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"The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He holds success in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones. Then you will understand what is right and just and fair—every good path."

Proverbs 2:6-9

As we prepare to delve into goodness, the next of our 'fruits of the Spirit,' I've been pondering a lot this week as to what it means to be "good." This is, of course, a deep and perhaps even evasive task. Philosophers have since the beginning of thought wrestled with this question.

I am no philosopher and I don't think I have much to contribute to the area of ethics and moral practice, but I am grateful for the wisdom of Scripture that reminds us that goodness, ultimately comes from God – as seen in the Scripture text

above. It gives me a great sense of relief then to lean in to the truth that what I pursue isn't goodness, primarily, but God himself. And in seeking God, and finding him, we find goodness there. The fruit is borne in us through his Spirit, not through philosophical debates. How liberating!

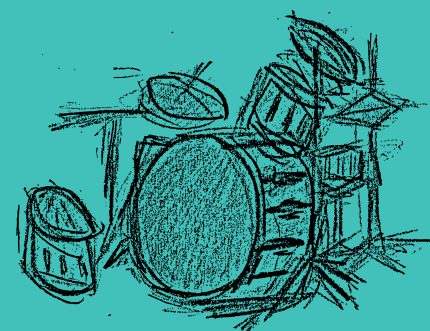
The truth of the Gospel is this: I can never be found to be 'good' enough but God, but I get to partake in Christ's goodness through faith – Hallelujah! Pray for us as we seek unlock something of this glorious mystery!

Our Parent and Toddler group will meet for their final time this week on Wednesday before the summer break. We are very grateful for the faithful work of Sandra Pitt and her team in this important community ministry. May you all enjoy a well-deserved rest over the next few weeks.

Sean Harland is getting ready to commence his huge effort in covering 400 miles on his bike to raise funds for a new church drum kit. Thank you to everyone who has given to this so far. More information, including how to give can be found over there. >>>>

Blessings,

Mick



Drum Kit Update

ONE WEEK TO GO. On 24 July, Sean will start his eight day cycle marathon. He will ride 400 miles in eight days to raise funds for a new church drum kit.

Fundraising is going well. You can give by putting money in an envelope marked "DRUM KIT" in the weekly offering, or by direct bank transfer. (Contact the church secretary for details). [Or click here to go to the Just Giving page.](#)

RAISED SO FAR:
£450

Church Diary

| Date | Event |
|------------------------|---|
| Sunday 17 July 2022 | Sunday Worship, 10:30 am with Rev Mick Kane |
| Wednesday 20 July 2022 | Toddle-In, 10:00 am |
| Wednesday 20 July 2022 | Church Zoom Prayer Meeting, 10:30 am |
| Wednesday 20 July 2022 | FoodCycle free community meal 5:00 pm |
| Thursday 21 July 2022 | Community Cafe and Food Pantry, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm |
| Thursday 21 July 2022 | Bible study with Lucy, 2:00 pm at church |
| Sunday 24 July 2022 | Sunday Worship, 10:30 am with Rev Mick Kane |

Readings and Prayers

| DATE | READING | PRAY FOR |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mon 18 July | Numbers 14:13–38 | Annette and Mike Jones and family |
| Tue 19 July | Numbers 14:39–45 | Ramil, Irene and Melanie Kuleev |
| Wed 20 July | Numbers 15:1–31 | Vivien Kenyon |
| Thu 21 July | Numbers 15:32–41 | Mrs Marino |
| Fri 22 July | Numbers 16:1–23 | Dr. Herbert McGonigle and family |
| Sat 23 July | Numbers 16:24–50 | Sigrid Nwator and family |
| Sun 24 July | Numbers 17 | Myra O'Hara and family |

Church Prayer List

- Pray for John and Anne Beattie. We give thanks that John's condition has stabilised.
- We pray for Christine Clarke and her family following the loss of her niece, Hannah.
- Jon Fisher has been suffering from excessive tiredness recently. The doctors are monitoring his blood levels. Keep him in your prayers.
- We give thanks that Val's son-in-law Alan Roberts has finished chemotherapy.
- Pray for Leah Bolton as she nears the end of her pregnancy term. We anticipate the arrival of baby Bolton with the whole family.
- Pray for our friends at the Post office/Newsagents MB News who suffered an attempted robbery last week.
- Pray for Tom Bolton as he prepares to leave for London at the end of the summer to begin a new job teaching. Pray particularly for accommodation to be found.
- Pray for the Strong family. Terence and Sheila have both recently contracted Covid.
- Pray for Lauren McGillivray as she prepares to start as our new Associate Pastor for Children, Youth and Families in August.
- Continue to pray for Norma Whyte who enters her 17th week in hospital following a complicated leg break. A third operation was planned for this week, but was cancelled.
- Pray for Sue Cooley, who also had a knee replacement operation cancelled this week.
- Pray for Sue Mckenzie who has been in hospital.
- Pray for Ron, the brother of Sylvia Findlay who is undergoing treatment for his kidneys. He is being considered for dialysis but Sylvia's prayer is that such healing would take place that he would not need this.
- Pray for Sue Clark, a neighbour to the church. Sue has flown to Los Angeles to be with her sister, Maria, who has entered end of life care following a battle with cancer.
- Pray for Revd Dr Herbert McGonigle as he recovers from a cataract operations. He hopes to be back with us soon.
- Pray for those struggling with the Cost of Living Crisis. We pray that our Food Pantry will be a real support for those in need in our area.
- Continue to remember Stephen Lovett in your prayers.
- Pray for our local councillors - Sue Cooley, Glynn Evans and Julia Baker Smith. Pray also for our MP, Mike Kane.
- Pray for continued healing for Isobel Cave, Viv Best, Philomena Evans.
- Give thanks for answered prayer as Marie Vickers' health has improved. Marie is related to David and Chris Hoolihan by marriage.
- Pray for the continued work of the Church here in the community of Brooklands, as new faces continue to engage with us in a number of ways.

Please send your prayer requests to Mick, Lucy or Mark, and we will add them to the weekly prayer list.

Fruits of the Spirit: Goodness

Genesis 1-2:3; 2:18

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

6 And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." 7 So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. 8 God called the vault "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

9 And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. 10 God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

11 Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. 12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, 15 and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. 16 God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17 God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, 18 to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

20 And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky." 21 So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." 23 And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

24 And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. 25 God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

29 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

2:18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."



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COMMUNITY MEALS



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Wednesdays from 5.00–6.00pm
Brooklands Church of the Nazarene
Wendover Road, Wythenshawe

