

This months services

	10 am	6.30 pm
7th	Steve Morley	Sharing Prayer - Colin
14th	Parade - Dave	Dave
21st	Easter - Tim	Steve Morley
28th	Communion - Colin	Messy Church (4pm)

Regular Meetings

Sunday

10.00am - Morning Service
18.30pm - Evening Service

Monday

10am-12pm - Coffee Pot (Term Time)
4.30pm - 1st Laidon Rainbows
6.15pm - 2nd Laidon Guides

Tuesday

5pm - 4th Laidon Brownies
7.45pm Bible Study/Home Groups

Wednesday

1.45pm - CAMEO (Term time)
4.15pm - 3rd Laidon Rainbows

Thursday (Term Time)

5.30pm - 7th Laidon Brownies
8pm - Xplore Youth Group

Friday

7pm - Harlequin Rangers

Second Saturday of the month

3pm - Disabled Christians Fellowship

Services at local residential homes

(Both at 3pm)

1st Sunday of the Month - Ghyll Grove
3rd Tuesday of the Month - Evelyn May



Knowing God,
Showing God,
Making God Known.



April 2019

**“Do what God’s
teaching says, don’t just
listen and do nothing”**

James 1:22 ERV

Email for general queries / bookings:

Manormission@aol.com

www.manormissionchurch.org.uk

If you have a prayer request that you would like to be prayed for in confidence, please call **Heather** on **07722 304917**

When I was asked (ok, I volunteered) to write for this month's newsletter, I was left pondering what to write about. I've written hundreds of thousands of words, but never for a church, so I went back to thinking about how people, friends and family, had reacted when Jackie and I told them we were getting baptised at the Mission.

Very mixed really. Some folk were ex-church themselves, and some were (are) regulars; they were all very keen to come. Another friend of mine had a rather harsh religious-school experience which had seriously put him off, but he still came and brought his partner. Others had been regular church goers, but somewhere had lost their way. I think now of Steve's sermon on the morning of Sunday the 3rd March, when he talked about encouraging friends who had drifted away from church.

One friend of mine was utterly horrified – she burst into tears! I think she'd rather I'd admitted going to visit prostitutes, or being a drug addict. Those she could have understood. Anything but Christ. I thought of that at the evening service on 10th March, when Steve (again) talked about how we could try to convince a sceptic if one walked in (apparently that has happened).

The problem with sceptics is ... well, there are lots of problems with sceptics. I know, I was one. On 10th March the evening sermon was on hope, and how "hope" in God (waiting on God) is very

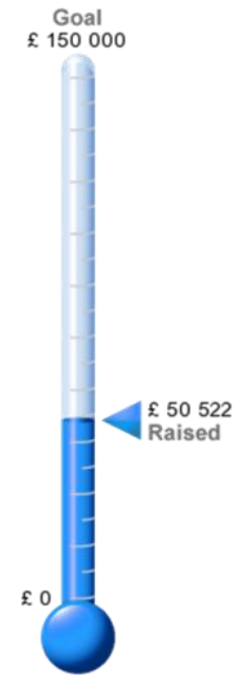
different from hoping, say, England win their next match. Hope in God is expectation. The "sure and certain" hope.

Well some sceptics I know can tolerate absolutely any sort of bad news. They expect it. It's no surprise. They certainly hope England win, but they've not got any confidence, no faith at all (they must have seen them play before). So the Gospel, literally the **good news**, is not running true to their way of thinking about life. Tell them something awful is going to happen and they'll have no trouble believing it. Tell them something wonderful is going to happen, if they let it, if they choose to embrace it, and no, they just can't accept the good news. (**Luke 2:10** Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy **which will be to all people.**")

Eventually cynicism about good can erode our ability to see good at all, perhaps becoming a person who sees bad, accepts the bad, but cannot any longer accept the good, can no longer accept that anyone has motivation other than the selfish. This is as irrational as thinking that magnets can have a north pole, but not a south pole, or electricity can have a positive potential but not a negative. No-one would think like that ... would they?

(**Mark 1:14-15** Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, "**The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.**")

John



Building Fund

Update

We are now officially up to £50522 in the building fund. Thank you to all who have contributed.

Please pray that the conversations with Swan about what they're planning to do to help us go well.

Dates for your diary

AGM - 2/6/19

Maintenance Day - 15/6/19

Outing to St Albans - 6/7/19

Retreat to Danbury - 21/9/19

Our regular giving

The Trustees reviewed the regular giving to other organisations at the last meeting. It is now as follows:

Compassion £25

Open Doors £25

STM £200 (but no longer a box at the back)

St Mungoes (Night Shelter) £25