



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield

February 2025



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

35 Simpson Street, Hapton, Burnley, BB12 7LJ

telephone: 01282 774847 email: markwilkes35@btinternet.com

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



Suffering & Faith

(a short message by Nigel Leeming)

With the turn of the New Year, we have seen little change to the Worlds problems and suffering. We see the plight of thousands of people in Gaza, Israel, Ukraine Russia and Syria to name but a few. In the UK we have seen terrible events such as two fatal stabbings of young boys this month. Unfortunately, the list of suffering and similar horrific events appears endless.

One of the biggest obstacles to faith is the suffering of the innocent. It is a common question: 'If there is a God who loves us, how come there is so much suffering in the world? How come there is such injustice and oppression?

These are very important and necessary questions but there are no easy answers. Yet God is able to meet us in the midst of suffering and struggles. Extraordinarily, it is often the people who have gone through the greatest suffering who have the strongest faith. They testify to the presence of God with them, strengthening and comforting them in the midst of their pain. Betsie ten Boom, as she lay dying in Ravensbrück concentration camp, turned to her sister Corrie and said, "We must tell them that there is no pit so deep that He is not deeper still. They will listen to us, Corrie, because we have been here."

Faith involves trusting in the Lord. The people of God in the Bible looked out on a world of suffering. But they trusted in the Lord despite what they saw.

This year lets ensure we bring all suffering to the Lord in Prayer, where possible work to help such people, but above all Trust in the Lord.

Nigel

Items of Interest & Dates for your Diary

Bible Studies/Prayer Meetings

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

February	11 th & 25 th
March	11 th & 25 th

Missionary Visit - 2nd February 2025: We will be having a visit from one of our Missionaries on February 2nd 2025, when they will take the morning Service it would be great to see a large turnout from the congregation to show our support and find out more of the work they are doing.

Friendship Group: Meet on Wednesday 12th February at 7.30 p.m. when it we will be playing Sjolen & Carpet Bowls, followed by a light supper. If you would like to come along why not speak with one of the Friendship group for more information, all Adults are welcome.

Evening Services: The next Evening Service will be on the 23rd February and then on 23rd March, both starting at 6p.m. and held in the primary room, unless otherwise notified.

Family Praise Services: Our Family Praise Service for February will be on the 23rd, which will be followed by Lunch. We hope you will come and join us.

Music Group Rehearsals: Music group rehearsals will take place after the Sunday Service during the winter. If you can play an Instrument or Sing and would like to join the group then speak to Melanie, for more details.

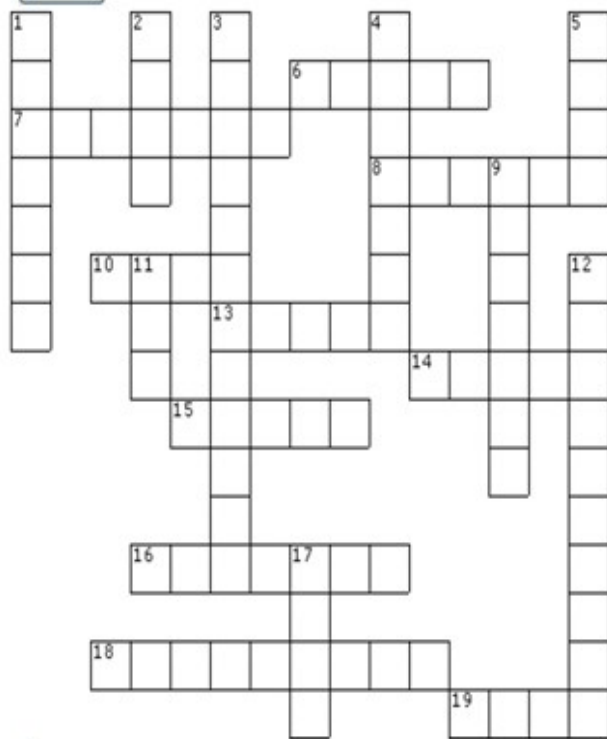
Maintenance Team: We meet most Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. for a couple of hours to carry out maintenance on the Church building, If you have any DIY skills, or can pick up a paint brush, then please come along and give us a hand. For more information speak to Grahame or David.



Officers Meeting: A reminder for all officers there is an Officers Meeting on Thursday 20th February at 7:30p.m. in the church lounge. We will also be reviewing and rehearsing the Communion part of the service.

