

Hertford  Baptist Church



**WINTER 2017 MAGAZINE**

Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ

### The Night before Christmas

With thanks to Clement Clarke Moore  
(1823)

'Twas the night before Christmas and all  
through the Inn,  
People were everywhere, making a din.  
Some by the chimney and some on the stair  
Just to fill in the census and get out of there.

The lucky ones nestled all snug in their beds,  
While fear of the Romans coursed right through  
their heads.

The order had come through to sign up for tax  
In each one's home town before then getting  
back.

Then outside the inn there arose such a clatter  
The innkeeper ran to see what was the matter.  
What should he see when he opened the door  
But Mary and Joseph, exhausted and poor.

"Can you give us a room for the night?" Joseph  
pleaded.

"We're tired, she's pregnant and shelter is  
needed."

But what room could the innkeeper make for  
these two?

The inn was so full, there was nothing to do.

He readied himself to turn them away,  
Though he knew that they needed somewhere  
to stay;

To go into the night could put them in danger  
And then he remembered that room with the  
manger.

It wasn't that nice; no chairs, bed or table.  
It wasn't much more than their own household  
stable.

"I can't offer much," the innkeeper sighed.

"But I do have one place you can shelter inside."

He said, "Come with me" as he walked out the  
door

And went 'round the back to a cave filled with  
straw.

"You will have to share with the animals too,  
But the town is so full it's the best I can do."



So, Mary and Joseph lay down for the night  
But struggled to sleep, for a glorious light  
Shone out of the heavens right up in the sky,  
It puzzled her greatly, and then she knew why.

"The baby is coming. I'm about to give birth.  
This surely can't be where he's coming to earth.  
This child, son of God, I was told would be king  
A stable can't be where his time should begin."

Sure enough, on that night, her baby was born  
And laid in the manger in clothes she had worn,  
Her son would begin with the humblest of starts  
Before reaching and healing the meanest of  
hearts.

Just outside the town on the darkest of hills  
Some shepherds were keeping their sheep free  
from ills;  
God's angel appeared bringing news of great joy  
And all of it centred on this new-born boy.

"He will be a Saviour, he is Christ the Lord.  
He will bring the peace that is promised from  
God."

The choirs of angels then filled up the sky  
And sang praise and glory to God most high.

The shepherds went down to where Jesus lay  
A tiny new baby asleep in the hay.  
They told what they'd seen and amazed  
everyone  
With the peace that was theirs through this one  
special son

The same peace can be known in our lives today  
If we find space for Jesus and follow his way.  
The new life he gives us can bring us good cheer.  
Happy Christmas to all and a happy new year!

*Dave*

## Church Family News



### **Janet Gilbert:**

Thank you to the church family for the lovely flowers that were delivered to me after my recent knee

replacement operation. I also send my thanks to those friends who telephoned, visited, sent cards and prayed for me during my recovery, which has gone amazingly well. All were greatly appreciated, and I feel truly blessed.

### **Colin and Ann Broomfield:**

We would like to thank our many friends from church who helped so much in their recent spells of illness. Ann is very grateful for the flowers and practical help she received during her recent operation, and Colin was really blessed by the large number of friends who assisted him in travelling to the hospital, and by providing a variety of excellent conversation during the journey, which made the whole process much more bearable. Truly our fellowship has once again shown their love in time of need.

### **Kathy Ward:**

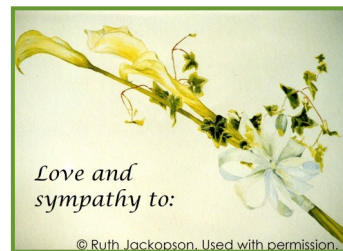
#### **Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal**

A big thank you to everyone who contributed shoeboxes, made donations or gave individual filler items. At the time of this newsletter deadline 75 shoeboxes and a record amount of individual filler items had gone from HBC to the warehouse in Harlow. Filler donations ensure that every box sent out has a similar amount of contents, so the many hats, scarves, gloves, pens & pencils, notebooks, sweets, soap, toothbrushes & toothpaste, and small toys from HBC will help make this possible. On 27 November a container full of 8,000 shoeboxes left for Liberia and this will have included some of the shoeboxes from HBC. Consignments will be sent to Latvia and Ukraine later.



