



The Baptist Church,
Brierfield

March 2020



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

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

52 Sandiway Drive, Briercliffe, Burnley, BB10 2JS
telephone: 01282 414979 email: glyang52@virginmedia.com

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



Hold Fast to the Faith

a short message by Philip Rowland

It is with great sorrow that I see, every time we draw near to Easter, that there are attacks on all that we hold dear in our Christian faith. These come from the world, and also sadly from ‘Churchmen’ who should know better. We are only entering Lent, and already there are attacks on the veracity of the Gospel account of our Lord’s death and resurrection. In addition, we are told that Scripture teaching must bend to accommodate common culture.

We read in 2 Peter and chapter 3 of the last days, in which we may well be living, when you consider all the wars and rumours of wars, and the disasters, natural and man-made which are coming upon our world.

We read Peter’s prophetic word in vv3-7 that “you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, ‘Where is this “coming” He promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation’. But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s word the heavens came into being, and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the Day of Judgement, and the destruction of the ungodly.”

Last days or not, mockery of our faith seems on the increase. The last vestiges of respect for the church are disappearing. All of us hate being scoffed at. Scoffing is different from light-hearted criticism and nothing to do with good-natured fun – scoffers are revealed by their motivation. Such people in our days want what is evil: the undermining of the Kingdom of God and their own wicked gratification.

So be it. The challenge is how we should respond. Peter does not suggest that we should retaliate. He is clear that retribution can safely be left to God. But what is clear is that in our culture of derision and evil gratification we should **hold fast to the faith** as revealed in God’s Word, the Holy Bible. The secret to doing this is having a deep knowledge of what the Bible teaches and walking closely with the Lord.

Philip (with acknowledgements to Scripture Union)

Dates for Diary - March 2020

Sunday 1 st	both services	Gift Day - See below
Mondays	6.15 p.m.	Brownies (<i>during term time</i>)
Monday 9 th	10.30 a.m.	Bible Study
Tuesday 10 th	7.30 p.m.	Church Meeting
Wednesday 11 th	2.00 p.m.	Knit & Natter.
Friday 13 th	7.45 – 9.15 p.m.	J.A.M. Club (Jesus and Me) - Year 6 and above – <i>More children welcome.</i>
Tuesday 17 th	7.30 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday 18 th	7.30 p.m.	Adult Friendship Group – Board Games
Sunday 22 nd	10.30 a.m.	Mothers Day Service
Monday 23 rd	10.30 a.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday 25 th	10.30 a.m.	Knit & Natter
Tuesday 31 st	10.00 a.m.	Brierfield Churches Meeting at David's house

Advanced Notice

3 rd April		2nd Family Night – <i>see below</i>
5 th April	2.30 p.m.	First retirement home visit of 2020 – All three churches in Brierfield will now visit together, and visit all three homes, starting at Marsden Heights.

Bible Studies – March

Month	Mon 10.30 a.m.	Tues 7.30 p.m.
March	9 th & 23 rd	17 th

Advance Notice

Gift Day 2020

The Church's Gift Day will be held on

SUNDAY 1ST MARCH, 2020

All gifts received, will go towards Church Funds to replace money spent on the Lift.

Job Vacancy

Preaching Plan Secretary

There are just **THREE** months before Kath Rowland stands down as Secretary at the AGM on 19th May 2020. Kath has produced a document listing the duties and copies are available. This chapel could not operate without a Preaching Plan Secretary, please pray about this important role. Anyone interested please see either David, Kath or Angela.

A.A.P. Asst. Authorised Person – General Registry Office

We are still in need of an AAP - this is not a job that has a lot of work and it will help share the load – if you want to know more please see Angela.



Family Night

3rd April – 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.

We are planning another Family Night, this time with an Easter theme. We hope once again, to see as many families and members of our church family joining us for a fun-packed evening. More details will be announced in chapel and the April Newsletter.

Mothers Day Service

Sunday 22nd March – 10.30 a.m.

