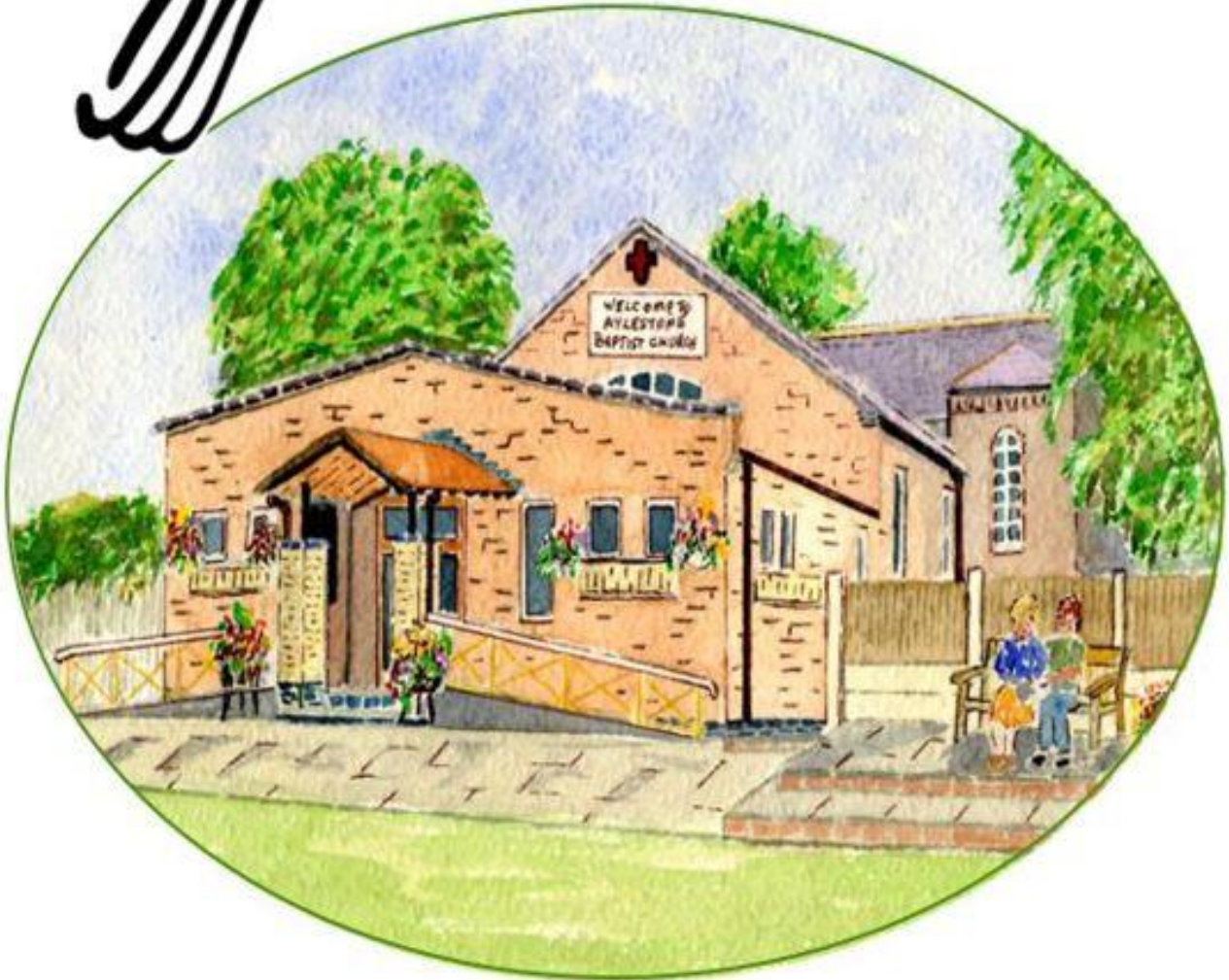




Aylestone Baptist Church
Learning God's Love, Sharing God's Love



May & June 2023
Church Magazine

ABC Vision

AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Vision

*Growing,
Learning
Experiencing,
and Sharing
God's Love*

On Sunday 16 April, a church Vision Statement was presented at a church meeting by David Statham of the Vision Team. This statement was approved by the church members. A special “Thank you” to the Vision Team for all their hard work and many meetings. More will be presented about this vision in the coming weeks and months.

