



monthly information and resource update

October 2017

Dear Friends

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

This month's encouraging **Home Mission story comes from Mill Hill East Church** in London which has been actively making valuable connections with its community. Lives have been rebuilt through the care, love and support that the church family has offered. Minister Josh Kane shares some inspiring stories.

Please be praying for Jenni Entrican, former Baptist Union President (2015-16), who became the new President of the European Baptist Federation (EBF) at the EBF's annual council in Armenia last month. **Read more about Jenni and her new role** on the Baptist Times section of our website.

We have been sharing information about some resources for churches planning an **alternative response to Halloween** this year in the past couple of editions of this Update. The Great Commission team have put together links to these and some other resources to help you and your church make Jesus known this Halloween. **Have a look at the Great Commission website for these links.**



Stephen Keyworth
Faith and Society Team



Read the latest update from the Baptist Steering Group meeting in September at Hothorpe Hall



The October Prayer Diary is now available to download
Please print out a copy for those unable to access it.



Read about Mill Hill East Church making connections and disciples in the London Baptist Association



Presidency Nominations

Baptists are being invited to nominate the person who will serve as Baptist Union President in 2019-20. The President will help to communicate our vision and mission priorities, bringing their own unique insights and experience into their leadership, and may feel led to bring a particular emphasis within the overall strategy. Click here to **find out more about how to nominate someone.**



Pension Roadshows - Important Announcement

A **series of Pension Roadshows** is coming to a place near you this autumn for churches in membership of the Baptist Pension Scheme Defined Benefits (DB) Scheme. They will inform you about what is happening to address the current deficit in the Scheme and the potential impact it may have on your church, and are designed for anyone who is a trustee of a local church and member of the Scheme. **Contact your Association for details, and book your place(s).**



The Apology - Ten Years On

In November 2007, Baptist Union Council passed an historic resolution apologising for our part in the transatlantic slave trade. We are marking the 10th year since this resolution with a series of events, the *Lest we Forget* study resource and the *Journeying to Justice* book. Click here **for further information**.



Companies converting to CIO structure

A very small number of churches incorporated as a company limited by guarantee before the CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) structure became available in 2012. Draft legal regulations are now in place which will provide a simple process for charitable companies to convert to a CIO should they wish to do so. This may also be useful for churches with projects that were established as companies or as CICs (Community Interest Companies). **Click here for more information.**



Policy Compliance

When did you last check policy compliance? We can all have wonderfully articulated grievance, discipline, safeguarding or health and safety policies, but do we actually check our teams are complying with them? Having conducted several investigations recently, these may have been avoided by the leadership 'dip sampling' compliance on a regular basis. This demonstrates support for our teams and that leaders take the policies seriously. Any checks carried out should be fully documented. For further advice please contact Ministries Specialist Adviser, Simon Werrett, on swerrett@baptist.org.uk



Jenni Entrican - new EBF President

Jenni Entrican has become the new President of the European Baptist Federation (EBF). Jenni, a former President of our Union, became the second woman to assume the role following her induction at the EBF's annual council in Yerevan, Armenia. Please be praying for Jenni as she fulfils this role over the next two years. **Find out more from the Baptist Times article.**



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 five 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.



Urban Life report

Urban Life is a network of people, set up in 2014, exploring and researching new approaches to mission and Christian presence in deprived and marginalised urban neighbourhoods. It provides practical, local and accessible training to churches in challenging urban areas and neighbourhoods that have been pushed to the margins. Click here to [read their latest report outlining the journey so far](#).



Salvation Army / Baptist Clothing Banks

Salvation Army Trading Company Ltd (SATCoL) is partnering with Baptist churches to raise funds to be shared equally between the church and SATCoL. With every tonne of textiles you collect through a dual-branded clothing bank in your church grounds, you will receive a profit share (currently £130.00). SATCoL help to fund the vital work of The Salvation Army, supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the UK, including those who are experiencing homelessness, addiction and modern slavery. If you would like to be a part of this scheme, please contact Neil White: 01933 448226 or neil.white@satcol.org



Baptist Holiday Apartments in Minehead Somerset

Having no descendants, Walter Fabry left his estate to be used to establish a Christian charitable work. The trustees of his estate bought 1 The Esplanade in Minehead in 1975 and converted it into holiday flats, including some suitable for people with disabilities. The eight apartments on the sea front are suitable for between 1 and 9 people - two of them can be joined together for a family of up to 17 people. Accredited Baptist Ministers and mission personnel are entitled to a discount of 25% on normal prices. [Find out more from the Apartments' website](#).



Sharing the Home Mission Story

Communities around our nation are being transformed by Home Mission through grants to churches and regions which facilitate church planting, the resourcing of local churches and enable churches to develop new and creative mission projects. Through Home Mission, hundreds of lives have been affected and many have found faith in Jesus. Please [download a PowerPoint](#) to use in your church notices, or in other ways, to briefly show how Home Mission is enabling communities across the country.

This month's featured events:



Movement Day UK - 6-7 October

A movement is happening across the world, born out of unity with a dream to see the physical, social and spiritual transformation of our towns and cities. Come to Methodist Central Hall, London to share your stories, be inspired and go away better equipped to build stronger relationships with others in your city or town who are trying to make a difference and make it a more compassionate, wholesome and healthy place to live in. Tickets cost: £75 per person with a discount for groups of 10 or more. Click here for [more information](#).



