

Dates for your diary:

Jelly Beans Toddler Group: No meeting until next term.

Friendship Group: Will meet on Thursday, December 21st at 2:30pm, but **NOT** at Wyevale Garden Centre. Please contact the Church Office for details.

Village Market Bread Stall: Next market January 27th.

Visit from the Pastoral Team: If anyone would like to receive a visit from the Pastoral Team, please feel free to contact John Watson, Barbara Morgan, Jill Jones, Maureen Watson or Karen Banner or via the Church Office at any time.

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 at the entrance to 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.



If you would like to know more about our church and what it means to be a member, why not pick up one of our 'Get Connected' leaflets; that should tell you all you need to know about becoming a member of PBBC.

Church information



If you would like to know more about our church or arrange a visit from our Pastor, please complete a form and place it in the offertory box.

Our Pastor, Rev'd Dr. David Howling, can be contacted via the church office.

(Please note that David is not available on Mondays)

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

Tel: 01903 417162

Email: admin@pbbaptist.co.uk

Website: pbbaptist.co.uk

Cover image: Gapstow Bridge, Central Park, New York City.

Pulborough Brooks BAPTIST CHURCH

www.pbbaptist.co.uk



Welcome!



Devoted to Meeting Together

This weeks Home Groups

See your homegroup leaders for details.

The groups meeting at Peter & Jill's are both in recess until January. The Tuesday group will re-start on 9th, and the Thursday group on 25th.

Next Sunday, 24th December **3:30pm**

Family Worship & Christingle Service
Bringing God's Word: David Howling

Christmas Day, 25th December **10:30am**

Family Christmas Day Service
Bringing God's Word: Simon Howling



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

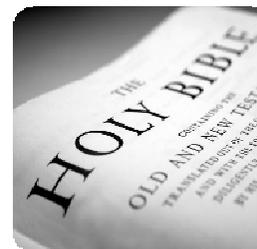
Today at URC

The URC are hosting a 'Christmas Big Sing' THIS Sunday at 4pm in their church on Lower Street and are always so pleased to see (some of) us there! The format will be much as usual with tea/coffee and cake/mince pies at 4pm with the church set out "cafe style". There will be time to chat and catch up with each other before singing (interspersed with readings) at approx 4.30pm. It will be finished by 5.30pm.

Devoted to Prayer

Lord, I need your encouragement in times of trial and anguish. Thank you that you are always on the throne, ready to save. Thank you for being the same God at all times. Thank you for always being near and always rescuing me from my fears and hurts. Lord, help me remember that daybreak is just ahead, that trials will not last forever. Fill me with hope that daybreak is coming and that your love will always prevail!

In Jesus Name, Amen.



"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

John1:1~5 (KJV)

David

When the angel told the shepherds about the birth of the Messiah, he didn't say that it was good news that would make them happy, he said that it was news that would bring them great 'joy' (Luke 2:10). That is not to say that what the shepherds experienced at Bethlehem did not give them a moment of happiness, I'm sure it did. When the angel announced 'tidings of great joy' it was to be a life changing experience that would come from their participation in the kingdom of God. This is what makes Joy different from happiness.

The Bible teaches that happiness is at best fleeting because it often depends on things outside of ourselves. Joy is something much more profound than happiness because it has its origins in what is going on inside us. Joy has nothing to do with externals. It has nothing to do with what you wear, where you live, or how much you get paid. It has nothing to do with your health or your career or your "position" in life. It has everything to do with your heart.

Joy that is not about feelings, circumstances, or economics. Rather, Joy is about being a part of something incredible – the Kingdom of God. This was why the message to the shepherds was one of such exceeding Joy. The kingdom of God was at hand, and they – who were despised and ostracised because of their place in society - could be a part of it. And so can you and I. Joy comes from knowing that we are loved by God, saved by God and that those are the only two things that really matter.

In Jesus we have hope because he has promised that he will always be with us, and God keeps his promises. We can know true peace because Jesus has dealt with all of the stuff that separated us from God. Joy does not hinge on how happy we feel, but rather upon how faithful God is, and how deeply we can learn to rest in his faithfulness.