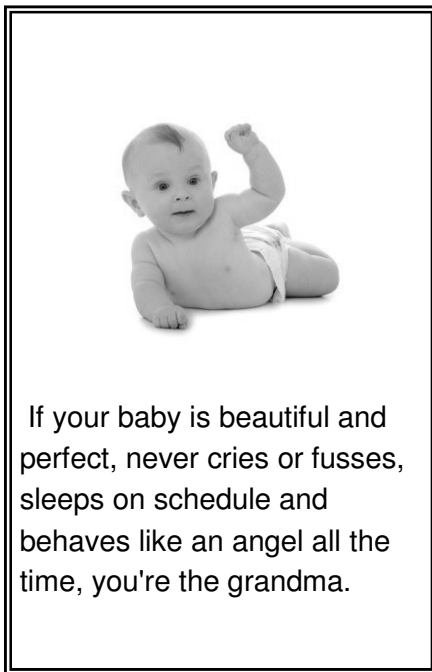




"Mike composes all his sermons on his iPhone – he uses something called Predictable Text..."



If your baby is beautiful and perfect, never cries or fusses, sleeps on schedule and behaves like an angel all the time, you're the grandma.

And with Pentecost in mind

To be filled with the Spirit is to have the Spirit fulfilling in us all that God intended him to do when he placed him there. - Lewis S Chafer

The fruit of the Spirit is not excitement or orthodoxy: it is character.
- G B Duncan

Before Pentecost the disciples found it hard to do easy things; after Pentecost they found it easy to do hard things. - A J Gordon.

From the Editor:

The July/Aug edition of Contact will appear on June 26th. Copy, in whatever format, should reach me by Sunday evening June 19th

Sylvia

From our Minister

Ray is on holiday at the moment but has sent us this article:

There's a charming article in today's Times by Alex Renton, a non-believer who sends his six-year-old daughter Lulu to a Scottish church primary school. Her teachers asked her to write the following letter: "To God, How did you get invented?" The Rentons were taken aback: "We had no idea that a state primary affiliated with a church would do quite so much God," says her father. He could have told Lulu that, in his opinion, there was no God; or he could have pretended that he was a believer. He chose to do neither, instead emailing her letter to the Scottish Episcopal Church (no reply), the Presbyterians (ditto) and the Scottish Catholics (a nice but theologically complex answer). For good measure, he also sent it to "the head of theology of the Anglican Communion, based at Lambeth Palace" – and this was the response:



Dear Lulu,

Your dad has sent on your letter and asked if I have any answers. It's a difficult one! But I think God might reply a bit like this –

'Dear Lulu – Nobody invented me – but lots of people discovered me and were quite surprised. They discovered me when they looked round at the world and thought it was really beautiful or really mysterious and wondered where it came from. They discovered me when they were very very quiet on their own and felt a sort of peace and love they hadn't expected.

Then they invented ideas about me – some of them sensible and some of them not very sensible. From time to time I sent them some hints – specially in the life of Jesus – to help them get closer to what I'm really like.

But there was nothing and nobody around before me to invent me. Rather like somebody who writes a story in a book, I started making up the story of the world and eventually invented human beings like you who could ask me awkward questions!' And then he'd send you lots of love and sign off.

I know he doesn't usually write letters, so I have to do the best I can on his behalf. Lots of love from me too. +Archbishop Rowan



Our new Treasurer, Steve Wise, brings us his report - and a challenge.

“Having been appointed as Church Treasurer for about a month now, I would like to give you all an update on the challenges and opportunities that our church faces, particularly in these difficult economic times.

Baptist Churches (which are 100% self-financing) face some big challenges regarding money in the coming years. Big issues for Tyndale are likely to be:

- **Rising costs**, particularly repairs and maintenance of our premises, and high energy prices which show no sign of staying stable.
- **The Baptist Pension Fund**, which like many others in the UK has a ‘black hole’ due to our living longer and investments failing to provide enough growth for the Fund. How do we provide a reasonable pension for ministers and manage our cash flow?

