



Aylestone Baptist Church
learning God's love, sharing God's love



**November & December
2021
Church Magazine**

Dear Church Family,

I hope you have been blessed as much as I have been in our series on “The Fruits of the Spirit” (Galatians 5:22-23). In November we finish this series, and then in December we start a new series on “The Characters of Christmas.”

With Christmas right around the corner, I've been thinking about how the fruits of the Spirit are so connected to the Christmas narrative. Not only that, but the festive season gives us a great opportunity to reflect on these fruits and to put them into practice as we share them with others.

1) Love – God sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to the world because of His great love for us (John 3:16, Romans 5:8). We can show love to others by giving gifts, spending time with family, and helping those in need.

2) Joy – “Joy to the world, the Lord is come!” Jesus is our source of joy that leads to worship and sacrifice (Matthew 2:10-11, John 15:11). And not just at Christmas, but in every moment, all year long . Christmas brings a special joy that even the Grinch can't avoid!

3) Peace – Jesus is our Prince of Peace, and He gives us His peace (Isaiah 9:6, John 14:27). With Christmas comes a time of showing peace - families are reunited, quarrelling ceases, and extra grace is shown.

4) Patience – Jesus is the ultimate example of patience, and His patience towards us leads to our salvation (2 Peter 3:15, 1 Timothy 1:15-16). While this season can be stressful and busy, remember to take some time to slow down, show some patience, and enjoy each moment as we remember Jesus.

5) Kindness – We are to follow Jesus' example of kindness and love by forgiving others. In fact, it's His kindness leads to our repentance (Ephesians 4:32, Romans 2:4). Giving gifts and cards at Christmas is a good way to show kindness. This year you could give a gift to someone who doesn't expect it, make an extra donation to a Christian charity, or write some encouraging words in a card – your kindness might just change someone's life.

6) Goodness – So much about Christmas is good – the food, the presents, the carols, the time off work and school, feeling in the air. But in the New Testament, when someone called Jesus good, His reply was that no one is good but God (Mark 10:18). Let's not lose sight of God's amazing goodness to us – nothing else can even compare.

7) Faithfulness - “If we are faithless, He remains faithful” (2 Timothy 2:13). Sadly, at this time of year, many neglect the true meaning of Christmas. Others deny Christ's divinity, miraculous birth, or even His very existence. But we as Christians have an opportunity to be faithful to our beliefs and to proclaim God's love through Christ at Christmas. So many carols declare the true Christmas story – let's sing with joy and faithfulness!

8) Gentleness – While Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and will one day judge all of humanity, He is still gentle and meek in how He shows His love (Revelation 19:16, John 5:22-24, Matthew 11:28-30, Matthew 5:39). I think of His gentleness like a skilled surgeon performing a delicate operation – He brings life-saving healing through His caring touch and compassion.

9) Self-control – At Christmas, we celebrate God's great gift to the world – His Son, Jesus, came so that we could be saved. Jesus was born as a human so that He would one day pay the price for our sins through His death on the cross. Being God, Jesus could have stopped His death on a cross from happening. But He chose to become our atonement – an example of self-control and sacrifice (Philippians 2:1-11). By believing and receiving what Jesus did for us, we are filled with God's Holy Spirit. Then we have all the fruits of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Join with me in celebrating Jesus' incredible birth and His miraculous and ongoing work in our lives.

Merry Christmas!

Will

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has helped in our transition to our new home and to all who have welcomed us here at Aylestone Baptist Church. We are very grateful for the cards, gifts, and invitations to get together. We are delighted to be part of the community and serving the Lord here. We look forward to many great memories as we partner together for the Gospel.

With love,

Will, Hannah, and Katelyn Hall

SUNDAY WORSHIP

In November we finish our series on the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). So far we have looked at Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, and Kindness. In November we will look at Faithfulness (7th Nov), Goodness (14th Nov), Gentleness (21st Nov), and Self-Control (28th Nov). I hope you have been blessed and challenged by the series - and enjoyed some fruit each week as well. *Will*

Our December Sermon Series

The Characters of Christmas



Please Note: There will be no service on December 26th.