Puzzles

Genesis



ACROSS

- 6 Tower site
- 7 Wife of Isaac
- 8 Where Noah's ark landed
- 10 He killed Abel
- 13 City destroyed by fire
- 14 Biblical unit of length
- 15 He dreamed of a stairway to heaven
- 16 Abraham's firstborn son
- 18 Adam's and Eve's garments (2 words)
- 19 Son of Adam and Eve

DOWN

- 1 Eden tempter
- 2 First murder victim
- 3 In the beginning God created the ___ and the ___.
- 4 First patriarch
- 5 Lot's wife became a pillar of ___
- 9 God's sign in the sky
- 11 Noah's ___
- 12 Oldest man in Bible
- 17 Father of Seth

ADAM & EVE

Read the story of Adam & Eve in Genesis 1—2:24.
Find & circle words from the story hidden in the puzzle.

BREATHED LIFE	HELPER	FRUIT	GOD
FIRST MAN	WIFE	VEGETABLES	MET
ADAM	EVE	GRASS	EVENING
NAME	HAPPY	TREES	WALKED
CREATURES	GARDEN HOME	FLOWERS	TALKED
ALONE	EDEN	GOOD	PERFECT WEATHER



(Answer on Page 42)



In the beginning,
God made a big beautiful world.
Everything He made was just right.

Last Months ANSWERS

BIBLE CROSSWORD I - SOLUTION



Across: 1 Shekel, 4 Appeared, 10 Ephesians, 11 Cubit, 12 Rare, 13 Meditation, 15 Raisins, 16 Nathan, 19 Agreed, 21 Torches, 23 Atonements, 25 Baal, 27 Glean, 28 Millstone, 29 Teachers, 30 Rashly.

Down: 1 Shearers, 2 Exhorting, 3 East, 5 Passion, 6 Enchanters, 7 Rabbi, 8 Doting, 9 Bakers, 14 Nineteenth, 17 Ashtaroth, 18 Psalter, 20 Dreamer, 21 Tittle, 22 Taught, 24 Omega, 26 Asia.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

A New Year

Word Search Answers



Animals in the Bible

WEASEL

SWINE

PARTRIDGE

GRASSHOPPER

SWAN

They that wait upon the Lord shall mount up with these. ~Isaiah 40:31

WINGS AS EAGLES

Prayer Matters

Prayer matters, prayer is important and prayer works. Talking to God is our way of communicating with Him and He answers in His own way.

We just need to be patient and listen to Him whether in solitary or group prayer. Easier said than done but we have already had many answers in the last few months and years. For instance we have recently joined together in praying for many who are connected to our church family.

We've prayed for health and healing. Some prayers were for help with finances and job opportunities. Other prayers were for guidance in our future as a church family and how we could better witness to others.

We never forget to pray for world and local issues. We can already see answers according to the will of our Heavenly Father. If you would like to join us in group prayer we meet quietly in the lounge before each Sunday service. We have prayers before each bible study.

We have the prayer chain which, be assured, is only used and shared by personal request.

This was a memorable quip used on Breakfast TV news, Thursday 15th January, by Roger Johnson and Nina Warhurst.

“We are all living the same life. We are all in it together”

Kathryn

If you have anything you would like to be added to the prayer chain, please send it to Kathryn:

Email: bbprayer@outlook.com,

Mobile: 07305 541647

Please leave a message if there is no immediate answer



Path to a *greener* future in Uganda

In recent years, the importance of sustainable agriculture has become increasingly evident. As the global population continues to grow, the demand for food rises, putting immense pressure on our natural resources.

The Sustainable Agriculture Farmers Initiative, (SAFI), addresses these challenges by promoting practices that are environmentally friendly, economically viable, and socially responsible.

Azolla

Azolla is a small aquatic fern known for its rapid growth and high nutritional value. It is particularly important for small scale farmers, because it serves as a low-cost nutritious feed for livestock and a natural bio-fertiliser. By incorporating Azolla into their farming practices, small scale farmers have reduced the expense of commercial feeds and chemical fertiliser.

Organic

Organic farming continues to be the cornerstone of SAFI's efforts to promote sustainable agriculture. Small scale farmers started making and using organic manures,

“**Donkeys provide a low-cost, sustainable, transport option and ploughing in place of high-cost tractors for small scale farmers.**”

Alinda Joseph, SAFI Project Manager, examines the impact of sustainable agriculture



▲ Alinda Joseph harvesting Azolla

such as compost and liquid manure, which play a crucial role in organic farming. By using organic manures, farmers can now maintain the soil health and productivity, without relying on synthetic fertilisers.

