

## 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 leaders 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/](http://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.

**Office:** 37 Dean Way, Storrington, RH20 4QN.

**Tel:** 01903 417162

**Email:** [admin@pbbaptist.co.uk](mailto:admin@pbbaptist.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.pbbaptist.co.uk](http://www.pbbaptist.co.uk)

**Cover image:** Pewsey Vale, Wiltshire



# Pulborough Brooks BAPTIST CHURCH

[www.pbbaptist.co.uk](http://www.pbbaptist.co.uk)



# Welcome!



The New Testament church did not celebrate Christ's birth the way that we celebrate it today, but that does not mean that they didn't appreciate it. If anything, I think the early church had a better understanding of the significance of the incarnation because it was an integral part of their creed. It was something that they reflected on, not just once a year, but every single day. There is no clearer illustration of this than in Philippians chapter 2 where Paul lays out for us a theology of Christmas completely unencumbered of two thousand years of accumulated tradition.

Philippians 2:6-11 reminds us that before He came to earth Jesus already had a sovereign position. *'He being in the form of God'* possessed inwardly and displayed outwardly the very nature of God Himself. This is why the angel said his name was to be *'Emanuel – God with us'*. And yet Christ did not consider His sovereign position something to be held on to. He readily gave it up, leaving behind His glory, His splendour and the riches of heaven, pouring Himself out into the form of a slave.

“Here is God, giving Himself away, yet remaining God. Here is God, putting on a King's robe, and then taking it off and taking a servant's rags. Here is God, the judge, rising from the bench and going to the gallows as a criminal. Here is God impoverishing himself, exposing Himself to evil's spite, never sparing Himself until He makes it all the way to Calvary, where the cross becomes the sum and the sign of His utter selfless humiliation. He did it for you! Confess Him as Lord this Christmas, receive the salvation He offers and you'll go on doing that forever.”

*David*



## *Devoted to Meeting Together*

*Next Sunday 16th December*

**10:30am - Family Worship Service**

Bringing God's Word: David Howling

**4:00pm – Christmas Carol Service**

A traditional service of carols

*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 10th December — “Christmas Party”

This will be the final meeting for 2018

**Please Note:**

**Friendship Group:** Next meeting will be Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Venue TBA.

---

## *Devoted to Prayer*

Several Baptist churches have commented that on 10 December 1940 King George VI called the nation to pray for the troops who were stranded on the Dunkirk beaches. This was an act of spiritual leadership that had an amazing impact. Next week MPs will be voting on the proposal for Britain to leave the EU. Whatever our political views, this is undoubtedly a very significant moment for the UK. Therefore, do pray this weekend and in particular on Monday night (10 December) for our MPs and the parliamentary processes at work: that God's love, righteousness and justice would prevail. Lynn Green, General Secretary, Baptist Union of Great Britain

---

## *CHRISTMAS HAMPERS*

We are still several items short for the hampers. The list of foods is available and we are 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 have a crate on the stage for collection of the donated food. We will assemble the hampers in the week before Christmas and distribute them that weekend. Thank you for your help.



“For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.”

**Psalm 33:4-5**