

BROOKLANDS CHURCH

Merry Christmas

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**“THE VIRGIN WILL CONCEIVE AND GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND THEY
WILL CALL HIM IMMANUEL” (WHICH MEANS “GOD WITH US”). –
MATTHEW 1:23**

This week's Update is a two week edition which will carry us through to the New Year. I'll be taking two weeks annual leave after Christmas Day so I'll say this now – Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all! Thank you for all the ways you have contributed to making 2023 such a special year for us at Brooklands Church of the Nazarene. You are the Church! We couldn't achieve what we do without your service and giving, so thank you from the bottom of my heart. 2024 has much in store for us already. We'll take the time to reflect back on the year as part of our AGM in February and we also have special plans in place for our Diamond Anniversary as we celebrate 60 years as an organised church – be sure not to miss out on these occasions. Don't forget that as well as worshipping together on Sundays 24th and 31st December, we'll also meet for a shorter family oriented gathering on Christmas day at 10.30am. In my absence, Pastor Lucy will be preaching on 31st and Pastor Karl will be preaching on January 7th. As well as the worship gathering on Christmas day, there is also a Christmas dinner happening in the church at 1pm. If you or someone you know would benefit from this you need to let me know ASAP. We already have around 7 people from the church attending so there will be friendly and familiar faces there.

Please be sure to pick up any Christmas cards left on the table in the foyer for you – and if you are able to deliver any that haven't been picked up by others that would be a great help also. Any left-over will need to be discarded, I'm afraid.

The Tuesday evening Bible study will re-commence on Tuesday 9th January at 7pm for tea and coffee with the study itself beginning at 7.30pm. We are starting a new material together so please feel free to join us even if you haven't come yet.

I pray that you manage to find some rest and joy over the next few days with people who are nearest and dearest to you. I also know that Christmas can be a difficult time of year. If that's the case, know that I will be praying for you but above all may you know that truth of Christmas captured in the above verse – God is with you!

Peace,

Mick

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYERS

DATE	READING	PRAY FOR
Monday 25 Dec 2023	Revelation 15–16	Jean and Steve Boyd
Tuesday 26 Dec 2023	Revelation 17	Audrey Broome
Wednesday 27 Dec 2023	Revelation 18:1–19:5	Lisa, and Connie-Grace Bruce-McArdle
Thursday 28 Dec 2023	Revelation 19:6–20:15	Helen Charlesworth
Friday 29 Dec 2023	Revelation 21	John and Sue Churchman
Saturday 30 Dec 2023	Catch Up	Christine Clarke
Sunday 31 Dec 2023	Revelation 22	Paul and Michelle, Archie and Molly Coates
Monday 1 Jan 2024	Matthew 1	Sue Cooley
Tuesday 2 Jan 2024	Matthew 2:1–18	David and Coral Cosgriff, Ben, Isaac and Emelia
Wednesday 3 Jan 2024	Matthew 2:19–3:12	Heather Critchley and Dan, Holly
Thursday 4 Jan 2024	Matthew 3:13–4:17	Elouise Critchley and Mitch
Friday 5 Jan 2024	Matthew 4:18–25	Lesley Dinsdale
Saturday 6 Jan 2024	Catch Up	Barbara Donnelly
Sunday 7 Jan 2024	Matthew 5:1–12	Bill and Sue Ellis

CHURCH CALENDAR - WEEKLY EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sunday 24 December 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship
	2:00 PM	Grace Church
Monday 25 December 2023	10:30 AM	Christmas Morning Family Service
	1:00 PM	Community Christmas Dinner
Sunday 31 December 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship, Lucy Frost
	2:00 PM	Grace Church
Wednesday 3 January 2024	10:00 AM	Toddle In
	10:30 AM	Weekly Zoom prayer meeting
	5:00 PM	FoodCycle
Thursday 4 January 2024	11:00 AM	Community Café and Food Pantry
	2:00 PM	Bible Study at church
	4:00 PM	Private Tutoring Sessions
	6:00 PM	Brooklands Brownies and Guides
Sunday 7 January 2024	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship
	2:00 PM	Grace Church
Monday 8 January 2024	10:00 AM	Computer Support Session
	12:00 PM	Computer Drop In Session
	6:00 PM	Brooklands Brownies and Guides

