

Happy New Year



Brooklands Church

1 January 2023

"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer (which means stone of help, saying, "Thus far the Lord has helped us.""
– 1 Samuel 7:12

A New Year provides us with a great opportunity to look back and be thankful for all that God has done for us – much like the Israelites did by raising an Ebenezer. By looking back and recognising that God has blessed us thus far, we can go into the new year in faith that he will continue to be with us, whatever 2023 has in store for us.

This year we have enjoyed many moments of blessing as a church. We've witnessed baptisms, new members join, we've enjoyed times of outreach in Wythenshawe Park at both Easter and Advent, we've continued to serve our local community in a number of ways including a food panty, toddler group and community café. We've seen answer to faithful prayer and we've enjoyed wonderful times of worship and fellowship growing, it seems, as we gather every week.

There have been a number of significant moments for individuals and families too – new jobs, new babies, graduations and college prizes!

Of course there have been difficult times too. Families have experienced sickness and significant loss. But as hard as these situations are please know that I count it as the privilege of my life to walk with you in these seasons.

And so with all this we look forward into a new year. What will it hold for us? No one knows. Therefore all that is left to do is to say as the Israelites did, 'one thing we know for certain, thus far God has helped us, and because of that we know he will continue to do so.

A happy new year to you, church!

Peace,

Mick



Daily Readings and Prayers

Date	Bible Reading	Pray For
Mon 2 Jan 2023	Matthew 2	Karina Phillips and Kyiara
Tue 3 Jan 2023	Matthew 3:1–4:11	Sandra and Mike Pitt and family
Wed 4 Jan 2023	Matthew 4:12–5:12	Cameron Preece
Thu 5 Jan 2023	Matthew 5:13–37	Matthew and Charlotte Purves, and Joshua
Fri 6 Jan 2023	Matthew 5:38–6:15	Adriana Richmond, and Phillip, and Joseph and Pete
Sat 7 Jan 2023	Catch Up	Mark and Rebecca Rotherham, Charlie and Laney
Sun 8 Jan 2023	Matthew 6:16–7:6	Gert Schwartz

This Week at Brooklands

Date	Event
Sun 1 Jan 2023 10:30am	Sunday Worship, Lucy Frost
Wed 4 Jan 2023 10:00am	Toddle-In
Wed 4 Jan 2023 05:00pm	FoodCycle free community meal
Thu 5 Jan 2023 11:00am	Winter Warmer (Community Café)
Sun 8 Jan 2023 10:30am	Morning Service, Lauren McGillivray

Other events coming up

Date	Event
Sat 14 Jan 2023 09:00am	Prayer Breakfast
February 2023	Ladies retreat. Info to follow



Prayer Points

- For those we know who grieve, that they might know the hope and comfort of Immanuel – God is with us!
- For those we know who are sick, that they might know the healing power in the truth of Immanuel – God is with us!
- For those we know who are lonely, poor, and hungry, may we be bringers of the truth of Immanuel – God is with us – as we reach out to them.
- For those who are persecuted, may they know the power of the truth of Immanuel – God is with us!
- For those who are far from God, may they be brought to the truth and know also Immanuel – God is with us!

New Year's Day Message - Lucy Frost

John 10:1-10

1 "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." 6 Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

7 Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Church Notices

- We hope you have all had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas. Many of our weekly meetings and other events at church have taken a break over Christmas. They will recommence over the coming two weeks, and we will be running a full programme from the second week in January.
- For Christmas week and the first week of the new year, we would encourage you to use our shortened pray list. Please let Mick, Lucy, Lauren or Mark know if you have any specific prayer requests as we enter the year, and we will circulate them in the weekly newsletter. Remember to let us know about answers to prayer too, so that we can rejoice together as a church family.
- Thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to the Christmas Love Offering for our pastors. Mick, Lucy and Lauren were presented with their gifts last week.

