



BEULAH CHRONICLE

The newsletter of:

Beulah Community Church

In association with the Baptist Union of Great Britain
and the United Reformed Church

www.beulahcommunitychurch.co.uk

April/May 2026 – No 118

Calendar

All services start at 11 am unless otherwise stated



Sunday March 22nd	Service with Wendy Duckworth- Mission Aviation Fellowship Piano accompaniment to hymns by her husband Steve!
Sunday March 29 th	Palm Sunday! Service with Rev. David Ireland
Sunday April 3 rd	Good Friday service at Macedonia with Sheila Coop at 10.30
Sunday April 5 th	Easter Day! Service led by the Leaders with outside end to the service if the weather is fit- this part jointly with the Nigerian Fellowship. The service will include communion. Hot X Buns after the service!
Sunday April 12 th	Service led by the Leaders for about 20 minutes- then a Presentation by Jane Henderson from the NWBA – leading into our AGM .
Sunday April 19 th	Service with Helen Mellor
Sunday April 26 th	Service with Rev Graham Tarn
Sunday May 3 rd	Service led by Ashley Stansfield. Communion Service.
Sunday May 10 th	Service led by Ruth Wollaston
Sunday May 17 th	Service led by Mark Faris-Roberts
Sunday May 24 th	Pentecost. Possible joint service involving the Failsworth Churches. Tbc!

Our services will normally be live via zoom. The ID you need for any of Beulah's services is 483-214-0593 and the password is 92315

Easter reminds us that hope is not just an idea but a living reality. When Jesus rose from the grave, God showed that no darkness, no struggle, and no setback has the final word. That promise speaks to all of us—whether we're facing worries about work, family, health, or the future. The resurrection tells us that new beginnings are always possible.

But Easter also invites a response. We're called to live as people shaped by this hope: to show kindness where there is hurt, to offer patience where there is pressure, and to bring light into the places that feel heavy. As we celebrate this season, may we carry the courage and compassion of the risen Christ into our homes, our streets, and our workplaces, becoming everyday signs of hope for those around us.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!!

“Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering.” (Mark 8:31)

Did you ever have a truly inspiring teacher? In your schooldays, was there someone who really made a subject come alive? A teacher who embodied the excitement and appeal of a subject so that you could feel it, too? There is a very cruel saying that those who can, do, and those who can't, teach. The best teachers, of course, both do *and* teach. The science teacher whose practical experiments are inspirational and fun. The swimming tutor who jumps in the water and shows you how to do the stroke. The football coach who is on the pitch with you, not standing on the touchline. The drama teacher who gets the best out of every student by taking each role in turn. The same applies to those with no formal title as teacher, but who still teach us about life, and about faith – in the practical example of their own faithful lives. God the teacher knows the value of the practical example. The Creator didn't stand at the front of a music class, dictating how many sharps and flats should be in each scale. God dressed a song in feathers and lovingly released it into the sky.

In Jesus, God gave us the supreme example of divine love for human beings, by becoming human. By getting in the water, joining in the game, showing us exactly how the part should be played. Both teacher and example, the embodiment of the lesson, making it come alive. Some lessons are easier to learn than others. Peter accepted that Jesus was the Messiah. What he found more difficult to understand was the kind of Messiah Jesus was. In fact, all the pupils around Jesus (that is, after all, what “disciples” means!) found it very hard to absorb their teacher's difficult lessons. About suffering and redemption. About humility and forgiveness. About the nature of God, and of the Messiah. Jesus knew that he would have to show, rather than tell. He would have to do, not just say. Mark's Gospel is very much about Jesus *doing*. There are no long teaching passages, no direct parallels to Matthew's Sermon on the Mount or Luke's Sermon on the Plain. But Mark's Jesus does employ one obvious technique of a teacher – repetition. Three times in three chapters, beginning with Mark chapter 8, Jesus speaks about his coming death... to hammer the point home, like nails through stubborn flesh.