Upcoming Sundays

On Sundays, we continue to work our way through the book of Philippians in our teaching series. Join us each week as we explore the many themes in Paul's letter to the church at Philippi. Don't forget the memory verse!

Date	Theme	Passage	Memory Verse
7 May	Partners in the Gospel	Phil. 2:19-30	Phil. 4:6
14 May	Losing It All	Phil. 3:1-11	Phil. 3:8
21 May	The Amazing Race	Phil. 3:10-14	Phil. 3:14
28 May	Eyes on the Prize	Phil. 3:15-21	Phil. 4:4
4 June	All-age service	Phil. 4:4-9	Phil. 4:8
11 June	The Antidote for Anxiety	Phil. 4:1-9	Phil.4:7
18 June	Supernatural Strength	Phil. 4:10-13	Phil. 4:13
25 June	Contentment in Christ	Phil. 4:14-23	Phil. 4:19

Dear Church,

As you know, I enjoy using a bit of humour in my sermons on Sundays. I thought I'd use this opportunity to share with you some of my favourite jokes and humorous stories from the past year or so. As a bonus, I wanted to also share a little bit of how these jokes fit into the themes and messages of the sermons. Hopefully you will find this entertaining and inspirational.

The first joke is one I told on Easter Sunday, and I was told this one was the best joke I've told so far. I think you will see how it fit into the Easter message:

A man, his wife, and his mother-in-law went on vacation to the Holy Land. While they were there, the mother-in-law passed away. The undertaker told them, "It's going to cost you £5,000 to ship her home for a funeral. Or you can bury her here in the Holy Land for £150." The man thought about it for a while and told the undertaker he would just have her shipped home. The undertaker asked, "Why would you spend £5,000 to ship your mother-in-law home when it would be wonderful to be buried here and spend only £150?" The man said, "I've heard about a man who died here in the Holy Land. He was buried here and three days later, He rose from the dead.... I just can't take that chance."

When preaching on giving, I shared this one to lighten what is sometimes a heavy topic:

A little boy was given a £5 note to put in the offering basket. When the offering came around, he wouldn't put it in the bag. But after the end of the service, when he went to shake the pastor's hand, he pulled out the £5 and gave it to the pastor. The pastor asked him, "Why are you giving me this money? Why didn't you put it in the offering bag?" The boy answered, "Because my mummy told me you're the poorest pastor we've ever had!"

Speaking on the subjects of having a right attitude and putting others first are always important. These stories helped illustrate those points:

- *Two women were on a bus, fighting over the last available seat. The driver had to intervene, so he shouted, "Let the ugly one take the seat." Both ladies stayed standing the rest of their journeys.*
- *My brother and I used to fight in the pool. Then one day our mum told us to divide the pool in half and to each stay on our own side. I picked the top half.*

- *Speaking of my brother, it's hard for me to talk about our relationship. He took going to jail really badly. He went on a hunger strike, he even refused drink. He would spit at people, and he spoke terribly about all of us in the family. Ever since then, we said we'd never play Monopoly again.*
- *And since I mentioned Monopoly, I should point out that the game is not relevant any more. There's free parking, guaranteed income just for moving around, you can buy property, there's a tax on luxury, and rich people can go to jail.*
- *Sometimes we are very hard on ourselves. A man was asked to describe himself in 3 words. He thought about it and said, "Bad at following directions."*

The Christian message is life-changing, but not everyone accepts it. Here's a joke that you might have to think about...

There's a story of a Jewish son, 18 years old, who tells his father he is moving out. The son returns a year later and tells his father that he's no longer Jewish and has converted to Christianity. The father is upset and calls his friend, who is also Jewish. "You won't believe this: My son David moved out for a year and came back and told me he converted to Christianity."

His friend says, "You won't believe this: My son Benjamin moved away for a year. When he came back, HE converted to Christianity, too!"

