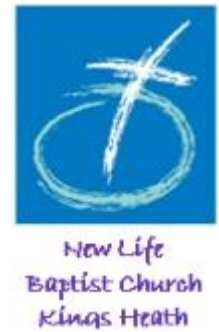


NEW LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH

A BRIEF HISTORY



It is because of the love and grace of our God that we are able to proclaim the history of His church on this site at Kings Heath.

*Go into the entire world and teach people everywhere to keep all the commands I have given to you and I will be with you at all times.
(From Matthew 28:19-20)*

We, the people of New Life Baptist Church, believe in a great God and we seek to serve him in all we do. He has called us to work in our community and to demonstrate his love to people of all ages and backgrounds. As we seek to work out this calling in the practicalities of everyday life we believe God is calling us to further extend and develop our work among children, young people and their families by the appointment of a youth minister to join the ministerial team within the church.

Below is a basic outline of some of the key past developments of the church which will help you to understand more about the aims and ethos of New Life Baptist Church (NLBC)

2012 Return to Providing a Christian Education

September 2012 New Life Baptist Church opened a Nursery School that aims to provide quality education in a Christian context

The school is part of the church as a whole and is involved in activities as part of the mission of NLBC.

The Christian teaching in the school provides a foundation for the children and parents to learn the good news of Christ. We plant the seed for our Lord to grow.

2009 NLBC building development and introduction of coffee shop ministry

2009 the Baptist Church at Kings Heath has had a huge face-lift with a new renovated building with a people ready and able to reach out to the local community to bridge the space between the Church and the pavement.

The coffee shop offers welcoming hospitality and the quiet space within the Church which gives people a chance for reflection and peace but also provides a place for parents to relax with their children and share with other families. The sanctuary also hosts the only Christian bookshop in Kings Heath

The time out space provides a welcome place for people to rest and a fantastic position for the church to host outdoor evangelical events.

1991- 2008 Baptist Back Together

1991 - The Moseley church and Kings Heath churches amalgamated and formed Kings Heath & Moseley Baptist Church using the Kings Heath Site.

2008 - Billesley church and Kings Heath & Moseley Baptist Churches amalgamated on the Kings Heath site. A Church with a new name - New Life Baptist Church Kings Heath.

1927 Billesley Baptist Church

A group of people from Kings Heath Baptist Church felt led to preach God's word in the Billesley area. They held open air meetings outside the Billesley Arms Public House and later purchased number 10 Colbath Road, known as the Billesley Mission.

In 1924 a plot of land was purchased in Brook Lane and fund raising began in earnest some of the money was raised by laying a row of pennies on the pavement reaching from the Billesley Mission to the new site of Billesley Baptist Church.

It is known that one of the pennies came as a gift from a child's Christmas stocking. The foundation stones were laid on a typically rainy Saturday 24th September 1927

1897 A Bigger Baptist Church

Despite the fact that there were now two churches and many of the fellowship had moved to the Moseley church, Kings Heath Church again became overcrowded and in 1895 a decision was taken to build a larger church in the Kings Heath area.

It is interesting to note that the original plan was for the Chapel to have a lecture room and a tower and spire 90 foot high!

By August 1897 the Sunday school was completed and ready for use and this building was used for Church Services whilst the new Chapel was being built. The foundation stones of the Chapel laid on Wednesday 15th September 1897

1888 Moseley Baptist Church

In 1888 another Church was opened in Oxford Road, Moseley. The records show that a decision was made that this Church should be part of the Kings Heath Church and remain as one communion with it. This work was carried through by the friends who had become associated with the King's Heath Church, so that the debt of Moseley to King's Heath in this matter is a considerable one. It is difficult to see how the Church at Moseley could ever have been erected without the energy and enthusiasm that had been enkindled among those who worshipped and worked at King's Heath. The work in the two districts

was to be carried on as 'one church in two sections', not two separate churches, and this arrangement continued until 1905.

1868 – 1872 New Baptist Chapel

In 1868 consideration was given to the building of new Church and School buildings, due apparently to the dilapidated state of the Meeting House and schoolrooms. A mortgage of £60 on the old Chapel was paid off, it was then pulled down and a new church with new Schoolrooms were erected on the same site as the first Church. This second Church, which was a larger and more imposing building than the original Meeting House, opened for worship in November 1872.

(A time capsule was buried in 1872 and found when the refurbishment took place in 2009)

1811 –1815 Baptists in Kings Heath

In the year 1811 when Napoleon was waging war, the penny post had not started, and the industrial revolution was transferring Birmingham into the City of a thousand trades – a group of Christians from Lombard Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, felt called by God to preach in the village of Kings Heath, "situated about four miles from Birmingham on the Turn Pike Road to Alcester".

The first meetings were in a local cottage across the road from the present site.

1815 – With help from Lombard Street the first meeting house, measuring 32 feet by 22 feet was erected in Kings Heath and constituted as a separate church was built on part of the present site and was known as the 'Little Chapel'

A Sunday school was also started at the same time.

1700 -1800 Baptist in Birmingham

At the beginning of the eighteenth century there were but two Baptist Churches in Birmingham, viz. Cannon Street and Lombard Street. The Cannon Street Church was founded in 1737, and the old Chapel was pulled down to make room for the Corporation Street improvement in 1876. Lombard Street Church began in 1775 and was later known as the Highgate Park Baptist Church.

Despite evidence of settlements dating back to 1000, King's Heath, up until the eighteenth century, consisted of largely unoccupied wasteland in the royal manor of King's Norton. It became a settlement following the opening of the new turnpike road from Alcester to Birmingham in 1767, with a scattering of cottages around the Cross Guns (now the Goose) where travellers stopped for rest and refreshment.

Regular Activities

Adults Services	Children/Young people's Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday Morning Service 10.30am • Tuesday Prayer Meeting 10am • Wednesday "Together" 10.30am • Thursday - Evening Service 7.15pm • 1st Sunday of the month Convicted (16-25yrs) A service for young adults 6.30 – 8pm (inc. food, games, worship & discussion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday Junior Church 10.30am • Wednesday - Guides (girls 10-14 yrs.) 7-8.30pm • Wednesday – Breakout (young people meet for friendship and discussion) 6.30-8.00pm • Friday – Music Tots (for families with young children) 1.30 -3pm • Friday – BB (Boys Brigade) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Anchor Boys (5-7yrs) 6.30 - 7.30pm ❖ Junior Brigade (8-10yrs) 6.30 – 7.30pm ❖ BB Company (11-18yrs) 7.45 – 9pm • Saturday Specials for families with young children 1st & 3rd week - 11 – 12.30pm

God has been faithful to his people as his people have sought to serve and follow him in the strength of his Holy Spirit. We move forward with the confidence of our predecessors and a faith in our great God.