

# St Andrews Baptist Church

Making the Gospel Real, Relevant, Radical and Refreshing



## NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

ST ANDREWS BAPTIST CHURCH

# A NOTE FROM OUR ELDERS

**Romans 12:2***New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

***2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.***

We come as a church as we celebrate our diversity. We reflect on our coming together, sharing together, growing together and being together as we walk to understand God's will.

We hear of the history of what has gone before us, we celebrate as a church serving this community for over 62 years. We are thankful for the commitment, the dedicated servant hearted people that serve this church well, those past, present and future.

We look at the here and now and how the church continues to grow and we give thanks and praise. We are thankful for the many mission initiatives that we do to serve the community in which Christ has placed us – WNS, Food Bank, Caton House, Messy Play, Messy Church

We look to the future thinking of the legacy that we are going to leave for the generations to come. Look what God did, He had a plan, His desires, God's Will, He had a purpose and he wanted each of us to have that deep personal relationship with Him, His Will, to transform our lives. God is building His Church, He has planted a seed in each of us, and like the mustard seed, are we watering it daily so that it will grow, that God's word in each of us, will bear fruit and grow.

That in our diversity, we will hold onto the love in the spirit, that is to each other, we will be united in kindness, gentleness, forgiveness and acceptance for we are Gods people, one church, one body, coming together, sharing together, growing together and being together as we come to discern the mind of Christ.

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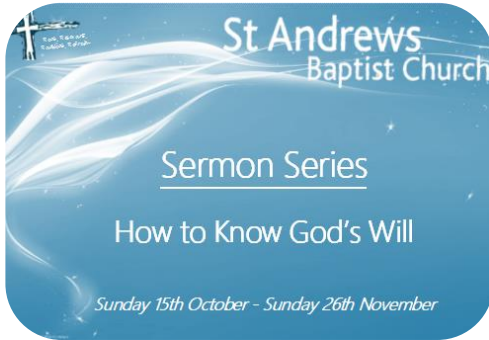
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**Next Issue Submission Deadline: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

Whilst we are happy to advertise external events, please take into consideration we must prioritise many adverts for church activities which take precedence and space is very limited.

# UPCOMING SERVICES

This month our church services will be themed around 'How to Know God's Will'  
Cards with the theme information are available in the foyer.



**05<sup>th</sup> Nov** – 9:30am & 11:00am

**12<sup>th</sup> Nov** – 9:30am & 11:15am

**19<sup>th</sup> Nov** – 9:30am & 11:00am

**26<sup>th</sup> Nov** – 9:30am & 11:00am

**Refreshments** are served at 10:30am between the services. It would be great to meet you.

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November we will be holding our remembrance services:

**9:30am Traditional Service**

**11:15am Contemporary Service**

We will be holding a two-minute silence at 11:00am. The doors will be closed at 10:58am and will not open until after the silence.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December – **9:30am** Traditional Service

**5:00pm** Carols Service

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – **10:45am** Christmas Day Service

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December - **10:30am** All Together Service

# UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFO

## Winter Night Shelter



Providing a dinner, bed and breakfast for up to 15 guests.

Interested in helping,  
Come along to our meeting on  
**Monday 13th November**  
at 7.00pm

The project will run from 1st December to 15th March,  
St Andrews hosts on Monday evenings,  
overnight through to Tuesday mornings.

For more info, please contact St Andrews Church office.



St Andrews Baptist Church,  
St Andrews Road, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK3 5DR.  
T: 01908 415192 E: office:@standrewsbletchley.org.uk W:www.standrewsbletchley.org.uk

### MINISTER SABBATICAL

Brian and Craig return from their travels this month on 6<sup>th</sup> November. **Brian is still on sabbatical** and remains uncontactable through all means until Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

### MINISTER NEW EMAIL

As mentioned in previous issues, Brian has a new email address which is now in use for all his correspondences. Please update your records: [minister@standrewsbletchley.org.uk](mailto:minister@standrewsbletchley.org.uk)

### CDP SALE AREA

At the back of the church, next to the school room door we have a sale area (including items on the bookcase). With Christmas fast approaching, we have many fabulous gifts for all ages, including stocking fillers. Suggested donation prices are listed on each item. All proceeds go to the Community Development Project.

