

Welcome to
Aylestone Baptist Church
Easter Magazine
March & April 2026



"I am the resurrection and the life.
anyone who believes in me will live,
even though they die"

John 11:25

Letter from the Editor – March/April 2026

The Bible is a book like no other. I have been a Christian for many years, and regularly read my Bible, and then sometimes, as happened to me a few weeks ago, a verse stands out and I think “why did I never notice that before?” I guess it’s the way God speaks through His Word.

The verse that touched my heart is 1Corinthians Chapter 8 v 1

“Knowledge puffs up but love builds up.”

We live in a wonderful age when we can access so much knowledge – turn on your TV or device and see the life patterns of exotic animals across our world or under the sea, or watch a rocket being launched to the moon. Scientists and researchers spend all their lives delving into their specialist subjects – we call them “The Great Minds”, and we thank God for them.

But for most of us it is life’s daily struggles that concern us – and the “Great Minds” have not managed to work that out for us.

So what is the answer?

As the Beatles put it “All you need is Love” – a love that is “patient and kind, does not envy, does not boast, is not proud, rude or self-seeking, not easily angered and keeps no record of wrongs, does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth, protects, trusts, hopes, perseveres.” (1 Corinthians 13 verse 4 – 6)

This sort of love is attainable for all of us. You won’t get a diploma or a medal, but you will have a firm foundation and peace in your heart.

We have a great example to follow. If we were to ask Jesus how much He loves us, maybe He would say :

“THIS MUCH” as He stretched out His arms and died.

EASTER at ABC

Sunday March 29th – PALM SUNDAY service, 10.30am. You are invited to bring along donations for the Food Bank – including Easter Eggs. (the Food bank have particularly asked for shower gel, toothpaste etc. tins of soup, pasta sauce).

Tuesday 31st March 11am – 2pm - Fun day with children's Easter crafts and egg hunt, refreshments, cake and book stalls – all proceeds to SIGMA.

Thursday April 2nd - Maundy Service at 12 noon, followed by lunch – all welcome.

Friday April 3rd - GOOD FRIDAY Aylestone March of Witness with Churches in Aylestone. Start at St. Andrews at 10am for a short service, then parade to St Edwards again with a short service, then walk up to ABC to finish off our Good Friday worship and enjoy tea and hot cross buns and a time to meet and greet each other.

Saturday April 4th (known as “low Saturday”) Our Church will be open from 10am to 12 – set out for personal and guided prayer for Easter and for our Church.

Sunday April 5th - **EASTER DAY - HALLELUJAH**

Service at 10.30am with Praise and Testimonies and an Egg Hunt for children.



Rise in Hope

Hope is the dawn that finds you, before the sun appears,
Mercy already waiting on the other side of fears.
It's joy that doesn't hurry, but knows how this will end
A promise spoken long ago, God will always mend.

Hope laughs at empty threats of dark, and sings where shadows fall.
It knows the light has already won, It catches us, one and all.
It lifts your eyes, it steadies you, it says "get up – be strong.
The road may stretch before your feet, but grace will carry you on."

Hope grows wings while you are still, it teaches hearts to soar
It whispers "wait, there's more ahead than you've ever seen before."
It turns your prayer into a song, your mourning into praise
And fills your lungs with living breath, for all your coming days.

So stand, be sure, lift up your head, this story isn't through
Our God, who started something good, is faithful, loving and true,
Hope is alive, unshaken, bright – a fire that won't depart
Christ risen, reigning, calling you to rise with Him in heart.

Hazel Turner

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

Lunch Club

A delicious home cooked 2 course roast dinner for £5.
Lounge is open from 11am for coffee, lunch served at 12.45.
All welcome – no booking necessary.

Thursday March 5th / 19th

Thursday April 2nd – Maundy Thursday Service at 12-0-clock

Followed by lunch.

