

# CROSSTALK

*Summer 2010*



*News and Views from  
Kidderminster Baptist Church*

*Franche Road  
Kidderminster  
DY11 5BB*

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## TotsRock – 2 sessions per week!

Due to a fantastic increase in numbers over the last year TotsRock is expanding to 2 sessions per week. Sessions will be held every **Tuesday** and **Friday** from 10.30-11.30 at Kidderminster Baptist Church.



Pre-booking is essential in order to secure your place.

For more information or to book your place please contact Louise on;

01562 822858

07919 047210

totsrock @ kidderminsterbaptist.com

Alternatively log on to [www.kidderminsterbaptist.com](http://www.kidderminsterbaptist.com) and follow the TotsRock link.

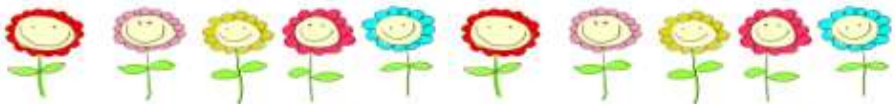


Kidderminster Baptist Church invites all local families  
to our

**ALL-AGE FAMILY SERVICE**  
*led by Simon Gudger*

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010  
11am - 12noon

All welcome, refreshments served afterwards



## Looking back and looking forward

In a way, it's a funny time in my life at the moment. It seems like the end of an era and the beginning of new one – it's difficult to explain really. I've been in Kidderminster for almost four years now, working part-time at the church and studying for a degree in the other time, and now that is drawing to a close.



As I look back on four years, I'm humbled by the things that I have been privileged to be involved with. I'm so fortunate to have been working with such a loving and close church who have supported my family in such a wonderful way - we have made many new friends. The toddler group TotsRock, which we formed after our first year, has enabled us to make many more local friends. My involvement in our local schools has helped form many friendships with local children, parents and staff alike. The Alpha courses that we have run have enabled me to walk alongside many people searching for faith in God. I feel privileged to be involved in a local church and community that is growing both in number and in their spirituality and search for God.

In September, after a well-earned summer break, I will be working full-time for the church and so am looking forward to the new opportunities that this will present. But in the same way as when I first came here I could not have predicted the things that would have happened, I feel the same way about the future too. Who knows what God has in store for this church and for us as people living in this area?

### Which road to take?

I am reminded by a verse in the Bible that says this –

*"I will point out the road which you should follow. I will be your teacher and will watch over you." Psalm 32:8 (Contemporary English Version)*

When we look back at our own recent past, we might have many highs, but we may also have many lows. Looking back is still important for us all – but we should all be encouraged to look forward. God tells us that he has a road for us to follow, elsewhere in the Bible it tells us that this road will give life in all its fullness. Whether it's to be a road as a full-time Baptist Minister, a housewife or a shop worker, God's road is there for us to head down. No matter what our past, our future can always be God's road, where he promises to watch over us and to help us develop as people.

I'm so looking forward to this next road to head down. I wonder if you would be willing to join me on this road. Maybe it's a decision that you need to seriously take at this time. Like me, it'll be a little unnerving because you don't know what to expect or what might be around the corner. But, hopefully like me, you will see that it's a road full of God's plans for your life – a life in all its fullness!

May God bless you over these summer months,

*Simon*

## March of Witness

On Good Friday this year, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010, many of Kidderminster's churches came together to walk through the town centre in unity and in acknowledgement of the significance of Easter. Around 200 people gathered on what was a cold, rainy morning, outside Baxter URC to sing and pray together. The walk moved on to the old site of Woolworths, then down to the Town Hall and, finally, to Weavers Wharf where a moving dance was performed by the group 'Encounter' and a short message was shared by our own Minister, Simon.



The significance of the cross unites the churches in Kidderminster and this was a good opportunity for us to come together and share with the town our belief and hope in Jesus. Hopefully the weather will be kinder to us next year when we hope to do this again!

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**“WHO CARES?”** [If God did exist what would you ask? alpha.org](http://alpha.org)

**THE ALPHA COURSE**  
explore the meaning of life



**Our new Alpha course starts this autumn at Kidderminster Baptist Church and runs for ten weeks.**

- 7.30pm – Share a pudding together
- 8pm – DVD addressing one of the key issues to life
- 9pm – Open discussion time
- 9.45pm – Close

Call us on 01562 822858 to book your place or email:  
mail @ kidderminsterbaptist.com

## Our Church in 2010...

The week before Easter Sunday saw Kidderminster Baptist Church update its photo of the people who are now attending each week. This was last done in 2007 and we wanted to see how the church had changed during that time.

