

# Family News

March 2026



# Craft and Chatter

1st & 3rd Fridays monthly, 10am -12 noon  
at Southwell Baptist Church



Card making, knitting, adult colouring,  
& crochet, plus magazines to browse  
and occasional workshops on varied  
crafts.

Free to all  
Light refreshments  
available



## A Time for Renewal

As I write this we're still in February, it hasn't stopped raining since I returned from holiday, and it's still very cold, grey, and dull. I've taken to buying myself bunches of supermarket flowers just to have some colour in my life - returning to this after Cuba was like going back to black and white TV after getting used to seeing everything in glorious technicolour!



However, there are signs of hope of better things to come. I have had snowdrops and hellebores in the garden for a while, and there are now buds on the early daffodils. As we head into March and the days get longer, we look forward to the start of Spring and having more colour in our lives. As we sweep away the last of the dead leaves and broken twigs from winter storms they are replaced with the fresh green of new budding leaves and early blossom, and our spirits lift with these signs of renewal.

When I was a little girl living with my grandparents, this was also the time that my grandma's thoughts turned to spring cleaning. Although she always kept a clean house, winter was hard. There were no tumble dryers or even radiators for drying laundry indoors and so washing was kept to necessary items - clothing, bedding etc. With the only heating source being coal fires, the smoke would permeate soft furnishings so, at the first sign of better weather, curtains would be taken down and rugs would be hung over washing lines to have the dust beaten out of them. Ceilings would be repainted as the smoke had blackened them, and wallpaper was

often replaced too. Whilst we still keep the notion of spring cleaning, modern conveniences mean that we can complete most tasks year round, so the term doesn't carry the common urgency that it used to.

I can't help thinking that there's a parallel here to our spiritual lives. Have we hunkered down and protected ourselves from the harshness in life so that we have found it difficult to maintain our usual habits and practices? Have we allowed relationships to wither? Do we need a spiritual spring clean where we make a determined effort to search out what needs refreshing and renewing, and to put in the work to make this happen?

I'm not suggesting that we set about each other with carpet beaters, but maybe a time of reflection on where we personally could discard what has been holding us back, and what we could nurture to see spiritual growth would be a great 'spring cleaning' habit to get into.

Love and God bless  
Sue H

2 Corinthians 5:17 — *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"*

**A Male Bee Hummingbird in it's new breeding plumage.**

At only just over 2" long, it's the smallest bird in the world, and I was blessed enough to see and photograph it in Cuba.

A little miracle of creation.



## **Mid Week Renewal: How Our Wednesday Zoom Prayer Meeting Brings Us Closer to God**

Every Wednesday morning, a simple Zoom link opens the door to something powerful : connection, encouragement and spiritual renewal. For many members of our church, the midweek prayer meeting has become a regular event for us to get closer to God.



This meeting was started at the time of the Covid pandemic, nearly 6 years ago and has kept going ever since. Around 14 - 16 people from our congregation login each week to attend. In the middle of our busy schedules and long weeks, it offers a much needed spiritual top-up. Taking time to pray together refocuses hearts and minds, helping us to realign with God before the rest of the week unfolds.

Another benefit of meeting together is to offer encouragement to one another. Hearing shared prayers, testimonies and words of hope reminds us that we are not walking our faith journeys alone. That sense of community strengthens spiritual growth, deepens faith and draws us closer to God in a very real and practical way.

The Zoom format has made it accessible and welcoming, removing barriers while keeping the focus firmly on prayer and fellowship.

If you haven't been before, why not give it a go. It lasts 30 minutes and starts at 7:30am. If you cannot make this time, we also have a short prayer meeting before the service on Sunday mornings, which happens in the upstairs prayer room at 10:00am .

