

The Baptist Church, Brierfield

March 2015

We meet in a warm,
friendly atmosphere to
praise and worship the
Lord Jesus Christ.

Please do join us



Services every Sunday

10:00am Prayer Meeting

10:30am Family Service

6:00pm Evening Worship

Children and Young People's meetings

Details are announced during the family service, more information is available from:

Rainbows and Brownies Weekly Meetings Elizabeth Wellman 01282 690403

Guides Weekly Meetings Janice Kay 01282 605594

Sunday Club For boys and girls
upto 11 years old David Leeming 01282 618026

JAM Club (Jesus and Me) For those in year 6
and above. Elizabeth Wellman 01282 690403



Mid week meetings for adults as announced

Church Secretary Mr David Leeming, Tel: 01282 618026 or
07811192134. Email: davidleeming1@virginmedia.com

<http://www.brierfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk>

A few years ago I was privileged to go to Israel and visit many of the places we read about in the Bible. Although the folk out there take you to Golgotha and the place of the garden tomb there is little doubt that these are not really the correct sites. They were chosen by Constantine's Mother on a visit to the Holy land in the third or fourth century. However some Christians have recreated a garden, not necessarily of the site of the tomb but in order to give you an idea of what it would be like. We had a communion service in this garden which was very peaceful and provided us with a memory never to be forgotten, but my main memory is of a rock hollowed out with a door that when opened simply said " He is not here but is Risen " Those words were spoken to the women at the tomb on the first Easter day and marked the greatest event in the world. Death had been brought out into the open and had been defeated by the Lord Jesus Christ and today centuries later we can echo those words and announce that because He lives we can also live for eternity. What a joyful day this is. David

As many of you will know Marjorie Greenwood, Chris's Aunt, has been worshipping with us for the past 2 years. In February she fell and broke her hip and underwent an operation. She has now gone into a care home near her son in Newcastle. We trust she will settle in her new surroundings and ask God's blessing upon her.

Bible Studies



As you know these are alternate Tuesdays and the next meeting is on the 7th April. Following on we meet on the 21st April 5th May and the 26th May (please note this date) We always commence at 7.30 p.m. and end before 9.00 a.m. after having a time of Praise Prayer and discussion. Please do join us.

Inbetween Group

We are meeting on the 22nd April for a Quiz night organised by Jennifer followed by Supper and the May meeting is on the 13th May. This is a meal at the Pendle inn organised by Bernice. Both meetings commence at 7.30 p.m.

Everyone is most welcome.

Congratulations

Congratulations are in order. Howard and Janice became engaged to be married during the month. As a church we pray God's blessing on their future together.

The Baptist Church, Brierfield

Anniversary Services

Sunday 19th May



9:30_{am} Prayer Meeting

10:30am Family Service

6:00_{pm} Evening Worship

Preacher: Mike Huck.

Please make a note of this and join us to celebrate 129 years of Baptist worship in Brierfield

Mad Hatters Coffee Evening

As A church we said we would hold a coffee Evening and the Guides are arranging it for us. It Is a Mad Hatters Coffee Evening on the 18th May at 7.00pm.

Please come in a hat, both men and Ladies. If you come without a Hat you will be fined ... be warned, further details later



Annual Church Meeting

This is on the 19th May at 7.30 p.m. in the Primary. All church Members should be present and other members of the congregation are welcome to join us.

Please note the date and come.



Church Day out

You should know all the details of this event by now. All we need is a sunny day and for you to come. We will cater for rain so that won't present a problem. We will be collecting names quite soon and asking those who can provide transport to indicate, and those requiring transport to let us know. We will then try to pair things up. Please book the date, Make sure you come and watch out for further details.

Prayer Matters

At Easter the whole world changed as Christ died and rose again in triumph over death and the grave. The change wasn't superficial, but deep and lasting, eternal in consequence. As we come to our General Election, the sort of changes that we need in our land, which has drifted so far from God and His ways, go deeper than who we vote for. So as we continue in our prayer for Revival, let's pray that there may be



- **A deep change in our country:** (*suggested prayer*) Lord, let lives be changed from the inside out even as motives, desires and ambitions are renewed. Change our country for the better, bring us closer to Yourself.
- **A breakout of true, Godly love:** (*suggested prayer*) Lord, we pray that You will replace other, worldly attractions with love for You, Your people, Your spiritual Kingdom, and spiritual realities.

Please also pray for:

- Our Missionary Contacts – Irene, The Milns, Rachel, the Dellors and Natalie;
- That our Church will grow both in numbers and grace.
- That the Lord will show us as a church how to reach out to lost souls around us.

