



monthly information and resource update

July 2017

Dear Friends

Welcome to this month's Update full of news and resources for your church.

Greenford Baptist Church in London, which is one of the churches featured in the new *Pentecost People* resource launched at our Assembly in May, is hosting a **Pentecost People seminar** on Saturday 30 September. Made up of four video-based sessions for small groups, *Pentecost People* aims to help churches to embrace the different cultures within them, to learn hospitality in a new way and to experience multicultural worship and prayer. We hope that those who attend the seminar will leave with the tools to enable the effective and creative leading of worship in an ethnically diverse congregation. Please make sure that your worship leaders are aware of this seminar and encourage them to attend.

Many people seeking asylum in the UK on the grounds that they fear persecution as Christians or as converts to Christianity in their country of origin call upon their local minister to support their asylum application. Could I also draw your attention to the new briefing from the Joint Public Issues Team for **ministers called to give evidence in support of asylum applications**. This helpful briefing can be downloaded from the JPIT website.

Stephen Keyworth
Faith and Society Team



Read the key messages from **Lynn Green** following the June meeting of the Baptist Steering Group in Clevedon



The July/August prayer diary is now available to download. Please print out a copy for those unable to access it.



Read about **Colby Newham Baptist Church, Middlesbrough** in the Northern Baptist Association



News from our Legal and Operations Team

Peter Evans and Caroline Sanderson will shortly be regulated and authorised to practise by the Solicitors Regulation Authority ('SRA') and will be subject to the Solicitors' Code of Conduct. This will affect the members of the BUGB Legal & Operations team who are involved in the provision of legal services. A new Guideline Leaflet will be available for churches, which sets out our regulatory requirements as required by the SRA and details about for whom and when we can act.



Deposit Accounts

The Baptist Union Corporation Directors have agreed to a relaunch of the Baptists Together Church Deposit Accounts from 3 April 2017 that will now include a 3 Month Notice Account and a 1 Year Fixed Account alongside the Standard 7 Day Notice Account. Advertising of these **new accounts is currently on the BUGB website**, and all churches will receive details with their annual subscription letters in due course. The interest rates applicable to each of these account is also available on the BUGB website, as are the Terms and Conditions for these accounts.



As in Heaven

During her year as President of our Union, Dianne Tidball is providing **reflection material for groups and individuals** to use on the theme of 'As in heaven'. The first three of her monthly reflections are now available to use by both groups and individuals. They aim to help people think about the theme of 'As in heaven' in the light of what the Bible teaches and to grow in understanding of how we can live well as disciples of Jesus Christ.



Updating your Church Website?

Are you considering updating or renewing your church website? Our website developers, Church Insight, have just **launched their new website** on which they highlight a special offer for BUGB member churches. The offer gives 50% off the monthly fee for two years, and a £195 discount on any template used, with ten to choose from. **Click here for details.**



Stamps and Collectibles for Home Mission

Thank you to everyone who has supported Home Mission by collecting and sending stamps, etc, to us this year. All churches are invited to support Home Mission in this way by saving their stamps and collectibles and Hazel Stanyon would be delighted to hear from you if you feel you would like to offer your support in this way. **Click here for more information about donating collectible items to Home Mission.**



CTE Annual Review

Churches Together in England have recently produced a review of their year of work, focusing on their three key priorities of relationships, action for mission and theological reflection.

To **read the report** please visit the CTE website.

This month's featured events:



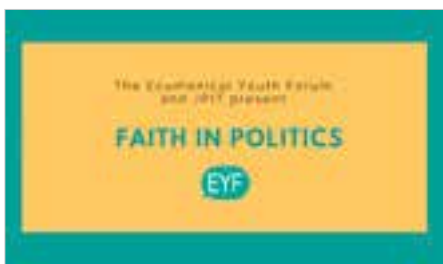
Sea Sunday - Sunday 9 July

Churches around the world come together to remember seafarers and pray for them, their families and those who support them. Sailors' Society have free resources available to help you include Sea Sunday in your church service, including a sermon and exciting Sunday School and youth lessons. **Click here for more information and resources.**



Prophetic Preaching Masterclass at Gold Hill - Tuesday 11 July

Gold Hill Baptist Church in Chalfont St Peter is hosting its next preaching masterclass - with Malcolm Duncan and Christopher Bird sharing on what it means for us to engage in 'Prophetic Preaching'. Click here for [all the information for the day and booking](#).



Faith in Politics - Saturday 15 July

Do you know any 16-23 year olds with an interest in social justice and politics? Please let them know about this free event in Leeds to launch the Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) Ecumenical Youth Forum. The day will include workshops, seminars and keynote speakers. Click here for [more details and to book](#).