Intensive

Intensive farming gets a bad rap, but SAFI has worked to make it more sustainable. Small scale farmers have been taught to keep livestock like poultry in enclosed structures, in relatively large numbers, to ensure a high output income. Since this is likely to require a big input, SAFI has helped farmers to cut the costs of commercial feeds for livestock, and synthetic chemicals for crops, thus making intensive farming sustainable.

Donkeys

SAFI has promoted the use of donkeys for agricultural transport and tillage. Donkeys provide a low-cost, sustainable, transport option and ploughing in place of high-cost tractors for small scale farmers.

Protein feed

SAFI has promoted the production of Black Soldier Fly Larvae, (BSFL) as a high protein



feed for livestock and poultry. This practice not only provides a sustainable feed, but also helps in managing organic waste.

Isingoma, a small-scale farmer, faced challenges such as the high costs of commercial feeds and fertilisers, which affected his profitability. He learned about Azolla farming through SAFI training and set up a simple Azolla pond on his farm. As a result his cow has increased its milk production, and he is able to provide bio-fertilisers to his pineapple garden, which is his main source of income.



Alex used to struggle with water supply both on his farm, and home-stead, due to the distance of a well from his home. He decided to utilise donkeys for transporting water from the well. Through these efforts, Alex has improved his own farm's productivity and sustainability, and also inspired other farmers in the community to adopt similar practices.

Jancita and her mother struggled with low crop yields. The soil on their farm was depleted of essential nutrients, and they could not afford the high costs of chemical fertilisers. This situation left them in a

cycle of poverty and food insecurity. Their fortunes changed when they attended a workshop on organic farming organised by SAFI.

After implementing the training, they noticed significant improvements in their soil's fertility and structure. Their crops became healthier and more productive, leading to better yields.



Key programmes and activities

- Farmer training and education sessions are organised on sustainable practices.
- Research and innovation; SAFI continuously explores new methods and technologies.
- Demonstration farms to showcase sustainable agricultural practices.
- On-farm trials to ensure that research is relevant to small scale farmers' specific conditions and challenges.

SAFI'S Plans for 2025

- **Additional workshops which aim to equip farmers with the latest knowledge and skills.**
- **Supplying small animals such as pigs, goats and rabbits with the purpose of increasing manure which can be used as organic fertiliser to improve soil health. These animals will also aid household income.**
- **Distributing plant seedlings, including fruit trees, vegetables and cover crops. This initiative aims to diversify crops, improve food security and promote sustainable farming practices.**

2025		Preacher	Door Steward	Service Leader
2nd February	10.30 a.m.	Ruby Missionary	Neil Binns	Melanie Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel/Peter</i>	<i>Communion: End Of Service</i>	Mark Wilkes
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
9th February	10.30 a.m.	Martin Ashby Smith	Jack Wellman	Elaine Lord
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Grahame/Mark</i>	<i>Communion: Start Of Service</i>	David Leeming
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
16th February	10.30 a.m.	Susan Western	Bernice Baldwin	Elizabeth Wilkes
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Cynthia/Kathryn</i>	<i>Communion: End Of Service</i>	Nigel Leeming
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
23rd February	10.30 a.m.	Danny Cliff	Janice Greenwood	Mark Wilkes
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David/Neil</i>	<i>Communion: Evening Service</i>	Janice Greenwood
	6.00 p.m.	EVENING SERVICE		
2nd March	10.30 a.m.	TBC	Angela Higgin	Cynthia l'Anson
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel/Janice</i>	<i>Communion: End Of Service</i>	Grahame Baldwin
		NO EVENING SERVICE		
9th March	10.30 a.m.	TBC	Glenys Leeming	Michael Patterson
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Grahame/Peter</i>	<i>Communion: Start Of Service</i>	Peter Lewis
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
16th March	10.30 a.m.	TBC	Mark Wilkes	Neil Binns
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Cynthia/Mark</i>	<i>Communion: End Of Service</i>	David Leeming
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
23rd March	10.30 a.m.	TBC	Ann Kellow	Bernice Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David/Kathryn</i>	<i>Communion: End Of Service</i>	Mark Wilkes
	6.00 p.m.	NO EVENING SERVICE		
30th March	10.30 a.m.	TBC	Neil Binns	Jack Wellman
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel/Neil</i>	<i>Communion: Evening Service</i>	Nigel Leeming
	6.00 p.m.	EVENING SERVICE		

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