

Homegroups:

We'd really like to encourage *everyone* to join a homegroup for informal Bible study, prayer & share, etc. Currently, we have 3 Homegroups in the Pulborough & Storrington area:-

Monday evenings with Colin & Jenny Gloster in Pulborough

Tuesday mornings with John & Maureen Watson in Storrington

Tuesday evenings with Peter & Pauline Meadows in Storrington

If you're not sure which group is most appropriate for you, contact the group leader or the Church Office for additional details.

Pastoral Team: If anyone has or feels a need for help from the Pastoral Team, please feel free to contact John Watson or via the Church Office at any time. There is also a box for prayer requests in the foyer of the village hall. Prayer cards for requests are available with the box.

Shopping online: Don't forget that you can support PBBC by doing your online shopping through :- www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/pulborough-brooks-baptist-church/



If you would like to support the ministry of PBBC, there is an offertory box available on the table in the hall. If you are a tax payer we can claim 'Gift Aid' on your contribution. This is very easy to do, simply use one of the envelopes provided, or speak to Barbara for more information.

Church Information

If you would like to know more about our church, find out what it means to be a 'member' or arrange a visit from our Pastor, please complete a form and place it in the offertory box or contact the Church Office.

For pastoral matters, please contact the Pastoral Team or via the Church Office.

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Cover image: Winter evening



Pulborough Brooks BAPTIST CHURCH

www.pbbaptist.co.uk



Welcome!



We are rapidly approaching another Christmas season and in just a few weeks time we will be deep into advent and no doubt wishing people a 'Happy Christmas'. But what does happiness look like? How do we know when we are happy and if we are not happy what do we have to do to be happy? God has a lot to say about happiness and it's all the things that the world will not tell you. Happiness cannot be pursued directly it can only be found as a by-product of another pursuit. You see scripture tells us that when you pursue God, when you pursue holiness, happiness comes along with it.

Psalm 1 gives us a description of a happy person and it begins in a rather interesting way. It starts by describing the things that you have to decline in order to be happy (see Psalm 1:1). There is an important principle at work here. You see, happiness comes when you start to take responsibility for your own actions and you make good choices. So a happy person is defined firstly by what they decline.

Secondly a happy person is defined in what they delight in: "*they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night.*" (Psalm 1:2) When David wrote about delighting in the law of the Lord, the only Bible he had was the first five books of the OT. We however have 66 books, we have a whole treasure trove of truth to delight in. A happy person is thirdly described by what they depict and the image that the psalmist uses is that of a tree (verse 3). This is a depiction of a life that is flourishing, growing, steadfast and fruitful.

Finally the life of a happy person is defined by how they differ (verses 4-6). The choice is clear; do you want to be the kind of person whose life has a purpose and meaning, or do you want to be like a piece of worthless chaff blowing around aimlessly in the wind?

David



Devoted to Meeting Together

Next Sunday, 2nd December 10:30am

Family Worship Service

Bringing God's Word: David Howling

Join us for pre-service prayer 9.45 - 10.15am every Sunday, in the Rother Hall.

Dates for your diary:

Jelly Beans Toddler Group: 10:00am 26th November "Advent – Coming Soon"
Central Prayer Meeting: 7:30pm, Wednesday 28th In the Brooks Room at the village hall, we will have our monthly prayer meeting. Do come to pray and praise!

JELLY BEANS

Matthew.13.33 reads "The Kingdom of Heaven is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, *it permeated every part of the dough*". That last phrase captured my attention.

Next Monday at Jelly Beans we plan to give a Real Advent Calendar to each family. The calendar was first produced in 2013 when a survey revealed that 36% of 5 to 7 year old children did not know whose birthday was celebrated at Christmas and 51% of adults said that the birth of Jesus was irrelevant to their Christmas. The calendar tells the Christmas story and comes with a 24 page Christmas story activity book. Please will you pray that this small act of faith will bring the birth of Jesus to the centre of each Jelly Beans family this Christmas. If you would like to share the expense of this venture, your donation would be enormously appreciated. Thank you. Betty

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

As you know we are going to prepare hampers again this year. We are going to do it in the same way as we have done it before by putting out a list of foods and asking people to initial against anything they would like to contribute. By doing this we hope to avoid having too many or too few of any one item. We will then have a crate on the stage for collection of those goods. We will assemble the hampers the week before Christmas and distribute them that weekend. Thank you for your help.



"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.."

Colossians 2 : 15