

2022

Windrush Awards 3-5pm Saturday 18th June 2022 Celebration Service

Mansfield Road Baptist Church
Nottingham NG7 6JN

A big "thank you" to all contributors this month. Please continue to furnish us with YOUR news, YOUR pictures, YOUR poem, YOUR story, any articles of interest to others. Please give to Susan Bye or Sharon Jodrell at church or post or send by email to susan@msbye.co.uk, to arrive by **15th June** for the July/August edition.

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CHURCH MAGAZINE—JUNE 2022

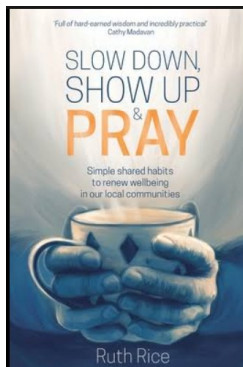


Mansfield Road Baptist Church

Message for June from Anne Davies

We've been reading and hearing about the Renew/Wellbeing initiative over the past few months. Ruth Rice in her introduction to her book about this initiative, and the projects that have been set up writes this

"I think we all know there is a growing issue with mental health and emotional health in our nation and our world. Statistics put it at one in four people who will experience a diagnosable mental health issue in their life.... All of us struggle at times with some degree of anxiety and stress. Most of us have times in our lives when we feel isolated and alone, even in a crowd or family. Not all of us have illness, but all of us need wellbeing."



A story I've been thinking about recently is the story of Jesus appearing to his closest friends after his resurrection. They were all locked in a room and I would imagine the mental health of everyone in that room was very fragile- they were traumatised, anxious, depressed, grief- stricken. And Jesus came to them. He didn't judge them or make them feel inadequate. He didn't make them feel guilty or a failure. He acknowledged that it was OK not to be OK. He simply spoke into their lives at that vulnerable moment and said **Peace be with you**; shalom be with you; wellbeing be yours. He breathed wellbeing into their lives so that they could receive it for themselves and share it with others.

Wellbeing is what God wants for each one of us. We need to receive it for ourselves first and then we are called to share it with others. Ruth suggests three simple things that we can do.

Slow down- take note of our own wellbeing (how are we doing?) and take note of the wellbeing of others around us (how are they doing?).

Show up- be there for others. We don't have to have all the answers. We just need to be present and attentive.

Pray -surround the project with prayer and gently help others, to communicate with God themselves- model this for others.

How Great is our God?

Most mornings I recite the Lord's Prayer. I'm not worth much for the new day until I've grounded myself in the words **"Our Father..."**

Think about it for a minute. From all the words Jesus could have taught his disciples to begin their prayers, he chose these two - **"Our Father"** (Matthew 6:9). Was this starting point random? No. Jesus was never less than intentional with his words.

We all have different relationships with our earthly fathers - some good, some less than that. However, praying in the way we should is not addressing "my" father but "our" father, the one who sees and hears us, and who knows what we need before we even ask him (v8).

What an amazing reassurance, especially on those days when we feel forgotten, alone, abandoned or simply not worth much.

But remember, regardless of where we are and what time of day or night it is, our Father in heaven is always near. His word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path (Psalm 119:105). We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him. So put your trust in him! (Romans 8:28).

God bless you all,

Hazel O'Connor

ADVANCE DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES Visit from our Link Missionaries



On **Sunday 24th July** the Vokuhl family, Toby, Pippa, Jakey, Ella and Millie, will be visiting our church as part of their time in England, on leave from their work in Nepal. Many of us have been following their work for some time now from the regular letter extracts in this magazine.

A "bring and share" lunch will be arranged so that all may join in and have the chance to hear and meet this visiting family.

Further announcements will be made nearer the time.

Joan Sheppard

Finding the faith to carry on

by Sarbjit Gill - as published in the Evening Post on 30th April

It is a time of change. We can all see this all over the world. We just turn on the TV and see the news and there are many shocking things happening globally.

I am sure we all have our own opinions and how we would like to solve these issues peacefully. However, in our own personal lives we have a plan for our lives and goals which we have set and strive to meet so that we can better ourselves and our families.

But the greatest hurdle that comes is when things happen unexpectedly, unannounced, and halt our plans and goals. We then start to take another direction to meet our goals.

Easter reminds us of Jesus Christ going to the cross. Dying for our sins and, on the third day, he rose again. Showing us that he has victory over death. Jesus Christ said to believe his words, trust his words and have faith.

Many people may think, this is not for me, and that is their choice. However, people who choose to have faith and are not shaken but merely believing, trusting that God's words will bring peace to them.

In the Bible the book of Genesis talks about Noah, who built the ark. Noah was a righteous man. He believed and trusted God. He started to build the ark instructed to him by God at a time when things seem to be normal and there was no sign of any heavy rain, most certainly no signs of any flood coming.

Noah had a choice either to trust God, trust the people around him who believed there would be no flood, or trust his own judgement. He trusted not his plans but God's plan.

Sometimes in life we have great plans and goals. Due to unforeseen circumstances things drastically change and we lose our peace.

In Proverbs Chapter 3 verses 5 & 6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

These verses encourage me to be patient and remain calm in all situations and have peace. Changes sometimes occur to strengthen you and challenge your plans to make you stronger.



Jesus said to his friends ***As the father has sent me*** (to bring wellbeing) ***so I send you*** (to share that wellbeing).

If you would like to know more about this initiative or you think you may be able to give some time to the project please contact me. I would love to tell you more about it.

Shalom,

Anne

CHURCH DIARY for JUNE

Sunday Service each week at 10.30am with groups for the children and young people.

Shalom Fellowship—Sunday 5th & 19th June at 2pm

Thursday Fellowship—Thursday 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th June at 10.30am

Wednesday Fellowship—Wednesday 22nd & 29th June at 7.30pm

Church Meeting AGM – Wednesday 15th June at 7.30pm

Pastoral Care Group—Monday 27th June at 1pm (Please share any pastoral news of the congregation with Jean, Andrea or Neelam before this date)

Toddler Group operates on Monday mornings in term time from 10am to 11.45am

The Men's Group runs on Thursday evenings every other week. Please contact the Church Office.

The Gospel Lounge operates on specific Saturday evenings. Please contact the Church Office.

COMMUNION There will be Communion on Sunday 19th June.

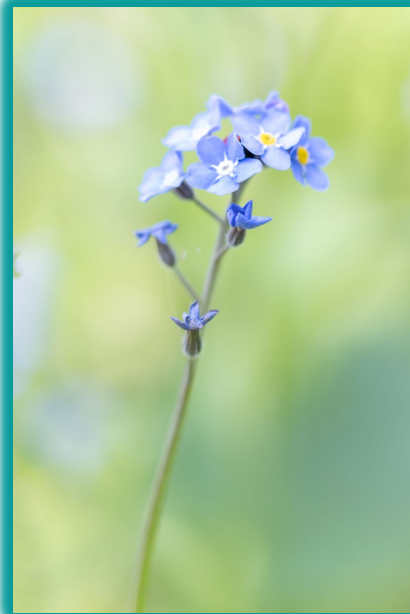
PRAYER POINTS

- 1) For those holding leadership roles in the life of the church.
- 2) Give thanks for the Queen's dedicated service for 70 years.
- 3) The environment and our individual responsibility of care.

More Spring photos with signs of new life
—from Tony Peace



—and Dave Mangan



Have our readers any “Summer photos” to send in for the July/August Magazine?