



SBC News

Apr / May 2024

Swallownest
Baptist
Church 

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Farewell from David

Youth@SBC

Lent Supper

Have you been in the school room lately?

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As I sit down to write these words, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible journey we've embarked on together over the past five years. It's been a journey marked by numerous changes and profound moments of growth.

Reflecting on our shared experiences fills me with deep appreciation for the countless memories we've created. From the heartfelt praise of our Sunday worship services to the quiet moments of fellowship shared over coffee, from the delivery of food boxes to those in need within our community to the establishment of a Community Network Group and so much more. Each activity has played a vital role in spreading the good news of Jesus and transforming lives.

Inevitably, we've faced challenges along the way, including a global pandemic and the loss of some very dear friends. However, through each trial, we've found strength and resilience. We have come back stronger and closer, ultimately enriching our lives and deepening our faith. It's evident that we've witnessed God's hand at work, bringing about transformation both in our numerical growth and, more importantly, in our spiritual journey.

Together, we've weathered storms, celebrated triumphs, and grown in

our walk with God. Your unwavering support, love, and dedication to our shared mission have been a constant source of encouragement to me as your minister.

As you look ahead to the future, I urge you to cling steadfastly to the teachings of Jesus Christ and to continue supporting and uplifting one another in love. While change may bring uncertainty, it also presents opportunities for growth and renewal. Therefore, remain rooted in the Word of God and be vigilant against anything that might distract you from the vision and mission to which God has called you to.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the privilege of serving as your minister. Thank you for your love, support, and unwavering faith. Though I may be bidding farewell, I do so with complete confidence in your ability to carry forth the light of God's love into your community and beyond.

May His grace continue to guide and sustain you in all your endeavours.

Grace and peace,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

David Skeet



SBC has just started up a youth group for the older members of Junior Church - those at secondary school. It takes place on the first Sunday of each month and is in the late afternoon / early evening. The next meeting will be on 5th May where there is a bowling trip planned (there will be no meeting in April due to Easter).

As part of the group, there are games galore - physical games, board games, play station games and 'Splat the cup'!!! And there is prayer - an opportunity to share what is going on and to pray for each other. And, not forgetting, there is also food!

Please pray for Jennie, Alice and Jan as they run the group and also for all those that attend that this will be a great opportunity for them to grow in their knowledge and love for the Lord, and to reach out to their friends who may not go to church.

If you would like any more information, please speak to Jennie, Alice or Jan.



Mini Messy Church

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

- 2nd April - Easter
- 7th May - Armour of God



Prayer Meeting
Saturday @ 9:30am

The **Prayer Meeting** takes place in church and will move to being held twice per month on a Saturday at 9:30am.

- 6th & 20th April
- 4th & 18th May



*Prayer &
Meditation*

Monday @ 9:30am

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

- 8th and 22nd April
- 6th and 20th May



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Ladies Meeting

Fortnightly on Monday @ 1:30pm

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

- 8th and 22nd April
- 6th and 20th May



Sunday @ 3:00pm

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

- 21st April
- 19th May



**THE ARK
PLAY GROUP**
TOYS AND CRAFTS
BIBLE-BASED STORIES
MUSIC AND INSTRUMENTS
£1.50 PER FAMILY PLUS 50P
PER EXTRA CHILD

**Tuesdays
10am-11:30am
&
1pm-2:30pm**

The **ARK Play Group** takes place every Tuesday during term time. This is a friendly group welcoming parents/carers with babies and toddlers. There are 2 sessions: 10am-11:30 am and 1:00pm-2:30pm. No need to book. It is £1.50 per family plus 50p per extra child.



Prayer Walk

Wed Morning

The Prayer Walks will be returning from 17th April and will take place every week on a Wednesday morning. This year, we are also going to be litter picking in the community as part of the walk. Look out for more details coming out soon



Lunch Club

**Thursday
11:30am – 2:00pm
£2 donation per person**

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

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



Saturday @ 8:30am
£4

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

- 13th April
- 11th May



On 13th February we hosted our Lent Supper with an Italian theme and had a fabulous evening. The school room was transformed into an Italian café. There were Italian quizzes, Italian music, and even an Italian themed team building challenge where each table had to build the leaning tower of Pisa using just spaghetti and marshmallows. Well done to the winners!

Then let's not forget the Italian food. We were treated to an impressive spread of pizza, pasta, breads, salad, and not to mention some very tasty desserts!

Many thanks to Jan for organising, Carol and Nev for all their hard work in the kitchen, to everyone who helped on the evening, and to all who came!



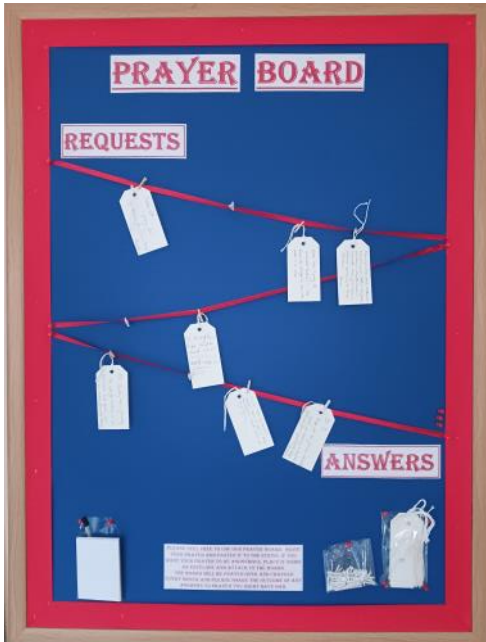
Have you been into the school room lately?

If not, then you may not have seen the lovely additions to the walls that Jan has organised.

Firstly, there is the 'Thankful For Tree' which was created through Junior Church. Each leaf represents something that we have to be thankful for. Please feel free to add a leaf. Watch out for the tree changing in line with the seasons!

*"Count your blessings,
name them one by one, and
it will surprise you what
the Lord has done."*

(Count Your Blessings Hymn, Author: Johnson Oatman, Jr.)



Secondly, there is the Prayer Board where people can share any prayer requests and answers to prayer. Please feel free to write your prayer and fasten it to the string. If you would like your prayer to be anonymous, then place in an envelope and add it to the board. The board will be prayed over and changed every month. Please also share the outcome of your answers to prayer too.



Our **Sunday services** take place each week at 10:30am in our church building. We also 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.

Apr		May	
7 th	Farewell Service	5 th	Rob Joyce (Communion)
14 th	Prayer Service	12 th	Suzanne Charles
21 st	Prayer Service (Communion)	19 th	Olivia Egan (Communion)
28 th	Messy Church	26 th	Nike Adebajo

April 7th will be a farewell service as we say goodbye to David and Julie Skeet. There will be a buffet lunch following the service. David and Julie have been part of our church family since 2019 when David joined the leadership team as Team Leader. They are moving to Haworth where David will be taking up the role of Minister at West Lane Baptist Church.

April 14th and 21st will be different to our normal services. They will be a prayer service where we will be seeking God’s guidance for the future direction of the church as we seek to employ a minister following David’s departure. It will be a time of prayer, and also discussion as we seek to gauge the views of the church family.

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