



Aylestone Baptist Church

March & April

Easter Magazine

2024

Letter from the minister – March-April 2024

In March we celebrate Easter – the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Though we celebrate it every year, we can't forget the significance of this miracle. Jesus Christ was crucified, dead, buried – and then He came back to life! His resurrection was the most profound event in human history, the crowning moment where hope transcends despair and light pierces through the darkness.

Easter is more than just a date on the calendar; it is a proclamation of victory over sin and death, a testament to the limitless love and grace of God. At the heart of Easter lies the empty tomb—a powerful reminder of triumph and renewal. The stone was rolled away, the burial cloths left behind. These are not merely historical details but profound truths that have changed the entire history of humanity. This event reminds us that death could not contain Him! Jesus Christ emerged victorious, offering salvation to all who believe.

While our world today can seem hopeless and chaotic (just watch the news – or don't!), Easter offers a message of unwavering hope. When we look beyond our present circumstances and fix our eyes on the promise of resurrection life, we have assurance that even in our darkest moments, there is light. In our deepest despair, there is hope.

But Easter is not just a story of triumph; it is a call to transformation. It challenges us to examine our lives in the light of Christ's resurrection and to live as people who have been redeemed and renewed. Believing in Jesus' sacrifice, we celebrate that our old life of sin was crucified with Christ on the cross. By believing in His resurrection, we embrace the abundant life that He offers.

As we gather to celebrate Easter, let us continually remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who willingly laid down His life so that we might have life eternal. And let us recommit ourselves to following in His footsteps, proclaiming His truth, and embodying His love in a world that so desperately needs it.

Remember – no matter how daunting our challenges may seem, nothing is impossible for the one who conquered death itself! This Easter, may we remember that the same power that raised Christ from the dead is at work within us, transforming us, and renewing us day by day.

He is risen, indeed!

In His Love,
Will

ENCOUNTER
THE LIVING GOD



**PRAISE
&
WORSHIP**

EVENING

AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

SATURDAY 6th APRIL - 6.30pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

What's on for the 3rd Age in March/April

Lunch Club



2 course roast dinner (cost £5) served at 12.45pm. All welcome, no booking necessary. Church lounge is open from 11am for coffee and chat. Be assured of a warm welcome.

Thursday March 14th / 28th – there will be an Easter Service at 12-o-clock followed by lunch. All are welcome to this short service.

Thursday April 11th / 25th.

The Open House

An informal group from 11am when coffee and biscuits are served. Come along and have a chat, do some knitting or sewing, have your nails painted, test your brain cells with a quiz... lunch is served at 12.30. Cost £4 includes unlimited tea and coffee.



Thursday March 7th / 21st

Thursday April 4th / 18th

On May 2nd Open House will be held in the Back Hall as the lounge is being used for the Election.

Tuesday Group



A small group of ladies and gentlemen who meet together to study a Bible passage, discuss together and support each other. We then enjoy a lunch before hometime at about 1.45pm. Feel free to come along – we are all learning together.

Tuesday March 5th / 19th

Tuesday April 16th / 30th

(Please note there is no meeting on April 2nd.)



10 Years of The Open House !

It was with some trepidation that 10 years ago we opened the doors to our new project “The Open House”. Much prayer and discussion had gone on before hand, not least as to what to call it. When the day came the “committee group” had no idea who might walk through the door – but Praise God, a whole group of ladies who we had had no previous contact with, came along after seeing the board outside the church.

The rest, as they say, is history, and our numbers have grown with both ladies and gentlemen, enjoying the time together to just chat and drink coffee and tea, or do some crafts and quizzes, and enjoy a lunch of Home-made soups or chilli and jacket potato (alternate weeks) and a choice of about 10 different puddings.

The Open House is a safe, warm place, where anyone can come and be accepted, just as they are. If you want to chat, if you want to sit quietly and listen to the buzz around you, if you are lonely and want to make new friends, this is the place for you.

Of course The Open House can only run with the dedication of the small number of volunteers who set up the tables, cook the food, serve the coffee, do the washing up. A great big Thank You to them all.

We thank God for the lovely times we have had over the past 10 years and pray His blessing on the years ahead.

(The picture shows Marie Fitzgerald blowing out the candles on the cake. Marie was the first person to join The Open House 10 years ago and she has hardly missed a Thursday since.)



God's Love knows no bounds

(an Easter meditation)

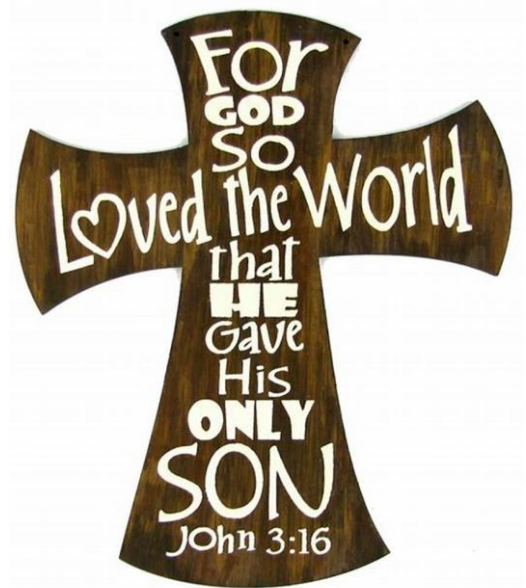
We look to the Cross at Eastertime,
Which has become a symbol of love.
But two thousand years ago, it wasn't so.
When Jesus was hoisted above
His body was broken and blood was shed.
He would free us from sin and shame.
God sent His one and only Son
To die on that cross in His name.

But the story doesn't end here..
Three days later they all did rejoice
When Jesus was raised from the tomb.
Though at first they didn't recognise His voice
It soon became clear that Jesus was here
To live amongst them for 40 more days.
They realised now what Jesus had meant
When He tried to explain in all ways
That He would be raised from the dead,
The prophecies would all become true,
The cross would mean eternal life,
The promise for me and for you.

So this Easter, when you look at the cross,
Be thankful for all He has done.

And if you don't know of Him yet
Remember, **JESUS DIED FOR EVERYONE.**

{Hazel Turner}



Ladies Together



It was “Girls just want to have fun” at the New Year Party, with lots of food and rather silly games to start off the New Year.

The meeting in February was the ambitious “AYLESTONE LADIES’ BAKE OFF”. We shared lunch straight after church, then, after some instruction, we learned to make Profiteroles and iced cakes with some fancy icing. It was



great fun, sometimes a little messy, but all had a great time. Many thanks to Tanya for organizing, teaching, and being very patient.

Next Meeting:

Saturday 23rd March, 10am... Continental Breakfast and Exploring Prayer.

Sunday 21st April – details to be confirmed.

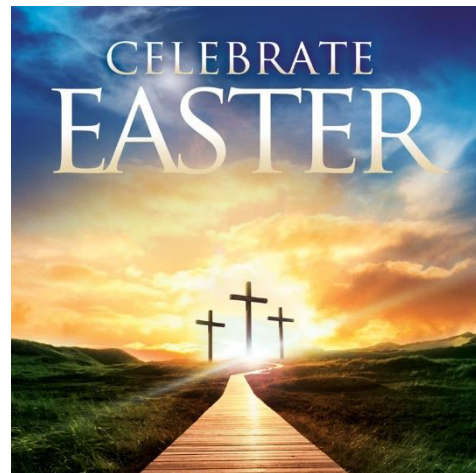
Sick of preaching

Our new vicar had just been prescribed bifocals. The reading portion of the glasses improved his vision considerably, but the top portion of the glasses didn't work so well. In fact, he was experiencing dizziness every time he looked through them. He tried to explain this to the congregation on Sunday: “I hope you will excuse my continually removing my glasses. You see, when I look down, I can see fine, but when I look at you all, it makes me feel sick.”

Join us for the Special EASTER Services

PALM SUNDAY 24th March 10.30am Service.

MAUNDY THURSDAY March 28th at 12 noon
Service followed by Lunch.



GOOD FRIDAY March 29th

MARCH OF WITNESS meeting at 10am at St. Andrews Church,
then to St. Edwards Catholic church, and finishing at ABC. At
each church there will be a short service, and finishing with
tea/coffee and hot cross buns after the service at our church.