**Howard and Kathy Ward**, who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

**Mike and Ruth** on the birth of a grandson – to Alice and Matthew.



**Frances Connolly** on the death of her brother, Charlie.

**Alison and John Low, Asta and Kelda** on the death of Alison's father.

**Richard Littledale, Joseph, Jonathan and Luke** on the death of Fiona.

**Graham and Alison** on the death of their mother, Elsie Spicer.

**The family of John Read**, who was a regular attendee at Golden Lunch.

**The family of Jan Roberts**, a former member of our church, who has passed away.



For prayer...

**Trevor and Beth Robinson and family**, as they settle into their new home in Derbyshire.

**Vicki Stanley and Ashley Townsend** for their upcoming wedding.

**Paul and Wilma Davies** for guidance about their future as their time working for All Nations draws to a close.

May the God of HOPE fill you  
WITH all JOY & PEACE ROMANS 15 : 13



## Christmas at Hertford Baptist Church

### Carols by Candlelight

17<sup>th</sup> December

4:30pm

A carol service for all the family with plenty to help children capture the wonder of Christmas. Includes British Sign Language interpretation.

6:30pm

A mix of carols, readings and a few surprises as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ together

### Crib service

24<sup>th</sup> December

3:30pm

Bring your little ones to gather around the manger. This short service, (for families with children aged 5 and under), will use songs, puppets and stories to show why Jesus' birthday is so exciting.



### Christmas Morning

25<sup>th</sup> December

9:30am & 10:45am

The birth of every child is exciting. Come and join us as we celebrate the birth of a child who would go on to bring joy and peace.

A Christmas celebration for all ages.



**Alpha** is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone's welcome. It runs in cafés, churches, universities, homes—you name it. No two Alphas look the same, but generally they have three key things in common: food, a talk and good conversation.

### ***There's food...***

Whether it's a group of friends gathered around a kitchen table or a quick catch up over coffee and cake, food has a way of bringing people together. It's no different at Alpha. Most sessions start with food because it's a great way to build community and get to know each other. Here at HBC, we enjoy a good home-made two course meal prepared by a variety of teams from around the church.

### ***There's a talk...***

The talks are designed to engage and inspire conversation. Usually around thirty minutes long and delivered over about eleven weeks, they are DVD presentations. They explore the big issues around faith and unpack the basics of Christianity, addressing questions from *Who is Jesus?* and *How can we have faith?* to *Why and how do I pray?* and *How does God guide us?* as well as challenging questions around sickness, suffering and where God is in it all.

### ***There's good conversation...***

Probably the most important part of any Alpha: the chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic, and simply discuss it in a small group. There's no obligation to say anything and there's nothing you can't say (seriously). It's an opportunity to hear from others and contribute your own perspective in an honest, friendly and open environment.

Plans are gearing up for our next Alpha Course at HBC. It begins on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January** at 7pm with the Alpha Supper. This is an introductory session designed to give people a taste before signing up for the course and a great opportunity to invite a friend along to. There is a sign up sheet for the Supper on the church noticeboard!

We look forward to exploring life, purpose and meaning together!

For more details, contact Andrew Clark at [andrew.clark@herfordbaptist.org.uk](mailto:andrew.clark@herfordbaptist.org.uk) or by calling the church office.



I thought I'd write a poem to let you know about all the things I love about Christmas.



I  
Love  
All the joy  
Of Christmas.

I  
Love to  
See the presents  
Under the Christmas tree.

I love to  
See the bright  
Lights on homes, in shops  
And to see the decoration everywhere  
And to hear the Christmas music playing everywhere.

I love to see  
The love of my friends  
And my family all around me;  
Love shown in presents given and received,  
Love shown in laughter around the Christmas lunch.

