



March 2009

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## Mailing for churches in the Black Country, Shropshire and Herefordshire

### Evangelism Training Day

#### First Step

This is being put on by Saltmine and HEBA jointly with Jon Turner and Adrian Argile hosting the event.

Date Sat 25 April

Venue Warley Baptist Church

Cost £10 – includes lunch  
£7 for group booking of 6 or more

Please see the attachments.

### Strategic Forum with Urban Expression

**Saturday 21 March, 10.00am-2.00pm at IMC, Selly Oak**

- The next Strategic Forum will focus on mission strategy and include a presentation from Urban Expression about church planting in deprived areas.
- Urban Expression will also host a gathering from 3-5pm for anyone interested in their work.
- Further details from Adrian Argile or the HEBA Office.

### HEBA Gathering & AGM

**Wednesday 20 May, 10.00am-1.00pm**

- George Road Baptist Church, Erdington.
- Opportunity for Ministers and others to share in developing HEBA's vision for 'Growing healthy churches in the heart of England'.

- Full details to come from the Association Office but book the date!

### HEBA Ministers' Conference

#### Good reports from this year's Conference

In excess of 80 people enjoyed the Ministers' Conference at Swanwick this year and it was widely acclaimed as one of the best ministers had attended.

Speakers of 'Making Connections' – sharing Jesus in contemporary culture

Jason Clark – he has been involved in both church planting and academic theology and is passionate about both. Currently he pastors a church in Sutton, Surrey and is linked in with Vineyard.

Yvonne Richmond was ordained into the Anglican Ministry in 1993 and joined Coventry Cathedral as Chaplain for evangelism in 2005.

Both spoke with passion, conviction and as practitioners in helping us understand and relate to today's world in sharing Jesus. Their sessions were well received.

The Regional Ministry Team led a time of worship and communion where there was opportunity for reflection, ministry and prayer. This for many was the highlight of the conference.

Regrettably the golf was cancelled due to the weather, but this was more than compensated by an excellent evening of entertainment led by Fiona Lee, Paul & Liz Tyler.

If you went to the conference and you have not yet fed back your comments, please do so by either contacting Paul Burns (minister of Warwick Baptist) or myself before 11 March when the Conference Planning Group next meets.

**Book the dates now for 2010 – it's too good to miss!**

Dates 8-10 February 2010  
Venue The Hayes, Swanwick  
Speakers Joel Edwards and Elaine Storkey

## Supporting the Baptist Family

### Please consider your giving

One of the ways we are able to support one another is through our giving. The Baptist Family relies on the generosity of its churches to support and enable mission to take place both in this country and abroad.

The request is to give 10% (a tithe) of one's income – 5% going to Home Mission and 5% going to BMS World Mission.

This will take into account the more and the less affluent areas of the Country and enable us all to share our resources on the same basis. So please speak to your Church Treasurer and ask that your Church budget might reflect this.

## Evangelism Conference

**When?** 30 June - 2 July

**Where?** Sutton Coldfield Baptist

**Organisers?** Baptist Union

'The Really Useful Evangelism Conference' is a three-day conference to help Christians share their faith in 21st Century Britain.

See the BU web site or contact BUGB Mission Department. [www.baptist.org.uk/training\\_events/other.html#evangelism](http://www.baptist.org.uk/training_events/other.html#evangelism)

### Speakers include:

- Phil Collins (Saltmine)
- Dennis Pethers (Viz-a-Viz)
- Roy Searle (Northumbria Community)
- Nigel Wright (Spurgeon's College)
- Jonathan Edwards (BUGB).

## Preaching Creation Conference

### A topical theme

In light of Darwin's anniversary many people have shown and expressed an interest in creation. This day conference is geared towards ministers, preachers, and worship leaders.

Date Fri 29 May

Venue Spurgeon's College, London

Cost £25

Please see the attachments for fuller details.

## Baptist Union Day Conferences

### Baptist Christians Present and Engaging in a Multi-faith World

**Wednesday 25 March – 11:00 – 15:00**

A day at Loughborough Baptist Church to share stories, ideas and resources enabling churches to become distinctively Christian in a multi-faith community.

Hosted by Ian Bunce, BUGB Head of Mission

The cost for the day will be £5 including lunch.

For more details, provisional programme and booking form see BU website or contact Colin McDermott on 01235 517711 or email

[cmcdermott@baptist.org.uk](mailto:cmcdermott@baptist.org.uk)

### Town Centre Churches' Day

**Thursday 2 April – 10:30-14:45**

Manvers Street Baptist Church, Bath

This is a day organised by the Mission Department for those churches located in town centres. It is a day to be inspired, share stories and ideas about what it means to be a church serving a town centre.

