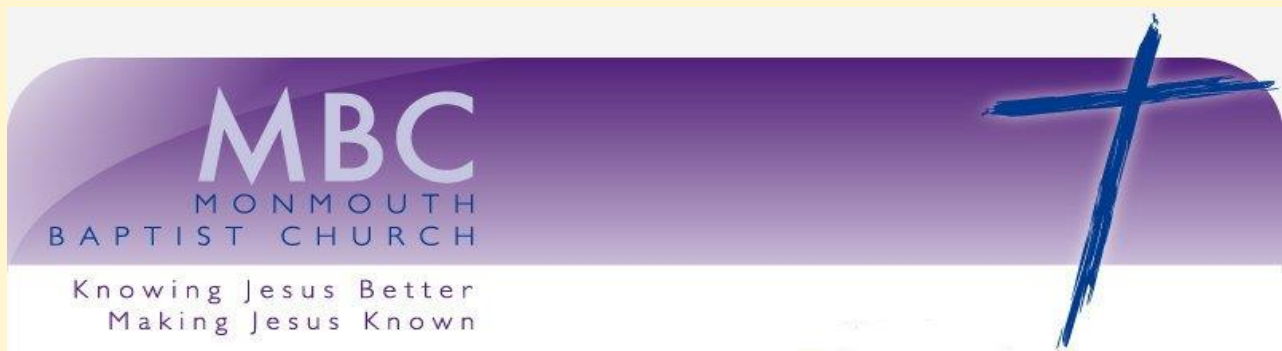




Our Sunday services are usually streamed live on the internet and video recorded. For GDPR purposes, it is presumed that people attending are happy to appear in it. If you would prefer not to, please feel free to sit near the back centre or back left as facing the front of the church which does not appear on film.

Sunday 30th August 2026

'Let us take comfort in this thought. Trial, sorrow and persecution are often the portion of God's people; sickness, weakness and pain often hurt and wear their poor earthly tabernacle: but their good time is yet to come.'

J.C. Ryle

Welcome to this week's e-news.

Jonathan returns from his sabbatical on 1st September.

To watch our services online, live or afterwards, please visit our youtube channel, and the service will show there: <https://www.youtube.com/c/monmouthbaptistchurch>

10:30am Morning Worship led by Bert. Job chapters 38 – 42

'Let him who accuses God answer him' Reading Job 42 1 – 17

6:30pm Evening Worship led by Bert. Hebrews 13

'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.'

THE WEEK AHEAD

TUESDAY 1st September

No Ladies' Bible Study – starts next week

10:30 – 11:30am Tuesday Coffee at Clare and Bob's tea rooms.

3.00 – 4:00pm Men's Coffee at Clare and Bob's tea rooms.

7:30pm Small group fellowship at local homes.

WEDNESDAY 2nd September

No Footprints – starts next Wednesday

THURSDAY 3rd September

7:30 – 9:30pm Ladies' Bible study (at Mand's)

FRIDAY 4th September

7.30 – 8:30am Men's breakfast and Bible study
ACTS 19:23-40 Ephesus, led by David.

9:30 – 11:30am Ladies' Bible Study at Church (led by Cat)

SATURDAY 5th September

3:00pm SOS (Serving our Streets). Meet at MBC.

3:00pm BBQ at Norton Baptist – see notice below

SUNDAY 6th September

10:30am Morning Worship led by Jonathan.

The service is followed by the Lord's Supper.
Bert is at Edington.

6:30pm Evening Worship led by Jonathan.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

JONATHAN UPDATE

Dear brothers and sisters,

Samantha and I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to have taken a sabbatical this summer. It has been a refreshing time and I have enjoyed reading, going to some conferences and concluding the church's bicentenary history, which should be ready for publication in the autumn.

We are thankful to the Lord that a house in Monmouth on which we made an offer before Easter has finally come to fruition and we hope to be moving in the next couple of months, after a wonderful 27 years living in the Manse!

