



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield

February 2020



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

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.

Secretary – Mrs Angela Higgin

52 Sandiway Drive, Briercliffe, Burnley, BB10 2JS
telephone: 01282 414979 email: glyang52@virginmedia.com

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



Finding Direction

a short message by Nigel Leeming

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Psalm 119 v 11

I'm not a big fan of Sat Nav devices. I like to know where I am. I have a worry one day it will die on me when I haven't a clue where I am. Having said that it beats driving with a map book or A-Z on your lap or lots of bits of paper with directions etc.

Early in the New Year I was travelling locally between sites in Blackburn. Rather than enter a post code I thought I'd travel in the general direction until I saw somewhere familiar. Unfortunately, my confidence was, severely, misplaced. I didn't see anywhere familiar and whilst negotiating the town centre one-way system I totally lost my sense of direction! There I was lost and running out of time.

I thought I could manage but clearly, I couldn't and found myself unsure which road was best to travel on. Sound Familiar?

We all face such times not just travelling but in our lives in general. We like to think we are in control but we're not. We have a saying at work your only one phone call away from a bad day! At the start of this New Year we have already experienced in our Church family issues beyond our control relating to health and employment. Its important we pray for and bring to the Lord all those experiencing difficult and testing times as well give thanks for those who have been encouraged or had good news.

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Psalm 119 v 105

It's a human flaw though that most of us think we know best, that we don't need a Sat Nav and then find ourselves lost. Thankfully we have the word of God. But are we using it? Reading it? Digesting it? Acting on it. The Church Bible studies were extended some time ago to make them more accessible. A lot of preparation work goes into these meeting. Disappointingly, these meeting are amongst the worst supported Church activities. Let's re-prioritise our time and efforts to support the Monday morning / Tuesday evening meetings. It's an hour every 2 weeks, too much to ask? It helps concentrate on the word, share thoughts and encourage our private study time.

Nigel

Dates for Diary - February 2020

Mondays	6.15 p.m.	Brownies (during term time)
Monday 3 rd	7.00 p.m.	Cluster Group Meeting at Brierfield Church
Tuesday 4 th	7.30 p.m.	Bible Study
Friday 7 th	7.45 – 9.15 p.m.	J.A.M. Club (Jesus and Me) - Year 6 and above – More children welcome.
Monday 10 th	10.30 a.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday 12 th	2.00 p.m.	Knit & Natter.
Thursday 13 th	7.30 p.m.	Officers Meeting
Tuesday 22 nd	7.30 p.m.	Bible Study
Monday 24 th	10.30 a.m.	Bible Study

Advanced Notice

1 st March	10.30 a.m.	Gift Day – see below
10 th March	7.30 p.m.	CHURCH MEETING

Flower List

As already announced in chapel, there are still a number of spaces on the Flower Calendar. Could we ask people to consider filling in some of the blanks, or alternatively make a donation to the Flower Fund. If you wish to make a donation please give your money to Glenys, who will use the funds to make sure there are flowers in chapel every week when required.

Bible Studies – December to March

Month	Mon 10.30 a.m.	Tues 7.30 p.m.
February	10 th & 24 th	4 th & 18 th
March	9 th & 23 rd	17 th

Advance Notice

Gift Day 2020

The Church's Gift Day will be held on

SUNDAY 1ST MARCH, 2020

All gifts received, will go towards Church Funds.

Job Vacancy

Preaching Plan Secretary

As announced recently in chapel Kath Rowland is standing down as Secretary at the AGM on 19th May 2020. Kath has produced a document listing the duties and copies are available. This chapel could not operate without a Preaching Plan Secretary, could we ask people to think and pray about this important role. Anyone interested please see either David, Kath or Angela.

A.A.P. Asst. Authorised Person – General Registry Office

We are still in need of an AAP to help share the load and to represent the General Registry Office within Brierfield Baptist Chapel should the need arise. This is a vital role within the chapel, if you want to know more please see Angela as soon as possible. This is not a job that has a lot of work.



