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Weekly Events

Sunday	10:30 am	Morning worship
Monday	9:15 am	Sandy Lane Toddlers
	7.00 pm	Prayer Meeting - From 15th January
Tuesday	2:00 pm	Tuesday Club - <i>see inside for details</i>
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Brownies
	7:30 pm	Guides
Thursday	2:00 pm	Fellowship
Friday	7:30 pm	Network Games - <i>Day /Time varies – check with Joe</i>
Saturday	10:00 am	Coffee Morning

January is the month for the **Week of Chriatian Unity**, hosted by different churches in our area with services starting at 12 noon:

Bethel Thursday 18th and lunch at 12 30pm

St Saviour's Tuesday 23rd

St Peter's Wednesday 24th

Allerton Congregrational Thursday 25th

Parish Council Meetings take place in the downstairs hall on the 2nd Monday of each month from 7.30 p.m. The Parish Council woukld like to hear your views and ideas about their work and the village in general, so please come along.

In Touch

January
2018



“so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.”

Romans 12:5



**Bethel Baptist Church
Sandy Lane**

Sunday Morning Worship

Servers

Date	Welcomers	Readings	Intercessionary Prayer	Speaker	Refreshemnets
Jan. 7*		Ephesians 1: 3 - 14		Roy Foster	Tom & Ruth
14		Ephesians 2: 1 - 3		Paul Severs	Sylvia
21*		Ephesians 2: 8 - 22		Andy Peace Yorkshire Camps	Sandra
28		Ephesians 3: 1 - 20		Keith Jones	Elizabeth
Feb. 4		Ephesians 3:20 -21		Kez Robinson	Louise
11		Ephesians 4: 1 - 3		Paul Severs	Shirley & Maureen
18*		Ephesians 4:11 -16		Shafraz Jeal	Steve & Angela
25		Ephesians 4:17 - 5:33		Jim Small	Christina

Note: * = Communion Services

Thankyou for giving your time and talents to serve God and our church family.

If you are not available to serve onb the dates above please try to arrange for someone to take your place.

Dates For Your Diary and Your Prayers

Deacons Meeting: Tuesday January 16th

Church Vision Day: Saturday 3rd Feb.9.30am-12.30pm

Church meeting and AGM Tuesday March 6th 7.30pm

Other Events

Church Lunch - Sunday 4th May at West Bradford Golf Club £12 per person. Please sign up as soon as possible on the list on the noticeboard in the main worship hall if you are able to join us.

Happy Birthday!

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to those who celebrate their birthdays in January:

- Denis Woodyatt on the 1st
- Gordon sitch on the 6th
- Sue Hepworth on the 30th
- Wendy Parkin on the 31st

In February:

- Rhona Stevens on the 27th

If you would like to join the BMS Birthday Scheme - you will receive a birthday card and an opportunity to give to the BMS - then please speak to Dorothy Gibson who would be delighted to add your name to the list.

Sandy Lane Ladies Group

The topics for the next few weeks are as follows - please come along:

January 9th - Welcome back: Beetle

16th - Bingo

23rd - Elizabeth Hughes: various experiences

30th - Quiz

February 6th - Card Bingo

13th - Dave McGinchey: Water aid

20th - Bring and Buy Sale in Aid of Water Aid

27th - Beetle

Roger Carswell will be visiting on Tuesday afternoon, 17th April 2pm to 4 pm, to speak on the Subject " Every picture tells a story" which will be followed by refreshments please invite friends along.

New Year - New Beginning

The month of January was named after Janus is the Roman god of gates and doorways who was depicted with two faces looking in opposite directions.

The first month of the year is so called because it is a time when we often look back over events of the previous year and plan ahead for the year to come - many people even set resolutions for what they will do differently, though as with many good intentions they are seldom kept beyond the first few days!

What are your own thoughts as you look back on 2017?

- How has God blessed you?
- How has He challenged you?
- When have you seen Him at work in your life?

What are your hopes as you look forward to the year ahead?

- Where do you see God leading you?
- What are you praying for for yourself or your family and friends?
- How will you respond to His calling? How will you use the gifts unique set of gifts that He has given you?

