

The United Messenger

A monthly magazine for two churches
in the Central Sussex United Area

Mick Mulley Editor

February 2026



Lent starts on 18th February

Team Ministers:

Rev'd Memona Shahbaz (01323 739785) and Rev'd Paul Tabraham

Message from the Editor...

DEAR READERS

Welcome to February's United Messenger.

The Broadway Praise Singers will start their singing again from 12th February after a break to give me chance to update and write some new backing tracks.

Thanks to Parishpumps.co.uk for extra content this month.

Mick

Happy moments, praise God.
Difficult moments, seek God.
Quiet moments, worship God.
Painful moments, trust God.
Every moment, thank God.

Anon

LOVE ALL
Love is needed every day
Not just in romantic ways
Kindness, patience, thanks and
smiles
Simple things make life
worthwhile.

Hazel Elrick

Broadway United Church

Every second Saturday of the month

Coffee Morning

14th February 2026

10am

Dear Church Family

“May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.”

(Numbers 6:24-25)

As GOD has bestowed upon us countless blessings, it is essential that we acknowledge these gifts and share them with others. John 3:16 reminds us of His great love for the world, as He sent His only Son to guide us. Jesus, through His teachings and actions, showed us how to live our lives in alignment with God’s will. He set an example of love, compassion, and service, telling us that we are the light of the world. This profound call encourages us to reflect His light in our daily interactions, serving as beacons of hope and love to those around us.

I am continually inspired by our commitment to shine the light of Christ in the world around us. In Matthew 5:13-16, Jesus reminds us that we are the light of the world, a city set on a hill that cannot be hidden. This is not just a calling; it is our duty to reflect His love and grace to those we encounter every day.

Jesus, in John 8:12, proclaims, *“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”* This verse tells clearly that God Himself is the true source of light, guiding us through life’s challenges. Like the moon, we are called to reflect His light, illuminating the path for others and bringing hope to those in need.

As Broadway and St. Barnabas Church, we have a unique opportunity to impact our community positively. Let us encourage one another to embrace our ministries actively, reaching out to those in our neighbourhoods, and community. By reflecting the light of Christ, we can love those around us and create a significant difference in the lives of others.

Ephesians 5:8 urges us to *“walk as children of light,”* highlighting the importance of showcasing goodness, righteousness, and truth in our actions. As we do, we collectively embody two important qualities of light: it dispels darkness and brings warmth. Let us be

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

instruments of peace and reconciliation, shining brightly amid challenges and extending warmth and kindness to those we encounter.

In our church and community, let's take the initiative to organize outreach programs, volunteer opportunities, and support for those who are struggling. Whether it's through food drives, community events, or simply sharing a kind word, every act of love contributes to a powerful testimony of Christ's light in our world.

As we focus to reflect this light, let us pray:

“Dear Lord, help us to be true reflections of Your light in this world. May we embrace our call to shine brightly, illuminating hearts with love and hope. Guide our efforts as Broadway/St. Barnabas Church to reach those in need and make a lasting impact in our community. Amen.”

Together, let us shine brightly, executing our duty to share the light of Christ with everyone we meet.

Blessings,

Mona



Treasurer's Report - Broadway United

THE COMMUNION Collection for December was for ACTION FOR CHILDREN and the total raised was £342.34.

The offertory for December including standing orders and envelopes amounted to £1,648.00 the amount raised through hiring of our premises came to £89.00

The Expenses for December including URC and CSUA £1695.00 for the Ministry. Utilities for December was £401.48

