



**ST MARY BREDIN CHURCH // FAMILY NEWS**

# 4th July 2021

## **Welcome to SMB**

We are a church looking to follow Christ's call to  
'Be Holy and Be a Blessing'

Welcome to St Mary Bredin (SMB) and a special welcome if this is your first visit. We hope you enjoy your time with us and quickly feel at home here. We are a church looking to follow Christ's call to 'Be Holy and Be a Blessing' and we love welcoming others into the church family to join us on that journey. We would love to say hello to you so please do get in touch.

God bless, Barney

### **Today at SMB**

**8:00am | Holy Communion**

**9:30am & 11:00am | Morning Gathering  
with Holy Communion**

(with Youth and Children Groups in person)

(with the 11.00am LiveStreamed on the SMB YouTube channel)

**Sermon:** Fellowship Unlocked

**Reading:** Ephesians 2: 11-22

**Speaker:** Barney de Berry

### **This week**

**Monday to Friday** – Morning Prayers at 9:10am

**Saturday** - Men's Prayer Session online at 8am

## Ministry Letter from Barney, our Vicar

Dear friends,

The year is already halfway through and though there have been some delays in unlocking it is wonderful to think that we might be able to meet again without restrictions and hopefully sing our praises together before too long. In terms of our plans to revert to our 'normal' pattern of services, at the moment we are working towards that for the beginning of September. Of course all plans might still be subject to change but, if we are able, the plan would be, once again, from September to meet on a Sunday at 10:30am with children's church and youth groups and also to start our evening service again at 6:30pm. I am aware that some people might still be cautious about being around lots of people inside a building and we will continue to stream our services but at some point we do need to trust the vaccines are doing their work and look to meet freely together. In the meantime for the next couple of weeks we will continue our pattern of 9:30am and 11:00am gatherings. Then on 18<sup>th</sup> July we will be having another open air service on the Kendall Hall grass at 10:30am. This is in place of our normal Community BBQ and open air service so you are welcome to stay after if you bring refreshments or even a picnic.

The plan then for the summer services from 25<sup>th</sup> July to 22<sup>nd</sup> August is to continue as far as possible with outdoor services. We are calling the summer series 'Picnic Church' and will be looking at various meals that Jesus shared. The service will be at 11:00am with the encouragement that we might bring a picnic and hang around after the service to enjoy fellowship with each other. If the weather isn't good then we will head into the church with our rugs and camping chairs and have the service/picnic church there. The summer will end with our holiday club service on 29<sup>th</sup> August after which we hope we will be able to be back into our normal pattern.

I hope this all makes sense. As I said I completely understand why people might still be cautious in returning to church but I would encourage you to make sure you aren't away from the fellowship any longer than you feel comfortable with.

God Bless,

*Barney*

## Events & Notices

**Christian Aid Update / Sponsored Walk** Fighting the effects of climate change is a key priority. Christian Aid has been working alongside farming communities in Malawi and Kenya, the indigenous people of the Amazon, families living in extremely flood-prone areas in Bangladesh and with many others who have faced the devastating **impacts of climate change** for years.

The dual crises of climate change and coronavirus are hurting the most vulnerable the hardest. Christian Aid is **responding to the pandemic** in Africa, Asia and Latin America, working with partners and faith leaders to offer vital hygiene training, equipping health facilities with supplies and providing food packages to the most marginalised families. Please pray for the work of Christian Aid and sustainable solutions.

The pandemic meant many Christian Aid Week activities in May this year and 2020 were cancelled including the collections within our parish. To raise awareness and funds for Christian Aid, on 27<sup>th</sup> July John Ward together with 2 others from the Canterbury Committee, will be

walking the Elham Valley Way from Hythe to Canterbury (22.5 miles in a day). Any **sponsorship** would be very welcome towards **helping those in extreme poverty**. Please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/elhamvalleywalk>  
Many thanks, John Ward

**Welcome Megan!** Megan Broadley, our Youth Pastor, will be joining the Staff Team at SMB on Monday. Please pray for her as she settles into her new role, and new home, here in Canterbury.

**Prayer Requests** If you have a prayer request (for you or someone else) or you require any kind of confidential support during this time, please email Barney and Stephen at [prayer@smb.org.uk](mailto:prayer@smb.org.uk)

**ChurchSuite** We hope you've had a chance to log in to MyChurchSuite and to explore the different areas within it that you have access to. We encourage you to download the Churchsuite app to your phone - you can then access MyChurchSuite simply by putting in a 4-digit pin. Any bookings, forms or sign up forms that you then choose to complete will autofill with your details.

## Children

**At 9.30am**

**Scramblers:** Pre-school (with parents)  
Meet in Kendall Hall

**Climbers:** Reception - Yr 2  
Meet in The Upper Room

**At 11.00am**

**Explorers:** Yrs 3 - 6  
Meet in The Upper Room

**Adventurers:** Children with Additional  
Educational Needs (online)

## Youth

**At 11.00am**

**Younger Youth:** Yrs 7 - 10  
Meet in Kendall Hall

Parents — please contact Mim for more information if you are new to SMB, or if you would like to know about provision for Older Youth (Years 11-13)

## Giving at SMB

We believe that God calls us to tithe to our local place of worship as part of our discipleship and worship. We can only continue to fulfil God's calling on us as we, His church, continue to tithe and give as God calls us. The best way to give is by standing order and, if you're a taxpayer, to ensure that you gift-aid your donation. More information at [smb.org.uk/finance](http://smb.org.uk/finance)

## Get Connected

Our Fellowship Groups are central to our life and fellowship as a church and we hope that every member of SMB is a member of a Fellowship Group. This is one of the best ways to get to know others as well as serving in teams and using our gifts. Please phone or email the office for a form which we can send by email or in the post.

## Staff Contacts

**Vicar:** Barney de Berry  
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