DNA Taster Day - Monday 17 July

Looking for a Christian internship? A gap year or year-out? Looking for Christian leadership training? Whatever you're after in God... DNA wants to meet with you. DNA is a community of people who would love to journey with you in your Christian discipleship and leadership development. DNA runs for a year, with an optional two further years. You can join us full or part time, with overseas placements a possibility. Click here to [book a free taster day](#) in Bromley.



Growing Churches Forum - 19-20 July

Has your church been experiencing significant growth? A 50% increase in weekly attendance? A 25% increase in formal membership? Or 15% of your formal membership number being baptised over a three year period? If so, you're invited to this event at Beacon International Centre in Stafford. For **more information**, contact Alex Drew on alex@seventy-two.network



International Congress on Preaching - 8-10 August

This event, taking place in Cambridge, unites pastors and church leaders from the UK, US and many other nations. It is jointly sponsored by *Preaching* magazine, Anderson University, and Spurgeons College. The theme of the Congress is 'Preaching Hope in an Age of Fear' and will feature several talks relating to the theme, plus a variety of sermons and practical workshops. Further [information and online registration](#) is available through the ICOP website.



Let's Celebrate 30 years of DNA - Saturday 9 September

Calling all the DNA 'family'! If you have completed or been involved in DNA or TIE Teams you are invited to the special birthday celebrations in Luton. With worship, testimonies and celebration of all that has happened in the past 30 years, along with speaker Steve Clifford (Director-General of the Evangelical Alliance). Click here for [more information and booking](#).



Education Sunday - Sunday 10 September

For well over a hundred years there has been an annual recognition of Education Sunday in England and Wales. It is a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone in the world of education, at the beginning of the new academic year. Resources on the theme of 'Gathered in my name' are developed by an ecumenical steering group coordinated by Churches Together in England. [Click here for more information and resources.](#)



Shaping our Worship - Wednesday 13 September

We shape our worship, our worship shapes us. All are welcome to attend the second conference hosted by The Joint Liturgical Group of Great Britain from 10:30 - 16:00 at St Aloysius Parish Centre, London (next to Euston Station). Speakers include Graham Maule, Andrew Carwood, Geraldine Latty and Carey Luce. Cost: £25 per person including lunch. For [more details see the JLG website](#), or email: martin.foster@cbcew.org.uk



Prayer Spaces in Schools Day Conference - Saturday 23 September (London) and 30 September (York)

The Prayer Spaces in Schools Day Conferences are for everyone. They're for those who are just starting out and want to know how to take the first steps towards their first prayer space. And they're for those who have run dozens of prayer spaces and want to take things further. Click here [for full details and booking.](#)



Pentecost People seminar - Saturday 30 September

[Pentecost People](#) is a comprehensive online resource developed by Baptists Together. It aims to enable and support leaders lead worship in a culturally diverse context. Greenford Baptist Church are hosting and delivering a multi-ethnic seminar from 11:00 to 16:00 (including lunch). We anticipate that those who attend the seminar will leave with the inspiration and tools to enable the effective and creative leading of worship in an ethnically diverse arena. Cost is just £5. [Please book in advance](#) via the Baptists Together website.



The Letter - theatre tour - October onwards

Rhema Theatre is bringing an exciting show to Baptist churches throughout the UK in October 2017 and 2018. Looking at the life and letters of St Paul, it brings a great message of unity. Have a look at the [trailer for the show](#) and [reviews from the 2005 tour](#). If you're interested in [providing a venue for the show, or have other booking enquiries](#), please see the Rhema website.



Sam Sharpe Lecture - Saturday 7 October

Sam Sharpe, born in 1801 in Jamaica, was an enslaved man, a Baptist deacon, a freedom fighter and the main instigator of the 1831 Slave Rebellion in Jamaica which was instrumental in bringing about the abolition of slavery. The Sixth Annual Sam Sharpe lecture will be taking place at 19:00 at Perry Rise Baptist Church in London. This year's lecture will be given by Karl Johnson - General Secretary of the Jamaica Baptist Union. Please [click here to book your free place.](#)



Redeveloping Church Buildings: a training session - Tuesday 17 October

This training session on redeveloping church buildings will be held at Baptist House in Didcot. This is being run by Anthony Collins solicitors and Rapleys surveyors. More information will be added to the Baptists Together website in due course but you can register your interest now by emailing buc.corp@baptist.org.uk



Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer - Monday 6 November

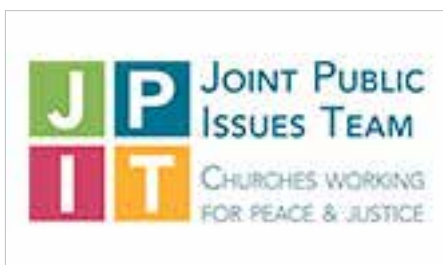
When we Arise, Communities are Transformed! On 6 November, join Baptist women all over the world in praying and celebrating the transforming love of Christ! [Resources for this year's Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer](#) – including a suggested Order of Service and a Prayer Guide - are now available from our website.



