



## February 2018 Newsletter

Whatever the weather...

There's an old nursery rhyme about the months of the year, designed to help small children remember the calendar. Part of it reads thus, "February brings the rain, Thaws the frozen lake again." We had snow in December and January, though I don't know if the lake at the Arboretum actually froze. Sometimes, we also get snow in February, though the nursery rhyme points to the hope that spring is coming.

We know that the weather is all part of God's providential gift to the world – He makes the sun shine on both righteous and unrighteous, and asked Job, "Have you ever visited the storerooms, where I keep the snow and the hail?" In a fallen world, though, sometimes the weather brings disaster – hurricanes, floods, mudslides or contrarily, drought and wild fires.

It's been a long autumn and winter. Sometimes the very greyness seems to drain our spirits and doctors recognise some people suffer from SAD - seasonal affective disorder – and need artificial lamps that mimic the blue light mixed into sunshine! So, if you're feeling a little out of sorts or a little down in the dumps, remember God is at work on the grey days, as well as the sunshine days.

On grey days

On grey days  
It's hard to praise  
The gloomy cloud  
Occludes my mood

On grey days  
Feel out of phase  
Just not quite right  
Inside my skin

On grey days  
The rain sprays  
Dampen my spirit  
And hide your grace

BUT

On grey days  
Your sunshine rays  
Create rainbows  
To lighten life

On grey days  
I shift my gaze  
And eyes turn in  
Seeking your love

On grey days  
You still amaze  
And love breaks through  
Lifting my soul



### Prayer Focus

At GLBC prayer is key to our vision for our ministries. In January our minister preached on the importance of prayer in our lives and what it means to talk to our Lord with a special look at the Lord's Prayer in Matthew's Gospel. We are looking at ways to develop our understanding of prayer and a number of events will be held in the coming months arising from requests from the congregation. Building on what we have been learning during Sunday worship the deacons will be resuming the Prayer Breakfast programme on Saturday March 3 at 8.30am. Also on March 3 there will be Movie Church featuring a film all about the power of prayer titled War Room at 5pm followed by a short discussion session.

**Please note that this event will not be suitable for small children.**

Prayer Breakfasts will now be held on the first Saturday of the month until further notice. If anyone would like to assist with preparation please see someone on the leadership team. Please be reminded that the Quiet Room is open from 10am for those who want to spend time in prayer before the Sunday morning service. The Diaconate

### Bible Class

Our young people will be attending the Higher Tour youth event organised by The Message Trust on Saturday March 17. The evangelistic event is being hosted by All Nations Church in Wolverhampton. It is among a number of activities being planned for the group which is meeting regularly at church and enjoying a series of social event. Please pray for this event and for the organisers that their efforts to spread the Good News among teenagers will be fruitful. Princess Williams - Leader





