**MANOR** 

**COURT** 

**BAPTIST CHURCH** 

**CIRCULAR** 

August 2021







Ordinary people learning to follow an extraordinary God!

Manor Court Baptist Church
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#### Pastor:

Rev Jonathan Bugg His day off is Friday Contact: Pastor@mcbc.org.uk

# Foodbank and Church open for private prayer

Monday & Thursday 10.30-12.00

#### WE HAVE 5 CORE VALUES:

WORSHIPPING

Jesus at the centre

DISCIPLING

Every member growing

MINISTERING

Everyone using their gifts

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Open, honest relationships

REACHING OUT

Reaching out into the community

Apologies but September magazine will be late next month due to holidays.

Yvonne.mead@mcbc.org.uk

"new normal"

That seems to be the buzz word at the moment....

Replacing "unprecedented"



which was used by politicians, health professionals and news reporters to describe the global phenomenon of the Covid pandemic....Unprecedented need for isolation, unprecedented level of fear, unprecedented measures by government, and so it went on.

But for all the negative news, and the stressful times, we also celebrated so many everyday people stepping up and reaching out to help those in need...restaurants that had to close using their resources to provide meals for NHS workers, newly formed charities helped to collect and deliver supplies to vulnerable people, and the wonderful captain Sir Tom who at the age of 99 set out to raise £1,000 for NHS Charities by walking 100 laps of his garden and ended up raising almost £33 m everyday ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

It would be wonderful to hope that as we move into a "new normal " that society will be kinder and gentler, that people will have enjoyed the unpolluted air so much they will want to travel less, spend more time with family and neighbours. I wish I thought it were true. I fear however that once all restrictions are lifted there will be a rush to start up again and in all sorts of ways that is right and proper.

So as we as a church community look forwards how do we walk into recovery?

### "He guides me along Right paths " psalm 23

God's road to recovery involves trusting and following him. Jesus as our good shepherd knows the paths of this world that lead to healing and freedom, that take us to good pastures and still waters. As the tide of the pandemic goes out we will naturally reflect where it has left us and what it has left behind in our lives.

For many of us this will be a place that we wouldn't have chosen and in which we recognise the brokenness in our lives. The question is what or who do we put our trust in to lead us forward? And as a church how can we be God's hands of compassion to care for people?

We have an opportunity address issues that lockdown revealed such as loneliness and isolation and our need of one another. The fact that our country has a government minister for loneliness says it all.

Mother Teresa once said..."The greatest disease of the West today is not TB or leprosy, it is being unwanted, unloved and uncared for. We can cure physical diseases with medicine, but the only cure for loneliness, despair and hopelessness is love. There are many in this world who are dying for a piece of bread but there are many more dying for a little love. The poverty in the West is a different kind of poverty ...it is not a poverty of loneliness but also of spirituality. There is a hunger for love, and there is a hunger for God."

As we start out on our journey into the new normal...lets embrace the changes, and let us ask God to open up new doors for us to make a difference in our everyday lives remembering that in our "new different "we need to be the change we want to see.







#### Notes from the church meeting held on Zoom on 22nd July

(These are the editors notes only and do not replace the minutes that will be distributed as usual)



Terry reported on the three months April-June

Income and expenditure are pretty much balanced mostly due to the added income from the council using our premises as a base for the Surge testing also we have received a grant towards training costs and also a grant to enable us to pay a Grant Application Bid writer to submit grant applications for us.

Roy reported that now the architects have drawn up the plans for the renovation work we can submit them to the planning authorities, once approved we can then go onto requesting more detailed building specifications to allow the work to go out for tender. All in all we are making slow but steady progress







Children's church has been back for 3 weeks now, following risk assessment there is no Crèche at present and in the short term the young people are going straight through to their groups and staying there for the full service to reduce unnecessary mixing.

Bev advised they are in need of more helpers which would also then allow more children to attend

Also if anyone felt that rather than be a regular part of the team they could be available as and when to cover any members of the of team that have been " pinged" that would be great. Terry reported that he is still acting as Debt Centre Manager until his retirement. The post has been advertised but to date no-one has formally applied. He has had I new client recently.