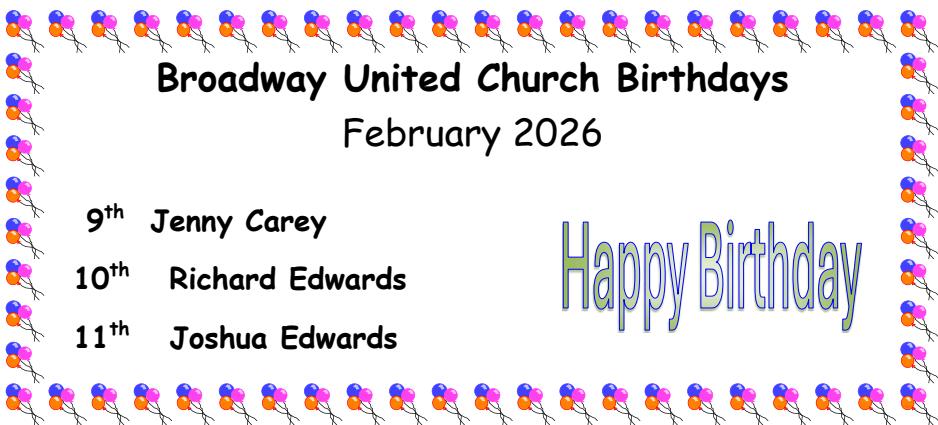
The United Messenger was £21.75. Please remember to pay for this excellent magazine by putting your donation in the coffee pot. It is good to see the cupboard kept full of biscuits and even cakes. Thanks for this, it is a great help.

I have noticed the rubbish in the grounds of our Church is getting bad. Please pick it up and pop it in the bin ! Les has offered to keep the grass trimmed.

John Donoghue

Two men were in a pub, talking about how highly their wives thought of them. The first man said, "My wife, she thinks so much of me that she won't let me do any work around the house. It's incredible."

The second man said, "That's nothing. My wife thinks I'm God. Every night at the table, she places a burnt offering before me."



Broadway United Church Birthdays

February 2026

9th Jenny Carey

10th Richard Edwards

11th Joshua Edwards

Happy Birthday

Mustard Seed Relief Mission - Love in a Box

FROM THEIR webpage:

What an amazing success the Love in a Box 2025 campaign has been - Mustard seed has collected many thousands of boxes and they have been lovingly distributed again to the children of Moldova with the help of our dear friends at International Aid.

Over the years Working in partnership with International Aid together we have achieved so much for the children.

It's been simply incredible to see so many excited smiles when the children receive their very own box which is sent with such love.

Over the years Mustard Seed has collected, checked and distributed many hundreds of thousands of Christmas boxes that have been carefully put together by our wonderful supporters from Schools, Churches organisations and individuals - we are so grateful to

everyone who has kindly taken part in our mission of love.

With this in mind it's with great sadness that the 2025 campaign will be our last year.

Unfortunately, over the years due to the ever increasing cost to provide this lovely project the charity has decided that we can no longer afford to carry on and continue with our Love in a box project - all the stock we had left will be given to international Aid to help fill more shoeboxes

Team Mustard seed would like to thank each and everyone of you for standing with us and supporting our mission over the years - it's been an honour and a privilege to work with you all as together we have achieved so much for the children and created many happy smiles over the years.

So, thank you Broadway for your support each year. **Kath**



Mona's Service - 18th January - Broadway

ZEBBY (Zebaish Shahbaz) came to share in our service, speaking about mental health. She is studying for PhD in Clinical Psychology. She did a live demonstration with water, a bucket and a washing up bowl.

There are many causes of stress in our lives - money, family, work, relationships, technology - our bucketful of stress fills up and can overflow and overwhelm us. But our stress buckets have a tap which can relieve the pressure. Laughing, being outside it nature, stroking our pets can all help relieve stress.

She provided colourful sheets including information on techniques to help in moments of overwhelm including the 5-4-3-2-1 grounding technique.

Say 5 things you can see, 4 things you can touch, 3 things you

can hear, 2 things you can smell, 1 thing you can taste.

The theme of the service, led by Mona, was light and people brought lamps, torches and candles to share. Christians are reminded to be salt and light to a chaotic world.



Article and photo by **Dawn**

What birds spend all their time on their knees?
Birds of prey.

What do you call a group of chickens playing hide-and-seek ?
Fowl play.

