving procession and a presentation of Easter Eggs to be distributed to the Eyres Monsell and South Wigston Food Banks. Many thanks to all who donated the 80 or so large eggs. Our church truly has a generous heart.



The following **Tuesday** we held the Family Fun Day, raising funds for our SIGMA India project. It was wonderful to welcome in the Community. With over 100 children among the people who came along, it was a busy time, with egg hunt, crafts, bouncy castle, refreshments and stalls including a gigantic cake stall (the amount of cakes not the size of them!). We are so grateful that over £800 was raised – money that will bless the people in the church at Akividu, enabling them to continue the work including feeding many people, children's activities, widows pensions, along with preaching the Gospel. Very grateful thanks once again to our wonderful volunteers who made this day possible.



On **Maundy Thursday** we held a service at 12 noon when Will gave an emotional message that touched many people. After this most came into our Lunch Club when about 80 people sat down to a delicious meal.

Good Friday began, as in many years previously, a March of Witness with other churches in Aylestone, beginning at St. Andrews, then St. Edwards, and finishing at Aylestone Baptist with a Service followed by coffee and hot cross buns, and an opportunity to chat with those from different churches.



Easter Sunday saw a packed church - worship was joyful, singing some beautiful songs and a thoughtful message from Will.

Following the Service the children took part in an egg hunt when we were able to make good use of our new patio area. The picture shows the delight at the first egg hunt for two of our youngest ABC Kids – Rory and Esther.



Easter was a wonderful opportunity to bless our Community and share the love of Jesus with those around us.

New useable area at Church.

After many years of thought and discussion, the Church took the decision in 2023/4 to have the old raised area next to the Church building removed. It had been there for many years and the slabbing and fencing were in a very poor state. It was also inaccessible for anyone with mobility issues.

So on 10th February work started. After initial clearing of fences etc. work started digging out the earth. Ten 20 tonne lorries were loaded with the material removed. Once the earth was gone we found that the gas main and main electrical cable were exposed and had to be lowered. We also decided to have the slabs immediately in front of the Church relayed on much firmer foundations.

The work was completed in about 4 weeks, and then the new gravel surface needed time to settle and subsequently be rolled again. The surface is the same as is used in National Parks for pathways etc. We look forward to using this great space effectively. We are very grateful to all who made generous donations , and a grant from the council which made the project affordable.





OYEZ,OYEZ,OYEZ "MARKET MAYHEM"

**CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CLUB
AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
MONDAY 28th JULY - FRIDAY 1st AUGUST**

9.45am - 12.15pm

COST: £15 PER CHILD

CHILDREN AGED 4 -11

(Further details to follow)





Pentecost Sunday

N R F C U L S A W Q B R H E T V Z
 N S C U U U C K F F E W Y O X V T
 X H H A S M A I D W H T J L Q B F
 Z T F E G E R W O D S O X L O Y T
 I W J X P E F P B O I R U B A H E
 J D G S F Y E S C V R C D S J T I
 S O R M H R Z E P O J W Z X E S B
 P P U S E L T S O P A Z D M E Y D
 H Z I S G N J Y R Z J O X U Q N M
 E L Z R E E F C A D O Q M J U W U
 Y G O P I L I J S D N J E O L T U
 Y W A F F T L R D X L I S N M N H
 F B E U Q M L A D X R Y W H E A R
 S I S E G Q E O T U Q S A D C I Q
 J D F L K N D A S T C A O D R C T
 L C I T W C A J D N E V A E H E Q
 P Y O W Y Z A L S E U G N O T G R

Pentecost	apostles	language	tongues	spirit
filled	Heaven	Jesus	power	fifty
speak	house	sound	acts	wind
hear	Holy	fire	Day	

Some Quotes from prominent Christians :

Hang this question up in your houses – “What would Jesus do?” and then think of another – “How would Jesus do it?”

