



ST MARY BREDIN CHURCH // FAMILY NEWS

18th 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

10:30am Open Air Family Service

(Available online via Zoom)

Thankfulness

Reading: Psalm 46

Speaker: Barney de Berry

This week

Monday to Friday – Morning Prayers at 9:10am

Saturday 24th July - Men's Prayer Session online at 8am

**Sunday 25th July - 8am Holy Communion, 11:00am Picnic Church
& 7:00pm Locked In**

Ministry Letter from Barney, our Vicar

Dear friends,

It is so great today that we are able to meet together outside, sing together and enjoy fellowship together. It has been an extraordinary and difficult 18 months but despite all that has happened we can still praise God for his sustaining, his provision and his faithfulness to us. As the people of God made their way from Egypt to the promised land they would often build an altar at a significant point to give thanks to God and mark their progress. Later on Samuel raised a stone to mark a significant victory for the people of God and called it an 'ebenezer' which meant the Lord has brought us this far. Today's service will be one of those markers, an ebenezer, where we can say thank you to God for bringing us this far as we continue to trust him into the future.

Over the summer our services will continue to be outside with our 'Picnic Church' services at 11am each Sunday. We still need people to sign up for our services and please do bring along a picnic so we can enjoy fellowship after the services. We will continue to stream our services over the summer but due to the reduced resources over this time in our team and tech we are moving the streaming to Zoom from this Sunday. This might not be as good as Youtube but will mean we can continue to offer some streaming and might also offer more fellowship online.

I do hope, if you are taking some time off over the summer, that it is a time of rest and refreshment and I hope that in September with restrictions lifted we will be able to gather, sing and seek the Lord together as we were before all of this.

Praise the Lord that he has brought us this far.

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.

To raise awareness and funds for Christian Aid, on 27th 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/ealhamvalleywalk>

Many thanks, John Ward

Sunday 25th July at 11:00am

Next Sunday the Morning Gathering will be at 11:00am and it will be an outdoors Picnic Church service in Kendall Hall Gardens. Please bring chairs, rugs or cushions to sit on and snacks and refreshments to have afterwards, if you'd like to stay on. We'll be sending out song words during the week in an email and encourage you to download them.

In the evening of Sunday 25th July, at 7pm, we'll be having a **'Locked In' worship evening** here in the church; come along and sing your heart out! (It might be with masks on, but at least we can sing indoors again!)

Team for Holiday Club

Thank you to those of you who responded to last week's request for more helpers with Holiday Club. There are many ways you can get involved, either before, after or during the week (which runs from 24th-27th August) so take a look at the website smb.org.uk/children

Canterbury Deanery Eco-Evening

Thursday 22nd July 7:30pm to 9pm (on zoom). Speakers: Nicholas Thurston (Canterbury City Council Climate Change Officer), Teresa Redfern (Canterbury Diocese Environmental Officer), Jo Kidd (Local organic farmer). An opportunity to listen to the speakers and time for Q & A. For the zoom link please email Harry Macdonald hjmacd@gmail.com

Children

Children's Groups are taking a break over the summer and will begin again in September.

Parents — please contact Mim for more information if you would like to know about our Children's Groups.

This year's 'Super Stars Holiday Club' will be on from 24th-27th August. Go to www.smb.org.uk/children to find out more and to sign up.

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

Youth

Youth Groups are taking a break over the summer and will begin again in September.

Parents — please contact Megan if you would like to know about Youth Groups.

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

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