

Aylestone Baptist Church
Learning God's love, Sharing God's love



**November & December
2017
Church Magazine**

Letter from the Editor:

Well folks... it's that time again! Christmas is coming and I'm sure many of you will be "in full swing", certainly the shops and charity catalogues are.

I wonder if you plan to "dress" the table for Christmas dinner, maybe with a special cloth and napkins, and bring out the best china – or equivalent. I am reminded of a verse in the Bible.....

“In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.”

2 Timothy 2 v 20 – 21.

God made us just as we are – Gold or Clay we should strive to be the best with what God has given us. Perhaps each of us are both these bowls, Clay for everyday tasks, but when we live each day for God, with kindness, consideration and love, then we are transformed with a touch of Gold. Then there are times in our lives when God calls us to some special task, then we can fully shine like those Gold bowls as we serve Him.

So clean up those clay pots, and be ready to shine for Jesus – not just for Christmas but all our lives long.

May the God who came to earth, born in a lowly stable, bless each one, the lonely, the sick, the bereaved, the refugee, the war victims, and may our hearts be open especially this Christmas time to be a blessing to those around us.

Dorothy.

Sunday Worship Services November/December 2017.

Service is at 10am with children's groups and creche area.

November

- Sunday 5th Service led by Maxine Elliot with Sue Steer preaching.
- Sunday 12th REMEMBRANCE Service led by Stan Mackley, including the Act of Remembrance.
- Sunday 19th Service led by Jill Walton with Pam Bryan preaching. And will include a Dedication and Communion.
- Sunday 26th Service led by Wendy Hall with Tim Fergusson preaching. After the service there will be a Bring & Share lunch.

December

- Sunday 3rd Service led by Jill Walton with Liz Connelly preaching.
- Sunday 10th Service led by Maxine Elliot with John Cass preaching.
- Sunday 17th 10am Service led by Freddie Damalie with Alistair Gibb preaching. Service includes Communion.
- 6.30pm **CAROLS by CANDLELIGHT** led by Stan Mackley
- Sunday 24th **CHRISTMAS EVE**
10am service led by Elaine Robinson with Maxine Elliot preaching.
- 4.30pm CAROLS for KIDS led by Beth Ellis.
- 11.30pm Midnight Service and communion led by Pam Bryan.
- Monday 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY**
9.30am Family Service led by Wendy Hall.
- Sunday 31st Service led by Lucy Satchell with Paul Cleaver preaching.

Other Dates in November/December 2017



November

Thurs. 2 nd .	The Open House
Sat. 4 th	Men's Breakfast
Monday 6 th	Deacons' Meeting
Thurs. 9 th	Lunch Club
Thurs. 16 th	The Open House.
Sat. 18 th	Memorial Service for the life of John Riley, 11.30am Praise & Worship evening – 6pm
Sun. 19 th	Church Meeting after morning service.
Thurs. 23 rd	Lunch Club
Sun. 26 th	Messy Church.
Thurs. 30 th	The Open House.

December

Sat. 2 nd .	Christmas Market.
Sun. 3 rd	Spirit of Aylestone Churches Together Advent Service. At St. Andrew's Church 6.30pm
Mon. 4 th	Deacons' Meeting.
Wed. 6 th	Carols and Nativity – Gateway Club. 7pm. Come along and join with The Gateway Club and let your Christmas begin.
Thurs. 7 th	Lunch Club Carol Service, 12 noon, followed by Christmas Dinner.
Sun. 10 th	Carols in the Park.
Thurs. 14 th	The Open House.
Sun. 17 th	6.30pm Carols by Candlelight.
Mon. 18 th	Carols in the Pub (Black Horse) 7.15pm
Thurs. 21 st	Film Afternoon & tea for 3 rd Age – 2pm
Fri. 22 nd	Church Family Christmas Party (time to be confirmed)
Sunday 24 th	Carols for Kids- 4.30pm Christmas Eve Service, 11.30pm.
Monday 25th	CHRISTMAS DAY Family Service 9.30am.

Our Remembrance Service this year will be on Sunday 12th November, from 10am with the Act of Remembrance at 11am.

The Memorial

There in stone, a granite cross
Tells us what our village lost.
At its foot are poppies red
Which keep alive those heroes dead.

There's William Smith and Samuel John,
Now in a graveyard by the Somme,
And Peter Brown, who went to war
With the Royal Flying Corps,
And sixteen others we can see
Who died defending liberty.

Once they filled the school with noise,
Played football with the other boys,
Laughed and played, fished in the stream,
Chased the girls and ate ice cream.

The mothers' grief and lovers' tears
Fulfilment of half-hidden fears.

And Jamie Green from Stanway Farm,
Killed on a road in Afghanistan.
They all lived here, this place their home,
We remember them still, their names in stone.



Submitted by Maureen Clarke.

*“They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning
We will remember them.
We will remember them. “*

Church Family News

We send our love and sympathy to Barbara Riley as her dear John has passed away so soon after their move to Devon.

John and Barbara were married here at ABC, by Rev. Brian Thomas, on 8th September 1990. On leaving school John had followed his father in working on the steam trains, but after National Service he joined BT where he worked for 38 years. John enjoyed golf and he and Barbara belonged to a ballroom dancing group, before his severe stroke in 2011.

There will be a memorial service for John here at ABC on Saturday 18th November at 11.30am, followed by light refreshments. All are welcome to join with Barbara and the family in celebrating the life of a much loved husband.

We surround Linda Wilkinson with our love and prayers after the death in a tragic motor accident of her son-in-law. Our sympathies to her daughter, Joanne, and the two children.

Our love and prayers also for Bulus Ezekiel whose sister sadly died in a road accident at home in Africa- the distance away making the pain harder to bear. Also for Cristyn Juan whose mother passed away in the Philippines.

*“Blessed are those who mourn,
For they will be comforted.”*

Please hold Shirley Gray in your prayers as she faces major surgery in the next few weeks.

We give thanks that Jean Dixon has completed her Chemotherapy and is able to join us again in worship.

Congratulations to Pedro Santamaria on becoming a grandad!
And belated congratulations to John and Pam Cass who celebrated their Golden Wedding.

Message from Maureen Clarke:

At last I have a moving date ! from 30.11.17 my new address will be:

71, North Park, Fakenham, Norfolk NR21 9RG

I would just like to thank all of my many friends for their love and support over the last 30 years. I will take you all with me in my heart and will hopefully come back to see you in the future – you don't get rid of me so easily !

What's on for 3rd Age folk:

Lunch Club

Thursday November 9th / 23rd

Thursday December 7th - Carol Service at 12-0-clock followed by Christmas Dinner.



Re-start after the Christmas break:

Thurs. 18th January 2018.

A big "Thank You" from LOROS and also the Stroke Club who gratefully received £75 each from our collecting boxes.

The Open House



Thursday November 2nd / 16th / 30th

Thursday December 14th

Open to all over 50s – knitting and crafts, board games, chat, coffee and lunch.

Re-start after Christmas break: Thurs. 11th Jan. 2018

The Tuesday Fellowship

Tuesday November 14th / 28th

Tuesday December 12th - Christmas readings & carols and Christmas Dinner.

Re-start after Christmas break: Tues. 9th Jan.



Tuesday Seniors Fellowship

Film afternoon.



On Thursday 21st December, 2pm, we are showing the film "It's a Wonderful Life", followed by afternoon tea. This is open to all and is a free event - a Christmas treat !

Book review:

During the Service that Pam Bryan, our Moderator, conducted recently, she quoted from and recommended a book on prayer:

“Dirty Glory” by Pete Grieg

With a foreword from Bear Grylls “A Powerful, personal and honest story about life’s most important adventure.. from the heart and hand of a prayer warrior whom I love and admire.”

Pam quoted: “Satan’s not particularly interested in sin. His primary objective has never been to tempt you into violating a particular set of rules. His number one aim is simply to divert your attention away from Jesus. He’ll use sin to do it, for sure, but he’s equally able to use busy-ness, or shame, or pain, or religion, or Candy Crush Saga, or an obsessive relationship, or a golf handicap, or a pay rise, or an illness to distract you from the Lord. Satan hates the fact that when we fix our eyes on Jesus, broken relationships get fixed, and when we love Him all our lives, then death itself can lose its sting.”

