



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield



September 2018

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

Guides - Contact Janice Greenwood for more details on 01282 605594

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

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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 Kathryn Hughes, or by email to newsletter@brierfieldbaptistchurch.org.uk



Encouragement

a short message by Donald Leeming

Earlier this year we enjoyed a Britain when the sun “had put its hat on. Hip, Hip, Hip Hooray” and showed what it could do. I expect most of us enjoyed the sunshine. It was not long before we had the anxiety over the water supply. Dwindling stocks began to cause concern.

Speaking in Jerusalem at one of the Jewish festivals, Jesus cried out “Whoever is thirsty should come to me, and whoever believes in me should drink. As the scripture says ‘Streams of life-giving water will pour out from his side’.”

The Lord Jesus is not talking about physical water (H₂O) but the spiritual thirst which exists deep down in all of us. People who drink physical water will be thirsty again; it only satisfies for a short time. However those who take spiritual sustenance from the Lord Jesus will never thirst again. If we open our hearts and lives to Jesus the Holy Spirit will come and live in us.

What a great offer. It is mind blowing to think that through this gift from Jesus we can have an ultimate relationship with God, far greater than we could have thought possible.

To quench our physical thirst we need to drink water. On a hot day a glass of cold water can do nothing for us if we don't drink it. So with Christ who can do nothing unless we take action and accept His offer. If you haven't accepted yet why not take Him at His word.

“I came to Jesus as I was, Weary and worn and sad. My soul was cleansed, my life renewed and He has made me glad”

Read John chapter 7.

Announcements

4th September – A Church Meeting will be held on at 7.30 p.m. All church members and fellowship are welcome.

7th September - Sunday Club - Restarts at 6.30 p.m. Due to poor attendances before the holidays we invite all children to attend. If there is not more interest, we will be closing this activity.

10th September - Rainbows, Brownies & Guides -Will start to meet again – Rainbows/Brownies at 6.15 and Guides at 7.15 p.m

11th and 24th September - Bible Studies – Tuesday 11th at 7.30 p.m. and Monday 24th at 10.30 a.m.

15th September – Brierfield Churches – Open Air Witness –we will be meet at the Methodist Church between 11 a.m. and 12 noon. All welcome.

16th September - Retirement Home Visit - We are visiting Victoria House at 2.30 p.m. Please consider accompanying us as our visits are greatly appreciated by the residents.

18th September - A meeting of the Brierfield Churches will be held at 32 Reedley Road at 10.00 a.m.

18th September - Light Party Meeting -A further planning meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. in the Church Lounge , more helpers and ideas would be welcome.

19th September - In-Betweens - The In-Betweens are holding a Bag-Beetle evening at 7.30 p.m. All welcome.

20th September - Officers Meeting - An Officers meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m.

21st September - J.A.M. Club - Will re-start at 7.45 p.m. Children in year 6 and above are welcome.

21st & 22nd September - Festival of Hope – Blackpool with Franklin Graham - A signature paper is on the notice-board in the Primary Room for people to indicate if they wish to go and if they can provide or require transport. Please see David for more details.

23rd September - Baptismal Service - The baptism of Declan Driver and Mark Wilkes will take place at 6.00 p.m. Please come and support them both.

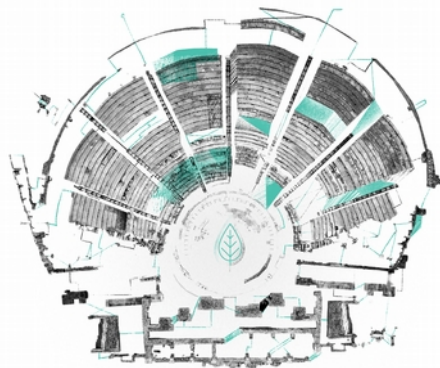
Harvest – 30th September – The preacher for both services will be Russell Ashley-Smith, the Chairman of Operation Agri. Your gifts of non-perishable foods for the Food Bank will be gratefully received and your monetary gifts will be given to Operation Agri. The morning service will be followed by a Harvest Lunch and a request list for contributions to the lunch will be on the notice board in the primary room from Sunday 2nd September

Dates for your diary in October/November - Discipleship Explored - The seven week course will commence on Monday 1st October at 10.30 a.m. and Thursday 4th October at 7.30 p.m. Please add your name to the list in the Primary Room if you wish to attend and tick which day, this is to help with ordering booklets etc.



DISCIPLESHIP | EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST LOVE
YOU'VE EVER KNOWN?



Discipleship Explored is an eight week journey through Paul's letter to the Philippians which will help us think through questions like: How can I be sure I am a Christian? What is life really all about? How can I grow as a Christian? How can I enjoy being a Christian more?

**Are you sure that you are a Christian?
Decide now to come along as we
consider this important question! Bring
a friend if you want to.**

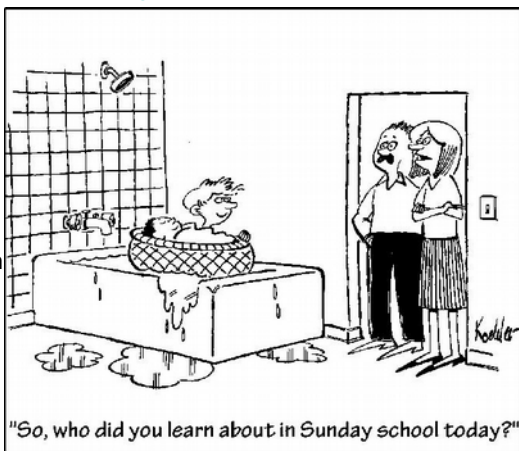
Plans are well advanced for this **FREE** course, but we would like to know how many Handbooks to buy. **Please put your name and possible session** (Monday or Thursday) on the sheet to be found in the Primary Room.

Alternatively, TEXT Philip on 07546 350409.

This is an advance warning of the course which will run during October and November this year. As elders, we would encourage as many people to attend as possible. The course will commence on Monday 1st October at 10.15 am, and that session will be repeated on Thursday 4th October at 7.15 pm. This pattern will continue for the following seven weeks.

Church Family

There are no special items this month although we are all preparing for the school holidays to end. We can remember our young people and their teachers as they return to school, new schools, colleges and universities. We pray that God will continue to help and guide them and that they will have the faith to turn to Him whenever they need the strength and courage that He can give them. Every one of us can look back and thank God for some teacher. A Sunday School teacher who first taught us about Jesus, a driving instructor who risked his life when teaching us or a day school teacher who taught us a skill to live by. So thank God for those who taught you something, anything and everything. Name them in your prayers.



Puzzle Page

Biblical Building Materials by Bill Brinkworth



Words to Find:

alabaster
amber
amethyst
bitumen
brass

brick
chrysolite
chrysoprasus
copper
emerald
gold

jasper
lime
marble
onyx
pearls
pitch

sardonyx
turquoise
topaz

Kids Corner

Bible Games and Puzzles

Puzzling Proverbs

We have some of the very best Bible games and puzzles. Here's a great example!

N	A	L	W	O	A	K	Y	U	W	T
S										R
U	Here's a super fun Bible word game!									M
N										A
O										I
R	We've hidden a verse from Proverbs in this shape.									T
B										P
U										H
C	To find it, you'll need to start at the correct letter and then read every second letter, going in a clockwise direction.									O
T										A
U										F
R										G
Y										O
E	How long will it take you to uncover the wisdom of this proverb?									E
T										L
W										N
E										I
S	I	N	D	A	S	E	R	L	E	T

W	A	H	T	O	R	W	E	A	M	L	I	K	N	S
R													O	
E	Here's another Puzzling Proverb. Follow the same directions as the first puzzle.												W	
C													C	
H													I	
E													A	
S													T	
L													E	
I													H	
K													R	
W													T	
Y													P	
S													H	
T													D	
W													E	
A	O	E	R	B	G	N	E	O	S	L	I	A	W	F



Job Vacancies

MISSIONARY SECRETARY

Cynthia l'Anson, after many years of loyal service, resigned as Missionary Secretary at the Church meeting in April this year. She very kindly offered to continue until a replacement came forward. Nobody has come forward up to now and she is now desperate and will be stepping down altogether in the near future. You don't have to be a church member to take up this position, so anyone in the congregation can come forward, please pray and think if you would/could be willing to consider this valued position within our church. Once again the phrase comes to mind 'No Volunteer – No Missionary Secretary', is that what we want as a church. If you are interested and would like more information please see Cynthia, who is also willing to help in hand- over period to the new person.

Also

CLEANER FOR CHAPEL – (paid position)

An important vacancy, much appreciated by the worshippers every week, has arisen - the position of Chapel Cleaner previously held by Rebekah Rigby. The work involves the Chapel area itself, the other smaller rooms/ areas on the same floor level and the stairs leading down to the lower ground floor. The cleaning of the windows is not part of this work. We would like to thank Rebekah for her work in the past . Anybody willing to take up the position should see/contact Angela Higgin by 9th September 2018.

Coffee Morning

We will recommence our coffee mornings this month with the first one being on Tuesday Sept 25th at 10:30am at Peter and Cynthia's. All are welcome, if you need transport please see Cynthia.

Donald has agreed to host one in October, the date will be announced later. If you would like to host a coffee morning please see Cynthia.

Thank you and farewell from your BMS worker Mary in North Africa.

Dear lovely folks at Brierfield,

A huge thank you for your prayers, emails, cards, hospitality and generosity over the past 5+ years that I worked in North Africa with BMS. It was great to be able to say thank you in person to some of you over some excellent hot dogs [and very good onions!] a few weeks ago. To all of you I would like to say that I was greatly encouraged by the way in which your fellowship really did treat this as a partnership in the gospel [Phil 1v5], by keeping in touch and letting me in to your lives, so it never felt 'one way'.

The palliative care [PC] work is now in the hands of Local staff. I was encouraged to see last week that one of the key young doctors is currently working with an excellent professor in France, who advocates good PC on his oncology ward. We now need to pray that the doctor will return to her homeland after this stage of her career.