For what Jesus would do, and how He would do it, may always stand as the best guide to us.

C.H.Spurgeon

I compare the troubles which we have to undergo in the course of the year to a great bundle of firewood, far too large for us to lift.

But God does not require us to carry the whole at once. He mercifully unties the bundle, and gives us first one stick which we carry today, and then another, which we are to carry tomorrow, and so on.

This we might easily manage, if we would only take the burden appointed for each day, but we choose to increase our troubles by carrying yesterday's stick over again today, and adding tomorrow's burden to the load, before we are required to bear it.

John Newton

Anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, but only empties today of its strength.

C.H. Spurgeon

The young Christian must realize that the test of his religious life is what he is and what he does when he is not on his knees in prayer, not reading the Bible, not listening to great preachers and not participating in religious meetings.

Dr. John Meigs

The greatest fault is to be conscious of none.

Thomas Carlyle

Church Family News

We pray for those in our fellowship who are unwell.

Kath North as had another spell in hospital with pneumonia. We pray for healing for Kath.

Diane Bland is undergoing lots of treatment for her difficulties and is currently in hospital – we continue to pray for healing and God’s strength for all she and Mike are going through.

We thank God for our new Deacon, Mari Walters and pray God’s guidance as she works for the advancement of God’s Kingdom here in our church.

We thank our retiring Deacons for their service over the past years – Wendy Hall and Bulus Ezekiel.

Dates for your Diary

May 10th – Car Wash and refreshments raising money for Christian Aid – organised by the Man Alive group.

June 28th – Cream Teas – see details.

July 28th – August 1st Children’s Holiday Club.

August 12th & 14th - Holiday@Home for 3rd Age

Update from the Bible Society:

Iran

The charity “Welcome Churches” has been working since 2018 to see every refugee welcomed by a church. Many are Iranian migrants who have fled persecution.

“We work with churches and detention centres to make sure that Bibles are supplied, free of charge, to those who need them.”, says Bible Society’s Chantelle Baker.

“I have been given a free Bible in Farsi” said one Iranian migrant. “My favourite verse is 1 John 4:16. *God is love*. Jesus said forgive your enemies. He sacrificed himself. I used to chant, ‘Death to America’, but now I pray for peace.”

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

A two course roast dinner for £5. The lounge is open from 11am for coffee and chat, the meal served at 12.45. Open to all – no need to book just come along and be assured of a warm welcome.

Thursday May 1st / 15th / 29th

Thursday June 12th / 26th



The Open House

Open to all over 50s. Meet from 11am for coffee, chat, quizzes, knitting, have your nails painted – with lunch served at about 12.30, consisting of either home made soup or chilli and jacket potato, and a choice of up to 10 different puddings! Cost £5 includes unlimited tea and coffee.



Thursday May 8th / 22nd

Thursday June 5th / 19th

Tuesday Fellowship

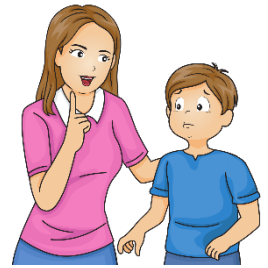
For the over 50s, the group meets at about 11am for coffee and catch up, then a time of Bible Study and discussion – no matter where you are in your Christian journey, this is a chance to ask questions, share life stories, and enjoy studying a passage in the Bible. Also we share lunch at 12.30. You will be very welcome.



Tuesday May 6th / 20th

Tuesday June 3rd / 17th

WHAT MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME



1. My mother taught me RELIGION.
"You'd better pray that will come out of the carpet!"
2. My mother taught me TIME TRAVEL.
"If you don't straighten up I'm going to knock you into the Middle of next week !"
3. My mother taught me FORESIGHT.
"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
4. My mother taught me IRONY.
"Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."
5. My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM.
"Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"
6. My mother taught me about the WEATHER.
"This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."
7. My mother taught me about ENVY.
"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do!"
8. My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION.
"Just you wait until we get home!"
9. My mother taught me about RECEIVING.
"You are going to get it when you get home."
10. My mother taught me HUMOUR.
"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."
11. My mother taught me WISDOM.
"When you get to be my age, you'll understand."
12. My mother taught me about JUSTICE.
"One day you'll have kids... and I hope they turn out just like you."

