

Jelly Beans: No meeting this Monday, re-start in January
Homegroups: Thakeham group normally meets on Monday evening
Storrington group normally meets on Tuesday morning
Pulborough group normally meets on Tuesday evening
Please check with your homegroup leader for meetings in the Christmas / New Year period.

Friendship Group: No meeting this Thursday, will re-start on 9th January.

The next **Bread Stall** will be in the Village Hall in the new year! .

Pastoral Team: If anyone has or feels a need for help from the Pastoral Team, please feel free to contact Louise Twilley 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.

- Office:** 37 Dean Way, Storrington, RH20 4QN.
- Tel:** 01903 417162
- Email:** admin@pbbaptist.co.uk
- Website:** www.pbbaptist.co.uk
- Cover image:** The books represent what Santa gave to each child last Monday at Jelly Beans



Pulborough Brooks BAPTIST CHURCH

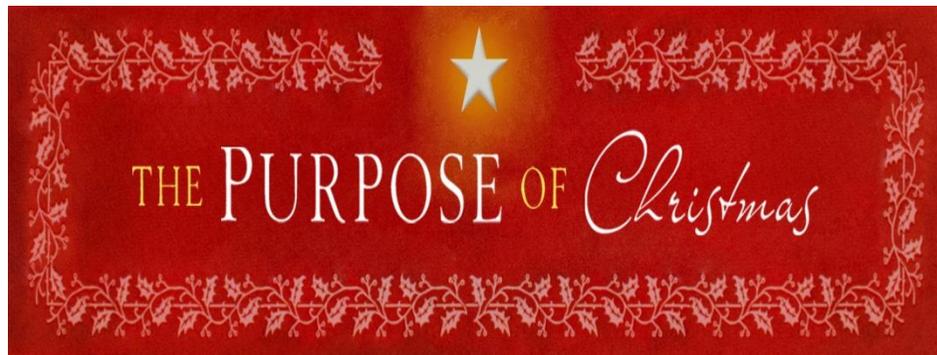
www.pbbaptist.co.uk



““He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth”

Luke 1 v14

Welcome!



Scripture tells us that God is in the business of changing people's plans. Proverbs 16:9 says "We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps." No matter how carefully we plan things there are times when God throws a spanner in the works. The Christmas story is a story of everybody's plans getting changed – especially for Mary and Joseph. All they wanted to do was get married, settle down, make a home and live quiet peaceful lives. But in the middle of all their preparations an angel came along and messed up their plans.

So what can we learn from the Christmas story? Well firstly we learn that when God changes our plans we need to pay attention. He might be trying to get our attention because He has a much broader perspective than we do. The shepherds would have missed the saviour in the manger had it not been for the heavenly host. Before God intervened, Joseph's Plan B was to walk away quietly. As the old hymn goes; 'O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear.' Why? Because we don't pay enough attention to our father in heaven.

Not only does God change our plans to get our attention, He also changes our plans when He has a better one. The Bible says, "No one has ever seen or heard or even imagined what wonderful things God has prepared for those who love him." (1 Cor. 2:9) God's plans are far more rewarding than our plans, so never hold on to your own plan so tightly that you miss the opportunity to follow a better one. And thirdly, follow Mary and Joseph's example; "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

David



Next Sunday, 22nd December 2019

10:30am –Family Worship

Bringing God's Word: David Howling

4pm – All are invited to join the 'Big Sing' at the URC

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

This is **Week 50** of the **Pulborough Village Prayer Rota**:

See <http://pbbaptist.co.uk/index.php?menu=downloads>

Jelly Beans

Thank you for all your support and prayers this year. Jelly Beans wish you a Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Betty

Christmas Services

Sunday 22nd

Normal service at 10:30am.

'Big Sing' at URC at 4pm.

Wednesday 25th

Christmas morning family service at 10:30 am.

Sunday 29th

Normal service at 10:30am.

Devoted to Prayer

Heavenly Father, open our ears and our hearts so that we hear you speaking and can follow the voice that cries out to us. May we be a people who prepare the way for you. Grant each of us strength to give up everything at the right moment and to realize, "The way to my heart should be levelled too. It should be straight and level all around me and in the whole world." The light is now shining for us in Jesus Christ and through Him we want to find strength and help, to the glory of your Holy Name. Amen.



"The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight and the rough places plain: and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

Isa 40:3~5 (AKJV)