The Local Christians continue to need your prayers for growth in numbers, maturity and unity. Some are really making a difference in their country, like the believer who is currently helping other women without family support, by listening, encouragement and in practical ways by fundraising through selling second-hand goods. Eventually she hopes to open a safe house.

The government is looking to continue reforms, including one to give women the same inheritance rights as men. What this says about the dignity and worth of women is very significant. Please pray that those in power will be people who have the good of the country at heart.

As for me, I have returned to my house [in Yorkshire, oops!] and am considering what to do when my BMS contract ends in the beginning of October. To my surprise, after my initial extreme homesickness, working abroad again is one attractive option, but for now I need to complete last bits from my North Africa work, and sort out my house [not too bad] and garden [jungle-like!]. I wish I had time to share with you stories about being 186th in the queue at the post office, or working out that what I thought was socks on a neighbour's washing line was actually sheep's insides, or how delightful it was to see a young woman leave the hospital after her final chemotherapy looking so much better than any time I had seen her, but I have taken up enough of your newsletter!

With huge thanks again,

'Mary'

Prayer Matters

Ephesians 1, v4 speaks of God's having chosen us. What a privilege! God wants us! It also emphasises that salvation depends totally on God, and not is of our choosing or making. We are not saved because we deserve it – far from it! But we are saved because God so loved us that He chose us before even time began to be His special people. And through His Son, we are holy and blameless in his sight – it is as if we had never sinned.

This should make us a thankful people, people who continually give thanks for all that God has done for us. And come to think of it, what He has done for us passes our finite comprehension. So let's be thankful to God at all times and in all circumstances.

Incidentally, we will be hearing much more about God's choice of us and the privileges we have in the forthcoming Discipleship Explored course.

Let's pray:

- Giving thanks for all His benefits to us in life and in our salvation from sin.
- For our Church, that it will be effective in promoting the Gospel and in building up those who worship in it.
- That the Discipleship Explored course will be well attended and of benefit to us all.

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.

P.S. If you would like to join the Prayer Chain, please see Philip, or put your name and details on the sheet on the Notice Board downstairs. We would welcome an enlargement of this prayer facility.

Prayer for our Country - This is on the 7th September at Nelson Salvation Army. 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon All are welcome.



Who's Who

John Geoffrey Hartley

I was born in Colne, May 1946 and lived there until I was 20. I then went to live with my Aunt and Uncle in Preston and this move was to change my life.

I went to Lord St school and then Park school in Colne, leaving when I was 15 for my first job in a cotton mill as a "Reacher In". My next job at 20 was in a Gent's tailoring shop in Preston. I have moved many times in my life, finishing up back in the Nelson area.

Since I was 8 years old I have been involved in the Boy's Brigade, gaining the Queen's award, then becoming an officer and eventually becoming the president of the Preston and Fylde District. This meant that I went along to a number churches to encourage the work within the Groups. One of these churches was Moor Park Methodist where one of the officers was John Williamson – Ruth's brother. I had only been there a few hours when I was introduced to Ruth.

We were married in March 1968 and have just celebrated our Golden wedding anniversary. We have two children and six grandchildren; Ruth may give more details in her "Who's Who".

I was asked to speak at a youth service when I was 15. At 16 I became a Christian and was baptised at Trinity church in Colne. God challenged me to go into the ministry and renewed the call in later years. After training I was ordained and later inducted as Pastor of Padiham Baptist Church. It was a truly blessed time. I have been preaching now for 57 years and God continues to give me much needed strength to serve Him. The best thing I have done in my life is to serve God and marrying the love of my life.

My favourite Psalm is 139 and my favourite Hymn is **"Be Thou my Vision"**

The word I would give the church is - "Keep your eyes on Jesus and be ready to follow His will wherever that takes you. It's an exciting life"



		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
2 nd Sept	10.30 a.m.	Stephen Wells	R. Bolton	Bernice Baldwin
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>David Leeming & Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	Tony Yates		
9 th Sept	10.30 a.m.	Geoff Hartley	J. Greenwood	Gillian Fogg
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Philip Rowland & Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	Philip Rowland		
16 th Sept	10.30 a.m.	Dave Bartram	C. Leeming	Melanie Lewis
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Nigel Leeming & Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	John Fisher		
23 rd Sept	10.30 a.m.	Nigel Leeming	P. Lewis	Ruth Hartley
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Donald Leeming & Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	Baptismal Service		
30 th Sept Harvest	10.30 a.m.	Russell Smith	D. Mullarkey	Glenys Leeming
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>David Leeming & Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	Russell Smith		
7 th October	10.30 a.m.	David Boadle	S. Dunham	G. Baldwin
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Philip Rowland / Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	Geoff Hartley		
14 th October	10.30 a.m.	Susan Western	E. Wilkes	R. Rigby
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Nigel Leeming / Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	Ernest Gorton		
21 st October	10.30 a.m.	Peter I'Anson	C. I'Anson	K. Rowland
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>Donald Leeming / Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	Howard Ellison		
28 th October	10.30 a.m.	Harold Hoggarth	K. Hughes	N. Leeming
	<i>Vestry Prayers:</i>	<i>David Leeming / Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 p.m.	Ann Booth		