Both upset, they call their rabbi and explain what happened. The rabbi listened to both their stories, then shared this: "You won't believe this, but my son Joshua moved away. When he came back, he told me he converted to Christianity, too!"

The rabbi suggests they all pray and tell God what had happened to all three of their sons. The rabbi tells God that all three men had sons who moved away and converted to Christianity. Then they listen, and God says to them, "You won't believe this..."

This one teaches the importance of keeping our mouth shut and exercising self-control:

There was a single man living at home with his father, who was a wealthy business owner. The father was sick, however, and told his son Edward that he would give him the business and a large fortune when he died. But the father said he had one condition before he gave away the business – he wanted to see Edward get married. So Edward began thinking of all he needed to do to prepare to take over his father's business and a large amount of money.

Rather than waste it, he decided to get some advice from a financial planner. When he met the financial planner, she was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. She was wise, intelligent, charming, and single, too! Edward tried to listen to all her advice, but he was so distracted with her beauty. Losing his self-control, he interrupted her financial advice and told her, “Listen, I'm just an ordinary guy, but my father will die soon and leave me all this money. Just make it simple for me.” The woman thanked him and asked him for his business card. Three weeks later, she became his stepmother!

I'll close with my personal favourite Church joke. I used this one for “Back to Church Sunday.”

A Christian is stranded on a deserted island for many years. He's finally rescued when a passing ship notices his smoke signals. A team of sailors lands on the island, and they prepare to take the Christian off the Island. But first he offers to give them a tour of his island. As he walks them down the coastline, the first building he shows them is a simple hut. He explains that this is his house. He then proudly shows them a second building he built himself, which he says is where he goes to church. Then one of the sailors notices a third building down the coast and asks, “What's this building for?” The Christian says, “Oh, that's the church I used to go to.”

The Bible says in Proverbs 17:22, “A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.” I'll do my best to continue to provide laughter and cheer by sharing only the best jokes with you each week. If you have any jokes or funny stories you think might fit in with a message, feel free to send them to me.

An evening of music for all and featuring
The Granby School children's choir,
Followed by tea and lots and lots of CAKE!
Entrance 3.50 & £1.50



All proceeds to Christian Aid.

CHOIRS & CAKES CONCERT

& Supporting Musicians

Saturday May 20th 4.30 - 6pm

Aylestone Baptist Church

Adults £3.50 & Children £1.50

Includes Tea & Cakes



Christian Aid Fundraiser

LADIES TOGETHER

There was much fun and laughter at the Games afternoon and bring and share tea. In particular one game that involved mystery presents which brought out a surprising cheekiness in some ladies!

The following is part of some thoughts that were shared during this evening:

“Not every woman is like you, you know. You have a different way of acting and speaking, a different way of carrying yourself, a different way of loving and respecting your body. No, you are not strange or crazy. No, you are not less special. No, you are not better than any other sinner. But you are wonderfully, beautifully made in Christ. Stand firm in your morals and decisions. Do not change yourself for others or for love. Be proud of your body, your faith, your soul, and your being. Be proud of your God.”

The ladies have also enjoyed a mini-golf experience and look forward to a **walk and meal at Glen Parva Manor, on Monday June 12th** (meal only if you don't fancy the walk). Do come and join us – the only criteria is that you have to be a woman.

Man Alive



In April we had a visit to Calke Abbey – all had a good time looking round the house and grounds.



meetings for May/June

Tues 23rd May Skittles evening



Sat 24th June – Evening walk and meal

EASTER EVENTS..

Praise Evening

Saturday 1st April and the church was filled with music and singing on the evening led beautifully by Roxanne.

There were many moving congregational songs, a short talk from Will and a testimony from Martin.

Nicholas and Beth with Daniel on the piano sang a moving and beautiful song, and Nicholas performed a song he had written – what a joy to see such talented young people using their gifts to praise the Lord.

Roxanne is planning another Praise Evening on July 8th (to be confirmed). If you missed the last one make sure you have this one in your diary.

Palm Sunday became Palm Sundae this year!

The All-Age service featured the ingredients for an ice-cream Sundae, and Will invited the children to help make it up.