Thursday April 16th / 30th



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 March 12th / 26th

Thursday April 9th / 23rd

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 March 10th / 24th

Tuesday April Please note no meeting on 7th

Tuesday April 21st



New Year, New Start for Cafe Harmony:



Inspired and led by Hazel, the cafe was launched in September 2025 with a great team of volunteers to help.

Initially held every other Monday, Guests enjoyed games, crafts and music (by Hazel and Rob). A hot drink and biscuits were served and we were open between 10:30am and 12pm

Numbers whilst disappointing enabled a couple of people with dementia and their carers to have a few hours of fun in a relaxed atmosphere.

In a bid to attract more people the team decided to change the timetable 11am-1pm. We also offered a light lunch.

Not only did we attract more people but even the quiet ones loved the music and were soon on their feet dancing.

We now entertain 12-16 people with several enquiries from people wanting to join. The joy on their faces is priceless. We are so fortunate that we are able to offer this Cafe at Aylestone Baptist Church.

Sandra

Café Harmony

CARING FOR PEOPLE COPING WITH DEMENTIA & THEIR CARERS



At Aylestone Baptist Church
Lutterworth Road
Starting on 12th January
Every Monday 11am - 1pm
Come and enjoy a light lunch,
crafts, music, & more.

For further information please call
Hazel on 07342 902 999

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

As you may already know, Will Hall has now moved on and we have entered a time of interregnum. We wish him well in wherever God may lead him next. The church will continue as usual in every aspect except there will be different preachers each Sunday. Any enquiries will be dealt with by our Deacons.

Please remember Wendy Hall as she faces three weeks of daily radiotherapy. We pray that the pain will be kept at bay and the treatment will be successful.

Kath North has had various treatments on her eyes and is still not right. Please pray for healing for her and that her sight might be restored.

Diane Bland is settled into her Care Home and enjoys visits from old friends. Please also remember Mike in your prayers as he adjusts to a different way of life and relationship with Diane.

Cindy Elliott has begun treatment for her lung condition. It is a very unpleasant treatment and has made her further unwell – but hopefully is doing what it is supposed to do. Please remember her and Keith in your prayers through this difficult time.

A number of our members have had bad bouts of flu/severe colds, Tanya is still recovering from a bad fall and Beth is on the mend from a hernia operation.

We are so thrilled and blessed by the kind donation of two lovely oak benches for our church. These will be a blessing to many and for many years to come.



Many of you have purchased unique gifts, handmade in wood, at our Christmas Market – all crafted by Duncan.

You may not realise that you can purchase Duncan's handiwork all year through. For an Easter treat, a Mothers' Day gift, or something special for your home or garden, Duncan is the man. Over the last month he has tailormade side-tables, created a container for milk bottles, and lovely garden planter wheelbarrows, for people connected with the church. He also made a lovely bird feeder house.

Please contact Duncan at Church if you have a request.



BMS BIRTHDAY SCHEME

Happy Birthday and thank you to:

March 11th Ruth German

March 14th Ron Walton

March 27th Mary Shipton

April 1st Tracy Bryan

April 14th Brenda Tester

April 23rd Diane Bland.



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

Smile - a - while

Heard about the new diet ?

You eat whatever you want, whenever you want, and as much as you want.

You don't lose any weight – but it's really easy to stick to !!

Shortly after arriving in prison, an inmate had to have 3 teeth extracted.

Later, he had a finger cut off in a kitchen brawl.

When his appendix was removed, one of the warders confided in a colleague, "Better keep an eye on that chap, I think he's trying to escape bit by bit."

I said to the taxi driver : "King Arthur's Close."

He said, "Don't worry, we'll lose him at the next set of lights."

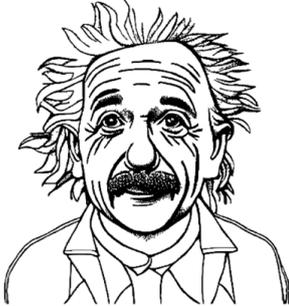


ABC MAN ALIVE

The Men's group have been having a great time with an evening at the ten-pin bowling, followed by a meal at an Italian Restaurant and also a Saturday morning breakfast at our church.



