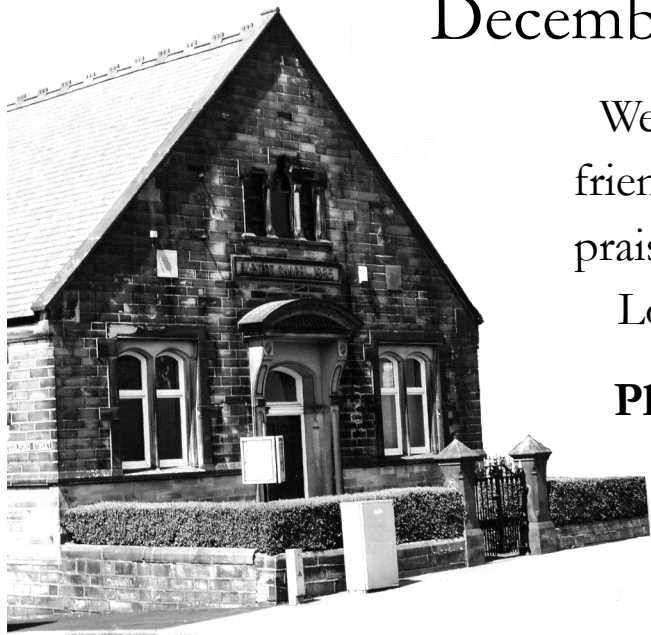


Happy Christmas



The Baptist Church, Brierfield

December 2017



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

Rainbows and Brownies

Weekly Meetings

Elizabeth Wilkes

01282 774847

Guides

Weekly Meetings

Janice Greenwood

01282 605594

Sunday Club

For boys and girls
up to 11 years old

David Leeming

01282 618026

JAM Club (Jesus and Me)

For those in year 6
and above.

Elizabeth Wilkes

01282 774847

Mid week meetings for adults as announced

Church Secretary Mr Geoffrey Hartley tel: 01282 601821 mobile 07975722392

e mail jghartleyfaith@talktalk.net

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

I must begin by telling everyone that Nigel and Philip were appointed as Elders at the Church meeting held on the 28th November. Peter had allowed himself to be nominated and was not successful. WE thank him for allowing his name to go forward and for his words of support expressed at the meeting. Peter has served the Lord for a long time in many areas of the church and I am confident that the Lord has still much for him to do.

To Nigel and Philip we send our best wishes and assure them both of our prayerful support. I trust we will all get behind them as they take up this new positions.

The ordination of the new Elders will take place at the Morning service on the 7th January 2018. Please make a note of this date.

2018 is a year of opportunity with new Elders and new ideas and plans. The prayerful spirit of the last few months should continue. We must pray for the Holy spirit to convince people of their sin and lead them to the cross, which will lead to Baptism and Church Membership. We should also pray that we all will be more committed to the work of the Kingdom.

Christmas is a time for giving we give presents too many but none compare to the gift that God sent to us that first Christmas... His son the Lord Jesus Christ. Let's remember this and announce it both far and wide.

David.

Christmas Arrangements:

All our Christmas services are listed overleaf.

Young People's Carole service on the 11th Dec at 6.30 p.m. followed by mince pies and coffee with a bring-and-buy stall. Proceeds will be donated to Shelter.

Retirement homes meet at Marsden heights at 2.30 p.m.

On the 17th Dec the Sunday school are leading the service. We want all children to come dressed as angels or Shepherds (adults can come dressed up if they like). There are some suitable clothes on the stage but will require washing before use and should be returned as soon as possible after Christmas. Following the service will be our Christmas Family party in the Sunday School. If you can contribute to the lunch there is a list on the noticeboard in the Primary Room for you to add your contribution too.

Glenys and Barbara, accompanied by Kathryn and David, attended a Thanksgiving service on Saturday November 4th at Westminster Abbey. This was in appreciation of their many years of service within the Guiding movement .

As a church we also recognise and thank them for their past and continuing work and faithfulness to the Guide movement and the work undertaken within our fellowship in our Lord's name. Our new leaders are working hard to keep these groups going and we ask for your prayers that we will see an increase in numbers soon.





Please remember the events planned for Christmas

- | | | |
|----------|--------------------|--|
| 10th Dec | 2:30pm | Visit to Retirement Homes
<i>No Evening Service</i> |
| 11th Dec | 6:30pm | Young People's Carole Service |
| 16th Dec | 10:45 -
11:30am | Carols in Brierfield Centre
A Brierfield Churches Together event. |
| 17th Dec | 10:30am | Christmas Service and Family Party
Watch out for more details,
<i>No evening service.</i> |
| 24th Dec | 10:30am | Family Service and Sunday School
<i>No Coffee.</i> |
| | 6:00pm | Carol Service |
| 25th Dec | 10:30am | Christmas Day Service |

Prayer Matters:

Some 2,000 years ago history changed. A baby was born, who was fully God, and yet fully man. Never before in human history had God become man, the Great Creator become as one who was created. How was this possible? Because man was created in God's image.



Why did God step into history? Because man had lost his way, deviating from God's intended path. All mankind, including you and me, had sinned, and fallen from God's grace. But God was not happy that anyone should die in their sins, and sent His Son to offer the only path of restoration possible - belief in Him. And what did we do? We killed Him on a cruel cross.