Barry



Last year's Palm Sunday procession (above) and the CTiS Pentecost service (below)



## Dates for the Diary

<b>Mar 22nd</b>	<b>Christian Aid Lunch</b>
<b>Mar 29th</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Procession</b>
<b>Apr 3rd</b>	<b>Good Friday Service</b>
<b>May 14th-23rd</b>	<b>Lighthouse Prayer Room</b>
<b>May 24th</b>	<b>CTIS Pentecost Praise Service</b>

### **Regular Church Activities**

<b>Renew Wellbeing</b>	<b>Every Monday 1pm-3pm (except Bank Hols)</b>
<b>Craft &amp; Chatter</b>	<b>1st &amp; 3rd Fridays Monthly</b>
<b>Dwelling Place</b>	<b>1st Friday Monthly</b>
<b>Southwell Court Services</b>	<b>1st Tuesday Monthly</b>

If you have something you'd like to share that would be suitable to include in the magazine please do send it via [info@southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk). The cut-off date for each issue is the 15th of the previous month. Don't worry if you're not confident with writing - tell me what you want to say and I'm happy to help. *Sue*.

# Renew Southwell

at Southwell Baptist Church

A quiet shared space where it's ok not to be ok.

Join us  
every Monday  
at 1.00pm  
for chat, shared  
hobbies, and company.



[www.renewwellbeing.org.uk](http://www.renewwellbeing.org.uk)  
charity no: 1173963

It's easy to get in touch and  
a warm welcome awaits you.  
Just drop in on a Monday or  
for more info:

email [info@southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk)

## Renew Wellbeing

A quiet shared space  
where it's ok not to be ok.

## **Bite Sized Gospel**

### **Lessons from 2 Corinthians**



When our motives are misinterpreted, our actions misconstrued and our words twisted out of their real meaning, it is a comfort to remember that this also happened to Paul – and Jesus?

Look at Jesus Christ! And there you will see the glory of God come to earth in the form that a man can understand.

We are persecuted by men but never abandoned by God.

No man need fear the years, for they bring him nearer, not to death, but to God.

“The fear of the Lord” is that which keeps a man from doing things which would break the heart of someone whom he loves.

The man who is not willing to be different cannot be a Christian at all.

When God gives men all his grace and they take their own foolish way and frustrate that grace once again Christ is crucified and the heart of God is broken.

The triumphant endurance enables a man to face all that is involved in being a man.

The warmth of love will always expand a man’s heart.

There are certain things from which every Christian must get out.

*Trisch*

## **Weekly Programme**

Sun	10.00am	Prayer Meeting (Upstairs Room)
Sun	10.30am	Sunday Worship & Children's Church
Mon	1.00 pm 07.30pm	Renew Wellbeing Home Group - Southwell
Tue	10.30am 07.30pm	Home Group at SBC Home Group via Zoom
Weds	7.30 am 2.00 pm 7.30 pm	Prayer Meeting via Zoom Home Group - location varies Bible Study Home Group - Farnsfield & Southwell
1st Tues Monthly	02.30pm	Service at Southwell Court Care Home
1st Fri monthly	10.00am	Dwelling Place Tea Room (inc Craft & Chatter from 10am-12 noon)
3rd Fri monthly	10.00-12noon	Craft & Chatter

## **Contact Details:**

Steering Group:	Iain Dalziel, Sue Hartley, Sue Mullis & Barry Westbury isg@southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk
Administrator:	Sue Hartley (church office) 07866 617463 info@southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk
Treasurer:	Iain Dalziel 07834 814217 idalziel@btinternet.com

## **Child Protection & Vulnerable Adult Representatives:**

Designated Person for Safeguarding:	Janet Kneen 07719 203566 janet_kneen@hotmail.com
Safeguarding Trustee:	Sue Mullis 07802 288959 suefmullis@gmail.com

Please contact Janet Kneen in the first instance to raise concerns.

## SBC Contacts

Preaching & Worship Service	Jenny Harris jennyaharris@hotmail.com
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**Good Friday Service**  
at  
**Southwell Baptist Church**

**April 3rd 10.30am**