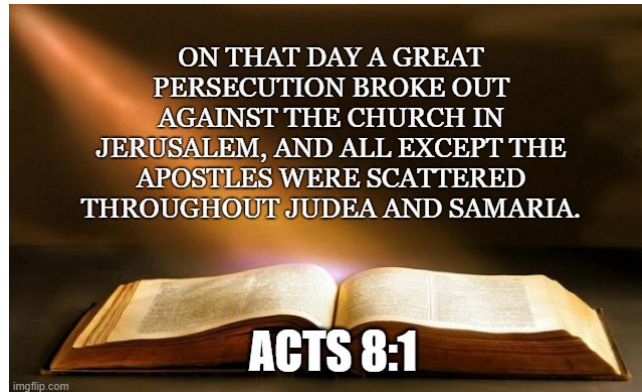


26 JUNE 2023

ISSUE #25/23

BROOKLANDS CHURCH



As we continue our journey through the book of Acts, we will find ourselves reflecting on what has been called the most significant event in the life of the early Church – the conversion of Saul of Tarsus.

However, I realise as we 'jump' through the book, from highlight to highlight, we miss some important details in between. I've been reflecting on the above verse this week which falls 'in-between.' I've shared it at prayer meetings and board meetings. It's a short but important reminder of this: sometimes the greatest challenges we face can become our greatest opportunities. The persecution that the Church started to face, following the death of Stephen, was the very thing that caused the Christians, and therefore the Gospel, to be scattered throughout the known world!

Sometimes the greatest challenges we face can become our greatest opportunities.

We want to welcome the friends and family of Eleanor Taylor to church this morning as Ffion and Dan present her for dedication. We continue to be so grateful for the gift of children as among some of the greatest gifts God can bless us with. We are indeed blessed as a church!

In line with our summer fellowship events we are arranging a church work morning on Saturday 8th July. We'll gather, get stuck in, pull weeds, clear out store cupboards, deep-clean kitchens, and do anything else needed. If we meet at 9.30am we'll build in a break at 11am for brunch. Working together has been an important rhythm of Christians since our earliest days, so I look forward to seeing you there!

Peace,

Mick

READINGS AND PRAYERS

DATE	BIBLE READING	PRAY FOR
Mon 26 Jun 2023	Acts 3	Tom Bolton
Tue 27 Jun 2023	Acts 4:1-22	Robert Bond
Wed 28 Jun 2023	Acts 4:23-5:11	Jean and Steve Boyd
Thu 29 Jun 2023	Acts 5:12-42	Audrey Brookes
Fri 30 Jun 2023	Acts 6	Lisa Bruce-McArdle, and Connie-Grace
Sat 1 Jul 2023	Catch Up	Isobel Cave
Sun 2 Jul 2023	Acts 7:1-22	Helen Charlesworth

Church Chairs

This Sunday is your last opportunity to give your views on replacing the old church chairs. Please let us know your thoughts.

The favourite at the moment is Sample 1 below, in a flecked colour that will compliment the colour of the existing carpet.



CHURCH CALENDAR

THIS WEEK

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sun 25 Jun 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship with Mick Kane
Tue 27 Jun 2023	10:00 AM	NO DIGITAL INCLUSION GROUP THIS WEEK
Tue 27 Jun 2023	12:00 PM	NO DROP IN EITHER
Wed 28 Jun 2023	10:00 AM	Toddle In
Wed 28 Jun 2023	10:30 AM	Prayer meeting on Zoom
Wed 28 Jun 2023	5:00 PM	FoodCycle - Free meal
Thu 29 Jun 2023	11:00 AM	Community Café
Thu 29 Jun 2023	2:00 PM	Bible Study at church
Thu 29 Jun 2023	7:30 PM	Manchester Gospel Choir rehearsal
Sun 2 Jul 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship with Mick Kane

COMING UP

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sat 8 July 2023	9:30 AM	Work morning at church
16-20 August 2023		Breakthru Holiday

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE: ACTS 9:1-19

PASTOR MICK

1 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. 3 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

5 "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. 6 "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

7 The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. 8 Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. 9 For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

10 In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

11 The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. 12 In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

13 "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. 14 And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

15 But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. 16 I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

17 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

CHURCH PRAYERS

- Peter Howells died recently following a relatively short battle with illness. Please pray for Pauline Howells in these days. The funeral will take place in the church on Tuesday 4th July.
- Continue to pray for Vera, Ingrid and the wider family following the death of John Packard.
- Pray for Fatima Alkandaari who has been diagnosed with an ovarian tumour.
- Please pray for Veronica and Trevor, a couple who are close friends of Steve and Jean Boyd. They have both been diagnosed with tumours in the brain recently.
- Pray for Sue Cooley's sister, Linda, who has a number of prayer needs related to health at the moment. We praise God that we have already seen answer to prayer in Linda's life these past weeks.
- Pray for Gert's grandson Zayann who was born very premature and continues to experience complications as a result.
- Pray for Anna Holme as she continues in her chemotherapy. Pray that she will remain well during the treatment and that it will work well to contain her cancer.
- Pray for Ava Marshall who is 6 years old and has leukaemia.
- Also pray for Olivia, aged 4, who has also recently been diagnosed with leukaemia, and is undergoing a course of chemotherapy.
- Pray for Ron and Jenny Hearne. Jenny is now in a care home and doing much better. She would very much welcome visitors – speak to pastor Mick, pastor Lucy or Margaret Webb if you would like to. Ron's hernia operation was postponed due to other health complications. Please continue to pray for him.
- Pray for Jean Walker's sister - Barbara Edwards, in Germany, who recently suffered from a stroke.
- Continue to pray for Marie Vickers, a family member of David and Chris Hoolihan. Marie has cancer and needs prayers for healing.
- Pray for a friend of the church, Sandra, who attends the digital inclusion sessions. She is having investigations for a possible recurrence of cancer.
- Pray for Sue Clark, neighbour to the church, as she supports her daughter and granddaughter following the death of her son-in-law.

CHURCH NEWS

YOUNG ADULTS SMALL GROUP

Our young adults small group takes place every other Thursday from 7:30pm. If you would like more information, please speak with Pastor Lauren or Tim Geddes.



BROOKLANDS YOUTH GROUP

Brooklands Youth Group has planned a program of events over the coming weeks and months. If you would like to know any more information please speak with Pastor Lauren.



COMPUTER SUPPORT SESSIONS

Our computer support sessions are not running this week. They should be back to normal from next Tuesday, 4 July.



CHURCH SECURITY AND ACCESS

We are in the process of updating the security arrangements at church. This has involved changing the keys to the main entrance door and the sanctuary. We have also replaced the security alarm control panel.

Please speak with our church secretary, Mark Bolton, if you need help or advice about entering the premises in future.



CONTACT US

If you have a prayer request, or if you would like to receive our weekly newsletter by email, or if you would like any information about Brooklands Church, please email us at brooklands.nazarene.church@gmail.com

