



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield

February 2022



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

Please do join us.

Sunday Services

We have limited capacity in church with Social Distancing and masks are mandatory for anyone inside the building. The services start at 10:30 am and are also being streamed live on YouTube - check our website for the service link.

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

Midweek Activities as announced.

Secretary – Mrs Angela Higgin

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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 by email to newsletter@brierfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk



Forgiveness

(A short message by Philip Rowland)

So often we pray these words: “forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us”. And rightly so, for we need our sins and trespasses forgiving. It’s wonderful that Jesus came to call sinners to repentance – I’m sure that that includes all of us, and even more wonderful that God has wiped that slate clean.

We read in Psalm 103 that ‘as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our trespasses from us’. In God’s eyes, once this has been done, no searching for them will ever find them! Going east or west, the limit of searching is never reached! Christ has borne our sins on that cross in our place. And in God’s mercy and grace, those sins can never be found again. They are not only forgiven, but they are also forgotten!

But what about ‘forgiving those who trespass against us’? God is faithful and just in forgiving us our sins, for Christ in love carried them Himself in our place. But how good are we at forgiving the sins of others? How often have we said or thought “Oh! Such and such! Didn’t they once....” And so, to our shame, we go on to rhyme off their catalogue of sins!

We must ever be conscious how we judge others. Do we know better than God? He is the One who has been sinned against, whose Law of love has been broken. And He has expressed Himself satisfied in all that Christ has accomplished on behalf of sinners.

Look at two Biblical saints of old. Moses was a killer, and David an adulterer and killer. Both were forgiven and used mightily of God in working out His purposes. Read the lives of many preachers and hymn-writers, and many you will see were either notorious sinners, or professed themselves Christians before they were truly born again.

Can we continue to label people for their past sins when they have found forgiveness in the Lord Jesus Christ? Let us rather praise God for His mercy towards them, and be thankful that judgement did not fall upon ourselves in the past for what we have done.

Philip

Job Vacancy

We are pleased to announce that the vacancy for a Designated Safeguarding Person has now been filled. We are pleased to welcome Elaine Lord into that role, and would also like to thank Sarah Greaves for her hard work over the past few years. Training dates for both Level 2 and 3 are being sought and Elaine will notify people when dates are known.

Brierfield Churches - Monday 1st February, 10.00 a.m

Brierfield Churches will meet together at our church on Monday morning 1st February at 10.00 a.m.

Rainbows & Brownies Monday's 6.15 - 7.15 p.m

Will meet on Monday 31st January and 7th February but not during half-term which is Monday-Friday 14th-18th February. Rainbow and Brownies will then re-start on Monday 21st February.

Bible Studies/Prayer Meetings

Please pray for these and attend if at all possible.

Month	Tues 7.30 p.m. (led by Philip)
February	8 th , 22 nd
March	8 th , 22 nd

J.A.M. Club

Re-started on Friday 28th January and future dates will be on the notice-board in the Primary Room and will also be announced in the weekly notices. Please pray for Mark and Elizabeth as they support our and other young people who may start and/or return to JAM.

If you have young people who are interested, or know of anyone that may be interested, please let Mark or Elizabeth know. Thank You.

Family Nights/Events

A planning meeting and Quiz was held on Wednesday 26th January to try organise some family nights during 2022. We hope this will encourage our children, their family and friends to return to chapel and take part in our activities.

Flower List for 2022

The list on the notice-board at the front is starting to fill up - please check if any dates you require are still free.

Twitter

Do you have a Twitter account? If you do why not follow us @BrierfieldBapt to keep up to date with activities, news and reminders of Meetings etc.

Used Stamps

If you have been saving your used Christmas stamps, please bring them to chapel as soon as you can so these can be forward to BMS to raise much needed funds.

Evening Service - 13th February 2022 - 6.00 p.m.

The evening service will include music by Sankey and will be led by Grahame. Please try and join us for a good sing.

Congratulations...

Congratulations and best wishes to Eric and Katherine Hughes for their Golden Wedding on the 19th February. We all join together in wishing them a very Happy day and we pray God's blessing upon them at this time of celebration .

