

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: Christmas hampers all packed up!



Pulborough Brooks BAPTIST CHURCH

www.pbbaptist.co.uk



Welcome!



As a boy Robert Louis Stevenson was intrigued by the work of the old lamplighter who went about with a ladder and a torch, setting the street lights ablaze for the night. One evening in Edinburgh, as young Robert stood watching with childish fascination, he said to his parents, "Look! There is a man out there punching holes in the darkness!" This is a great way of describing what Christ achieved. Jesus came into this world and accomplished many great and miraculous things, but his primary purpose was to punch great gaping holes in the spiritual darkness that shrouded this world. He came to be The Light of the World.

In bringing light into the world, Jesus did three things. Firstly He shows us what God is truly like. 2 Corinthians 4:6 says *"For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ."* God has revealed himself on earth in the person of Jesus. When we see Jesus, we see God.

Secondly, in bringing light to the world Jesus shows us what we are truly like and it's not always a pretty picture (John 3:19-20). Yes we are 'new creations in Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:17), but our newness consists in this: that the true light shining in our hearts reveals both the awfulness of our remaining sin and the abundance of God's grace.

Thirdly, the light of Christ shows us how we should live. Jesus is the light and the way for our lives. Disaster lies in the darkness. *"Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."* (John 8:12)

David



Devoted to Meeting Together

Next Sunday, 30th December

10:30am - Family Worship Service

Bringing God's Word: Simon Howling

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

Dates for your diary:

Our friends at the URC have invited us to join them at their traditional service of readings and carols 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.

Christmas Hampers

A big thank you to all who contributed towards this year's Christmas hampers. Everyone has been so generous and we managed to prepare eleven which is many more than we have done in previous years. They looked really good (see front cover) and the families receiving them will be delighted. Please continue to pray for these families that they will be greatly blessed and know that they have been given in love by God's people.

Devoted to Prayer

Give us, O God, the vision which can see Your love in the world in spite of human failure. Give us the faith to trust Your goodness in spite of our ignorance and weakness. Give us the knowledge that we may continue to pray with understanding hearts and show us what each one of us can do to set forward the coming of the day of universal peace.

Frank Borman, Apollo 8 space mission, 1968



"And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven."