



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield



February Newsletter 2018

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

Please do join us.

Sunday Services

10:00am - Prayer meeting in the Church Lounge

10:30am - Family Service, followed by coffee.

6:00pm - Evening service.

Midweek Youth Activities

Rainbows and Brownies - Contact Elizabeth Wilkes for more details on 01282 774847

Guides - Contact Janice Greenwood for more details on 01282 605594

Sunday Club for boys and girls up to 11 years old - contact David for more details on 01282 618026.

JAM (Jesus and Me) Club for those in year 6 or above, contact Elizabeth Wilkes for more details on 01282 774847

Midweek Adult Activities as announced.

Do you have something you would like to be included in next months newsletter? Please hand anything you would like adding to Richard l'Anson or Kathryn Hughes, or by email to newsletter@brierfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk



Seek the Lord

a short message by Donald Leeming

By the time you read this it will be exactly half way between the shortest day and spring day. How quickly time flies. It seems like only the day before yesterday we were letting off fireworks and wondering where we put the spare cards from last Christmas and if the tree lights will still work.

Yesterday has gone and will not return, tomorrow is unknown. The only time of which we can be sure is today, and this brings several thoughts to mind.

The first is that in a fast moving world Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. He never changes and He still says come unto Me. Another is that today is the day of salvation, tomorrow maybe too late and another is that we must seek the Lord whilst he may be found.

Finally it is time to seek the Lord, do not fail in this important matter, seek Him today.



Announcements

Congratulations and best wishes to Brad and Rebecca ,on the Birth of their Son Isaac. Also to Bella and Freddie on their new Brother. And to the rest of the family (too many to name)! What a joy it was to see him and the family at church when he was only two weeks old. We praise God for his safe delivery and pray that he may grow to know the Lord.

Condolences. We as a church offer our sympathy to Rebecca and Brad on the death of their grandmother. Our condolences also go to Ruth and her family on the death of her brother. We all know these times are hard and sometimes puzzling but we assure we are remembering them all at the throne of grace.

In-Between Group: The plans for 2018 are now available from Bernice. We would welcome any one to our meetings. We have a relaxed time with friendship and we always have some food etc. the cost is £2.00 per meeting, please do join us. If you used to come think about rejoining us.

Bible Studies: Please note the dates for the next few weeks, we cannot always meet alternate weeks because of holidays and other events. In Feb the meetings are on tuesdays 6th and 20th at 7.30,p.m. and on 12th and 26th on Mondays at 10.30 a.m. In march We meet on the 6th and 12th.

WANTED!: *Photos of your family.* If possible, Kath would like to use photos of your family for Mothering Sunday. Please could you give them to Kath as soon as possible (by Sunday 25th February). Kath would like photos of all generations.

Newsletter: We are now including an Item from the Elders each month and also an item about one of the officers. We also hope to include items for Children and other items any one wishes. These should go to Richard l'Anson at least 10 days before the first sunday of each month.

Gift Day: There will be a Gift Day on the 18th March at 10:30am. We have spent around £9000 on repairs to the roof.

Keys: Both locks on the Guilford St. door should now be used.

Discipleship Explored: This is a follow up to Christianity Explored and will be held on Monday mornings and Thursday evenings from the 1st October. The course will run for 8 weeks and we hope everyone will try and attend.

Coffee Morning: Donald is holding a coffee "morning" at home on the 8th March from 2:30 to 4:00pm. Everyone is welcome and as always if you need transport please see Cynthia.

Dates for your Diary

Brierfield Churches Together

There are some new dates for the Brierfield Churches arrangements for 2018. Please note them in your diary. :-

- Visits to retirement homes 25th March Marsden Heights, September 16th Victoria House Dec 9th all the homes
- Remembrance Sunday is on the 11th November and is our responsibility
- Open Air Service July 8th at 6.00 p.m.
- Open Air witness Saturday 14th April 11.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon
- Christian Aid hunger Lunch St Lukes 11th May
- Bacon Butties etc 26th May (*Provisionally*)
- Christmas Carol singing 15th Dec 10.45 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
- Next meeting 10th April at 10.00 a.m. 32 Reedley road.

Church Meetings: The next church meeting will be on the 22nd May at 7:30pm, please note the change of day - we hope more people can attend.

The Annual church meeting will be on the 22nd May at 7:30pm.

