

# MRBC

CHURCH MAGAZINE—JUNE - JULY 2025



Mansfield Road Baptist Church

## Thought for the Month from Susan Bye

### “WOW” moments with God

One of our sessions with the Reflective Prayer meeting has been around the topic of Worship. This isn't just confined to our Sunday services, but can be experienced regularly in our daily lives. Have you ever experienced a moment that stopped you in your tracks and made you say, “Wow”?

Did anyone catch the exhibition “Threads through the Bible” in Southwell Minster? On display were 44 enormous panels of “textile art” each depicting events in the Bible through Creation, the life of Jesus and the book of Revelation. Looking at these vibrant scenes, I felt a sense of God's presence through the creativity of the artist – Jacqui Parkinson - and her interpretation. The scale of the work she'd completed over 10 years and the detail contained therein was simply awesome and amazing to see her God-given talent.



Jesus' baptism and temptation

Last month we also visited the new Sherwood Observatory, where we saw a show in the planetarium which gave me a mind-blowing sense of God's universe—galaxies, stars, planets—all perfectly placed, all declaring the glory of God. Psalm 19:1 says, *“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.”* I concluded that although my brain can't comprehend the scale of the universe, I certainly got a “wow” moment to praise God for Earth's creation.

These “wow” moments don't just fill us with awe—they renew our sense of perspective, purpose, and praise. Whether through the beauty of art or the immensity of space, God is constantly inviting us to stop and encounter Him more deeply. So, take time to slow down, look around, and allow yourself to be awed. Let those “wow” moments become worship—reminders that the God who flung stars into space also knows your name.

## CHURCH DIARY for JUNE & JULY

**Sunday Service** each week at 10.30am with groups for the children and young people. There is a **Prayer Meeting** at 10.15am in the Boulevard Room every week before the Sunday Service All welcome.

**Shalom Fellowship**—Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June & 6<sup>th</sup> July—2.30pm

**Toddler Group**—Every Monday in June and 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> July—10am-11.45am

**Renew Wellbeing Café**—Every Thursday in June and July —1.30pm—4.00pm

**Reflective Prayer Meeting**—Thursdays—12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> June and July TBC

**AGM for Church Members**—After Sunday Service on 29<sup>th</sup> June

**Deacons' Meeting**—9<sup>th</sup> July—7.00pm

**Church Members' Meeting**—13<sup>th</sup> July after Sunday service

**PFA Meeting**—14<sup>th</sup> July— 1.30pm

## PRAYER POINTS

1. Pray for clarity peace and love to be the foundation of our lives as we walk in this broken world.
2. Pray for our father to strengthen and guide this church on its mission to the world that sinners may be alerted to repentance, by living and walking in the grace of Christ.
3. Pray for us as a church family to be like minded and sympathetic to love one another and be compassionate and humble. 1 Peter 3:8.
4. Pray for “Peter and Paul” and Saul and Barnabas” in their work with BMS World Mission—and all who are finding their lives in Christ difficult and challenging through fear or prejudice.

**Requests for prayer** can be written on the cards provided and put in the box in the Welcome Hall.

## Contactless Giving and Church Donations

Over £100,000 a year is needed to keep our church running and the income to support this comes from the personal giving of members' and visitors' donations and some legacies.

**MRBC now has a new alternative way of accepting our weekly offering and other donations. A card machine is available in the Welcome Hall for your use. Simply choose an amount on the front screen and then swipe your card on the top.**



This is of course an alternative option which can be used by those members and visitors who prefer not to carry cash with them. The most cost-effective option for our regular giving is still by bank transfer or standing order and do ask Alan for details if you would like to do this. There is also the option of weekly envelopes supplied by the church for those who prefer this way of budgeting, and of course loose notes and cash are also most welcome.

All cheque and cash deposits at the bank now incur charges so the deacons are looking to offset these, as well as catering for more modern practices by encouraging more direct giving through standing order or bank transfer. The hope is that the card machine will also go some way to help with this.

*2 Corinthians 9:7 "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

## What is Gift Aid?

Gift Aid is a scheme available to charities, which means they can claim extra money from HMRC. Mansfield Road Baptist Church can claim ***an extra 25p*** for every £1 which you, as an individual, donate! It means that Gift Aid can increase the value of your donations by 25%.