The first thing we noticed was that we struggled to get all the people into the photo this time around! The next thing we noticed was the change in the people that are now attending. We are now made up of most ages - a good number of children, a growing contingent of parents, a welcome band of active retired folk, and our much-valued older (and wiser!) members.

We are so grateful to God that he has blessed us with all ages and all experiences of faith, from those who have been attending church all their lives to those who are 'just looking'. This is what we believe a church family should look like.

Why not come and share with us one Sunday and see that Kidderminster Baptist has something for all people.



## **Ordination and Induction – passing the ‘test’**

Four years seems a long time, but for Simon, Louise and their family, the time has flown past. Four years ago Kidderminster Baptist Church asked Simon to be their part-time student minister whilst he studied for a degree in theology at Bristol Baptist College. Now, this month, Simon graduates from Bristol and is to be ordained as a Baptist Minister and will be inducted as a full-time minister at Kidderminster Baptist Church.

Here’s a brief guide to what ordination and induction mean.

### **Ordination**

Ordination in the Baptist Church is the recognition by the national Baptist Union that a person has been called by God to serve in the worldwide Church.

It can only take place after many stages of ‘testing’. These include the recommendations of a local church to ‘send’ someone, the wider association’s agreement, a college’s recommendation and, finally, the calling by a local church to full-time ministry.

All of these stages are ‘tests’ to see whether the calling really is from God. We acknowledge that all Christians are called to be disciples, but that some people are called to servant leadership in the Church.

The ordination service is an exciting time, as those attending get to hear the recommendations from each of the stages of testing, each one affirming that God has called the individual to servant leadership in the Church.

It is a celebration of God’s calling, and acknowledgement that God’s plans continue in our world today.

### **Induction**

An induction service is the celebration of a new beginning for a local church under the guidance of a new Minister.

It is an opportunity for the church and the minister to renew their commitment to God and to God’s mission in the world.

It is a celebration that God is active in the local church and is constantly directing and guiding it to new places where it can serve the people of its local community.

The service will hear the stories from both the church and the minister of how God has directed them to this point and this calling.

It is a time of real excitement for the local church and for them to acknowledge God’s direction within their community.

*Simon will be ordained as a Baptist Minister in a service at Tamworth Baptist Church, his previous (and ‘sending’) church on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2010.*

*Simon will then be inducted at Kidderminster Baptist Church in a service on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2010. He will then commence his full-time ministry.*

## One World, One Mission

Charlotte and I were both delighted and a little apprehensive when Simon asked us to represent our church at the annual Baptist Assembly in Plymouth over the bank holiday weekend. We left home after a long day at school and work at 5.15pm and within 10 minutes of leaving Charlotte was already hungry! After stopping for tea and an easy drive, we finally made it to Plymouth and found our hotel. The hotel was situated next to Plymouth Pavilions, the venue for the assembly and, as it was late, we had missed the Friday evening events so used the time to get our bearings for Saturday.



Charlotte was booked into the youth sessions on Saturday and was very apprehensive, especially by the sheer number of people and was quick to decide she wasn't going to enjoy it and "wouldn't be going again!" I left her to join the long queue of people milling into the arena. There followed an amazing experience where, although I was on my own, there was a feeling of oneness.



The theme of the weekend was One World, One Mission. It was a very professionally-produced, high-tech event. The live worship band and guest speakers encouraged us to reflect on the changing nature of mission. Saturday began with a bible study, followed by a thought provoking presentation by the Baptist Union on

national mission. Other speakers included Reuben Martin, a mission worker in France and Emily Chalke, who talked about her work in Bangkok and presented a hard-hitting documentary about the sex industry in there. After each session I left feeling very humbled by the work and dedication of so many people, from those who had served as missionaries for over 30 years to young families going out as missionaries in the autumn. I was also challenged by the work of Baptist Home Mission and the need to support their work. My faith was strengthened and deepened through the entire experience and, although I was attending on my own, there was a feeling of family throughout the entire assembly.

Charlotte? Well she couldn't wait to attend each of the 'Innovation' sessions! And has been able to explore her faith through (loud!) music, dance and prayer. So to sum up our weekend, I think we were sent home buzzing and already agreeing we will be at the next assembly in Blackpool.