Family Night

We are starting to think about the next Family Night and are asking for volunteers to organise and help run the evening. Anyone interested in helping can you please give your name to either David or Angela, we can then organise a Planning evening in the near future.

Stop press.....

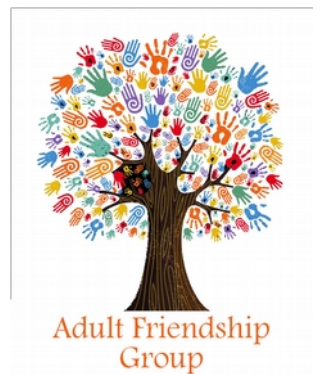
Bad News The In-Between group has ceased to exist

Good News a new group has been formed – **THE ADULT FRIENDSHIP GROUP.**

This will meet each month on a Wednesday...

Lookout for a programme for 2020

All Adults are invited, please do join us



Kids Corner

DAVID (THE EARLY YEARS) WORD SEARCH



BiblePuzzles.org.uk

ABINADAB	NETHANEEL
ANOINTED	OIL
CHOSEN	OZEM
DAVID	PSALMS
EIGHT SONS	RADDAI
ELIAB	SAMUEL
GOLIATH	SAUL
HARP	SEVEN BROTHERS
ISRAEL	SHAMMAH
JESSE	SHEEP
JONATHAN	SHEPHERD
KING	VIAL
LORD	YOUNGEST

Puzzle Time

Couples of the Bible by Bill Brinkworth



Words to find:

Adam - Eve	Joseph - Asenath	Joseph - Mary	
Isaac - Rebekah	Moses - Zipporah	Abraham - Keturah	
Esau - Judith	Boaz - Ruth	Ahab - Jezebel	

With acknowledgements and thanks to www.openthoumineeyes.com/puzzles

Prayer Matters

We've entered into the New Year now, and in many respects things are uncertain in our world. As ever, there are wars and rumours of wars. Disasters strike the world with seeming regularity; some of them seemingly natural as our weary sin-struck world winds down, and some obviously man-made. It's a time when we need to draw together to comfort one another.

And that brought an image to my mind - that of a crying child needing to be comforted in our arms. Many of us know that babies raging in their frustration at not being able to communicate their problems are pacified by a gentle comforting rocking motion. We read in Deuteronomy 33, v27 that "The Eternal God is [our] refuge. And underneath are the everlasting arms."

When all is uncertain, we know that God is there. That He is working His purposes out, and although they may seem obscure to us at the moment, that there will come a time when we shall understand. So when problems arise, let us turn to, and pray to our Eternal Father, who ever bears us up in His everlasting arms.

And so this month let's pray:

- That God will build us up as a loving family fellowship in our church, comforting and encouraging one another in His Name;
- And that God will move through our nation by the power of His Holy Spirit, turning hearts to Himself.

Please also pray for:

- All those involved in missionary work at home and abroad, naming those specifically whom we are aware of, that God will build His Church both here and in all the world.

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.



A Prayer for Australia

Father of all creation, we cry out to you today for the people who have suffered due to the bushfires in Australia.

We think of the families who have lost loved ones, and are mourning them in the midst of the devastation. Please comfort them.

We remember those who have lost homes and livelihoods, and the animals and wildlife that have suffered in the fires.

We lift these situations that are beyond us to you.

Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord God, provider of all we need,

Thank you for every firefighter working in challenging conditions. Help them in their often life-threatening task.

Please give the authorities the wisdom and resources they need to lead the nation.

Lord, you alone command the weather; please send rain across the country.

Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the Samaritan's Purse volunteer relief teams on the ground seeking to bring comfort, care and support to those who are hurting.

We pray today that You would guide them, to bring help to those who need it most.

May the love of Jesus Christ and His hope be reflected in all they do, and be a light to all who are suffering.