## SPOTLIGHT: 'MESSY PLAY'

**Each month, we are going to shine the spotlight on an area of our church and give you an insight to the life of St Andrews. This month is 'Messy Play' our parent/carer toddler group.**

Messy Play started up on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September as a replacement to 'Stay n Play' which had been running for six years. The group is already getting approximately 20 children a week. Here's what some parents had to say:

*"Absolute freedom for the children in a safe environment, a very different type of group"*

*"Absolutely love messy play, different things every week, helping to socialise. It's never boring and we are never judged on our situations."*

*"A lovely change of scenery, the children love the different textures and making friendships. It is a very different environment and there is fantastic support from the leaders"*

*"The freedom the children have to explore the sensory play and they are not afraid to squeeze and feel the mess. They are forming new friends and are willing to be independent and share. All children can find something to play with. As a childminder, it is wonderful to have amazing support if having a bad day."*

June Stocker and Julie-Ann Ward have been leading the group and are extremely pleased with the feedback and support they are getting each week. Messy Play is on each Wednesday morning during term time for children aged birth – four years and their parents/carers.

# OUR GROUPS

These are a great way to get to know people in the church and everyone is very welcome. Dates of when the groups are meeting are on both web calendars and the weekly news update. Home Group dates are available from the leader.

## HOME GROUPS



An opportunity to learn, grow and unpack more of the Bible in a friendly environment. If you would like further details, please pick up a leaflet and/or contact the church secretary, Donna Harris.

Day	Time	Frequency	Leader	Location
Tuesday	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Weekly	Malc Ashurst	The Ashurst's
Wednesday	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Fortnightly	Tim Hughes	The Hughes'
Thursday	10:30am – 12:00pm	Weekly	Joan Clarke	Clarice's
Friday	12:30pm – 2:30pm	Fortnightly	Alan Webb	The Hughes'
Friday	7:00pm – 9:00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Paul Mukendi	A. Bowen's

## SMALL GROUPS

### Women's Fellowship: 9<sup>th</sup> December



The meetings take place at St Andrews. For more info, please speak to Andrea Adio.

### Men of St Andrews



The men meet quarterly at different venues. Details will be published when available.

### Caton House: 8<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November.



A monthly service and reflection held for the residents. If you are interested in attending, please speak to the office.

### Afternoon Tea: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December



Meets bi-monthly from **2:00pm – 3:30pm**. All are welcome. Tickets are available from the office

# YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

## MESSY PLAY

For parents/carers and their under fours. Meets on a **Wednesday Morning from 9:30am – 11:30am**. Very messy play, so please do not wear your best clothes. The group asks for a **£1 donation** for the first child and **50p per additional child**.

## MESSY CHURCH: THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

A fun filled family service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month from **6:00pm – 7:30pm**. A meal is shared by all during the service. Please do not wear your best clothes as we do get messy. The group asks for a **£1 donation per person**. Please advise the office if you plan on attending for catering purposes.

## JUNIOR CHURCH

For the under 11's on a Sunday morning during the 11:00am service. This month, the children will be continuing with their study on Genesis.

# OUR FINANCES

Thank you for your continued support towards the ministry, mission and maintenance of St Andrews Baptist Church.

	Budget	Actual	Net
Income	£67,370	£56,561	£10,809
Expenditure	£60,748	£54,677	£6,071

## INCOME

Currently our offering is slightly ahead of this point last year. We shared earlier this year through our stewardship appeal, setting out the vision and aims for 2017, in which our offering budget significantly increased. This was to ensure we secured funds to support the ministry, mission and maintenance of the church and ensure we can fund the full time Business Administrator. This role is vital to the function of the church and we are very grateful for all offerings/tithing either through the offering bag or by standing order. Please prayerful consider our giving. Hall hire and general donations are currently above budget.