He began with crumbled biscuits symbolising the stoney road into Jerusalem which the donkey trod, then mint leaves to represent the palm branches that were waved as Jesus made that journey. Next came chocolate finger biscuits laid down as crosses as we moved to the crucifixion, vanilla ice cream representing the tomb where Jesus was laid.

Finally a flourish of squirty cream for the joy of the resurrection. (Needless to say the children particularly enjoyed the squirty cream part!).

All the church enjoyed a bowl of Sundae on this rather different Palm Sunday.



FUN DAY to raise funds for SIGMA

It didn't look promising for the Community Fun Day on the Tuesday of Easter Week, it seemed as if the rain would never stop - BUT God blessed the day with wonderful warm sunny weather, and families from the Community flooded in.

The Bouncy Castle had a steady stream of children, as did the Easter Crafts and (new this year) the Treasure Trail where children filled in their Egg Chart at various stations, with a craft and part of the Easter Story at each one, plus an Easter Egg prize at the end.



There was a quiet, reflective area in the church, plus crafts, cakes and books on sale – and of course refreshments and lunches.

It was a great day to share with the Community, and £600 was raised for SIGMA, India. Many, many thanks to all who gave their time and talents to make this such a successful event.

Good Friday

Another beautiful day dawned for the Walk of Witness together with the other Churches in Aylestone. We met at St. Andrews Church for a hymn and a reading, then processed behind the cross to St. Edwards, for an Easter meditation. We finished up at ABC for a short service followed by hot cross buns and a lovely time of fellowship as worshippers together in Aylestone.



Easter Day

The service was full of drama, beginning with a very powerful film showing the battle between Jesus and Satan at the crucifixion. Also a moving meditation from Maxine and Elaine took us into Communion.

The church looked beautiful with flowers on the cross and the Communion table laden with bread and grapes and “wine” for the Sacrament.

Will’s talk reminded us that, through Jesus death and resurrection we can be born again and have the joy of expressing this in baptism. If anyone is contemplating giving their life to Christ and wishes to be baptised, please talk to Will, our minister.

CHURCH FLOWERS

At our Church meeting in April I mentioned that we have a rota pinned on the board in the church lounge where upon you can add your name to give towards the fresh flowers in church each week. It has quite a lot of gaps on it at the moment, so I encourage you to consider whether you could add your name to it. Maybe for an occasion or in memory of someone?

There is no minimum amount and whatever you do give will go towards the flowers, you can request a colour or a flower, and Wendy & her team will do their best to accommodate you.

Thank you.

Ruth G.



What's on for the 3rd Age in May/June 2023

Lunch Club

Lunch Club meets fortnightly on a Thursday, serving a 2 course roast dinner for £6. Church open from 11am for coffee and chat, meal served at 12.45pm. No need to book, just come along and receive a warm welcome.

Thursday May 4th – please note the lounge is being used for the Council Elections so please come into the hall where coffee and tea will be served before lunch.

Thursday May 18th

Thursday June 1st / 15th / 29th

Thursday July 13th – Lunch Club is closed for the holidays re-open Sept 14th.



The Open House



Held on alternate Thursdays, from 11am for coffee and biscuits, knitting, board games, chatting, and you can have your nails painted, together with an informal 2 course meal, cost £4. Pop along and have a lovely day out.

Thursday May 11th / 25th

Thursday 8th / 22nd

Thursday July 6th – closed for hols re-open Sept 21st

Tuesday Group

From 11am, coffee and chat, 11.30 a time to look into the Bible, discuss and ask questions, all relevant to the older age group, and finishing the morning with a light, hot meal and time of fellowship. If you want to seek to have more of God in your life – it is never too late, come and join the group and enjoy the blessings.



Tuesday Seniors Fellowship

Tuesday May 9th / 23rd

Tuesday June 6th / 20th

Tuesday July 4th / July 11th Lunch Outing.

Re starts Sept 19th

You are invited to

Celebrate the Coronation of
King Charles III



At an afternoon Tea Party on MONDAY 8TH May 2023 at 3pm.

Dress Code – Posh!

Cost £6 per person (children £3)

Booking essential – see Jill or Dorothy. ('phone 2836422)

Essential Dates for your Diary.....