EASTER SUNDAY March 31st 10.30am

EASTER CELEBRATION SERVICE.

Come and give thanks for the Risen
Christ.

SATURDAY APRIL 6th 6pm PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING

BMS BIRTHDAY SCHEME.

Happy Birthday and thank you to:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| March 11 th | Ruth German |
| March 14 th | Ron Walton |
| March 27 th | Mary Shipton |
| March 30 th | Lucy Satchell .. Happy 50 th Lucy. |
| April 1 st | Tracy Bryan |
| April 14 th | Brenda Tester |
| April 23 rd | Diane Bland |



Seventeen metres down in the Mediterranean Sea, off the coast of Italy, stands a bronze statue of Jesus. It is called

“Christ of the Abyss”

His feet on the bottom of the ocean, the waters heavy about Him, He stands with His hands raised towards the surface and the sun.

The sculptor, Guido Galletti, meant it to portray that moment when Christ rose from the abyss of death on Easter Morning.

This Easter, may we think about all the worldly things that hold us down, that make us less than the children of faith we ought to be. And with God’s help, we will find the help to rise!



An Easter Prayer....

We would come with reverence, we would come with awe,
We would come with thankful hearts,
And we would come with a most earnest desire
That the message of the cross
Would be more fully understood
More deeply appreciated.

We pray that the blessing that flows from the cross
Would flow into each of our lives and especially, we pray,
That it would flow into the lives of those who have not yet
Come to know this Christ of Calvary.

Hear us we pray, we ask it in His precious name
Amen

Film Club....

The Childrens' Film Club held on the first Monday of Half Term again proved popular. There was a bit of a glitch as we couldn't get the film to project – everyone was patient, and the kids had a bit of a run around, until a different film was sorted out which everyone enjoyed.



After the film was a lunch of sausage and mash with beans or peas, then a 3 item dessert of ice cream, a home-made gingerbread man and a cake – a proper treat for all.



“The whole world is a series of miracles, but we are so accustomed to them that we call them ordinary.”

ABC TOTS

For all babies & toddlers,
Ages 0 to 4
with their parents or carers



Join Us Every Wednesday Morning
9.30am - 11.00am
During School Term
Tea, Toast, Tunes, & Telling Stories
Aylestone Baptist Church
Just turn up & enjoy the morning

aylestonebc@gmail.com



Aylestonebaptist.com

EASTER QUIZ

1. What is the last week in Lent called in the Christian calendar?
2. Which US President started the tradition of the White House Easter egg hunt?
3. From which country does the Easter lily originate?
4. What name is given to the day before Good Friday?
5. What name is given to the last TWO weeks of Lent?
6. On which day are Hot Cross Buns traditionally eaten?
7. Who was Fred Astaire's female co-star in the 1948 movie "Easter Parade"?
8. Easter Island is an overseas territory of which other country?
9. What is the Sunday prior to Easter Sunday known as?
10. Who directed the 2004 movie "The Passion of the Christ", the dialogue of which was entirely in Aramaic and Latin?
11. Which company produced the UK's first Easter egg in 1873?
12. On what animal did Jesus ride into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday?
13. When the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, offered to release Jesus, who did the crowd insist he release instead?
14. The Good Friday agreement signed in 1988 as part of the Northern Ireland Peace process is also referred to as what?
15. Where did the Last Supper take place?
16. Which is the only Shakespeare play to mention Easter?
17. Which of Jesus' disciples denied him three times before the cock crowed?
18. Who on Easter Sunday 2006 became the first incumbent Head of State to reach the North Pole?
19. How many times is Easter mentioned by name in the King James Bible?
20. According to the Gospels who was made to carry the cross of Jesus?

Man Alive – Men's meeting

In February we had a Quiz night with a fish and chips supper. There were 17 of us and we had a great evening David had organised some very challenging quiz questions and table top quizzes, and there was a Bible Quiz set by Will. All teams did very well and were 'rewarded' with a chocolate prize 😊.

The food was ordered from the Ocean and was enjoyed by everyone – all in all a really great evening – Thanks to all involved.