Reduction in referrals is a national issue, possibly due to people not dealing with debt.





Pam advised that Terry has applied for the Job Club manager post and he has been proposed to CAP to go through their process of application and interview. Hopefully he will be in post by January.

We are still in need of voluntary coaches to support the Job club manager role. Ideally it would be great to have a male and a female coach on the team. Please speak to Pam or Terry if you are interested.

Pam reported that she is enjoying covering the rota but would really welcome someone who would like to take over as organiser of the rota.

We have a number of gaps on the rota for anyone who would like to provide the church flower on a Sunday. Please tie in with Pam for more details.





Following the change in restrictions we are fully open for worship. The admin team have met and proposed a set of suggestions to adopt.....which were agreed on

- Booking in no longer necessary just come along on the morning.
- Singing by the congregation is welcomed
- We will continue to record names of attendees for track and trace purposes.
- Hand sanitiser stations will continue to be available and adequate ventilation.
- There will be more chairs but you still can still socially distance.
- We are encouraging the continued wearing of masks as an act of love towards those we will be fellowshipping with who remain vulnerable or anxious.



Saturday 25th September 8.00pm

You are invited to join us for our big annual event this September: an amazing evening of worship, prayer and stories of courageous faith and hope as we celebrate Standing Strong LIVE online!

We will be joined by Brother Sam\* from India, Taher\* and his family from the Middle East and Father Araam from Iraq as they share how God is at work in the midst of difficult and dangerous circumstances – and how your prayers and support are keeping the church alive.

Our theme this year is TOGETHER, and while we won't be gathering as one body, we can still come together to watch, pray and, worship as family, friends, churches and small groups. This is a freedom that millions of our persecuted family do not have, and so we will stand with them in solidarity, that, as Christ's body, 'we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith' (Romans 1:12).

## Young People & Youth Leaders Friday 24th September 7.15pm

And this year, for the first time ever, young people and youth leaders will also be able to attend their own special Standing Strong LIVE event — Standing Strong: Brave Faith — and get inspired by the courage and perseverance of the persecuted church.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to hear first-hand stories of the hope we all share in Christ from our persecuted church family.

\*name changed for security reasons

Free Tickets available online at Eventbrite Standing Strong live registration



# The Vine Christian Bookshop The Borough Hinckley Leicestershire

We are a lovely little coffee shop and Christian bookshop in the heart of Hinckley town centre, selling books, cards, gifts, fairtrade food, hot & cold drinks, snacks, cakes and lunches. We are run by volunteers and provide a lovely space to bring people together and show the love of Jesus.

As the covid regulations have now been lifted it is now up to individual businesses as to what precautions they continue to take. Here at The Vine, we are keeping most of our precautions in place and prefer that customers continue to wear masks when they are moving around the premises.

We have kept our social distancing signs up and are not putting any more tables on the coffee shop floor just yet. We are able to return to a counter service again for the coffee shop and ask that customers entering the building "give way" to anyone exiting it. We recommend that customers continue to either check in via the NHS Covid 19 app or leave their name and contact number with us - you won't be asked to self-isolate through doing this - if cases are found to have been at The Vine, you'll just be asked to do a lateral flow test.

For those of you who take the BRF or CWR bible reading notes, the new editions that begins in September are now in stock. If you are not currently using any daily bible study guides and would like to try some, we always have plenty of extra copies so do drop in for a browse.

We are looking forward to opening once again on Saturdays - this will resume on September 4th when our Saturday opening will be from 9am - 2pm.

The Vine will be closed for one day on Thursday 12th August due to staff absence and we apologise for any inconvenience.

We look forward to welcoming you again soon.

**God Bless** 

Jessica Harrison

Manager

#### Nuneaton & Bedworth - CAP - Prayer Update

- Pray for clients who have rent arrears as the Covid Restrictions are lifted and Land Lords are allowed to take tenants to court again, to obtain evictions.
- Pray for more clients to book for Debt Counselling support. I currently have capacity for 3 new clients a month.
- Praise God for a client who has been supported by CAP for over 3
  years, who has finally become Debt Free this year.
- Pray for a good attendance at the Kick Start Coffee mornings at MCBC which will now restart one month later than planned due to Covid restrictions staying in place longer.

