

The Blaby Baptist Messenger



**February/March
2019**

A welcoming church serving the community with the love of Jesus.

www.blabybaptistchurch.org.uk

Senior Leadership Team

Pastor:

Mrs Pauline Wills

Tel: 0116 2477450

Secretary:

Mrs Bette Bolton

Tel: 0116 2775391

Treasurer:

Mr Les Speake

Tel: 0116 2841133

Deacons:

Mrs Ann James

Tel: 07905130525

Mr Gareth Lanning

Tel: 07956005671

Mr Nev Taylor

Tel: 07825179417

Mrs Karen James

Tel: 0116 2783168

Mr Michael Dobson

Tel: 07854579532

Mrs Frances Speake

Tel: 0116 2841183

A welcoming church serving the community with the love of Jesus.

Greetings from Pastor Pauline

Dear Friends

May I wish you God's richest blessings as we head into 2019.

We certainly had a fantastic end to 2018 with all the Christmas celebrations.

We had so many visitors, made many contacts and had numerous "Jesus conversations." About 800 people came through the doors-some on more than one occasion.

The break-down was:

Messy Christingle 40 Quiz 48 (plus Che)

Pre-school nativity 250 Rainbows/Rangers Christingle 50

Brownies/Guides Christingle 60 Breakfast with Santa 85

Stokes Christingle 140 (It was a delight to work with Rev. Jane from All Saints) Carol service 120 Christmas 33

We probably had 500 non-church people join us for the different celebrations.

None of this could have happened without people joining in to work together in what were very effective teams. Seeing the young mums join with Bette and Karen to make breakfast was a delight-a great example of how a community should work. Seeing children and adults act together in the Christmas play was also a joy. And behind all the activities were other teams of "background" workers without whom none of the events could have taken place,

I want to say a big thank you to all of you who did your part, whatever it was. For me, it was the best Christmas we have had at Blaby Baptist Church.

Now it is time to move on into 2019. The verse that I believe God has given us tells us of His great love for us and commands us to love others as Christ loves us. So that will be our focus-learning more and more how to live like Jesus and be Jesus to others. There are home groups, Alpha and a bible study group to help us. If you do not belong to one, check them out. They are all different and I am sure that you will find one to suit you.

However, the most important group is the monthly prayer meeting and if you can only come to one thing this should be it. Praying together is when we hear from God as we seek His vision for the future of the church. We also meet to pray each Sunday at 10.15am and everyone is welcome to come along to that too.

We do continue to pray especially for two initiatives-praying on the streets of Blaby and starting a pub church in Countesthorpe. We do believe that this is the year for these to happen, but we must do the groundwork first. We also continue to pray for more families to come into church, to Messy church and to Blaze.

It is an exciting time to be part of this community so I am definitely looking forward to what God will do this year. May you enjoy it too

God bless you,

Pauline



Personal

Heavenly Father, we pray for all those who are facing sickness in their bodies. We ask that you restore their health, soothe their pain and ease their worry. Give them your peace and comfort as they wait. Amen!

*We pray for healing for Roy and Wynne.
We pray for healing for Alan and Sharon.
We pray for healing for Dì.
We pray for healing for those amongst us who grieve a loss in their family.
We pray for healing for all in our family here and further afield.
As we offer up our prayers for healing, we also offer our prayer of thanksgiving for all the answered prayers.*





[2 Timothy 1:6](#)

*For this reason I remind you to
fan into flame the gift of God,
which is in you through the
laying on of my hands.*

PRAY like Nehemiah

OBEY like Daniel

LEAD like Moses

SERVE like Martha

BELIEVE like Mary

FIGHT like David

EDUCATE like Paul

BUILD like Noah

LOVE like Jesus

In His Name
Shirley

Pray For The Persecuted

Thank-you Janet for bringing these articles to our attention. Sometimes we get caught up in our own lives, it is hard to imagine the pain and suffering our brothers and sisters in Christ endure all around the world. It is our responsibility to stay informed not only about what is happening but also what our government is doing to address the persecution being endured around the world.