Our net income at 31st September 2017 is £56,561 which is £10,809 behind budget.

## EXPENDITURE

We have had additional expenditure following the new manse kitchen. We have completed the main installation the walls and floor are still to be completed.

Overall however expenditure is underspent, which has certainly helped our overall budget. Our net expenditure at 31st September 2017 is £54,677 which is £6,071 behind budget

## OFFERING

	Budget	Actual	Net
Offering	£25,938	£36,375	£10,437

# WAYS TO GIVE



### Envelope Scheme

To make an anonymous weekly donation, speak to the treasurer for more details.



### Offering Box

Please place any loose donations or cheques into our offering box, located to the left when entering the hall.



### Cheques.

Cheques can be made payable to St Andrews Baptist Church



### Standing Order & Bank Transfer

Sort Code: 30-15-53  
Account No: 02110038  
St Andrews Baptist Church  
Lloyds Bank PLC



### Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer, please complete our Gift Aid form. St Andrews can claim 25% on all donations you make.

# CHURCH PRAYERS

## CHURCH FAMILY PRAYERS

Please keep these people upheld in prayer.

*Ann Long, Clarice Bratton, Joan Pearce, Miriam Abogaye, Ruth Hudson.*

Lord we lift *Rose* to you, we are thankful for all her commitment to the life of St Andrews. We pray also for Jean, Tony and the rest of the family at this time.

We also pray for *Brian and Craig Stocker* as they continue their travels and *June, Nakitta and Hannah Stocker*, along with *Charlie*, their foster child throughout this time.

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## MONTHLY PRAYERS

We pray that in our diversity, we will hold onto the love in the spirit, that is to each other, we will be united in kindness, gentleness, forgiveness and acceptance for we are Gods people, one church, one body, coming together, sharing together, growing together and being together as we come to discern the mind of Christ.

We prayer for our vision to build Christ church, we seek that clarity and peace within our hearts and minds. Christ will increase our faith as we step out to see His vision unfold.

May we seek Gods Will and purpose, in a **Real** (1 John 4:16) **Relevant** (John 10:10) **Radical** (John 14:15-17) **Refreshing** (2 Corinthians 12:9)

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## MY PRAYERS

Below is a space for you to write your own prayers for the month of November. If you have a prayer you would like printed in the next issue of our newsletter, please submit this by the deadline date.

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# CONTACT INFORMATION

## OFFICE OPENING HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8:30am – 1:00pm

*the office is closed from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.*

The office is managed by Sarah Harris with help from a team of volunteers. You are very welcome to pop in and have a cup of tea and a chat.

## CONTACT DETAILS:



**MINISTER: Revd. Brian Stocker**

**Phone:** 07557 682902

**Email:** [minister@standrewsbletchley.org.uk](mailto:minister@standrewsbletchley.org.uk)

***Brian is currently on sabbatical and uncontactable through all means until 30<sup>th</sup> November.***



**SECRETARY: Donna Harris**

**Phone:** 07917 631976

**Email:** [secretary@standrewsbletchley.org.uk](mailto:secretary@standrewsbletchley.org.uk)



**ADMINISTRATOR: Sarah Harris**

**Phone:** 01908 415192

**Email:** [sarah.harris@standrewsbletchley.org.uk](mailto:sarah.harris@standrewsbletchley.org.uk)



**St Andrews Baptist Church**

St Andrews Road, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK3 5DR

**T:** 01908 415192 ▪ **E:** [office@standrewsbletchley.org.uk](mailto:office@standrewsbletchley.org.uk) ▪ **W:** [www.standrewsbletchley.org.uk](http://www.standrewsbletchley.org.uk)