



Acre Mill Baptist Church

Newsletter : January 2015



Services	Morning 10.30am	Evening 6.00pm
4 Jan	John Prior (Series 1) Bible Text Sunday	Celebration and Supper <i>Decorations</i>
11 Jan Lunch	Tim Doggart	Terry Haslam-Jones <i>Communion</i>
18 Jan	Rev Sandra Crawford <i>Communion</i>	Valley Churches Service
25 Jan	Stephen Crook <i>Family Service</i>	David Clegg
1 Feb	Rev Derek Allen	Focus on Leprosy Mission <i>World Leprosy Day</i>
8 Feb	Phil Webb (Series 2)	Ben Bracewell
15 Feb	David Isherwood <i>Communion</i>	No Service <i>(School Holidays)</i>
22 Feb Lunch	Terry Haslam-Jones <i>Family Service</i>	Annual Celebration 5.00pm

Coming Up

On Sunday **4 January**, we will be having a final Christmas and New Year praise service, starting at the usual time of 6.00pm. After taking down the **Christmas Decorations**, a supper will be provided at about 7.45pm.

The **Toddlers** are back in action on Tuesday 6 January and **CBC** starts on Thursday 8 January.

Rubicon resumes on Wednesday 7 January and move to their new day of Thursday starting on 8 January.

The **Midweek Meeting** begins again on 7 January and **the Choir** have their Annual General Meeting on 15 January.

Tues 6 Jan 7.30pm Deacons' Meeting
Wed 14 Jan 7.30pm Church Meeting

A Happy 2015 to Everyone!

Christmas 2014 was a busy time and thanks go to **everyone** who helped in any way to make this a such a happy and blessed time.



Our Christmas services were again well-attended and it was a pleasure to welcome the **Mayor and Mayoress** to our Carol Service.

Lots of children now come to the party and they enjoyed all the games and presents round the tree, so thanks to those who organised things. A special thanks to Peter and the choir for their **ministry in music** over Christmas and to all who worked behind the scenes to make things possible.

Again, over **1200 Christmas Leaflets** went out into our neighbourhood to advertise our Christmas activities and to send a Christmas message - a 'well done' to everyone who helped with the **distribution** during some awful weather!

Christine and Barbara have now retired as leaders of the Toddler group and we thank them for their **dedication and consistent hard work** over the years to provide such a valued part of our Church ministry to the local community.

Offerings during the last three months of the year were encouraging and the average for the year will be about **£319per week**. This is above our budget target but please pray for our finances in 2015 as we to plan our work and witness for the coming year.

We will be discussing the **budget for 2015** at the next Church Meeting.

Will treasurers of church organisations let Terry have their **2014 accounts** when convenient, please.

Gift Aid The new **Gift Aid** year starts on 1 January so please think about joining the scheme for your regular giving or any single gifts.

Registering is a simple process and **David Clegg** (Gift Aid Secretary) will be delighted to provide help and further details. 'Gift Aid' will increase your giving by 25%.

Enquirers' Classes

Enquirer's classes will be held on **Tuesdays** 13, 20 and 27 January for everyone interested in finding out more about **Baptism and Church Membership**. If these days are not convenient for you, there is the possibility of forming another group at an alternative time - please see Terry for details.

Please Pray For (Your suggestions)

- Those suffering from mental illness
- All who work in hospitals
- The work of Cancer Research, Vision, Tear Fund, BMS, Bacup Family Centre and the Magdalene Project
- Our local Councillors.
- The people of Stacksteads
- All our activities in 2015
- The new Toddler Group Team
- Peace on Earth

Give Thanks for

- Our Christmas services and activities and the opportunities they gave to witness and serve the community.
- The safe arrival of a new baby
- The Gift of Christmas Music-new and traditional
- Faithful helpers
- Light in dark places
- The work of the Bacup Fellowship of Churches
- Our babies and toddlers (and their parents!)
- Our church building at Christmas
- Christmas Memories

Christmas Giving There is still time to give to **Tear Fund** and **Cancer Research** using the envelopes on the piano. These may be left under the tree or placed in the offering.

Don't forget to check the **church website** at www.acremill.org.uk for updates and those of you who use Facebook might like to join the **Acre Mill Facebook Group**. If you have items for prayer, thanks, news or coming events, please see Terry - or you can email items to info@acremill.org.uk We now send out the newsletter **by email** and, if you would like to receive it this way or know someone who would, let us know.

.Our church text for 2015 is **Philippians 1:6**. Text cards will be available from David next week.

"HE WHO BEGAN A GOOD WORK IN YOU WILL CARRY IT ON TO COMPLETION UNTIL THE DAY OF CHRIST JESUS"



Flowers for January

4 Jan : Shirley Cormack in memory of Ian

11 Jan : Jean Cormack in memory of Harold

18 Jan : Philip and Jayne Webb

25 Jan : Philip and Jayne Webb

We are grateful to Ben and Sheila Bracewell for the beautiful Poinsettia which have been in church over Christmas in memory of Mr. Piper

Birthday Corner

Shannon's birthday is on **7 January** and Nikita celebrates her 15th birthday on the **24th**. Best Wishes to them and all who have birthdays this month, including Pamela on the 1st, Elizabeth Heath on the 2nd and David Clegg on the 9th. Please let us know if you would like a birthday including in the newsletter.



Deacons and Church Meeting Dates 2015

Deacons	Church
Tues 6 Jan	Wed 14 Jan
Tues 24 Feb	Wed 4 Mar (AGM)
Tues 28 April	Wed 6 May
Tues 9 Jun	Wed 17 Jun
Tues 8 Sep	Wed 16 Sep
Tues 20 Oct	Wed 11 Nov

If you have any items for these meetings, please let Philip have them in advance . If you are unable to come to a meeting, **copies of the minutes** are available.

The Annual Celebration will be held on **22 February** at 6.00pm and will be preceded by food at 5.00pm. All our organisations will report on **2014** and what they hope to do in **2015**.

Rubicon

Rubicon will now be meeting regularly on **Wednesdays and Thursdays** at Acre Mill from 9.00am until 3.00pm. Our **Shopping Drop In** will also move to Thursday Mornings.

"Living With Joy" in 2015

We are pleased to announce that five members of our church (with a little help from one of our friends) will be preaching on no fewer than **fourteen mornings** during 2015. Their messages will be based on St Paul's letter to the **Philippians**. This letter was written whilst Paul was held under house arrest in his own home. **It is a letter full of joy**. The detailed list is to be found on the back of next year's Church Text Card and you are encouraged to read the appropriate passages in advance of coming and hearing the messages. It is the prayer of those taking part that **the whole church** will be richly blessed during this coming year.