*Catherine & Charlotte*

## Introducing.....

....Chris Lane and Susan Lane (no relation) – two new deacons at Kidderminster Baptist Church. Below are some facts about both of them that you never really knew before....

Chris has served as deacon and church Treasurer in the past and after having a year off has now been re-elected.

What is your full name?

**Christopher John Lane**

What is your favourite TV show?

**Master Chef or Doctor Who**

What food do you dislike?

**Bananas**

What is your favourite sandwich?

**Ham and tomato (I also like Brie and cranberry on a baguette)**

If you could go anywhere in the world where would it be?

**Hawaii**

What did you want to be when you were little?

**Bigger**

What is your favourite sport to watch?

**Downhill skiing**

What is your favourite flower?

**It's not really a flower but can I have Rosemary my favourite herb which does flower?**

What was your favourite toy as a child?

**A toy coach, which I removed the windows from to get people into it**

What type of music do you enjoy listening to?

**All sorts. I'm currently listening to a lot of stuff from the 80s to run to**



Every Deacon serves the church for a period of three years before having to be re-elected. Susan has served for the last 6 years and this is her 3<sup>rd</sup> term of election.

What is your full name?

**Susan Olivia Lane**

What is your favourite TV show?

**Question Time and This Week (if I can stay awake)**

What food do you dislike?

**English Mustard**



What is your favourite sandwich?

**White, crusty bread with salad, salad cream and black pepper, made fresh to eat straight away.**

If you could go anywhere in the world where would it be?

**Venice**

What did you want to be when you were little?

**I'm not sure, but definitely NOT a nurse – I'm prone to faint!**

What is your favourite sport to watch?

**Figure skating**

What is your favourite flower?

**Double Delight Rose**

What was your favourite toy as a child?

**A coach built dolls pram and 'scary doll'**

What type of music do you enjoy listening to?

**Classical**

**“IS THIS IT?”** [If God did exist what would you ask? alpha.org](http://alpha.org)  
**THE ALPHA COURSE**  
explore the meaning of life 

*Our new Alpha course begins in the Autumn*

## A life worth living?

The summer term sees the two housegroups at Kidderminster Baptist embark on a new nine week course written by Nicky Gumbel who also developed the Alpha Course.

'A life worth Living' is based on Paul's letter to the Philippians which can be found in the New Testament of the Bible.

In the future scientists will be able to prolong life, but will it be worth living? Without purpose or joy, extended life seems a hollow victory, so how do we live life to the full?

We hope that this next course helps us uncover a new heart, new purpose, new attitude and a new confidence to the way we live our lives.

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## Spring Clean!

A warm sunny Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April arrived - Our Spring Cleaning day. Unfortunately our numbers were depleted this year, but we pressed on regardless. The men worked hard outside clearing overgrown areas and edging the grass, and the kitchen had a good overhaul. We all sat down to a fortifying lunch of fish and chips at 1pm, and by 1.30pm time was called to start work again!



We tackled more jobs including dusting cobwebs from ceilings and shampooing carpet tiles and sent the men outside once more to continue with what they had started. We all returned home rather hot and dusty and in need of a refreshing shower.

A massive thank you needs to be expressed to all who gave up their own time to help on the day.

*Susan Lane*

## Different Eyes in Minehead



We've just been to Spring Harvest, a six-day festival at a Butlins site where several thousand other Christians get together to learn more about God, worship him together and have a lot of fun. Emily, our 8 year old daughter, went to one of the amazing children's clubs. Emily's group was called Free Runners and ran in the morning and evenings. She learned a lot about God in an age-appropriate way and we went to our own sessions with peace of mind that she was being looked after and was having lots of fun! There were seminars on all sorts of topics and if that wasn't to your taste there were of course rides galore in the fun fairs and an incredible swimming pool! This year, for a change, we basked in glorious sunshine for the duration of our stay and even had a picnic while watching the wild rabbits!

Each day we went to a morning Bible Study (that may sound quite serious, but it was nothing of the sort). It was led by Jeff Lucas who could have had a job as a stand up comedian. So every morning with a cup of coffee, in a tent with a few hundred other people, we roared with laughter. What really struck us was that while Geoff was very funny he was always open and honest, telling us of where he struggles with God and how he is still on a journey himself.