I love to know  
The love that God showed  
When he gave the most precious gift of all.  
He gave us his only son as the baby boy in Bethlehem.  
He was born to give us a new birthday, a brand-new start in life. I

Love  
Loving  
Christmas.

**Sally**

## From the fellowship...

### Church flowers

Thank you to everyone who has provided flowers for the church each Sunday this year. Thank you also to those who have arranged them and others who have come in on Mondays, made them into bouquets and taken them to members of the fellowship as an expression of love, sympathy or encouragement, or to congratulate them on a special event.



A "Flower Calendar" for 2018 is on the notice board in the foyer and if you would like to provide flowers one Sunday (or more!) please put your name by your chosen date. If you can come and arrange the flowers yourself, that would be most welcome, but if you don't feel you can do that, for whatever reason, you can give a donation which will be passed on to someone who will buy and arrange the flowers for you – the church office will contact you a week or so beforehand so we can work out how to pass your donation to the arranger.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the church office.

Thank you.

Heather

### There's a new Editor in town!

Andy Collins tells us more....

After fulfilling the temporary (2 year!) position as Editor for the Church Magazine, I am handing over the reins to Christy Sunman (email: [newsletter@herfordbaptist.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@herfordbaptist.org.uk)).

The transition from monthly newsletter to quarterly magazine has been a relatively smooth one, and I am very grateful to those who have provided support with one off, or more regular, items that (I hope!) have entertained and informed.

Thank you to those of you who have provided feedback (whether positive or 'constructive'). I have always tried to take the comments on board as we have developed this different approach to communicating within the fellowship and beyond our walls.

So, many thanks to Christy for taking on this important role; I'm sure she'll do a great job. All I ask is that you please give her the same level of support that I have enjoyed – it can be a very lonely place when you're staring at a blank page with nothing to put on it!

Thanks again.

Andy

## From the Plain in Spain...

Dear Prayer Partners for Spain and the Barretts,

**Pray for Rain in Spain:** please pray for rain, Spain is experiencing one of the worst droughts in 20 years. Everything is tinder dry, the reservoirs are very low and the water authorities are having to determine which agricultural sectors will be allowed water for irrigation.



**Ken and Alison Barrett**

**Pray for Brain in Spain and Catalunya:** following the attempts of the Catalan people to force independence from Spain this autumn, please pray for the legal elections being organised for 21 December. Pray against corruption among politicians of all persuasions, for unity among Christians and that this crisis may open people's hearts to their need for Jesus Christ.

**Open air ministry:** we have just celebrated 2 years of having an evangelistic team on the street in Alcalá, and we continue to make the most of the dry weather to preach in a number of locations.

**The testing of our faith** often comes when those close to us face life-threatening illness. Please pray for Jacob and Julie Bock: the doctors are not going to give Julie any more chemotherapy as it is doing more harm than good. Julie remains determined to manifest the 'life of the Lord' both in evangelism and among the teams, and shares her confidence that the Lord always has the last word and that's good, whatever it is.

**Flying a desk:** ministry preparation has taken a fair amount of Ken's time recently. He has been preparing to teach in Peru in January (History of the Church, History of the Brethren Movement, Acts of the Apostles, 1 & 2 Samuel and Ephesians). He has also participated in a conference in Madrid, speaking on "An Historical Vision of the Protestant Reformation", as well as teaching a series on "Christians and money" and preaching on Romans at church.

**Publications:** please pray that, before Ken leaves for Peru in January, there will be time to read the draft manuscript for the book on George Borrow. Most of the copyright and licensing issues have now been addressed, so it is nearly ready for publication. Please also pray that someone would be able to take on responsibility for distributing the national magazine associated with our Training Centre. Alison had hoped to hand this on to a young couple, but their other responsibilities have made that impossible.

**Kofi Jaus:** please continue to pray for more volunteers and for someone to step up as projects coordinator. The Tuesday morning family clothes project still has the highest attendance and this has a knock-on effect for the monthly Saturday children's club, where recent attendance has stretched the facilities to the maximum. Occasional craft and cooking activities have also seen the enthusiastic demonstrations from a couple of our MB ladies.

