

# Welcome to Aylestone Baptist

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

September & October  
Harvest Magazine  
2025



# JESUS

BREAD OF LIFE

Dear Church,

Do you consider yourself to be a leader?

On Sundays this autumn, we will be looking at leaders in the Bible. Whether or not you think you're a leader, we all have areas of responsibility and oversight. Maybe you have people who look up to you at work, lead a group at church, are responsible for organising your household, or manage a social group. Even just planning your own life can benefit from leadership skills and insights. Small areas of responsibility can have a huge impact.

I'll let you know a little secret about myself: I am not a natural leader. Some people are born with confidence, charisma, or a knack for decision-making. That hasn't been me. But over the years, I've been blessed with mentors who have guided me, encouraged me, and patiently shown me what godly leadership looks like. I've put myself in situations where I have to develop my skills and trust God with the work He's doing in my life. Along with that, I've found that some of the best lessons on leadership don't come from management books or motivational speakers, but from the pages of the Bible.

Of course, the best example of leadership is Jesus. He said about Himself: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (**Mark 10:45**). Even the night before dying on the cross, Jesus didn't deliver a lecture on leadership theory. Instead, He got down on His knees with a towel and a basin of water (John 13). The Lord of glory took the role of a servant, washing His disciples' dusty, travel-worn feet. That's not the kind of leadership the world celebrates. But Jesus gave us an example to follow: a leader who serves.

Leadership is less about personality and more about posture. It's less about charisma and more about character. It's not about authority, but about attitude. True leadership inspires, raises up, serves, and sets the example.

Other biblical leaders echo the same truths. Moses often doubted himself, but God worked through his weakness. Gideon didn't want to lead, but his influence led to enemy armies being defeated and peace in the land. Peter stumbled many times, yet Jesus restored him and used him to start the early church. Paul led churches by pointing them not to his own strength but to the power of Christ at work in him.

So perhaps leadership isn't about being a "natural" at all. It's about following Christ, learning from His ways, and letting His Spirit shape our hearts.

The best leaders are those who serve with humility, find ways to meet needs, love with perseverance, and trust God with the results.

I'm still learning to be the leader God wants me to be. I hope you'll join me in learning from leaders in the Bible.

Be blessed,

*will*

### Dates for your Diary

**Sunday Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>** – Service of infant Dedication during the morning service.

**Monday Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>** – Launch of the Harmony Café for people with dementia and Their carers.

**Sunday Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>** –  
HARVEST – Lunch following the service with sausages & burgers – please bring either a salad, dessert or juice drink – or just yourself. Also we are collecting for the Food Bank, so please bring your donation to the Service.

**Saturday Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>** –  
6.30pm PRAISE EVENING – an uplifting hour of song, testimony and worship. Come along and bring a friend.

**Saturday Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>** –  
Christmas Market.





# **A Summer of fun and serving our Community**

## **HOLIDAY CLUB 2025-Market Mayhem!**

This year's holiday club theme was Market Mayhem! The church was all dressed up in a shopping theme. The church & dens were really inspiring & got everyone in the mood.

We had about 90 children sign up, who were so well behaved & just loved everything that they did. They were all kept so busy they didn't have time to think about getting up to mischief!



Each morning began with a short group time, followed by a time together in the church for singing & watching a short film that had a food-based theme from the Bible. After that, the morning flew by with two more group times, crafts & outdoor activities. The bouncy slide continues to be the favourite, but the children also enjoyed the games sessions, the sand & water, parachute games, basketball & giant Jenga. The morning finished off with more singing & a very silly drama... the kids loved it and joined in in the appropriate places!



Friday night was our final session, with the children performing their showtime pieces & singing songs for their parents. This was followed by a BBQ. Thanks to Duncan, Sandra & Jane, my master chefs, & many others who helped this run smoothly this year! The weather was fantastic for us again and the food soon disappeared. This is always a great opportunity to meet parents in the community and there certainly were a lot of people there that have never attended a church event before, we think around 300 attended.



