

# 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](http://www.beulahcommunitychurch.co.uk)

Aug/Sept 2023 – No 102

### Calendar

- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Aug** Joint service at Macedonia URC church- starts at 10.30
- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Aug** Service led by the leaders
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Aug** Service led by Rev Brian Davison
- Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Aug** Service led by Graham Tarn
- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept** To be confirmed
- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept** Service led by John Piper
- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept** To be confirmed
- Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept** Service led by Graham Tarn
- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Oct** Service led by Rev Brian Davison



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



Dear Friends,

In C.S. Lewis's book *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* there is a lion Aslan, who is meant to be for us a picture of Jesus. When the children are told they are about to meet this lion one asks "Is he safe?" "Course he isn't safe" they are told, "but he's good. He's the King".

Jesus was not a safe person to be with - but he was good and he was King.

The problem was that where anything was wrong, it was not safe from his correction. If you wanted a quiet life, where no-one challenged your behaviour or motives, where nothing changed, where long cherished ideas about God and his world went unchallenged, however wrong they were, it was not safe to be around Jesus.

The disciple's lives were full of challenge and surprise - Jesus did not fit into any safe role or category, and he was constantly showing them that other people didn't either: He was critical of the pharisees - whom no-one dared say a word against, he spent his time with outcasts, he spoke to a Samaritan woman.

They thought they knew exactly what the Messiah would do to bring in the kingdom, until he talked of suffering and dying. On a number of occasions even Peter opposed Jesus until he was brought to understand.

Being around Jesus today is not safe either; we also can be wrong, even in ideas we have held for years, or that are so deep we are not even aware of them. We may have our plans and ideas, but if they are not God's they will be challenged. We may have secrets - but they are not safe from Jesus.

Yet Jesus is good, gentle, and the king. He is holy and true - all that is good and wholesome is safe with him. The children loved to be around the lion, and all who love truth love to be around Jesus, the source of truth. He is not safe, and will not guarantee us a quiet life -but he will lead us into all truth.

Love in Our Lord, **Brian**

## **OLDHAM AND TAMESIDE MISSIONAL PARTNERSHIP, MINISTER'S LETTER – JULY 2023 WORTH, WORK, WEARINESS AND WELL-BEING**

The recent elders training day recognised the heavy burdens carried by our serving elders and it was focused on making life a bit easier for them – and, also and at the same time, on making them and their churches a bit more missional – or Jesus-shaped - in what they do. One of the most valuable sessions was on how to look after our own well-being and that of our 'fellow workers' even in difficult circumstances. Quotes of Jesus from recent Sunday readings from Matthew: 'Don't be afraid; even the hairs on your head are counted; you are worth more than many sparrows' (10:30-31).

'Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me' (10:38).

'Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.' (11: 29-30).

I am writing as colleges and schools are breaking up for summer holidays. We all need time for rest and relaxation. However, before bimonthly magazines are published again, autumn terms and church programmes will have begun again. Time and the work goes on.

At the time of Jesus, yokes made of wood were placed on the shoulders of oxen so that they could pull ploughs and other heavy loads. 'My yoke is easy' could mean 'my yoke will fit you well' - and could easily have been the marketing slogan of Jesus when he was a carpenter.

Now, as then, Jesus calls his disciples to take up their cross and follow him – to be yoked to Jesus – to put ourselves at his disposal. Now, as then, being a disciple of Jesus is a huge challenge – a life-long challenge. But Jesus says, 'my yoke will fit you well'.

The URC Basis of Union, leaning heavily on Paul's Ephesians 4, says 'The Lord Jesus Christ continues his ministry in and through the Church, the whole people of God called and committed to his service and equipped by him for it.'

So, whatever God's purposes are for you and for me, for our churches, and for our missional partnership, and however weak, tired, or inadequate we might feel we are, the promise is that we will be equipped for God's work. Our yokes will fit us well – they will be made to measure for us in the here and now. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will be enabled and equipped to do what God in Jesus wants of us. So, the real challenge is to discern what it is that God requires of us.

