

# LBC *magazine*

*November 2021*



Loughborough Baptist Church

## Looking Forward to That Very Special Day of the Year

I can definitely feel the day is getting shorter and shorter. Even my eldest daughter, Ke Fang, who is 4 and a half years old noticed that too. After spending over 10 years in the UK, I can certainly notice the change in my mood and feelings when Autumn starts. It can sometimes be depressing to wake up in the dark and finish work in the dark.

However, this year I want to break that cycle of feeling low. Instead, I have started looking forward to Christmas since the beginning of October! I have started to think about making my own Advent calendar for the girls and how to celebrate that magical day, when Jesus Christ was born, with my friends and family. I want this festive season to be not just about chocolates, feast and Christmas presents but to remind ourselves this special gift that our Heavenly Father prepared for us. The joy of counting down to Christmas Day is certainly cheering me up during the shorter days in Autumn and Winter.

Do you want to make this Christmas a little extra special for Jesus? Surely, he deserves some gifts from us! I have come up with 3 challenges for December. Would you like to join me?

1. To share with someone the true meaning of Christmas.

*For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth. [Acts 13:47]*

2. To remember and pray every day for our friends and families, who have not yet known Jesus Christ and the Good News, that they may one day accept the Gospel.

*I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. [John 17:9]*

3. To remember and pray for the less fortunate people/families who do not have enough to celebrate Christmas. Perhaps do a reverse advent calendar and collect food for Food Bank donations or prepare a shoebox gift for Samaritan's Purse Operation?

*'The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." [Matthew 25:40]*

I pray that this Christmas will not be like the last one which quite a lot of us could not celebrate with our loved ones due to the COVID restrictions.

I can't wait to celebrate Christmas with you all at church.

*Chiew Yen Law (known as Yen)  
originally from Malaysia*

## News of the Fellowship

Congratulations to Gareth Ferrin on his Baptism at LBC on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Many congratulations to Maralyn and Alan Speight who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

We have heard that Geoff Wilkinson has recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with Celia, especially at this time as she is suffering with a chest infection. Geoff's funeral will be held at Holywell Church and later at the Crematorium, but details have not yet been confirmed

We send sympathy to the family and friends of those who have died, Malcolm Brownlow, a member of Forget me not, and Mary Bentley a former member of LBC. We remember them in prayer at this sad time.

We continue to remember all friends who are unwell.

Sandy Northcote has sprained her wrist and her knee earlier this week and was taken to Leicester Royal. She is at home now and in not quite so much pain. Audrey O'Connor is also at home recovering after a fall and Sheila Boneham has now had her stent fitted and is at home.

Members of LBC may well be interested to know that Jack Wilson (baptised at LBC and living his faith in Bristol) and his wife Jess have a baby daughter, Romola Grace. Baby and parents all doing well. Love and best wishes from Helen and John Wilson.

## Quiet Reflections

Lord God, help us to walk with you in the light of your great love. When the opportunity arises, help us to point others to your beautiful and precious Son, who can transform lives completely and eternally.

## Memories

This message came from Doris Jacobs, she and Eileen Rose were at the beginning of Guides at Baxtergate 80 years ago! These are her memories of that time and I told her they should go in the magazine. She was especially pleased that the church celebrated the 80 years. Lilian

"I was very pleased to learn that 80 years of guiding was celebrated during the harvest service. My friend Eileen Rose and I were at the meeting when Mary Coote set up the 10th Loughborough Guide Company. It was a success from the start. We met weekly and were usually associated with other church events. We wore uniforms proudly and worked to get badges to sew on the sleeve. I remember struggling with 'knots.' Sometimes in the summer we went to a field the church had off the Forest Road. In the autumn we picked rose hips to be sold for rose hip syrup. Our evenings were well attended, and we had a singsong round the (bonfire) before we went home. I have many happy memories of those days. I was patrol leader of the scarlet pimpernel and Eileen of the blue bells. Mary was Captain and Betty Brooks her second in command. It is only now that I appreciate how much they did for us"

## Monday Nighters

Our meetings during November are

Monday 1st November "Queen Mary's Bedspread" with Debbie Moxon.

Monday 15th November "My Garden" with Mike Davy.

*Everyone welcome, our aim is friendship*

## Sunday Services for November and December

November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Aby and Sheena
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Ellie Cockbill
November 21 <sup>st</sup>	Nick Ashton
November 28 <sup>th</sup>	Advent Sunday at Trinity Methodist Church <i>There will be no service at LBC on November 28, but we will join the congregation at Trinity Methodist Church</i>
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Bethany Lock (Family Worker)
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Family Service at 4.00pm. <i>This will be a café style Carols by candlelight and be led by the Sunday Club members. Members of the congregation will be asked to take part.</i>
Christmas Day	Revd David Butcher
December 26 <sup>th</sup>	No service

## Sunday Morning Tea and Coffee Rota

After the successful Tea and Coffee serving in the Worship Room following the Harvest Festival, it has been agreed that we should try, for a trial period to serve drinks every Sunday morning after the service.

