

BRIGHTON ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH



BRBC Bulletin

Sunday 15th December 2024

Welcome to our service today.

Events for the next week

THIS SUNDAY

Christingle Service

Creative and Interactive Worship

10:30am Sunday Service

led by Deborah Packham

An on-line streamed service will also be available as the Christingle will not be livestreamed.

NEXT SUNDAY

God sent his Son

[Galatians 4:1-5](#)

10:30am Sunday Service

led by Michael Hogg

10:45am BRBK (Kids' Club)

Meeting Rooms - Children will go from the main service



Sunday 15th December 9:15am	Mission Prayer Meeting
Sunday 15th December 10:30am	Christingle Service
Sunday 15th December 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Monday 16th December 10:00am	Coffee, Cake & Company
Tuesday 17th December 4:00pm	Toy Library
Wednesday 18th December 2:30pm	Johnson House Group
Thursday 19th December 10:30am	Men's Coffee Morning
Thursday 19th December 2:00pm	Women's Fellowship
Thursday 19th December 7:30pm	Roffey House Group
Thursday 19th December 7:45pm	Worship Group
Friday 20th December 7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 21st December 12:30pm	Saturday Kitchen
Sunday 22nd December 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 22nd December 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)
Sunday 22nd December 6:30pm	Carols by Candlelight
Tuesday 24th December 11:30pm	Christmas Eve Communion
Wednesday 25th December 10:30am	Christmas Day Service
Thursday 26th December 7:45pm	Worship Group
Sunday 29th December 10:30am	Sunday Service
Sunday 29th December 10:45am	BRBK (Kids' Club)

Weekly Message

From the Crib to the Cross

At this time of year, the Christmas story will be told and retold countless times in different places, in different ways and to different audiences. Thousands, if not millions, of people in our country alone will 'read', hear or take part in the birth story of Jesus, known as the Nativity. It is a good story much celebrated and enjoyed. Sadly, when the Christmas season has ended, so the story for some also ends. The book is closed. Their interest in Jesus does not extend beyond him lying in his crib.

The angel's message to the shepherds tells us why we should read on, not close the book, but finish the story. Let us remind ourselves of the message. The angel said 'I am here with good news for you....this very day your Saviour is born- Christ the Lord'. This part of the story may be well known to you but please do not close the book. To leave the story there is to miss out, not just on a good story, but also on the 'good news' which is 'for you'. The good news is that in the birth of Jesus God has come to us in human flesh. Read on from the birth story and you will encounter a Jesus who is both man and God. Read about his life and teachings. Journey with Him as he travels from the crib to the cross. Pause here and take time to kneel at the foot of the crucified Jesus and you will experience God's perfect Love poured out for you, a Peace which comes from sins forgiven, Joy as you give your life to Him and Hope as you receive God's gift of eternal life. (John 3 vs 16) Surely this life changing story is worth finishing!

Take a look at the picture chosen for the front of our bulletin this week. Can you see the crib and the cross? Where are you? At the crib or the cross? If you are still at the crib I would encourage you to read on and start the journey. If you are between the two then please press on towards the cross and your Saviour. And if you are at the cross and have found the Saviour then praise God and share him with others!

Alison Edwards

Notices

Mission Prayer Meeting

There will be an opportunity to hear news from some of the overseas mission workers we support and to pray for them next Sunday, 15th December at 9.15am in the Main Hall.

Men's Coffee Morning

We meet for a Christmas lunch at 12.30 pm on Thursday 19th December at the Sussex Oak, Warnham.

Women's Fellowship

Just a reminder that our Carols with Candles on Thursday 19th December will start promptly at 2pm and we will have a cuppa and mince pie at the end! We will also have our usual collection for MNDA.

Fellowship Lunch

As you are probably aware, Sunday 29th December 2024 will be the last Sunday that our Senior Minister, Rev Tim Carter will be with us before moving to Durham to take up his new role at Cranmer College. We want to ensure that as a fellowship we have an opportunity to say goodbye to Tim and Sue over a meal together and we would therefore like to invite everyone to share with us in a fellowship lunch after the morning service on Sunday 29th December 2024. It would be very helpful for the purposes of catering, if you could sign up if you plan to come and mention any dietary requirements you might have. Please sign up no later than Monday 23rd December, and please DO COME!! All are WELCOME.