But, God’s economy is different from the world at large as it is based on **faith**. Each year we prepare a budget that really has nothing concrete in it, except faith that God’s people will hear His call on their wallets. 90% of our income comes from the offering and the hiring of our church premises. **We barely cover the expenses of the church** and these are likely to go up. To cover increases we have to face that, as it’s ‘**our church**’ then **our** share of the income needs to be increased. That’s Christian stewardship.

Challenge: *Review with God where you are with your (His) money*

I used to show up on a Sunday and see what cash I had left over. This was frequently not a lot and could not remotely be called honouring to God let alone ‘tithing’.

Hazel Wilson



Sadly, this month we have to record the death of another of our ladies. Hazel Wilson died in the Duchess of Kent hospice after a brave battle with cancer.

At her Thanksgiving service at Tyndale on Wednesday May 18th 2011 it soon became obvious that she was a lady with a wonderful gift of joy and laughter. One couldn’t be in the presence of Hazel for very long, without sharing a chuckle. She was born on the 25th of March 1933 in Belfast. She joined the WRAF at the age of 18. It was on an assignment to Cyprus that she met husband-to-be David, a chef in the RAF. They married on Dec 22nd 1956 and had two children, Susan and David Jnr.

In their early years together they enjoyed going to dances when ‘Rock n Roll’ was at its height. They also enjoyed a game of dominoes and darts. They arrived in Reading in 1966 to Surry Road where they remained. As the children grew up, they have many memories of family caravan holidays on Hayling Island and Hunt Stanton, Norfolk and as far away as Spain.

Hazel’s faith was dominant in her life. She was baptised at Carey Baptist Church, and worshipped at Silver Street Gospel Hall. She joined Tyndale Baptist Church in 1980 and soon became known as a great prayer warrior. She kept notes of her prayer life. Her daily Quiet Times with the Lord, studying His Word, were extremely precious to her. She was one of our great intercessors. She modelled true Christianity.

Her laughter and fun showed itself at the annual Tyndale Fun Days. Hazel was a person full of life and full of love. She was a loyal friend, a caring mother and wife. She had great love for her neighbours; she loved having her hair and nails done. Her love of plastic flowers and soft toys made it difficult to move around her house!

As a church, we thank God for the privilege of knowing her. She will be sorely missed. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family who mourn her passing.

But, we rejoice in the knowledge that she is now with her Lord and that, one day, we shall all meet again.



Prayer Board



Please pray for these friends who are in various kinds of need and joy:

Bella Austin - struggles to get to Tuesday Fellowship most Tuesdays.

Eric and Megan: Eric has been in Respite Care for a week ,so Megan has had a few days break.



Katie Wise was admitted to hospital with chest pains and a suspected blood clot on her lungs. But we rejoice that a scan revealed no clot and she is now home on antibiotics.

Ina Mutton has also been in hospital with a urinary infection but is now home and feeling better. She has just celebrated her 97th birthday and thanks everyone for their, cards, visits and phone calls.

Ray Coates was briefly hospitalised after a fall down some steps while on holiday in Bridgewater. Contrary to initial fears, a Xray revealed that he had not actually broken his left leg, but is suffering extensive bruising and will need some domestic help until he is mobile again. Sadly, Ray has had to pull out of the family holiday in Holland. We pray for a speedy healing so he can soon return to full strength again.

Gabriel Osho has undergone surgery to pin a hip which was 'out of sync'. This is extremely unusual in a 12 year old. Pray for Gabriel that this operation will not affect his football playing for Reading. He is now home on crutches.

There are others in our fellowship, some known only to God, who are in need of a divine touch upon their lives. They too need our prayers.

Don't forget to pray for those no longer able to worship with us on Sundays: **Vera Gigg, June Moulden, Ina Mutton, and Rose Ager,**

"I am the Lord that who heals you" (Exodus 15:26)

God says we should give Him a tithe (10%) of our possessions. That can be money, time, or talents; the actual amount doesn't matter to God. Remember the woman with the one coin, who gave her only coin, compared to the rich man who gave some of his money. She gave all she had. Perhaps we are put off by this story, but God doesn't want all our cash. He knows we have to pay the mortgage, rent, food, petrol etc. In the Bible it says we should give God a tithe. If we all had faith to do just that, there would not be any poor churches. I certainly know it's difficult to decide to do this, but if we really trust God with our lives , then shouldn't we try and also trust Him with our money? I started tithing and pay by Standing Order. I have been made redundant twice but neither my family nor I have starved.

So, are we in this together?

A treasurer is appointed by the church but cannot wave a magic wand and make the finances work. I am committed to serve God as He wants me to at Tyndale, but I would ask for a commitment from Church Members to help. I do not take people's giving for granted, but do ask you to seriously consider it. If everyone who could, did actually start a Standing Order, sign up for Gift Aid tax relief and reviewed how much they could give God, who knows what we could achieve?

Don't forget: we do not need a few more rich people to give some money, we need a few more poor people, a few more people in the middle, and a few more rich people to **TRUST GOD** with their money - that's when God's economy will really work.

I will ensure that a supply of Gift Aid forms and Standing Order forms are available, but you will need to talk to God yourself.

With God's love
Stephen Wise

(NB The full, detailed text of Steve's letter has been sent to all Church Members)

Summary figures for April were;

Offertory **£4091** Total income **£6199**

Total expenses were **£5098** which was relatively low so there was a monthly surplus of **£1,101**. However more significantly the year to date totals were:

Income **£24,326** compared with expenses to date of **£26,796** so it can be seen without using reserves we would not have been able to pay our way.



June 12th is Pentecost/Whit Sunday

Pentecost took place on the well established Jewish festival of First-fruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles – but he knew they could not do the work themselves – they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. There was nothing else for them to do: Jesus had died, he had risen, and he had ascended, promising to send them 'a Comforter'. They were left alone, to wait at Jerusalem. And so they waited – on him, and for him. Then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.



June 2nd is Ascension Day -

Forty Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. It may seem crazy to call it Eastertide when Easter is clearly over! - but these are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to his disciples, following his death and resurrection.

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those forty days.

Jesus was seen by numerous disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged his disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent him, he was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: "*When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands - and blessed them.*"

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have him look on you with love. No wonder, then that Luke goes on: "*they worshipped him - and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.*" (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! "*I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.*" (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.



Prayer Challenge

On Sunday May 22nd, Sylvia took as her text ,

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:4).

The Church was challenged to transform the prayer life of Tyndale by responding to God’s clear Word and arranging to commit themselves to an hour’s corporate prayer each week with at least one other person.

During the singing of the final hymn, news came to say that 17 year old Katie Wise had been admitted to hospital with a suspected clot on her lung. The congregation was called to put the teaching into immediate practice. Everyone responded with sincere, earnest passion. The sanctuary echoed to the sound of everyone praying together for Katie and the family. Shortly afterwards the news came through, that at the very time we were praying, God had responded to our plea for His divine intervention. A scan revealed there was no clot. The pain was caused by a bad chest infection. Katie was put on antibiotics and allowed home!

The next day, we learnt that our minister, Ray Coates, had fallen down some steps while on holiday and was in hospital with a suspected broken leg! The leaders got into contact with as people as possible and asked them to pray. They did. The next day we heard that an Xray had shown no break, just bruising. Ray is now home, having had to cancel his family holiday in Holland. He is bandaged up and in a lot of pain, but we pray for accelerated healing for him.

We are left with the feeling that we had really upset Satan. How dare this church start getting their money and their prayer life sorted out! But we are on solid ground. Jesus has conquered Satan. He is a defeated foe.

Hallelujah!

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How’s that for fast church growth!

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God’s Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ’s death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. But now his Spirit would use a new instrument: not just isolated prophets, but the Church, his body on earth.



Acts opens with the preaching of the gospel in Jerusalem, the centre of the Jewish nation. Within 30 years the gospel had spread throughout the northern Mediterranean: Syria, Turkey, Greece, Malta... to the very heart of the Roman Empire: Roman. The Church was on the move – God was on the move! He was calling people from every nation to repent, turn to Jesus for forgiveness of their sins, and to follow him.

We don’t want to get left behind, do we?

What happened then, can still happen now - at Tyndale and in Reading.

Let us start praying, really praying and be receptive to the beautiful, powerful work of the Holy Spirit

How should we spend Sunday? - The Way I See It

David Winter, a former Head of BBC Religious Broadcasting has contributed to Radio 4's 'Thought for the Day' for the past 22 years.

"Most of us know that one of the Commandments tells us to observe a day of rest - a 'Sabbath unto the Lord'. We may well prefer to ignore the words that precede it: 'six days shalt thou labour'.

Truth to tell, it all sounds very remote from modern life. Some of us 'labour' on all seven days in the week - usually from choice rather than necessity. Others would love to have some work to do - any work, so long as it's paid. And in between there's the rest of us, some of whom do five days a week being paid to work and others - the mothers, mostly - who do some of that and then add on another sixty hours or so bringing up small children. As for the 'day' of rest, well, we have what we call a 'weekend', which is probably not exactly restful, except in the sense that 'a change is as good as a rest'. Whoever called shopping 'rest'?

These thoughts are stirred by the fact that this past month, May, held in many countries a 'Labour Day' - an idea probably reflected in our annual May Bank Holiday. It's a time when we are meant to celebrate the contribution of work to our daily lives - and the dignity of labour, whatever it is, because without work our whole society would be impoverished.

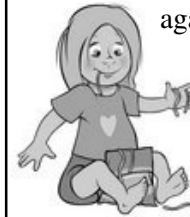
In the Genesis creation story God forms Adam from the dust of the ground and gives him work to do - a beautiful Garden of Eden to cultivate. Soon - 'it is not good for the man to be alone' - God adds a partner in the enterprise, Eve. It all sounds blissful, until they begin to think they know better than God, with catastrophic results. The punishment for their disobedience is on gender lines. The woman will have pain in childbirth and 'be subject to her husband'; the man will find that his work which had been a joy becomes a pain: 'by the sweat of your face you shall eat bread'.

Whatever you make of that story, I can confirm that in many years of ministry, if a woman wanted to talk to me about a problem it was usually

- with Father's Day coming, we think of fathers this month...

Fathers and daughters

A young father was taking care of his baby daughter while his wife went to town shopping. He decided to go fishing and he had to take the toddler along. "I'll never take her along with me again!" he told his wife that evening.



"I didn't catch a thing!"

"Oh, next time I'm sure she'll be quiet and not scare the fish away," his wife said. The father said gloomily. "No, it wasn't that. She ate all the bait."



- A sobering thought as Father's Day approaches.

Fathers help you cope with stress

Fathers play a unique role in the mental health of their children later in life. Those who have had good and fond relationships with their fathers tend to be less emotional when coping with stressful incidents. The study, carried out at California State University, concluded: "Perhaps having attentive and caring parents equips children with the experiences and skills necessary to more successfully navigate their relationships with other people."

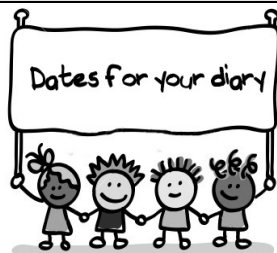
June 19th is Father's Day

In the UK, USA and Canada, the third Sunday in June is Father's Day. It's a good time for sons and daughters to take their father to his favourite restaurant, or to watch a favoured sport, or whatever else he enjoys doing. How will you celebrate it this year? If your own father cannot be with you, is there a 'spare' father somewhere in our church or your circle of friends whose children cannot be with him, and who would welcome some special treat on the day?