Prayer Matters

Winter drags on. It's dark and cold, and makes me often feel depressed. Sometimes in the spiritual life we go through winter periods, where everything seems bleak. No wonder David prayed for the joy of salvation to be restored to him. I think we all go through these periods when prayer seems hard work, and it seems as though we never reach God's Throne Room with our petitions. We read our Bibles, but gain no sustenance that we are aware of. I've described it as a winter experience. Some call it a wilderness experience. It's a time when we feel bad.

And that's the point. It's how we feel. Peter stepped out of the boat and felt insecure. The fact was, he was indeed walking on the water until that point. Let's have less of the introspection, the navel-gazing that looks nowhere. Instead, let's look to Jesus, our all in all. He came. It's a fact. And he's died for all those who put their trust in Him. That's a fact as well. As the hymn puts it, 'Trust and obey, for there's no other way'. Forget feeling, recognise fact!

So Let's pray for

- Courage to face the future – it's in His hands;
- Willingness to listen to His word and obey His calling.

Please continue to pray for:

- The young people in our church, that they will grow up knowing right from wrong, and knowing the Lord Jesus and all that he has done.

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.





LIFE AT THE EDGES



Praise God that the gospel is being shared in remote locations in Bangladesh.

Fragile communities abound across the fault lines of Bangladesh. But where the local Church has taken root in the margins of these communities, there are signs of thriving. BMS World Mission workers Louise and Peter Lynch help those who work on the edges, supporting church-based initiatives that are transforming communities.

Louise and Peter's visits to one village, Balapara, have particularly stayed with them. Life there is marked by constant threat: the Covid-19 pandemic, natural disasters, and a state that is increasingly discriminatory towards Christians. But, as Louise explains, light still reaches in: "The church is bringing good news because it's telling people about Jesus, and therefore they've got someone to pray to and someone to hope in, which replaces

hopelessness and uncertainty. But it's worth emphasising that they're not expecting God to lift them out of their poverty."

God is at work in other ways. "Some of it is just supernaturally amazing, in that God appears in dreams to people and they ask us, 'Who is this Jesus?'" Peter says. "I've met him in my dream, and I want to know who I am now going to follow."

Louise and Peter experienced a church "full of vibrancy and life" on their last visit. "The church is full of people, and we had such a joyful day and a good time worshipping and training, and the people feel blessed and are so grateful."

The hope of flourishing communities is what keeps Christian leaders working in villages like Balapara going. "Their hope is really that for the young people in these communities in their journey into faith, that these moments of joy stick, that this will provide a sense of belonging to the church family." Joy at the margins produces more joy. And when it does, villages like Balapara grow and thrive.

Read the whole story about how Jesus' love is being shown on the margins in Bangladesh:
bit.ly/LifeAtTheEdges

		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
6th February	10.30 a.m.	David Livermore	C. Leeming	G. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald/Janice		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
13th February	10.30 a.m.	Jim Lockhead	G. Leeming	N. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel/Mark		
	6.00 p.m.	Grahame Baldwin - (Sankey Evening Service)		
20th February	10.30 a.m.	John Haynes	D.Mullarkey	M. Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	Phlip/Kath		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
27th February	10.30 a.m.	Daniel Parkinson	E. Wilkes	E. Lord
	Vestry Prayers:	David/Peter L.		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
6th March	10.30 a.m.	Mark Heaton	B. Baldwin	M. Wilkes
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald/Mark		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
13th March	10.30 a.m.	Gerald Norcross	R. Bolton	E. Wilkes
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel/Janice		
	6.00 p.m.	Gerald Norcross - (Music Based Evening Service)		
20th March	10.30 a.m.	Geoff Jackson	D. Driver	K. Rowland
	Vestry Prayers:	Philip/Peter L.		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
Mothering 27th March Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Baptism Service	S. Dunham	B. Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	David/Kath		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
APRIL 3rd April	10.30 a.m.	Paul Carter	J. Greenwood	D. Driver
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald/Peter L.		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
PLEASE NOTE ANY PART OF THIS PAGE MAY CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE				