

GBC NEWS UPDATE 2021



News and views from Guiseley Baptist Church - March



... from Gill

Spring has always been my favourite time of year. Watching new buds appearing on apparently dry twigs, blossom filling the trees, daffodils colouring the gardens, lambs jumping in the fields, being able to finally open windows and hang washing on the line. Spring brings a real sense of hope, of new life and a fresh start.

This year I think we're all a bit nervous, not sure whether to go ahead and plan anything in case we're left disappointed. We get excited by the slightest things, I know I'm really looking forward to meeting up with friends in gardens, perhaps initially wrapped in a blanket, to enjoy a cup of tea and a long-overdue natter. Zoom and phone calls are OK, but it's just not the same as a face to face chat is it?

This Easter, we celebrate the new life offered to us by the one who is even greater than death. As we read in Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I pray that you will know the reality of God's love and hope this Easter.

... from Micky

As I write this greeting the world seems quiet and reflective. Today, it is a year since the first national lockdown was announced and too many are caught in memories of lost loved ones, frustration and what could have been. We all have our stories and I'm sure we are all tired of carrying the burden of the last year. Even so I am heartened to hear stories of individuals who stood up, sacrificed, held others and generally kept their head up and carried on.

There is something of that idea in the story of the resurrection, for we see there a supreme demonstration of the God who cannot be kept down. The enemies of Jesus had conspired against him, hatred had done its worst, but the love of God could not be kept down. Christ was risen! It's as true today as ever; ultimately there is nothing and no one that can frustrate the will of God. Though many may still try and sometimes seem to succeed, ours is a God who will finally triumph, and who gives us the victory in turn.

May we be encouraged this Easter as we face up to the limitations and restrictions of our day, and remember that nothing can stand between us and the love of God in Christ.

Easter services

Good Friday

At 10.30am on Good Friday we gather together on Zoom for an hour of prayer and worship as we reflect on Christ's journey to the cross. Zoom details will be sent via PrayerNet before the service.

Easter Sunday

Once again our Easter Sunday service will be held online. So join with sisters and brothers in Christ, bring a friend and gather at 10.30am, in front of your screens, wherever and however you can. May the remembrance of Christ's resurrection bring us together in hope and celebration. A Zoom get together will follow the service as always.

April special church meeting & AGM

Our April online church meeting will be important for us. As well as our Annual General Meeting, when we appoint people to key roles in the church, this meeting has been designated a **special church meeting**.

At our meeting in February the issue of updating our church constitution to enable us to continue with online meetings for both trustees' meetings and members' meetings, if required, was raised. The general view from the meeting was in favour of making the amendments. Since then, the ministers and trustees have gathered to progress this and will shortly send out a revised constitution and accompanying letter for you to consider before the meeting on 21st April.

As always the meeting will be open to members and non-members alike, but if you are a member it is important that you make every effort to participate. An agenda and Zoom login details will be sent out in due course.

GBC's Friday donation collection point

Reminder: Every Friday between 10am and 1pm the front doors of the church building are open for your donation, whether it is a digital device or much needed food/other essentials for the Bradford North Foodbank.

All recent Sunday services can be viewed at - www.guiseleybaptistchurch.co.uk

New audio visual equipment for GBC

Thank you to those of you who have contributed toward the cost of purchasing new audio visual equipment for GBC. The equipment is being ordered at the moment and once operational will enable us to record and present the activities of the church, and importantly the good news of Jesus, in more effective ways.

GBC justice group

As outlined in our February newsletter, we're proposing to set up a group for anyone interested in promoting justice at a local, national and international level. This will be an opportunity for people to share their ideas and concerns so we can decide if and how we as a church might respond. If you'd be interested in being part of the conversation, please speak to Gill or Micky.

GBC House groups

MONDAY

Women's prayer group

Caroline Wallace
- tel. 07976 799229

Greenshaw Terrace women's group

Joanna Sugden - tel. 01943 871298

Silverdale group

Micky Munroe - tel. 01943 512394

TUESDAY

Ridgeway group

Mike & Ruth Smith
- tel. 07590 266476

Queensway group

Rosemary Stephenson
- tel. 07514 697357

Pendragon Terrace group

Lee Phillips - tel. 01943 875799

WEDNESDAY

Young Adults group (17yrs +)

Micky Munroe - tel. 01943 512394

Hawkstone Ave Men's group

Steve Allen - tel. 01943 510653

Menston group

Jenny & Philip Lerman
- tel. 01943 870306

THURSDAY

Hillway group

Allan Stewart - tel. 01943 969322



Welcome to Noah!

Congratulations to Jess and Joe Millar on the birth of their son Noah Joshua on 12th March. Noah weighed in at 8lb 1oz and is doing well. Please pray for Jess and Joe as they adapt to their new life as parents to this lovely little boy.

Anne Booth

Our beloved sister in Christ, Anne Booth, went to be with her heavenly father early on Sunday 28th March. Her son, Michael, and daughter in law, Joyce, were by her side when she died. Her passing was peaceful.

Anne will be hugely missed by many. Let's pray that Anne's family will know God's love and comfort at this sad time. News regarding a funeral will follow.

Should you require support from our ministers, or just a chat to catch up, Micky, Gill & Joe can still be contacted in the usual way:

- **Micky** - 07828 189762
micky.munroe@guiseleybaptistchurch.co.uk
- **Gill** - 07856 003219
gill.thurgood@guiseleybaptistchurch.co.uk
- **Joe** - 07761 927981
joe.millar@guiseleybaptistchurch.co.uk

Questions about church finance & giving?

If you would like to discuss, in confidence, any financial matter relating to GBC, please contact our treasurer Allan Stewart on: Tel. 07884 970488 or email at allan.stewart@guiseleybaptistchurch.co.uk

Together on Sunday

GBC Kids Service

Available every Sunday from 10.15am on our Youtube channel alongside the weekly films and challenges. Search **GBC Kids and Youth** to check it out!



Streaming our online service on Facebook, 10.30am, every Sunday and available on our Youtube channel
Just search for Guiseley Baptist Church

Catch up with GBC friends every Sunday on Zoom

Directly after the Sunday online service, usually around 11.15am, you are welcome to join friends for a virtual get together over Zoom. The invitation is available each week, via Prayernet and the Facebook group. If you haven't tried it before do come along - sadly coffee is not provided!

How about you?

Have you got a story to share? Maybe a picture or a piece of news we can feature in GBC's monthly newsletter? If so, we'd love to hear from you. Just contact Gill or Micky

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Church meeting dates for 2021

- Wednesday 21st April, 7.30pm (AGM)
- Tuesday 13th July, 7.30pm
- Tuesday 5th October, 7.30pm

While social distancing is required and restrictions on physical gatherings are in place our meetings will be hosted using Zoom virtual technology.

For prayer support from the GBC family send your requests to:

prayernet@guiseleybaptistchurch.co.uk