I would like to thank all of those who put in so much work before & during the week, there were about 50 volunteers again this year! Thank you to Lucy and her team of crafters who ensured that the children had a reminder of the Bible stories to take home and Sandra who provided fruit for the children every day. It was particularly great to see the teen helpers maturing & taking on more responsibilities under the guidance of the more mature & experienced leaders. I couldn't do any of it without such a dedicated team who work hard & support me as well as giving the kids the most fantastic week of fun. I would also like to thank Duncan, Maisy & Stan who helped with decorating the church. Thanks also to Keith and Rob who did a fantastic job on the sound desk. Every year I think it can't possibly get any better, but it always does. This was the best one yet I think! I enjoyed the week so much & I hope everyone else did too! 😊

Beth Ellis



## Holiday@Home for the over 60s

Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> August began with coffee and biscuits, quizzes, lots of chat and catching up. Then a lovely lunch of Roast Turkey and all the trimmings, followed by plum and apple crumble and custard.

The afternoon and we launched into crafts and games. There was paper flower making, pompoms, painting wooden bird houses and decorations, card making, flower decorating, and, new this year, bread making. A group spent the afternoon with board games, and everyone had the opportunity to try all the different activities.



The bread making turned out to be an extremely sticky affair, and caused much laughter, but in the end very tasty loaves were produced and a sense of great satisfaction (and aching arms !)





Many thanks to Jackie, Wendy, Frieda, Hazel, Carol and Stan for the craft activities.

The day concluded with sandwiches and cakes before home time.

Thursday was a 'Posh' afternoon tea, starting with a table quiz, then the main event – delicious finger sandwiches, strawberries and cream, and a selection of cakes fit for 'Tea at the Ritz'.



The afternoon finished with Beth singing some lovely songs from the shows.

Our thanks to ASDA who supplied the sandwich fillings, to Sandra for the cakes, and to all who spread, chopped, set tables, and ran around filling up cups of tea. A lovely afternoon that made everyone feel special.

**Dorothy Mackley**



## **Church Family News**

The last few weeks have brought sad times to some of our members.

Bulus Ezekiel's brother sadly passed away in Nigeria. At these times the pain of separation is so difficult. Our love to Bulus, Lydia and the children and all the family back home.

Tracy Bryan's brother passed away after a long and difficult time of illness. We send Tracy our love and prayers, knowing that Jesus is always by her side.

Our love and prayers also for Julie Withers, whose mother, Shirley Ann Cooke, passed away after a difficult few years, when Julie devotedly cared for her. We pray that Jesus will wrap His loving arms around her as she looks to the future. Our love to all the family.

Kath North is recovering after a spell in hospital for pneumonia and lung problems. She is still undergoing tests and treatments but is always there with a ready smile for all. Bless you Kath, we pray for God's healing touch.

Wendy Hall is in the midst of chemotherapy as her cancer has now become active. Wendy has had a number of stays in hospital and is weak but trusting in her Lord and very grateful for the flowers, cards and phone calls she has received from her friends. We pray for strength and courage for Wendy as she faces the long road to recovery and pray God's blessing on her all the way.

Diane Bland is now comfortably settled in a Care Home where Mike is now able to spend quality time with her, although still with the sadness that she is not at home with him. May they both feel the comfort of God's unending love.

This is the summer for knee operations – Laura Westwood has had one knee replacement after a long wait, and is recovering really well. She hopes to have the other one done as soon as possible so that she will have a much improved quality of life. Hazel Turner also has had a knee replacement and looks forward to pain free walking in the future. We thank God for the miracle that is surgery and the skill of the doctors. How blessed we are.



Many congratulations to Margaret Farrell and the family on the birth of her granddaughter Amelia Faye. May God bless this little one and all her family, and may she be surrounded by love all her life.

Gina Gymafi is off to University in Worcester later this month. We pray God will keep her safe and that Uni will be a wonderful experience for her – and of course she will learn a lot !

Gianne Gianan has completed one year at Nottingham University and is now transferring to their campus in Malaysia for 10 months to continue her studies in Pharmacy. We pray for protection for her travelling and settling in and that it will be a wonderful experience for her. (And that Jenny and Jose won't spend all their days worrying !).

We ask God to be with all our children and young people as they start school for the first time, or move to 'big school' , and even to new classes, an anxious time. Please pray for them and that if they are feeling afraid, they will know that God is always with them.