DAILY EXPRESS 26-12-18 Hunt orders probe into slaughter of Christians

By **Macer Hall** Political Editor

JEREMY Hunt last night ordered an independent review into the growing persecution of Christians around the world.

The Foreign Secretary asked Bishop of Truro Philip Mounstephen to head the probe in an effort to find ways the Government can do more to protect believers suffering for their faith.

His move followed an upsurge in religious violence, particularly in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, with more than 3,000 Christians around the world murdered for their faith last year.

Christian women and children are particularly vulnerable, according to the Foreign Office. In many instances of religious persecution, victims were subjected to sexual violence.

Mr Hunt is demanding "ambitious policy recommendations" from the review.

He wants the Bishop's report, expected next Easter, to help shape Britain's foreign policy.

Mr Hunt said: "Britain has long championed international religious freedom.

"So often the persecution of Christians is a telling early warning sign of



Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt says Britain 'must do more' to ease the plight of Christians around the world

the persecution of every minority. I have asked the Bishop of Truro to look at how the Government can better respond to the plight of persecuted Christians. We can and must do more."

The review will seek to draw a map of the hotspots for persecution in countries across the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

The Rt Rev Mounstephen said: "I'm honoured to have been invited to lead this review on an issue close to my heart. Part of the Christmas story tells how

Jesus was himself the victim of persecution so it seems particularly timely to launch this review at this season.

"I'll be taking an objective look at how the British Government can better respond to the pressing plight of persecuted Christians around the world."

Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon, the Prime Minister's Special Envoy on Freedom of Religion or Belief, said: "This is an issue that resonates deeply.