Smile-a-while

Answers in the exams !!

Q. What happens to your body as you age?

A. When you get old, so do your bowels and you get intercontinental.

Q. What happens to a boy when he reaches puberty?

A. He says goodbye to his boyhood and looks forward to his Adultery.

Q. Name a major disease associated with cigarettes.

A. Premature death.

My father had a medical condition that meant regular visits to hospital.

The local funeral director was a good family friend, and had been very helpful giving dad lifts to and from the hospital.

On one occasion, a few hours before he was due to come home, the ward sister approached my father with a grin. "Your wife is on the phone", she said, "She wants to know what time you will be ready for the undertaker to collect you.?"

Church Bloopers....

A sudden gust of wind took all who were at the ceremony by surprise. Hats were blown off and copies of the vicar's speech and other rubbish were scattered over the site.

The Rector is on holiday this month. Local clergy will be celebrating with us all the Sundays he is away.

Don't miss the Young Wives Victorian evening next month. It will be a fun night and some of the women will wear clothes.

A comment from one of our Thursday Lunch Club ladies:

"Every morning when I wake up I wish it was Thursday"

Man Alive - Men's meetings

Volunteers needed to help wash the cars – see Donald or Duncan.

Refreshments are on sale – bacon or sausage cobs, cakes, tea and coffee – if you don't have a car come along for the food! All funds to Christian Aid.



AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
(LUTTERWORTH ROAD)

COMMUNITY CAR WASH

(RAISING FUNDS FOR CHRISTIAN AID)

£5 PER CAR

SATURDAY 10th MAY

11am - 1.30pm

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE WHILE YOU WAIT

.Springtime

*I do so love this time of year,
When everything looks so new,
The nature all around us
Is poised – waiting for us to view.*

*All the different flowers and plants
The beautiful blossom trees,
The lambs and chicks that've just been born,
The butterflies and bees.*



*Next time you're out and about,
Look closely at all that you see –
God's love shows it's face to achieve it,
Spring speaks of His great Majesty.*

*It's up to us to maintain it,
To care and respect all He's done,
To give nature a hand where it's needed,
Then sit back and enjoy in the sun.*

Hazel Turner.

Ladies Together



Meeting for JUNE

Saturday 14th June – walk and Afternoon Tea.

Meet at church 2pm, then a walk along the canal towpath and finishing back at church for sandwiches & cakes. Cost: £3.



SATURDAY 28 JUNE 2 - 4
AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

CREAM TEAS

Various Stalls Including
Cake Stall.

Come along & enjoy a
delicious homemade
cream tea & relaxing afternoon



Sigma update

Following the murder of a pastor, found on the roadside as he was going home from leading a meeting, a supporter of Sigma was so touched she wanted to send some money to the pastor's family. When we contacted Rev. Sukumar he sent the following message to Stanley:

"We have no contact information of Pastors family. His wife from other state, she went to her hometown. The police officers warn us not talk about this issue. The police officers have given 'warning' notices to some Pastors. Now is a very difficult time for us. They have closed our mouths. Please pray for our safety, some night times we are going to villages for gospel meetings. We are thinking about what is the safest way to travel to go villages and come back. We are always thankful to Your prayers and supports. We Love You so much."

Please continue to pray for safety and wisdom for our church family in Akividu. Just now they are in the midst of conducting their Vacation Bible School, reaching hundreds of children from their town and surrounding villages. Their trust in God is truly humbling.