In his commentary on Matthew 11: 29 – 30, William Barclay writes:

'It is not that the burden is easy to carry; but it is laid on us in love; it is meant to be carried in love; and love makes even the heaviest burdens feel light. When we remember how much we are loved by God,

we know that our burden is to love God, ourselves, and one another, then the burden becomes like a song we can sing with joy in our hearts.'

As we carry the yoke of Jesus, we learn more of his character, his ease and carefulness, his joy and gentleness, all of which comes from his relationship with his Father – a relationship of love - a relationship which he invites us to share – 'you will find rest for your souls'.

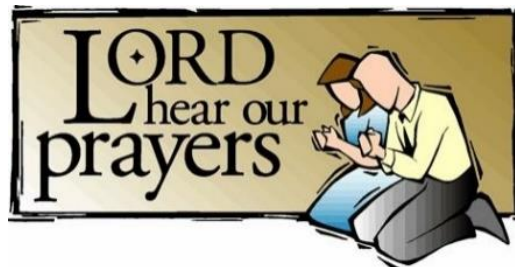
**John Piper**

### **Prayers Among our fellowship:**

Pray for those who are ill at this time- Lucy; Wynne; Sylvia and Bob Beattie; Phil- hoping to start a phased return to work shortly; Elaine Everett; Joe Ashton, in Gillibrand Hall in Chorley; Elaine Joynes; David Cheetham. Faith - after the sudden death of her friend Colin.

Pray for Brian as he and Clare recover from Covid, which has disrupted their holiday plans and also for Brian's sabbatical in September. Pray that he returns refreshed.

Pray for all those who are housebound or in care homes – let them know they are not forgotten!  
Pray for all 9 churches in the Missional Partnership and for guidance on how they can best work together.



## *Congratulations*

To Marleigh and Harley on their birthdays on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> August; to Elaine Joynes on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 24<sup>th</sup> August

Best wishes to Ian and Margaret Foden on their Golden Wedding on the 28<sup>th</sup> July

Congratulations to Harley on his television contract- get his autograph now!

Congratulations to Anthony Harding on achieving a silver medal in the recent World Championships with his diving partner Jack Laugher- bring on the Olympics in Paris 2024 now and we hope they avoid injuries.

### **News from the Leaders**

A huge thank you to Harley and Marleigh for their service on Sunday- it was much appreciated. Thanks too to Elaine for all the help she gave them and to Brian for his input. We hope this is the first of many!

Thank you to Sally (Pre-School Manager) for her refurbishment work in the office and in the disabled toilets. Further work is planned in the upstairs room off the coffee lounge and in the Hall. We are grateful for her support.

Thank you to Brian for all his work installing the new sound system, including lots of work under the floor! The speakers just need to be wall mounted now.

