



SBC News

Apr / May 2022

Inside this issue

Easter Fun

Twining.org

Ukraine Appeal

Easter Events

Follow Us





Someone once said; *"No winter lasts forever and no spring skips its turn."* The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day he created spring. And here it is. We see new life springing up in radiant colours.

We look forward to Easter which is meant to be a symbol of hope, renewal, and new life. And as Clarence W Hall said, if *"Easter says anything to us today, it says this: You can put truth in a grave but it won't stay there."*

Jesus came to show the way. He came to serve and to bring life to all who would believe. Jesus reshaped the world and brought about a great change.

As we journey through to the cross in this period of Lent, we find ourselves in an ever changing world. Two years ago, we faced Covid, lockdown, isolation, and our way of life changed forever.

Fast forward to today and we see the world is changed once more by the horrific war in Ukraine. We may feel hopeless at the sight of thousands of

displaced people and the destruction that war brings. We may despair at the way the West continues to watch. We may cry out *'how long O Lord, bring an end to this devastation – where are you God in these times of trouble. Hear the cries of your people and act now we pray'*.

However, all is not lost as we hear that Psalm 31 has become 'the key scripture for all Ukrainians'. They call upon the Lord to deliver them from the pains of death. In the Psalm David trusted in God. He said in verse 5 *"into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, Lord, my faithful God"*.

Jesus used this phrase as he was dying upon the cross. Jesus overcame death, three days later He rose to life in the power of the resurrection. HE IS ALIVE! Christ is risen – He is risen indeed. Hallelujah.

I'm hearing that the people of Ukraine have hope, they have a new light dawning in their pain. No winter lasts forever and neither can war.

I cannot describe the pain and anguish that I felt in the lives that I fought to

protect and save during the conflicts of Bosnia in the late 90's and Kosovo in early 2000. Though I wasn't a Christian at the time, I saw the immense power of God at work in ways that I see in the people of Ukraine. I think it all comes to this point, that Jesus Christ has the victory; death has been defeated once and for all.

Our times are in His hands. He will deliver from the hands of the enemies, from those that pursue. For He has restored and given hope for all. Hope

for a future that will change our lives forever.

Therefore, let us hope for a brighter tomorrow. Let us hope for peace and for an end to this war. Let there be light for those sheltering in the darkness as they seek new life this spring. Amen.



David

David Skeet is our Church Team Leader

Contact Us



swallownestbaptist@gmail.com

E A S T E R F U N !

Guess the Easter related word in each line using the coloured squares to help you.

If a letter is grey that means its not in the word.

If a letter is yellow then it is in the word but in the wrong place.

If a letter is green then it is in the word and in the correct place.

Example:

G	R	A	O	E
A	R	O	S	E

I	L	E	J	S
A	R	G	O	S
M	I	D	S	E
G	E	L	A	T
V	A	P	L	E
E	T	N	F	S

Answers at: swallownestbaptist.org.uk/easter-fun



twinning.org

Leading on from the previous articles on Christians and Climate Change, here are some practical ways in which you can help tackle poverty and also protect the environment.

Toilet Twinning - Flush Away Poverty

By donating £60 to twin your toilet, you help fund a project in a poor community that will enable families to build a basic toilet, have access to clean water and learn about hygiene – a vital combination that saves lives. Dignity is restored, especially for women and girls, when the whole family can use a private, hygienic toilet at their home and no longer have to squat in the bush.

When you twin, you will be sent a certificate to hang in your loo, showing a photograph of your overseas toilet twin and GPS coordinates so you can look up your twin's location on Google Maps!

To find out more, visit the website: toilettwinning.org

Tap Twinning - Turn on Resources to Tackle Poverty

Today, 1 in 4 people lacks access to safe drinking water. By donating £60, you will help fund a project to provide sustainable, reliable and affordable access to safe, clean water in some of the world's poorest communities. In return, you will be sent a certificate to thank you for your support and show you an example of how your funds are being used.

To find out more, visit the website: toilettwinning.org/tap-twinning

Bin Twinning - Put a Lid on Poverty

2 billion people don't have their rubbish collected. By donating £45 to twin your bin, you help fund a community project that's preventing disease, protecting the environment and creating jobs.

When you twin, you will be sent a certificate to put on your kitchen bin or wheelie bin, showing a photo of the rubbish collection and recycling enterprise that you have twinned with overseas.

To find out more, visit the website: bintwinning.org



We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who has donated to our Ukraine appeal. We have been overwhelmed with your generosity.

We've collected around £1276.66 which we will send to the Baptist Missionary Society Ukraine Appeal. Also, the vestry was completely filled with donations of items, including clothes, nappies, and medical provisions which will be making their way to Ukraine.

A huge thanks to Alex and Thomas Joyce for leading us in this appeal, after seeing the coverage on the news and wanting to do something practical to help the Ukrainian people.

Please continue to pray for the whole situation:

- Pray that our Ukrainian brothers and sisters would know God's peace, strength and comfort.
- Pray for those trapped in occupied cities, that even as they are surrounded by enemies, God would surround them with Christian love and care.
- Pray that peace will reign in Ukraine. For those fleeing, please pray for their safe passage, for welcoming arms and for hot food.
- Pray that churches will be able to minister to all. Pray that the church leaders will know the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for those who cannot, or will not, leave Ukraine. Pray that they are not discouraged by those who do and do not feel that the international community has given up hope for the possibility of peace.





Good Friday, 15th April

Reflective service @ 11:00am

Join us in church, as we reflect on the final part of Jesus' journey at the cross. Come sit and reflect in the presence of God at the great cost of Jesus' sacrifice.

Walk of Witness @ 11:30am

Join us, along with Aston Churches Together, as we walk from the church, following the cross, to Swallownest crossroads for a short outdoor service of reflection. We will partake in communion together around the cross. Please bring your own bread and wine.

Easter Sunday, 17th April

Sunrise service @ 8:00am Ulley Country Park

Join us for a short outdoor early morning service, at the waters of Ulley reservoir. Come and celebrate the greatest day in history, Jesus' resurrection, as we pray, sing, and hear a message.

Easter morning breakfast @ 9:00am

Join us for fellowship over a cooked breakfast at church before the service.

Easter morning service @ 10:30am

Join us as we continue in our time of worship together at our special Easter Sunday celebration service.

Community service @ 12:00pm

Join us on Easter Sunday as we gather round the cross, as part of Aston Churches Together, at Swallownest crossroads for a short outdoor community service.



Our **Sunday services** take place each week at 10:30am in our church building. We also continue to livestream the services via our YouTube Channel. The first and third Sunday of each month includes communion.

Junior Church is for school-age children and meets every Sunday. The children and young people stay in the main building at the start of the service for the time of sung worship, and then go out to our School Room building for their age-specific groups, where they engage with songs, bible teaching, crafts and other fun. The School Room is attached to the right-hand side of the main church.

All our previous live streamed services are available to watch again on our YouTube channel. The audio from the Sunday Service is also available on our website under Bible Talks, and through our Podcast.

<p>Apr</p> <p>3rd David Skeet (Communion)</p> <p>10th Rob Joyce</p> <p>17th David Skeet (Communion)</p> <p>24th Messy Church Family Service</p>	<p>May</p> <p>1st David Skeet (Communion)</p> <p>8th David Skeet</p> <p>15th Baptist Assembly Service</p> <p>22nd Rob Joyce</p> <p>29th Clive Burnard</p>
---	--

If you wish to speak to the leadership team, or if you have any items of news or prayer requests that you would like the church to know about, then please contact:

07536 992946



The **Prayer Meeting** takes place in church and via Zoom on the first Saturday of each month at 9:30am.

- 2nd Apr
- 7th May



A time of **Prayer & Meditation** takes place fortnightly on a Monday via Zoom only at 9:30am.

- 4th and 18th Apr
- 2nd, 16th and 30th May



The **Ladies Meeting** will meet in church fortnightly on a Monday at 1:30pm.

- 11th & 25th Apr
- 9th and 23rd May



Prospects meets once a month in the church school room at 3pm.

- 17th Apr
- 15th May

We offer an open invitation to anyone who would like to join us at any of our events. Visit our website for further information swallownestbaptist.org.uk or email swallownestbaptist@gmail.com