



monthly information and resource update

August 2018

Dear Friends

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

Our **featured Home Mission story this month** is from Stapleton Baptist Church in Bristol.

I'd like to draw your attention to the **Baptists Together Mission Conference** taking place in Stafford on Saturday 15 September, with keynote speaker Alan Hirsch (Missional Author and Activist) and a choice of seminars led by facilitators from across our Baptist family. **Check the website for details and booking.**

At the request of King George V, Sunday, 4 August 1918 was observed as a National Day of Prayer: 100 days later the war ended. On 4 August 2018 churches across the country, across the spectrum of denominations, start 100 days of prayer, peace and reconciliation, called **Remembrance 100**. Please encourage your church members to get involved.

Stephen Keyworth
Faith and Society Team



Keep up-to-date with news from around our Union and beyond in the Baptist Times area of our website



The July/August Prayer Diary is now available to download Please print out a copy for those unable to access it



Read about Stapleton Baptist Church blessing dogs and their owners, in the West of England Baptist Association



ACAT Online Training

ACAT (the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers) have done some **online training on basics for treasurers and GDPR**. It requires you to log in, but all BUGB member church treasurers are ACAT members and can use the username: Baptist, and password: Didcot, to log in.



Training Opportunities

We are planning training days on the Development of Church Buildings (4 October) and Churches registering as CIOs (date in November to be confirmed). We are also planning webinars on Church Accounts (21 September) and Introduction to CIOs (16 November).

Please check our website later in the month for details and booking.



Crucible course

Crucible is run by Urban Expression, the Incarnate Network and others, over three intensive training weekends each year to equip Christians to follow Jesus on the margins. Baptists seeking recognition as pioneers via the 'Equipped to Pioneer' track can combine modules from the Crucible course with modules taught at the Baptist colleges, together with a supervised placement. Click here for [the latest Crucible brochure, with details fo dates and venues](#).



Seventy-two

The aim of Seventy-two is to be a catalyst for missional movement, across England and Wales, through Baptist networks. The name 'Seventy-two', is taken from Jesus' sending out of the seventy-two in Luke 10. Focused around Igniting Mission, Inspiring Discipleship and Infusing Culture, have a look at the [Seventy-two website](#) for resources and information to inspire our thinking and move us into action.



Spiritual Directors

The Revd Jane Thorington-Hassell, Minister at the Victoria Park Baptist Church in London, would like to compile a list of those involved in delivering Spiritual Direction. This is with a view to possibly organising a Baptist Network of Spiritual Directors. If you are trained as a Spiritual Director, please could you let Jane know by emailing her at pastor@vpbc.org.uk Many thanks.



Building a Community Where Everyone Belongs

L'Arche London is a diverse, Christian-ecumenical Community where people with and without learning disabilities live, work and celebrate together. We are looking for new Support Assistants to join our teams. Whatever your background, age or experience, we are interested in hearing from you. All training, board and lodging and a London Living Allowance will be provided. [Click here to find out more](#), and [look at the L'Arche Facebook page](#) and Twitter @LArcheLondon_uk

This month's featured events:



Remembrance 100 - from 4 August

On 4 August 1918, King George V asked that the day be observed as a National Day of Prayer. One hundred days later the war ended. On 4 August 2018 churches across the country, across the spectrum of denominations, are encouraged to start 100 days of prayer for peace and reconciliation, called Remembrance 100. [Prayers and suggestions for peace-making activities](#) are available to download from the Remembrance 100 website.



Stuart Townend 'Courage' tour - various dates September

Stuart Townend is one of today's leading worship songwriters. Hymns such as 'In Christ alone', 'How deep the Father's love' and 'The power of the cross' are sung in churches around the world. As part of his 'Courage' tour, he will be performing at various locations around the country during September. [Click here for details](#).



Festival Recovery Retreat - 6-9 September

Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre would like to bless hard working youth workers with a weekend of refreshment and refilling. After the excitement of summer festivals, youth workers/pastors are invited to 'Festival Recovery' at CCHC to reflect, refresh, refill and rejoice. For more details, and to book, please **contact the Centre on 01424 830033**.



SCBA Gender Identity Training Day - Saturday 8 September

There are few resources available for those looking to understand and make sense of the gender identity issues children and young people are dealing with. SCBA are running another Building Your Compass training event in Kidlington. Click here for **further information, and to book**.



Education Sunday - Sunday 9 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, on the second Sunday in September. The theme for 2018 is 'Faith and Works' and resources have been written by a group representing a range of traditions and agencies. Click here to **find out more and download the resources**.



Baptists Together Mission Conference - Sat 15 September

"We are in an exciting time for Baptists across the UK, one characterised by increasing creativity and innovation in mission. The timing seems right to bring together stories of what God is doing to encourage and inspire one another to respond to his invitation and join the adventure." This day at the Beacon International Centre in Stafford will begin and end with plenary sessions and keynote speakers including Alan Hirsch, with a choice of seminars making up the rest of the programme. **Click here for details and booking**.



Firestarter - various dates, September and October

A series of 24 hour 'Firestarter' events hosted by Baptist churches experiencing unusual growth have been organised – to see if this accelerated growth can become normal within our Baptist family. Firestarters are conversations involving nine of these fast growing Baptist churches, with each event offering 24 hours to 'learn, expect and act'. Click here **for more details of the dates and venues**, and book your place.



Explore Call - Saturday 22 September

Could God be calling you to overseas ministry, pioneering, evangelism, Baptist ministry, preaching or something else? With presentations from BMS, Bristol Baptist College, Urban Expression and the Heart of England Baptist Association, this is a day at IMC in Birmingham to hear from those who are actively serving and teaching. Take time to explore, talk, pray and seek God together. For more information and to book your place, please contact Adrian Argile at **aa@baptist-heartofengland.org**



Germinate Conference - Saturday 13 October

Through keynote speakers, case studies and workshops, the Germinate Conference, 'More than belonging' in Coventry will explore what it means for rural Christians to do more than belong to their churches and communities. Both inspiring and practical, the day will bring together individuals, churches, agencies and networks involved in rural mission and ministry. Early bird price available until 30 June. [Click here for details.](#)



Christian Resources Exhibition - 16-18 October

CRE - Britain's leading exhibition of church resources - will be back at Sandown Park, where around 200 exhibitors will be offering resources for every aspect of church life. CRE is developing a fresh and highly-focussed programme of features and seminars to complement their wide-ranging exhibition. [More information is available](#) from the CRE website.



Sam Sharpe Lecture - Thursday 18 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 seventh annual Sam Sharpe lecture, at the University of Roehampton in London, will be given by Rose Hudson-Wilkin (Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons, Priest Vicar at Westminster Abbey and Chaplain to the Queen) who will be exploring issues of justice. [Click here to book your free place.](#)



Serampore College Bicentenary - 19-20 October

Serampore College, the oldest university in India to be in continuous operation, is celebrating its bicentenary in association with the Oxford Centre for Christianity and Culture, the Centre for Baptist History and Heritage, and the Baptist Historical Society. Marking the occasion will be an academic conference in Oxford celebrating the heritage of Serampore and considering the future of Mission. [Click here for more information.](#)



Training Young People for Mission - 22-26 October

This is an exciting opportunity for young people aged 16-18 to spend five days of high quality, creative and fun training at St George's House in north Devon. The young people will be equipped and inspired to go back to their churches to help facilitate the church engaging and working with its local community. [Click here for more information.](#)



'Stories on the Street' training - 8-11 November

'Stories on the Street' is a resource produced by Mosaic Creative enabling churches to be catalysts for change in their communities. This practical and creative course in Birmingham will explore the use of art and drama and other creative means to bring familiar Bible passages to life and equip church members with skills, ideas and simple practical ways of building community and addressing the needs of the most vulnerable. Contact Jackie Mouradian at Jackie@mosaiccreative.co.uk for more details.



Tearfund's Big Quiz Night - Saturday 17 November

Tearfund are looking for at least 500 churches and groups to join in the fun and help them raise £150,000 for Tearfund's work around the world. **Sign up today** and, a little nearer the time, you'll be receiving a special Big Quiz pack, featuring everything you'll need to run (and publicise) your event. The pack includes a USB stick with the entire quiz, including special filmed inserts.



Caring in a Culturally Diverse World - Friday 23 November

This interactive day at Sobell Study Centre, Oxford is an opportunity to hear people of enormously different backgrounds and world views teasing out how we care for ourselves and one another in a world and workplace where things can't be fixed. Our experience comes from experience in our discipline of end of life care and dealing with patients and relatives who are deeply distressed by their situation. Click here **for course details and booking**.



Introduction to Palliative Care and Spiritual Care - Monday 3 December

This course at Sobell Study Centre, Oxford is an introduction to the concepts of palliative and end of life care, followed by an exploration of the essential practice of offering spiritual care to the patients/clients that we meet every day. (Priorities for Care of the Dying Person, 2014). Click here **for course details and booking**.