5th Feb	10:00am	Cluster Group with Phil Jump	Church Lounge
6th Feb	7:30pm	Bible Study	Church Lounge
12th Feb	10:30am		Primary Room
14th Feb	7:30pm	In-Betweens - Board Games (Jennifer's Supper)	Primary Room
20th Feb	7:30pm	Bible Study	Church Lounge
26th Feb	10:30am		Primary Room
25th Feb		<i>Family Photo's to Kath</i>	
6th Mar	7:30pm	Bible Study	Church Lounge
12th Mar	10:30am		Primary Room
8th Mar	2:30pm	Coffee Morning (till 4pm)	Donald Leeming
21st March	7:30pm	In-Betweens - Quiz Night (Cynthia's Supper)	Primary Room
25th March	14:30pm	Visit to Marsden Heights - Brierfield Churches	

Puzzle Page

WORDSEARCH: Find all the names beginning with **A**

The correct answers will be shown next month.



Words to find: Abinadab; Ahab; Annas; Aaron; Abegnego; Abel; Abigail; Abimelech; Abner; Abraham; Absalom; Adam; Adonijah; Ahimelech; Ahiram; Amaziah; Ammon; Amos; Aquila; Asa; Azariah.

Kids Corner

Faithful friend



Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-8

What does it mean to be faithful? Find ten words in this wordsearch, then use them to write your own definition of what it means to be faithful.

D	O	B	O	I	T	H	F
U	S	A	Y	L	F	K	A
I	T	S	U	R	T	C	T
H	A	Y	L	M	R	I	F
E	Y	A	F	U	L	T	F
U	A	W	Z	K	H	S	F
R	U	L	O	Y	A	L	L
T	N	A	T	S	N	O	C

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____



Bring back your completed answers on the 4th March for your chance to win a prize!



FROM WITCH DOCTOR TO CHURCH PLANTER

The gospel is bearing fruit in India. BMS World Mission is seeing men and women from all kinds of backgrounds coming to find faith in Christ. Even witch doctors.

Selim* wanted to be a witch doctor since childhood. He was committed, studying under a master and honing his craft. He practised where he lived in West Bengal, making his livelihood selling potions and charms to heal the sick.

Selim's sister Maya* is a BMS-supported church planter. She always tried to convince her brother to come along to church with her. They would fight, and he would refuse. But then one day everything changed.

Someone in Maya's church had been severely ill for a long time. The man's family had brought him to Selim many times, but he'd been unable to help. The man couldn't walk, so the people of the village carried him to Maya's church one day and the congregation started to pray. After three days of prayer he was completely healed. He started walking and could do everything he had done before he got sick.

"I thought I was healing people by myself, with black magic," says Selim. "But I knew I had witnessed something amazing; this was a miracle. My eyes were opened to the truth."

He started going to church, and Maya gave him a Bible. Selim soon decided to give his heart to God, getting baptised and even changing his name.



Now, Selim leads his own congregations and supports his sister in sharing the gospel. "I am thankful to the Lord for leading me to my new work as a church planter."

Selim and Maya's story is just one of many we could tell of how God is changing hearts and minds in India. We are so excited to be a part of this incredible work.

*Names changed

Help us continue to plant churches and reach people across the world today. Donate here:
bmsworldmission.org/give

FEEDING OF THE 400

In France, it's hard to be a Christian. BMS World Mission is bringing young people together, helping them find community and spiritual nourishment.

In October 2017, 400 young Baptists descended upon the city of Poitiers, 150 miles north of Bordeaux, ready to worship God at an event called Connexion 2017. Young people travelled from all over



France. One girl came completely on her own, and many others came in groups of only five. There was laughter. There were tears. But most of all, there was a sense of family.

Being a Christian in France can be lonely. "Young people are often the only ones in the classroom who are Christians," says Benjamin, a 20-something French man. "With an event like this, we know we are not alone and we can worship the



Lord together." Connexion creates a safe place for Christians to express their love for Christ, without fear of mockery, and gives the opportunity to gain spiritual sustenance for when they return home.

Sue Wilson, a BMS worker in Paris, has run Connexion since 2015 with a small group of volunteers as part of her work with the French Baptist Federation. "Often churches have small youth groups, so an event like this lets Christians connect with one another and worship God," says Sue. Through your support for BMS, you've helped to show young French Christians that they're not alone.

