

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/



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: Dawn at Southam, Warwickshire.



Pulborough Brooks BAPTIST CHURCH

www.pbbaptist.co.uk



Welcome!



We owe a debt of gratitude to Mary, because a merry Christmas would not be possible without her. Besides Jesus Himself, no one commands more attention in the Christmas story than Mary. We barely know anything at all about the shepherds or the wise men, and even Joseph is something of a mystery to us. No one commands more attention or respect in the story than Mary. Her faith, her love, her hope and obedience are as bright as the star that shone out over the countryside.

We have seen many times in scripture that God cannot use the proud, but God can and will use those who humble themselves before him. Mary's experience reminds us that God is always ready to help those who recognise that they need his help. It's the poor in spirit who experience the riches of his grace. It's those who mourn who are comforted, it's the humble who will inherit, it's the hungry who will be satisfied, it's the merciful who receive mercy, it's the pure in heart, the peacemakers and the persecuted who have a place in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Mary had a big Christmas because she humbled herself before God and honoured him. A big Christmas is one that is centred on the celebration and adoration of Christ. He has shown us favour, and he has given us faith to believe. He has loved us and lifted us. What better reason do we have to praise him? Christmas is merry and joyful and happy when you know the Lord. Mary became a miracle and the miracle of Jesus can happen to you. The same grace that saved Mary and birthed the Son of God in her life, is the same Saviour who by His Spirit lives in us - "*Christ in you the hope of glory*" (Colossians 1:27).

David



Devoted to Meeting Together

Next Sunday, 23rd 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:

Central prayer meeting with mince pies

I thought that would get your attention! 7:30pm on Wednesday 19th December in the Brooks Room at the Village Hall. Come and share your favourite poems, prose & prayers whilst enjoying a festive mince pie.

Our friends at the URC have invited us to join them at their carol service at 4pm on Sunday 23rd.

We will have a family worship service on Christmas Day, 10:30 am in the Village Hall. Do come and join us as we worship our Saviour and celebrate His birthday.

Jelly Beans Toddler Group: Next meeting: Monday, 7th January 2019, "New Beginnings"

Friendship Group: Next meeting: Thursday, 10th January 2019. Venue TBA.

Devoted to Prayer

Father God, we pray for our government and community leaders throughout our towns, cities, and nation. Save those who are not yet Your own. Give those in authority wisdom in every decision and help them to think clearly. Grant them discernment so they will be strong and effective leaders. Help them to lead and govern with integrity and may their integrity guide them and keep them. Be merciful to give us leaders who are Spirit-filled and follow Your principles. In Jesus name, Amen.



"But when the set time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship."

Gal 4:4~5