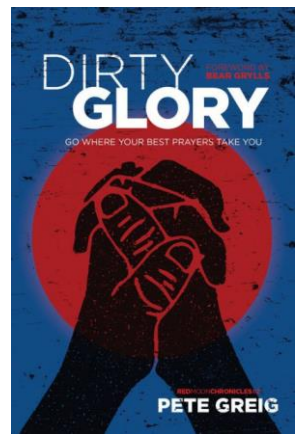
The book is full of inspirational stories, and “easy” to read. Why not put it on your Christmas list!

Shoebox challenge: Give a gift to a homeless young person in Leicester.

The Y centre provides a safe place to call home for 118 young people, but they need help with ‘basics’. A shoe box filled with some of the basic necessities (which we take for granted) can make all the difference to someone moving into this accommodation with nothing.

Recommended items: shampoo/conditioner; shower gel; deodorant, razors, face flannel, toothpaste, brush, mouthwash, teabags, coffee, sugar, pen and pad, cup, bowl, plate, cutlery, socks. You could also include a message of encouragement and something of your own faith.

Please bring your gifts to church and Richard will see that they are delivered to the Y centre at 7 East Street Leicester.





Spotlight on the Gateway Club....

The Gateway Club, for adults with learning difficulties, has met in our Church on Wednesday evenings for about 30 years.

The evenings vary, with club nights when they can play pool or darts, jigsaws, colouring, play some music, and enjoy being together.

Sometimes there is a disco, or some ladies come in to run a craft evening, a skittle and meal night at the Black Horse from time to time is a popular event, and the annual outing to Skegness is always fun.



A highlight is the sponsored walk (for some walking is a great challenge) and this year they raised £1,200 – some of which went to charity and some for an evening at the theatre to watch a Pantomime.



Once a month, usually the 2nd Wednesday, Stan and Dorothy go in to hold a Worship Service. The worship is lively and the prayer-times meaningful and moving. At Christmas each year the Gateway Club present their Carol Service and Nativity Play. Most of the members take part in the play, and if you haven't yet come along to one of these special evenings, try it this year, and you will surely

receive a special blessing. This year it will be held on Wednesday 6th December at 7pm – and there are mince pies after!

On behalf of our Fellowship we want to thank all the leaders who so faithfully turn up each Wednesday evening to run the Club – some have done so for the full 30 years! God bless you all.

HARVEST..

Thanks for all the gifts donated and which were sent to two local food banks.



The Gilmorton Est. Food bank opens fortnightly and they have said a big Thank you.



The Salvation Army food bank is open daily for those in need, and were very grateful for our donations.

We hope to have another Super-sized collection for the Food Banks for Christmas.

“On the morning after the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, the village school teacher asked the infants’ class to name some of the things they had seen in church. “Carrots”, said one child. “Parsnips,” answered another. “Cabbages,” said a third. “good” replied the teacher approvingly, “now can you give me one word to cover all those things?”

After a long silence one small boy raised his hand “please miss,” he said, “Gravy”.

Quotes:

“It’s obvious that women are smarter than men. Think about it –
Diamonds are a girl’s best friend;
Man’s best friend is his dog!” (Joan Rivers)

The real trouble about the duty of forgiveness is that you do it with all your might on Monday and then find on Wednesday that it hasn’t stayed put and all has to be done over again.

[From [*The Collected Letters of C.S. Lewis, Volume III*](#)]

BMS BIRTHDAY SCHEME Supporting Medical Missionary Work.

Happy Birthday and thank you to:

Nov. 3rd Lee Wafforne
Nov. 5th Wendy Hall
Nov. 6th Amy Craston
Nov. 8th Keith Elliott
Nov. 10th Carl Chapman
Nov. 15th Maureen Clarke
Nov. 15th Katie-Jane Fereday.
Nov. 27th Sam Elliot

Dec. 6th Susan Craston
Dec. 11th Hannah Mackley
Dec. 18th Isabelle Tait
Dec. 19th Scarlett Fereday
Dec. 22nd Chris Sayer



If you wish to join the Birthday Scheme – on your special day you will receive a card with an envelope enclosed for you to make a donation and share your birthday in this very special way. Please see Denise Vernon.



The end of a journey and the beginning of a new one – the Induction of Craig Sweeney-Essex as minister of Central Baptist Church.

It has been a privilege for us as a fellowship to be part of Craig’s journey to faith, from night-club bouncer to Christian minister, and we hope and pray that he will have a blessed ministry at Central Baptist.