November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Geraldine, Yen, You Van, Gillian Morris
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	Shirley, Paul, Elaine, Malcolm
November 21	Victoria, Gillian Butcher, Anne, Peter
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Katie, Michael, Howard, Sandy
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Rhian, Aby, Sheena, Elizabeth, Grace
January 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brenda, John, Lilian, Bethany
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	Julia, Tom, Francis, John Thirlwell, Samuel, Victor
January 16 <sup>th</sup>	Margot, Edward, Lynne, Jean, Gavin.

## Thank you

Edward and Lynn would like to thank you for supporting the coffee morning on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October. We raised £132 for the Alzheimer's Society.

## Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child

Each year 1000's of people generously pack shoebox gifts to bless children in need. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Since 1990, more than 186 million children in over 160 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child.

Please collect an empty shoe box from the foyer and return to church by 15<sup>th</sup> November. If you would like to donate towards the postage cost of £5.00, this can be done via the Church Bank Account and will be gratefully received.

Alternatively, if you have no time to shop why not build a shoebox online.

[www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ)



### Do you like Something to Celebrate?

Last year, celebrating Christmas was very different for us all! This year, we have seen a gradual return to Saturday Coffee mornings at LBC and been glad to socialise once more, whilst still aware of the point of practising a degree of caution. So, on Saturday December 18<sup>th</sup>, the Fellowship Group is organising a "Coffee & Carols" morning, combining the regular Saturday event with a flavour of "Carolling Christmas".

Coffee (and other options) will be served at tables in the Church, whilst various groups of singers and musicians will provide a Christmassy atmosphere with intermittent music. This way, we hope there will be time to chat and time to listen or join in.

You will also find "Little Extras" like a stall with chocolates, cakes and jams – or how about making a Christingle to take home?

Come and be part of this special morning between 10.00am – 12.30pm and be warmed by rejoicing that we can celebrate the coming of Jesus together this year!

*Gill Butcher*

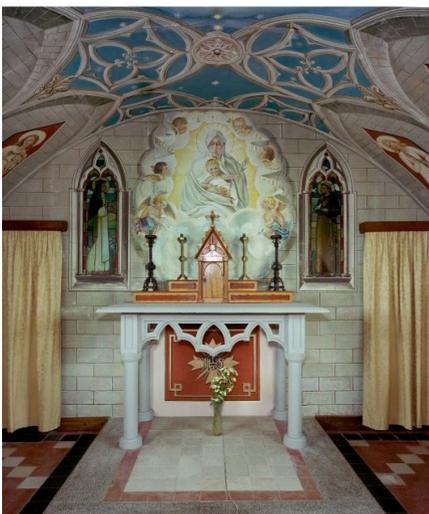
## Remembrance

On a tiny Orkney island of Lamb Holm, there is a chapel which was erected by five hundred and fifty Italian prisoners of war, who were sent there in 1942.

With these men's morale low, the Commandant Major Buckland agreed to the camp Padre's suggestion that they might build themselves a place to worship. To one prisoner Domenico Chiochetti this was a God given challenge.

He had already built a statue of St George made from barbed wire and concrete but this was his chance to put his talents to good use.

Soon all the men were working enthusiastically to construct the chapel. By the time the war ended, and the prisoners were due to depart the chapel was so beautiful that the Lord Lieutenant of Orkney promised it would always be looked after.



Today it still stands even in times of terrible destruction man can create beauty.

We remember the brave prisoners far from their homes who made something beautiful from a bad situation.

## Dr. Abs Dumbuya

Abs Dumbuya has written from Freetown, Sierra Leone, saying that he is now the proud father of a baby boy named Samuel Andrew Robert N'duange company for his brother Isaac from his wife Mabel and he writes that both mother and baby are now doing very well.



Many LBC members will remember Abs worshiping with us at LBC over several years while a student at Loughborough University and having to walk with the aid of crutches.



He is in Freetown, Sierra Leone, providing IT training for local disabled people and other work including managing the Freetown Cheshire Home. For him this is all part of the work of the Dorothy Springer Trust Charity which is supported by the East Hampstead Baptist Church based in Bracknell, near Reading. He has had good health but sadly he is now suffering with considerable pain from his damaged hip. Please remember him and the family in your prayers and, if you can, donate to the Charity.