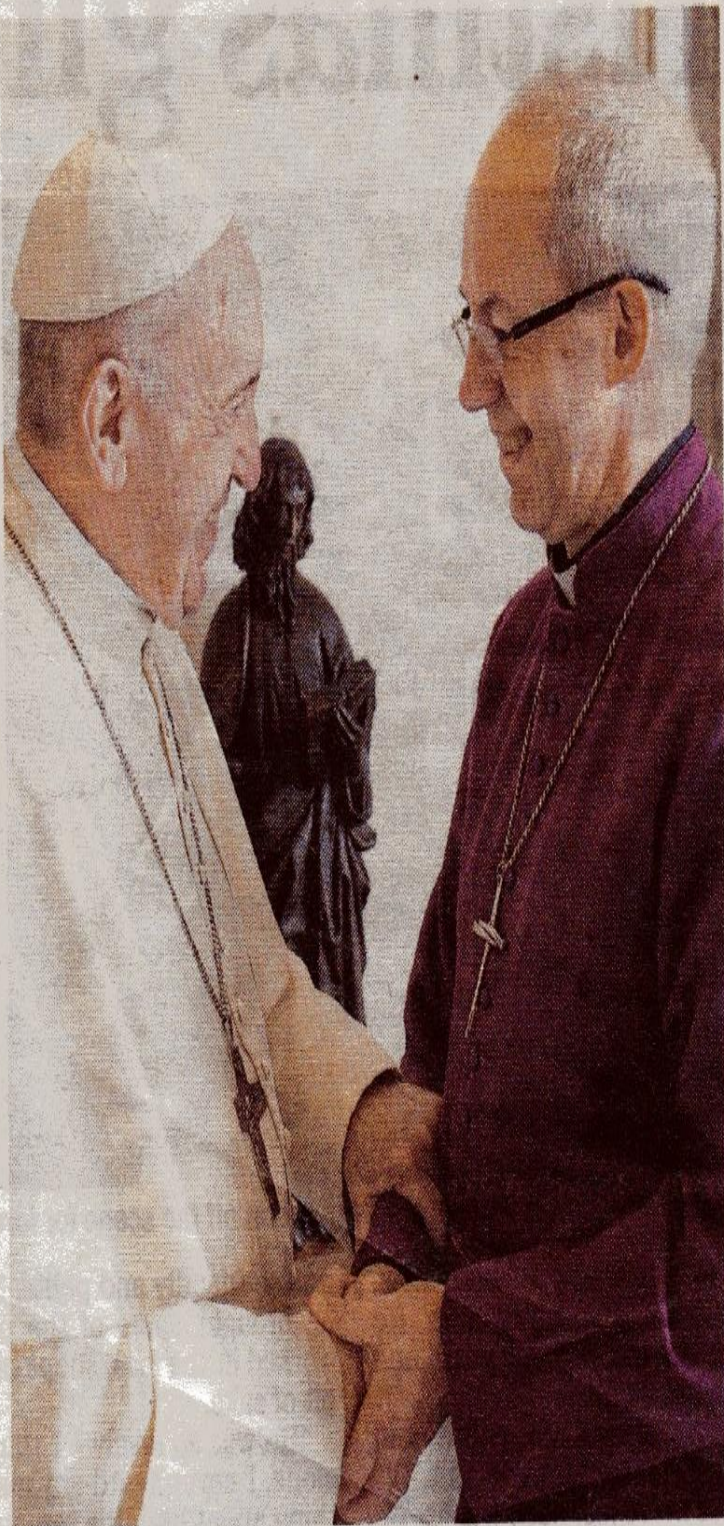
Faith

"Seventy years ago during the partition of India, my family had to leave their home and livelihoods simply because of their faith. Seventy years later religious persecution is on the rise around the world.

"Our government has prioritised freedom of religion or belief and the review we are announcing today is about providing an objective view of Britain's support for the most vulnerable Christians globally.

"I am committed to not only standing up for the persecuted, but protecting and strengthening this fundamental human right, working with key partners around the world."

Letter of the day



Leaders need to speak out against killing

THE current Pope Francis and serving Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby should be hanging their heads in shame because it has seemingly been left to the Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt to highlight the persecution of Christians throughout the world, with reportedly more than 3,000 followers killed last year alone in Africa and the Middle East ("Hunt orders probe into slaughter of Christians", December 26).

Once a year, every Christmas, without fail the holders of these offices have the temerity to lecture us, the general public, about our "self-indulgence" and urge us to rail against the evils of capitalism.

They call for an end to the wars within Islam and between Israel and Palestine, but there's rarely (if ever) a word about the thousands of their own faith who are needlessly slaughtered each year.

I can just imagine the justifiable outcry from Muslim leaders if Christians were murdering thousands of their followers in this way.

Roy Daniels,
Luton, Beds

PRIORITIES: Pope Francis and the Archbishop of Canterbury

welcome!



we Love new members



Welcome Laura
God Bless you
Here with your
BBC family

Blaby Baptist Church

81st year

Women's Own

February

AGM

March

Tea Party

Celebrating Elizabeth Orton's

90th Birthday



Bring a friend - she will be glad you did

Friendship Group

Meets every Wednesday evening

February 6th Talk by Steve BBC Lounge

February 13th Film Evening at Half Penny Cottage

February 20th Heritage at the Drop in Centre

February 27th Tea Party BBC Lounge

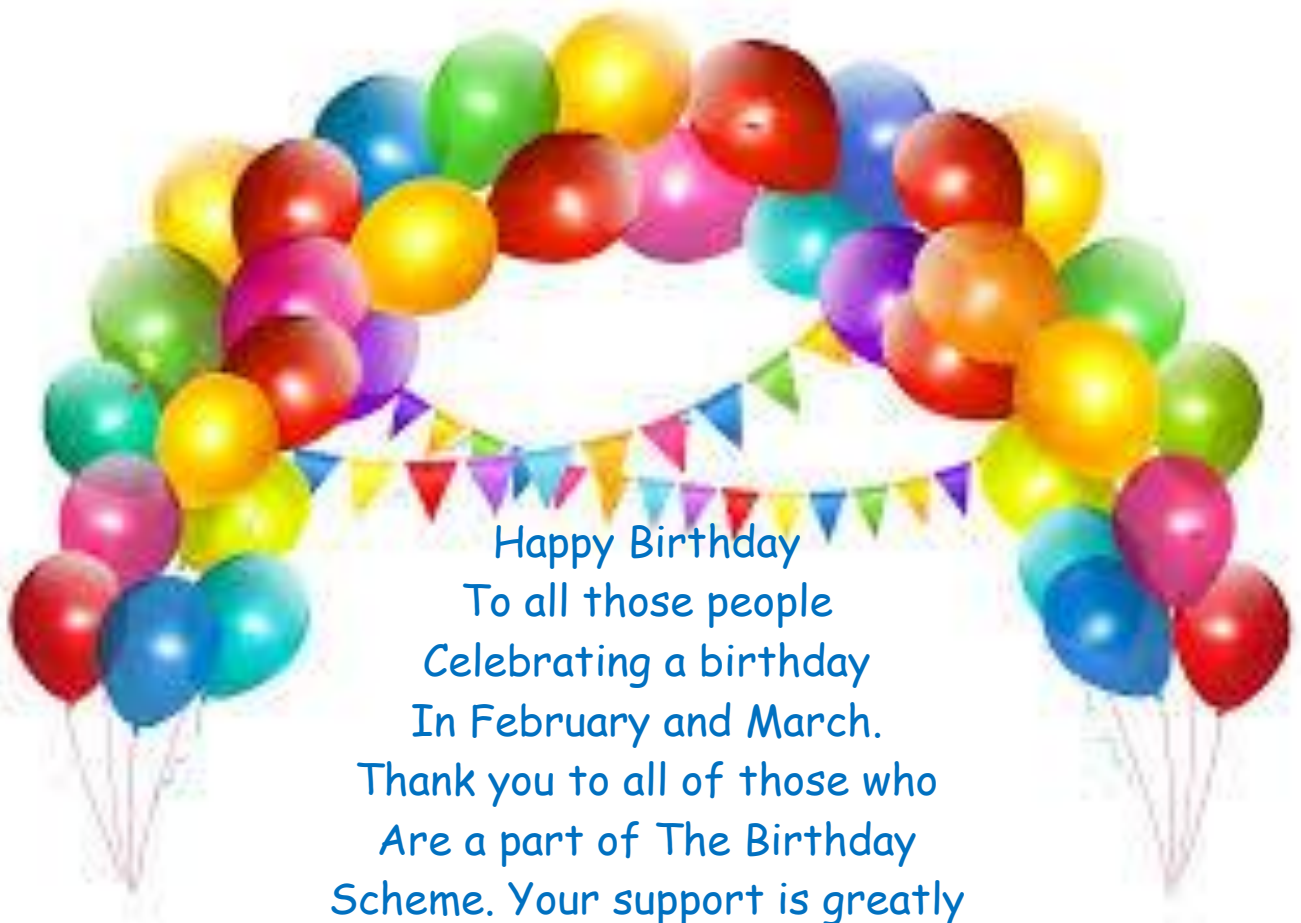
March 6th Pancakes BBC Lounge

March 13th Talk about India BBC Lounge

March 20th Heritage at the Drop in Centre

March 27th Table Tennis & Games BBC Lounge





Happy Birthday
To all those people
Celebrating a birthday
In February and March.
Thank you to all of those who
Are a part of The Birthday
Scheme. Your support is greatly
Appreciated by those your money
Helps. Thank you again for you
Support.



Get involved in this worthy cause. Talk to Ann James for
more information.



**BIRTHDAY
SCHEME**



*Do something wonderful on your birthday.
Share the gift of life.*



SUNDAY EVENING

WORSHIP MEETINGS

Dates are confirmed for our evening meetings in 2019 which will be held at 6pm:-

24 February
24 March
28 April
19 May
30 June
28 July
18 August
29 September
27 October
24 November
No meeting in December

Praise Him!



**Discipleship, worship,
prayer,**

**Bible study and social
Usually meet Wednesday
evenings, various venues**

7:30pm

Contact Kathryn:

07954784994

THANK YOU!

TRAUMA TEDDIES

Once again, a big "thank you" to everyone who knitted trauma teddies.

Even though we have presented our bears to the local Police, if anyone wishes to make any more, I will make sure, they are delivered to the correct place.