At Bethel we are looking forward to new ways of working together in our service of God and one another. At a church meeting last December members voted to accept the Leadership Model proposed by the working group established following the special meeting in October. This model groups all the tasks needed for our church to continue to operate and to grow into 5 teams. The aim is for everyone to be involved and feel valued and supported as they begin or continue to serve God and His family as well as to enable each individual to also in their faith whilst we also as reach out in new ways to those who don't yet know Christ as their saviour.

The working group will continue to meet early in the New Year to plan in more detail how we will move from our current Diaconate to the new Team Model so watch this space for more information and please keep praying for the working group that they will continue to discern God's will and plan for us at Bethel.

Church Family

Please remember those members of our church family who are in need, especially:

- Sylvia and Brian after Sylvia's fall on Christmas Eve; Sylvia has pneumonia and is in Ward 27 of BRI awaiting an operation on her ankle
- Wendy who has had pneumonia
- Beryl who continues to struggle
- Glenys after a heavy cold
- Sue who continues to support Eric after his stroke

It was lovely to welcome Iain and Megan MacBrairdy to church on Christmas Day along with their new baby, Isla Elizabeth - born on 7th November - congratulations to all the family.



Pause for thought

A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon.

"How do you know what to say?" he asked.

"Why, God tells me," his father answered.

"Then why do you keep crossing things out!"

A little boy opened the big old family Bible in fascination, peering at the ancient pages as he turned them. Then something fell out of the Bible so he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree, that had been pressed in between the pages.

"Mum, look what I found!" the boy called out.

"What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked.

With astonishment in his voice the young boy answered, "I think it's Adam's suit!"

Contributions from Sylvia

Prayer Matters

Just Pray

Anyone who is having troubles should pray. Anyone who is happy should sing praises. *James 5:13*

Do you want to know how to deepen your prayer life ?
Pray. Don't prepare to pray. Just pray.

Don't read about prayer. Just pray.

Don't attend a lecture on prayer or engage in discussion about prayer.
Just pray.

Posture, tone, and place are personal matters.
Select the form that works for you. But don't think about it too much. Don't be so concerned about wrapping the gift that you never give it. Better to pray awkwardly than not at all.

And if you feel you should only pray when inspired, that's okay. Just see to it that you are inspired every day.

Max Lucado

When God Whispers Your Name

Prayer is always available after the Sunday morning service - just come forward and ask.

If you don't feel confident coming forward to ask for prayer or feel that you need prayer support with you during the week please take one of the Care Bears from the front of the worship hall - they are covered in prayer and will bless you throughout the week. We now have a growing family of Bears who are all eager to go with you wherever you go. Please remember when you have finished with them to bring them back so that others can also be blessed in this way.

Prayer Matters

Bethel Family

Please come along and join with others in corporate prayer for our church family, friends and the wider community of Sandy Lane on Sunday mornings from 9.45 a.m. and on Monday evenings (from January 15th) between 7.00 and 8.30 p.m.

The Women's World Day of Prayer service 2018 is to be held on Friday 2 March, 2 pm at Allerton Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, Greenbank Road, BD15 7LU. The service has been prepared by the Christian women of Suriname and the theme is "All God's creation is very good". Do support if you can and I shall be looking nearer the time for volunteers from Bethel to take part.
Glenys (Secretary for the Allerton Branch of WWDP)

BMS Missionaries: Changes

It is all change here. We have moved into our new flat in a far better location than we were in before. We have been amazed at the amount of stress this appears to have reduced. It has also led to better sleep than we have had since arriving here. We have joined a new small group, with some friends of ours.

We are both now in full time language learning, and struggle to make sense of it daily, but are both making progress. I am learning phonetically getting to grips with the basic grammar rules. My wife's reading and writing has come on well, maybe progressed to the equivalent of a 7 year old now, rather than a 5 year old! She now knows how to use all 8 tenses, as well as numerous grammar rules! Each lesson has focused on one aspect at a time, now they are all being combined it is hard to keep up. We keep being reassured that it will come together when we start using it more regularly (we do try, but it is sooo hard!)

Although we haven't actually started our new roles yet, we have had some recent opportunities to get a taste of what it will be like. BMS have sent over an Early Years Consultant to help give some guidance to SHED in relation to a project that is being funded to provide pre-school provision. The teacher's salary is so small, they have never received any real training and have absolutely nothing to work with. The enormity of my new job is starting to become a reality!
Your continued support is much appreciated.