MAN ALIVE EVENING FISH & CHIP SUPPER



& QUIZ EVENING

The next event is on
FRIDAY MARCH 20TH 7PM
AT CHURCH FOR
QUIZ NIGHT &
FISH & CHIP SUPPER

LADIES' TOGETHER

Our Ladies Fellowship met together in February.



Following a shared lunch we had a fun afternoon playing games including happy families and Beetle. Our thanks to Mari and Lucy for organising this.

The next event will be a BREAKFAST at Church on Saturday 15th March, 10am, cost £5. You will be very welcome at this event.

SIGMA UPDATE

In spite of increasing opposition, the Calvary Baptist Church in Akividu continues to grow. Their children's & women's ministry is touching many lives, and they continue to feed many people after each Sunday service, both in their main Church and smaller Churches in surrounding villages.



Ladies meeting in 'Shelter' church



Children's meal after meeting at shelter



Sunday Service in new Church building



Meal outside Church after Service



The church also distributed blankets to many poor people all around their local area. It gets very cold at night and for many their homes are very poor



The government are becoming increasingly antagonistic towards Christian people – the settlement of grass huts on some ‘waste land’ - where we raised money, bought land and built the shelter – are being told that they can no longer stay there unless they buy the land, so are under threat of eviction. Please pray for them.

Amongst the bad news there is very positive news that the Church is continuing to receive requests to go and minister in many areas unreached by the gospel. So many requests that some of the ‘evangelists’ who help to run some of the smaller villages are having to go with Suguna and Sukumar to meet the need.

These areas are often quite far away, so involve travelling, sometimes on very rough roads. After meetings they travel home in the dark.

Some of the evangelists are elderly, and travelling at night is quite dangerous, so they are having to buy a vehicle suitable for this. They have found one at a good price that they can pay for monthly, but this will stretch already difficult finances since they had to build the new church as their old building was structurally unsafe for the size of their congregation – most of whom have little money.

They have amazing faith that God will provide the funds to cover the work that he is calling them to do.

They say that as their work continues to thrive, Satan is trying to frustrate all they do.

Praise God, they are also seeing people healed from disease, depression and infirmity – this is a real encouragement!

We have been supporting the Church through our SIGMA project charity for 20 years and what a privilege it is to be involved in such a great work. Our money continues to enable God’s work through Calvary Baptist Akividu to continue and grow.

We thank the many people who have been regular donors over the years – we are humbled by your generosity.

We are doing a family fun day in March to raise funds for SIGMA – see poster

If anyone would like to make a donation or become a regular donor, please talk to us. When God introduced us to Yesupadam and Sanjeeva at the Baptist World Alliance in 2005, we never dreamed that he had such plans.

God bless Stanley & Dorothy 😊

The poster features a vibrant background with a blue sky, green foliage, and a field of yellow flowers. At the top, a branch with white blossoms hangs down. The word 'Easter' is written in large, colorful, bubbly letters. Below it, the event details are listed in bold red text. At the bottom, a wicker basket filled with colorful Easter eggs sits in a field of green grass and yellow flowers. The basket has the text 'SIGMA FUNRAISER' on it.

Easter

**FUN DAY FOR ALL THE FAMILY
AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
LUTTERWORTH ROAD**

TUESDAY 31st MARCH 11am - 2pm

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES £3

INCLUDES: EGG HUNT, & EASTER CRAFTS

VARIOUS STALLS: CAKES, BOOKS, ETC.

REFRESHMENTS

SIGMA FUNRAISER

EASTER IN AYLESTONE

Good Friday "Walk of Witness"

We invite you to join us for a Walk of Witness through Aylestone on Good Friday, the 3rd of April, at 10 am.

This Good Friday Walk of Witness is a journey around the churches in Aylestone remembering the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

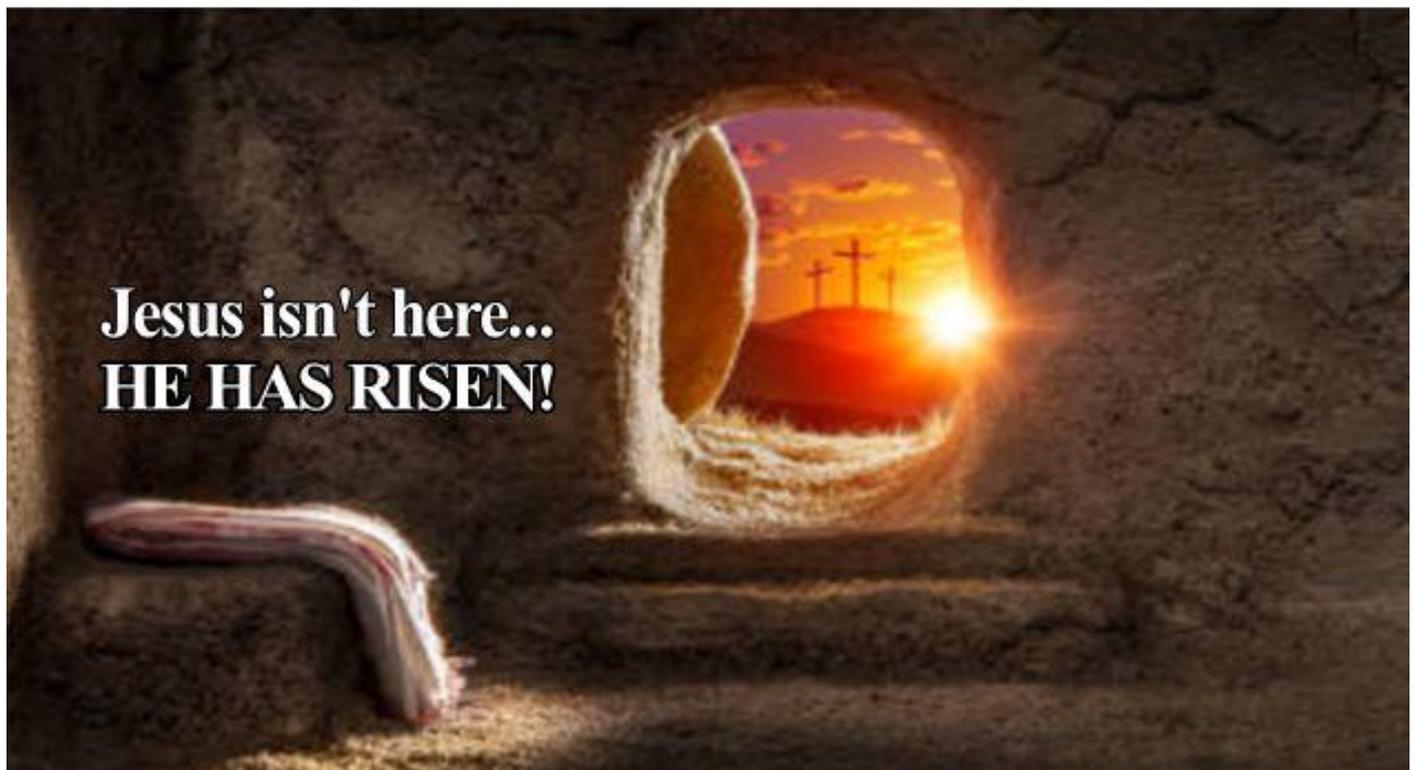
Join us as we follow a wooden cross starting off from St Andrew's Church, located at the corner of Middleton Street and Old Church Street, where we will take a moment for reflection before proceeding to St Edward's Church, at which point we will again pause for reflection. The witness will finish at Aylestone Baptist Church with a short service of reflection, followed by refreshments.



Good Friday Activities for Children:

1.30pm - 3.30pm at St Andrew's Church in the Parish Hall, on Old Church Street.

£2.50 per Child & refreshments will be available.





19 Empty Eggs

Benjamin was born with both learning difficulties and a chronic terminal illness. His parents had always tried to give him as normal a life as they could, so they enrolled him in the local school, hoping that would help Benjamin gain some 'normality' despite his needs.

His teacher's name was Miss Miller, and she often became exasperated with Benjamin as he would sometimes squirm in his seat, and make grunting noises, and at other times speak clearly and distinctly, just as if a spot of light had penetrated his brain. But most of the time Benjamin irritated his teacher somewhat.

One day the teacher telephoned his parents and asked them to attend a meeting at the school. The classroom was empty and so Miss Miller began to explain that she felt that another school, also nearby, would be better suited to meet Benjamin's needs.

Benjamin's mother cried softly as she explained to the teacher how much Benjamin liked being at his current school. Of course, the teacher was sympathetic with his parents, after all, their child did have a terminal illness, as well as his other difficulties.

Realistically they were fully aware that the teacher was right and that he would never be able to read or write so why should anyone waste any more time trying?

After the parents had left the meeting the teacher resolved to lift the whole situation and Benjamin's needs before God in prayer. She also decided to not get distracted by Benjamin's noises or his blank stares.

Then one day, Benjamin limped over to his teacher's desk dragging his bad leg behind him and exclaimed "I love you Miss," loud enough so that the whole class could hear. There were a few little 'sniggers' of laughter. Although taken aback the teacher replied "Why that's nice Benjamin. Now please go back to your seat."

Easter was just around the corner, and so she gave all the children in class a plastic egg each to take home. She challenged them to put something in the egg, that spoke of new life and about the death and resurrection of Jesus.

She looked at Benjamin, and wondered if he understood, but hoped that maybe his parents could explain what he had just been told.

The following morning as the children entered into the classroom, laughing and chattering, as usual, they each placed their egg on Miss Millers' desk and sat down at their desks.

After the last lesson of the day was about to end the teacher opened the first egg. Inside, there was a flower. "This is certainly a sign of new life. "She said, "When plants peer through the ground we know that spring is here."

"That's my egg," said a little girl lifting up her arm and waving excitedly.

The next egg contained a tiny plastic butterfly. "Well," said Miss Miller, "We know that caterpillars turn into butterflies, don't we? And yes, that is new life too." Another little girl put her arm up and smiled "That's my egg," she said.

After Miss Miller had gone through the eggs, she came to the last one. But it was empty. "This one must be Benjamin's egg." she thought to herself. And sure enough, Benjamin raised his arm just as the teacher was about to put it to one side.

"Are you not going to talk about my egg, miss?" he said.

"But your egg is empty," she replied.

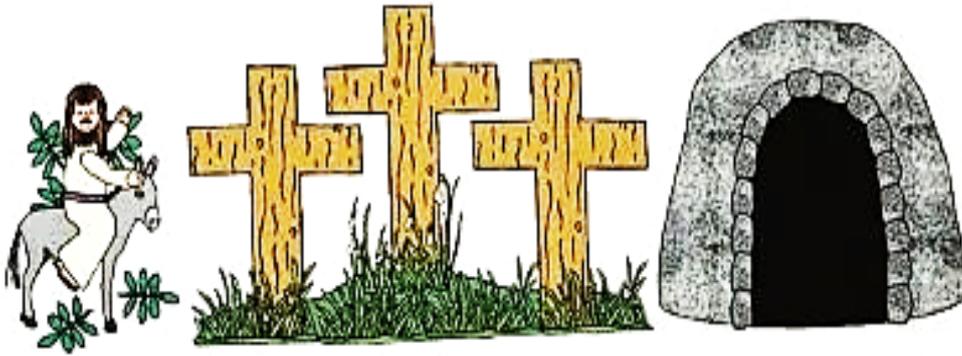
"Yes, it is like the empty tomb," replied Benjamin "Jesus died and was put inside a tomb. But then his Father raised him up to life again and so the tomb was empty. Just like my egg."

