



The Baptist Church,  
Brierfield

November 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](mailto:newsletter@brierfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk)



# Let's Pray with Passion Together

*(A short message by Nigel Leeming)*

Government changes, talk of further financial hardships pressures on our health organisations. It's currently a difficult road for many. Many are anxious for the future.

It's important we remember Prayer should be the root and fountain of all we do as a Christian family and individually. I know many pray alone for our Church and individuals and the prayer chain is proven to be an essential tool in our fellowship.

In the Bible we are reminded regularly how Christ regularly took time out to pray and how essential it was to his time he on earth. This has been continued by the Church. It is essential that we spend time with God even in (or more correctly especially in) the darkest times of our lives.

Look at **Acts 12**. The early Church was being actively persecuted. Herod had killed James the brother of John by the sword and in vs 3 we see Peter is arrested. The outcome for Peter and the early Church looked bleak.

What would you / we / I do faced with such seemingly impossible circumstances? In verse 5 we see what the early Church did - they undertook "earnest prayer for him (Peter)"

Let's seek Gods help as we face up to life moving forward.

## **Praying to God**

Prayer to God means having an audience with God. It means actually coming into the presence of God – asking and receiving.

## **Let's make use of the prayer meetings and future Sunday evening and mid-week activities**

In Acts 12 'The church' (v.5) joined together in prayer. 'Many people had gathered and were praying' (v.12). The New Testament teaches a lot about private prayer, but there is even more about praying together. We encourage everyone to join us in these activities.

## **Let's follow the Example of the Early Church**

There are two reasons in Acts 12 why the early Church might not have prayed at all. First, James had been executed (v.2). God had not answered their prayers for James; we don't know why. But it did not stop them praying.

You think times are bleak read Act 12. 'This chapter opens with James dead, Peter in prison and Herod triumphing; it closes with Herod dead, Peter free and the word of God triumphing.'

Times may be bleak, but nothing is impossible for God

*Nigel*

## Ron Bolton

We want to record that he was 90 on the 23rd of October. We wish him well, unfortunately he spent the day in hospital but we assure him of our prayerful support at this difficult time.

## Bible Studies/Prayer Meetings

Please pray for these and attend if at all possible, starting at 7:30pm.

November	8th & 22nd
December	6 <sup>th</sup>
January 2023	10th & 24 <sup>th</sup>
February	7th & 21st
March	7th

Philip has done a Stirling Job leading the Bible Studies for quite a long time, he has asked for someone else to take them. Initially David will lead them but we are looking for other volunteers. We must express our thanks to Philip for doing such a sterling job over a long period. We would also like to invite others to join with us. Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m. It is good that we study God's word every follower of the Lord should do this. Please Join us.

## Warm Room

The officers discussed this and decided we should provide this on Thursday nights approx 6.30 to 8.00 p.m. We would offer a warm place for a coffee or tea, but unfortunately there seems little support from the members. If we are to get this going we need someone to take charge arranging volunteers, advertising, etc. and we need volunteers to open up and make refreshments available. We planned to start on the 3rd of November but this is not possible unless someone can volunteer and get organised. If you want to help get this off the ground please see Nigel as soon as possible.

## Shoe Box Sunday - 6<sup>th</sup> November

Please bring your boxes to chapel on or before Sunday 6th - these will be taken to the collection point during the following week. If you wish to donate money towards the gifts please see Janice as soon as possible.

## Rainbows & Brownies

Monday's 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th November at 6.15 p.m.

## Remembrance Sunday - 13<sup>th</sup> November

For those people attending the cenotaph - please arrive before 10.45 a.m. - following that service we will then return to chapel for coffee. Those of our congregation wishing to stay in chapel, a simple service of prayers and contemplation will be led by the Elders in the Primary Room. There will not be any service streamed on YouTube.

## Church Meeting – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 7:30pm

All church members and adult members of the congregation are welcome.

## Fellowship Group – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 7:30pm

A Film Night by Howard - all adults welcome.

## Prizegiving Sunday - 27<sup>th</sup> November

The annual Prize Giving takes place on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>. Although fewer in numbers, please come along and support our children at this much loved part of our church calendar.

## Advent – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November

The first Sunday in Advent - Christmas **IS** coming - and we will be lighting the first candle on our Christmas wreath.

## Evening Services

### for October to December 2022

13th November *leader:* Nigel;

11th December *leader:* Janice.

## Stamps & Collectables

Please continue to bring your old stamps etc. - I will be sending the last parcel early December to BMS. Thank-You.