I am looking forward to being back in action soon, and have missed being around. I am grateful for everyone in the church who has covered for my absence, especially Bert.

Every blessing to you all,
Jonathan

STUDENT PLACEMENT

A few weeks ago we were offered the opportunity to become a placement Church for a Student minister, starting at Bristol Baptist College this September. The Church has been praying about ministry opportunities this year, and we will discuss it in our September Church Meeting.

In the meantime Josh has met Jonathan and Bert, and, with Julie and their 4 children (between 11 to 7 years old) they have already visited us in August. They will be coming again on Sunday 6th September so we can meet them as a fellowship. We will have an opportunity to briefly hear from him in the service, and meet the family afterwards.

Would anyone be able to host them for lunch on that day? Please contact Jonathan to let him know.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

Would you like to "live well, living in the light of Jesus' return"? Well, come join us studying 1 and 2 Thessalonians in one of our three Ladies' Bible Study groups in September, all are welcome! Choose the time that suits you best and do chat to us leaders for more information:

Tues 9:45 am at Jo's
Thurs 7:30 pm at Mand's
Fri 9:30 am at church with Cat

We'll be using a commentary from The Good Book Company in the 'For You' series. Please let Jo know if you'd like a copy for £7.20 (probably). I'll order them altogether to get a discount. If cost is an issue, please don't let it stop you, we can still get you a book.

Praying this would be an encouraging year for us in God's Word, walking closely to Jesus in our daily lives.

Jo Walker

MEN'S BREAKFAST - PLAN AUTUMN 2026

Riot, arrest, trials and travel - ending in storm

<u>Date</u>	<u>Bible Study</u>	<u>Leader</u>
Sep 04	ACTS 19:23-40	Ephesus DAVID
11	ACTS 20:1-12	Greece
18	ACTS 20:13-30	Miletus
25	ACTS 21:1-26	Palestine
Oct 02	ACTS 21:27-36	Jerusalem 1
09	ACTS 21:37-22:21	Jerusalem 2
16	ACTS 22:22-30	Jerusalem 3
23	ACTS 23:1-11	Sanhedrin <i>Habs Half Term</i>
30	<i>MCS, Habs and local schools Half Term</i>	
Nov 06	ACTS 23:12-35	Caesarea DAVID
13	ACTS 24:1-27	Felix
20	ACTS 25:1-12	Festus
27	ACTS 5:13-27	Agrippa 1
Dec 04	ACTS 26:1-32	Agrippa 2
11	ACTS 27:1-12	Sailing <i>Habs term ends</i>
18	ACTS 27:13-26	Storm <i>Local Schools term ends</i>
24	<i>Christmas break</i>	

David Adams

OPERATION MOBILISATION

'Waves of Hope' visit of the Logos to Cardiff Bay from the 11th to the 27th of September.

After another look at the very helpful website

<https://www.uk.om.org/waves-of-hope-cardiff>

I found that the only event that is fully booked is the John Lennox one. For all the others there is still room. I suggest that the best way forward is for individuals, families and small groups to organise their own trips to Cardiff. There are events for children (accompanied by adults!), Seniors, Welsh speakers, seminars, Men, Women and Young Adults. There are also guided tours for groups of 7. It is easy to book through the dedicated website.

Bert

BBQ

Norton Baptist Chapel
Saturday September 5th
At 3pm
All Welcome

Please e mail anne.e.sheppard@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

WORLD FOCUS

LAOS

Christianity has a certain level of acceptance in the South-East Asian tourist destination of Laos, but beneath the surface you will find deep hostility and discrimination, so what is life really like for Christians, and especially church leaders?

At a conference organised by Voice of Persecuted Christians partners, pastors thought it strange when we asked to hear their stories of persecution: for them suffering was not unusual—just a normal part of following Jesus! One pastor we met, Phouang (pseudonym), has dedicated his life to reaching a minority people group in rural Laos. He has been arrested, interrogated and faced repeated harassment from the authorities, who have threatened to discredit him with false accusations. Phouang is worried that his life is genuinely at risk and wonders if he and his wife should leave the area, but they remain committed to the work. 'Deep down I feel like I am being used by God and will leave a good legacy among the people I am serving,' he said.