Dates for your Diary November/December 2021

November

- Sunday 7th Church 150th Anniversary – Service at 10am with Guest speaker Rev. Tim Fergusson, followed by Lunch.
- Thursday 11th Short Remembrance Act at 10.55 – 11.10 before Lunch Club.
- Sunday 14th Service includes the Act of Remembrance. Church Meeting following service.
- Saturday 27th Christmas Market (see poster)
- Sunday 28th ADVENT SERVICE at 4pm here at ABC with other Churches in Aylestone invited.

December

- Sunday 5th Collection for the Food Bank – please include some Christmas goodies along with food staples.
- Monday 6th Film Afternoon 2pm, followed by afternoon tea. No charge
- Sunday 12th Carols in the Park (see poster).
- Thursday 16th 3rd Age Carol Service followed by Christmas Lunch, 12pm. All welcome but please book in if possible
- Sunday 19th Carols by Candlelight Service 6.30pm.
- Friday 24th Carols for Kids – 4.30pm. For kids of all ages. Christmas Eve service - 11.30pm.

ABC HARVEST FUNDAY



The Harvest Service and Fun Day was a successful Sunday and a great way to invite our community to meet our new minister.

The Harvest All-Age service was exceptional and the number of families and children attending was very encouraging.



Large numbers attended the activities afterwards and there were many donations for the Food Bank. The bouncy slide was very popular, and the children's games and crafts were engaging as well.

Many people engaged with the quiet prayer area – candles were lit and the prayer tree was full. The food was very popular too.

We gave away 110 sausages, lots of pork and stuffing baps, sandwiches, soup, and - of course - plenty of cakes. The cost of the Fun Day came to £100 but we received around £90 in donations.



Will was pleased that he had the opportunity to engage with a number of non-church people. Thank you to everyone who helped out.

Will

Church Family News



What a happy day for our Church as Will was inducted as our minister on 30th October. It was great to welcome friends and family of Will, Hannah and Katelyn, and Nick Ashworth, an EMBA Regional minister, who conducted the “official bit”. Thanks to all who made the day so great, and for the wonderful food which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Our sympathies to Lee, Angela and Shane Wafforne on the sad death of their father, Michael. The father of a lovely family. We remember in love and prayers, Diane, the grandchildren, James, Harry and Elspeth, and the wider family, as they grieve.

Congratulations to Mary and Colin Shipton on the birth of their grandchild, Enzo. God bless that new little family.

A good number of our fellowship attended Ibstock Baptist Church as our former Youth Minister, Graham, was Ordained and Inducted as minister. Please continue to uphold Graham and the folks at Ibstock in your prayers as they begin this new chapter.

Thanks to all who donated to our Harvest Food Bank collection. The goodies were taken to the Salvation Army centre in Glen Parva, who were very grateful for the contributions. Over the past two years they have given out food parcels to over 29,000 people in need.



Sigma Update

The Church in Akividu continues to grow, and the two recently planted Churches in local settlements are starting to flourish.

Services at the main Calvary Baptist Church have to be relayed to people outside as the building cannot hold everyone.



The initiative to provide elderly widows with a small monthly pension has really been a 'Godsend' to them.

More recently the Church has provided gifts of Toor Dai, rice, soap and tooth paste to very poor children. Many are malnourished in spite of their parent's best efforts – this results in the children having skin diseases, toothache and other complaints.

The villagers are hoping that the Church will be able to make these gifts each month.

Our gifts make this possible!

HMRC recently sent the gift aid money to us About £1400. Thank you all for your support. We are amazed that we have raised so much even during this pandemic.



BMS Birthday Scheme November/December 2021

November 3 rd	Lee Wafforne
November 5 th	Wendy Hall
November 8 th	Keith Elliott
November 27 th	Sam Elliot
December 11 th	Hannah Mackley
December 18 th	Isabelle Tait



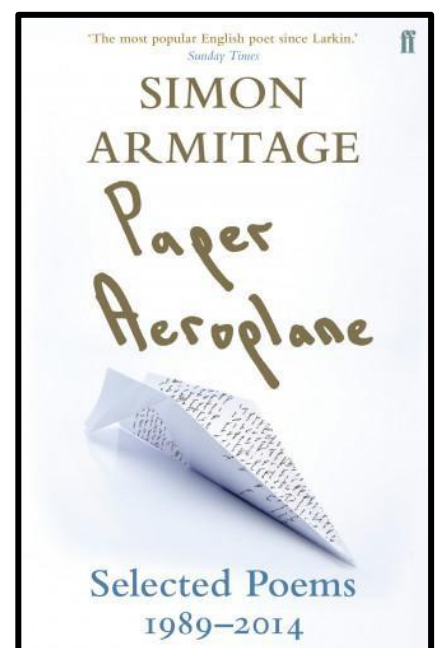
If you wish to join the birthday scheme and share your special day in this lovely way, please see Denise Vernon.