Celebrating, Surviving and Thriving - Women in Baptist Ministry - 28-29 June 2018

The Gender Justice Hub and the BME Women Ministers' Network present a 24-hour conference at IMC in Birmingham for Baptist women ministers, non-ordained women in a qualifying office, MITs and those exploring a call to ministry. With Pat Took, Gale Richards, Helen Roberts and Dion White in inter-generational dialogue. Worship led by Amie Buhari. Cost £100, bursaries available. Booking details to follow but to reserve your place now, email mary.taylor@yba.org.uk

This month's featured resources:



A Briefing for Ministers re Asylum Applications

Many people seek asylum in the UK on the grounds that they fear persecution as Christians or as converts to Christianity in their country of origin. Some may have entered the UK as Christians or have experienced a conversion to Christianity after they have arrived. The Joint Public Issues Team has a helpful [briefing for ministers called to give evidence in support of asylum applications](#) which can be downloaded from the JPIT website.



Change the World - small group course

The Evangelical Alliance has just produced this 4-week course to help you and your small group to understand God's call to public leadership. It is intended for anyone who is interested in playing a role in transforming society, whether through starting a job skills club for young offenders or becoming the national media spokesperson for a disability campaign. [Click here to find out more.](#)



The Christian Enquiry Agency

The Christian Enquiry Agency (CEA) has created a new website for churches to show them how they can use its resources to help more people find out about Jesus Christ. CEA informs people about Jesus Christ and Christianity [through its website](#). Its [new website is designed specifically for churches](#) to enable them to make the most of CEA as a free means of evangelism.



Mission Academy Live

Mission Academy Live is a video-based evangelism and discipleship tool to encourage young people to be obedient to the call and command of Christ to 'Go, and make disciples'. It is a series of 10 innovative video based sessions, each one empowering young people as missional disciples within a small group context, with a focus on peer to peer evangelism. Click here to [find out more and watch an introductory video](#).



Scripture Union Light Party Pack

What are you doing for the children and young people in your church and community this Halloween? Order your FREE Light Party Pack and help them celebrate the Light of Jesus! Lots of crafts, games and discussion ideas; advice from expert children and youth workers, including contributors from the Evangelical Alliance and the CofE Children's Advisors; tips on how to plan, promote and run your party. [Click here to order](#) or call 01908 856000



Hope 2018 - Words and Action to make Jesus known

HOPE Together is asking churches to sign up for HOPE 2018 and plan mission together in your area. [Share their new video with your church](#). *HOPE the Heartbeat of Mission* is 220 pages packed full of tried-and-tested mission ideas, resources and funding links for food banks and village fairs; Passion plays and parenting courses and more. Copies are free – you just pay p&p. [Click here to order your copies](#).



Summer in the Forest - resources from Damaris

Damaris has published a [special companion booklet](#) to accompany the release of new documentary *Summer in the Forest* (in UK cinemas and online 23June). This funny and profound film follows the life of the L'Arche community in Trosly, France, where people with learning disabilities and those who support them have found what it truly means to be human. [Read more about the film, find a screening near you, or watch online](#).



Pentecost People

Developed by members of the Racial Justice Group and Regent's Park College, this new study resource for small groups aims to help churches to embrace the different cultures within them, to learn hospitality in a new way and to experience multicultural worship and prayer. It is made up of four video-based study sessions filmed in British Baptist churches, along with additional resources. Click here to [find out more and download the resource](#).



New resource available for churches

SCM has published a 'Welcoming Students to your Church' resource, which is designed to help churches reach out to and support students during their time at university. Inside you'll find the key findings of recent research into student spirituality, case studies from a range of SCM Link Churches and some practical tips for working with students. The [guide is available to read online](#), and a limited number of [printed guides are available to order](#) in return for a small donation for p&p.



Praxis Newsletter

The Joint Public Issues Team produces their Praxis newsletter every month. Each issue contains news, information about events and resources, and provides opportunities to get involved with the social issues which concern you most. Click here for the [latest edition](#) where you can also sign up to receive an email each time a new issue is published.



Pinterest

Do you use Pinterest – the website for sharing creative ideas? It's a brilliant resource for creative inspiration and includes ideas for Sunday school, prayer spaces, worship, Messy Church, holidays clubs to name a few. [Baptists Together now has a Pinterest account](#) and would love to share the ideas that have worked in your church. If you are interested, please contact Mike Lowe by emailing mlowe@baptist.org.uk



Visual Reflections

We regularly post visual reflections on our [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts. These high quality images can be used for personal reflection and in churches, with our blessing. Click here to [find the current selection of images on our Flickr account](#).