Just then, the bell rang as it was time for the children to go home.

Three months after this Benjamin had died. Those who came to pay their respects to the little boy were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of the coffin - all of them empty.

Most likely the Easter Eggs we receive from our friends and family will be empty too. But maybe this Easter, we could let our empty eggs help us to remember Jesus' death on the cross, His resurrection from the dead, and the empty tomb.

All of this He did, to offer to anyone who repents of their sin, the opportunity to find and to receive New Life in Jesus.



C	Y	M	E	O	M	C	T	O	W	T	A	N	T	A	K	A	C	E	F
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JESUS
TOMB
CELEBRATION
SACRIFICE
REDEMPTION

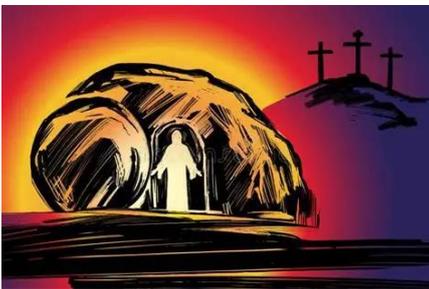
LAMB
SALVATION
RESURRECTION
RISEN
MIRACLE

PALM SUNDAY
GOOD FRIDAY
THREE DAYS
SAVIOR
CALVARY

CHURCH
CROSS
CRUCIFIXION
REJOICE
ALIVE

EASTER BIBLE QUIZ

1. What do we call the day we celebrate Jesus triumphant entry to Jerusalem?
2. Jesus rode into the city on a donkey – which Old Testament prophet foretold this?
3. As he approached the city and looked over it, what did Jesus do [Luke 19:41]?
4. When the religious leaders asked him if they should pay taxes to Ceaser – what did Jesus say?
5. When Jesus saw moneychangers and traders in the Temple courts, what did he do?
6. Before he ate his last meal with his disciples – what did Jesus do for them?
7. What Jewish Festival was being celebrated at this time?
8. Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus – how much did he get paid?
9. Where was Jesus arrested ?
10. What did his disciples do after Jesus was arrested?
11. Which disciple denied he knew Jesus as he was being questioned?
12. Who was the Roman governor that sentenced Jesus to death?
13. What was the name of the prisoner who was released instead of Jesus?
14. What did the soldiers put on Jesus' head after they had whipped him?
15. Jesus had to carry his own heavy cross – who was forced to carry it after Jesus fell over and could manage it no more?
16. What was the name of the place where the crucifixion took place?
17. Who gave his tomb for Jesus to be buried in?
18. What do we call the day that Jesus was crucified?
19. What 'un-natural' things happened when Jesus was crucified?
20. Who was first to find out that Jesus had risen from the dead?



Jesus did it all for you and me – 'The lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world'

Answers 1. Palm Sunday 2. Zechariah 3. Wept 4. Give to Ceasar what is Ceasar's and to God what is God's 5. Turned their tables over 6. Washed their feet 7. Passover 8. 30 pieces of silver 9. Gethsemane 10. Ran away 11. Peter 12. Pontius Pilate 13. Barabbas 14. Crown of thorns 15. Simon of Cyrene 16. Golgotha 17. Joseph of Arimathea 18. Good Friday 19. Dark for 3 hours, earthquake, Temple curtain torn top to bottom opening the Holy of Holies 20. Mary Magdalene

Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities:

Sunday

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

Monday

11am Café Harmony (People living with dementia & their carers)

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, Wheelchair 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.

Phone 0116 283 2527 [answerphone]

Don't forget to visit our website

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

A warm welcome awaits you.