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug, 11am – 12noon – Lifting Financial Pressure Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Sept, 11am – 12noon - Making your money go further

- Pray for more people to volunteer as befrienders. Especially men who can be linked up with male clients in Nuneaton & Bedworth.
- Pray for the planning of our 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations on CAP Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Nov. Praise God for his faithfulness over the past 10 years as we have seen clients come to faith and known the privilege of seeing so many clients become debt free over the years.
- Praise God for the progress we are making in preparing to start a
  CAP Job Club in January 2022. Names have been put forward to
  CAP for a potential Job Club Manager & Job Club Coach. These are
  both male so the prayer now is that some ladies will be interesting
  in being trained to be Job Club Coaches in November as well so we
  get a more balanced team.

Thanks for your prayers: Terry Salter. Debt Centre Manager – Nuneaton & Bedworth



#### August prayer points ....

Our God reigns and His Kingdom rules!

- Thank God that He is still in control and we need to continue to trust Him in the uncertainties that remain in our lives.
- Thank God that restrictions are lifting and that we can meet with family and friends.
- Thank God for the joy of worshipping together in church face to face and being able to sing God's praises.
- Thank God for our children and young peoples' work happening on Sunday mornings and for all the leaders and helpers involved.
- Give thanks to God that Tuesday Fellowship will be restarting in September, pray that those attending will feel safe and confident.
- Pray for those who still feel nervous about going out and meeting people.
- Pray for our church activities as the leaders plan for when and how to restart.
- Pray for the consultation process we are beginning about evening services not restarting and something new offered during the week.
- Please continue to pray for our leadership team that God would bless, refresh and guide them as they seek His will for us as a fellowship
- Please pray for their Business meeting on Aug 5th and their Deacons prayer meeting on 19th August .





Just wanted to say a huge thank you to all our family and friends for your love and support over these last few weeks.

Moved home, welcomed our first grandson into the world and had a birthday.

It's been busy but an amazing time.

Colin & Wendy xx





Huge congratulations to Abbie Winson who has just graduated from Art University Bournemouth with a degree in Illustration, we are all so proud of you.

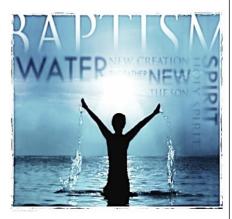
We are excited to see where God takes you next..

# Memories of a wonderful day....71 years ago

Sunday 30th July 1950

A young man called Trevor Bailey declared his faith and went down into the waters of baptism at Manor Court Baptist church, and today thanks God for His blessings over the years.

We celebrate with you Trevor





#### **DEACONS ELECTIONS 2021**

We will be electing deacons at the church AGM on 23rd September (please note the change in date from 16th September)

Nomination forms will be available from the Roger Gadsby (church secretary) from 22 July 2021.

Nominations forms have to be received not later than 3 Sundays before that date. This means that **nominations close on Sunday 5th September 2021.** 

There are 5 vacant places on the leadership team.

In addition: Of the current seven elected deacons, four of them, Sonja, Pam, Lynne & Terry finish their current 3 years of service in September. They would all be eligible to stand again for a further 3 years if willing.

This makes a further 4 nominations available.

As our constitution allows for up to 12 elected deacons, there are spaces for up to 9 deacons to be elected in September.

Please be praying about who you feel God is asking you to nominate as we need more deacons to share the work and responsibility of leadership and have 9 potential places that could be filled.

Please pray for those who are eligible to restand for a further 3 years

Please also pray for the existing leadership team as the last 15 months has been not been easy and have taken their toll.

# here2help

## "Christian love shown through action"

The new Nuneaton based charity Christians Here 2 Help held its Launch Event at Saints Nuneaton on Monday 26th July.