May I remind you that if you have an urgent need for prayer, such as sickness, or one of the problems of life, please contact Philip on:

- Email: philip.rowland@virginmedia.com
- or by Mobile Text (please do not ring me): 07546 350 409
- or by phoning Kath on 01282 697005.

Your request for prayer will then be passed on to the other members of the Prayer Chain.

Holiday Club 2015

We had our initial meeting in March and have agreed the dates will be 24th August to the 27th August, Just 4 mornings due to August bank holiday commencing on the Friday. We have a further meeting planned for the 1st May at 7.30 p.m. in the lounge. We require all who are helping to be there or let us know of their interest.

Decorating

We did ask for volunteers to help with the Kitchen, Graham tells me no one has offered their services, can you help!

Safety Audit

On the safety audit there doesn't seem many problems, but if you know of any please let Nigel Know.

Church Repairs

The scaffolding on the front of the church will probably have been removed by the time you read this. We have had the Lead flashing on the gable end renewed and the joins filled and covered on the coping stones. We have had damp getting in particularly in the porch. We are considering having the same work done on the other gables.

The BMS stamp bureau

The BMS stamp bureau have sent a letter to Angela thanking her for forwarding used stamps. They tell us that in 2014 they raised £13750 for Missionary work and so far in 2015 they have raised £4500. It's so easy to collect the stamps from letters we receive.

The instructions are that we trim them to 6mm (1/4") but please ensure you don't damage the perforations and just give them to Angela or place in the box in the Primary room. We thank Angela for doing this.

Andrew and Gwen Millns

An update from Dhaka

Dear Family and Friends

We are approaching the Easter Weekend, so I want to first of all wish you great peace and joy at this special time. For those in churches please convey our Easter Greetings to your fellowship.

For those who took up the challenge of sending either a birthday card for myself in March or an Easter card, well done! It was great to receive mail.

Over the last few weeks we have been busily making preparations for new personnel coming to Bangladesh. Our friends who are involved in a business will have four new workers arriving over the summer, coming for differing periods of time. Then a new worker is coming to join us with the Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha and taking up a role in their Development Section. I will say more about these folks nearer the time but please do pray for all the practicalities such as housing, school [two families with children coming], orientation programme, language studies and a host of other things. We are doing our best to make the transition into Bangladesh as smooth as possible, although here you have to be prepared for anything!

We have also had confirmation that a BMS Action Team will join us in October for six months. We will be their Supervisors, so again a great deal of practicalities to work through, please

pray that a good programme of involvement will come together and that the team of four young ladies will be well received. Much of their time is likely to be within our education establishments around the country.

Immediately after Easter, Gwen commences teaching the MA students for their Spiritual Formation module and I have begun preparation for sharing the teaching of the module on the Book of Acts. Some new developments are progressing - the Next Generation Project which will focus on teens; a request for English Language classes and a regular worship service in English. Having said this we are still wanting to make progress with our Bangla use but it is slow, those little grey cells have gone on vacation me thinks!

We do value your love, support and prayers. Please pray for us in all that we are doing but also that we will be kept well and safe. The country is still in a very unsettled mode and they are building up to city elections in late April. I have had to some further investigation for my voice as I have been experiencing hoarseness and loss of voice, which is very frustrating, pray for healing and well being for us.

Thank you again for all your support, it means a great deal to us.

God Bless

Andrew [& Gwen]

We need to talk about Ukraine

BMS World Mission will host a consultation at Lambeth Palace in April to discuss the crisis in Ukraine and how we can respond.

You may think the conflict in Ukraine is over. It's not. Despite a ceasefire, there has been fighting between separatists and the Ukrainian army in eastern Ukraine. Since the crisis began, the UN estimates that more than 5,000 people have been killed and 1.5 million have been displaced by the conflict, creating a huge humanitarian crisis. Christians, especially Baptists, are reportedly being singled out for persecution. Refugees are desperate for food and cannot earn a living. Families are being split by a conflict that is dividing the country.

This is why BMS and our partner Mission Eurasia are holding a consultation at Lambeth Palace in London on 28 April to inform churches, NGOs and the Foreign Office about the current situation in Ukraine, and to discuss how best we can respond to the crisis that is unfolding there.

Speakers from Ukraine, the US and UK will be contributing to the discussions that will be moderated by BMS General Director David Kerrigan and President of Mission Eurasia Sergey Rakhuba. Representatives from UK Baptist churches have been invited to attend as observers.

The consultation will focus on the humanitarian crisis and how Christians in Europe and worldwide can stand in solidarity with those in Ukraine. It will also explore how we can speak out for religious freedom where it is being threatened and be a voice for reconciliation between divided communities and Christians in Ukraine and Russia.