Christmas Period at Broadway Church



New Year

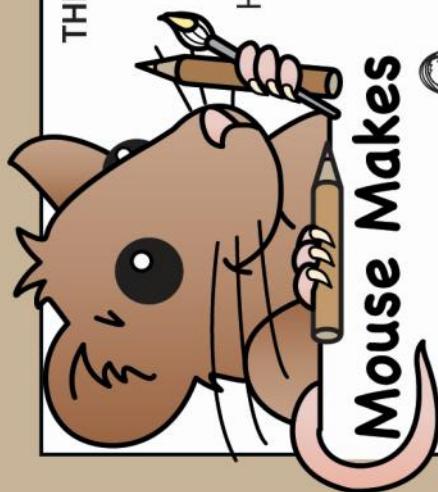
Last night as midnight chimed loud and clear
the door was opened wide before me
And I walked across the thresh hold, no fear
Behind me, the door silently closed.

Into 2026, and its' unknowns.
I'm sort of confident... sort of bold..
At the brink of a new year, unique, as yet untold.
Was I sad at leaving behind 2025?
I'd reached the date... healthyish, happyish, alive.

Am I glad to reach into 2026?
A virgin candle, 365 days of unbroken wick.
Burning continuously
Lit from the last millimetre of yesteryears' candle
Looking up, night skies alive with exploding light
Bursts, breaks, orchestrated illuminations, bright
My ears assailed with fireworks flying across the skies.

Faces around me, aglow with excitement, joy..
Let the new year begin
Let the new year in.

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS



1ST TEMPTATION

THE
DEVIL SAID:

“If you are God’s Son order
this stone to turn *into bread*.”

JESUS REPLIED:

“*Man shall not live on
bread alone.*”



WE LEARN:

Read the Bible
Learn God’s word.

Mouse Makes

Read the story in

Luke 4:1-13



2ND TEMPTATION

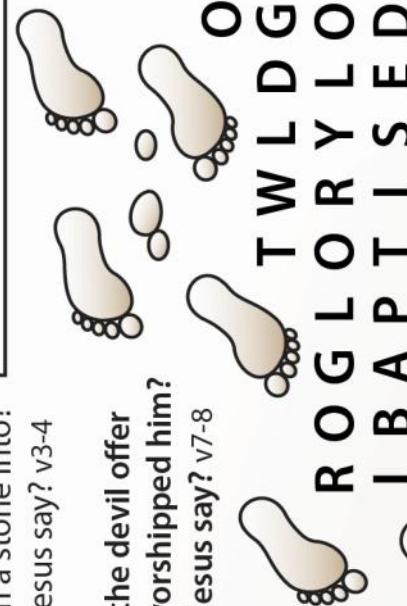
THE
DEVIL SAID:

“I will give you power
and wealth if you worship me.”

JESUS REPLIED:

“Worship the Lord your God
and serve only Him.”

Read Deuteronomy 6:13



O
T W L D G
R O G L O R Y L O
I B A P T I S E D

What did the devil offer
Jesus if He worshipped him?
What did Jesus say? v7-8



What did Jesus eat? v2
What did the devil tempt
Jesus to turn a stone into?
What did Jesus say? v3-4



What did the devil ask
Jesus to do?
What did

Read Deuteronomy 6:13

WE LEARN: Put God first Worship only Him

WE LEARN:
Put God first

FOR TY DAY S ON K L
T DOW N WO R L D I P
T EST WO R L D T N B
T V E S T M P T N G
L I A M J E S U N G
E I P D E O R D E
N L K O L Y R O A
T H O L Y R O A
T I M J E R M D
W I L D E R M P

JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • HOLY SPIRIT • LED
WILDERNESS • DESERT • FORTY DAYS • HUNGRY • DEVIL
TEMPTATION • STONE • BREAD • WRITTEN • SON • WORLD
KINGDOMS • GLORY • WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • HIGH
JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • SON • JUMP • DOWN • LIFT

THE THIRD TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son throw yourself down, the scriptures say God will take care of you."

JESUS REPLIED:

*"Do not put the Lord
your God to the test."*

WE LEARN:

God cares, trust
Him do not test Him

1

VERBUSALEM: TEMPLE: SON: JUMP: DOWN: LIFT: FOOT: QRD: TEST: ENT



All in the month of February

IT WAS:

300 years ago, on 20th Feb 1726 that William Prescott, an American colonel in American Revolutionary War was born. Famous for giving the order: “Don’t fire until you see the whites of their eyes.”

200 years ago, on 4th Feb 1826 that James Fenimore Cooper’s historical romance novel *The Last of the Mohicans* was published.

