



# **ST. ANDREWS** **BAPTIST CHURCH**

**May 2026 Newsletter**

## **What happened after Easter... and why does it still matter?**



*Pentecost: The coming of the Holy Spirit*

After Easter, the story of Jesus did not come to an end. In many ways, it was just the beginning.

In the weeks that followed, Jesus' followers experienced three important moments that continue to shape the Christian faith today.

At the **Ascension**, Jesus returned to heaven, reminding His followers that His work on earth was complete but that they would not be left alone.

At **Pentecost**, God's Holy Spirit came to be with them. Where there had been uncertainty, there was now courage. Where there had been waiting, there was now purpose. This is often described as the birth of the Church.

Then on **Trinity Sunday**, we reflect on the mystery and beauty of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three in one, always present, always at work.

These moments are not just part of history. They remind us that God is still with us today, guiding, strengthening, and inviting each of us into His story.

**We would love to welcome you to  
join us at our Sunday Services  
at 10.30am**

## Church Life & Notices

### Tribute for Tony Hammett

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April we gave thanks for the life of Tony, a quiet, personable man whose faithfulness, kindness, and servant-hearted nature touched many over the years.

Tony and Christine became part of SABC when they married in 1969, and together they shared a lifetime of love, commitment, and service. It has been said that they did everything together, and that sense of partnership was clear to all who knew them. Where Tony was quieter in manner, Christine was perhaps the more outgoing of the two, and together they complemented one another beautifully.

Tony was a man of steady character and practical gifts. He worked for Midland Bank for many years before taking early retirement, later working in a printing firm. He also used those skills in church life, compiling and producing the church magazine in the days of the old duplicator — one of the many quiet ways he served others

His willingness to serve was seen again and again through the years. In the late 1970s he served as church treasurer, and in the 1990s as head of stewarding. These roles suited Tony well: dependable, thoughtful, and always ready to help.

Tony also had a love of hobbies and fellowship. He was a model railway enthusiast and would take his trains to the village fair organised by the church, bringing enjoyment to others through something he loved. Alongside Christine, he helped organise the church walking group, known as “Church Rambles,” creating opportunities for friendship, conversation, and shared enjoyment of the countryside.

He was also a man who knew his Bible well. His faith was not simply something spoken, but something lived out quietly through service, consistency, and humility.

In recent years Tony experienced deep personal loss with the passing of Christine in 2019 and his daughter Louise in 2022. Now, in 2026, we mark Tony's passing too, and we hold especially in our thoughts and prayers his son Mark and all the family.

Tony may not have been the loudest voice in the room, but a life like his leaves a deep and lasting impression. He showed that faithfulness, kindness, and humble service matter greatly, and so it is fitting to remember the words from Scripture: *"Well done, good and faithful servant."* Matthew 25:23

We give thanks for Tony's life, for all he meant to those who loved him, and for the example he leaves behind.



## **The Leadership at SABC**

Over the past month, the leadership teams at SABC have begun meeting regularly as Elders, Trustees and Deacons, with a shared desire to serve the church well and seek God's guidance together.

Discussions are continuing regarding the practical oversight of different areas of church life, and further updates will be shared in due course.

We are also pleased to see plans beginning to take shape for future events and activities in the church calendar.

### **Our new leadership structure is as follows:**

**Elders:** Barry Thiselton, Chris Prater, Gary Slatter, Bob Noble

**Trustees:** Margaret Harvey, Gary Slatter, Bob Noble, David Evans, Sandra Gibbons, Marilyn Harris, Chris Prater

**Deacons:** Barry Thiselton, Ray Williams, Sue Evans, Dee Slatter, Sandra Gibbons, Marilyn Harris, Bob Noble

**Church Secretary:** Bob Noble

**Church Administrator:** Lucy McLaren

Further information about the specific responsibilities within each role will be shared in due course.

*Please do continue to pray for God's wisdom, guidance, and protection over all those serving, as they faithfully give their time and gifts to support the life of our church family.*



## **Volunteers - Serving as a Trustee or Deacon**

We are still prayerfully seeking individuals who may feel called to serve as a Trustee or Deacon.

These roles are an important part of supporting the spiritual and practical life of the church. If you would like to find out more, please speak to one of the leadership team.

*Please continue to pray for wisdom, unity and willing hearts.*



## **Volunteers - Serving together in simple ways**

Every act of service, big or small, helps shape the life of our church. From offering a friendly welcome, to preparing refreshments, to supporting behind the scenes, each role plays a part in creating a space where people feel safe, valued, and able to encounter God.

Could this be something you feel called to explore?

*Please speak to a member of the leadership team if you would like to find out more.*

## **Weekly Programme for May**

### **Monday**

Craft Club 1.30-3.30pm (*11<sup>th</sup> May only*)

Prayer Meeting 7-8pm

### **Tuesday** (*Term Time Only*)

Tiddlers 10.00-11.45am

Church Club 3.45-4.45pm

### **Wednesday**

2-3pm Prayer & Worship & Personal Prayer (*not 6<sup>th</sup>*)

3.30-4.30pm Bible Study

## **Advanced Notices**

### **Men's Breakfast**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 9am

Guest Speaker: Emile Grondin Beaudouin

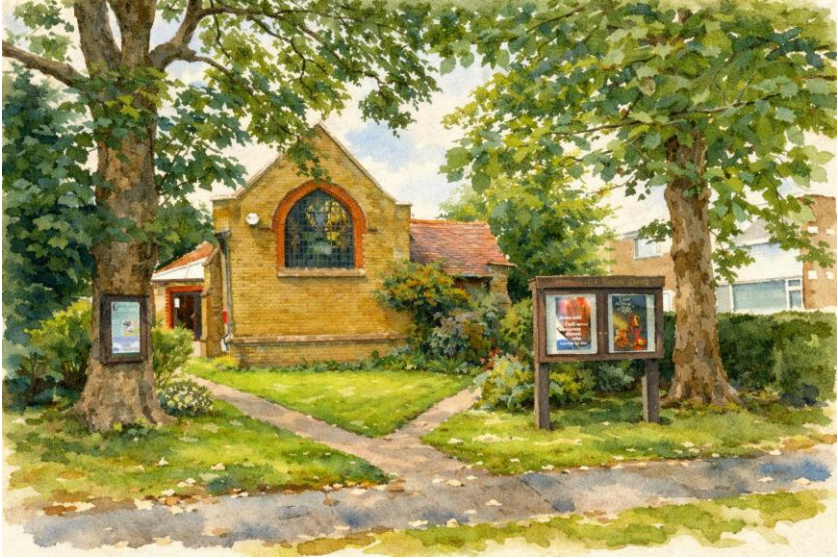
### **Prayer for Israel**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2-3pm

### **Trinity Service**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 10.30am

Guest Speaker: Steve Sitton



# **Sunday Service: 10.30am**

St Andrews Baptist Church

Upper Halliford Road

Shepperton

Middlesex

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