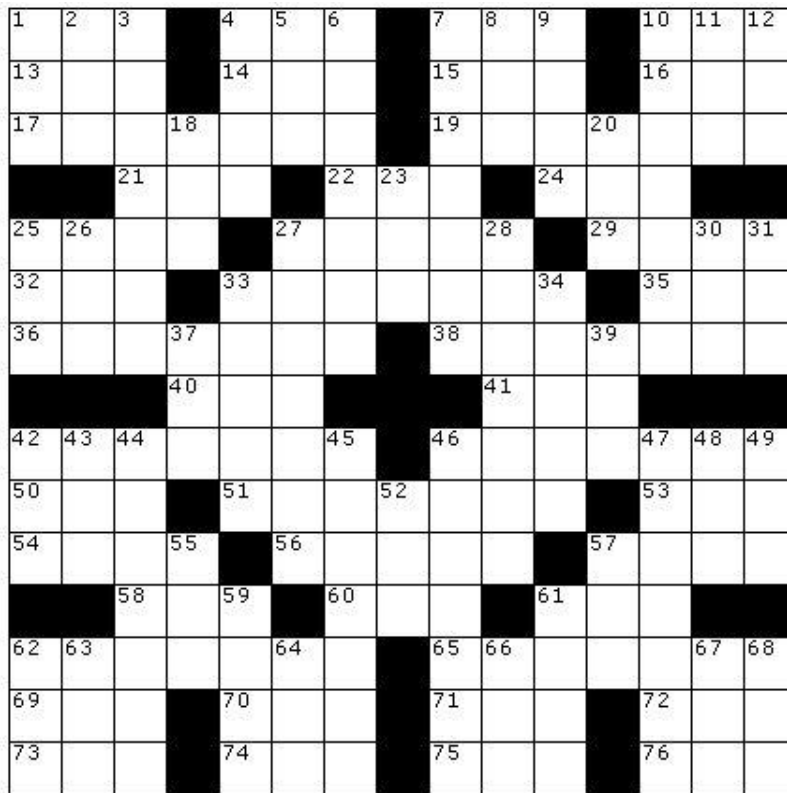
Please complete the survey that has been produced for us to try to ascertain what the most urgent needs are in Hollinwood. We hope this will give us a clear focus on what we can best offer in the Winter. The link to fill it in online is:

<https://forms.gle/GaFv2HWZUaFpA2UP7>

and it can also be found on our website page- [www.beulahcommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.beulahcommunitychurch.co.uk)

Paper copies are available too and are on the Communion table and can be returned to a box there. It only takes couple of minutes to complete but it should really help us move forward. If you can share the survey too with any neighbours/ friends in the area, then that would be great.





**ACROSS**

- 1 Doctoral degree
- 4 Evergreen tree
- 7 Pot's pal
- 10 Tribe of Israel
- 13 Foot extension
- 14 Exist
- 15 Past
- 16 Poem of praise
- 17 Characteristic traits from old ancestor
- 19 Leans (2 wds.)
- 21 Tribe of Israel
- 22 Spots
- 24 Talk
- 25 Joke
- 27 Deliver
- 29 Floating ice
- 32 Wrath
- 33 Range
- 35 Water closet
- 36 Weakness
- 38 Worded
- 40 Away
- 41 Aurora
- 42 Began again
- 46 Animal Horns

50 Wing

- 51 Candied nut
- 53 Doze
- 54 What a clock tells
- 56 Herein above
- 57 Torah table
- 58 Fire remains
- 60 North northwest
- 61 Dike
- 62 Eden tempter
- 65 North and South
- 69 Slide on snow
- 70 Downwind
- 71 Root vegetable
- 72 Snake-like fish
- 73 Beverage
- 74 Type of partnership
- 75 \_\_\_ Lanka
- 76 Weep

**DOWN**

- 1 School group
- 2 Spicy
- 3 Palestinian body of water
- 4 Gladly, willingly

(KJV)

- 5 Tax agency
- 6 Wed again
- 7 Edible white root
- 8 Ripen
- 9 Inquisitive
- 10 First 4 books of NT
- 11 Hubbub
- 12 Lair
- 18 Tub
- 20 Charges
- 23 Division (abbr.)
- 25 Peanut butter brand
- 26 Goof
- 27 Margarine counterparts
- 28 Hell
- 30 Fish eggs
- 31 The Creator
- 33 Fat
- 34 Penned
- 37 Note of debt
- 39 Sign language
- 42 Lab animal
- 43 Samuel's mentor
- 44 Region of

Palestine

- 45 Cowed
- 46 Vents
- 47 Love your \_\_\_
- 48 Male sheep
- 49 Resort hotel
- 52 Licensed practical nurse
- 55 Clairvoyance
- 57 Lawyer's test
- 59 Place for the wicked
- 61 Less than usual in size, power or character
- 62 Fast plane
- 63 Stretch to make do
- 64 Profit
- 66 Impair
- 67 Executive
- 68 Loose gown worn at mass

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