"We are a new charity wanting to make a practical difference to those in need. We are looking for an army of volunteers with high class practical skills who have a couple of hours a week available to help others with tasks such as decorating, gardening, DIY etc. "



"We will cover your expenses, make sure you are insured and are safe and will support you. We will not ask more than you are willing to give. If you want to be involved in an exciting new venture that will make a difference to others then get in contact"



Terry.salter@talk21.com Phone: 07811593319

Janetdownmbe@gmail.com 07947898220

Maggieshowler@yahoo.com

For more information about the charity how to volunteer or how to make a referral Visit our website https://here2helpcharity.co.uk



### Join us for the 4th National Big Church Read starting 8th September

The Big Church read is churches or individuals coming together and committing to reading through a chosen book over a number of weeks following a reading plan. It is totally free and each week you can go online and access a video where the author of the chosen book will talk you through the themes for that week <a href="https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/">https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/</a>) and you can also link up with others online to discuss . Click to <a href="https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/">Get your free resources here!</a>



# Bouncing Forward : Notes on courage, resilience and change

By Patrick Regan

Author of When faith gets shaken & other titles

#### You'll bounce back.....

How many of us have heard these well-meaning words when faced with mental or physical health challenges, trauma or the loss of dreams? And yet, life's battles can leave us scarred and changed. Why would we want to go back when what we've been through has taught us so much?

It's time to bounce *forwards* instead.

In *Bouncing Forwards* Patrick draws on his own journey of making peace with his on-going anxiety, to look honestly and vulnerably at the temptation to wait for the day when all will be well whilst missing out on what's happening in the here and now. Exploring resilience, acceptance and emotional agility, Patrick shows how we can find meaning in some of life's toughest moments and the hope to journey on.



#### Saints Nuneaton

### Summer staycations

# Saints

#### 5th August –1st September

We are pleased to announce that we are running our Summer Staycation for families over the summer holidays. This is part of the council's HAF programme, and there will be bookable spaces available for eligible children with HAF codes. We are partnering with our friends at YWAM and running the event at two locations, our building in Nuneaton town centre, and the YWAM building 'The Kings Lodge' on Watling Street.

To view each date we are running the staycation, and to book on, please follow this link to our Eventbrite page: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/saints-nuneaton-33472368837">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/saints-nuneaton-33472368837</a>

#### Tuesdays and Thursdays at YWAM The Kings Lodge - 10.30am-2.30pm

A big welcome to the beautiful grounds of the King's Lodge. Plenty of space to run around in and play football, enjoy the wood, play on inflatables and taste delicious food. On some days there will be animals to meet and pet. On other days try circus skills, willow weaving, drama games with Manna Arts. If you are worried about getting to this venue, please get in touch with us after booking by emailing admin@saintsnuneaton.org and we can arrange a free bus pass for you.

### Wednesdays and Fridays at Saints Nuneaton – 10.30am-2.30pm

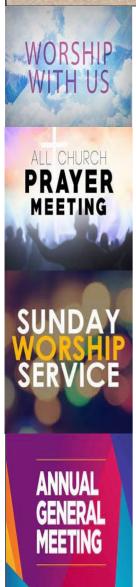
Come to Saints and enjoy our fun, friendly event. We will have two main exciting workshops per day, as well as healthy snack making, outdoor games, inflatables and crafts. Plus a chill out zone, with relaxing activities and sensory play. Children must be accompanied by an adult during the event, but don't worry grown ups - you can relax in our cosy coffee shop and watch the kids from afar with a cuppa, or get stuck in yourselves

Not got a HAF code ?You can still drop in to Saints during the events without booking as we will still have plenty to get involved with including inflatables, outdoor activities and a children's play area that will be free to any child! As we have so much space over at the Kings Lodge, there are also places to book a day there without a HAF code.

We can't wait to see you at our family events. (see back page)

## DON'T FORGET TO





Please join us for our twice monthly Worship and Prayer meetings .

There will be an opportunity to come together in a time of worship from 7.00-7.30pm

This will then lead into a time of prayer from 7.30pm

Dates are: 12th & 26th August

\*\*Meetings will hopefully be "hybrid" i.e face to face and on Zoom (technology permitting)

#### Services starts at 10.45am

WE are fully open for worship no need to book just come along

And are available live or catch up on Facebook and YouTube

Please note the change of date from 16th September

To:23rd September

Thursday at 7.45pm

To include Deacons elections

The last Church meeting for the year will be

Thursday 18th November

