



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield

January 2024



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

Please do join us.

Sunday Services

We are in Chapel each Sunday and ask that you join us to worship our Lord Jesus Christ together and to share in the fellowship of the Church family.

The services start at 10:30 am and are also streamed live on YouTube - check our website for the service link.

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

Midweek Activities as announced.

Secretary – Mr Mark Wilkes

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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 I'Anson, or by email to newsletter@brierfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk



Fix your Eyes on Jesus

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. **Hebrews 12**

On the Northeast corner of the Island of St Martins, thirty miles off the Cornwall mainland, is a 40-foot red striped structure known as the day marker. Since its construction in 1637 it has aided navigation of ships entering and leaving the vast Atlantic to UK waters.

We find ourselves at the start of a new year again. This time of year often concentrates minds on the future and perhaps past memories. Are you pondering on uncertain times, personal worries of health, wealth, employment for ourselves, friends, and family. In engineering there is an acronym KISS which originates from the US Navy. Keep It Simple Stupid. Let's not concentrate on the last S but the principle is that systems / designs should be as simple as possible avoiding needless complexity. Simplicity guarantees greater levels of user acceptance and interaction.

In this complicated world let us keep it simple. Let our day marker be the Lord Jesus Christ. This simple routine / way of life will then result in greater interaction, faith, and assurance that no what the future holds God is with us.

Happy New Year

Nigel

Items of Interest & Dates for your Diary

Bible Studies/Prayer Meetings: Please pray for these and attend if at all possible, starting at 7:30pm.

January	16 th & 30 th
February	13 th & 27 th

Fellowship Group: Meet on Wednesday 10th January at 7.30 p.m. for their AGM, when they will arrange the programme for 2024. All Adults are welcome to join us. A light supper follows the meeting for a small fee.

Day of Prayer for Christian Unity: This year the event will be held on Thursday 18th January at the Methodist Church starting at 7:30 p.m. It would be good to show support from the Church.

Evening Services: Evening services have changed to the last Sunday of the month instead of the 2nd Sunday of each month. The Evening service in January will be on the 28th, Nigel will be our Leader. The February Evening Service will be on the 25th, Leader to be confirmed, both start at 6pm in the Primary Room, unless otherwise notified.

Family Praise Services: Our Family Praise Service's followed by Pie & Pea's are also on the last Sunday of each month with the next, 28th January & then 25th February please come and join us.

Brierfield Churches Meeting: The next meeting of Brierfield Churches will be held at 32 Reedley Road at 10 a.m. on 20th February 2024.

Music Group Rehearsals: Music group rehearsals take place each Friday at 6:45p.m. with an extra rehearsal for the Praise Service on Wednesday before the service. If you can play an Instrument or Sing and would like to join the group then speak to Melanie, Morgan or Keith for more details.

Church Meeting: An early reminder the next Church meeting will be held on the 5th March 2024 starting at 7:30 p.m.

Maintenance Team: We meet most Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. for a couple of hours to carry out maintenance on the Church building, with a variety of tasks. If you or someone you know, has any DIY skills, or simply can pick up a paint brush, then please come along and gives a hand. For more information speak to Grahame or David.

Food Bank: Please don't forget that your donations to the food bank are even more essential at this time of year, with the added cost of Christmas to be paid for and energy bills on the rise again, any help you can provide goes such along way to help those in need. Thank You for donations and support.

Prayer Matters

Happy New Year and may you receive many blessings throughout these coming months. We pray for peace. We pray for those struggling with their life problems. We pray for health, happiness and joy in our own lives.

I remember being taught in Sunday school to pray to Jesus for others as well as ourselves:

J – Jesus

O – others

Y- Yourself

We have used the word Joy many times in our worship especially in our carol singing. At the beginning of December, Susan Weston spoke to us about the difference between Joy and Happiness. She described the difference with these words;

Joy is a little word

Happiness is a bigger word

Joy is in the heart

Happiness is on the face

Joy is of the soul

Happiness is of the moment

Joy transcends

Happiness reacts

Joy embraces peace and contentment while Happiness hugs hello

Joy is a practice, a behaviour deliberate and intentional

Happiness comes and goes blithely along it's way

Joy is profound and scriptural. "Don't worry, rejoice"

Happiness is a balm. "Don't worry, be happy"

Joy is an inner feeling Happiness is an outward expression

Joy endures hardship and trials and connects with meaning and purpose

Joy is deep and overflows

A person **pursues** Happiness A person **chooses** Joy

We pray for Joy to all. God Bless.



Kathryn

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Please leave a message if there is no immediate answer





Mel and Tom Spears, Jackie and Brian Chilvers, and Bethan and Gareth Shrubsole

A farewell to Chad – celebrating a season of mission

This summer we waved goodbye to three families serving at Guinebor II Hospital (G2), the Shrubsoles, Spears and Chilvers. We thought it would be amazing for you to hear what new pastures they are being led into, and why the next chapter is just beginning for BMS World Mission healthcare in Chad.

