



Altrincham

BAPTIST CHURCH

Welcome to ABC

Sundays at ABC are the times when we gather together as a whole church, in the presence of God. We pray, sing and read scripture in order that we might follow Jesus. As we do these things we open ourselves to the power and influence of God's Spirit, as he forgives, restores, heals and guides us. In this way, we find purpose and meaning, hope and grace for all that life holds.

New to ABC - If you are visiting ABC for the first time and wish to find out more about us, please fill in one of our 'Welcome Leaflets' (available in the stand in the atrium and landing foyers) or a 'Welcome Card' in the back of the chairs. Please hand it in to one of the stewards.

Can we pray with you? - After each service, there are members of our church who will be happy to pray with you about anything that may be on your heart. Anyone is welcome to come and receive prayer. The team will be in the front left hand corner.

Sunday 14th April 2019

Being a part of a family means compromise around what is watched on TV. So last Sunday evening I found myself watching Channel 4's 'Celebrity SAS: Who Dares Wins for Stand Up to Cancer.' As you can probably guess, twelve 'celebrities' (something of a broad term these days), undergo SAS training to whittle out the weak and exalt the strong.

Interspersed throughout the show were clips telling stories of people whose lives had been affected by cancer, either their own diagnosis or that of someone close to them. I was especially touched by the story of Jamie MacDonald, a young Welsh judo athlete, winner of national titles and then a competitor in the 2014 Commonwealth Games. This exceptional young man was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer in early 2015. In the interviews he talked of the depression, the battles, the features of a 'normal' life which would not be his and how he knew that, 'this is a bout I cannot win, but I hope I can get a few good throws in before that happens.' What saddened me most was the sense of hopelessness of his situation; there was next to nothing save 'a few good throws' which might come of this. Jamie died in 2017.

O to have opened his eyes to the story of another young man who faced death with similar struggles, yet who also knew that death would not be the end. O for Jamie to have known, '*And what we believe is that the One who raised up the Master Jesus will just as certainly raise us up with you, alive.*' 2 Cor 4:14 Easter will be about a death, but it will also most certainly, be about the Resurrection.

10.00am – Palm Sunday – Mark 11 – The triumphal anti-climax

6.30pm - Open to God – Falling upward

Quote for the week:

"If your spiritual guides do not talk to you about dying, they are not good spiritual guides."

Fr. Richard Rohr

What's on

Elders elections— Please note the process for electing elders has begun for 2019. Members will receive an email setting out the process (paper copies available also). Voting will take place at the AGM which is now 4th July 2019 (please note the change in date).

Dates for your Diary

Meeting point—17th April Please note change of venue for this coming Wednesday 17th April, now to be held at Hale Rd in the lower lounge. Everyone is welcome to join us for a service in preparation for Good Friday and Easter Sunday, John Boyers will be giving a short talk.

Church weekend @Home—Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd June - If you haven't already written it on your new calendar make sure you keep the weekend of Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd June 2019 free for our church weekend @home. Details to follow over the coming months.

Thursday 4th July - Church AGM — change of date — The Church AGM has now been moved to Thursday 4th July 8pm at Hale Road.

Saturday 20th July - Acting on Impulse Film Premiere - Do keep the Saturday morning free for the premiere for Acting on Impulse's latest film, at HOME cinema in Manchester.

My ChurchSuite is coming! - For those of you who are church members or part of our church community at ABC we wanted to make you aware that over the coming months we will be rolling out the use of My ChurchSuite (an online tool for keeping connected & up to date with all that is going on in the life of ABC). Through My ChurchSuite, you will be able to update & manage your own personal details, sign up for events, keep on top of the rotas you are serving on & much more! More information to follow soon.

Family News

Thank you from the Stokers. Please see below note from the Stokers to ABC:

To the church family at ABC, We wanted to write a note of thanks for your kindness to us in including us as people to receive money from the spontaneous collection you had back in February. We have assigned the money to our project fund and please be assured that it will be used well to enable us to work in the various ministries of Nueva Esperanza (Bereavement care) and Raices Fuertes (Discipleship programme.) Being remembered in this way not only helps our projects financially, but it also acts as a huge encouragement to us personally, a good reminder that the UK church is with us in the work we do out here.

Thank you too for the church's and individuals welcome during our week with you. We thoroughly enjoyed the privilege of reconnecting with so many of the congregation, and especially of meeting new faces too.

Thank you once again, Kay, Dave, Joshua and Emily Stoker.