In Britain, youth festivals are common, with a wide variety to choose from. In France, this is not the case. Events like Connexion are rare. And yet, the 400 young Christians who gathered to worship there show that there is hope for Christianity in secular France. Please pray for them.

Pray for the young Christians in France, who left Connexion revitalised in their faith. Pray that God would use them to share the gospel across the country.

Prayer Matters

Changes are afoot. This Newsletter is changing in format. The Eldership team has been enlarged. And our church is looking forward to at least one event (Discipleship Explored) which we hope to run later this year and will be announced in due course when preparations are complete.

There have been and will be changes in families and their circumstances. But will there be any change in your life? Is everything as it should be? Are the cares of life getting you down? Jesus says, (Matthew 11, v28) "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." So if you are down, come to Jesus in prayer, for "He cares for you!" If you want a change in your life, then speak to the One who cares, Jesus our Lord.

So let's pray:

- That God will hear our prayers, and answer them.
- That God will answer our prayers for our family and our friends.

Please also pray for:

- Our Missionary Contacts – Irene, Rachel, and Natalie, and indeed, all those on the Mission Field;
- That God will bless our church and give us a godly increase

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.



Who's Who...

Philip R Rowland was born in Pembury, Kent on the 3rd August 1946.

He was brought up in Brockley, South East London.

His first job was as an Audit Clerk with Deptford Borough Council. And his main career was as a company accountant. His favourite meal is steak and chips.

He states: I am married (1969) (the most important thing I have ever done) to Kathleen, and we have 3 children, Sarah, Clare and Robert. In addition we also have 6 Grandchildren, Matthew, Rebekah, Phillip, Peter, Lauren and Harry. It doesn't end there, as we also have 5 Great-Grandchildren, Bella, Freddie, Isaac, Miley and Jonah.

I was brought up by godly parents and taken to church (Strict and Particular Baptist) from being a baby. I became a Christian through being taken to church as a child, felt God was speaking to me when I was 10, but I really came to know Him as an early teenager.

How did we come to attend Brierfield Baptist Church? We felt that God wanted us to move on from the church where we were attending, and as Kathleen already knew the church through preaching there occasionally, we decided to try here. We were made instantly welcome. I was made a Deacon in 2013, and ordained as an Elder in 2018. I audit the books, play the organ, preach occasionally and teach in the Bible Studies.

My favourite hymn is 'And can it be', and my favourite Bible verse is Psalm 34, v6, "This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; He saved him out of all his troubles".

Have I anything I would love to say to the church family? I would like to emphasise the importance of daily Bible reading and prayer.



		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
4th February	10:30am	Graham Baldwin	R. Bolton	Gillian Fogg
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>David Leeming</i>	<i>Kath Rowland</i>	
	6.00pm	Sharon Threaves		
11th February	10.30am	Earnest Gorton	D. Mullarky	N. Leeming
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Donald Leeming</i>	<i>Peter l'Anson</i>	
	6.00pm	Philip Rowland		
18th February	10.30am	John Caddy	E. Wilkes	M. Lewis
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Nigel Leeming</i>	<i>J. Greenwood</i>	
	6.00pm	Tim Doggart		
25th February	10.30am	Howard Ellison	Declan Driver	B. Baldwin
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Philip Rowland</i>	<i>Peter l'Anson</i>	
	6.00pm	Tony Yates		
4th March	10.30am	David Boadle	Kath Hughes	C. l'Anson
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Nigel Leeming</i>	<i>J. Greenwood</i>	
	6.00pm	Rev. Geoff Hartley		
11th March <i>Mothers Day</i>	10.30am	Kath Rowland	C. l'Anson	B. Driver
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Donald Leeming</i>	<i>K. Rowland</i>	
	6.00pm	Geoff Jackson		
18th March	10.30am	Susan Western	J. Greenwood	K. Rowland
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>David Leeming</i>	<i>Peter l'Anson</i>	
	6.00pm	Colin Scholes		
25th March	10.30am	Howard Ellison		
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Philip Rowland</i>	<i>K. Rowland</i>	
	6.00pm	Tony Yates		
1st April <i>Easter Sunday</i>	10.30am	Chris Cheeseman		
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Nigel Leeming</i>	<i>J. Greenwood</i>	
	6.00pm	Chris Cheeseman		