The Chilvers have settled back into the UK. Brian is working as a Nurse Practitioner for a GP surgery alongside supporting a local minor injury unit, whilst Jackie has joined us at the BMS UK office as our Safeguarding Lead.

The Shrubsole family have landed in Wales, where Bethan is continuing her important work as a Music Therapist, and Gareth will remain in the field of international Christian ministry.

Finally, the Spears are hopeful to return to Chad with BMS in the future, but are taking some time to invest in further training. Tom's studying an MSc in tropical medicine whilst Mel has begun a Master's in children's nursing.

Despite these three families leaving Chad, the

work is far from complete. We're excited to share that Lucia Bastos, in the role of Partnership and Project Officer, and the Hamlet family, specialised in prosthetics and orthotics, will be joining BMS workers Kalbassou Doubassou and Claire Bedford, continuing the incredible work that the hospital and its team make possible.

To close, we couldn't phrase it any better than Gareth Shrubsole:

"Please keep praying. G2 is a young hospital, it's only 12 years old, and I can foresee its need lasting for decades. Whichever generations of mission workers and Chadian workers pass through, it's still God's hospital doing God's work. It needs to be held in prayer. It's in a difficult, tough, place. Kalbassou (Head of G2) is the heart and soul of the hospital, and it wouldn't function without him. So please continue to support BMS, to support what he and Claire do."



Reflect more on the season of work in Chad and the impact it's had, here.



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*All names of those featured in the *Good Land* appeal have been changed.

The *Good Land* appeal – what you made possible:

£183,350.55 was raised by **BMS supporters** to help transform life in Ghusel and beyond.

454 people trained in health awareness and clean water management.

Three breeding goats supplied to the community and **49 people trained** (25 in goat rearing and shed management, and 24 in veterinary skills).

Five schools helped to create child-friendly classrooms.

A safe birthing health post established in the village of Rukum and nine female community health volunteers trained.

GOOD LAND: ONE YEAR ON!

Think back to the *Good Land* Harvest appeal, and the image of baby goats might come to mind!

Goats are important both as a source of food and income in Ghusel, Nepal, where the *Good Land* appeal was filmed. Sejun* is just one of the people in rural Nepal making a living this way.

“Applying the knowledge on the goat rearing, shed management and livestock training [received through the appeal], my income level has doubled. The number of cattle on my farm and my vegetable production have also increased,” he shares.

Sejun’s confidence has been boosted by the changes – and you’ve played a vital role in enabling him to build a secure and stable life for his family.

Thanks to your generosity, teachers are also learning about child-friendly lessons, including running indoor and outdoor activities. School attendance in Nepal is prone to dropping when times are lean or when children, especially girls, near their teens. With your support, parents in Ghusel have every reason to help their children stay in school.

Your support has stretched beyond Ghusel too, equipping the village of Rukum with all it needs to help women give birth safely. Now women don’t have to fear being carried for hours down steep mountain paths or being swept away by landslides during monsoon season. Your generous support has established a safe birthing centre, providing medicine, medical equipment and healthy meals for the women. Thank you!



Discover more about how you’ve transformed lives in rural Nepal!

2024		Preacher	Door Steward	Service Leader
7th January	10.30 a.m.	Elders Rededication	C. I'Anson	B. Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel/Mark	Communion: End Of Service	Grahame Baldwin
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
14th January	10.30 a.m.	Mark Heaton	D. Driver	G. Fogg
	Vestry Prayers:	David/Janice	Communion: Start Of Service	Peter Lewis
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
21st January	10.30 a.m.	John Caddy	J. Greenwood	D. Driver
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald/Mark	Communion: End Of Service	David Leeming
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
28th January	10.30 a.m.	Family Praise Led By TBC	A. Higgin	Family Praise Service
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel/Peter	Communion: Evening Service	Mark Wilkes
	6.00 p.m.	EVENING SERVICE – Nigel Leeming		
4th February	10.30 a.m.	Grahame Baldwin	G. Leeming	J. Greenwood
	Vestry Prayers:	David/Mark	Communion: End Of Service	Nigel Leeming
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
11th February	10.30 a.m.	Miles Alderson	E. Wilkes	G. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald/Peter	Communion: Start Of Service	Janice Greenwood
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
18th February	10.30 a.m.	Phil Jump	C. I'Anson	N. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel/Janice	Communion: End Of Service	Graham Baldwin
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
25th February	10.30 a.m.	Family Praise Led By Ashley	B. Baldwin	Family Praise Service
	Vestry Prayers:	David/Peter	Communion: Evening Service	Peter Lewis
	6.00 p.m.	EVENING SERVICE – Grahame Baldwin		
3rd March	10.30 a.m.	Cathy Browne	D. Driver	M. Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald/Janice	Communion: End Of Service	David Leeming
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		

PLEASE NOTE ANY PART OF THIS PAGE MAY CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE