

Swallownest Baptist Church



Newsletter

Oct - Nov 2018

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

A Time to Remember

The summer has gone and many of us will be reflecting on our exploits during the warmer months.

In a few weeks we will be encouraged to 'remember, remember the 5th of November'.

In my childhood we would 'light up the sky with Standard Fireworks'. Now we go to much more dramatic and exciting displays.

The reason for this celebration is perhaps somewhat lost these days with little reference to Guy Fawkes and the gun powder plot.

Of course the act of remembrance which follows just a few days later is always far more poignant, as we stop to remember those who have given their lives in two world wars and many conflicts since.

This will be particularly the case this year, as we mark the centenary of the armistice signed between the Allies and Germany at Compiègne, France. This brought about the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front and took effect at 11:00 am - the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month."

What is more, this year Armistice Day falls on a Sunday and many from our local community and churches will gather at the War Memorial to mark this moment.

For further details see Margaret Cook's excellent article on page 4.

Before we look back to these events, we will spend some time reflecting on

God's provision in the Harvest (weekend of 6th/7th October).

As we see so many around the world, and sadly even within our own community, struggling to make ends meet, we should be mindful of all we have and express our gratitude to God.

Of course, God's provision does not end in nature and the harvest but in the gift of His son, Jesus, who, through His willingness to go to the cross, made a way for us to come to know God as father.

"my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Phil 4¹⁹

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

Galeed House

It was great to have friends visiting us from Galeed House recently and to hear more about how their work is going.

Galeed House was opened in September 2001 and is named after the story of Jacob and Laban in Genesis 31 and means “place of meeting”. It is situated in Darnall in Sheffield and is a place for Muslims and Christians to come together in peace and to create understanding, break down barriers, and build relationships. The aim is that within these relationships the love of Christ can be demonstrated. Many activities take place at the house including sewing, English teaching, lunch clubs, kids clubs and Mums & Tots.

Please pray for the work, that they will have enough volunteers and resources to be able to continue to work effectively within the local communities, and that people will come to know Jesus as their Saviour.

If you would like to find out more, they have a drop in session on the 2nd Saturday of every month, between 1:00pm and 3:30pm, where you can find out more about their activities and meet the other volunteers.

Food Bank Drive



Please keep Saturday the 15th December (yes December!) free as it is the date for the food bank drive in the Swallownest Co-op. It is a good opportunity to meet people who we would never otherwise have contact with. We represent not only the food bank, but our own church. In the past it has been enormously successful with the local community donating generously. We will be looking for volunteers to help out for an hour on the day, giving out leaflets as people enter the store. Look out for more details from Bryan Cook in due course.

A big thank you to the staff and management at the Co-op for their support in this worthwhile venture.

In Flanders Fields...

During the past four years we have been reminded that it is one hundred years since the First World War. The display of poppies at the Tower of London, the film 'War Horse' and numerous clips of newsreels from the archives all intended to give us some insight as to the terrible conditions the soldiers endured.

Earlier this year Bryan and I decided to visit the sites of WW1, something we had been intending to do for a few years. So at the end of our holiday in France we stayed in Ypres in the Flanders region of Belgium. The top of our bucket list was the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. Around the walls of the gate (which is actually an archway over the road) are the names of 54,896 British and Commonwealth soldiers who died before August 1917 and have no known grave. The Ceremony is held at 8 p.m. every evening in the year. The Last Post is usually sounded by two firemen but visiting bands and choirs can apply to take part and wreaths are laid on the staircases. The Ceremony usually only lasts for about 10-15 minutes unless it's a special occasion, but as hundreds of people gather we went to the gate half an hour before. We did manage to see most of the activity but decided to get there at 7 p.m. the next evening and got a place at the front of the crowd. As 8 o'clock approached the crowd became silent and, as the saying goes, you could have heard a pin drop. It was a special experience that neither of us will forget.



We also visited the Tyne Cot Cemetery where nearly 12,000 service men are buried. The graves are marked by white headstones which glisten in the sun. Each one is engraved with the details of the soldier buried beneath it. Especially poignant are the ones simply engraved 'Known unto God', reminding us that God knows and loves each one of us. The cemetery is beautifully tended with flowers and shrubs planted at most of the graves. A very peaceful place. Around the perimeter, the walls are inscribed with the names of nearly 35,000 men who were killed after 16th August 1917 and have no known grave. This is in addition to the ones at the Menin Gate.

Sanctuary Wood is *not* a very nice place. It was so named as originally it was a quiet place until it was the scene of a terrible battle. We walked along some of the original trenches on fairly dry duck boards which would become a sea of mud during bad weather. I was pleased to leave there.

In a few weeks time we will be remembering service men and women who gave their lives in the many conflicts that have taken place over the past century. We will then be celebrating the birth of Jesus, God's Son who came to eventually die for us. Let us remember the words written in the Bible. John ch 15 v 13. 'Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends'. Also John ch 3 v 16 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life'.

Margaret Cook



We will Remember Them

Remembrance Day Service at the Aston
Cum Aughton War Memorial, Aughton
Lane, Aston

Sunday 11th November

10:45 am



All Welcome

Operation Christmas Child



This year, we will again as a church be supporting Operation Christmas Child. Last year we managed to fill 48 shoeboxes, plus give a donation of £95. This year it would be great if we could do even more!

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Your simple gift of a shoebox can provide a child on the other side of the world with great joy and excitement, as this may be the only Christmas present that they receive.

If you would like to fill a shoebox, read on for details of what you need to do. We will need all the shoeboxes in church by mid November, the exact date will be confirmed in due course. Any filled boxes can be left in the church office.

If you would like to help but are not able to fill a shoebox, then donations would be much appreciated.

A Shoebox
Find a shoebox. Operation Christmas Child boxes are available from church (at no cost), or if you prefer, you can find and wrap your own shoebox.

B Boy or Girl
Obtain a label from Hazel, and stick it on your shoebox to show if it is for a girl or a boy and the age.

C Fill with Gifts
There are a variety of things that can be put into a shoebox including toys, hats, scarves, combs, toothbrushes, soap, pens, stickers, and notepads. Please don't include things such as food, medicine, liquids or anything fragile or sharp. Please include a donation of £5 in each box. This covers the cost of getting the shoebox to a child.

Lastly, please remember to pray for the child who will receive your gift, and also for all the volunteers who will ensure that your gift gets there.

For more information, speak to Hazel Manship or visit the website which includes loads of information and ideas around what to pack.

www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk

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 - 1st, 15th and 29th Oct, 12th and 26th Nov)

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 6th Oct Harvest Pie & Pea Supper with quiz @ 6:00pm
Donations to BMS.

Tues 30th Oct Church member's meeting @ 7:30pm

Wed 31st Oct Light Party @ 5:30pm. Food will be available during the evening. Free entry!

Sat 10th Nov Men's breakfast @ 10:00am

Sat 15th Dec New Hope Food Bank Drive @ Swallownest Co-op

Sunday Services @ 10:30am

October

- 7th Phil Clowes—Harvest (Communion)
- 14th David Harvey
- 21st Ian Hodgkin (Communion)
- 28th Rob Joyce & Debbie Clowes - Family Service

November

- 4th Ben Elliott-Sim (Communion)
- 11th Jeff Chapman
- 18th David Harvey (Communion)
- 25th Messy Church - Family Service

- ◆ 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