

M R B C

CHURCH MAGAZINE—NOVEMBER 2023



Mansfield Road Baptist Church

Message for November from Neelam Sidhu

We live in this world by the Grace of God. His grace is sufficient for us, however, we still have weaknesses. How is it possible for someone to live with both? Jesus never made anyone feel weak or embarrassed. In each story in the New Testament, Jesus always encouraged people to look forward to receiving healing, deliverance, happiness, love and fruits of the spirit. HE leaves all our weaknesses aside and allows us to experience new achievements. Jesus' love makes us soldiers to overcome all negative thoughts and actions. We should stop focusing on our weaknesses but instead step forward to cast them out.



In 2 Corinthians 12:9 it says: *But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.* This verse is telling us that Jesus' power is perfected in our weakness. We like to minimize our weaknesses and focus on our strengths. We place the pressure on our own strength to get by, but God claims, *“my grace is sufficient for you”* and *“my strength is made perfect in weakness.”*

CHURCH DIARY for NOVEMBER

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

Prayer meeting before the Sunday Service each week at 10.15am in the Boulevard Room. All welcome.

Shalom Fellowship—Sunday 5th at 2.30pm



Remembrance Sunday—12th November

Toddler Group—Each Monday in November—10.00 to 11.45am

Renew Wellbeing Café—Each Thursday in November—1.30 to 4.00pm

Note the special craft afternoon on the 16th

Deacons' Meeting—15th November at 7.00pm

PRAYER POINTS

- 1) Following the Vision Days, pray for God to be in the midst of us while creating an accurate church profile.
 - 2) Pray for those recently baptised, to be encouraged in the steps they have taken in giving their lives to Christ.
 - 3) Pray for worldly conflicts, that God is in the midst of this turmoil in the Middle East.
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Harvest Donations



Our treasurer reports that £277 was collected and sent off to Operation Agri last month.

Many thanks everyone.

A contribution this month from Rosella Yaro

I am pleased to tell a story of what my life is with God and His love for my life and how I wanted to serve Him with all that I have within me.

First of all, I was born in Jamaica in the parish of Clarendon, Lionel Town. I came to England at the age of 13 and attended Bentinck School which at that time was an all girls school. I left school at the age of 15 to do shorthand and typing. Somehow I decided office work was not for me so I decided to join the British Red Cross through which I was able to do training for nursing. This was at the General Hospital.

I was baptised in the Bethel Apostolic Church of God when I was 16 years old where I found God's love after coming from a Christian home. I have been married twice and had three children although my eldest daughter sadly has died.

God has had many plans for me. He has shown me I can be whatever I want to be with many talents that I know I have, so I praise Him. I have a

passion for cooking and after doing a Fashion and Design course at Clarendon College, I love dressmaking and I make a lot of my own clothes.

God has given me the purpose of looking after my grandson, Marcel, since he was 5 years old. He is now 32.

I give God all the glory for his wisdoms. That I will hold on to for as long as I have breath within because I know the purpose of God is love and I pray to Him because I do not forget the day when I became a member of Mansfield Road Baptist Church. And I will say again and again to God be the glory. Praise Him with

thanksgiving glory.

See Psalm 136: *"O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endures for ever....."*

Blessed be His holy name. Love and peace to all. Amen.



Renew Wellbeing Café

The Renew Wellbeing Café has been running each Thursday for just over a year now. Each week we never know who will come through the door. One week recently a carer called Tim popped in and enjoyed beating two of us at scrabble! We had quite an in-depth conversation on life itself and when he left he thanked us for the “peaceful ambience” he had experienced that afternoon.

As an extra to our usual activities we have a guest craftperson coming to facilitate a

Christmas Craft Afternoon

on Thursday 16th November.



Open to all from 1.30 to 3.30 pm.

Come and make a **Christmas card** from a pre-prepared kit OR sew a decorative **felt star** to hang on your Christmas tree.

All materials provided and no special skills needed! Enjoy a chat, cuppa and a snack too. There will be no charge but there will be some craft items available to buy for charity.

AND—a date for your diary—**Thursday 14th December** we'll be singing some popular **Christmas carols**. All welcome to come and enjoy a cuppa and a mincepie.



*On display in the Church Hall are a variety of books no longer required.
Please have a look through and pick up for free or for a small donation.*

Tony Peace has sent some recent photos and writes:

I visited Felley Priory one Thursday which was my respite time while Anne was at the Day Centre she attends. It was good to find a selection of plants showing their autumn fruits and flowers. There are usually a variety of unusual plants as well as the more well known. Felley Priory is near junction 27 on the M1 so not far to go and also has a very nice tea room!



Summary of the October Prayer

Letter of Pippa and Toby Vokuhl

www.bmsworldmission.org/ptvokuhl

Toby writes:



It has been two months since we returned to Nepal. Having arrived back in the middle of the monsoon season, we found the social action wing of the Pokhara Christian Community has been busy responding to the annual monsoon rain-induced landslides and flooding, in collaboration with local authorities.

Toby continues by describing in detail the impact of the monsoon rains, describing landslides and floods which have resulted in loss of life. Local churches helped and are continuing to help thousands of people by providing temporary shelter, materials to patch up dwellings, food and non-food supplies. All this requires loaded trucks to be driven for up to seven days to reach remote areas.

He requests prayer ... Would the presence of Jesus be ever so palpable, in all that is done and said. Please pray into these situations with us.

and shares a ray of hope ... A picture of sun rays breaking through the Kathmandu clouds reminds me of a recent baptism we witnessed, and the resulting celebration of joy. We see Christ in the present, Christ in the middle and among us, a living and present reality. Delight with us and pray that the sun will continue to break through the clouds and light the way.

and family news ... The children have settled back into the excellent school here in Kathmandu. Thank you so much for your prayers regarding this. Given work-related travel and urgent INF commitments I need to renew my focus on progressing the PhD research project. Pippa will soon be engaging with some local Christian initiatives, more on this soon.

He ends with these words ... Whatever disaster we might find ourselves in, or whatever tumultuous circumstances might befall those we walk alongside, we can be certain that Christ the healer has already been in the middle of it all, we just need the eyes to see him.

With our love, Toby, Pippa, Jakey, Ella, and Millie

Recently, Toby and Pippa sent a personal letter to MRBC asking how we all were and sending greetings, remembering with fondness their visit in the summer of 2022 when they all - including the children - shared details of their work and had lunch with us. How touching this was, to find time to remember us!

About our Church

If you are new to the church or just visiting, you may find this page helpful.

You can expect a warm welcome and a friendly group of people of all backgrounds and ages gathering to learn more about God.

We meet every Sunday at 10:30am for our Sunday Service. During school term time groups for children and young people from 3 - 18 are held downstairs, with a crèche available for under threes. Stewards in the Welcome Hall will be happy to show you where to take your children.

The Shalom Fellowship meets on the first Sunday every month at 2.30pm for worship and teaching in Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu.

Toddler Group meets Mondays during term time from 10.00am to 11.45am. Parents, grandparents and carers are warmly invited to bring along the children in their care to enjoy play and activities.

Renew Wellbeing Café meets Thursdays from 1.30pm to 4.00pm. Join us for activities, chat and refreshments.

For specific dates of the above activities please see the Diary section of the magazine. If you would like to get in touch with someone at the church office please use the contact details below.

Room Hire Different rooms are available for hire. Please contact the church office for details.

Phone: 0115 9604304 during office hours—Mon-Fri 9.00am-2.30pm

Email: admin@mrbc.org.uk

Church Address:

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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 Joddrell at church or post or send by email to susan@msbye.co.uk, to arrive by 15th November for the December/January edition.