BOOK CLUB

We are a small book club which was originally started by Diane Tidball many years ago. Although Diane is no longer part of the group the some of us still meet six times a year and read a huge variety of books. If you like reading and also enjoy a social evening to discuss the book as well as putting the world to right, then why not give us a try.

Our next meeting is 29th November at 7-30pm at our home in Blaby. when we will be reading / discussing poems from Simon Armitage's book Paper Aeroplane. But if you can't make that we will have a full programme next year. For further information speak to me or Erica after church.

David Statham



A crabbit old woman wrote this ...

What do you see nurse? What do you see?
What are you thinking when you look at me?
A crabbit old woman, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit, with far-away eyes.
Who dribbles her food and makes no reply
When you say in a loud voice "I do wish you'd try"
Who seems not to notice the things that you do
And forever is losing a stocking or shoe.
Who, resting or not, lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feeding, the long day to fill.
Is that what you're thinking, is that what you see?
Then open your eyes nurse, you're not looking at me!



I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still,
As I use at your bidding, as I eat at your will.
I'm a small girl of 10 with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters who loved one another.
A young girl of 16 with wings on her feet,
Dreaming that soon a new lover she'll meet.
A bride soon at 20, my heart gives a leap
Remembering the vows that I promised to keep.
At 25 now, I've young of my own,
Who need me to build a secure, happy home.
A woman of 30, my young now grow fast,
Bound to each other with ties that should last.
At 40 my sons have grown, and are gone
But my man is beside me to see I don't mourn.



At 50 once more babies play round my knee,
Again we know children, my loved ones and me.

Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead.
I look to the future, I shudder with dread,
For my young are all rearing young of their own,
And I think of the years, and the loves I have known.
I'm an old woman now and nature is cruel –
'tis her jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles, grace and vigour depart,
There is now a stone where I once had a heart.

But inside this old carcass, a young girl still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart swells,
I remember the joys, I remember the pain,
And I'm loving and living life over again.
I think of the years all too few, gone too fast,
And accept the stark fact that nothing can last.

So open your eyes, nurses, open and see,
Not a crabbit old woman
Look closer
SEE ME.

[The poem was in fact written by a nurse, Phyllis McCormack in 1966 and not by "A Crabbit Old Woman"]

This Christmas remember those for whom this is a time of sadness and loneliness, and take opportunities to brighten some-one's life.

“Give me patience Lord,
Especially with people who try me beyond the limits
Of my endurance.
Also, Lord, give to those who find me difficult,
Patience also for, You know, O Lord, they need it!”

Beauty Secrets....

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.

For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.

For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.

For beautiful hair, let a child run fingers through it once a day.

For poise, walk with the knowledge that God walks beside you.

What's on for the 3rd Age.....



Lunch Club

Meeting from 11am for coffee, enjoying a 3 course meal (£5) at 12.45, all welcome, no booking necessary.

Thursday Nov. 11th / 25th
Thursday Dec. 9th

Thursday 16th December: CHRISTMAS DINNER
& CAROL SERVICE 12 – o clock. Cost : £6.

The Open House

Open from 11am for coffee, biscuits and chat,
knitting and sewing group, jigsaws, board games,
with meal served at 12.30.
Cost £3.

Thursday Nov. 4th / 18th
Thursday Dec. 2nd.

Thursday 16th December join with Lunch Club for
Carol Service and Christmas Dinner, 12-o – clock,
Cost £6.



The Tuesday Fellowship.

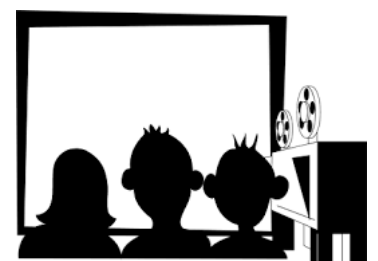


An informal meeting to look at a Bible passage and
find its relevance to the 3rd Age time of life. Followed
by a light 2 course meal. 11 – 2pm.