The whole theme this year was '*Different Eyes*' and we were genuinely challenged to look at everyday issues from different perspectives. How do we treat the people that we come into contact with in our daily routines? What causes us to make decisions (big or small)? What values do we hold that influence how we see and interact with those around and why do we think that way? We were particularly interested to hear stories of how simple acts of kindness had transformed the lives of ordinary people.

It can be so easy to judge, or to react hastily in our busy lives as we helter-skelter from one situation to the next. Sometimes we don't even have the time to throw someone a reassuring smile or to say thank you to the cashier who has helped us pack our shopping. We get grumpy very quickly when the post office queue is longer than we would like or when someone cuts us up on the road. Well... Spring Harvest definitely challenged us to examine the way we act and to look at life through '*Different Eyes*.'

*Nicci, Chris and Emily*

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## Our Children & Families worker moves on

It is with sadness that we have had to say goodbye to our Children & Families worker Brent who has decided to move on to new and different challenges. Brent did a great job during the last year working with our local Primary schools and with the children in our church groups. We wish him, Claire, Pippa and Sophie all the best as they embark on new things together.

We hope that our work with the children & families in our community will continue, and we will let you know of our future plans in due course.

# Pray with us through June, July and August

## June

- 6<sup>th</sup>** Please pray for the 'PrayerFyre' event at the Harriers Football Ground this afternoon as Christians from all over Kidderminster gather together to pray for our town.
- 13<sup>th</sup>** Please pray for the leaders and congregations of the 5 Wyre Forest Baptist churches; Kidderminster, Milton Hall, Bewdley, Far Forest and Stourport.
- 20<sup>th</sup>** Please pray for those people who are persecuted because they are Christians.
- 27<sup>th</sup>** Pray for the new Coalition Government of this country. Ask God to give them wisdom that they may govern with diligence and integrity.

## July

- 4<sup>th</sup>** Pray for all those who are undertaking exams at this time of year.
- 11<sup>th</sup>** Please pray for Simon's ordination at Tamworth Baptist Church next Saturday, that this may be a time of celebration for all concerned.
- 18<sup>th</sup>** Pray for the charity 'Send-a-cow' and all those who may benefit from its provision of farming animals and equipment.
- 25<sup>th</sup>** Pray for peace between Israel and Palestine. Pray for the Christians (both Jewish and Palestinian) who are often caught in the middle.

## August

- 1<sup>st</sup>** Pray for all those on holiday this month that they will return refreshed and rested ready for the Autumn term.
- 8<sup>th</sup>** Please pray and give thanks for the courage and bravery of the men and woman of the various rescue services, the RNLI, Air Ambulance and Mountain Rescue teams etc.
- 15<sup>th</sup>** Please remember all those who are awaiting exam results around this time.
- 22<sup>nd</sup>** Please pray for all those who are currently out of work and seeking employment.
- 29<sup>th</sup>** Please pray for Simon's induction service that we will be holding next Saturday, that we will celebrate a new start of God's work here.