'Holiday Club' Children in the new, almost finished Church building



As many of the children are very poor, the Church feeds them each day of Holiday Club

On the 80th Anniversary of the **LIBERATION OF BERGEN-BELSEN** concentration camp by British forces, and VE Day (Victory in Europe), the following is the story of an heroic woman who saved many Jews from the Nazis.

Corrie Ten Boom was born on 15th April 1892, in Haarlem, Netherlands, the youngest child of Casper Ten Boom, a jeweller and watch maker. The Ten Boom family lived above Casper's shop and Corrie began working with her father, becoming the first woman to be licensed as a watchmaker in the Netherlands.

Over the next decade, in addition to working in her father's shop, she established a youth club for teenage girls, which provided religious instruction and classes in the performing arts, sewing and handicrafts. She and her family were Calvinist Christians in the Dutch Reformed Church, and their faith inspired them to serve their society by offering shelter, food and money to those in need. Some important tenets of their faith included the fact that the Jews were precious to God and that all people are created equal – powerful motivation for the selfless rescue work she would later become involved in.

1940, the Germans invaded the Netherlands. One of their restrictions was the banning of the youth club. In May 1942 a well-dressed woman arrived at the shop, with a suitcase, her husband had been arrested and she now feared to go back to her house. She had heard the ten Booms had helped their Jewish neighbours and asked if they could help her too. Casper readily agreed, even though the Police headquarters was only half a block away.

Corrie and her sister Betsy opened their home to Jewish refugees and members of the Resistance. A secret room was built in Corrie's bedroom that could hold six people, and an alarm buzzer was fitted to alert the refugees to get into the hiding place as quickly as possible when there was a security sweep of the area. Corrie and her family saved around 800 Jews.

On 28th February 1944 a Dutch informant told the Nazis about the Ten Boom family. They were arrested. Casper died ten days later.

Corrie and Betsy were sent eventually to Ravensbruck concentration camp. There they held worship services after the hard days work in the camp, using a Bible they had smuggled in. Betsy died on 16th Dec. 1944 aged 59. She had told Corrie "There is no pit so deep that God is not deeper still." Soon after, Corrie was released. Afterwards she was told that her release was a clerical error and that a week later all the women in her age group were sent to the gas chambers.

After the war Corrie returned to the Netherlands to set up a rehabilitation centre housing concentration-camp survivors, then jobless Dutch who had collaborated with the Germans during the Occupation. She returned to Germany in 1946 and met with and forgave two Germans who had been employed at Ravensbruck – one of whom had been particularly cruel to Betsy.

Corrie Ten Boom went on to travel the world as a public speaker, appearing in more than 60 countries. She wrote many books with her important messages of forgiveness, hope, love and salvation through the saving grace of Jesus Christ.



This is a very shortened account of her experiences, I highly recommend you read her book "The Hiding Place" if you have the chance."

Youth & Children's Worker

'Kids today learn a lot about getting to the moon, but very little about getting to heaven' – *David Jeremiah*

We are now advertising this part-time post. Please spread the word and encourage anyone who may "fit the bill" to apply. We are blessed to have a good number of youngsters coming along to our church now, and want to be ready to welcome many more. Please keep praying.

BMS Birthday Scheme

Happy Birthday and thank you to:

May 11th – Hazel Turner.

June 12th – Denise Vernon.

If you wish to join this scheme supporting BMS missionary work, please see Denise Vernon.



Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Church Minister Rev. Will Hall

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities:

Sunday

10.30am Morning Service / ABC Kids & ABC Teens / Creche Facilities

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

9.30am ABC Tots
(For all babies & toddlers. Ages 0 – 4 open during School Term)

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 inquire about Baptism, Marriage, Funerals, Church Membership, House Groups,

The Community Lunch Club, The Open House, or any other activity,
Please contact the church.

Rev. Will Hall on 07878803387 or Email aylestonebc@gmail.com

Don't forget to visit our website

<https://www.aylestonebaptist.com/>

A warm welcome awaits you.