



Acre Mill Baptist Church

Newsletter : January 2018



Services	Morning 10.30am	Evening 6.00pm
7 Jan	Rev John Prior <i>Bible Text Sunday</i> <i>Communion</i>	Celebration and Supper <i>Decorations</i>
14 Jan	David Clegg <i>Series 1</i>	Songs of Praise
21 Jan	Peter Webb <i>Series 2</i>	Terry HJ <i>Communion</i>
28 Jan	Philip Bowden <i>Series 3</i>	Our Daily Bread <i>Videos and Reflections</i>
4 Feb	Terry Haslam Jones <i>Series 4</i>	Everyone Make Music
11 Feb	Rev John Prior <i>Series 5</i>	No Service Half term
18 Feb Lunch	David Hollows Family Service	Favourite Bible Readings
25 Feb	Tim Doggart Communion	Annual Celebration

Coming Up	
We will be taking down the Christmas Decorations after the Evening Service on 7 January and a supper will be provided at about 7.15pm. Do come along and help if you can.	
Regular events will be back to their normal schedules as follows:	
Rubicon	3 Jan
Toddlers	9 Jan
Midweek	10 Jan
CBC	11 Jan
Choir	11 Jan AGM
Drop In	12 Jan
Tues 9 Jan 7.30pm Deacons' Meeting	
Wed 17 Jan 7.30pm Church Meeting	
The first of the Baptism Enquirers' Meetings will be held on Wednesday 10 January at 7.00	
Friday 26 January Family Bowling Evening 7.00-9.00pm Burnley MFA Bowl	

A Happy 2018 to Everyone!

A big **THANKYOU** to everyone who was involved with our Christmas services and activities - especially those who worked 'behind the scenes' to make Christmas 2017 a very blessed time. Special congratulations go to the children for their brilliant presentation of the musical, 'Angel Express' on Christmas Eve morning and to the choir for 'O' Holy Night'. The Christmas services were very well-attended and much appreciated again this year.

The **Christmas Leaflets** went out to tell the neighbourhood about our Christmas Services and activities despite the bad weather- please pray for this ministry to our community.



The **Evening Service** on 14 January is a '**Songs of Praise**' service and Peter is asking everyone **to suggest** a favorite hymn to be included. Maybe you might even like to say briefly why it's one of your favourites? On 4 Feb we are having an '**Everyone Make Music**' service so, if you can play something or sing, please let us know if you would like to take part (adults and kids are all welcome).

Offerings during 2017 averaged just under **£324per** week, which is lower than in 2016 by about £10 per week.



Please pray for our finances in 2018 and consider giving a little more. Also, please think about joining the **Gift Aid Scheme** for your regular giving or single gifts if you pay income tax.- David Clegg has details,

We will be discussing the **budget for 2018** at the next Church Meeting.

Will treasurers of church organisations let Terry have their **2017 accounts** when convenient, please.

The offering for **Tear Fund** on Christmas Day came to £150 and for **Cancer Research £30**. We have also received gifts totalling £150 for the **Bethany Project**. Thanks everyone!

Please Pray For (Your suggestions)

- Those suffering from mental illness
- All who work in children's hospitals
- The work of Interserve, Rossendale Hospice, Tear Fund, BMS, Bacup Family Centre and the Magdalene Project
- Our local Councillors and Borough Council workers.
- Friends and family near and far away
- The people of Stacksteads
- All our activities in 2018
- The children and staff of the Bethany Project
- A more peaceful world in 2018

Give Thanks for

- Our Christmas services and events and the opportunities they gave to witness and serve the local community.
- The Gift of Christmas Music-new and traditional
- Faithful helpers
- Light in dark places
- Our babies and toddlers (and their parents!)
- Our church building at Christmas
- Christmas with our families

Our church text for 2018 is Joshua 1:9. If you didn't get a text card as your special gift on Christmas Day, they are available from David. John Prior will be speaking about this text on 7 January.

"The LORD your God will be with you wherever you go"
Joshua 1:9

Mona Doreen Chestney

As most of you already know, with Doreen's life drawing to its close, the decision was taken to move her out of hospital in late November and back to the Nursing Home in Lennoxton, where she passed away on the 25th.

Her funeral took place at Glasgow Crematorium on Monday, 4th December and was led by the vicar of Doreen's home church, Rev Julie Moody. The crematorium was packed solid, with the vicar remarking that never had she heard such singing in the building!!

We are grateful for the contribution that Doreen made to the life of our church, and this will be remembered during a visit by her family on March 18th at 10.30am, when we shall hold a full celebration of Doreen's life.....to be followed by a church lunch.



Flowers for January

- 7 Jan - Shirley and Jean Cormack in memory of Ian, Harold and Brenda
- 14 Jan - Terry and Pamela
- 21 Jan - Jayne and Philip Webb
- 28 Jan - Jayne and Philip Webb

Birthday Corner

Shannon's birthday is on 7 January, Nikita on the 24th and Lily-May on the 31st. Best Wishes to them and all who have birthdays this month, including Pamela on the 1st, Elizabeth Heath on the 2nd, David Clegg on the 9th and Daniel Chadwick on the 29th



Deacons and Church Meeting Dates 2018

Deacons	Church
Tues 9 Jan	Wed 17 Jan
Tues 27 Feb	Wed 7 Mar (AGM)
Tues 24 April	Wed 2 May
Tues 5 Jun	Wed 13 Jun
Tues 4 Sep	Wed 12 Sep
Tues 30 Oct	Wed 7 Nov

Please let us know if you notice any problems. If you have any items for these meetings, please let Philip have them in advance so we can plan the agenda and make sure we have time for everything. If you are unable to come to a meeting, copies of the minutes are available.

Family Bowling Evening

We have made a booking at MFA Bowl, Finsley Gate, Burnley on Friday, 26 January from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. The cost will be £5.00 per person (same for adults and children). Booking forms with further information are available. Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to come so we can finalise numbers.



We are still in need of volunteers for stewarding and brewing up on Sunday mornings. Please let Yvonne know if you are able to help, even if you are not available every week.

January/February Bible Series.

Starting on 14 January, we are again having a series of services on a special Bible Theme. In this five-part series, we will be looking at some of the parables mentioned in Matthew's Gospel

- 14 Jan : The wise and foolish builders
- 21 Jan : The workers in the vineyard
- 28 Jan : The wedding feast
- 4 Feb : The ten virgins
- 11 Feb : The sheep and the goats