The new patio has been a blessing this summer, for Holiday Club and cream teas. It is beautiful, but unfortunately the lovely lavender and Cordyline plants that Duncan kindly planted, were dug up and stolen along with the new hosepipe. Consequently we have put anti-climb spikes in place along the fence.

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## **Ladies Together**

Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> - 10am breakfast in the church lounge

Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup> – shared lunch at church.

All ladies welcome – see Mari for other details.

## **Man Alive**

We are planning an evening Bowling at Hollywood Bowl. Date to be arranged

Contact Don or Duncan for further details. All men welcome.

## What's on for 3<sup>rd</sup>. Age September & October....

### **Lunch Club**

Meets fortnightly on Thursdays for a 2 course roast dinner. Meet in the church lounge from 11am for coffee, lunch served at 12.45, cost £5. All welcome, no need to book, just be sure of a warm friendly welcome.



Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup>

Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> / 30<sup>th</sup>

### **The Open House**



A relaxed atmosphere, on a Thursday alternate to the Lunch Club, open from 11am for coffee and chat, knitting, board games. A safe, warm space, to make new friends or catch up with old ones. Lunch is served at 12.30, cost £5, and will be either Home-made soups or Jacket potato and chilli, plus a variety of puddings – fruit pie, crumble, bread & butter pudding, rice pudding, sticky toffee, roulade – to name but a few! If you can't resist, come along and give it a try. You are always welcome.

Thursday September 11<sup>th</sup> / 25<sup>th</sup>

Thursday October 9<sup>th</sup> / 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **The Tuesday Group**

A small group of ladies and gentlemen who come together to read the Bible, talk about the passage and how it relates to them at this time of life, and to the world at large in these difficult days. It is very accessible to all – whether you have been a Christian all your life, or a beginner, wanting to understand more, you are welcome to join this group. We meet from 11am for coffee, then begin at 11.30, with a lunch served at 12.30.



Tuesday September 9<sup>th</sup> / 23<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday October 7<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup>



**A tribute read in church by Julie Withers to her late mother, Shirley Ann Cook.**

**Mum**

The world keeps turning, Seasons change and fade,  
But in my heart, a space you softly made.  
The sun still shines, the flowers still bloom bright,  
Yet lacks the warmth of your particular light.

Your laughter once a melody so clear,  
Your counsel which I often didn't hear,  
Now echoes loudest, banishing all fear.

I walk the paths where once we used to stray  
And feel your presence in the breaking day.  
The scent of home, the way you'd make things new,  
A constant reminder that I will miss you.

The stream of time carries me far from shore  
And sees your face – but sees your face no more.  
Yet in the quiet when the day is done  
I know the love you gave me is not gone.

It lives within the breath I take each day,  
The map you gave me to show me the way.  
Though gone from sight you are forever near,  
A silent shore where love is always clear.

A mother's love is something that no-one can explain,  
It's made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain.  
It is endless and unselfish and enduring, come what may,  
For nothing can destroy it or take that love away.

*A prayer: Praise be to the God and Father of compassion and the God of all comfort who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves received from God. Amen.*



# ABC TOTS



Meet the ABC TOTS team seen here with three little boys who have attended since the first session but are now going off to school. We wish them well.

The Tots group held a Messy Play Day in the summer, when about 12 children and their carers came for a few hours of fun. It was a beautiful day, so out on the patio they played with toys, ball pit, ducks and boats in the water, bikes, and bubbles floating overhead.

Then a blanket on the lawn and they enjoyed a picnic together.

Thanks to all who organised this and who run the ABC Tots every Wednesday morning from 9.30 to 11am throughout term time.

*“Jesus took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in His arms he said to them “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my Name welcomes Me.” Mark Ch. 9 v 36 – 37*



## **BMS Birthday List** supporting Baptist Missionary Work.

Happy birthday and thank you to....

Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> Elaine Robinson  
Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Mackley  
Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> Mike Bland  
Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> Ben Blackford  
Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> Daniel Blackford

Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> Beth Ellis  
Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> Rachel Draper  
Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> Hannah Hall  
Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> David German  
Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> Will Hall.