175 years ago, on 1st Feb 1851 that novelist Mary Shelley died, aged 53. Best known for her Gothic novel *Frankenstein*.

125 years ago, on 2nd Feb 1901 that the funeral of Queen Victoria took place. (*More information on next page*)

80 years ago, on 11th Feb 1946, that the Revised Standard Version of the New Testament was published. It was the first major English-language update of the Bible since the King James version was published in 1611.

70 years ago, on 11th Feb 1956 that two members of the Cambridge spy ring, British diplomats Guy Burgess and

Donald Maclean, announced that they had defected to the Soviet Union. They had both vanished in mysterious circumstances in 1951.

65 years ago, on 9th Feb 1961 that the Beatles played at the Cavern Club in Liverpool for the first time.

50 years ago, on 11th Feb 1976 that John Curry won Britain’s first-ever Olympic gold medal in figure skating.

40 years ago, on 12th Feb 1986 that the Treaty of Canterbury was signed by Britain and France. It was the agreement to construct the Channel Tunnel linking the two countries. The tunnel opened in 1994.

25 years ago, on 19th Feb 2001 that the first case of foot-and-mouth disease in the 2001 UK outbreak was detected at an abattoir in Essex.

20 years ago, on 18th Feb 2006 that the Rolling Stones played the world’s largest free rock concert on Copacabana beach, Rio de Janeiro. An estimated 2 million people attended.

The funeral of Queen Victoria

EXACTLY 125 years ago, on 2nd February 1901, the funeral of Queen Victoria took place.

She had died at the age of 81 on 22nd January, having ruled for nearly 64 years, and her death took her family, courtiers and subjects by surprise in difficult times. The Boer war was still in progress, and the previous year the Prince of Wales had been shot at in Belgium, by a boy who was protesting against the war.

Her third adult child – Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh – had just died, another was near death, and she herself had been confined to a wheelchair, almost blind and often confused. She died at the remote Osborne House on the Isle of Wight, and when it happened there was no-one alive who could remember how to bury a monarch.

Victoria had asked for a full military state funeral, and there were secret instructions concerning mementoes of her personal servant, John Brown. The official service in St George's Chapel was

chaotic because of timing errors, but it was followed by an emotional ceremony for the family on 4th February, in the mausoleum the queen had built for her husband at Frogmore, adjoining Windsor Castle, where the Queen was laid to rest beside her much-loved Prince Albert.

The total cost was £35,500 (£4.5 million). Victoria had outlived all the members of her Privy Council alive in 1837; all the members who had sat in the House of Commons at that time; and all nine of her bridesmaids.

What has been described as the godly domesticity of the Victorian era appealed to a mainly Protestant public, centring more on morals than on radical evangelicalism and effective prayer. One historian noted the transformation in the general British attitude from “aggressive, brutal, rowdy, outspoken, riotous, cruel and blood-thirsty” to “inhibited, polite, orderly, tender-minded, prudish and hypocritical”.

*Paddy says, "Mick, I'm thinking of buying a Labrador.
"Really?" says Mick "have you seen how many of their owners go blind?"*

St Barnabas Coffee Morning

ST BARNABAS Church hold a coffee morning every first Saturday in the month. The next one is **7th February 2026**.

Bacon rolls are often on the menu and some stalls will be available.

Clive Elrick would like to draw your attention to the book stall: "For a very small donation, there are books on many subjects, ranging from Bible stories, war time accounts, both fiction and non-fiction. Also crime fiction by well known authors, and much more!"

"We also have a range of cookery and gardening books which are not easy to spot as they occupy the lower book shelves, due to their size .

"I hope to highlight the best gardening books by putting a few on show on the 7th February, in the hope that, with spring around the corner, we might attract all our gardening enthusiasts to take their pick.

"Please take a moment to look at the book corner. As Tesco says..."Every little helps!"