But that is not the end of the story. In fact, it is not a story, but true history. And that baby Jesus, when He became a man, offered us all a gift. He said that His Father "so loved the world, that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." Whatever gift you receive this Christmas, none of them can equal the gift that Jesus is offering. Do you believe it? Have you received it?

So let's pray that

- Thanking God for His inestimable gift to us;
- If you cannot find this gift, then come before God, asking His forgiveness for all your wrong doings, and ask Him to dwell in your heart and direct your ways in the future.

Please also pray for:

- Our Missionary Contacts – Irene, Rachel, and Natalie, and indeed, all those on the Mission Field;
- That our Church will grow both in numbers and grace as the Lord adds to our number .

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.

Dates For Your Diary

5th December	7:30pm		Church Lounge
11th December	10:30am	Bible Study	Primary Room
7th December	7:30pm	Officers Meeting	Church Lounge
10th December	2:30pm	Visit to Retirement Homes	Marsden Heights
11th December	6:30pm	Young Peoples Carole Service	Church
16th December	10:45am	Churches Together Carol Service	Brierfield Centre
17th December	10:30am	Christmas Service with Family Party—watch out for more details.	Church
24th December	10:30am	Family Service and Sunday School—No Coffee	Church
	6:00pm	Carol Service	Church
25th December	10:30am	Christmas Day service	Church
7th January	10:30am	Elders Ordination Service	Church
9th January	10:00am	Brierfield Churches meeting	32 Reedley Road
9th January	7:30pm		Church Lounge
15th January	10:30am	Bible Study	Primary Room
17th January	7:30pm	Inbetween Group	Primary Room
23rd January	7:30pm		Church Lounge
29th January	10:30am	Bible Study	Primary Room
24th January	7:30pm	Brierfield Churches Prayer Night	Living Hope Fellowship
30th January	7:30pm	Church Meeting	Primary Room

UKRAINE: WINTER IS COMING

The temperature's starting to drop. Soon, frost will cover the ground. The heating will be switched on. But for people in eastern Ukraine, ways of keeping warm have been taken away.

Along the boundary lines of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions in Ukraine, tension between pro-Russian separatists and pro-Ukrainian groups has caused violent unrest for the past three years, and there are no signs of it stopping. Parts of these regions are now controlled by the separatists, with the Ukrainian government suspending support to the area. As a result, people are without hot water. The central heating no longer works. Coal, gas and electricity are becoming increasingly more expensive, with many people unable to pay their energy bills. And with extreme winter conditions on the way, being able to stay warm is vital for families in Ukraine to survive the next few months.

Last year, Sergey, an elderly man living amidst the fighting, had the wall of his home heavily damaged. Not only did this let in the freezing cold, but it caused his heating system to break. BMS helped to fix the wall, and a ceramic heating panel was installed in his house, replacing the broken system. Because of your support, Sergey was able to live through the winter.



Along with local partners, last year BMS also helped another family with three young children, who had their central heating stop because energy to the building had been



cut off. They weren't able to leave the area because they were looking after their elderly parents. A ceramic heater was installed at their house, meaning they could keep looking after their parents and stay warm during the

winter too. This year, thanks to your giving, we are able to help again.

Two million people are estimated to be living close to the boundary line of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, with a further two million people estimated to be living in the non-government controlled area. In a crisis of this scale, we're committed to helping Ukrainians keep warm this winter.

Working with local partners, BMS is helping one thousand people affected by this terrible conflict. We're providing water heaters, which will give families and internally displaced people access to hot water. Ceramic heaters, coal and firewood are being given as ways for families to heat their homes. And we're helping children receive thermal underwear, meaning they can stay warm while they sleep.

Because of your giving, Ukrainian families will stay warm and survive the winter this year, amidst the ongoing fighting. If you want to help continue BMS' disaster recovery work, enabling us to support those trapped in wars, conflicts and natural disasters, consider giving today.

More information is available from www.bmsworldmission.org.uk



		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
3rd December	10.30am	Prize Giving	E. Wilkes	Melanie Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Donald Leeming</i>	<i>Kath Rowlands</i>	
	6.00pm	George Kendal		
10th December	10:30am	Graham Baldwin	Declan Driver	B. Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David Leeming</i>	<i>N. Leeming</i>	
	6.00pm	No Evening Service		
17th December	10.30am	Christmas Service	K. Hughes	
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Donald Leeming</i>	<i>Peter l'Anson</i>	
	6.00pm	No Evening Service		
24th December	10.30am	Geoff Hartley	C. l'Anson	R. Bolton
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David Leeming</i>	<i>Philip Rowland</i>	
	6.00pm	Carol Service		
31st December	10.30am	David Leeming	J. Greenwood	
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Donald Leeming</i>	<i>Kath Rowland</i>	
	6.00pm	No Evening Service		
7th January	10:30am	<i>Elder's Ordination</i>	S. Dunham	
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David Leeming</i>	<i>P. l'Anson</i>	
	6.00pm	Stephen Wells		
14th January	10.30am	Geoff Hartley	C. Leeming	B. Driver
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Donald Leeming</i>	<i>Nigel Leeming</i>	
	6.00pm	George Kendall		
21st January	10.30am	Colin Scholes	G. Leeming	R. Hartley
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Philip Rowland</i>	<i>Peter l'Anson</i>	
	6.00pm	David Leeming		
28th January	10.30am	David Bartram	Peter Lewis	S. Greaves
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel Leeming</i>	<i>J. Greenwood</i>	
	6.00pm	Harold Hogarth		