If you wish to join this scheme, when you receive a card and an envelope for you to make a donation to BMS, please see Denise Vernon.

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### **The Bridge :**

A man walking along a Californian beach, was deeply in prayer. All of a sudden he said out loud –

“Lord, please grant me just one wish.”

Suddenly the sky clouded over his head and in a booming voice the Lord said,

“Because you have tried to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant one wish”

The man said “Can you please build a bridge to Hawaii so that I may drive over any time I wish.”

The Lord said “your wish is very materialistic, think about the logistics. I could do it but it is hard to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time to think of a wish that would honour and glorify me.”

The man thought again. “Lord,” he said “I wish I could understand women, I want to know how they feel inside, what they’re thinking when they give me the silent treatment, why they cry, what they mean when I ask what’s wrong and they say “nothing”, and how can I make a woman truly happy”

After a few minutes the Lord said “Do you want 2 or 4 lanes on that bridge.”

# SIGMA GARDEN PARTY



We are very grateful to all who came and supported our Garden Party to raise funds for our SIGMA charity, and to all who made cakes, pies, crafts to sell. There



were also books, jigsaws, bric-a-brac stalls, refreshments, a bouncy castle, treasure hunt, garden games and a prayer table.

A good number of people attended including many young families. The weather was kind and we raised just over £500. The Church in Akividu continues to thrive in spite of increasing opposition from some radical anti-Christian groups, so that Sukumar & Saguna who are often travelling home from meetings late at night in the dark are more fearful for their safety. Please pray for their situation and for all Christians in India who are suffering increasing persecution. Stan, Dorothy 😊

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## Top Tip:

To deter flies - take half a lemon and put cloves between each segment and leave in your room. (Not cloves of garlic – these have a different use for deterring).



**Café Harmony** is a new project aimed at reaching people who are living with all kinds of dementia and their carers. It will be in the Church lounge and the leaders and helpers will try and bring some light relief to these people's lives. Everyone in the community who has a need in this particular area will be welcome. The poster has all the information you need. Hazel.

# Café Harmony



Our Café Harmony is open to the community and will serve persons with dementia, their loved ones, and carers.

We offer a secure, compassionate and caring environment for interacting with others.

Come and enjoy refreshments, crafts, music, and more.

Monday mornings, once a fortnight, 10.30am to 12pm  
at Aylestone Baptist Church

The first session will take place on Monday, September 15th.

For further information please call

Hazel on 07342 902 999

## The Wales Window

On 15<sup>th</sup> September 1963, the Ku Klux Klan planted a bomb at the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, killing four black girls attending Sunday School.

Due to its central location the First Coloured Baptist Church of Birmingham was one of the primary centres for the black community, where leaders like Martin Luther King and Paul Robeson regularly spoke. It became the organising centre for the local Civil Rights movement. It was after Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech, that Governor George Wallace said that in order to stop integration Alabama needed "a few first-class funerals". The Ku Klux Klan members planted the bomb that killed four young girls, injured several others, and wrecked the building, smashing the stained-glass windows.

News of the tragedy stirred John Petts, a stained glass artist, at his home in Llansteffan, over 4,000 miles away. He said "the news on the radio left me sick at heart, as a father I was horrified by the death of the children". He was so upset that in the end his wife told him to either do something about it or "shut up". He decided – "Could not some of us join together in a positive gesture of Christian sympathy in the face of destructive evil, and, as a token, put back at least one of those windows." He contacted David Cole, the Editor of the Western Mail, who enthusiastically took up the idea, and the next day the Western Mail launched a campaign with the headline "Alabama, Chance for Wales to show the way." It was agreed that individual donations would not exceed half a crown, "We don't want some rich man paying for the whole window. We want it to be given by the people of Wales."

Money flooded in, from churches, chapels and school children. Wales had a strong tradition of Sunday School and the thought of young girls being killed in a place of sanctuary shook the nation. The target of £500 was reached within days, and the fund closed at £900.

A telegram was sent to the Rev. John Cross: "The people of Wales offer to recreate and erect a stained glass window to replace the one shattered in the bombing of your church. They do this as a gesture of comfort and support".

