

Swallownest Baptist Church



Newsletter

June - July 2018

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Thank you!

"... my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory
in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

Holidays and Weddings

At this time of year, conversation is generally around holiday plans. However, this year my family seem to have been surrounded by plans for weddings and their associated celebrations.

Whether a family wedding or that of close friends, they so often become the focal point of our thinking for months.

Of course weddings are lovely occasions when two people, who have fallen in love, declare their love publicly and make promises to each other to maintain and guard their relationship for the rest of their lives.

Those of us who attend are present because we love them too and want to be there to celebrate the special day and to support them into the future.

If this all sounds a little familiar then perhaps you watched the recent Royal Wedding and remember Bishop Michael Curry's captivating sermon.

Addressing the congregation at the wedding of Harry and Meghan (now the Duke and Duchess of Sussex), and millions across the world, he spoke of the *'love that burns like fire'* and can change the world.

He reminded us that the source of that love is God Himself, who has constantly demonstrated His love to

the world - never more so than in the giving of His son Jesus to die on the cross.

We recently celebrated Pentecost which many describe as *'the birth of the church'*, when what looked like tongues of fire descended on the disciples and the Holy Spirit empowered them to preach the gospel - what Martin Luther King described as *'the redemptive love of God'*.

Many in our churches will attest to how that love has changed their lives and the fire of that love continues to burn in the churches of Swallownest and in thousands of churches across our land.

If you missed this outstanding message or wish to hear it again, why not go to:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=OhV0PL49d3Y

Phil.

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



Many thanks to everyone who helped to organise the two fund raising events that we held in support of Christian Aid. A big thank you also to everyone who attended and to those who donated. Both

events were a huge success and raised amazing amounts for this charity. The Bread and Soup lunch on 18th February raised £118. The Italian Night, which had to be moved back due to the snowy weather(!), took place on 14th April and raised £115.50.

Christian Aid works in 37 countries, and for more than 70 years the charity has provided humanitarian relief and long term development support for poor communities, while highlighting suffering, tackling injustice and championing people's rights. The charity was established to respond to Christ's command to care for all those that are in need.

'Let us love, not in word or speech but in truth and action' (1 John 3:18)

If you would like to find out more about Christian Aid, please visit their website: www.christianaid.org.uk

The Purdys' Pilgrimage to Israel - Part 2: Galilee

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through the whole countryside. He taught in their synagogues ... (Luke 4v1)

Jerusalem to Tiberias

We left Jerusalem via the Jordan valley to Tiberias on the west side of Galilee. On route we took a dramatic ascent up Mount Tabor – Mount of Transfiguration with its beautiful Basilica on the summit. Murals depicting Moses and Elijah were worth our attention.

The Sea of Galilee - often in Scripture called Lake Gennesaret.

Malcolm was blessed by a wonderful time in a Jesus boat with the other members of our group - 28 in total. Many of the gospel stories came alive e.g. Jesus stilling the storm with a word. The two men in charge of this boat were Christians and provided the music for a time of worship which Malcolm will always remember.



As Marbeth is not a good sailor she stayed at the seashore and was blessed by the sound of worship songs coming from many boats out on the lake. She also had a look in the museum and it was an opportunity to spy out some souvenirs!

Tabgha

On the north shore of the lake is the site where our Lord miraculously fed the multitude. It was also here on the Mount of Beatitudes that Jesus gave us His Sermon on the Mount. Sited here was a beautiful church with gardens overlooking the lake. There were stones alongside the path depicting each of Jesus' Beatitudes. From here we visited a restaurant where we ate "Peter's fish" with the head still on!



Capernaum “the home town of Jesus”

We saw the excavations of the local 2nd Century synagogue built on the site of the synagogue where Jesus would have taught. Also the ancient foundations of where Peter would have lived and where Jesus stayed (we remembered the healing of Peter’s mother-in-law and the Centurion’s servant who Jesus also healed).

The Jordan river – baptism site

Our spiritual leader Sim Dendy gathered us by the river to share his thoughts with us. We were all keen to stand in this special river (the water was shallow!) and we prayed with one another. Further along many people were being baptised.

Malcolm & Marbeth Purdy



On Sunday 11th March, we were officially welcomed into the Ground Level Network by Paul and Julie Bedford. The Ground Level Network is a community of churches, providing support, resources and training to its member churches. Its mission is to create healthy churches across its network, develop great leaders within its churches and to equip God’s people.

As a church, we had wanted to join the network because of the close relationships we have with other local churches in the network, and had wanted to see these and other relationship continue to grow. We have been so blessed by the welcome we have received and look forward to continue working alongside these churches into the future.



Thank You!

This poem was written by Coraine's uncle, Malcolm Westwood. If you would like to read more of Malcolm's poems, they are available on his website:

<http://www.veilministries.org>

Thank you, God, for all the blessings
You bestow on us each day,
For the prayers that have been answered
And for others on the way;
Thank you for the light of morning
That replaces darkest night;
Thank you for the starry heavens
And the planets shining bright.

Thank you, God, for youth's ambitions
And for hope when one is old,
For the tasks which are accomplished
And for those yet to unfold;
Thank you for the words of kindness
When the world its cruelty shows;
Thank you for love's apt reminder
That from you all beauty grows.

Thank you, God, for strength to conquer
All that would our faith impair;
For the grace to claim the victory
When temptation's hard to bear;
Thank you for your timely presence
When we fear that we're alone,
And for constant reassurance
That in Jesus, you are known.

Malcolm Westwood, Nov 2016

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 2:00pm (fortnightly - 11th and 25th June, 9th and 23rd July)

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 14th July Men's breakfast @ 10:00am
To book a space contact philclowes52@gmail.com



For more information, news on upcoming events, and to listen to the Bible talks from our Sunday services, visit our **website:** www.swallownestbaptist.org.uk Also check out our **Facebook** page.

Sunday Services @ 10:30am

June

3 rd	Rob Joyce (Communion)
10 th	Phil Clowes
17 th	Ben Stacey (Communion)
24 th	Rob Joyce & Debbie Clowes - Family Service

July

1 st	Jeff Chapman (Communion)
8 th	Rob Joyce
15 th	David Harvey (Communion)
22 nd	Ollie Clowes & Junior Church - Family Service
29 th	Phil Clowes

- ◆ 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