Thank you, Lord, for hearing our prayer.

FOLLOWING THE CALL

Some were murderers. Some were thieves. Some were victims held without trial. Fifty-five men shared one cell: dirty, cramped and forgotten. Forgotten by everyone, except for Ben.



Is God calling you to serve in Guinea?

Ben* and Isabelle*, BMS World Mission workers serving in Guinea, were ashamed to discover they'd spent years walking and driving past the prison without ever realising it was there. Once they heard about it, Ben knew that he needed to visit the people there, to talk to them, counsel them. Everyone said there was no way a foreigner like Ben would ever be allowed in. But Ben asked to go in anyway. And, miraculously, the answer was yes.

Ben was told to be wary, that the prisoners were dangerous criminals. But he went into as many cells as he was allowed to and spoke to each of the men there. At first, he was only given ten minutes in each cell. The next week, he asked the men if they

wanted ten more minutes – and they asked for two hours!

Ben went into the prison every week and spent his Sundays among outcasts. After his first visit, he and the men congregated in one cell, where they ran Bible studies every week. Ben and Isabelle were able to bring them soap, medicine and the Word of God. One inmate told Ben, "I'm here, I've not had a trial, it's unjust – but maybe God brought me here just so I could learn about him." They gave each of the men a copy of the New Testament, so that they would be able to read and study God's Word even when they weren't with them.

And Ben and Isabelle couldn't be with them forever. God had called them to serve in Guinea, and he also told them when it was time to leave. When they left, the prisoners threw a party for them and even gave them gifts. These men who had nothing used plastic bags and straw to weave baskets for Ben and Isabelle with their names on them, an incredibly personal reminder of the change God had made in the prisoners' hearts.

Ben and Isabelle's commitment to God's call made a real difference – and you can make a real difference too. Head to bit.ly/serve-news to find out more about serving with BMS.

**Names changed for security reasons.*

New Hymn for Dedication Sunday

words by Philip Rowland

Lord, join us as a family
Through the blood of Christ our Lord;
Brothers and sisters may we be
Joined in mercy through His Word.
Lord, now join us
Lord, now join us
Join us in sincerity

Help us care for one another
As You lived and died for us;
Let us emulate our Brother
Give our all without a fuss.
Help us care, Lord;
Help us care, Lord;
Help us care for each other.

May Your grace be freely flowing
Joining hearts and souls in love;
May our love keep on growing
And all strivings now remove.
Bless us now, Lord;
Bless us now, Lord;
And Your love we'll ever sing.

Then let us as God's children
Serve the Lord in all our ways;
In love, in prayer, be not barren,
Sing in songs of loving praise.
For He loved us;
For He loved us;
Father, may we be as one.

		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
2 nd February	10.30 am	Stephen Wells	S. Dunham	M. Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel Leeming / Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 pm	David Livermore		
9 th February	10.30 am	Daniel Parkinson	D. Driver	B. Driver
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Donald Leeming / Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 pm	Philip Rowland		
16 th February	10.30 am	Susan Western	J. Greenwood	R. Hartley
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David Leeming / Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 pm	Geoff Hartley		
23 rd February	10.30 am	Nigel Leeming	R. Bolton	K. Rowland
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Philip Rowland / Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 pm	John Haynes		
1 st March	10.30 am	Grahame Baldwin	E. Wilkes	D. Driver
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel Leeming / Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 pm	Stephen Wells		
8 th March	10.30 am	David Boadle	D. Mullarkey	R. Rigby
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Donald Leeming / Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 pm	David Tattersall		
15 th March	10.30 am	John Caddy	C. Leeming	G. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David Leeming / Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 pm	David Lavender		
22 nd March	10.30 am	John Fisher	C. I'Anson	S. Greaves
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Philip Rowland / Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 pm	Tim Doggart		
29 th March	10.30 am	Paul Carter	K. Hughes	B. Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel Leeming / Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 pm	Nigel Leeming		