

Coming Up...

- Jelly Beans:** No meeting this Monday, re-start in January
- Homegroups:** Thakeham group meetings will restart on Monday, 13th January 2020
Storrington group normally meets on Tuesday morning
Pulborough group meetings will restart on Tuesday, 14th January 2020
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:** Double rainbow from Swan Corner (Rhianna)



25th December 2019

Week 51½

Pulborough Brooks BAPTIST CHURCH

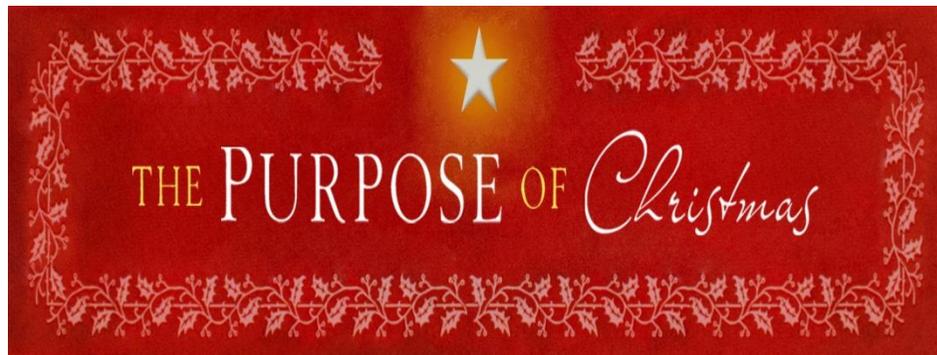
www.pbbaptist.co.uk



"I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

Genesis 9:13 (NIV)

Welcome!



After the early moments in a baby's life when the important details like whether it's a boy or girl and how much it weighed, are phoned through to friends and family, there usually follow three more questions: Who does he look like? What shall we call him? What shall we give him?

Firstly, who does he look like? As visitors gazed at the baby Jesus, might they have asked who He resembled? His mother? Possibly – a woman chosen for her humility and obedience, though we can hardly believe He resembled His father Joseph because of the virgin birth. But it hardly matters for, as Jesus grew up, writers of scripture could see in Jesus a resemblance of a far more striking nature. The writer to the Hebrews said, He had the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being (Hebrews 1:1). So when we look at Jesus, the Christ child, we see the Father. What an image!

Secondly, what shall we call him? Joseph was told by God to give this baby the name, Jesus (Matthew 1:21). This name means 'saviour from sin'. Jesus was to become everything His name prophesied. The destiny for this baby was to grow into a man full of grace and truth, who would lay down His life on a cross that we might trust in Him and be saved from the sin that separates us from God.

Thirdly, what shall we give him? We know that Jesus was presented with gifts of gold and frankincense and of myrrh (Matthew 2:11), but I like the gift that the shepherds brought. What did they bring him? I suspect Jesus captured their hearts and I would like to think that some that night went back to their fields having offered the greatest gift of all – their hearts. Their gift was simply to say YES to the Saviour in the manger!

David



Next Sunday, 29th December 2019

10:30am –Family Worship

A special service led by John Harvey

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

This is **Week 51** of the **Pulborough Village Prayer Rota**:

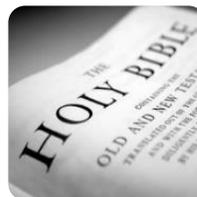
See <http://pbbaptist.co.uk/index.php?menu=downloads>

Coming Up...

Most events are suspended for the season, but we wish ALL our readers a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

Devoted to Prayer

Heavenly Father, you have sent your light to shine on earth and have revealed your heavenly power in Jesus Christ. In spite of all the darkness and evil, we rejoice because we have a Saviour. May men's hearts be drawn to you to give them light so that they may thank and praise you for all you have done and are still doing to bring the whole world into your hands. O Lord God, let men be moved by the opening of the heavens. May their hearts awaken and their sadness give way to joy in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Your kingdom will come on earth as in heaven and may your name be glorified and honoured. Amen.



For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder and His name will be called "Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6, RSV