*Stanley Cramer*

## Scrubbing away a bit more pollution?



Protect our World  
Group

Two years ago I shared a few thoughts in the Magazine, about sustainable clothing. Following on from that, I have been prompted to start thinking about the laundry.

We all need to wash our clothes, no matter where we buy them and I was recently surprised to learn, that washing clothes has a greater impact on the environment than how they are produced.



For a while now, garment labels have encouraged using lower temperatures for our washing machines, thereby saving energy to heat the water. But could we cut down on energy use any other way? Well – Yes; there are options which help to cut out much of the need for the fuel that transports heavy boxes of washing powder or bottles of liquid around the country.

Maybe the simplest is to take a used container to the Zero Waste shop in Baxter Gate and buy a refill of powder or liquid. (The Tesco store in The Rushes is currently trialling a refill sales area too). Another option is to use a product that is so lightweight that it comes with the post through your letterbox.

Here are links to two different products, which both arrive this way.

<https://smolproducts.com> sells a small capsule of liquid, which dissolves in the wash. The company also produces dishwasher tablets and concentrated sprays.

<https://www.truearth.uk> will send you a pack of soluble strips to add to your washing.

And after two years, it's encouraging that the clothing industry seems to be more aware of the importance of sustainability, with some high street stores using more naturally produced materials and paying attention to how their materials are produced.

M & S has been advertising that the denim used for some of their products is washed less than previously, thus saving precious water.

If you are interested in the carbon footprint and ethical impact of new clothing, there are some brands, such as Thought, Nomad and People Tree, which specialise in sustainability and Fairtrade. Other brands, like Seasalt and White Stuff, take great care to know exactly how their products are sourced. Sadly, all these are mainly for women but there are a few items for men creeping onto the market! An internet search will keep you up to date. Of course, wearing second-hand clothes or wearing your clothes enough to get really good use from them, all contribute to greater sustainability. You can also keep up to date with which materials are sustainable by a simple search.

Finally, you might find this link to an episode of the radio programme “Open Country” an interesting listen. It features Patrick Grant (from “The Sewing Bee”) in producing the most sustainable material made in England.

It’s a bit idealistic but still interesting!

[BBC Radio 4 - Open Country, A Fabric Landscape](#)

*Gillian Butcher*

## Stay Safe

Avoid riding in automobiles. They are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.

Do not stay at home. 17% of all accidents occur in the home.

Avoid walking on streets or pavements. 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.

Avoid traveling by air, rail, or water. 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.

Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in hospitals. So above all else avoid hospitals.

*But:*

You will be pleased to learn that only .0001% of all deaths occur in worship services in Church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders.

Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any one time is in Church!

Bible study is safe too, In fact the percentage of deaths that occur during Bible study is not even .0001%.

So, attend Church and read your Bible - it could save your life!

## November is about remembrance

Long ago people wore 'Mizpah' brooches in memory of absent friends.



### Mizpah by Frances Havergal

Only a leaf, yet it shall bear  
A wealth of love, of mintage true!  
Only a simple earnest prayer,  
That silently goes up for you;  
Yet you and I may never know  
What blessings from that prayer may flow.

As the sounding shell conveys  
The murmur of the sea  
So let this tiny token raise  
Some memory of me;  
For loving thought of prayer and praise  
Fail not to rise for thee.

Though the circling flight of time may find us  
Far apart or severed more and more,  
Yet the farewell always lies behind us,  
And the welcome always lies before.  
Meanwhile God is leading, surely, slowly,  
Through the shadows with a hand of love,  
To the house where' mid the myriads holy,  
Only welcomers wait us both above.





# Loughborough Baptist Church

<b>Church Office:</b>	Tel: 01509 215642 e-mail: office@lbcweb.org.uk
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<b>Pastoral Worker:</b>	Victoria Edwards      Tel: 07557 023383
<b>Family Worker:</b>	Bethany Lock      Tel: 07756 200382
<b>Administrator:</b>	Edward Atkin      Tel: 01509 502057 e-mail: admin@lbcweb.org.uk

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**      **10.45am** with Crèche, and Sundiclub group for toddlers and children.  
Communion on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

**MID-WEEK**      Bible Study and house groups are held in homes and at church please ask Sunday stewards or secretary for details.  
Prayers are shared on Zoom on Tuesdays from 6.15am – 6.35pm  
ID 573 093 4846 LBC web  
Please contact Bethany for details of children and young people's activities  
Monday Nighters – *look out for future notices*  
Contact Club - *look out for future notices*  
Coffee mornings are held at church on Saturdays  
from 10.00 – 12.00 noon

**LUNCH BREAK**      Lunch break is open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from  
10.30 am – 1.00pm

**In these rather uncertain times, it would be helpful to check meetings and events on Sundays or with the Church Secretary**

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