**Family:** Tim is recovering from a surf board gash to his hip. Esther is in Madrid and is making decisions about her future. Thank you for still including all of them in your prayers, despite the distances and the passing of the years!

**Thank you** to the unknown donor who sent £550 through Echoes on 24 October. As we have few other means of passing on our thanks, we mention it here, hoping that the person concerned is assured of their leading of the Lord to give at this time.

Your prayer to the Lord on our behalf is much appreciated, constantly reminding us of His love and faithfulness, Ken and Alison Barrett



# From Zimbabwe...



**The Matiza Family**

Dear Friends

*"And whatever you do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance, for you serve the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:23–24).*

Thank you once again for your continued prayers and support.

## UK Visit

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your wonderful welcome during our visit to the UK this autumn. It was great to see you and taking part in your worship service. I also want to thank all the families who invited us into their homes for dinner. I was so encouraged to visit both Moorlands Theological Training College and All Nation Christian College, where I did my theological studies.

We have just completed our planning process for 2018 and we are all excited that we have now aligned our vision with the OM International one which says, "We want to see vibrant communities of Jesus' followers to the least reached communities in Zimbabwe" For 2018, we are targeting eight communities, including millennials, street kids and bushmen.

The next step is to mobilise the local churches nearer to these communities so that we can reach out to these people together. Once the local church understands that it is their responsibility to reach out to these people rather than OM Zimbabwe then continuity will take place.

As Financial Development Facilitator, my desire is to see the financial stability of OM Zimbabwe, so that we will be able to run our programmes. I am also involved in training as well as outreach.

## OM Zimbabwe

## Sports Ministry

Our Mobilisation Department has introduced Sports Ministry in churches. Children in towns and rural areas spend hours playing with balls they make by wrapping plastic papers together. If you go to these areas holding a real ball, all these children will follow you around. The first step is to train church leaders to use sport as an evangelism tool. Once they are equipped, we can organise churches into a league to play against each other. The point is not to encourage competitiveness, but to gather people to talk about Jesus.

## Discipleship Training

We are introducing a Discipleship Training course starting January 2018. We are no longer offering a residential course because of the high charges, but students will be required to come from home Monday to Friday. This is much cheaper as we offer lunch only for students rather than full board. Students will be attached to a remote rural church for three months as part of training before graduating. This will give the students the much-needed experience before being assigned into longer term mission work.

We organise inter-house short term outreach events, where we invite people from different churches to come and participate. We lead the teams into remote parts of Zimbabwe with the Gospel. These communities have never been reached with the Gospel, for example Kanyemba and Siabuwa etc. We also take part in short term outreach organised by churches, as well as assisting churches in organising such events. Once church member started to be involved in outreach, they start to realise their potential and responsibility.

## Short-term Outreach

## Matiza Family

Please pray for:

- Trust as he continues to search for a suitable university.
- Tatenda, who is doing Cambridge AS Level exams.
- Ketani as she continues with her ministry with Smile International.
- John's ministry with OM Zimbabwe.

## Zimbabwe

Following Robert Mugabe's resignation, please pray for:

- A peaceful and democratic transition.
- Zimbabweans to remain united regardless of political allegiance.
- A spirit of forgiveness to prevail – people have been hurt for a long time.

*Praise God for where we are as a nation, truly the horse is prepared for the day of battle, but deliverance is of the Lord! (Proverbs 21:31)*

# Guatemala here we come!

Dear Friends,

Latin Link's International Assembly will be held in Guatemala City at the beginning of Feb. 2018. This only happens once every four years; it is many years since we attended, and we really wanted to go. So we swung into fundraising mode to help make it possible.



**Wilma and Paul Davies**



<https://argentina-travel-blog.sayhueque.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/chorizo.jpg>

We held our Latin American evening, serving you with Argentine sausages, and testing your knowledge on L.Am. thanks to Christy's great quiz. Thank you to all who participated that night, especially in the Bolivian 'dance off', that was a highlight of the evening. A profit of £349 was made.