Tuesday Nov. 2nd. / 16th / 30th
Tuesday Dec. 14th – Christmas Dinner with
Christmas stories etc. and carols.

FILM AFTERNOON

Monday 6th December, 2pm followed by afternoon tea.
No charge.



Christmas Market

AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

SATURDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

10.30^{AM} - 1.30^{PM}

THERE ARE MANY STALLS TO BROWSE:

VARIETY OF BEAUTIFUL HANDMADE CRAFTS,
BRIC-A-BRAC, SILENT AUCTION,

PRELOVED BOOKS,

CAKES: (CAKES CAN ALSO BE PRE-ORDERED BY
NOVEMBER 21ST FOR COLLECTION ON THE DAY

PLEASE CONTACT STAN FOR DETAILS

07825586677



VISIT SANTA IN HIS GROTTTO

£1.50 PER CHILD



Health and Safety

While Shepherds watched
While shepherds watched
Their flocks by night
All seated on the ground
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around.



The Union of shepherds has complained that it breaches health and safety regulations to insist that shepherds watch their flocks without appropriate seating arrangements being provided, therefore benches, stools and orthopaedic chairs are now available. Shepherds have also requested that due to the inclement weather conditions at this time of year that they should watch their flocks via cctv cameras from centrally heated shepherd observation huts. Please note, the angel of the Lord is reminded that before shining his/her glory all around he/she must ascertain that all shepherds have been issued with glasses capable of filtering out the harmful effects of UVA, UVB and glory.

Little Donkey
Little donkey, little donkey,
on the dusty road,
Got to keep on plodding onwards
with your precious load.



The RSPCA have issued strict guidelines with regard to how heavy a load that a donkey of small stature is permitted to carry, also included in the guidelines is guidance regarding how often to feed the donkey and how many rest breaks are required over a four hour plodding period. Please note that due to the increased risk of pollution from the dusty road, Mary and Joseph are required to wear face masks to prevent inhalation of any airborne particles. The donkey has expressed his discomfort at being labelled “little” and would prefer just to be simply referred to as “Mr. Donkey”. To comment upon his height or lack thereof may be considered an infringement of his equine rights.

Rudolf the red nosed reindeer

Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer

Had a very shiny nose

And if you ever saw him

You would even say it glows.



You are advised that under the Equal Opportunities for All policy, it is inappropriate for persons to make comment with regard to the ruddiness of any part of Mr. R. Reindeer. Further to this, exclusion of Mr. R. Reindeer from the Reindeer games will be considered discriminatory and disciplinary action will be taken against those found guilty of this offence. A full investigation will be implemented and sanctions – including suspension on full pay – will be considered whilst this investigation takes place.

Christmas Crackers !!

One Christmas eve, Pete and Jane were driving their Russian friend Rudolph back to his house. The weather outside was frightful. Jane asked Pete, “Do you think that’s sleet or rain out there?”

“It’s rain, Jane” said Pete.

“I think it’s sleet, Pete,” said Jane.

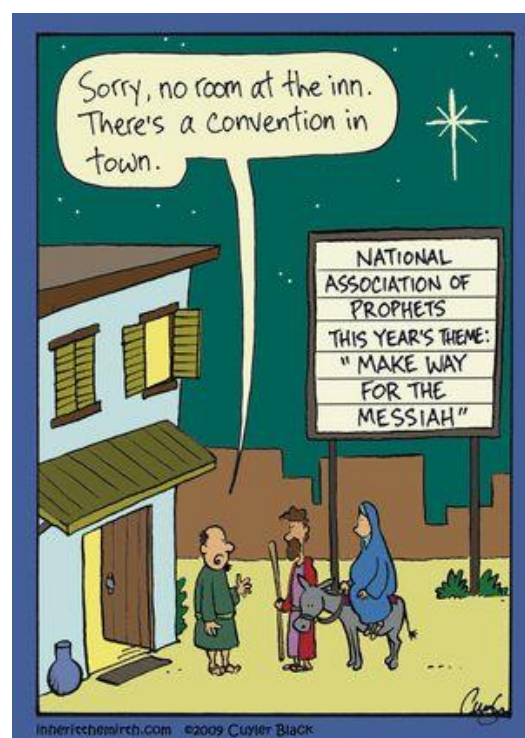
Rudolph chimed in, “It’s definitely rain, Jane.”

“No, I really think it’s sleet, Rudolph” said Jane.