Pension Roadshows - 7 Oct - 25 Nov

A series of Pension Roadshows are coming to a place near you this autumn and if your church is a member of the Baptist Pension Scheme Defined Benefits (DB) Scheme these events are a 'must' for you. Click here to [find out more about dates in your area](#).



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, 'Members One of Another: Fleeting Illusion or Faithful Pursuit?', will be given by Karl Johnson - General Secretary of the Jamaica Baptist Union. Please [click here to book your free place](#).



Church... more than a preaching station? - 14 October

This event in Shropshire explores whether, and how, we can proclaim the Gospel through pastoral care. It is for people involved in pastoral care, ordained clergy, pastors and regular church members. We will take a practical look at how churches can structure pastoral care to respond to local needs within a rural context. The event costs just £15 including handouts and a light lunch. Click here for [full details](#).



Freedom Sunday - Sunday 15 October

This annual event encourages churches to highlight the issue of Modern Slavery and is supported by Churches Together in England and anti-slavery organisations. Some [good resources are available from the Freedom Sunday website](#) to help you participate, raise awareness and pray.



Redeveloping Church Buildings: a training session - Tuesday 17 October

This training session on redeveloping church buildings will be held at Baptist House in Didcot, and is being run by Anthony Collins solicitors and Rapleys surveyors. Cost per person: £50 including lunch. [More information is available on the Baptists Together website, including booking](#).



End Hunger UK Conference - Tuesday 17 October

This conference at Westminster Central Hall is for people working for food justice in their community. You'll learn about plans for the End Hunger UK campaign in 2018, and how you can help build cross-party support in Parliament for ending hunger in the UK. There will be high-profile speakers, policy discussion, and workshops to give you the skills you need to help build a powerful movement for food justice where you are. Click here for [more details about the 'Step up to the Plate' event](#).



Christian Resources Exhibition - 17-19 October

This year's CRE at Sandown Park, Surrey is your one-stop shop for church supplies, resources and ideas. Pre-register to save at least 50% off the on-day price of £8 - Cost of entry is £4 when you book in advance. Groups of three or more: £3 each in advance. Your ticket is valid on any and all three days. Click here for [full information about the day, including the list of exhibitors](#).



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.



Growing churches forum - 8-9 November

If you're leading a church through a time of unusual growth, book in for the second Growing Churches forum taking place at the Beacon Church in Stafford. Church leaders are encouraged to attend with other leaders who are part of their church's season of growth. This will be an excellent opportunity to encourage and equip one another and those who journey with us. Cost is £20 per person to include all refreshments. For more information, or to book a place please contact Alex Drew via alex@seventy-two.network.



CIO Training Day - Tuesday 21 November

The BUGB Legal and Operations Team and London Baptist Association will be hosting a further training day on Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs) at Bloomsbury Baptist Church in London and will run from approximately 10:30 until 15:00. Esther Campsall from Anthony Collins LLP will be presenting together with Caroline Sanderson from BUGB. Details of how to book online will follow in due course.



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:



Diddy Disciples Remembrance Day Resource

With Remembrance Sunday just around the corner, SPCK is hosting a [free Remembrance Day Resource to use with children](#), from Sharon Moughtin-Mumby, Director of Diddy Disciples at St Peter's Walworth in the Diocese of Southwark. This forms part of a new Diddy Disciples resource for children's discipleship by Sharon which they will be publishing in the New Year.



Christingle Celebrations

By taking part in Christingle, you help Children's Society run hundreds of services for the most vulnerable young people, and campaign to bring about essential changes for children and their families. Christingle celebrations inspire children to reflect on their faith and take practical action to support others. The Children's Society has a free Christingle Organiser's Pack including a guide to organising an event, invitation poster and donation form. [Click here for more information.](#)



The Real Advent Calendar 2017

This year's fairtrade chocolate Advent calendar from the Meaningful Chocolate Company has a completely fresh design with a line from the Christmas story behind every door and a Christmas story-activity book free with every calendar. A charitable donation from every sale is used to help equip a clinic in Kenya. [The Real Advent Calendar](#) is a great way to share and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.



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; tips on how to plan, promote and run your party. [Click here to order](#) or call 01908 856000.



Pumpkin Heroes - from World Vision

Meet Patch the Pumpkin, World Vision's little pumpkin who'll take children aged 4-10 in your church on an exciting adventure this Halloween. They'll enjoy fun crafts and games finding out what God has to say about loving others. Resources include a Handy Guide, invitations and posters; storybook and film; Pumpkin Heroes Hunt - Bible verses and prayers; Pumpkin crafts, recipes, fun and games. [Get your free pack from pumpkinheroes.com](#)



The Meaningful Treat Box – A Real Halloween Treat

This new resource is designed to help with mission on, and leading up to, the eve of All Saints (Halloween). Inside each pack there is a bag of Fairtrade chocolate buttons and a Challenge Activity Poster with eight challenges including a quiz, maze, word game, a call to buy Fairtrade, prayer suggestion, national competition with a prize, and a challenge to treat someone less well off by donating to a children's charity. Click here for [details and ordering](#).



The Story of Shore Baptist Church, Todmorden

This booklet tells the rich history of Shore Baptist Chapel in Todmorden since its foundation in 1777 to its closure in 1985. The story told in words and pictures and personal remembrances of generations who bore Christian witness against a backdrop of profound social and economic changes. Families and their descendants, not only in the Calder Valley but in distant places, remain proud of their connections with Shore – the church on the hill. [Click here for more information.](#)



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](#).