

# ROTAS

Week Begin	Communion	Door	Cleaning
July 2	Jim & Helen		May
9	May and Lorna		Bob & Kath
16	Sheena and Sheila		Karen
23	Tom & Dorothy		Tom and Dorothy
Aug 6	Sylvain and Irina		May

## Wednesday Nights:

July 5	Bible Study
12	Deacons
19	In Conversation
28	free
Aug 2	Bible Study

**Prayer Meeting:** 7:30  
 Tom and Dorothy - 90 Manse Road  
 Tuesday 11th and Tuesday 25th July

## Connect

We need someone to help with the admin for this publication please see Bob.

## Recordings

Recordings of the Sermons are now available on our web site ([motherwellbaptist.org.uk](http://motherwellbaptist.org.uk)) and also via our Facebook page on Youtube.

# Motherwell Baptist Connect

JULY  
2017



Reach Out and Don't Give Up

## Summer Holidays

The Schools are finished, the Woman's Meeting is resting as indeed is the Sunday School. This morning we will be privileged to hear the Sunday School singing and to see them rewarded for much hard work.

However there will still be a lot happening over the next couple of months with the cafe continuing to run as normal and Messy Movies transforming into a curry night with a grown up film.



We all celebrated the Zip Sliders in May. Well in August it is all happening again. The last time we raised money for Bethany this time we will be raising money for the Church Outreach/Community work. We have been able to book 20 places on the slide and along with some from the Cafe and congregation Tesco staff will be joining us. If you want to have a go there may well still be room but see Gill soon.

## Bob's Bit

Last Sunday when considering the massiveness of God I quoted Mark Buchanan "God has become our image bearer, rather than we His."

I have been reflecting on that phrase this week and the more I consider it the more I feel that is precisely what we try to do. The God of the Bible in all His complexity, Holiness, Power and Magnificence has been recreated in our minds to be someone we can handle, manipulate, mould to be the person we want and to do the things we desire.

I do hope that as this summer progresses and that as we explore the Father Heart of God we will find that getting to know Him as He really is will enable us to become ever more closely the people He desires us to be. If we do that I believe our lives will not be harder, or more scary but lives that are richer and more peaceful. We will be people who are more fulfilled in every way.

## Gill's Gab

**'Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you.'**

**Mother Teresa**

Each person has their own idea of community. I grew up in a small town community in Shotts where neighbours would congregate in each others houses after work for coffee and to waste the evening away chatting about nothing really. Mostly this would be in my house. I had my place and identity within it. I loved my community and was loved by the people in it.

This Motherwell, the street I live in now is nothing like that it's not completely deprived of that community spirit and I have found small units of community life in Motherwell during the last 17 years.

Now I'm part of another community, Team Baptist. It's a community that isn't efficient, it's messy but it's 'real'. Life no matter what that looks like is where we thrive.

It's a place where each person is seen as unique, someone who has gifts and abilities and was created with a purpose for their life. Regardless of their past experiences or present circumstances they are viewed as abundant and not deficient. The Baptist is a safe place where people who are invisible on the margins of our society become visible and

are inspired to grow and to transform into who our God intended them to be.

Looking at the life and ministry of Jesus, he touched people's lives as he met them. Sometimes the change happened quickly with others it took time.

In any family patience is always needed. With the Baptist family it is no different. So we slowly and intentionally seek to create a safe place where people can have identity and belong, where they have freedom to transform. But above all where they are loved and accepted just for who they are.

**The church does not define it's mission. God does. It is God's mission in the world that concocts the church not the other way round.**

**Leonard Sweet**

## In Conversation Report

### Fund Raising

It was agreed to set up a group which will focus on raising funds for the Church Fabric. If you would like to be involved in this or just want to know more please see Sheena McShane.

### Church Cleaning

Although not actually discussed there is a need to strengthen the cleaning teams. Already we have a few volunteers but perhaps you can add to this and ease the burden all round.

### Fire Alarm

A wireless Fire Alarm system has now been fitted. We were able to afford this due to generous donations from within the congregation. However we now need to begin to put various things into practice regarding safety and we need a two or three people to volunteer to be part of this.

### Church Secretary

We have been looking for a new Church Secretary as Karen wishes to step down. Lorna and May have agreed to produce the minutes for the Deacons and "In Conversation" between them. However we still need to find someone to fulfil the full role of Church Secretary. Please speak to Bob if you can help.