CHURCH PRAYERS

- Pray for Anna Holme who needed to have fluid removed from her abdomen. Pray that doctors will find the cause of this and can treat accordingly.
- MacDonald Amopho will have metal removed from his leg on Friday 12th January. Please pray that this will help with the healing of the deep infection he has there.
- Pray for Jean Boyd whose recent health difficulties have severely affected her mobility. Pray for Steve as he cares for her too.
- Pray for Shamal, the Husband of Gilly Parrish, who is very unwell at the moment. Pray too for their children Rohan and Ruby as the whole family care for him at this time.
- Pray for Elsie Roberts who is sick at the moment and is being seen regularly by the doctor at home. Pray too for her husband, Steve.
- Please continue to pray for twin babies Olivia and Isabella, granddaughters to John and Sue Churchman.
- Please pray for the parents of Dave Cosgriff, who are also the grandparents of Leah Bolton and Josh Jenkinson. Dave's mum, Jill, has been unwell and is undergoing tests. His dad, Dave snr, has been suffering from kidney issues.
- Pray for Ray Dinsdale, who is soon to start treatment for leukaemia.
- Pray for Jamie, Brenda Hambleton's nephew. Praise God that Jamie's surgery went ahead recently and was a success. Continue to pray for him as he recovers.
- Pray for Stella Bolton who has been experiencing debilitating pain in her knee. She is due to undergo further investigations into what is causing the pain.
- Continue to pray for the McLachlan's family, as Rebekah continues to be monitored. She will undergo a scan sometime in January.
- Please pray for Serena, who comes to the Thursday cafe. She has been diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer and is due a mastectomy.
- Pray for Sandra, a neighbour of church, recently diagnosed with cancer.
- Continue to pray for Siggy's daughter Esther, who is due to undergo chemotherapy. Esther is grateful for our prayers.
- Pray for Fatima Alkandaari as she deals with some health issues.
- Please pray for Veronica and Trevor, friends of Steve and Jean Boyd. They have both been diagnosed with brain tumours.
- Pray for little Rosie, who has a chronic digestive problem causing severe pain and weight loss.
- Pray for 6 year old Ava Marshall who has leukaemia.
- Also pray for 4 year old Olivia, who also has leukaemia, and is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Pray for Freddie who had his heart replaced recently. There have since been complications and he continues to need much prayer.
- Continue to pray for remember Ron and Jenny Hearne. Ron is experiencing ongoing physical and mobility issues. Jenny misses her husband and appreciates our prayers.
- Pray for Jean Walker's sister - Barbara Edwards, receiving care in Germany.
- Continue to pray for Marie Vickers, a family member of David and Chris Hoolihan. Marie has cancer and needs prayers for healing.

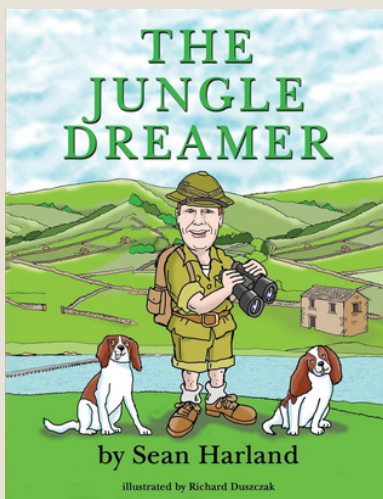
SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER 2023
SERMON – MATTHEW 1:18-25 – ANTICIPATE LOVE
PASTOR MICK

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



Need a last-minute Christmas present for a 5 to 12 year old child? Sean Harland's book "The Jungle Dreamer" is available at church from for £13 (Amazon price is £14.99).

The book contains 42 exciting children's stories, each with a singalong song which you can hear on your phone or tablet by following an internet link.

For more information, phone Sean on 07939 572480 or Pete Hewitt on 07946 642414, or speak to them at church.