We also opened a JustGiving page for a month and received £388.97 from that, and we later received another very generous gift, which means we now have enough to cover all the costs for the Latin Link Guatemala trip, as well as the trip Paul made to the COMIBAM conference in Colombia earlier in 2017.

We want to thank you all so much for your loving support and care for us. You have been an amazing church family and we appreciate you so much!

So, towards the end of January we are off to Guatemala for the International Assembly and we're really looking forward to it.

May the Lord bless you enormously this Advent

*Wilma  
& Paul*

P.S. Please pray for our future as it is now quite uncertain!



<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRk4UXd2umpQNKt0l2B8kwwjLyq9RjSd0lBLAtQ4cuUim1QqwLhPA>

**Latin Link**  
**Enlace Latino**

WOMEN UNITED IN CHRIST

## From the Heinrichs...

### Christmas thoughts and greetings...



**Frank & Katie Heinrich**

Dear Friends,

Just before the Christmas season starts we are celebrating 50 years of my parents' marriage, thanking God for bringing them through so far.

Their journey has been rough and tiresome, also their health isn't the best nowadays. But both my dad and my mum have cultivated a grateful heart and never lost their trust in the Lord, no matter what! Their lives are shining examples for us, four children and ten grandchildren, and for many more people, whose lives they've touched.

As for Frank and me, we are still struggling with health issues. Most likely Frank will be in the hospital by the time you read this – we are waiting for a call from the clinic any day now. The last three years have not been the easiest for us, and we are well aware that it is but for your prayers and the grace of the Lord that we have managed so far. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers! We wish you a blessed, truly meaningful celebration of our King's Birth! And, of course, a very happy New Year!

Much love,

Katie and Frank

## Dates to Note....

### Spring 2018 Magazine Deadline

Deadline for information March 18th

Magazine issue April 1st

All contributions to Christy Sunman

([newsletter@herfordbaptist.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@herfordbaptist.org.uk))

### Dates of Church Members Meetings 2018

January 23rd

March 20th

May 22nd (AGM)

July 17th

September 25th

November 20th

## Can you help?

**A request from Steve Turner...and an opportunity to serve (quite literally!)...**



For anyone with a morning **9 till noon, or noon till 2** to help serve coffee and make simple food at the **Methodist Church Coffee Bar.**

Please call in to have a look and offer time. Great opportunity for simple conversation with folk, some of whom may be searching. Thanks, Steve

## Recent Events...

### Faith Sharing Training at HBC

We are stewards of a beautiful, hopeful message, and we desire to make it known so that people can encounter Christ for themselves. However, we often don't know where to start when it comes to sharing that message with friends, family and those we meet in our day-to-day lives. Around 30 people came together on the morning of Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November to engage in 'Faith Sharing Training'.

The course began by discussing how the Christian story is perhaps not as well known in our communities as we think it is, and so we face the challenge of presenting many facets of the gospel 'from scratch'. People do not necessarily understand what goes on in our churches and most would not be seen dead in one! We recognised, too, the barriers in place in our own experience that sometimes prevents us articulating our faith.

The biggest challenge before us is to avoid getting to the place where people become 'evangelistic projects'. Instead, compelled by the love of Christ, we should engage with people on a one-to-one basis where they are at, listen deeply to them, and then seek to understand what the gospel message might have to say.

To help with this, we explored our understanding of the full scope of the gospel beyond the personal response to Christ's forgiveness, utilising Bruxy Cavey's 'Gospel in Thirty Words' (right page) as a tool for theological reflection.

The morning developed into a series of group discussions exploring how to apply the principles to a variety of scenarios, individuals and settings. We then received some teaching from the Bible on how we can pray and intercede for those who don't yet know Christ.

Plans are afoot to repeat this first session early in the Spring of 2018 and to develop a second session by way of follow on in the Summer Term.