Children's Holiday Club - Mon. July 31st – Fri. August 4th.

Registration Day: Saturday 10th June 9.45 – 12.15.

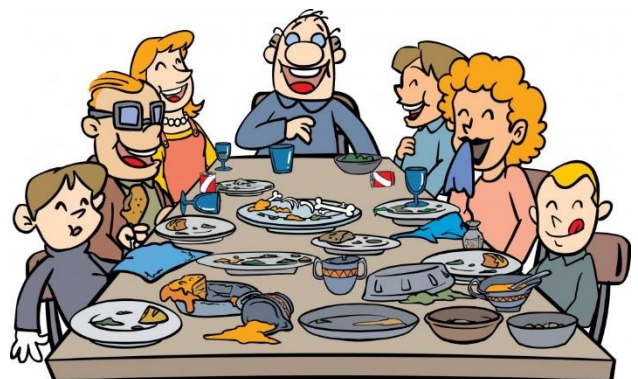
Booking essential as places are limited.

Holiday@Home for the 3rd. Age - August 15th, 16th & 17th.

See Dorothy for registration form.

Dinners for 8

In the last month or so, many of our church members enjoyed meals in each others' homes as part of "Dinners for 8." For some groups it was lunch; for some it was an evening meal. Some groups had more than 8, and some groups had less than 8. (And one group is still waiting to meet). But everyone so far as enjoyed getting to meet others from church who they might not normally have a meal with. The food has been excellent, and many of the groups stayed and enjoyed fellowship for many hours after the meal.



CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

We are very pleased to welcome two new deacons - Hazel Turner and David Statham – to our Leadership team. May God bless them and guide them as they serve our fellowship.

Many thanks for the six years of service from retiring deacons Maxine Elliott and Lee Wafforne. Although their time as deacons has finished they will still be serving the church in their usual wonderful way.

Congratulations to Julie & Jeff Lovatt who celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary on May 14th. May God continue to bless their life together and all their family.

Every blessing to proud grandparents –

Don and Mari Walters on the birth of Rory. Rory has had some early difficulties but is now doing well. May God bless him and his parents, Hannah and Steve.

Jill and Ron are now grandparents to twin boys born in Australia. We ask God's blessing on Fisher and Swin, and parents Sam and Fiona, and look forward to a possible visit in the summer.

Some of our fellowship have been going through hard times...

Barry Hall has been in hospital with severe back pain, and although now at home is continuing to suffer acute pain. We pray for his recovery, and for Wendy who herself is not well.

Diane Bland is very unwell at the moment. We pray for comfort and healing for Diane, and strength for Mike as he cares for her.

Marilyn Winterton has had an operation to straighten her fingers – a painful procedure. We pray this has been a success and the pain will soon subside.

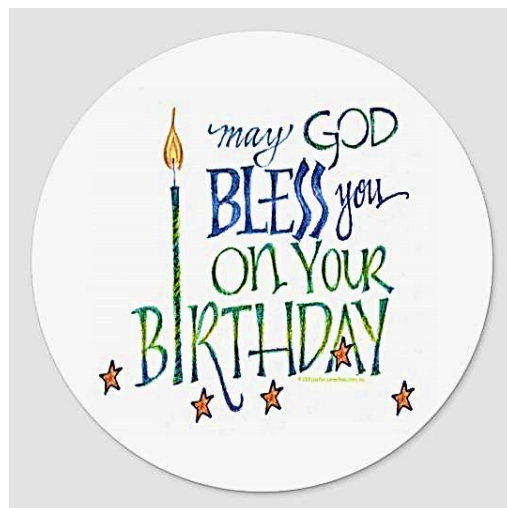
Please continue to uphold in your prayers Kenneth, as he continues Chemotherapy, and others that are known to us undergoing treatment for cancer at this time.

“My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever.” Psalm 73 v 26

BMS Birthday Scheme

Happy Birthday and thank you to:

May 11 th	Hazel Turner
June 12 th	Denise Vernon
June 13 th	Joyce Rowley
June 17 th	Gladys Head
June 23 rd	Ruth Hopkins



Denise has received the following letter from BMS World Mission :

(Extract) “Thank you for all you are doing to make mission possible through the Birthday Scheme. In 2022 an amazing £227,000 was raised, bringing healing, justice and new life through Jesus across the world.