Thank you **Clive Elrick**





**Love is patient;
love is kind;
love is not
envious
or boastful
or arrogant.**

1 Corinthians 13: 4

Community Lunch - Broadway



Date: 27th February 2026

Price: £6

Time: 12.45

Fruit Juice

Gammon & Pineapple, Roast Potatoes and two Vegetables

Chocolate Pudding and Chocolate Sauce

Tea or Coffee

To book a meal ring Val on 01323 487990 All diets catered for



Muddy woof

What do you get if you cross a jeep with a dog? A Land Rover.

JD Hair Salon

16 The Broadway, Hampden Park BN22 OAS

07722175570

(the salon is in Harmony Health)

Joanne Dzendzera

joannedze@gmail.com



20% off for new customers this month

Who's who at BROADWAY United Church

Elders:

Sue Sanders: Senior Elder

01323 505866

- * Pulpit supply
- * Catering Convener
- * Link with Community
Lunches
- * Junior Church

Les Aisbitt:

- * Link with Property
- * Sound System

Caroline Braybrook:

** Dpty Authorized person for weddings*

Pauline Buchan

Alison Flynn:

** Authorized person for weddings*

Sue Miller

- * Pianist

Kath Shaw:

- * Cradle Roll
- * Bible Readers Coordinator

Ruth Rowland:

- * Door stewards coordinator
- * Link with Junior Church

Val Cornish

Stu Miller :

- * Sound system

Denise Woodfin

People with other responsibilities:

John Donoghue

* Church Treasurer

Email: jdonoghue38@gmail.com

Pat Aisbitt:

* Letting Steward
buchurch21@gmail.com

Steve Waters:

* Church Council Secretary:
Email: bucms2024@gmail.com

Mick Mulley 07985 932783

- * Worship Leader
- * Weekly Newsletter,
- * The United Messenger
(Monthly magazine)
- * Broadway Praise Singers
- * Website:

<https://broadwayunitedchurch.co.uk>

The Cottage
2 Levett Avenue
Polegate
BN26 6LW

Email: mjmulley@gmail.com

Jolly Pett 07743374887

* Safeguarding Officer

broadwaychurchsafeguarding@gmail.com

ST BARNABAS Rota details for FEBRUARY 2026

1 st	Vestry: Corridor: D/Stewards: Reader:	Brenda Jenkins Janice Crompton Clive Elrick Hazel Elrick
8 th	Vestry: Corridor: D/Stewards: Reader:	Pat Beeney Janice Crompton Brenda Jenkins Anne Wielding
15 th	Vestry: Corridor: D/Stewards: Reader:	Allie Bowles Janice Crompton Anne Wielding Hazel Elrick
22 nd	Vestry: Corridor: D/Stewards: Reader:	Brenda Jenkins Janice Crompton Pat Beeney Brenda Jenkins

If you are unable to fulfil your duty please arrange to change with someone else. Thank you.

Thoughts and opinions expressed in this magazine belong solely to the author, and not necessarily those shared by Broadway Church, St Barnabas Church, ministers or the editor.

Who's who at ST BARNABAS Church

Church Secretary:

Janice Crompton 01323 639042

Email: jancrompton@hotmail.com

Lettings * Property * Preachers Coordinator

* * * * *

Treasurer:

Janice Crompton 01323 639042

Email: jancrompton@hotmail.com

Catering Convenor * Safeguarding Officer
“Make Lunch” link

* * * * *

Church Councillors:

Val Attwood

Allie Bowles

Shon Shahbaz

* * * * *

Brenda Jenkins

Readers/ Stewards Rota Coordinator * Worship Leader

Services at St Barnabas for FEBRUARY (09.45am)

1st Rev'd Andy Melvin

8th *United Service at Emmanuel Church*

15th Dr Dawn Mulley

22nd Rev'd Memona Shahbaz (*Communion*)

Services at Broadway for FEBRUARY (10am)

1st Jolly Pett (*AAW*)

8th Rev'd Brian Wightwick (*Communion*)

15th Rev'd Memona Shahbaz

22nd Jennie Macfadyen

ELDERS (Broadway) February

1st Stu and Alison

8th Caroline and Kath

15th Sue Sanders & Denise

22nd Alison and Sue Miller

DOOR ROTA (Broadway)

1st Sandra

8th Val

15th Pat

22nd Maggie

Contributions for **March's** magazine should be with me by:

Friday 13th February please. Thank you.