Our love to all the family, Craig, Laura, Jaimie and Bradon.

Poetry Corner:

The Christmas Card.

The scene upon the Christmas card
Depicts a time that's flown,
When life was not so hectic
And commercial as our own.
When simple pleasures brought delight
And folks made time to greet
With friendly words and cheery smiles,
Their neighbours in the street.

And if we find a little time
To do those simple things,
We'll spread more friendliness around,
And all the joy it brings.
Then, like the friendly days of old,
They'll be real Christmas cheer,
And kindness and companionship
Will last through all the year.



Submitted by Maureen Clarke.



The little grey cells were working overtime at the SIGMA QUIZ Night. Fuelled with hotdogs and cake, the quiz began in earnest, with questions for young and old, it paid off to have children in the team! We raised over £150 for SIGMA, which will be sent off, together with other funds, to help pay for the Christmas services and feeding programme in Akividu, India. Thanks to all who made this such a fun evening.

Christmas Fayre.....

Here are a couple of recipes you might like to try for your special meals over the Christmas period:

For a delicious starter: Leicester Fish Pate
(Serves 4. – preparation time 25 mins.)

198g (7oz) can tuna, drained.
200g (7oz) Red Leicester cheese, grated.
10ml (2 tsp) lemon juice.
150g (5oz) Natural yogurt.
30ml (2tbsp) chopped parsley
Freshly ground pepper, parsley to garnish, 1 lemon.
Toast, crispbreads or French bread to serve.



Place tuna in a bowl and mash with a fork. Add cheese & lemon juice and mash together. Add yogurt, chopped parsley and season to taste. Mix well.
Spoon mixture into 4 ramekin dishes and chill.
Garnish with parsley, a slice of lemon, and serve with toast, crispbread or French bread.

A quick and easy dessert to delight your guests: Toffee-topped peaches.
(Serves 6 – preparation time 10 minutes, cooking time 5 mins.)

1 x 411g (14 oz) can of peach halves.
300ml (1/2 pint) double dairy cream.
175g (6oz) demerara sugar.

Drain peaches and lay in the bottom of an ovenproof dish, reserving one for decoration.

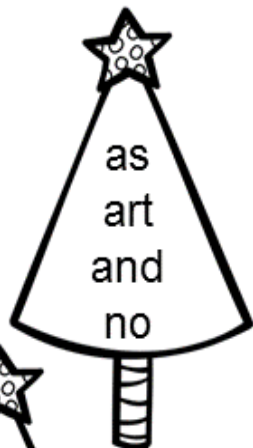
Lightly whip cream and spread over peaches. Chill.

Just before serving, sprinkle sugar over and grill until sugar melts.

Cut remaining peach half in slices, place slices on top of sugar in a star pattern and serve immediately.

Christmas words in words

Use the small words in each tree to complete the Christmas words beside the tree.

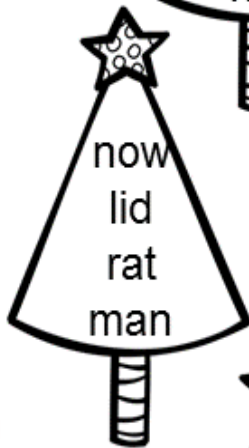


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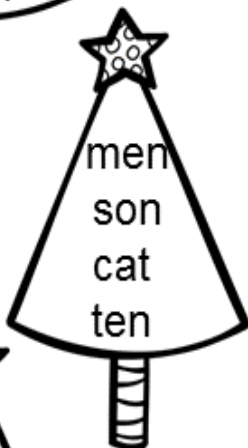


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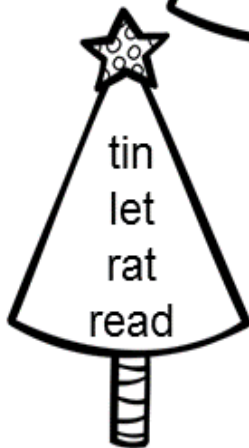


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Christmas Word Search



G L E T W C R S T O C K I N G
Y I P I D A E R B R E G N I G
A C O V T R P Y A E C E F F U
R E A S L E Q I X O C T A P Z
E M I R Y H A U D P S A J O N
S E A P O B E T H L E H E M I
N R U L O L D O N T F O S P U
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- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Bells | 9. Holly | 17. Sleigh |
| 2. Bethlehem | 10. Jesus | 18. Snowman |
| 3. Candy | 11. Manger | 19. Star |
| 4. Carol | 12. Merry | 20. Stocking |
| 5. Christmas | 13. Ornament | 21. Toys |
| 6. Elves | 14. Peace | 22. Tree |
| 7. Gifts | 15. Reindeer | 23. Wisemen |
| 8. Gingerbread | 16. Santa | 24. Yuletide |

The Everlasting Turkey !



On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me
I've bought a big fresh turkey and a proper Christmas tree.

On the second day of Christmas much laughter could be heard
As we tucked into our turkey – a most delicious bird.

On the third day of Christmas people came from just next door,
The turkey tasted just as good as it had done before.

On the fourth day of Christmas came relations young and old
We finished up the Christmas pud and had the turkey cold.

On the fifth day of Christmas, outside the snowflakes scurried,
But we were nice and warm inside, and had the turkey curried.

On the sixth day of Christmas, the Christmas spirit died,
The children fought and bickered – we had the turkey rissoles fried.

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love he did wince
When he sat down at the table – and was offered turkey mince.

On the eighth day of Christmas, the dog had run for shelter,
For he'd seen our turkey pancakes and the glass of alka-seltzer.

On the ninth day of Christmas, by lunchtime dad was blotto,
He knew that bird was back again, this time as a risotto.

On the tenth day of Christmas we were drinking home-made brew,
Anything to help us face that steaming turkey stew.

On the eleventh day of Christmas our lovely tree was moulting.
And with chilli, soy and oyster sauce, the turkey was revolting.

On the twelfth day of Christmas we had smiles back on our lips,
The guests had gone, the turkey too – WE DINED ON FISH & CHIPS.

Christmas Market

Saturday 2nd December 10.30am-1.30pm

Aylestone Baptist Church

There are many stalls to browse....

Home Made Cakes - Hand-Made Crafts - Jewellery

Bric-a-Brac

& More.....

Home Cooked
Lunches
From 11.00am



Visit Santa in his Grotto
£1.50 per Child



Carols in the Park

Sunday 10th December

Aylestone Hall Gardens

Starting at 4.30pm

“Celebrate the Christmas Story,
with music accompanied by
Southfields Brass Band
& Choirs from Aylestone Churches”

Bring a Torch....

Free Hot Drinks & Mince Pies will be available.

“Donations to Local Charities Welcomed”



www.aylestonebaptistchurch.org.uk

Carols in the Pub

The Black Horse Pub

Narrow Lane, Aylestone.

Monday 18th December

Starting at 7.15pm

With Carols & Readings

Accompanied by....

The Wigston Enterprise Band.

Refreshments will be on sale.

In support of Christian Aid &

The rainbows Children's Hospice



www.aylestonebaptistchurch.org.uk

Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Church Moderator Rev. Pam Bryan / Youth Minister: Graham Hill

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities

Sunday

10.00am Morning Service / Junior Church / Crèche Facilities
Communion: The third Sunday of each month

Monday

7.30pm Prayer Meeting – usually in the Church lounge

Tuesday

9.30am Babes & Toddlers Club
11.00am Seniors Bible Study (Fortnightly)
5.00pm Urban Saints (Boys & Girls Club from Ages 4 – 18)

Wednesday

7.00pm Gateway Club.

Thursday

11.00am The Open House. 3rd Aged. For the 50's and over aged group (Fortnightly)
11.00am Community Lunch Club (Fortnightly / Alternative week to Open House)
6.30pm Youth Group Meet & Eat
7.30pm House Groups

Friday

7.00pm Hangout Youth Club (Boys & Girls Club from Ages 10 – 14)



Loop System Installed



Wheel Chair Access



WC Facilities

Church Membership, Baptism, Infants Dedication, Weddings, Funerals, House Groups, Urban Saints, Community Lunch Club, Babes & Tots Club, Youth Club & The Open House.

To find out more about church membership, Baptism, etc. or any of the activities please call us on 01162 832 527; by email: minister@aylestonebaptistchurch.co.uk or by visiting our website at www.aylestonebaptistchurch.org.uk