**Come and join us for our services in  
June, July and August**

**Morning @ 11am**

**Evening @ 6pm**

**June**

6<sup>th</sup> Chris Lane

Roger Wood  
*Communion*

13<sup>th</sup> Rev Jack Bentham  
*from Milton Hall*

Marion Appleby  
& Susan Lane

20<sup>th</sup> Simon Gudger  
*Communion*

Ray Lewis

27<sup>th</sup> Trevor Neill  
*from Catshill Baptist Church*

Bernice Darlington

**July**

4<sup>th</sup> Simon Gudger

Ray Lewis  
*Communion*

11<sup>th</sup> Simon Gudger  
*All-Age Family Service*

TBA

18<sup>th</sup> Mary Yates  
*from the charity 'Send-a-Cow'*

Brenda Wood

25<sup>th</sup> Graham Francis  
*from Kidderminster Covenant Church*

TBA

**August**

1<sup>st</sup> TBA

Joint service, 6.30pm @  
Bewdley Baptist Church

8<sup>th</sup> John Williams  
*previous Pastor of our church*

Joint service, 6.30pm @  
Far Forest Baptist Church

15<sup>th</sup> Andrew Hill  
*Communion*

Joint service, 6.30pm @  
Kidderminster Baptist Church

22<sup>nd</sup> Rev Rodney Firmin  
*previous Pastor of our church*

Joint service, 6.30pm @  
Milton Hall Baptist Church

29<sup>th</sup> Rev David Piggott

Joint service, 6.30pm @  
Stourport Baptist Church

## Community Groups @ Kidderminster Baptist Church

**Jack and Jill Pre-School**  
*Mon-Fri 9.00am-12.00pm*

Julie Murdoch 01562 745955  
Chris May 01562 632867  
Playgroup Mob 07857 513935

**Slimming World**  
*Mon 6.30-8.00pm & 8.00-9.30pm*

Russell 01562 746265

**Kidderminster Camcorder Club**  
*Tues 7.30-9.00pm*

Mr R Jordon 01562 631475

**Aerobics**  
*Tues 7.45-8.45pm*

Mrs M Lemiech 01562 752830  
07855 996437

**Studio 4 Dance**  
*Weds 8.00pm-9.00pm*

01299 400027  
07968 21660

**Brownies**  
*Thurs 6.15-7.30pm*

Louise Morris 01562 863158

**Star Performers**  
*Fri 5.00-6.30pm*

Lucy-Charlotte 01562 67203  
07791 307131  
lucydancingqueen@yahoo.co.uk

### Having a party? Need a room?

Kidderminster Baptist Church Hall is available for hire.

- ❖ Large Hall with staging area
- ❖ Excellent kitchen facilities
- ❖ Toilet facilities (including those for the disabled)
- ❖ Car parking
- ❖ £5 - £10 per hour
- ❖ Ideal for children's parties
- ❖ Call Roger Wood on 01299 405601 for details

Please note that the premises are NOT licensed

# Weekly Church Programme

Why not come along and join us on;

## Sunday:

11am

Morning worship & Sunday Club

*Family worship suitable for all ages,*

*Activities & supervision for children and youth*

*Communion 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday morning of the month*

6pm

Praise & Prayer Meeting

*Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evening of the month*

## Monday:

2.30pm

Afternoon Fellowship (Fortnightly) – 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> Jun, 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> Jul

## Tuesday:

10.30am

TotsRock (Weekly – term time only)

2.30pm

Communion @ Brookdale Nursing Home – 1<sup>st</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> Jun, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug

## Thursday:

7.30pm

Deacons Meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> Jun, 5<sup>th</sup> Jul

8pm

Weekly Housegroup

## Friday:

7.30pm

Church Meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> July

8pm

Weekly Housegroup

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## Birthdays

We wish the following people in our fellowship a very happy birthday:

### June

4<sup>th</sup> Yvonne Gill

5<sup>th</sup> Alan Lane

9<sup>th</sup> Irene Wheeler

### July

10<sup>th</sup> Christine Barkouni

16<sup>th</sup> Muriel Wanklin

31<sup>st</sup> Jasmine Gordon

### August

7<sup>th</sup> Donald Sey

11<sup>th</sup> Bernice Darlington

28<sup>th</sup> Simon Gudger

## Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following on their wedding anniversaries:

Marion and John Appleby 26<sup>th</sup> July

Alan and Susan Lane 12<sup>th</sup> August

Roger and Brenda Wood 17<sup>th</sup> August



# Useful Contacts

[www.kidderminsterbaptist.com](http://www.kidderminsterbaptist.com)

<b>Minister In Training:</b>	Simon Gudger minister @ kidderminsterbaptist.com	01562 822858
<b>Secretary:</b>	Roger Wood secretary @ kidderminsterbaptist.com	01299 405601
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Pete Edwards treasurer @ kidderminsterbaptist.com	01562 630875
<b>Deacon:</b>	Chris Lane	01299 401740
<b>Deacon:</b>	Christine Barkouni	01562 751080
<b>Deacon:</b> (Premises Steward)	Susan Lane	01562 752097
<b>Deacon:</b> (Pastoral Care Co-ordinator)	Marion Appleby	01562 751444
<b>TotsRock Leaders:</b>	Louise Gudger totsrock @ kidderminsterbaptist.com	01562 822858
	Nicci Lane totsrock @ kidderminsterbaptist.com	01299 401740
<b>Alpha contact:</b>	Simon Gudger minister @ kidderminsterbaptist.com	01562 822858
<b>Monday Afternoon Fellowship:</b>	Joyce Short	01299 823670
<b>Youth Co-ordinator:</b>	Chris Lane children @ kidderminsterbaptist.com	01299 401740

## Church text for 2010

**“And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love  
mercy, and to walk humbly with your God”**

**Micah 6:8 (NIV)**