

## **Worship**

Worship has been happening on a Sunday every week (sometimes twice). Thank you to all those involved in making it happen: musicians, singers, sound desk and words.

We are having a try and see on Friday the 15th to encourage any other musicians to make themselves known. However, we are not just wanting musical ability but, more importantly, we look for a heart of worship. It's easier to teach a humble person the guitar than a guitarist humility (you know what I mean). Please pray for God to bring people forward with a servant heart of worship.

We want our worship to glorify and bless God - we have an audience of one. We look to keep worship fresh but also familiar - introducing songs that we feel meet the church where it is at. We consider all new songs as a group; looking for a mix of songs that praise and glorify to songs of reflective intimacy and the whole range between. We also try and pick songs we can play...!

Please pray that the whole church would see the importance of worship and seek to meet with God during these times. It is disheartening to look out and see people chatting or disengaged during worship. It is the worship teams job to provide a time and space for YOU to meet with God, it is an activity for the whole community. Worship is powerful and life changing but requires us, the worshipers, to engage fully and with expectation of His presence.

We introduced a number of songs to engage the young people last year but I strongly believe they will follow the example of the adults in the church. We do not have a big band with electric guitars, flashing lights and a smoke machine and neither do we need or want one (maybe a smoke machine) but when we truly worship with all our hearts and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us, then times of worship will become manifest with the presence of God. You don't need fancy bands for that: just a group of people hungry to meet with the Living God - that's the worship we want.

Ian Simpson

## **Open the book**

This year Open the Book are celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of sharing Bible stories with children in schools and we are privileged to be a part of his great opportunity. At present 3,000 schools out of 18,076 in England and Wales have a team visiting regularly, the vision is to have one in every primary school so there is a way to go .

The three schools we visit all accepted our offer of the Christmas booklet produced by The Bible Society for one of their year groups (160 copies). Please pray that these will be valued and read by parents as well as the children.

Sharing the stories is always a joy and preparing is enjoyable and fun and this term we are covering some of the well known parables and the Easter story.

Thank you for praying for New Village where we are seeing answers. Specifically: a new Christian teacher and generally more support from members of staff.

Jenny Stephenson

## **CBBC/Youth**

Six of our young people attended the Youth For Christ Evangelism Weekend in Kidderminster in October, with Lorraine and Cass, and had a fabulous time. As anticipated, they came back to us with lots of new and challenging ideas, which the church and youth leaders will endeavour to address. You will already have seen the impact of some of these ideas: please take a few minutes to talk to the young people and continue to encourage them in their faith. Thank you also to everyone who sponsored youth bibles for each member of the youth group, and to Ian and Linda Senior for the further donation of children's bibles for new members of CBBC.

We also had a great time at the 'CBBC bounce' at AirKings in November. Thanks to all those parents and carers who stayed to supervise - and to those who took the chance to bounce.

Please continue to pray for another leader for the 3-5 group, the 6-9 group, and the youth group. We have begun to enjoy a more workable rota which allows leaders and supporters to enjoy some time in church to listen to the message, and are keen to continue with this. New recruits to the team will ensure that this can continue.

Scripture Union Light Live materials continue to serve their purpose in the 3-9 groups, and a more flexible approach in the youth group allows for life and faith issues to be explored more fully. Please talk to the leaders, if you would like to know more about our programme or sessions.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Annette Morris and Catherine Wilson - The CBBC/Youth team

## **Foodbank**

Since the Universal Credit was introduced, we the Foodbank centres in Doncaster, Rossington, and Bentley are experiencing a 120 percent increase of people with food vouchers.

Through prayer and faith on finding a warehouse for food storage, God has answered our prayers, and the offices which used to be Staples are being allowed to be used for food storage.

Please continue to pray for the Foodbank as the trustees are applying for a grant to purchase a computer and tablets to be used, electronically with referral agencies.

This is purely to stop people using the system wrongly.

We believe at Bentley to be more involved with talking and praying with more people in 2019 and reaching out to them in Jesus name.

Thank you for all your prayers and support throughout this year.

God bless

Philip Stevenson

## **Training**

The training has continued to concentrate on 3 areas

### 1. Leadership Development Group

The training is now moving on to look at The Baptism in the Holy Spirit, with the emphasis on experiencing this and not just looking at the Bible's teaching on it. This will include the gifts of the Spirit and how they can be used inside and outside the Church.

We will go on to look at sharing Jesus to a lost world and specific leadership skills.

### 2. Personal Evangelism Training for the Whole Church

The course for the whole Church took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> November and was well attended.

### 3. Evangelistic Teams

- a. The Evangelism Events Team has been divided into 3 groups and each group is organising an outreach event, such as A Music Event, A Family Event and a Meal (which would include entertainment), to further connect with the Community, The planning for these is ongoing and more details will be available as firm dates are established. All three have a variety of skills including planning, publicity and practical.
- b. The Evangelism Team are having ongoing training to equip them to witness to their friends and neighbours. In the summer we will be going out into the community doing "Supernatural Evangelism". This will involve using the gifts of the Spirit outside the walls of the Church.

