



# Acre Mill Baptist Church Newsletter : March 2015



Sunday Services	Morning 10.30am	Evening 6.00pm
1 March	Rob Winterbottom	Songs of Praise <i>Choir</i>
8 March	David Clegg ( <b>Series 3</b> )	Alan Scholes <i>Communion</i>
15 March <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	Carol Gooder <i>Communion</i>	Terry Haslam-Jones
22 March <i>Lunch</i>	Phil W and Phil B <i>Family Service</i>	Colin Scholes
29 March <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Peter Webb ( <b>Series 4</b> )	Choir Musical 7.00pm <i>In Christ Alone</i>
3 April <i>Good Friday</i>	David Clegg <i>Communion</i>	
5 April <i>Easter Day</i>	Terry Haslam-Jones <i>Family Service</i>	Communion and Celebration
12 April	Philip Bowden ( <b>Series 5</b> )	David Clegg
19 April	Rev Martin Gooder	Phil Webb
26 April <i>Ladies' Sunday</i>	Rev Sandra Crawford <i>NW Baptist Association</i>	Friendship Group

**Coming Up**

Wednesday, 4 March : **Church Meeting (AGM)** 7.30pm

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**The Friendship Group resumes on** Tuesday, 10 March after the winter break.

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**Fairtrade Fortnight : 23**  
February to  
8 March 2014  
[www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)

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**Easter Dates** Palm Sunday is on 29 March and Easter Monday (Bank Holiday) on 6 April. We hope to have a walk on Good Friday as usual.

**The Bacup Fellowship of Churches** is not holding a Good Friday Service this year

**Most local schools** finish for Easter on 27 March and go back on 13 April, so most of our regular activities will have a **break** during these two weeks

**February** The **Annual Celebration** took place last Sunday when and we met to thank God for the past year and to look forward to the future. Thanks to all who helped and gave such **encouraging** reports. Also, thanks to everyone who helped keep the church accessible during the recent snowy weather.

Don't forget the challenge of raising £40 before Easter for the '**Send a Cow**' project. Posters are on the noticeboard and our cow money box has already received **over £10**.



We were very honoured to receive one of the ceramic poppies from last year's '**Sea of Red**' display at the Tower of London. The poppy is a gift from **Ann Taylor** and is dedicated to her great uncle, **George Schofield**, whose name appears on our new WW1 memorial. The poppy will eventually be displayed next to the **Roll of Honour** but it can be seen in its display case at the front of church for the next couple of weeks.

### Church Meeting.

Please pray for the business to be discussed at the **Church AGM Meeting on 4 March**.



If you have any items of business, please let Philip know **before the meeting**, if possible but you can put items on the agenda as AOB on the night. Two standard AGM items are the **Accounts for 2014** and our Child Protection Policy. We need to appoint a new '**Children's Advocate**' in place of Shirley. Please see one of the Deacons if you are interested

Weekly offerings for the first two months of the year averaged **£302** - a bit down on last year. Please prayerfully consider giving a little more each week if you are able to do so.

## Friendship Group

Our monthly meetings start up again on **Tuesday 10 March** when Ben Bracewell will be reading some dialect poems to us.

The group is open to everyone - **any age - men and women**. There is a varied programme and we hope to provide a friendly meeting place to just come and enjoy each other's company!

## Please Pray For

- Everyone waiting for and undergoing hospital treatment.
- The people of countries affected by war.
- Local and National Government
- Fairtrade Fortnight and Tear Fund
- All the children of our church and their parents
- The 'Send a Cow' Project
- Our Easter activities



## Give Thanks For:

- Better weather on the way (we hope)
- Warmth, light and cheerful people during the winter
- God's provision of resources
- Friends recovering from illness
- Income from the Gift Aid scheme
- Support from our Local Community
- Good friends and neighbours



## Baptism Service



Subject to approval at next week's Church Meeting, we are hoping to have a service of **Believer's Baptism** on the morning of Sunday 22 March. Details to be announced next Sunday

**New Fan** Quite a few of you have asked about the new fan that has been installed near the ceiling. It isn't a heater but a '**De-stratification Fan**'. Its job is to mix the warm air that rises to the top of the church with the cooler air near the floor. This should result in a significant **saving in heating costs**.



We were very pleased to receive **£3845** recently from HMRC as a result of the **Gift Aid Scheme**. If you pay income tax, please consider joining the scheme as we can reclaim 25% of everything that you give. Leaflets and envelopes are available with details and **David** will be very happy to tell you more! There are also some **spare envelopes** at the back of church for anyone who isn't able to join the gift aid scheme but would like to give a regular amount this way.

## Flowers for March

- 1 March** : Jean Naylor in memory of her sister, Irene
- 8 March** : Elizabeth and Jason Heath
- 15 March** : Terry and Pamela in memory of Harold Jones and Floyd Vanderhoof.
- 22 March** : David Lord
- 29 March** : Joan Spencer



There are still some vacant dates and the Flower Team would be very pleased to hear from anyone who would like to donate flowers to celebrate a special event or in memory of someone.



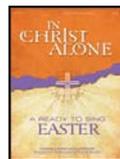
**Birthday Wishes** None of the children has a birthday in March, so congratulations **to all who have a birthday** this month, including Cassie, Pauline, Rebekah, Peter Haslam,

Matthew and Brenda Tattersall. Please let us know if you would like to be included.

**Easter leaflets** The Easter leaflets will soon be available and we hope to deliver them around the neighbourhood before our **Easter Programme** begins. Help (no matter how small) with distribution is much appreciated..



**Easter Musical** The choir are busy rehearsing for the



Musical '**In Christ Alone**' which will be presented on Palm Sunday at 7.00pm.

**Posters** to advertise the musical will be available so please take one (or more) if you can deliver to local churches, places and organisations. To avoid duplication, please sign the **list in the Fellowship Room** to let us know if you have taken one and where it will be displayed.

There will be a walk after the service on **Good Friday** - the route will probably be somewhere local, involve easy walking and be suitable for children and pushchairs. Details to follow but please **see Peter** if you need more information



## Family Events

We are hoping to have a **family party** on a Friday night in April. There will be games for children and adults, a quiz and supper. Philip and Jayne are also planning a day **trip to the Lakes** later in the year. We also hope to join the Northwest CE at **West Kirby in June**.

**Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid John 14:27**