

ANNIVERSARY

IDLE
BAPTIST CHURCH

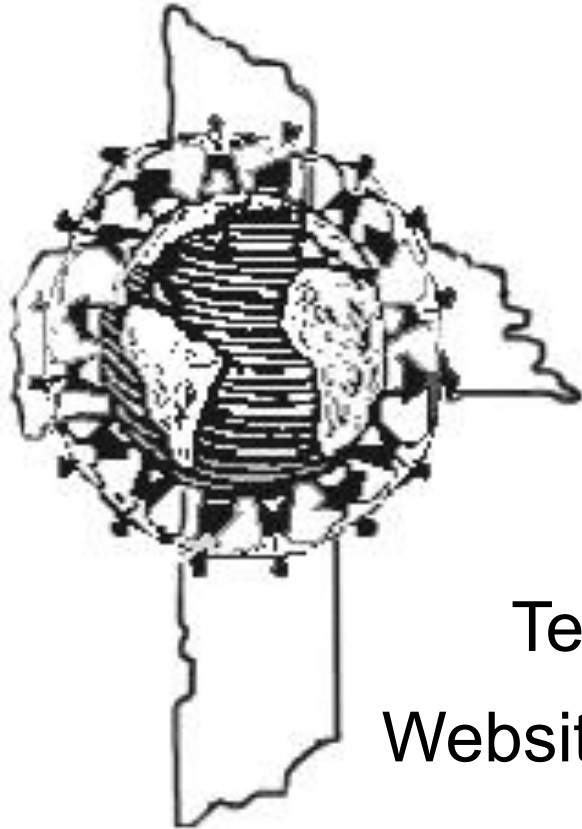


DECEMBER-JANUARY

2024

2025

Idle Baptist Church



Bradford Road

Idle

Bradford

BD10 9PE

Telephone: 0127 461 8280

Website: www.idlebaptist.co.uk

CHURCH SECRETARY

Denise Kinsey

Mobile: 0785 476 4335

Email: zimkins@yahoo.co.uk

visit our website:- www.idlebaptistchurch.co.uk

MODERN CHRISTMAS

In this Technical Age there are three phrases that sum up Christmas:

Peace on Earth

Goodwill to Men and

Batteries Not Included!

This is the reality of our Modern World.

"Is it really this time of the year again?" And yet again I ask myself -

"Where has the year gone?"

In this busy world we're so distracted by loads of entertainment, commercial products and fast moving agendas. Trying to keep up with technology is a massive task for us older folk and I seem to spend more and more time just sorting out contracts in energy supplies, broadband and phone charges. Now my phone won't support my Apps just when I had got used to using them. So I have no choice, but to purchase a new one.

So let's just slow down, breathe and focus on the most important aspect of Christmas, that is the first part of the word - Christ!

This is when we celebrate the birth of Jesus and all He brought into the world - A New Covenant, Salvation, Love and Reconciliation with God.

In Matthew 1:21 - An angel appeared to Joseph and said: " She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus because He will save the people from their sins."

We know we can trust and rely on Jesus as a gift from God.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Denise

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Our friend Colin Maughan

Colin was Sergeant and senior Boy in The BB when I moved up to Company Section from Life Boys. As an eleven year old I naturally looked up to him. Just a few years later I felt honoured when he asked me to organise the social side of his 21st birthday party. I still look up to Colin, again naturally, like many others, out of respect.

Colin was a "let not your left hand know what the right one is doing" true servant of God and committed follower of Christ. A beacon in "So great a cloud of witnesses" he served The Church faithfully, immeasurably and quietly as much loved and highly regarded Member and Treasurer for many years.

Colin and Lorna got things done in a swanlike manner: serene on the surface whilst power paddling unseen beneath. Like others I heeded Colin's counsel, valuing his pragmatic, sensible advice given out of kind and good motives in his reassuringly calm and quiet manner. Colin was a genuine person, sensitive, witty, modest, accomplished and giving.

My favourite recollection of Colin is a "Whoever can be trusted with small things...." one. At a Church "ladies versus gentlemen" fun cricket match with the scores level Colin, as last bat, "accidentally" hit the off stump. The perfect ending to a fun event. I was the other bat and thought "typical Colin". He knew the right thing to do and he did it.

Like many, Dorothy and I send condolences to Lorna and Alistair and James and their families and pray they know God's blessing in abundance. We are fortunate, happy and enriched to have known Colin, our friend.

Roy

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BMS Birthday Scheme

We wish the following friends a very happy birthday.

Happy
Birthday

December.

2nd Jane

4th. Lesley

January.

26th. Patricia W

February

6th Roy



Christine

At the recent AGM I was able to record that in the year from October 2023 to September 2024 I have been able to send £291 on behalf for friends at Idle Baptist who kindly contributed on their birthdays.

If you have not already joined the Scheme and might be interested in doing so, please see me and I will gladly explain what it entails, without any obligation to join.

Christine

I hope to have the coffee/tea and Stewarding rotas displayed in Church by the end of December.

Thank you to all those who help with Stewarding and preparing the coffee/tea each Sunday. It is very much appreciated.

Christine

Those of you who knew Colin Maughan will be sorry to hear that he has died. They moved down to near St. Albans a number of years ago. He had been an active member at Idle all his life and had served as Church Treasurer.

We send our sympathy and prayers to Lorna and family.
God bless you all.