Baptist Assembly - 18-19 May 2019

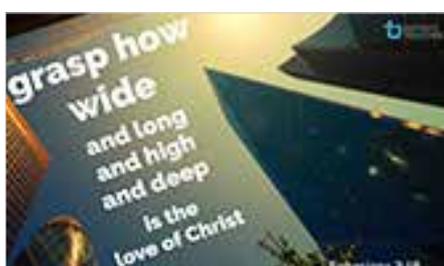
Save the date to join us for our two-day Baptist Assembly at The International Centre, Telford. Booking opens in mid-January and **information will be available from the Baptist Assembly website** later in the year. We are planning to include some seminars on the Saturday especially for church secretaries, treasurers and deacons/leaders/trustees. Please get these dates in your church diary and encourage your church family to join us.

This month's featured resources:



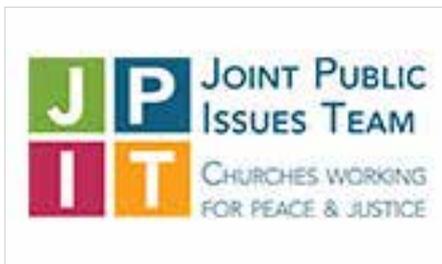
Wonderful Youth

Few resources helping young people to reflect on their faith draw on culturally diverse images, exercises and activities. Written by contributors from two multicultural Baptist churches, *Wonderful Youth* aims to affirm, both theologically and culturally, all young people between the ages of 13-16. Focussing on Ephesians 1: 1-14, it is designed to be used during Black History Month in October 2018. Click here to **download this new free resource**.



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**.



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.



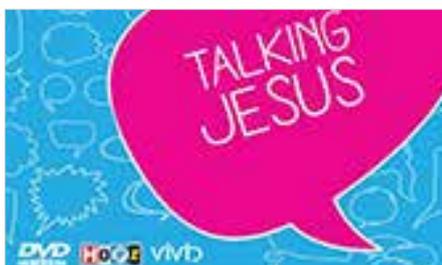
Life's first cry - BMS World Mission

Mothers and babies in Afghanistan need your help. That's why BMS World Mission is asking your church to support Life's First Cry. Their new appeal is perfect to use in your harvest service or giving Sunday and, more importantly, it has the power to help us save the lives of mothers and babies in Afghanistan's mountains. A [leader's guide](#), [video and other resources](#) are available to download from BMS.



'Share a Meal' harvest pack

This coming Harvest, HOPE and World Vision are working together to bring communities together with Share A Meal. The [Share a Meal pack has ideas and resources](#) to help you enjoy a fun time with family, friends and neighbours to help put Harvest back at the centre of church and community life, encouraging a culture of hospitality and generosity. Once you've got your pack, simply choose your Share a Meal party date and invite your guests.



Talking Jesus - the Course

Most people struggle to talk about Jesus. In the last month, HOPE has launched this course to inspire you to share your faith and give practical tips to help you be natural and relevant as you talk about Jesus with the people you meet. There are six practical, video-based sessions with short trailer videos to advertise each week's group session, and inspirational, short testimonies to give real-life examples from people who are talking Jesus. [Find out more about the course here.](#)



Light Party Pack from Scripture Union

Want to share the light of Jesus this Halloween? Scripture Union's Light Party Pack is designed to help your church or organisation run a Light Party for children and young people in your community. It's full of ideas for games, crafts and ways to talk with children and young people about the good news of Jesus. [Order your free pack](#), from Scripture Union's website, to help you host a fantastic Light Party.



The Meaningful Treat Pack - A Real Halloween Treat

Quite often people feel that there has to be more to Halloween than dressing up as serial killers or monsters. The Real Halloween campaign is a way to challenge children to explore the Christian faith, to do good and to enjoy great Fairtrade chocolate. It is a chance for 5-11 year olds to shine this Halloween. Each box costs £30 (with 30 packs per box) and also includes an ideas sheet for leaders. [Click here for details.](#)



The Recovery Course

This course is open to anyone struggling with any sort of addiction or compulsive behaviour, including drugs, alcohol, pornography, sex, gambling and self-harming. It is a good starter for those completely new to recovery as well as those who have been in recovery for years, but who would like to take a fresh look at the steps from a Christian perspective. Click here to [find out more about the course](#), including location of courses in churches around the country.



Journey of the Magi

Springs Dance Company's production *Journey of the Magi* offers a bridge between contemporary life and Jesus's birth, portraying the journey that the wise men took 2000 years ago, whilst drawing hilarious and poignant parallels with our own preparations for Christmas day. Springs is inviting churches to host a performance of *Journey of the Magi*, between 24 November and 23 December. [Further information](#) can be found on the Springs Dance Company website.



Looking for a producer to record Christian worship songs?

Justin Johnson is an American record producer, song writer and session drummer now living and working in the UK. He produces a lot of different styles of music but is passionate about Christian and worship music. He would like to work with Christian worship leaders and produce their work. [Find out more about Justin](#), and get in touch with him via his website.