The cross is the focus of Mark's Gospel, more so even than the others. The cross, the ultimate example, the teaching aid beyond comparison. Jesus didn't just say, “Love God with all your heart.” He showed his own love for his heavenly Father by accepting his destiny on the cross. Jesus didn't just say, “Love your neighbours.” He laid down his life for them. Jesus didn't just say, “Love your enemies.” On the cross he forgave them and prayed for them. Jesus lived and died the lesson of love, to open a new and living way into God's presence. And he asks us to take up our own cross, to follow him, to be prepared to make sacrifices in the name of the one who made the greatest sacrifice of all.

Jesus is still teaching today, teaching us... and teaching through us. Not many of us have the formal title of teacher, whether in classroom or church. But we all have a teaching ministry, and we are all on teaching practice. It's called practising what you preach. Living out, in the week and the world, what we say in church on Sunday. Following the supreme example of a teacher who put his words into action. But because we're all human, all fallible, we won't always get it right. And it won't always be easy. It wasn't easy going to the cross, as the anguish in Gethsemane revealed. For us, too, there are often difficult decisions, painful choices to make between what we want to do and what we know we ought to do... if we're to witness faithfully to Jesus and take up our cross. “Those that can, do. Those that can't, teach.” Not only is the saying unkind – it's also inaccurate. Because those who can't do, *can't* teach. Not successfully anyway. The most effective teachers are those who also do. To use a modern idiom, if we're to bring the good news of Jesus to others, it's no good talking the talk if we don't also walk the walk!

For your prayers

Please remember especially in your prayers Mary Howarth and all are who are looking after her so well. Pray also for Lucy, who is recuperating at Medlock Court after a hospital stay; Wynne who has ongoing health issues but she has finally had the operation that has been cancelled several times; Sophie and Jonathon Mossop; Bob and Sylvia; the families of Hadi and Fariba in Iran- they cannot speak to them to see if they are safe because of the Internet shut down.

Pray for all those who are housebound and missing the opportunity to gather together. Congratulations to all with birthdays in the coming weeks.

Messages from the Leaders:

Thank you to Ian for all the various maintenance jobs he has been doing and for liaising with the various contractors- especially over the roof survey.

Please pray for our AGM on April 12th. There is a lot to discuss (as usual!) and every member has a valuable contribution to make.

We have given out Easter bags of blessings to the pre -school parents/ carers including an Easter card/ a real Easter egg with Christian booklet/ Christian bookmark/ hot chocolate sachets and a pack of wax crayons! We hope it helps to show them what the real celebration of Easter is about and keep a relationship going with them. Thanks to Sally, the Pre-school Manager for all her continuing help with laminating posters/ putting them up/ organising display boards etc etc!

Get Ready for The BIG SING! - Sunday, Jun 21, 2026 from 6 pm to 8 pm

@ Albion United Reformed Church, Stamford Street East, Ashton-under-Lyne OL6 6QQ

Join us in person for an unforgettable evening of singing, worship, good company, and cake!

Led by Café Jam, it will be an evening of singing a wide variety of hymns and songs: some old, some new, some lively, some quiet, some folk-style. Don't miss out on the BIG SING energy—bring your friends and let's make some noise together! Scan QR code for tickets below or follow link <https://bit.ly/3NmWod5>



A Prayer for Peace and Protection

For Peace: Loving God, we pray for peace and unity in Iran and the wider Middle East. We ask for a cessation of hostilities and a lasting peace that transforms hearts and structures, rather than mere temporary quiet.

