



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield

May 2021



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



Only the best will do

(A short message by Donald Leeming)

Many years ago I found that there were hooks screwed onto the back panel under the pews in the centre of the chapel. I don't think we have any on the side pews.

I often wondered about them and wondered if previously used wood had been used for the pews. Not very likely as Mr Altham used only the best and over the years tradesmen have commented on how well the chapel building was built. Well, what were they doing there?

Recently I heard from a friend who had removed a pew from his chapel and he had found similar hooks. You could not see them unless you got on your hands and knees.

Somebody remembered being told that they were for gentlemen to hang their top hats and bowler hats. Well the ones in our chapel have not been used for this purpose for eighty years to my certain knowledge.

They were crafted and designed but nobody sees them. I was reminded of the building of the temple by Solomon, and how the lilies on the top of the pillars were gilded, even though they could not be seen.

Then I thought of the Ark of the Tabernacle, well crafted in wood and gold yet only ever seen by the High Priest, and that once a year, on the day of Atonement. It had a triple covering and the children of Israel saw only the covering, they never saw the beauty underneath.

And this reminds us of the Lord Jesus Christ. - most people do not see him for who He is. They see a dusty book, outdated morality and an unwanted Saviour.

Most will recall the visit of Eddie Stobart to speak at the church some years ago, and they bought his book "Only the best will do". However, many never see the best, and He remains outside their lives.

May we see Jesus as revealed by the Bible and realise anew that He Saves, He keeps and He satisfies; and no man comes to the Faith except through Him.

Donald

Church Anniversary and Gift Day – Sunday 23rd May

We will be celebrating both our **ANNIVERSARY DAY** and **GIFT DAY** on **SUNDAY 23rd MAY**. The Gift Day for 2021 had to be re-arranged from March due to lockdown restrictions in place at that time. Unfortunately, once again we are unable to hold a celebratory lunch on this year.

Flower Rota - 2021

There are still quite a few dates available on the list for 2021 due to the pandemic restrictions. If you wish to place flowers, could please either complete when attending chapel, or contact Glenys and she is willing to do this for you.

Door Stewards & Service Leader Rotas

In order to try and simplify allocating both of the above duties for each Sunday and also the Newsletter Rota Page, from July I will be using (hopefully) a simpler system. Names will be chosen on purely alphabetical order of surname. I know this will cause some people to possibly have two duties quite close together in June/July, but this should only be for the transition period. The same rules will apply that if you can't fulfil the date allocated, please try and find someone to change with, or as a last resort contact me. I will put a list on the notice-board at the entrance to chapel in June, showing who is on which list, which may help. Any changes required please let me know.

Angela

Advance Notice - 22nd June 2021

A date for your diary - advance notice of the church **AGM** - this will take place on **Tuesday 22nd JUNE 2021 at 7.30 p.m.** - more details will follow in the June Newsletter.

Do You Need Help?

Could we remind any member of our church family, that should you need any help, to please contact any of the Church Elders or Officers who will do their best to help or will try and put you in contact with someone who can.

Quiz Nights and Prayer Meetings

We are continuing to have prayer meetings and quiz nights on Zoom. The details are as follows:

Quiz Night	Prayer Night
4th May	
	11th May
18th May	
	25th May
1st June	
	8th June
15th June	
	29th June **

*** Please note date - changed to 29th due to AGM on 22nd.*

All meetings start at 7:30pm.

If you wish to join in with any of the above, please let Elizabeth have your contact details and she can then invite you to join in.

Prayer Matters

Let's look around us for a moment – we are surrounded by followers of Islam. For them, as you read this, it's the middle of Ramadan, a time of fasting when they seek to be 'spiritual', and closer to Allah. Let's pray that God will reveal Himself, the True Spirit, to many of them, especially on the Night of the Spirits, when they try to empty themselves of all thoughts spiritual ones.

How wonderful it would be if the Lord God revealed Himself to many of our neighbours around us. (Jesus has been appearing abroad in dreams and visions to people in 'closed lands' – why not here?).

Later this month we Christians celebrate the Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Let's pray that we too will know His presence afresh, and be made willing to follow Him and obey Him in all things to the Glory of God the Father.

So Let's Pray...

- For our Muslim neighbours and friends, that they may come to know the True Lord God, creator of heaven and earth;
- That we may come to know God more deeply ourselves, and be filled afresh with the Spirit;
- That all our friends and family would likewise put their trust in the Lord – help us to be good examples to them as we live Christlike lives;
- And that the Lord will have mercy on us during this pandemic - that the measures taken to protector ourselves will be successful;
- And that soon we will be allowed to sing God's praises once again during our worship.

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.



LOVE-LY NEWS FROM WANG DAENG



Sharing God's love on Valentine's Day in Thailand!

Chicken noodles and socially-distanced dancing outside with 70 other people aren't things you'd normally associate with Valentine's Day...

But, along with music and the giving of gifts, that's exactly how BMS World Mission workers Helen and Wit marked the occasion at their home in the Thai village of Wang Daeng.

"A local pastor gave a short gospel presentation about the amazing love of God in sending Jesus," explains Wit. As a result, many of those attending the outreach event asked God into their lives.

And there was more good news to come – a week later the village also celebrated five baptisms of people who had come to faith during lockdown!

That's got to be better than a box of chocolates and a card!

Sign up for *Engage*, the BMS magazine at bit.ly/BMSEngage for more inspiring stories from our mission partners around the world.

DISASTER RECOVERY



Thanks to your generosity, we've been there for communities around the world as they recover from disaster.

Croatia, supporting families following December's devastating earthquake: £2,000

Distributing life-giving food parcels to 57 families, providing enough food for a month.

Lebanon, meeting urgent needs after the tragic explosions: £45,000

Food vouchers enabled 600 families to buy their own food for a month and a half following the Beirut blasts in August. We also gave out 520 hygiene kits.

India, providing shelter following Cyclone Amphan: £10,000

Rebuilding of 56 homes damaged during Cyclone Amphan, meaning families had safe, secure housing to return to.

Mozambique, distributing masks to reduce the spread of covid: £2,600

3,000 masks are being distributed across the central region of Mozambique, helping to reduce the spread of Covid-19 in the country.

		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
2nd May	10.30 a.m.	John Caddy	A. Higgin	E. Lord
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
9 th May	10.30 a.m.	John Haynes	E. Wilkes	M. Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	David		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
16 th May	10.30 a.m.	Daniel Parkinson	C. l'Anson	B. Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	Philip		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
23rd May ANNIVERSARY & GIFT DAY	10.30 a.m.	Danny Cliff	G. Leeming	G. Fogg
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
30th May	10.30 a.m.	Paul Carter - Pre recorded	D. Driver	K. Rowland
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
6th June	10.30 a.m.	Geoff Hartley	S. Dunham	N. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	David		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
13 th June	10.30 a.m.	Howard Ellison	C. Leeming	S. Greaves
	Vestry Prayers:	Philip		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
20 th June	10.30 a.m.	Tim Doggart	J. Greenwood	G. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
27th June	10.30 a.m.	Mark Heaton	E. Wilkes	M. Wilkes
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald		
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		

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

If preaching and/ or you have reading in advance, please forward to Nigel so we can arrange readings to be read and recorded by other volunteers.