The church can claim Gift Aid when you make a donation from your own funds ***as long as you are a UK taxpayer.***

In order for the church to claim gift aid, you need to complete and sign a declaration giving permission for this to happen. The form, which will ask for your name, address and signature, can be obtained from me. It only needs to be completed once. (Unless you have a change of address).

The income received by the church from the government through gift aid last year amounted to ***over £10,000!***

Please would you consider completing a declaration form or speak with me if you need more information.

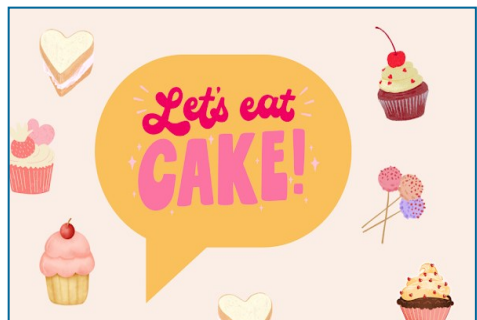
***Alan Jodrell***

## ALL are invited to Ina and Peter's OPEN DAY in aid of the MS Society, Nottingham

***Date:*** Saturday 21st June

***Time:*** 10am to 4.00pm

***Address:*** 35 Wroxham Drive,  
Wollaton, NG8 2QR



## PRACTICAL ECONOMICS

A few verses from the book of Proverbs, that timeless and inexhaustible source of God's Wisdom.

- Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth (Ch10:4)
- The Lord abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight (Ch11:1)
- He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgement. (Ch12:11)
- "It's no good, its no good!" says the buyer; then off he goes and boasts about his purchase. (Ch20:14)
- Dishonest money dwindles away, but he who gathers money little by little makes it grow. (Ch13:11)
- The labourer's appetite works for him; his hunger drives him on. (Ch16:26)
- All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty. (Ch14:23)

*Verses chosen by John Sheppard*

## Our Church Mission Statement

**LOVE JESUS**

**LOVE OTHERS**

**GROW DISCIPLES**

## The Power of Prayer

Why do we need a quiet time with God every day?

For me, He has done so much in my life, and I have to give Him thanks and praise. When I lost my loved ones, I felt alone. I have to comfort myself and my children. I prayed and asked God for guidance, protection, strength and wisdom to sustain me.

**Luke 6 v12** tells us that Jesus went up to the hill to pray when he was choosing his disciples because he needed help from his Father God, so that is the example we need to follow – prayer is important.

**Thessalonians 5 v16** tells us to be joyful, pray at all times, and be thankful. Have faith and trust God in everything we do, because prayer is powerful and God is good.

**James 5 v13-18** also tells us when you are in trouble, you should pray. When you are sick, you should pray. An effective and a passionate prayer of a righteous man or a good person has a powerful effect. Remember Elijah, he prayed earnestly, and the rain came. God answers when you pray from your heart.

Prayer is exhaling the spirit of man and inhaling the spirit of God.

Martin Luther-King said: “I have so much to do, that I spend the first three hours each day in prayer.”

There was a sign on a bulletin board once which read: “Seven prayerless days make one weak.” So, the busier you become, the more time you need to spend with God, because we cannot do anything without God’s input.

Pray in faith and for one another and believe, for our God is good and He answers prayers.

***Hazel O’Connor***



## 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. Join us for coffee/tea and biscuits in the Church Hall after the service.

***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.

***Reflective Prayer Group*** meets fortnightly on Thursdays from 11am to 12 noon. All welcome.

***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.

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

***Email:*** admin@mrbc.org.uk

***Church Address:*** Mansfield Road Baptist Church, Corner of Sherwood Rise/Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 6JN

***Car Parking*** is allowed on a Sunday in the Page Kirk / Jarodale House car park along Gregory Boulevard. On weekdays the Sports Car Park opposite should be used. Disabled parking only on the church forecourt.

A big “thank you” to all contributors this edition. 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](mailto:susan@msbye.co.uk), to arrive by 15<sup>th</sup> July for the August edition.

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**Website: [www.mrbc.org.uk](http://www.mrbc.org.uk)**