

MRBC

CHURCH MAGAZINE—OCTOBER 2025



Mansfield Road Baptist Church

Thought for the Month from Rev Anne Davies

There they were on the banks of the Jordan. In the distance they could see the land that God had promised their ancestors but how were all these people going to cross that river, and what awaited them if they did manage to get across? God had given them a new leader but he was, as yet, to be tested.

Can you imagine how they must have felt; how he must have felt - pretty scared? And then, into that situation, God spoke. *Be strong and courageous.* He said it first to the new leader, Joshua, and then this word passed through the camp and was picked up as a rallying call *Be strong and courageous. Be strong and very courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged. Why? For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*

So there they were and here we are, at the beginning of a new chapter in our life as God's people at Mansfield Road Baptist Church. We are about to welcome a new leader, appointed, we believe, by God. How are we feeling? I don't imagine that we are feeling terrified or discouraged but we may be apprehensive. Change is always a difficult thing. God knows that. In the course of the history of his people he tells them time and time again not to be afraid. In fact this command is one of the most used phrases in the Bible. Jesus uses it when he is about to leave his disciples and they are facing a huge change in their lives. *Do not be afraid*

God does not only tell his people not to be afraid but he commands them to *be strong and courageous.* He knows that they have some battles to face together; they have a lot of land to take.

We have territory to win for God. Jesus calls us to catch people for his kingdom. We need to be strong and courageous.

The only way we can do that is by believing the promise that God gave to his people in the banks of the Jordan, the same promise Jesus gave to his disciples; the same promise that God gives to us; the promise that he will be with us wherever we go.

.../...

So let's put any apprehension to one side. Let's encourage one another to be strong and courageous.

Let's hold on to God's promise.

The Message puts it like this:- ***Strength! Courage! Don't be timid; don't get discouraged. God, your God is with you every step you take.***

God bless, Anne

CHURCH DIARY for OCTOBER

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

Induction Service for Rev Matt Jones—Saturday 11th—3.00 pm

Shalom Fellowship—Sunday 19th— 2.30– 4.00pm

Toddler Group—Monday 6th & 13th — 10am-11.45am

Renew Wellbeing Café—Every Thursday—1.30pm-4.00pm

Reflective Prayer Meeting—Thursday 9th & 23rd— 11am-12 noon

Link-Up Lunch—Friday 10th —12.30pm—The Stadium Steak House

PRAYER POINTS

- 1) Pray for those newly baptised in our church family as they pledge their lives to Christ our Saviour.
- 2) Pray for the work in our church as we enter changing times and new beginnings.
- 3) Pray for deliverance for all those struggling with spiritual, family, health or financial problems in their lives.
- 4) Pray for our divided world which is split between wealth and poverty, complacency and oppression, asking God to break down barriers.
- 5) Pray for “Peter and Paul” and “Andrea and Ian” in their work with BMS World Mission.

Young Disciples

We thank Miriam and Danae for stepping in to lead this group last year after Jenny left. We wish Danae well with her work commitments, and hope Miriam enjoys student life as she embarks on a Masters degree at Manchester University. We also wish Katie well in her studies at York University. Katie has been a much valued extra pair of hands in this group over the years.

SO – a new term starts and the good news is that Sharon Joddrell has offered to lead this group of 5-11 year olds. “THANK YOU” Sharon for stepping in. For safeguarding reasons, it is vital that we always have at least 1 extra helper each Sunday, and ideally another to take care of the crèche element of under 5’s too. If YOU could offer to come onto the rota with Veralee, Lin, Susan, and Joan, please have a word with Sharon ASAP.

Shoeboxes for Christmas

Teams4U is a small charity based in Wrexham which sends shoeboxes of small gifts to vulnerable children in Eastern Europe – Moldova, Romania., Bosnia Herzogovena, Georgia and Ukraine. The power of a simple gift like this is huge and can be life-changing. Our local warehouse is at ShoeAid on Beech Avenue, Basford where T4U will be collecting, checking and sending shoeboxes again this Christmas. If you would like to participate, please take a box and information leaflet from church, fill it with small gifts and return it to church by **Sunday 16 November**. Last year our boxes were given to children in Ukraine.