## Church Secretary Job Vacancy

Mark Wilkes has agreed to take on this important job within our church. This will be voted on by Church Members at the next Church Meeting on the 15th November. Please pray for Mark as he takes on this new role.

## Christmas Dates 2022

The Christmas programme of services and events will be in the December Newsletter, which hopefully will be published/distributed on the 27th November.

# Prayer Matters

I wonder what the Apostle Paul would write to us if he were writing today? Would it be those words in Hebrews 10, v25 “let us not give up meeting together”? From time to time, I introduce subjects for prayer, some personal, and some national. Today, I bring before you our church.

It is a matter of plain observation that our morning congregations have dwindled lately. I am not one for counting ‘bottoms on seats’, but over the last few Sundays we have been barely getting one third of the number (if I can count right!) we had gathering before Covid struck. Indeed, we have not many more than we were getting at the night services, when we were wondering how much longer we could continue with them.

So I extend a great thank-you to those who loyally come week by week to meet in their Lord’s House, where blessings are to be found. And I know that some feel they cannot come now and so watch at home; but I urge you all to consider your position and to come along and join in our worship and fellowship, seeking fresh blessings from the Lord God, who has said, “Come unto Me!” Let us join together as God’s people in Brierfield.

## Let’s pray

- For our church, that it will prosper under the blessing of the Lord God Almighty.
- For ourselves, that we will seek to build one another up in fellowship by meeting together regularly.
- That God will bind us together in love.

**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](mailto: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.





**For Mahmoud\***, news of the war in Ukraine reminded him of his family's experience fleeing the Syrian capital Aleppo in 2013, narrowly escaping a life-threatening interrogation from violent ISIS soldiers. Mahmoud knew what hardships Ukrainians were going through and was genuinely pleased to see them being so well looked after by their European neighbours. But for every Ukrainian person he saw being welcomed, he could think of many Syrian families who had been rejected and discriminated against as they tried to find safety. He also saw the costs of living in his new home country of Lebanon skyrocketing as a direct result of the invasion.

Mahmoud's family have had to limit their electricity usage, switch off their internet connection and have stopped buying fruit, dairy products and meat in order to make ends meet. "I already had trouble providing for my wife and three children," Mahmoud says. "The increase in prices has become very hard to live with."

The family's one lifeline has been a BMS World Mission-supported learning centre

that Mahmoud's children have attended since arriving in Lebanon. Mahmoud describes it as the only safe haven his children have experienced since leaving Syria. At the learning centre, they are safe and cared for. "They feel valued and they love their teachers dearly," Mahmoud continues. "They tell me they wouldn't mind being there all day from morning to night!"

Life may not be easy for Mahmoud and his family. But there are things that give them hope: the learning centre, the food vouchers they receive through BMS' partner, and most of all, their faith in God. "We believe in Jesus Christ, and we hope that what's happening and what's coming is all for the best," says Mahmoud. "Jesus does not give up on us."

*\*Name changed*

Could you help bring some of that happiness and relief to Mahmoud and his family, and others like them?

Give today at

[www.bmsworldmission.org/costofliving](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/costofliving)

		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
6th November	10.30 a.m.	Stephen Wells	D. Driver	N. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	David/Kath		
	6.00 p.m.	<b>NO EVENING SERVICE</b>		
13th November Remembrance Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Remembrance Sunday	S. Dunham	M. Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald/Mark		
	6.00 p.m.	<b>EVENING SERVICE &amp; COMMUNION - Led by Nigel</b>		
20th November	10.30 a.m.	Ruth Brierley	J. Greenwood	E. Lord
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel/Peter		
	6.00 p.m.	<b>NO EVENING SERVICE</b>		
27th November Prize Giving in School	10.30 a.m.	J. Greenwood	A. Higgin	K. Rowland
	Vestry Prayers:	Philip/Janice		
	6.00 p.m.	<b>NO EVENING SERVICE</b>		
4th December	10.30 a.m.	Susan Western	C. Leeming	E. Wilkes
	Vestry Prayers:	David/Mark		
	6.00 p.m.	<b>NO EVENING SERVICE</b>		
11th December	10.30 a.m.	Bea Foster	G. Leeming	M. Wilkes
	Vestry Prayers:	Donald/Kath		
	6.00 p.m.	<b>EVENING SERVICE &amp; COMMUNION - Led by Janice</b>		
18th December	10.30 a.m.	Geoff Hartley	E. Wilkes	B. Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	Nigel/Peter		
	6.00 p.m.			
25th December	10.30 a.m.	Philip Rowland	B. Baldwin	D. Driver
	Vestry Prayers:	Philip/Janice		
	6.00 p.m.	<b>NO EVENING SERVICE</b>		

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