We would like to make our Mothers Day service, one for ALL the family – Mums, Dads Children, Grandparents, etc. As usual we expect all ladies will receive a gift from the children. Following the service, please join us for tea and coffee etc.



EASTER SONGS OF PRAISE - Sunday 12th April

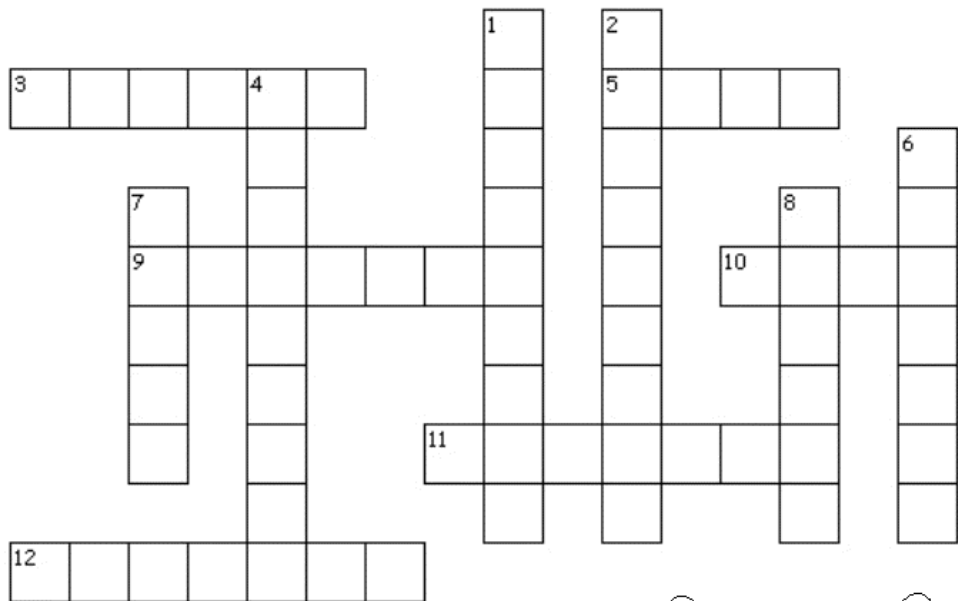
Please complete, cut-out and return to David by 5th April::

My choice of Hymn for Easter Songs of Praise is:

.....

Name:

Mother's Day Crossword



Word List: awesome, brunch, candy, celebrate, chocolate, flowers, hugs, love, mother, nurture, present, wonderful

Across

3. Special meal between breakfast and lunch.
5. Tight squeeze.
9. Inspiring awe.
10. The feeling mom has for her children.
11. To help someone grow up.
12. A bouquet of these will make mom's day!

Down

1. Amazing or astonishing.
2. Mom's favourite cocoa indulgence.
4. To engage in festivities.
6. A gift.
7. Sweet treats.
8. The woman who loves you no matter what!



Puzzle Time

Things I Would Miss If God Didn't Give Them to Me



Words to find:

Bible	prayer	education	air	clothing
family	health	car	water	
friends	job	house	freedom	
food	heaven	wife	church	
salvation	ministry	children	pastor	

With acknowledgements and thanks to www.openthoumineeyes.com/puzzles

Prayer Matters

In the Church Year, we are entering Lent, and running up to Easter. Traditionally, it is a time when we give up something, or forego some activity, and concentrate on Jesus' approach to the time of His death, when he gave up His life for us.

What do we give up, or forego? In truth, I expect the answer is "Very little!" We come along to church as usual, perhaps attend some mid-week activity, have our daily quiet time, and give in the collections to help run our church.

The Elders and Officers of our church regularly and freely give much time to God, helping to run our fellowship all year round. At the moment, there is an urgent need for someone to give a little of their time to take on the running of the Preaching Plan as Kath retires from this position at the next AGM. Without her faithful booking of preachers for us, there would have been an empty pulpit. Please prayerfully consider taking on this vital role within our church.

And so this month let's pray:

- That God will help us as a church by raising up a willing volunteer to become the Preaching Plan Secretary.
- That God will build us up as a loving family fellowship in our church, comforting and encouraging one another in His Name;
- That God would protect us and the nation from this outbreak of Coronavirus, and help the scientists to produce an effective remedy.