Next Meetings



Friday March 22 –
Curry Night at a local Indian Restaurant

Saturday 27th April –
Breakfast at Church with speaker



Please look out for details and sign-up 😊

In May there is an opportunity to attend a Men's Day Conference on Saturday 18th at Whetstone Baptist Church from 10am-4pm



A day conference for men of faith to gather together, encourage one another, share food and fellowship, worship the living God, pray for one another and hear transformative teaching. This year our theme is '**You can't always get what you want: following Christ and dealing with disappointment**' and our speaker is Tim Nelson Co Founder and CEO of Hope for Justice.

[cost £20 – help could be available]

Easter Word Search

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

APOSTLES
CHRIST
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
HOLY
JESUS
KING
LAMB
LOVE



MARY
REDEMPTION
RESURRECTION
RISEN
ROMANS
ROOSTER
SACRIFICE
SALVATION
SAVIOR
THORNS



A gift from God

It was a warm summer day when God placed it in her hands. She trembled with emotion as she saw how fragile it appeared. This was a very special gift God was entrusting to her. A gift that would one day belong to the world. Until then, she was to be its guardian and protector. The woman said she understood and reverently took it home, determined to live up to the faith that God had placed in her.

At first she barely let it out of her sight, protecting it from anything she perceived to be harmful to its well-being; watching with fear in her heart when it was exposed to the environment outside of the sheltered cocoon she had formed around it. But the woman began to realize that she could not shelter it forever. It needed to learn to survive the harsh elements in order to grow strong. So with gentle care she gave it more space to grow...enough to allow it to grow wild and untamed.

One day she became aware of how much the gift had changed. It no longer had a look of vulnerability about it. Now it seemed to glow with strength and steadiness, almost as if it were developing a power within. Month after month she watched as it became stronger and more powerful, and the woman remembered her promise. She knew deep within her heart that her time with the gift was nearing an end.

The inevitable day arrived when God came to take the gift and present it to the world. The woman felt a deep sadness, for she would miss its constant presence in her life. With heartfelt gratitude she thanked God for allowing her the privilege of watching over the precious gift for so many years. Straightening her shoulders, she stood proud, knowing that it was, indeed, a very special gift. One that would add to the beauty and essence of the world around it. And the mother let her child go

SIGMA UPDATE

The work at and from Calvary Baptist Church continues to grow in spite of many difficulties. We thank God for the way he is blessing their mission.

Please pray for Rev. Sukumar and his wife Rev. Suguna as they work so hard to maintain so many ministries. Pray that God will strengthen them, in those times when they feel drained and exhausted by their current commitments and knowing that there is still so much need and so many opportunities.

The owner of their building – which is Church and home – has offered to let them buy it. To do so they must pay a fixed amount [about £500] each month for the next 5 years. Our financial support therefore remains essential.

We want to thank all those who continue to give so generously and regularly, and for the support for the events we organise to raise funds from time to time.

If you would like to become a regular donor, please let us know

Stan & Dorothy 😊



**GAMES
BIBLE STUDY
DISCIPLESHIP**

YOUTH GROUP

YEAR 6 - 11

FORTNIGHTLY MEETINGS

06/03 20/03

19:00 - 20:30

AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

LE2 8PE

Something to think about!

Why the English language is difficult to learn :

“The bandage was wound around the wound”

“The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert”

“The insurance was invalid for the invalid.”

“They were too close to the door to close it.”

Living by their wits :

George Bernard Shaw, the prolific playwright, cabled the following invitation to Winston Churchill:

“Have reserved two tickets for my first night. Come and bring a friend, if you have one.” Shaw.

To which Churchill replied:

“Impossible to come first night. Will come second night, if you have one.” Churchill.