The aim of all of these groups is to build the Church of the future and see the community reached with the good news of Jesus.

Dave Miller

## **Women's Net**

I am excited for 2019, I feel that God has laid some plans on my heart for the Women of Bentley Baptist. A chance for women to come together in fellowship, be able to grow in our faith and to be guided along in our spiritual journey. We want to have things that are suitable for all women, whether they are a new Christian just at the beginning of their spiritual journey or a well experienced Christian, God is always available and ready for everyone one of us.

I am also actively looking at life groups and really asking God to show us how to provide the right groups for our ladies in Church. We are pleased there are so many of the congregation that currently attend a life group, they are still an integral part of the Church family.

I feel blessed to 'head up' an amazing group of women in Bentley Baptist. Everyone, wonderful and unique and created by GOD.

Lorraine Jackson

We have been open for just over a year and what a great journey, which we will continue in the coming year.

Looking forward, I feel we should open four or five days a week, as there is a definite need in the community for places such as Renew, and with God at the helm we can fill that need. Having said that we need people who have a compassionate heart, good conversational skills, making and encouraging new friends, good listeners, non-judgemental, an ability to empower others to reach their potential, but most of all a desire to serve, and a heart of love for our local community, plus an understanding of the 127 strapline 'it's okay not to be ok'.

This may sound like a long list and may not be everyone's cup of tea, however there are people out there who can instinctively do all the above and more, you just need to get out of the boat!!

The benefits of serving God in this way are extremely rewarding and fulfilling. The hub of 127 is the prayer/quiet room, everything we do flows from that room, it is not Our centre, it is not what WE can do or say, We cannot change lives but our Heavenly Father can and he directs our paths, decides who will step through our doors and if we listen to Him he will quietly let us know when to listen without comment, when to speak and when to shut up! There is never a dull moment.

There are now 21 Renew centres up and down the UK and interest is growing rapidly - it is God breathed - join us for the ride of your life.

Anne Gosling

## Safeguarding



The DBS register will be updated in the next few months. It is suggested that DBS checks are renewed approximately every 3 years. So those working with children/adults may be asked to complete an application form to apply for a new DBS check. BBC will be applying for DBS checks for everyone working with children/adults even if they have a current DBS certificate through another organisation. This is to ensure that church is up to date with all safe guarding recommendations.

CCPAS (The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service) have recently advertised safe guarding training but it was not in this area. I will be making enquiries about future safe guarding training in this area.

Gill Beams

## Website and Social Media

It's been just over 12 months since I took on the church website and social media and it has been quite the learning curve!

**Website** – the first job I felt I should do on the website was a change in colour scheme and a slight change in the layout, I felt that the website needed to have a professional and modern feel while still staying friendly and inviting. I took inspiration for the colour scheme from the colours of the church décor and added in grey to compliment.

My second task was to go through every individual page and make sure all information was up to date. This has been quite a long process and I am aware that some pages still aren't fully up to date as I am waiting to be sent additional information for them. The pages for the community work e.g. renew, open the book, football etc. I would like to perhaps feel a little bit more personal so maybe if you are involved in one of these you could give me some suggestions on how to achieve this? I just feel these pages could share more of the life of the church and exactly what it is we are doing outside of the church building.

At the beginning of last year I also introduced a new audio player for the sermons so that people have the option to play online or download. There have been multiple people ask me when the sermon will be available online, usually it is available by lunch time Monday, however if it has required a lot of editing (to correct sound quality) it can be delayed and there has been the odd occasion I have forgotten to upload the sermon from the church computer (sorry), so then it has been a case of waiting for someone to be back at church to upload it!

The new member's area was built for the purpose of; sharing CMM and AGM agenda/minutes and giving a place where any other information solely for church members can be shared privately. While these can be and have in the past been shared via email the advantage of doing it this way is that you have the ability to make comments and therefore it enables people to be able to ask questions or give feedback which the church leaders will be able to respond to. Not many people have yet to sign up for this part of the website, as it is new you will require to sign up, even if you had a login on the old website. Registration doesn't take long but you may have to wait up to 48hrs for your account to be activated as I have to manually do it.

In July I introduced a new calendar to the website, due to it having a lot more features than the old one. The new calendar can be synced to your own calendars including; Time.ly, Google, Apple Calendar and Outlook Calendar. The calendar also gives the option to share individual events via email or to a large list of social media platforms including; Facebook, Twitter, Pintrest, LinkedIn, Tumblr, Messenger to name just a few.

After the Populating Heaven Seminar was recorded I was able to create a page where the audio and notes were available to listen/read and download. I have more recently contemplated on how useful it is to have resources so easily available and do hope that in future that I will have more to add and may be able to create an online training library.

**Social Media (Facebook)** – When I took over the Facebook page we had 370 page likes, this has increased to 420 likes (January 2019) which I hope means I'm getting something right! At the start I very much thought that the aim of the page was to share church news, events and maybe the odd photo here and there however the more time has progressed I have realised that Social media is a ministry in itself and that it has a much bigger purpose as God has begun to lay more and more on my heart.

