

January 2018

St Barnabas News

Dear Friends

Those of you who were in church on New Year's Eve may recall that at the beginning of the service I reported that I had found the doll representing the baby Jesus on a table all alone in the church rooms.

There were no other characters from the Christmas Nativity and no other signs of Christmas symbolism. What was symbolic to me though was that this seemed a perfect picture of what usually happens following Christmas Day. So many churches over Christmas are filled with people visiting the special candlelit services, Christingles, and Crib services which is great, but a week later when Christmas is a distant memory many of those visitors are nowhere to be seen. Jesus is relegated to the back rooms for another year.

I think though that this is also a challenge to those of us who say that we are Jesus followers. We can be in church every week, but when we leave the building and return home, and go off to work, and greet our neighbours, is Jesus in the back room of our lives, or does he have that place of honour at the forefront of our lives?

Being a confessing Christian isn't cool today, and being an evangelical one leaves a person open to even more criticism from people who believe that all evangelicals are narrow minded and bigoted.

Can I make a plea that in 2018 we engage in a greater way both socially and intellectually with the world that we live in.

That we don't hide Jesus in the box or the back rooms of our lives and we place him at the forefront of everything we think, say and do.

And let's get to grips with what we say and believe so that we are in line with Peter's plea in his first epistle 1 Peter 3 v 15:

'But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.'

Grace and peace to you and your families for 2018

Rev Geoff Boland

Mission

Please pray for the following mission work that St Barnabas is financially supporting.

The Message Trust

Mission India

Simon and Sue Morgan - Mission Direct &
Mission 4 Water in Uganda



Dates for your diary

The Well Luncheon Club are meeting on Thursday 11th January at 12.30pm
(Please note change of date)

The Men's Fellowship are meeting on Monday 8th January at 8pm
(Please see Geoff or Matt for further information)

The Ladies Lunchtime Fellowship are meeting Monday 15th January at 12pm
The ladies will be watching the film 'The Shack' and will be having a 'bring and share' lunch.
(Please see Teresa for further information)

The Men's Bible Study Group are meeting on Monday 15th January at 8pm
This term they are looking at the book of James.
(Please see Robin for further information)

The Ladies Evening Fellowship are meeting Thursday 18th January at 7pm
The ladies will be starting with a 'bring and share' meal and planning the year ahead.
(Please see Jenny or Sally for further information)

Monday Night Prayer Meeting

This will start again tomorrow evening - 8th January
7pm - 7.45pm

We meet in the church every Monday to pray for the community and our fellowship.

Preaching Programs are available on the information table if you would like a hard copy.

Please remember to check out the web page - Jonathan is doing a wonderful job keeping it updated with all the latest news and events:

www.stbarnabasbearwood.org.uk



What's on in January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Prayer meeting 7pm Men's Fellowship 8pm	2 Office Re-opens 9am	3 <i>Office closed</i>	4	5	6
7 Prayer, Praise & Preach 10.30	8 <i>Office closed for annual leave</i> Prayer meeting 7pm Men's Fellowship 8pm	9 <i>Office closed for annual leave</i> Dancercise - CC 6.30pm	10 <i>Office closed</i> Dancercise - CC 9.15am Barney's Bugs 9.30 -10.30 Fabulous Feet 10.30- 11.30am Ladies Bible Study 10am Home Groups 7.30pm	11 <i>Office closed for annual leave</i> Dancercise - CC 9am Ladies Bible Study Group 10am - 12pm The Well 12.30pm - 2pm	12 <i>Office closed for annual leave</i> Thanksgiving Service for Jane James in the Parish Church at 3pm	13
14 Communion Service 10.30	15 Staff Meeting - office closed from 9-10.30am Prayer meeting 7pm Ladies Lunchtime Fellowship 12pm - 2pm	16 Dancercise - CC 6.30pm	17 <i>Office closed</i> Dancercise - CC 9.15am Barney's Bugs 9.30 -10.30 Fabulous Feet 10.30- 11.30am Ladies Bible Study 10am Home Groups 7.30pm	18 Dancercise - CC 9am Ladies Bible Study Group 10am - 12pm Ladies Evening Fellowship 7pm	19	20
21 Prayer, Praise & Preach 10.30	22 Prayer meeting 7pm Men's Bible Study 8pm	23 Dancercise - CC 6.30pm	24 <i>Office closed</i> Dancercise - CC 9.15am Barney's Bugs 9.30 -10.30 Fabulous Feet 10.30- 11.30am Ladies Bible Study 10am Home Groups 7.30pm	25 Dancercise - CC 9am Ladies Bible Study Group 10am - 12pm	26	27
28 Communion Service 10.30	29 Prayer meeting 7pm	30 Dancercise - CC 6.30pm	31 <i>Office closed</i> Dancercise - CC 9.15am Barney's Bugs 9.30 -10.30 Fabulous Feet 10.30- 11.30am Ladies Bible Study 10am Home Groups 7.30pm			

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Vision Statement

Jesus is calling us to build a church that is rooted in the Bible. Where people encounter the transforming power of God; in the worship, in the teaching, and in the values and lifestyles of its members.

Other Services Across the Parish

Parish Church

Breakfast @ 9 in the CMC
 Morning Celebration / Communion at 10.30am

8.30am BCP HC Service on the 1st Sunday

The Lantern Church

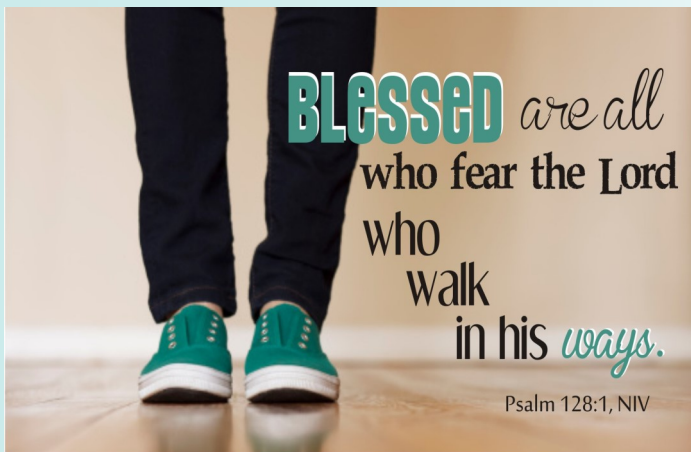
Morning Worship / Communion at 9.15am & 11am

Wednesday Morning Communion

at 10.30am
 in the Lantern Hub

All	Services	are at 10.30am
		DAVID 'A Man After God's Own Heart'
PPP	7th	David's Youth 'A training ground for leadership'
HC	14th	Overcoming Giants
PPP	21st	In the presence of my enemies
HC	28th	David and Jonathan

Memory Verse



Psalm 128 verse 1

We meet in the church every Monday to pray for the community and our fellowship from 7pm - 7.45pm

Your prayers are asked for:

Michael Poole
 Peggy's daughter-in-law Helen