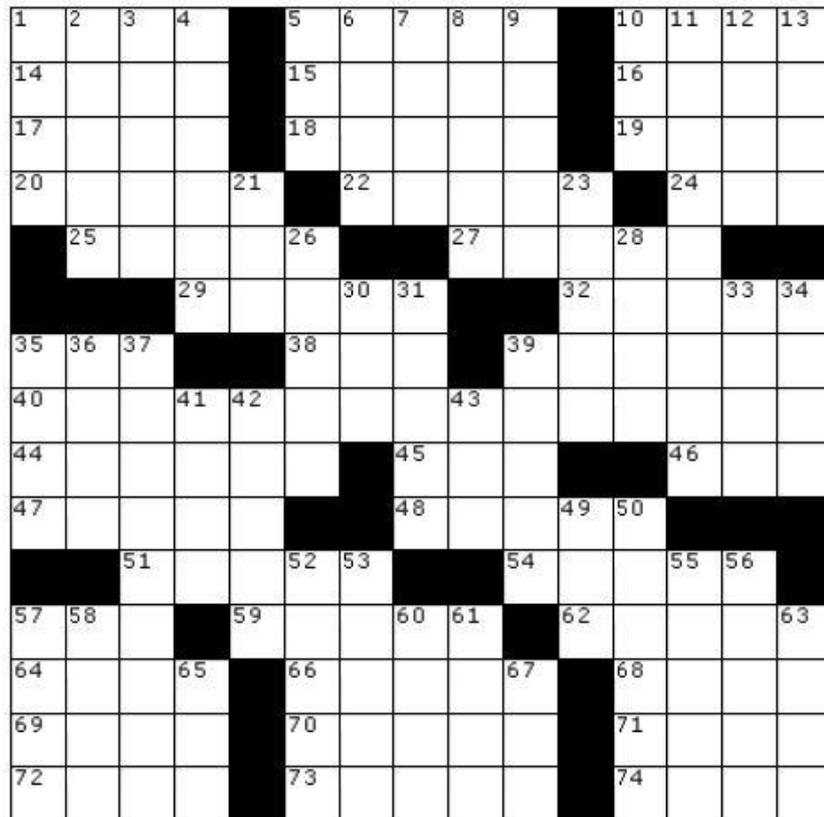
For Protection: Lord, protect civilians caught in the crossfire. We lift up those who are afraid, injured, or have lost their homes, asking for your comfort and safety.

For Leaders: We pray for wisdom and courage for world leaders and those in power, that they may choose diplomacy, de-escalation, and justice over violence.

For the Vulnerable: We ask for special protection over children, pregnant women facing stress, and the innocent, that they may be spared from the horrors of war.

For Hope and Healing: We pray for those who mourn, for those who are wounded physically or psychologically, and that hope would rise in the midst of fear.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." — Matthew 5:9.



ACROSS

- 1 Casing
- 5 Thicket
- 10 Far away
- 14 Charity
- 15 Produce eggs
- 16 Stretched car
- 17 Eyelet
- 18 Lukewarm
- 19 Object of false worship
- 20 Putrid
- 22 Authoritative list of scripture
- 24 Compass point
- 25 Looks for
- 27 Rumble
- 29 Play
- 32 Sound
- 35 Little bit
- 38 Rap
- 39 Bite
- 40 A holiday wish
- 44 Mend
- 45 A name of God
- 46 Bullfight cheer
- 47 Make into law
- 48 Wilting

- 51 Demolished
- 54 Come to an end
- 57 Play a part
- 59 Lawns
- 62 Honestly
- 64 Stride
- 66 Tree supports
- 68 Daddy
- 69 Girl's name
- 70 Adores
- 71 Always
- 72 Measuring instrument
- 73 Took a nap
- 74 Smart person

DOWN

- 1 Golden __ (Israelite idol)
- 2 Soothing agents
- 3 Struck (KJV)
- 4 Caught sight of (KJV)
- 5 Summer time zone
- 6 Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries

- 7 Daddy
- 8 Move back and forth
- 9 A witch lived here
- 10 Boxer Muhammad
- 11 Social revolution in Cuba
- 12 OT prophet
- 13 Theatrical part
- 21 Danish krone (abbr.)
- 23 Taboos
- 26 Half man, half goat
- 28 Malt liquor
- 30 McDonald's "Big __"
- 31 Louse
- 33 Close off
- 34 Otherwise
- 35 Biblical weed
- 36 Last word of a prayer
- 37 Leaving
- 39 Copy
- 41 Biblical word for You idiot!

- 42 Elegant
- 43 Shaft of light
- 49 Web
- 50 __ of Eden
- 52 Dukes
- 53 What babies do
- 55 Debonaire
- 56 NT church leader
- 57 A king of the Amalekites
- 58 Jesus turned water into wine here
- 60 Bird Noah sent out
- 61 Tier
- 63 Grassy area
- 65 Ball holder
- 67 Concord e.g.

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