In addition to the usual sharing news, events (which has been a great form of advertising) and weekly Bible mediation, from time to time I post devotionals, bible verses or videos

that I felt God was prompting me to share. I try to ensure that posts are suitable for both those viewing the page and also suitable for people to share on their own timelines, reaching out to their non-Christian friends.

On the lead up to Christmas I really felt I needed to do something to mark advent and so participated in #MyAdventChallenge which meant for 25 days I posted, a verse, picture, song, video or thought that reflected the truth of Christmas. The idea was to give food for thought to both Christians and non-Christians; some posts were more aimed as outreach where some were aimed towards Christians giving a different point of view on such a well-known story.

The start of the New Year, I shared 7 bible verses for the new year, every day for the first week along with a short devotional. Further into January I felt God prompting me to post about our Identity in Christ, I felt this was an important message to both Christians and non-Christians alike.

With Easter and Lent quickly sneaking up on us I have decided that over lent I will be sharing the 40acts ([www.40acts.org.uk](http://www.40acts.org.uk)) generosity challenge. The idea is that Lent could be about more than just giving stuff up and could be a time of radical generosity as well as spiritual discipline. Each day there will be a new generosity challenge and short Bible-based blog straight. Each act is designed to sharpen your awareness and give you practical ways to stretch your faith as well as your generosity.

It's also worth noting that there is a Facebook feed on the website, so those without Facebook can still see what's being posted.

In the next year I can see this Social media ministry continuing to grow and perhaps more regular devotionals and food for thought, there's also the question as to whether a group page may be the way forward where perhaps members could share prayer requests among other things?

Hannah Cassell

## **Fabric**

After a very rushed finish to 2018 I was hoping to have a little down time till I sat down and looked at the work load for 2019. So here we go.

## **Church**

The ramp in the church is finished and is a welcome requirement to many. (I still find myself trying to step up into church from the hallway). We tried to fix the problem with the damp on the inside of the church pillars, we will have to try again!!!

We have now fitted a dehumidifier in the small room at the rear of the church.

I have been asked by the CLT Team to look at the feasibility of converting the conservatory into the main building (Rigby Lounge) and also to refit the kitchen as required into it. I will be over the year looking and hope to be working with an architect and to get some costings on this.

Some roofing work will need to be looked at this year as none was under taken last year.

I would like to re clad the top outside edge of the Ridgeway Hall and some prices will be sorted.

At long last I hope to get the side gate fixed.

We are also looking to renew the water heater in the Kitchen as I feel there must be better boilers available to us.

PAT testing will have to be done again this year as it was missed last year (still that saved us some Money).

A cost to upgrade the lighting in the church for LED or similar will also be looked at.

### **Renew 127**

I have now found somewhere to purchase a small work top and cupboard. I will also try to adjust the door to the prayer room.

I will also follow up with Anne re a shed for the rear yard.

Colin Russell (Fabric Deacon)

### **Technology**

Over the course of last 18 months we have seen some big changes (mainly to the bank balance).

We have bought a new pc to run the worship lyrics, video and music. This pc was specifically chosen to be future proof and can accept varied connections and I am looking into improvements to further accommodate different media used by speakers. We had a few issues when we first set up the new pc, as the old version of Easy Worship didn't work on it, so we were forced to upgrade the program used to a newer version. We had to hit the ground running when we swapped over. We have been using the new system a year now and we have now ironed out some of the issues we have been facing. We are still going through hundreds of songs to remove some where the words had not converted properly resulting in random chorus or bridge words on the screen. Thank you for not singing these.

The new pc has forced us to update the connection needed for the projector as well as I had to convert the signal to vga which was not strong enough so the picture kept cutting out during the service. A new HDMI cable has been fitted running from the back of church to the front. This has sparked a few more ideas. One being the monitor attached to the wall. As the rear projector bulb had gone and due to its age and could not be replaced, it was taken down. Also having a split screen setup at the back, which has been very useful to be able to see what is on the projector screen without the need to strain.

We have had some new speakers, which as we know severely dented the bank balance but have worked really well providing clear sound and will work very well when we move the service to the park for example. Again this hasn't been without its issues with cabling and feedback issues. Although the cables have been solved, the feedback issues have greatly improved but are still being tweaked to further improve the quality.

The idea of live streaming the service has had to stop. This is due to some people who cannot or don't want to be filmed and we cannot guarantee who would and would not be filmed, due to the size and layout of the building. Live audio is still being considered although not a lot of progress has been made to further this, due to other priorities.

The recorded services have seen some changes as well as to improve the quality of the podcasts with a better quality sound card installed.

The office pc has had an overhaul and under the new GDPR has had security measures installed with limited access and separate access for those who don't need to access the data on the machine.

We have had a lot of changes for the better with more on the way with new ideas being considered all the time. I also want to thank Steve and Heather stepping up to run the desk to allow me explore a passion in worship, playing the drums. I will continue to tweak and make changes and support the people running the tech desk and hopefully continue improving quality without any technical hiccups.

Cass