We particularly want to send our thanks to Birthday Scheme members at Aylestone Baptist Church as you are in the top 30 of the highest giving churches. In 2022 we were delighted to received £1,077 from your church...”

If you haven't already signed up to the Birthday Scheme, please see Denise or one of the deacons and bless those in need on your special day.

Mhm mentalhealthmatters - CRISIS CAFÉ

Are you feeling distressed, anxious or that things are too much for you?

The Crisis Café offers free mental health support to anyone aged over 18 years, in a safe, comfortable and supportive environment. You can come in for a chat, or access one-to-one emotional support from trained mental health professionals.

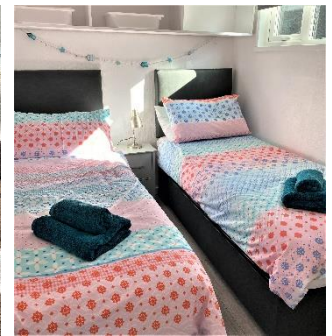
Open every Monday evening, 6pm – 11pm, at ABC.

Have you ever been to Cromer in Norfolk ?

Cromer is a small seaside town with its own pier and a theatre at the end with a seaside special show bar and cafe. It has a lovely church in the centre of the town and you can go to the top of the tower to see the view if you can manage the steep steps. Sheringham is only a few miles away, Overstrand is a few miles in the other direction.

My daughter has a chalet to rent at King's chalet park if anyone is interested please see Chalet 54 on cottages.com or phone Alison on 07771662864. Email.chalet54@gmail.com you can also talk to me too.

Ann Buxton



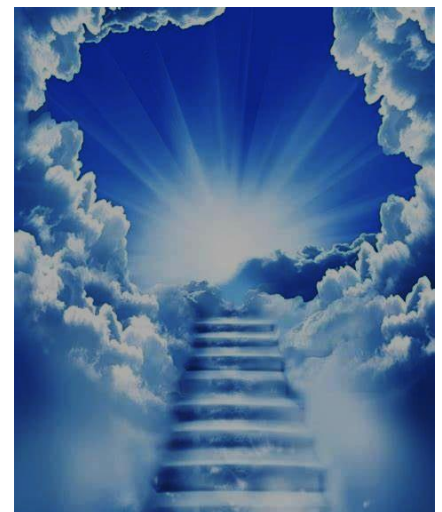
Poem of Life

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road
To sweet eternity.

We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn some things,
But never meant to stay.

Our destination is a place,
Far greater than we know.
For some the journey's quicker,
For some the journey's slow.

And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord.



Handy Household hints

You can keep your produce fresh by

Keeping strawberries in a jam jar

Open your lettuce and lay it on kitchen roll in fridge.

Wrap celery in foil and keep in fridge.

For your springtime tea in the garden, why not make some flapjack....

You will need: 100g margarine
 4 level tablespoons golden syrup
 75g granulated sugar
 225g rolled oats
 Pinch of salt.

Grease a square, shallow tin, about 19cm.

Put margarine and syrup in a pan and leave over a low heat until margarine has melted. Remove from heat and add sugar, oats and salt. Mix thoroughly.

Turn mixture into prepared tin and cook in a very moderate oven (160oC) for 30 – 40 minutes until golden brown.

Leave to cool in tin for 5 minutes then cut into 12 bars. Place on a wire tray to finish cooling.



Smile-a-while

My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60. Now he's 97 and we have no idea where he is!

Government guidelines: The Seven Dwarfs have been told they can only meet in groups of six – one of them isn't Happy !

To realise the value of ONE YEAR, ask a student who failed a grade.

To realise the value of ONE MONTH, ask a mother who gave birth to a premature baby.

To realise the value of ONE WEEK, ask the editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realise the value of ONE HOUR, ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.

To realise the value of ONE MINUTE, ask the person who missed the train.

To realise the value of ONE SECOND, ask a person who just avoided an accident.

To realise the value of ONE MILLISECOND, ask the person who won a silver medal in the Olympics.

Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He immediately took out the rubbish and then sprayed everything down and cleaned thoroughly. Today I am putting the cockroach in the bathroom!

Bread is a lot like the sun. It rises in the yeast and sets in the waist.

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always rely on the support of Paul.

Someone has collapsed on the luggage carousel at Heathrow Airport. Medics at the scene reported they are coming round slowly.

Aylestone Baptist Church
CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CLUB

**GALACTIC
HEROES**

REGISTRATION

Aylestone Baptist Church
Saturday 10th June > Time: 11am - 1pm
Contact Details > Beth 0780 580 2161

Holiday Club Starts > 31st July - 4th August
Time > 9.45am - 12.15pm
Price > £15 per child

PENTECOST

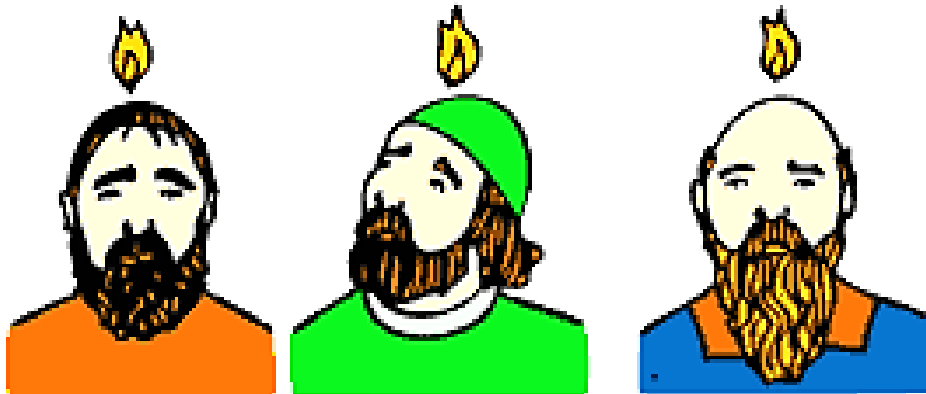
The words below are taken from Acts 2, the story of the Day of Pentecost.
Circle the words as you find them

P P R O S E L Y T E S A S S W
 T A T N E P E R C Y R E N E I
 H M E S O P O T A M I A A U N
 O P E T E R E Y P I I T I G D
 U H S S D F B L P B G P H N E
 S Y G A L I L E A N S Y T O S
 A L V O L R V R D M N G R T I
 N I J U D E A J O E I E A H T
 D A R P E N T E C O S T P X P
 R P O N T U S W I T H R E E A
 O R O M E D E S A I S A X S B
 L E G A U G N A L S E T E R C

PENTECOST
 GALILEANS
 MEDES
 MESOPOTAMIA
 CAPPADOCIA
 ASIA
 PAMPHYLIA
 LIBYA
 ROME
 PROSELYTES
 ARABIANS

LANGUAGE
 PARTHIANS
 ELAMITES
 JUDEA
 PONTUS
 PHRYGIA
 EGYPT
 CYRENE
 JEWS
 CRETES
 DAVID

LORD
 WIND
 TONGUES
 FIRE
 REPENT
 BAPTISED
 SINS
 PETER
 THREE
 THOUSAND



Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Church Minister Rev. Will Hall

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities

Sunday

10.30am Morning Service / Junior Church / Crèche Facilities
Communion on the third Sunday of each month

Tuesday

11.00am 3rd Age Fellowship & Bible Study (Fortnightly)

Thursday

11.00am Community Lunch Club (Fortnightly)

11.00am The Open House. For the 50's & over. (Fortnightly)

(Community Lunch Club & The Open House run on Alternate Thursdays)

A number of home groups meet during the week – please ask for details



Loop System Installed



Wheel Chair Access



WC Facilities

Church Membership, Baptism, Infants Dedication, Weddings,
Funerals, House Groups, Community Lunch Club, The Open House.

To find out more about church membership, Baptism, etc.

Or any of the activities

Rev. Will Hall, Contact details...

Tel: 01162 832 527

Email: aylestonebc@gmail.com

Don't forget to visit our website

<https://aylestone.hubb.church>

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU