



## SBC News

Oct / Nov 2023

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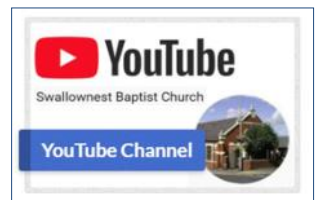
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# GIVING THANKS TO THE LORD

## HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER

As we reflect with gratitude, we are reminded of the timeless truth that God's love endures forever. In a world often filled with uncertainty and change, the steadfast love of the Lord remains an unwavering anchor for our souls. In this edition of our newsletter, we come together to give thanks for the boundless love and grace that the Lord has bestowed upon us.

Our journey through life is marked by seasons of both joy and hardship, but throughout it all, the love of the Lord remains a constant source of strength and solace. This love transcends our understanding and sustains us through every trial and triumph. As we look back on our individual and collective journeys, let us remember the countless moments when His love lifted us up, carried us through, and filled our hearts with hope.

We give thanks again for the people that we have had the great fortune to know in our lives: Pat, Zel, Maggie and for the Purdy family - Malcolm's Mum Marion. Women who knew Jesus as their Lord and Saviour and were able to share His love with those they came across in life.

One of the most profound expressions of the Lord's enduring love is evident in the beauty of His creation. The awe-inspiring landscapes, the delicate intricacies of nature, and the vibrant diversity of life all serve as a testament to the Creator's boundless love. We really must take better care of the world around us, recognizing that our stewardship of the earth is a tangible way to express our gratitude to the One who made it all. As we give thanks, we also remember the tragedies of the numerous wildfires and floods across the Mediterranean. We also think of those in Morocco and Libya with their recent trauma of earthquakes and floods.

In our togetherness, we experience the love of the Lord in powerful ways. Our faith community is a place where we can share our joys and sorrows, support one another, and grow together in faith. As we give thanks for our fellow believers, let us remember to pray for one another and continue to build a community that reflects the enduring love of the Lord. We give thanks and glory to God for Jan, our Children's and Families worker. Jan has created some fantastic group

activities over the last few months. We've seen new faces and journeyed with many more people through Mini Messy Church, Summer Club and the Ark playgroup sessions. We thank God for Carol, Hazel, George & Pauline and Livi for their work and service to God in this area of the life of our church and community. We also thank the many other people who serve God through various church activities and services each week.

We must also remember that the Lord's love is not passive but active. It is a love that moves us to extend kindness, compassion, and love to others. Let us take inspiration from His example and continue to seek opportunities to make a positive difference in the lives of those around us. Through acts of love and service, we can be living witnesses to the enduring love of our Heavenly Father.

As we give thanks for the Lord's

enduring love, let us also look ahead with hope. The same love that has carried us through the past will continue to sustain us in the future. No matter what challenges & changes may come our way, we can rest assured that His love remains our constant and unwavering companion.

As I finish, let us remember that gratitude is not merely a feeling but a way of life. Let us strive to live each day with hearts full of thanksgiving, knowing that the love of the Lord endures forever. As we journey together in faith, may we be ever mindful of His boundless love and seek to share it with the world.

*With love and thanksgiving*



*David Skeet is our Church Team Leader*



This year, we will again be holding a Light Party as a Christian alternative to Halloween. A Light Party provides an opportunity to reach out to our local community with the good news of Jesus, replacing the fear and darkness associated with Halloween, with light and life. During the evening there will be party games, food, quizzes and plenty of fun to be had for people of all ages. All welcome, free entry.

*Come and celebrate the Light of the World.*

**Tuesday 31st October**

**5pm—7pm**



Prayer Meeting  
Saturday @ 9:30am

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

- 7<sup>th</sup> October
- 4<sup>th</sup> November



Prayer &  
Meditation

Monday @ 9:30am

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

- 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October
- 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November



Swallowmest  
Baptist  
Church

Ladies Meeting

Fortnightly on Monday @ 1:30pm

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

- 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October
- 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November



Sunday @ 3:00pm

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

- 15<sup>th</sup> October
- 19<sup>th</sup> November



The **Prayer Walk** takes place every week on a Wednesday at 10:00am.



The **Lunch Club** takes place in the church schoolroom every week on a Thursday, with lunch being served at 12:00. Come and join us for food and a chance to chat. We just ask for a small donation of £2 per person.

## Men's Breakfast



Saturday @ 8:30am  
£4

All men welcome – any background, any faith, any age, any postcode.

The **Men's Breakfast** takes place in the church school room on the second Saturday of each month at 8:30am

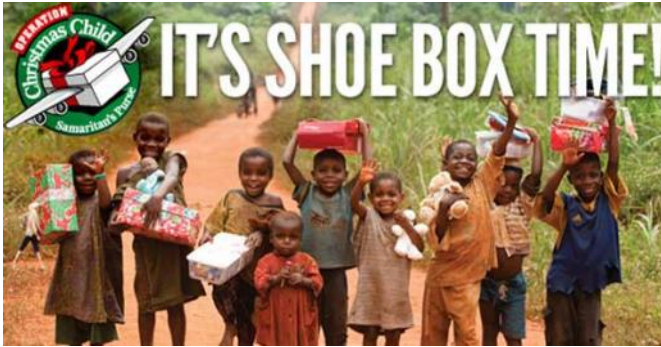
- 14<sup>th</sup> October
- 11<sup>th</sup> November



**Mini Messy Church** takes place in church on the first Tuesday of each month at 3:30pm.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> October
- 7<sup>th</sup> November

We offer an open invitation to anyone who would like to join us at any of our events. Email [swallownestbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:swallownestbaptist@gmail.com) for further information.



It is time again for us to start filling shoeboxes in support of Operation Christmas Child.

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.

Please help this great cause. Your simple gift of a shoe box can provide a child with great joy and excitement, as this may be the only Christmas present that they receive.

1

**Find a shoebox.** Operation Christmas Child boxes are available from church (at no cost). 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.

2

**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 toothpaste, sweets, food, medicine, liquids or anything fragile or sharp.

3

**Make your donation.** Please include a donation of £5 with each box. This covers the cost of getting the shoebox to a child. Donations can be made online and you can also print off a barcode, add it to the box and this will enable you to track which country your shoebox gets sent to.

4

**Pray.** 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.

The shoeboxes will be collected early November. We'll let you know the deadline date in due course. 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](http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk)



# The Ladies Meeting

This picture shows our Ladies' Fellowship meeting again after the summer break. We had lunch together and discussed our programme for the rest of this year. Actually four members are not included on the photo as they had other commitments.

We enjoy meeting together for the social aspect, supporting each other and hearing messages from invited guests.

We are open to more Ladies joining us - you would be very welcome! We meet fortnightly on a Monday at 1:30pm. Marbeth Purdy



Join us for an evening of entertainment and fellowship as we showcase some local talent! Another great opportunity to invite family, friends and neighbours as we sit back and enjoy the show! Did we mention that there'll also be snacks - Saturday 7th October 6pm -8pm. Speak to Jan Dean for more information.



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.

Oct	Nov
1 <sup>st</sup> David Skeet (Communion)	5 <sup>th</sup> David Skeet (Communion)
8 <sup>th</sup> Rob Joyce	12 <sup>th</sup> Rob Joyce
15 <sup>th</sup> Rob Joyce (Communion)	19 <sup>th</sup> David Skeet (Communion)
22 <sup>nd</sup> Olivia Egan	26 <sup>th</sup> David Skeet
29 <sup>th</sup> Café Church	

### Café Church



Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October @10:30am



On Sun 29<sup>th</sup> October, we will be having Café Church. Join us for drinks and a bite to eat. It's a fantastic opportunity to sit and chat. Towards the end of the service, there will be a very short talk from one of our church leaders.

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