

Swallownest Baptist Church



Newsletter

Feb - Mar 2019

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“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” Romans 1:16

God is for us!

So is the New Year working out as you expected and everything going to plan? For me and my family the answer is 'no'. The events so far have been quite unpredictable, with some disappointments and some hugely joyful news.

Of course, for some 2019 will have begun exactly as expected, but we know that over the coming months, and beyond, there will be surprises – some very pleasant but other not so.

Experience has already taught us that plans are never certain - personally, locally, nationally and internationally.

It is, therefore, a source of great comfort and confidence to be reminded of the words of Paul as he encouraged the believers in Rome.

"... in all things God works for the good of those who love him ..."

Romans 8:28

So often it may seem unclear as to exactly how this is playing out in our circumstances, but it remains a promise to which we can return with grateful confidence.

In just a few more weeks, we will enter the season of Lent when we begin the lead up to Easter. If ever there was an event which clearly demonstrates God at work *for the*

good of those who love him', surely it is Jesus' obedient journey to the cross, where He defeated the barrier of sin which separates us from God.

In view of this demonstration of the love of God, as we trust Him, we can face whatever 2019 throws at us.

Paul puts it this way:

'if God is for us, who can be against us? ...

In the Message version of the Bible, he goes on:

'I'm absolutely convinced that nothing - absolutely nothing - can get between us and God's love.'

Let us hold on to this truth as we journey through 2019.

Paul.

Newsletter by Email



If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter via email, or have any ideas for items that you would like to see in future editions, please speak to

Janet Davey or email
newsletter@swallownestbaptist.org.uk

Bible Verse for 2019

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” Romans 1:16

The text for this year is taken from Paul’s letter to the Romans. It reminds us of a number of important things:

- The gospel means the good news of Jesus - Jesus died on the cross so that we can be forgiven and have eternal life.
- This good news is powerful.
- Everyone should hear the good news.
- Those who believe the good news are saved and can know God’s love and forgiveness.
- It is only through the power of God that people are saved.

We should not be ashamed of such a great and powerful message, but should have a real desire to share this good news, so that all people come to know God’s salvation. In fact, God has commanded us to go out and preach the gospel, something often referred to as the “Great Commission”. Along with this command, he gives us the tremendous promise that He will always be with us.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

So throughout the year, let’s play our part in making sure that those around us know of the good news about Jesus. Is there someone we could invite to a family service, Messy Church, a special church event, or a regular Sunday morning service? Are there people we see regularly who don’t know that we go to church and we could therefore share with them a little about what we believe and why?

If you would like to hear more about our text for the year, listen to Rob Joyce’s talk from 6th January which can be found on our website.

www.swallownestbaptist.org.uk/resources/bibletalks

Thank You

Over the last couple of months, we have undertaken a number of charity fund raising events. Many thanks to everyone who has helped with the organization of these events, and a special thank you to everyone who has donated.



Thank you to everyone who filled a shoe box last year. We sent 39 boxes. Also, thanks to those who donated items to put inside and for all the money donated. We were able to send £135 which will help with transporting the shoe boxes to the children. 2 late donations of money were sent to Children in Need and gifts bought for the Hallam FM Christmas toy appeal.



BBC

Children in Need

Many thanks to Mums & Tots, those who attend the Men's breakfast, and those within the church who donated to the Children in Need appeal. We were able to donate £30.



Many thanks to Julia Moore for baking the scrumptious cup cakes which we had at Messy Church in November. Thanks also to everyone who donated. We were able to raise £70 for the Life's First Cry BMS appeal which will go towards helping mothers and babies in Afghanistan.





CHRISTMAS APPEAL



Thanks to everyone who came along to the Christmas coffee morning in December. At this event we were able to raise an amazing £235 for the Salvation Army Christmas appeal.

Thanks to everyone who made a donation to World Vision in lieu of sending Christmas cards. We were able to raise £65!

World Vision



New Hope Food Bank

In December, at our annual food bank drive at the Co-op in Swallownest, we were blown away with the generosity of our local community. Over £600 worth of food was donated, along with £80 in cash –absolutely amazing.

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered on the day, and also to the staff at the Co-op for their ongoing support.

The New Hope Food Bank continues to provide a very important work and has been supporting families in Aston, Aughton and Swallownest area for 6 years now. During that time, in excess of 130,000 meals have been delivered. With each delivery, the food bank commits to supplying three meals a day for seven days per family member.

As well as at the Swallownest Co-op, there is also a donation point at McColl's supermarket, (Aston Townend) and at our church.



Church Family Meal

The first Sunday of the new year, saw us meeting together for a church family meal at the Pheonix Sports & Social club in Brinsworth. We were not disappointed, and yet again we were treated to a fabulous time of fellowship and fantastic food! Thanks to all who came along, and many thanks to Carol Cooke for organising, and to the team at the Phoenix.



Food For Thought

This was recently shared on Facebook and it fits really well with our text for the year.

"I believe churches are meant for praising God, but so are 2am car rides, showers, coffee shops, the gym, conversations with friends, strangers etc. Don't let a building confine your faith because we will never change the world by just going to church, we need to be the church."

Dates for your diary

We offer an open invitation to anyone who would like to join us at any of our events.

Regular Events

Monday

Ladies Fellowship 1:30pm (fortnightly - 4th & 18th Feb, 4th & 18th Mar)

Tuesday

Mums & Tots 10:00-11:30am (Term time)
Please note: there is currently a waiting list

Craft Club 1:30pm (Term time)

Wednesday

Midweek Communion Service 7:30pm (1st Wednesday of each month)

Saturday

Prayer Meeting 9:45am (1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month)

Other Events

Sat 9th Mar Men's breakfast @ 10:00am
To book a space contact philclowes52@gmail.com

Sun 25th Mar AGM Celebration @ 6:00pm

Sunday Services @ 10:30am

February

3 rd	David Harvey (Communion)
10 th	Phil Clowes
17 th	Ian Hodgkin (Communion)
24 th	Rob Joyce and Debbie Clowes - Family Service

March

3 rd	Jeff Chapman (Communion)
10 th	David Harvey
17 th	Olivia Egan (Communion)
24 th	Messy Church - Family Service
31 st	Rob Joyce

- ◆ Tea & coffee is available before the service
- ◆ Junior church, for children of all ages, takes place during the service
- ◆ All family services are followed by a bring & share lunch
- ◆ If you need help with transport to/from church on any Sunday, please contact Phil Clowes



For more information, news on upcoming events, copies of the newsletter, and to listen to the Bible talks from our Sunday services, visit our **website**:
www.swallownestbaptist.org.uk