“Don’t argue with the expert, Jane,” said Pete.

“What do you mean, Pete?” asked Jane.

Pete replied, “Rudolph the Red knows rain, Dear.”

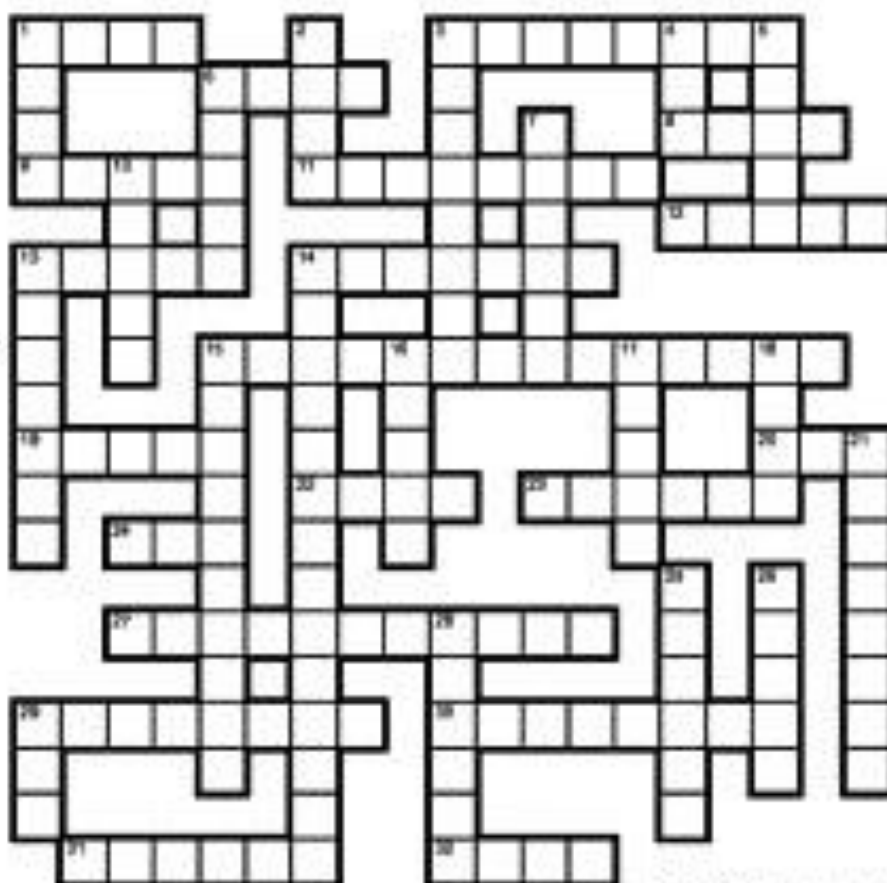


CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Transportation for going over snow (4)
- 3 Mixture of seasoned ingredients (8)
- 6 Baby's bed (4)
- 8 Period from December 24th to January 6th (4)
- 9 Red-breasted bird (5)
- 11 Twelve days after Christmas (8)
- 12 Alcoholic drink normally served in a bowl (5)
- 13 Jolly (5)
- 14 News (7)
- 15 Goes with the turkey (9,5)

- 19 A type of tree used at Christmas (5)
- 20 The colour of Santa's hat (3)
- 22 ____ log; traditionally burned at Christmas (4)
- 23 Sanctified (6)
- 24 Cured leg of pork (3)
- 27 Christmas song (6,5)
- 29 Found under the Christmas tree? (8)
- 30 Grace (8)
- 31 Snow falls in this season (6)
- 32 Given at Christmas (4)



BiblePuzzles.org.uk

Down

- 1 Bright celestial body (4)
- 2 Christmas tree type (4)
- 3 Take aback (8)
- 4 No room here! (3)
- 5 Elvish colour (5)
- 6 Sweets; flavoured sugar (5)
- 7 Container usually found in a stable (6)
- 10 Beginning of life (5)
- 13 Amazing event (7)
- 14 Written after Christmas? (5,3,6)
- 15 Formal events (10)
- 16 Ring out from churches (5)
- 17 Accompaniment for food (5)
- 18 Printed or written greeting (4)
- 21 Month in which Christmas falls (8)
- 25 Nature of God (6)
- 26 One was born in Bethlehem (5)
- 28 Sweetened milk drink, with eggs and alcohol (6)
- 29 Pastry dish (3)