Please also pray for:

- All those involved in evangelistic and missionary work at home and abroad, naming those specifically whom we are aware of.

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.



SWIP

Schools Work In Pendle

A Continuing Work

In this day when initiatives come and go at an alarming rate it is significant that Schools Work in Pendle (SWIP) has affected the lives of young people in Pendle for thirty years. Starting as 'All The Kings Men' it was developed into 'SWIP' under the guidance of David Rodgers. The purpose of this was to connect the ministry more closely with local churches. The work flourished, supporting the ministries of Matthew Butler, Jack Ingham and Jude Buksh, with others such as Sarah Brown involved for shorter periods. The doors of schools have remained open due to the good relationships developed with teachers and the mature skills of those involved. With Matthew moving into pastoral ministry and Jack going to be with the Lord, Jude has faithfully continued the work. Jude is respected in schools and still has opportunities to take lessons, head up 'With U Always' days and be involved in Chaplaincy. We believe every child should be able to hear about the Lord Jesus. S.W.I.P's motto is "we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, Psalm 78:4; so we would encourage local Churches to hold up Jude and his wife Angela in prayer. *The Trustees.*

Dear Friends,

As we begin this new decade. Firstly, we want to thank God for the privilege of being able to take the good news of our Lord Jesus to the young people of Pendle and beyond for what will be our 27th year. He has blessed, enabled and equipped us, with all we have needed and more. We would also like to thank you so very much for faithfully standing with us. Your prayers and support are massively appreciated and have been a great source of strength to us.

Due to the changes in circumstances for many of our supporters the funds for the work have been depleting for some time now and as a result Jude will need to reduce his hours to a part-time role and explore other means to prepare for the future for our family. Please be assured that this is not a request for more funding as we feel that the timing is probably right for this to happen and also best for Jude's health. Please would you continue to pray with us for the future of this essential work to reach the children and young people in our area. We pray that you will have a very happy, blessed and fruitful 2020.

With many thanks and much love in Christ,
Jude and Angela.



With U Always



TUESDAY 4th February 2020

Full day booked in Fishermore High School. We will be seeing all year groups, around 750 young people! Please pray that all will go well and that hearts will be open to hear God speaking. Please also thank God that the costs have already been covered by earmarked gifts! *Thank You!*



Trustees: Paul Standley, Matt Butler, Zilda Lund & James Addison (Treasurer) 3 Cuckstool Lane, Fence Burnley. BB12 9PB

BUILDING BLOCKS OF RECOVERY

Elias thought his brother was dead. Cyclone Idai destroyed everything he had. But with your help he regained hope, enough to overflow to Mozambique's future generations.



Elias is just one of the Christians that you're supporting to bring hope to younger generations in Mozambique.

Lectures weren't on that day. But no-one had told Elias. He got to college and it was empty – that was when he heard the wind blowing. Jumping into a car and getting a lift home, the car was slightly lifting, momentarily floating in the air on the way. He felt his feet pulling away from the floor as he ran into the house to find his brother. Parts of the roof had already been ripped off. He thought his brother was dead. Thank God, he wasn't. He found his brother hiding. They ran to find shelter, but Elias had lost all his official documents; all the books he needed for his studies. He lost everything he had.

This storm became what we know as Cyclone Idai, the natural disaster which hit Mozambique in March 2019. For Elias, BMS World Mission's immediate relief

response of food, shelter and clothes got him back on his feet. Before the cyclone, Elias was a theology student and a preschool education programme (PEPE) teacher, in one of the 60 preschools in Mozambique funded by your support. But now he had lost all his coursework, and the preschool where he worked was in ruins. His future, as he had planned it, had been derailed.

In the shelter with his brother, Elias saw children start to pour in. Some of them had lost their homes, some their siblings, others their parents. They were all traumatised. Like Elias', these children's futures had been derailed. "Without school, children wander and waste time on the streets, learning from older kids who also aren't in school," explains Elias. "But at PEPE, children learn a lot."