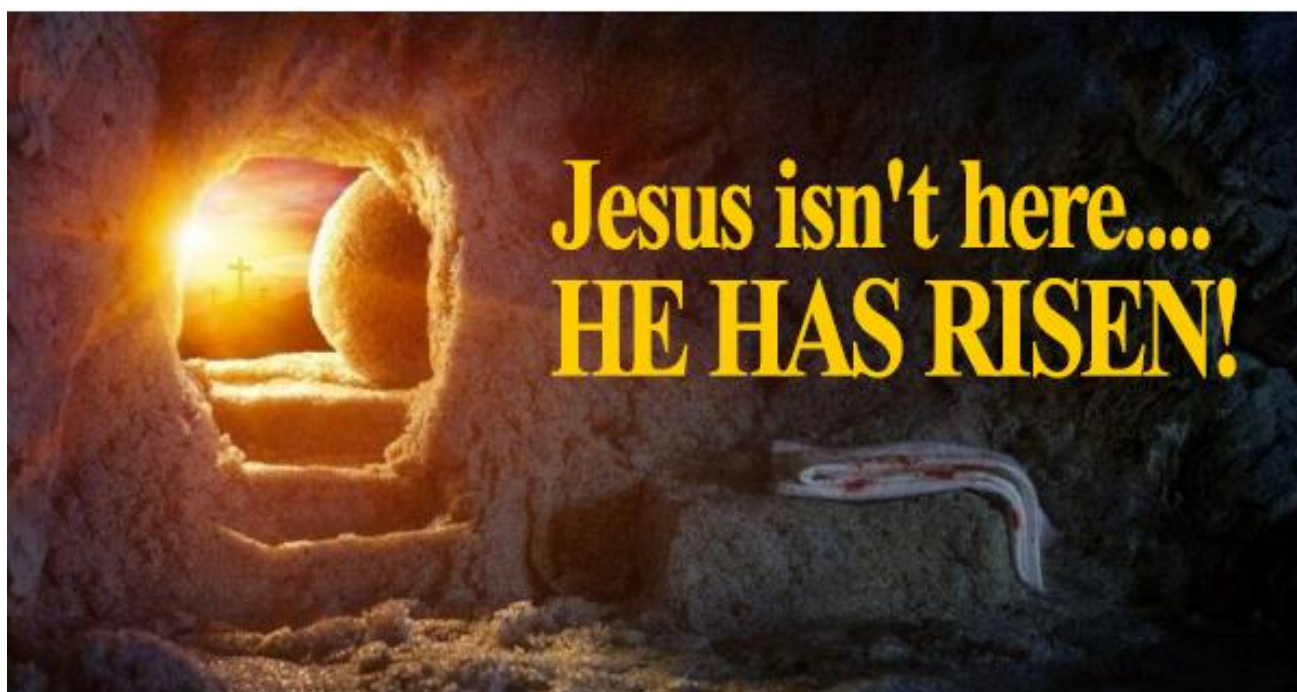
Quote from C.S. LEWIS

“Don’t shine so others see you,
Shine so that through you others can see Christ”

EASTER IN AYLESTONE

You are invited to join us on..
Good Friday Walk of Witness
Friday March 29th at 10am

"A Journey Around the Churches in Aylestone,
Remembering the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ"



Easter Quiz answers

1. Holy Week
2. Rutherford Hayes in 1878
3. Japan
4. Maundy Thursday
5. Passiontide
6. Good Friday
7. Judy Garland
8. Chile
9. Palm Sunday
10. Mel Gibson
11. Fry's of Bristol
12. Donkey
13. Barabbas
14. The Belfast Agreement
15. Jerusalem
16. Romeo & Juliet
17. Peter
18. Albert II of Monaco
19. Once [Acts 12:4]
20. Simon of Cyrene

Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Church Minister Rev. Will Hall

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities

Sunday

10.30am Morning Service / Junior Church / Crèche Facilities
Communion on the third Sunday of each month

Monday

6 – 11pm Mental Health Café – meets in Church Lounge

Tuesday

11.00am 3rd Age Fellowship & Bible Study (Fortnightly)

Wednesday

9.30.am – 11am ABC Tots Group (Term time)

Thursday

11.00am Community Lunch Club (Fortnightly)

11.00am The Open House. For the 50's & over. (Fortnightly)

(Community Lunch Club & The Open House run on Alternate Thursdays)

A number of home groups meet during the week – please ask for details



Loop System Installed



Wheel Chair Access



WC Facilities

Church Membership, Baptism, Infants Dedication, Weddings,
Funerals, House Groups, Community Lunch Club, The Open House.

To find out more about church membership, Baptism, etc.

Or any of the activities

Rev. Will Hall, Contact details...

Tel: 07878803387

Email: aylestonebc@gmail.com

Don't forget to visit our website

aylestonebaptist.com

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU