



When you have an anniversary it is an opportunity to celebrate, to give thanks and to press on for the future. This has certainly been the case for us as a church.

Our anniversary year was an opportunity to research the past and to rediscover our roots at the end of the 19th century in Fernhill Heath. We also shared stories of events and people and we allowed those stories to inspire us for the present and give us added enthusiasm for the future.

When I look back at past Christmases, I can think of those toys that I enjoyed so much; the Subbuteo game, the Big League and of course Lego. I wonder what toys you enjoyed as a youngster? When you see me around the village, let me know and we can compare notes!



Another memory has just come to mind as I remember those toys: Mum and Dad on Christmas Eve waiting for me to go to bed in order to paint the Big League football players so that they would be ready to play the next day. One team in red, the other in blue, I'll let you guess which team I picked!

However, to really get the most out of Christmas, you need to go back to the very first Christmas. Take time to hear again the story of Emmanuel, of God with us. This is surely the most profound and inspiring of all stories. Here is a story of a normal, poor family and a child being born in Bethlehem who they named Jesus. This child would bring good news of God's love and salvation to a troubled world. Today is an age when any good news seems rare, so here is even more good news..... we can know Jesus today.

This year, why not come and hear again the story of that first Christmas and if you want to explore more, come along to our Alpha course in January 2019.



May the God of peace and joy bless you this Christmas.

Jeff Porter (Minister)

Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 8th December
10.30-12.30



A very warm
welcome to you to
join us for services
this Christmas

Emmanuel

God With Us



Sunday 16th December

4.00pm

Village Carol Service
at Fernhill Heath Baptist Church
not the Memorial Hall as previously

Sunday 23rd December

11.00am

Christmas Family Service

Christmas Eve

11.30pm

Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Day

10.00am

Christmas Family Praise

All services, including the Village Carol Service, will be held in the Baptist Church,

Offerings at the Christmas Services
will go to support

Acorns Children's Hospice

in Worcester as they care for babies,
children and young people who have life
limiting or life threatening conditions

Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 8th December

10.30 – 12.30



**Come and enjoy a cup of coffee
and a mince pie,
a turkey roll, a slice of cake...**

**Other stalls will include Books,
Homemade Cakes, Fairtrade, Gifts,
and a Children's Craft Activity**



 **Life's first cry**

Over £1000 was raised for work with mothers and babies in the remote mountain areas of Afghanistan. BMS are helping mothers to overcome some of the common complications that arise due to the lack of knowledge about diet, hygiene and sanitation and the lack of access to services.

Andisha is now the proud mother of Navid: "I'd just like to say thank you for your help. Things are so much better because of all the lessons. All these things that you're helping to support make a real difference; they've made my life and my family's life so much better. Thank you, thank you."



Fernhill Heath Baptist Church
celebrating their
25th Church Anniversary




Beginning
Monday 21 January
see flier for details

Fernhill Heath Baptist Church

There's a warm invitation to join us for our regular activities

We hold **services** at 11.00 & 6.30 every Sunday. There is **Junior Church** and a **Creche** for younger children in the mornings.

Prayer, Bible Study & discussion groups are held around the village on most Tuesday &/or Wednesday evenings.

Ladies Keep Fit is held on Wednesday mornings at 10.45 - with the opportunity for a cup of coffee & a chat afterwards.

The **Grumpy Men's Club** meet fortnightly for activities & games - Fridays 7.30-9.00pm.

Thursday Diners meet last Thursday of month. 2-course lunch: £3-50. Booking essential.

Money raised will be sent to

Baptist Home Mission

We were very grateful to receive a small grant from Home Mission for a good number of years and this helped towards the cost of the stipend for our minister. Each year we make a contribution to help support the ministry in other small Churches like ourselves.

Snack & Chat

10.30-12.30 Saturdays

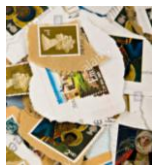
The Church will be open for people to drop in and take the opportunity to chat over a coffee and a snack on Saturdays once a month.



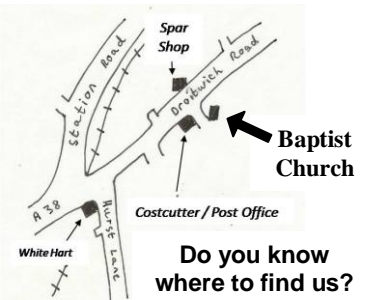
5th January
2nd February
2nd March

Everyone is very welcome

We also collect used postage stamps for BMS, who last year raised £15,000 for medical work around the world.



If you'd like to help, we're always very grateful to receive both British & foreign stamps (preferably un-trimmed) in the church letterbox or the basket in the porch.



Do you know where to find us?

We are a **Fairtrade church**