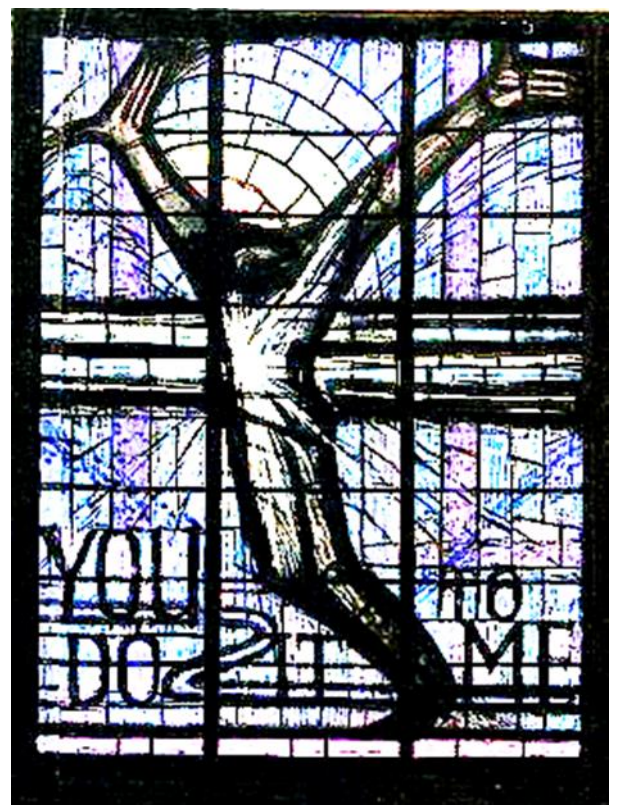


A reply accepting the offer was received and stating that “Wales was the only country to offer such direct and material assistance”. The window became a symbol that people around the world cared about their suffering and sacrifice, whilst those geographically closest saw them as alien and inferior.

Petts felt that his design must make an impact both simple and strong – as positive and simple as Christ’s message. “Eventually one idea grew in strength: the figure of a black man, Christ, a suffering figure in a crucified gesture, with one hand flung wide in protest, the other in acceptance ... remembering the sight of a black man twisting under the assault of fire-hoses, his arms flung up. The jets of water became the bar of a Cross symbolising all violence: the street hoses of the south, the bullet streams of Sharpeville, the arrow of the spear.” Patterned across the base of the design are Christ’s word, “You do it to Me”- below are the words “Given by the people of Wales, UK MCMLXIV”

The design was approved and the completed window was displayed in Cardiff before being shipped to America. John Petts, David Cole and the Mayor of Cardiff sent a telegram to the dedication service on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 1965 :

“The thoughts of the people of Wales will be with you during your dedication service. May the Wales Window symbolise the reaffirmation of Christian love and unity.” At the service pastor John Cross said that: “it might serve as a constant reminder that there are persons in the world whose hearts are filled with love and brotherly kindness.”



The church has become an important historical landmark, attracting thousands of visitors, and the window is regarded as one of the key icons of the American Civil Rights Movement, a powerful protest against intolerance and injustice.



“IT’S ALL ABOUT YOU JESUS”

# PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING

AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH  
SATURDAY 11th OCTOBER 6.30pm





# Bible Pathway Adventures

WORD SEARCH

## First Fruits

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

GOD  
NEHEMIAH  
BIKKURIM  
WHEAT  
HARVEST  
TEMPLE

LEVITICUS  
RESURRECTION  
FIRST FRUITS  
YAHWEH  
PRIEST  
OMER

PESACH  
ISRAELITES  
GRAPES  
OFFERING  
YESHUA  
APPOINTED TIME





# Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Church Minister Rev. Will Hall

## Weekly & Fortnightly Activities:

### Sunday

10.30am Morning Service / ABC Kids [Junior Church] / Creche Facilities

### Monday

10.30am Café Harmony (People living with dementia & their carer/fortnightly)

### Tuesday

11am Tuesday Fellowship (3<sup>rd</sup> 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

For 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](mailto:aylestonebc@gmail.com)

Don't forget to visit our website

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

A warm welcome awaits you.