For Sergey Rakhuba, the crisis is personal. He grew up 50km from where a Malaysian Airlines flight from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur crashed in July 2014, allegedly shot down by pro-Russian separatists. Some of Sergey's cousins are pro-separatist, while the rest of his family are pro-Ukraine. "It breaks my heart to see how deeply the divisive line goes through families, communities and churches," he says. "That is why I really want this consultation to mobilise resources, theories, methods, experiences to help them with that unbelievably huge crisis."

David Kerrigan believes it is important for BMS and UK Christians to be involved in the consultation. "Part of our mission priority is to protect Christians who are suffering from persecution, wherever that is happening in the world," he says. "And there is persecution now happening, particularly against Protestant Christians, including Baptists.

These communities are coming under intense pressure, some of them have their buildings destroyed and their ability to gather for worship has been impaired. So for us there is a strong religious freedom issue here."

BMS' reasons for participating in the consultation include strengthening partners on the ground like Mission Eurasia. "Our hope is to be agents for good in the midst of this very difficult situation," says David.

Foreign and Commonwealth officials and other aid agencies have been invited by BMS to attend the consultation to encourage them to get more involved in the aid effort. "We want to alert them to the humanitarian realities on the ground and the extreme hardship that is being faced by many communities irrespective of faith."

It is hoped that a statement outlining a response to the Ukraine crisis will be released at the close of the consultation.

Dates For Your Diary

| | | | |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 7th April | 7:30pm | Bible Study | Church Lounge |
| 8th April | 7:30pm | Officers Meeting | Church Lounge |
| 21st April | 7:30pm | Bible Study | Church Lounge |
| 22nd April | 7:30pm | In-between Group | Primary Room |
| 26th April | 12 noon | Fred's Birthday Party | Sunday School |
| 30th April | 10:00am | Coffee Morning | Donald Leeming's |
| 1st May | 7:45pm | Holiday Club Meeting | Church Lounge |
| 5th May | 7:30pm | Bible Study | Church Lounge |
| 8th May | 12 noon till 2pm | Hunger Lunch for Christian Aid | St Lukes |
| 9th May | 10:00am | Away Day | Barley Village Hall |
| 13th May | 7:30pm | In-Between Meal Out | Barley Inn |
| 18th May | 7:00pm | Mad Hatters Coffee Evening | Primary Room |
| 19th May | 7:30pm | Church Annual Meeting | Primary Room |
| 21st May | 10:30am | Coffee Morning | Peter and Cynthia's |
| 26th May | 7:30pm | Bible Study | Church Lounge |

Christianity Explored

We distributed the questionnaires. About 40 in total but guess what only 10 have been returned. Is it apathy or you just need to get down to it. Please fill them in and place in the box on the radiator. Please don't leave it to someone else.

Food Bank

It may be a Surprise but things are as bad as ever for folk. We are still collecting food. Please place it in the box in the choir vestry. Thanks.

Coffee Rota

| | | |
|------------|---------|----------------|
| 5th April | Janice | Elizabeth |
| 12th April | Rebekah | Beverley |
| 19th April | Declan | Franki |
| 26th April | Elaine | David Mullarky |
| 3rd May | Janice | Elizabeth |
| 10th May | Angela | Chris |
| 17th May | Richard | Gill |
| 24th May | Kay | Rebecca L |
| 31st May | Declan | Franki |

J.A.M. Club

the next meeting is planned for Friday the 17th April, there is one big problem WE NEED HELP. No one has volunteered to help Elizabeth.

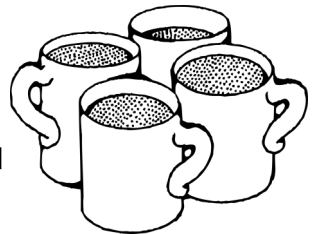
It is a quiz night and all year 6 and above young people are welcome. Can you help? Please see Elizabeth today.

Coffee Mornings

The dates for our coffee mornings are:

- Thursday April 30th at Donald's.
- Thursday May 21st at Peter and Cynthia's

All are welcome, please see Cynthia if you need transport. We look forward to seeing you there.



Open Doors

Does no one have any brick a brack for the open Doors stall on the market? Please have a look round and let me have it so that I can pass it on.

Fred Davies

Congratulations and celebrations are in order to mark Fred's 90th Birthday. We will be having a lunch on the 26th April after the morning service. Please do join us. There is a list on the notice board in the primary setting out food required, can you help. Otherwise many congratulations Fred and we look forward to many more Birthdays.

Shoeboxes

This photo is one of our shoeboxes being opened, it should have been included with last months newsletter, but unfortunately got mixed up with the cover photo of the operation Christmas child website.



Christian Aid week

It appears we are not welcome at Junction 12 so if anyone wants to do a house to house collection in their street we have the envelopes etc. Please see David

The Brierfield churches are holding a hunger lunch at St Lukes on Friday 9th May 12.00 noon to 2.00 p.m. Please note the change in arrangements.

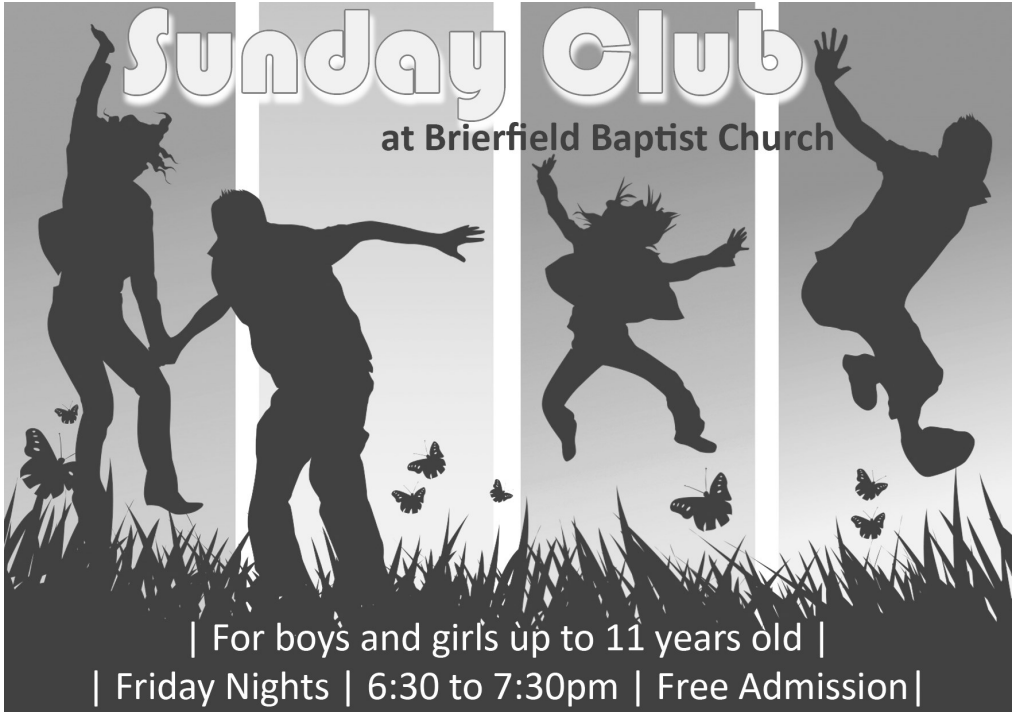
Youth Activities

We are desperate for more children and young people at these groups please encourage children to join and make them widely known.

Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

Sunday Club

at Brierfield Baptist Church



| For boys and girls up to 11 years old |

| Friday Nights | 6:30 to 7:30pm | Free Admission |

JAM CLUB

| | | Preacher | Door Steward | Morning Service Leader |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| April 5th Easter Day | 10.30am | Donald Leeming | Ron Bolton | Nigel Leeming |
| | Vestry Prayers: | <i>David Leeming Jack Parkinson</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | <i>Easter Songs of Praise</i> | | |
| April 12th | 10.30am | Earnest Gorton | Neil Binns | G. Leeming |
| | Vestry Prayers: | <i>Donald Leeming Jack Sunderland</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | E. R. Steel | | |
| April 19th | 10.30am | Bert Williams | Jordon Leeming | Melanie Lewis |
| | Vestry Prayers: | <i>David Leeming Nigel Leeming</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | Bert Williams | | |
| April 26th | 10.30am | D. Lawrence | Declan Driver | B. Baldwin |
| | Vestry Prayers: | <i>Donald Leeming Philip Rowland</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | E. Platt | | |
| May 3rd | 10:30am | Donald Leeming | Kath Hughes | C. l'Anson |
| | Vestry Prayers | <i>David Leeming Peter l'Anson</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | Philip Rowland | | |
| May 10th | 10.30am | Jude Buksh (S.W.I.P) | C. l'Anson | B. Driver |
| | Vestry Prayers: | <i>Donald Leeming Jack Parkinson</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | David Leeming | | |
| May 17th Church Anniversary | 10.30am | Mike Huck | S. Dunham | K. Rowland |
| | Vestry Prayers: | <i>David Leeming Jack Sunderland</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | Mike Huck | | |
| May 24th | 10.30am | J. Caddy | C Leeming | G. Leeming |
| | Vestry Prayers: | <i>Donald Leeming Nigel Leeming</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | D. Lawrence | | |
| May 31st | 10.30am | G. Jackson | G. Leeming | N. Leeming |
| | Vestry Prayers: | <i>David Leeming Philip Rowland</i> | | |
| | 6.00pm | Donald Leeming | | |