I have already received two more, so it's no problem, just let me have them.

Thank you
Elaine



Come and join us for



It is time for the whole family to be involved in:

February 3rd

Games

Songs

Crafts

Stories

March 3rd

Activities

Food

We will be delighted to welcome you on the first Sunday of each month at 4pm

BLAZE

Games, singing,
stories,
crafts and
competitions

Ages from 3- 11

We invite you to our
exciting new children's & young people's
groups on Sunday's from 10.30am

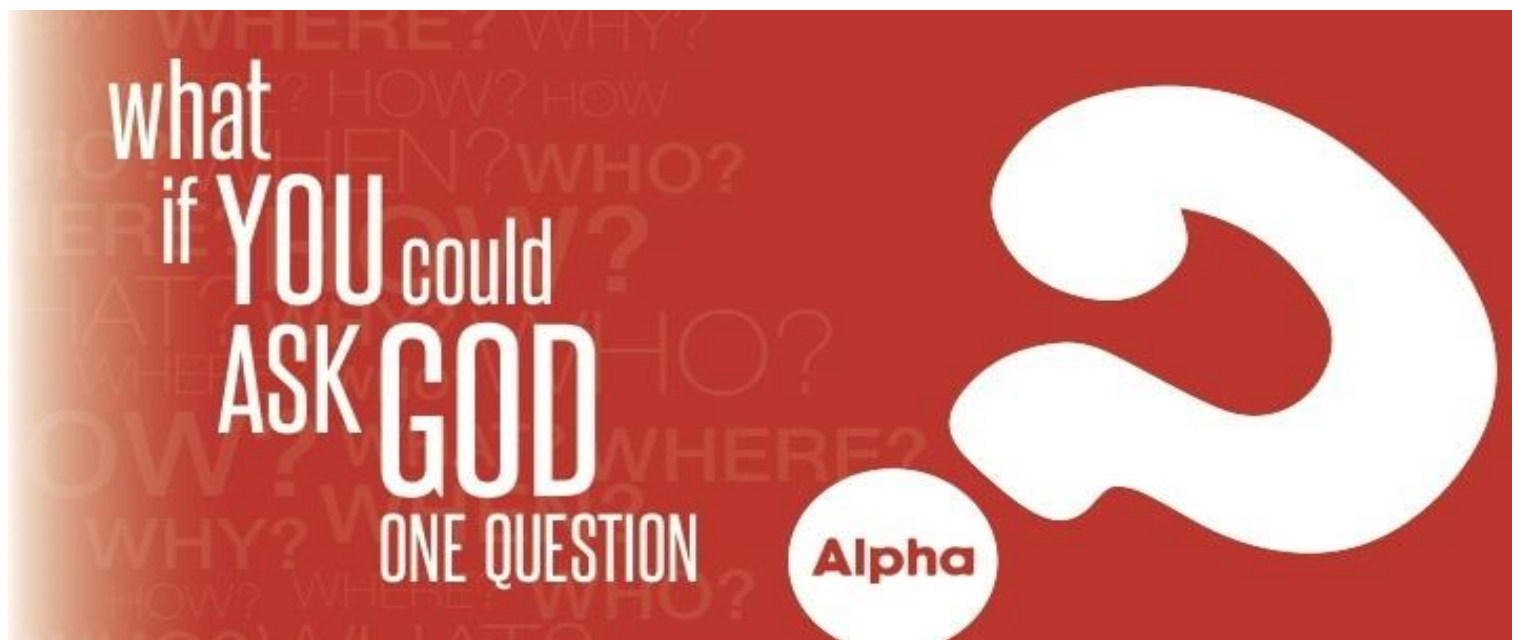
Youth Group
12 upwards

A fun group to help
young
people deal with the
daily
difficulties they
face today
in a positive fun
way



Blaby Baptist Church, Northfield Road, LE8 4GUPastor - Pauline Wills 0116 277 0780

www.blabybaptistchurch.org.uk



Do you have questions?

What is the meaning of life?

Why do bad things happen to good people?

Why is there suffering?

Who is God?

Come along to the Alpha Course and find the answers you are looking for.

If you would like to be part of an exciting journey? Talk to June Hughes for more information.

June Hughes 0780 9502830

Offertory

Nov	Env	Open plate	Total
5th	£757.50	£51. 92	£936.92
12th	£170.00	£129.54	£427.04
19th	£340.00	£126.97	£594.47
26th	£215.00	£78.58	£421.08

Weekly average £594.88

Dec

2nd	£407.50	£94.80	£608.30
9th	£247.75	£100.42	£454.17
16th	£260.00	£77.20	£443.20
23rd	£235.00	£102.18	£443.18
30th	£497.50	£50.30	£653.80

Weekly average £520.33

Carol Service £128.91.

Nativity and Christmas Day = £163.42

The weekly average for the year came out at £523.87

Les

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
...
GENEROUSLY



Lenten Poem by Ann Weems

**Lent is a time to take time to let the power
of our faith story take hold of us,
a time to let the events get up
and walk around in us,
a time to intensify our living unto Christ,
a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,
a time to place our feet in the streets of
Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and
listen to his Word,
a time to touch his robe
and feel the healing surge through us,
a time to ponder and a time to wonder....**

**Lent is a time to allow
a fresh new taste of God!
Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,
for thoughts come unbidden.**

**Perhaps we're afraid to face our future
knowing our past.**

**Give us courage, O God,
to hear your Word
and to read our living into it.
Give us the trust to know we're forgiven
and give us the faith
to take up our lives and walk.**



Thoughts from the Reluctant Editor

Hooray, the days are getting longer. I can see signs of spring; the daffodils are up, and I have some blooming in the front garden. I have seen some snow drops and I am hearing more bird song as I take the dog for a walk each day

In a world where everything seems to be in turmoil and upheaval, it is nice to know that there are some things that stay the same.

God is one of those things that stays the same. Crisis and turmoil come and go but God is always there to hold us and lift us up. It is good to know that God accepts us as we are, he does not change the criteria, he does not confuse or reject us when we make mistakes. He just asks us to accept and believe, have faith and then we will start to blossom. Jesus died for us, the Holy Spirit is there to help us. We are prepared for whatever comes our way. Hold on and never let go of our God who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Karen



"The fruit of silence is prayer,
the fruit of prayer is faith,
the fruit of faith is love,
the fruit of love is service,
the fruit of service is peace."

-Mother Teresa



Blaby Baptist Church Calendar

February	3rd Family Worship Messy Church 4pm
February	4th Prayer Meeting 7pm
February	10th Morning Worship + Blaze
February	11th Deacons Meeting 7pm
February	12th Bible Study 7pm
February	17th Morning Worship + Blaze + Communion
February	24th Morning Worship + Blaze Evening Praise 6pm
February	25th Pauline teaching at St Hild's Sheffield
February	26th Bible Study 7pm
March	3rd Family Worship Messy Church 4pm
March	4th Mark Aldridge helps us to clarify our values as a church 7pm
March	10th Church Anniversary
March	11th Deacons Meeting 7pm
March	12th Bible Study 7pm
March	12th – 14th New Wine Leaders Conference
March	17th Morning Worship + Blaze + Communion + AGM + Church Meeting
March	24th Morning Worship led by Di Tidball + Blaze Evening Praise 6pm
March	26th Bible Study 7pm
March	31st Mothering Sunday Worship



Church Services

Sunday Service: 10:45 am

Communion: The third Sunday of every month.

Groups

Wednesday:

Playtime: 10am-11:30 an informal drop-in session for babies and toddlers. £1 per session.

Contact Pauline 0116 2477450

Friendship Group: 7:30pm-9pm every Wednesday.

Contact Pauline 0116 2477450

Women's Own: 2:30-4pm every first Wednesday.

Contact Pauline 0116 2477450

Friday:

Rhythm Time: morning classes (babies and toddlers)

Contact Chris 0116 2773239

Rainbows/ Brownies/ Guides/ Rangers

Contact Beryl 07891689841

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