And that's why the immediate relief you provided is just the beginning of Mozambique's recovery story. Long-term relief means ensuring children have a future – and for that they need an education. Your generosity has enabled BMS to dedicate over £17,000 to rebuilding PEPE schools destroyed by Cyclone Idai. "When I heard that UK churches had started to support us, I thought – wow!" says Elias "I could see we were united in the body of Christ."

Thank you for your generous giving to support those in need after Cyclones Idai and Kenneth hit Mozambique last year. Head to bit.ly/recovery-news to read Elias' full story.

THE GIRL WHO WAS HIDING

A light in the darkness for children who are blind: a school built on BMS World Mission's foundations in D R Congo.



Children in D R Congo who are blind now have a chance to go to school.

You can't see. It's dark. But you can tell what people are doing by listening to the sounds around you. Clinking. Someone's cooking, you can smell it now. Your stomach rumbles. You're hiding. You're not sure why. But it's been dark and you've been hiding for as long as you can remember. Footsteps. People are walking towards the door – you can hear them talking now. No-one can hear them apart from you, so you feel your way into the hallway. Then, you open the door.

Annie didn't know how to shout. When she was found, she couldn't speak – she had never learnt how. Annie can't see, and she also grew up with parents who can't hear. She had never been to school. Annie's parents hid her because of the stigma attached to blindness. Living in Congo, a country with one of the world's poorest

populations, where there is very limited support for people with disabilities, her situation was incredibly difficult.

Jean also can't see. But he grew strong when he met BMS missionaries. "BMS workers were like a house to me," Jean says. "They built my foundations from when I was six years old." These firm foundations of faith led Jean to start Midibart school for children who are blind in Congo's capital, Kinshasa. A school for children like Annie.

There is hope for Annie. As Braille is the only way for children who are blind to get a good education, BMS has supplied Midibart school with a set of Braille typewriters. These devices speed up the process of writing in Braille, previously done on a Braille slate (a block of plastic with holes in, placed on a piece of paper, which Braille markings are then punched through). The long-term aim is to ensure children who are blind have as much opportunity to pursue their dreams as children who can see.

Annie can't see. But now she can speak well, and read and write in Braille. She's no longer the last to be fed. Some in her society expect her to achieve nothing, but she's surrounded by people supporting her dreams. Thanks to the work that began with BMS all those years ago, she knows the next time she needs to shout, she'll be heard.

Annie has hope, thanks to BMS supporters just like you. Head to bit.ly/Annie-story-news to read her full story.

		Preacher	Door Steward	Morning Service Leader
1 st March Gift Day	10.30 am	Grahame Baldwin	E. Wilkes	D. Driver
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel Leeming / Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 pm	Stephen Wells		
8 th March	10.30 am	David Boadle	D. Mullarkey	R. Rigby
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Donald Leeming / Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 pm	David Tattersall		
15 th March	10.30 am	John Caddy	C. Leeming	G. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David Leeming / Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 pm	David Lavender		
Mothering 22 nd March Sunday	10.30 am	John Fisher	C. I'Anson	S. Greaves
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Philip Rowland / Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 pm	Tim Doggart		
29 th March	10.30 am	Paul Carter	K. Hughes	B. Baldwin
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel Leeming / Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 pm	Philip Rowland		
5 th April	10.30 am	David Tattersall	G. Leeming	G. Fogg
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Donald Leeming / Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 pm	Geoff Hartley		
12 th April Easter Sunday	10.30 am	Easter Songs of Praise	S. Dunham	N. Leeming
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>David Leeming / Janice Greenwood</i>		
	6.00 pm	Howard Ellison		
19 th April	10.30 am	Gerald Norcross	D. Driver	M. Lewis
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Philip Rowland / Peter I'Anson</i>		
	6.00 pm	Colin Scholes		
26 th April	10.30 am	Geoff Jackson	R. Bolton	K. Rowland
	Vestry Prayers:	<i>Nigel Leeming / Kath Rowland</i>		
	6.00 pm	Nigel Leeming		