Shirley

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NOTICE BOARD

DATE		PREACHERS	STEWARDS	TEA & COFFEE
December	1	Advent <i>Communion</i> Gaynor	Stephen	Rosemary
	8	Paul Allen	Rosemary	Eileen
	15	Paul Allen	Elizabeth	Helen
	22	Carols Elizabeth & Peter	Christine	Audrey
	29	Brian Gamble	Doug	Christine
January	5	Paul Allen	Christine	Elizabeth
	12	To be arranged	Stephen	Denise
	19	Paul Allen	Helen	Doug
	26	Paul Severs	Audrey	Helen
February	2	To be arranged	Doug	Lesley

DATE		COMMUNION	FLOWERS
December	1	Rosemary	Rosemary
January	5	Helen	Shirley
February	2	Christine	Pat

IF YOU WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE PLEASE TRY TO ARRANGE COVER

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QUIET ROOM

In this busy life it is often helpful to

“Take Time Out”

be quiet for a few minutes and have time to think.

Please feel free to use our Quiet Room.

It is open whenever the building is in use.

**Use this quiet space
and seek God’s presence.**

ALL ARE WELCOME

The next edition of the Messenger will be available on

Sunday, 2nd February, 2025

Please let me have anything you would like to see in that edition by

Sunday, 26th January, 2025



You can telephone me

At home: 0113 204 7419

Mobile: 0756 808 6103

or email

audreyandmilton@btinternet.com

Milton

visit our website:- www.idlebaptistchurch.co.uk

The Boys' Brigade - The Third Bradford Company

Recently I was asked to contribute a short history of The Boys' Brigade here for a national compilation of Company histories.

The Third Bradford Company served at, and was wholly supported by, Idle Baptist Church from 1923 until 2003. Our later years were amalgamated with The Girls' Brigade. This unbroken service made us the longest serving Company in Bradford for 50 years. Early in our history we were dubbed "The Gallant Third " for having marched 3 miles through a snow storm to be the only Company to report for Battalion Parade in the City centre.

We enjoyed many successes such as the earning of King's and Queen's Badges, the winning of Battalion Competitions (including Bible Knowledge, Band and Football), being National Band Champions (our only national distinction) and the multiple winning of the only Battalion medal (outstanding Boy of the year).

Many Boys went on to serve The Church as Member, Secretary, Treasurer, Deacon and supporter. Many more went on to serve the community in all areas of life.

The Third was blessed with a succession of excellent Officers. Two are outstanding. Stanley Ackroyd is the only one to be honoured when awarded MBE for services to transport for the disabled. Stephen Carter is the only one to achieve national acclaim when he led, for the only time for either, The Company and then The Bradford Battalion to be National Band Champions (and appear in a feature film). Seldom has organised activity given Boys and Girls from Idle and Bradford such lifelong memories of joy and achievement.

Throughout our history we endeavoured to follow Christ, to serve His Church and to implement the Objective of The Boys' Brigade.

Roy

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Come, thou long-expected Jesus,

This hymn is normally sung in the season of Advent. During Advent it is common to think about both the first Advent when Jesus came and lived on earth but also the second Advent when Jesus returns to earth in glory. In this hymn we remember Christ's first coming even while praying for His return.

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

The first line of this hymn is inspired by the prayer for Christ's return in Revelation 22 v 20

He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Thereafter the words concentrate on why Christ came at the first Advent.

In Luke 1 v 68 & 69 we find the words of Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist,

Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, for he has come to visit his people and has redeemed them. He is sending us a Mighty Saviour from the royal line of his servant David,

Jesus came to free us from our fears.

In Psalm 34 v 4 David says,

*I sought the LORD, and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears.*

and in verse 17 we read,

*The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;
he delivers them from all their troubles.*

Jesus also came to release us from our sins, to give us rest, both in this life and the next.

Jesus said,

So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8 v 36

Paul wrote,

But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal .

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God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. Romans 6 v 22

2 Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

The second verse pictures the arrival of Jesus as a hope people in all nations have.

This is seen in the words of Simeon when Jesus was named and presented at the temple

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

Luke 2 v 28 - 32

Jesus told His disciples,

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. John 15 v10 & 11

In Isaiah 9 v 2 we read

*The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.*

Without Jesus we walk in darkness. With Jesus we walk with joy in His light.

3 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

This verse concentrates on Christ's birth and kingdom.

Isaiah prophesied,

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,*

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*Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end. Isaiah 9 v 6 & 7*

Jesus quoted a second prophetic verse from Isaiah when he spoke about Himself at the synagogue in Nazareth

*The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,*

Isaiah 61 v 1, Luke 4 v 18 & 19

4. By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

This verse is a prayer for Jesus to rule in our hearts.

Paul told the Galatians,

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So, you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir. Galatians 4 v 4-7

Paul's advice to the Corinthians was very similar.

Therefore, you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ 1 Corinthians 1 v 7-8

Jesus came to redeem us. The holy Spirit gives us the strength to follow Jesus throughout our lives.

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, was written by Charles Wesley and first appeared in 1744.

Peter

WEEKLY DIARY

Sunday	10.30am	Service of Christian worship <i>Includes Communion on the First Sunday in the month</i>
Monday	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Well Connected Café <i>Second Monday of the month</i>
	7.30pm - 9.30pm	W.I. <i>Third Monday of the month</i>
Tuesday	10.30am to 12 noon	Firm Roots Cancer Support Group <i>First Tuesday in the month</i>
	10.00am to 12.00 noon	Coffee drop in <i>First & third (& fifth) Tuesdays</i>
	11.00am to 12.45pm	“Memory Tree” <i>Second and fourth Tuesdays</i>
	5.30pm & 8.00pm	Slimming World
Wednesday	9.30am - 12 noon	Table Tennis
	6.30pm & 8.00pm	Brownies and Rainbows <i>School Term Times only</i>
Thursday	3.00pm & 8.00pm	Slimming World
Friday	9.00am & 11.00am	Slimming World
	1.00pm - 4.00pm	Guitar Class
Saturday	10.00am - 2.00pm	Art Club

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