Pray:- Pray - ask the Lord for endurance, protection, boldness, comfort and fruit through their witness. Share - one faithful testimony can awaken prayer and deepen love for the persecuted church. Subscribe - stay connected so you continue hearing the voices of suffering believers and receiving new stories, prayer requests and updates. Give - give to support practical and pastoral help through trusted partners serving believers and families affected by persecution.

Simon Beber

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please let us know if you would like the fellowship to pray for you.

Pray for Jonathan as he returns to his ministry after his sabbatical. Pray that the Lord will help him to settle back into handling the everyday demands of being a Pastor. Pray for Jonathan, Samantha and the family, that they will have a smooth move to their new accommodation.

Pray for a number of people in the church who are struggling with health and mobility.

Please pray for God to raise up workers in His Harvest
in all the countries we are supporting as well as here in Monmouth.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Harvest Service

September 27th

Lee Abbey – Ladies' Retreat weekend –

October 2nd – 4th

Jesus the evidence

October 4th 6:30pm

Church Anniversary weekend with guest John Funnell

October 24th - 25th

CREATION CONFERENCE
PROFESSION STUART BURGESS

Emeritus Professor of Engineering Design – Bristol University

- 200 + publications on engineering and biological design
- Lead Transmission Designer for the British Olympic Cycling Team
- UK Mechanical Engineer of the year 2019

SATURDAY 19th SEPTEMBER 10:30 – 3.30pm

MOUNT OF OLIVES CHURCH

Eastbourne Crescent, Coleford, Glos, GL16 8BS

- Talk one – The importance of creation doctrine in education and the church
- Talk two – Why the human back is a design masterpiece and defies evolution
- Q & A session
- Day One bookstall

FREE ENTRY - LIGHT LUNCH PROVIDED

For more details: T: 01594 240048 E: info@gloscreation.org.uk

www.gloscreation.org.uk

MBC GIVING

Thank you for your continued giving to the work of the Church. As an independent church we receive no outside help – only your gifts. Giving is a joyful part of committed discipleship. Please consider giving regularly to God's work in our fellowship. Use the Monmouth Baptist Church details for direct giving: Sort code 20-00-85, Account number 10615668. And, if you are a taxpayer, we can arrange for Gift Aid to claim tax back. There are boxes in the chapel for those who like to give in person. Thank you again for giving to the Lord's work here.

If you know anyone in the fellowship in financial need, we may be able to help from our Assistance Fund. Please contact Jonathan.

And if you would like to contribute to the Assistance fund, please make your gift in a marked envelope, or online indicating "Assistance Fund"

SPORTS

All ages and abilities are welcome, including friends or people who aren't regular visitors to the church. Some events need to be booked in advance.

Football - Jim Barker and James Endicott runs 5 a-side football sessions, currently weekly on a Friday at 7pm. We have a membership of 40 players, but there is room for more! If you are interested in joining, please speak to Jim or James to be added to the Football WhatsApp Group.

We have introduced Pickleball to the fellowship, which is an all-age (U3A-approved) racket sport, which we are playing indoors. All are welcome to join us. Pickleball's unique selling point is that it can be learned in minutes without extensive coaching. If you'd like to know more then please reach out to Sean Lawson.

Basketball – Please ask for details.

CONTACTS

Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Greaves – 01600 716423 friends@monmouthbaptistchurch.org.uk

Associate Pastor: Bert Weenink lbweenink@gmail.com 07775 331530

Treasurer: Clive Wiggins - 07929 652639 cliveandapril@btinternet.com

Pastoral Co-ordinator; Maureen Vandervelden 07793361476

maureen.vandervelden@btinternet.com

Safeguarding: Emma Lawson 07367 577165 emmajanelawson@gmail.com