Walks

If you would appreciate a break from preparing for Christmas and would enjoy a winter stroll in the countryside there will be a short walk on the morning of Friday 20th December. Meet at church at 10am. Note change from the usual time.

An exhibition of your favourite Christmas Carols

Come and enjoy colourful and creative exhibits of artistic interpretations including paintings, crafts, models and floral displays of your favourite Christmas Carols at Horsham United Reformed Church, Springfield Road, Horsham on Friday 20th December and Saturday 21st December, 10am-3pm. Entrance free of charge. Delicious festive refreshments will be served accompanied by, of course, your favourite carols to get you into the festive spirit.

BRBC Art Group Meeting

The meetings on the 19 Dec and 2 Jan will be cancelled, as discussed and agreed by members at the last meeting.

The next meeting will be on the 16 January 2025 in the Main Hall 10-12pm. All welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The annual week of prayer for Christian Unity will take place between 18th January and 25th January 2025. There will be daily prayer meetings and a United Service at 6pm on Sunday 19th January 2025. Full details will be released nearer the time.

Christmas Child Shoebox Update

So far, the countries that will receive the boxes from the UK are Eastern Europe, Malawi and Nigeria. Thank you, Keith

Soundwaves Christmas Broadcast

Some copies of our BRBC Christmas Broadcast are available in the reception area. Feel free to take a copy before they all go.

Flowers

The flower calendar for 2025 is now up in its new permanent position, on the right wall by the entry to the Main Hall. It would be good if lots of the dates could be filled, particularly at the start of the year. Signing up means you are willing to give the flowers, or more usually the money to buy the flowers, that enhance the worship on Sundays and then go to people in need of hearing that we care for them and remember them. It would also help if you could arrange your own flowers, just in a vase of water or in the stands. This is very important as in February we will be down to just 3 arrangers!

We would appreciate having more arrangers! Can you help, either on a regular basis or occasionally, or just arrange the flowers when you are giving them?

Sheila Stevens

Coffee Rota

5th January	Marion & Jill
12th January	Hilary & Alison
19th January	Mary & Avril
26th January	Ros & Brian

2nd February	Jean & Ian
9th February	Marion & Jill
16th February	Hilary & Alison
23rd February	Mary & Avril

1st March	Ros & Brian
8th March	Jean & Ian
15th March	Marion & Jill
22nd March	Hilary & Alison
29th March	Mary & Avril

If you are unable to take your turn, please change with someone.

Thank you, Jill Boniface (01403 263563)

BMS Birthday Scheme

Celebrating birthdays this week are Doreen Hawes on Sunday 15th and Joan Reed on Saturday 21st December.

Church Office Christmas and New Year Closure

The church office will be closed from December 24th to January 3rd so the bulletin for 22nd December will cover 2 weeks.

For Prayer

Father, God,
help us to remember that
when our days don't go according to plan,
you are still at work in our lives.
Help us to trust you
throughout every day of every week.
Amen

Mission Prayer Request

Pray for the teams translating various parts of the Bible into the languages of the Guera Region of Chad. Give thanks that the New Testament is now available in some of the languages and that listening groups have been formed to enable people to read it or listen to it and learn from it. Pray especially for the teams working in areas where there are as yet no known Christians.

Notices for the weekly bulletin should be sent to bulletin@brbc-horsham.org.uk before 6pm on Wednesday.

Brighton Road Baptist Church is part of God's family, where anyone and everyone is made welcome, and we are all equipped to live our lives for Jesus with a shared sense of unity and purpose. We warmly welcome you to our worship today and hope that you feel at home among us as we worship God together.

Church Office (01403) 211150
Monday to Friday 9:30am – 4:30pm
Minister – Rev Dr Tim Carter (01403) 267587
Leader of Community Evangelism – Rev Michael Hogg 07926 045598
www.brbc-horsham.org.uk