Christmas

Birth of Jesus Word Search

N	K	H	F	O	S	H	I	N	I	N	G	Z	I	P
C	C	I	D	R	J	G	W	T	V	R	K	M	V	P
T	Q	H	V	A	A	K	G	A	B	R	I	E	L	W
C	W	Q	W	M	A	N	G	E	R	S	N	S	N	L
D	X	O	L	E	Y	P	K	L	Z	T	G	S	M	C
O	L	J	L	H	N	R	G	I	F	T	S	I	Q	U
I	W	O	E	E	K	I	R	S	N	G	W	A	S	W
N	T	R	G	L	M	E	J	H	C	C	Y	H	D	I
N	U	S	N	H	S	O	K	E	G	J	E	S	U	S
K	R	R	A	T	S	X	N	P	F	E	K	N	L	E
E	F	C	A	E	Q	S	I	H	P	Q	N	X	S	M
E	Z	B	P	B	U	O	G	E	A	Y	O	V	A	E
P	L	H	V	S	Q	Y	H	R	M	Q	D	R	E	N
E	F	G	L	Q	K	G	T	D	Q	H	Y	B	A	B
R	D	O	G	F	O	N	O	S	I	O	R	N	M	M

ANGEL
BABY
BETHLEHEM
CENSUS
DONKEY
EAST
FRANKINCENSE

GABRIEL
GIFTS
GOLD
INNKEEPER
JESUS
JOSEPH
KINGS

MAGI
MANGER
MARY
MESSIAH
MYRRH
NIGHT
SHEEP

SHEPHERDS
SHINING
SON OF GOD
STABLE
STAR
STRAW
WISE MEN

BiblePuzzles.com

Carols in the Park

**Sunday 12th December
Aylestone Hall Gardens
Starting at 4.30pm**

"Celebrate the Christmas Story,
With music accompanied by
Southfields Brass Band
Bring a Torch....

Free Hot Drinks & Mince Pies will be available.
"Donations to Local Charities Welcomed"



www.aylestonebaptistchurch.org.uk

Meditation on Christmas Eve

Night has fallen; the clear, bright stars are sparkling in the cold air; noisy strident voices rise to my ear from the city, voices of the revellers of this world who celebrate with merrymaking the poverty of their Saviour.

Around me in their rooms my companions are asleep, and I am still wakeful, thinking of the mystery of Bethlehem.

Come, come, Jesus, I await you.

Mary and Joseph, knowing the hour is near, are turned away by the townsfolk and go into the fields to look for a shelter. I am a poor shepherd, I have only a wretched stable, a small manger, some wisps of straw. I offer all these to you, be pleased to come into my poor hovel. I offer you my heart; my soul is poor and bare of virtues, the straws of so many imperfections will prick you and make you weep - but oh, my Lord, what can you expect? This little is all I have. I am touched by your poverty, I am moved to tears, but I have nothing better to offer you, Jesus, honour my soul with your presence, adorn it with your graces. Burn this straw and change it into a soft couch for your most holy body.

Jesus, I am here waiting for your coming. Wicked men have driven you out, and the wind is like ice. I am a poor man, but I will warm you as well as I can. At least be pleased that I wish to welcome you warmly, to love you and sacrifice myself for you.



(These moving words were written on Christmas Eve, 1902 by a young Italian named Angelo Guiseppe Roncalli, who was studying for the priesthood in Rome. Two years later he graduated as a Doctor in Theology and was Ordained. The world now remembers him as Pope John XX111.)

Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Rev. Will Hall

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities

Sunday

10.00am Morning Service / Junior Church / Crèche Facilities
Communion on the third Sunday of each month

Tuesday

11.00am 3rd Age Tuesday Fellowship & Bible Study (Fortnightly)

Thursday

11.00am Community Lunch Club (Fortnightly)

11.00am The Open House. For the over 50's (Fortnightly)

 **Loop System Installed**

 **Wheel Chair Access**

 **Facilities**

Church Membership, Baptism, Infants Dedication, Weddings, Funerals, House Groups, Community Lunch Club, The Open House, & Messy Church.

To find out more about church membership, Baptism, etc. Or any of the activities

Contact our minister Rev. Will Hall via email:

aylestonebc@gmail.com

VISIT OUR WESITE

www.aylestonebaptistchurch.org.uk