One participant said,

*"Seeing so many wanting to hear about sharing their faith was so encouraging. I found it encouraging and affirming and I would like to be sharing together more about those we want to reach and to value this part of our Christian responsibility."*



Andrew Clark, Associate Pastor and course facilitator, said, *"It was a joy and a privilege to facilitate this training. I was so encouraged by the participants' enthusiasm, engagement and willingness to go a step further in the Christian witness. There is hope!"*

As we move forward as a church together, 'leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ', we must engage with every opportunity to develop and grow in our own understanding and spiritual passion for the work we are called to do. Keep a watch for the repeat of session one and the follow up session coming in the early part of 2018.



## Mission Weekend

It was a great pleasure and privilege to welcome John and Ketani Matiza at our Mission Weekend on October 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. On the Saturday about 60 of us met in the church hall and had a meal together with John and Ketani. They shared with us their love and passion for their country, Zimbabwe.

John is finance director for OM Zimbabwe, but is also involved in teaching local pastors and leaders. During the year they go out to one of the more remote areas, training a group of pastors and spend a week spreading the gospel in the surrounding villages. Despite their own material needs they have a vision for sending out workers to other countries.



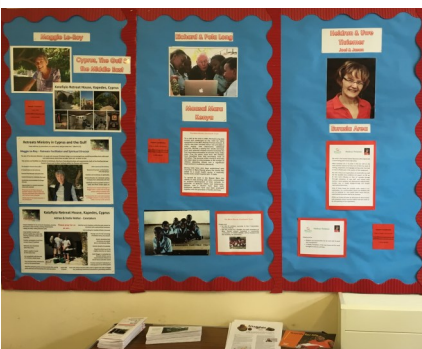
**John & Ketani Matiza**

Ketani continues to work with Smile International and organises a feeding programme for over 1200 children each week. These children are at school but are orphans and would have little or nothing to eat if it wasn't for Smile. At one point Ketani had to drive the truck to the various schools and villages but now she has someone to do the driving for her.

They updated us on news of the children. The eldest, Trust, is taking a gap year and hopes to go to university next year, possibly in South Africa. Their eldest daughter, Tatenda, did very well in her exams and Ratidzai and Takunda are thriving too.

During their time with us, and despite the many tensions that they face, it was possible to spend much time laughing together, especially when we talked about the way we 'do church' in the UK with one eye constantly on the clock. In Zimbabwe, although they have the technology, everyone ignores the time. Both approaches have their problems and it was good to laugh with each other.

As well as hearing from John and Ketani, a prayer room was set up in the crèche. All the most recent news from our mission partners was displayed. Many of the support co-ordinators, who ensure that we receive regular news and that our partners are supported, were present, and our thanks goes to them for their continuing service. Several church members also provided information about other missionaries and workers around the world.



Thanks to all who helped with the weekend, setting things up, preparing food and clearing away afterwards. Every time I hear from our partners I am amazed and humbled by their sacrifice. A prayer card was produced for the weekend so please use it to continue to pray for all our mission partners. There are copies available at the front and back of the church.

On behalf of the overseas mission group: Simon Davies, Clare MacPherson, Peter Shaw, Ann and Graham Powell

## Recent Events...

### Target Practice September 2017

Our last Target Practice was held in our barn at Hill Farm on 30 September – and on a sunny day too. Our new Pastor, Andrew enjoyed taking part as did 24 other participants.

A good time was had by all, but the overall winner of the tournament this year was Theo Rolph! £320.00 was raised for the Training Support Fund.



Our grateful thanks to retiring Major Peter Barlow for providing the air rifles and ammunition needed for the event. Thanks also to Alistair Youngman who has been here to calibrate the equipment prior to the event.

It has been a pleasure over the last 6 years to see the participants enjoy the time of fellowship together and the camaraderie of the event.

Philip & Marilyn

## Hertford Gala

Friday 24th November saw us down at the Hertford Gala once again with the Living Nativity. A team of stalwarts set up the costume tent and the stable, and prepared to share a bit of the real meaning of Christmas with the people of Hertford. We were kept busy sorting costumes and encouraging people to dress up, and there were a lot of people coming back for their annual photo.



Once again we were thankful for the enthusiasm and hard work of Louise of Photography by Louise ' as she photographed 86 different groups without flagging – there were various babies in the manger and, at one time, 7 people in the stable. She even managed to include a dog!

Ann kept everything running smoothly as she organised the tickets, and another team helped John in 'Alta Image', to whom we are grateful as he patiently coordinated the task of printing, sorting and distributing the photos as well as trying to run his shop!

Two 'wise men' (?) and their helpers had lots of opportunities to hand out

the leaflets about the Christmas services and chat to people. Several people commented on how good it was to see something for free amidst the commercialism, and we were privileged to share with them the real free gift of God's love as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.



## Looking forward...

### Holy Land Tour April 2019

David Ronco is leading another of his popular introductory trips to the Holy Land in April 2019. This nine day tour is ideal for first time visitors exploring key Biblical sites in Galilee, Nazareth, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. As well as walking where Jesus walked the trip also provides unique opportunities to meet local Christians and understand how the Lord is working today through his church in Israel/Palestine. If you would like to experience this 'journey of a lifetime' see the brochure on foyer board, visit [www.christian-travel.com/tours/detail/ronco-hl-19.html](http://www.christian-travel.com/tours/detail/ronco-hl-19.html) or contact David.

Hertford  Baptist Church

# CHURCH AT SIX

JOIN US FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT

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**SUNDAYS at 6PM**  
HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT VALE  
(Opposite Empire Chinese and Oh My Cod)

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WORSHIP - SPACE - CHAT - CHALLENGE  
PRAYER - COFFEE - CAKE

**14th JAN.**

'How can I know what God is saying in the Bible?'

**28th JAN.**

'How can I pray well?'

**11th FEB.**

'What does God want for my future?'

**25th FEB.**

'Who is the Holy Spirit?'

**11th MAR.**

'What does the Holy Spirit Do?'

**25th MAR.**

'How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?'

Refreshments available from 5:45pm.  
Church At Six will finish by 7:30pm.

For further information contact  
theoffice @ hertfordbaptist.org.uk tel: 01992 582951





**It's** been a busy time in the life of HBC youth this autumn term. In September it was great to welcome a significant number of young people into The Core (Sunday mornings).

The Core+ (Sunday mornings) continues to grow and we're really pleased to now have a good mix of girls and boys. Re:refresh, which meets fortnightly on Sunday afternoons continues to provide a great place for the young people to grow their faith; some year 7s have begun to attend. Girls' Night which meets twice a month on a Friday evening has seen new members join too!



This term a number of visitors from the wider fellowship have come along to The Core (Years 7, 8 & 9) and talked about their life and faith. Thank you to Betty Ward and Shelia Barlow. This is such a great opportunity for the young people to meet and learn from older Christians. To hear first hand how God has worked in the lives of others is such a privilege. The Core is blessed with a great team of leaders and helpers who serve week by week. It was great to have Dave come along and talk to the young people about the importance of reading the Bible.



**Re:refresh** (Year 7 upwards) is a great mix of high energy games with loud music followed by time opening up the Bible. Re:refresh has also been on several trips including visiting Soul Survivor in Watford and Reboot. Many of the young people have very much enjoyed Church @ 5 too.



**Girls Night** has had a great term. As well as 'chill out' sessions in the youth lounge (playing pool, board games, chatting, eating biscuits and just generally chilling out) the girls have enjoyed a games evening, a jewellery making evening and a pamper night. They had a lot of fun rummaging through boxes of beads and demonstrated some amazing creative talent! The pamper evening was a real treat: homemade natural face masks, nail painting, tattoos and mocktails all round! To top it all a thought from the Bible is shared which links to the activity. Still to come this term is the Christmas craft evening. Girls Night will be starting 2018 with a New Year pyjama party.



**On** Saturday September 23rd a large group of young people from HBC attended the Reboot Conference in London. It was a great day learning how Christians can respond to challenging questions. Reboot is part of the Zacharias Trust whose aim is to engage with people's heartfelt questions about the Christian faith and explain the hope that the Gospel brings. Reboot does this at level for young people. Over the last five years the conference has grown in popularity and next year is doubling in size! It will be held at Westminster Central Hall—we hope to go!



## All good things...

### Celebrating Sele Lunch Club

This Christmas, the Over 60's Lunch Club celebrates eleven years of service to the Sele Community.

Alongside the Hub, the Lunch Club grew out of a vision by David & June Scott and others to develop a Christian presence in Sele.

Started in January 2006 by June and her team of helpers, the club has served cooked lunches to about thirty guests each month in the attractive Community Centre. Each August the group has also arranged a much appreciated half day outing.



Here are some of the guests' comments:

*Good company - meeting new people and renewing old friendships.*

*Friendliness of all the helpers and other diners.*

*Care and attention to detail with nicely decorated tables and varied menus.*

*Delicious and beautiful home cooked meals each time.*

*Always a friendly welcome – greeting everyone by name.*

Having completed eleven years of committed service, June and most of the team need to stand down. In spite of many appeals over the past year and some offers of help, no one has felt able to take over the key leadership role. So, reluctantly, the group will close after our special Christmas lunch.



Perhaps, in the future, others will have the vision to lead something that would provide a valuable meeting point for elderly residents on Sele. For now, however, we celebrate this significant season of Christian outreach and thank June, her team of volunteers and rota of cooks for their willing and faithful service over the past eleven years.



Hertford &  
District  
**foodbank**

Please help feed local people in crisis by buying items from our list and donating them to Hertford & District foodbank.

**Thank you!**

## Shopping List Winter 2017/2018

Long life Fruit juice 1lt

UHT Milk in carton 1lt

Jars of cooking sauces: i.e.  
(Sweet & Sour/Chilli/Curry)

Bottles of fruit squash

Tinned custard

Tinned rice pudding

### A FEW LITTLE EXTRAS:

Cooking oil

Washing up liquid

Shampoo / Conditioner

Shaving foam in aerosol cans

Toilet rolls





**And when I am lifted  
up on the cross,  
I will draw  
everyone to myself.  
John 12:32**

**2017**

[www.hertfordbaptist.org.uk](http://www.hertfordbaptist.org.uk)

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**Associate Pastor**-Andrew Clark  
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## Regular Events & Activities....

### Sunday Services.

10.15 am; 6.30 pm\* with refreshments after the **morning** service.  
*Communion is normally on the first Sunday evening and the third Sunday morning.*  
\*On the **second and final Sunday** in the month the service commences at 6pm.

### Children's and youth groups.

At our **morning service**:  
Crèche for under 3s; "Sparklers" for 3-Reception;  
"JC Kids" for Yrs 1-6; "The Core" for Yrs 7-9 &  
"The Core +" for Yrs 10-12  
On **Sunday afternoons** at 4.30:  
Re:fresh (for school year 7 and above)

**Cross Links** - for adults (16+ with learning disabilities): first Sunday, 3.00 - 5.00 pm

### Christians on Sele.

At Sele Farm Community Centre:  
**The Hub** - for families:  
third Sunday, 3.00 - 5.00 pm

### Regular weekday activities.

#### For adults:

**Golden Lunch** for senior citizens: first Thursday, 12.30 pm  
**Tuesday Fellowship & Tuesday Fellowship Activities** -  
alternate Tuesday afternoons, 2.30 pm  
**Concord Club** (for men): first Thursday, 2.00 pm  
**Craft group**: second Thursday from 1.00 pm

#### For children and young people:

**Baby & Toddler Club** for pre-school children and their parents or carers: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, 10.00 - 11.30.  
**Brownies**: Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm  
**Wyldlife club** (school years 7-9): Mondays, 7.00 - 8.15 pm  
**Girls night** for girls in school years 6-9: first Friday, 7.00 - 8.30 pm

#### Other activities:

**Home groups and prayer groups**  
(various times and locations)  
**Male Voice Praise**      **Ladies' keep-fit**

**For more information** on any of these events, please contact the Church Office