Deacons' Meeting

on Tuesday 21st June at 7.30pm

*Please remember to pray for this meeting,
that our deacons will be able to discern
the will of God for Tyndale.*



Monthly Church Prayer Meeting

On Wednesday June 29th at 7.30pm

If you have never been before, please come and join us

Craft evening

On Tuesday June 28th at 7.00pm

Come and learn a few new craft skills

In those days

(Acts 1:1, 2:1-21)



They spoke

In languages

they did not know,

And their speaking,

Told by prophets long ago,

Woke up the word

Of prophesying daughters,

Of visions and dreams,

Of Spirit-life poured out

And promised

For such a time as this.

Violent wind, filling,

Tongues of fire, resting,

Signs of the gift,

Signs of the Spirit

Pouring out on all people,

Equipping, empowering

Those who call on his name,

Those who still call on his name,

To continue, in these last days,

All that Jesus began to do...

By Daphne Kitching

to do with a man, and if a man had a problem it was usually to do with work. I cheered myself up by the thought that these strange penalties were abolished by the death of Jesus. In Christ women are no longer to be dominated by men, nor is work for the males to be an unrewarding slog. 'All are one in Christ Jesus.' Hallelujah!

Too much TV

Teenagers who spend long periods watching television or playing computer games have worse relationships with their parents than do other youngsters.



Spending more time reading and doing homework seems to help nurture the emotional bonds of the family. The study, carried out at the University of Otago in New Zealand, also found that a bit less TV (even though you may miss the popular shows) does not damage a teenager's peer relationships.

Another study, carried out in Britain by a government expert, found that children with middle-class parents who are very busy with their careers can lose out on the traditional social interaction of family life and family meals. These children have greater difficulty in expressing themselves verbally.

Screen violence numbs the mind

Violent films and video games can numb the brains of teenagers, reducing their empathy to the feelings of others. Researchers using brain scans found that when teenagers repeatedly viewed violent clips, the action in the brain concerned with emotional reactivity decreased. In other words, the teenagers became desensitised and felt less and less emotion in response to the suffering of others. The work was done at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke in Bethesda, Maryland.

Sundays in June

(Services will be conducted by our minister, the Revd Ray Coates, unless otherwise indicated)

June 5 10.30am Family Service

Led by Steve Wise and Ray Ellis

June 12 10.30am 86th Church Anniversary Service:

Our guest preacher is our Regional Minister, Rev Lynn Green, formerly minister at Wokingham Baptist church

(There will be a 'Bring and Share' lunch afterwards)

June 19 10.30am Family Communion Service:



Home Mission Sunday— led by Ray and Peter Davis

June 26 10.30am Worship Service

Our visiting preacher is Tom Cook who will also lead the worship

(Ray is at Caversham Baptist Church where he is Moderator)



Regular Weekly events:

(see back cover)



Tuesday Fellowship

2.00pm

There's a space for you! →

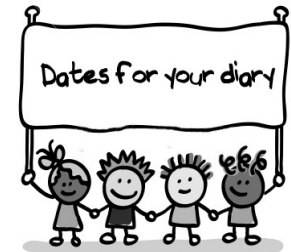


- June 7 Fellowship afternoon**
- June 14 John Coleman**
- June 21 Rev Sylvia Stevenson**
- June 28 Ruth Drinkwater**

Special Reminder !

Sunday June 12th is our 86th Church Anniversary

We have a special guest preacher:
Rev Lynn Green - our Regional Minister



After the service, we have a 'Bring and Share Lunch'

Please make a special effort to support this important day and stay for lunch. Why not invite a special visitor?