For more information see the T4U website at www.Teams4U.com

Thank you in anticipation for your support.



Growing Faith in Retirement

It's been just over a year since I had my hip replacement. I had made major changes to my lifestyle prior to my operation. The most significant was early retirement after working for a living for 45 years. I made plans to adjust after ending my working career at the local university.

The Covid lockdown was used as a period of deep personal spiritual reflection for my purpose in life. My existing lifestyle had enabled me to make some choices about adult life as the ageing process took its place. The biggest influence was my role and purpose as a Christian disciple of Jesus Christ, being a member of MRBC for 25 years.

As I reflected in prayer, I felt the peace of God: *Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart. And God's peace which is far beyond human understanding will keep your mind safe, in Christ Jesus.* (Philippians 4: 6-7)

I have been blessed within the fellowship of the church to have some members show an interest in my spiritual growth and I take great encouragement and appreciation for their prayers and support especially during my physical healing and recent bereavements.

It was most important to challenge myself in the fellowship of service to others inside and outside the church. Being actively involved in Deaconship, the Reflective Prayer Group and the Renew Wellbeing Café has enabled me to grow in confidence and use my talents to share and benefit others.

I have learned the importance of giving my time to those outside your personal life during retirement for your physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing. We have been doing a lot of praying in the recent years for a new minister at MRBC. It has been very challenging and testing on our faith. Prayer is very enduring and testing but God always listens and answers in the right time.

As we enter in a new chapter of church life under the new ministry of Rev Matt Jones we should challenge ourselves at MRBC to grow in spirit, fellowship and be of service to all inside and outside MRBC.

Donald Lindo

Link-up Lunch

On our last monthly Church Link-up Lunch on 5th September 18 people attended when we met at Sprinters Steak House in Arnold. Diana said Grace before we ate and drank together in the restaurant.

One of our group members, Rosemary, shared that it was her birthday. We all sang the Stevie Wonder version of Happy Birthday and added an additional repeated line in the song which said, ‘..May the good Lord Bless You; May the good Lord Bless You; May He bless YOU...’ Well we can assure you that blessings came in abundance as we spent time talking and getting to know each other through conversation.

We received an anonymous monetary gift from a group of customers who heard us sing and paid £100 towards our group meal. What a blessing! To say that we were overwhelmed with joy would be an understatement.

A special thank you to Audra for purchasing drinks for us and booking this venue as many of us had never been there before.

My personal message to you all. We can see that taking time to share conversation or being in the company of others, sharing laughter, holding a hand, saying a kind word or anything else can be an act of worship.

The bible says, ‘..And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.’ Colossians 3:17. Peace be with you all now forever and always. - **Jeniba**

The NEXT Link-up LUNCH will be on:

DATE: Friday 10th OCTOBER 2025

TIME: 12:30

PLACE: The Stadium Steak House, 190 Nottingham Road, NG5 1EG

Please let us know if you are coming and we will book you a seat (TEXT Jeniba: 0798 541 8848 / Audra: 0797 310 2886). We are looking forward to seeing you there. Please click on this link to find menu and restaurant details <https://www.stadiumleisure.co.uk/>

A special thank you to Norma, who has offered to read a small verse from the bible - we are all looking forward to that...

Thank you

Jeniba & Audra

Who will have the last word?

A further selection of timeless wisdom from the book of Proverbs.

- ♦ The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful. (12:22)
- ♦ He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge (14:26)
- ♦ Rich and poor have this in common: the Lord is the Maker of them all. (22:2)
- ♦ The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. (18:10)
- ♦ The Lord is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous. (15:29)
- ♦ All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighted by the Lord. (16:2)
- ♦ The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the heart. (17:3)

Verses selected by John Sheppard



All the fun of the Fair in miniature.

For one day only—in the MRBC Church Hall

Saturday 4th October—10am–4pm

Refreshments available

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 Jodrell at church or post or send by email to susan@msbye.co.uk, to arrive by 15th October for the November edition.

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Website: www.mrbc.org.uk