Hosted by Ian Bunce, Head of the Mission Department, the main speaker for the day will be the Revd John Rackley, minister of Manvers Street Baptist Church in Bath.

Cost for the day will be £15 including lunch.

For more information, a provisional programme and booking form see BU website or contact

[calder@baptist.org.uk](mailto:calder@baptist.org.uk)

### Evangelists Day

**Thursday 21 May – 11:00 – 15:00**

This day at Baptist House is for evangelists and ministers who are active in evangelist roles to offer mutual support, share experiences and resources.

More details will be available soon, or contact Colin McDermott on 01235 517711 or email

[cmcdermott@baptist.org.uk](mailto:cmcdermott@baptist.org.uk)

**Baptist Union website link for the above:**

[http://www.baptist.org.uk/training\\_events/other.html](http://www.baptist.org.uk/training_events/other.html)

## Kidderminster Baptist

### Vacancy – Children & Family Worker

Kidderminster Baptist Church, Franche Road were left a sizeable legacy for work with children & young people last year. Supplemented by a Mission Development Grant from HEBA they're looking to appoint a Student Children & Family Worker to start there in September 2009. The person would be training at Bristol Baptist College with the Centre for Youth Ministry but does not have to come from a Baptist church.

An advert and applicant's pack are attached. Please pass on through whichever network/avenue you feel might be appropriate or to specific individuals known to you. Thanks very much!

## Sabbatical Venue

### In France!

A little while ago HEBA received an offer from John Lewis of Gorsley Baptist Church, who has a property in France which could be a suitable venue for a sabbatical. He writes:

'As we live in a manse two years ago we took the step of buying our own property (in France). We let it out commercially in the summer but in the low and mid season it would be a great place to go for a sabbatical - study break - writing break - or just a place for those who are facing burnout to get off the treadmill!

Our heart is to see the place used for the kingdom, it easily accessible by plane or train or driving. As a place it is away from it all and yet accessible to so much. You just turn out the gate and there are walks and trails and it is in the region where more serious pilgrims do various walks on the Via Campastella Santiago.'

Check out the website [www.lacroisee.co.uk](http://www.lacroisee.co.uk)

## Congratulations!

### Baptist Minister new director of YFC

- Rev Gavin Calver has been appointed as next National Director of Youth for Christ.

- Gavin is a Newly Accredited Minister in HEBA and a member at Kings Community Church, Oldbury.

## Church leaders and bankruptcy

### Sad to say ...

- In the current financial climate some of the leaders in our churches are going to have to go into Voluntary Administration or their businesses may become bankrupt.
- We need to keep in mind that an un-discharged bankrupt must not serve as a trustee and therefore, may not be a church leader or managing trustee of a church (deacon, elder, etc.).
- This is a matter of law, not something invented by the Charity Commission, BUGB or HEBA. Get in touch with Adrian Argile or Karen Martindale if you need more info.

## New Office Location

### Please note HEBA's new home.

Heart of England Baptist Association  
IMC  
24 Weoley Park Road  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham  
B29 6QX

Website: [www.baptist-heartofengland.org](http://www.baptist-heartofengland.org)

Phone: 0121 472 4986

## Dates for the Diary

See next page

## Dates for the Diary

### March

- 5 Black Country Ministers' Gathering  
12.30-2pm at Green Lane, Walsall
  
- 19 Shropshire Ministers' Gathering  
11.30am at IMC (lunch £3.50)  
Speaker – Keith Judson
  
- 21 Strategic Forum – Mission Focus  
At IMC
  
- 21 Urban Expression  
Information and Interest Session  
3pm to 5pm at IMC
  
- 24 Mission Development Meeting  
Requests to be considered need to be  
sent in at least 14 days in advance

### April

- 1 Brierley Hill Lent Meeting at Brierley Hill  
Baptist 7.30pm Speaker – Adrian Argile
  
- 2 Black Country Ministers' Gathering  
12.30-2pm at Fordhouses
  
- 7 Gorsley Leaders' Day  
Speaker Greg Haslam  
Contact Gorsley Baptist for details
  
- 8 HEBA Staff Retreat  
Speaker – Phil Collins
  
- 12 Easter Day – Christ is risen
  
- 25 Evangelism Training Day  
10am to 4pm at Warley Baptist  
For details see above