Life at ABC - news & info

Lost property – If you or one of your guests lost some clip-on sunglasses at Narnia please get in touch with the office, we have them safe. The lost property boxes in the Byrom St entrance and the upstairs foyer are also quite full so do check there is you have lost something.

Lost Silver teapot - If you have come across a silver teapot last seen in a bag of soft toys during Narnia could you return it to the church office so we can reunite it with it's owner. Thank you!

The Hub Cafe Easter times — Baby & Toddler cafe is on 9th-12th April.
The Hub café closes on Friday 12th April and reopens Tuesday 23rd April

Wanted — bakers! Each Monday at the Hub there is a CAP discovery lunch . The group is blessed each week by hospitality and a free lunch. The group is growing and needs a couple more people on the rota to bake homemade cake once a month for the group (currently around 20 people). If you think you could help please contact Claire Gregory on 07894 728884

CAP Community Food cupboard

If you would like to contribute items to the CAP food cupboard at the Hub please bring them to the Hub or leave in the green bin in the upstairs foyer at Hale Road.

All items should be within use by date, preferably with 3 months plus before use by date, thanks. Items that are particularly needed are:

Cake bars/ slabs, Biscuits, Tea/instant coffee, Long life juice cartons, UHT milk, Breakfast cereals, Tinned anything!-fruit, puddings, vegetables, meat or fish eg chicken in sauce. Soup, Pasta/rice, Bolognese/chilli/pasta sauces, Toiletries- shower gel, shampoo, Household products- toilet duck, toilet rolls, bathroom/kitchen cleaner, dish cloths, washing powder.

Can you help? We have a family in need of a car in order to facilitate getting to and from work. Do you have a 'spare' car that is surplus to requirements that you'd consider blessing our family with. Please come and have a chat if you think you could help in any way. Claire Gregory CAP centre manager 07894 728884

Wool Needed! Do you have any spare wool at home that you could donate to our Knit and Natter group who do a lot of knitting for charities. We particularly need baby wool, double knit & chunky wool. Please bring any spare wool you may have to The Hub or the church office. Thank you!

Great news - Hub defibrillator! We are really pleased to say that we came first in the Tesco Bags of Hope scheme and have been awarded £2,200 to purchase and fit a community defibrillator at the Hub.

Thank you for your assistance in being able to achieve this.

Regular Activities

Many activities are taking a break over the Easter period, see below for details. These are at The Hub unless stated otherwise.

Sunday

10am Children's Holiday provision @Hale Rd 0-11yrs

Monday

12.30pm Discovery Lunch not on 8th & 22nd but is on 15th

Tuesday

10am Toddlers restarts 23/04 0-3yrs
English Class restarts 23/04 adult
2pm Watercolour Class not on 16/4 adult

Wednesday

10am Toddlers restarts 24/04 0-3yrs
1.30pm Healthy Hips & Hearts seniors
Not on 17th, 23rd April or 1st May. Back on 8th May.
2.30pm 'First Wednesday' adults
Meeting Point (3rd Wed) adults

Thursday

10am Toddlers restarts 25/04 0-3yrs
12.15pm Women Welcome for prayer & lunch (usually 2nd Thurs)
2pm Knit & Natter

Friday

10am Baby & Toddler Café not on Good Friday 19/4 0-3yrs
10.00am Journaling – fortnightly not on Good Friday 19/4 adults
1.30pm Healthy Hips & Hearts not on Good Friday 19/4 seniors
6.30pm Transformers @Hale Rd restarts on 26/04 Rec-Yr 6

Saturday

9.30am Contact Centre Referred places

Journey into Light — A free exhibition at St Mary's Bowdon of artwork created by prisoners from Styal & Thorn Cross prisons. 9th-22nd April 9am-5pm except when church service on Sunday 14 & 21 April 10.30am-12.30pm, Good Friday 1pm-3.30pm. Refreshments available from the exhibition café during Easter weekend.

Care for the family — *Raising Faith* Bethany Church Gatley Tues 7th

May 7.30-10pm *Raising Faith* is an event for mums and dads looking at the simple things we can all do to help nurture our child's faith in the day-to-day.

<https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/events/other-events/raising-faith#booking>

Prayer Storm Manchester at Audacious Church 18th May

12noon-7pm. A day of worship, prayer and fasting for our nation. Free tickets available on Eventbrite. Contact naomi@prayerstorm.org

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