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CHURCH
GOOD NEWS

December
19th, 2021

To know the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit and with Jesus as our teacher to show and share our faith

Councillor on Duty – Martin and Pat Heal
Door Stewards – Tony and Janet Cole
Music – Music Group
Sound – George Faris

Welcome to Sunday Service

On this Sunday the 19th of December **Revd Duncan Goldie** will be leading our Service which will be a Carol Service.

Coffee will be served in the Church Hall following the service.

Thursday December 23rd – Prayers at 9.45 followed by Thought for The Day led by **Don Farquharson** at 10.30 am.

Thursday Coffee morning will be in the church hall from 10.00 to 11.30

Christmas Eve Services – December 24th at 7.00pm **Revd Duncan Goldie** will lead with Holy Communion.

There will be a **Christmas Day** service at 10.30 am led by **Revd Christina Le Moignan**.

There will NOT be a service on Sunday December 26th -Boxing day

The POD is open from Tuesday to Saturday – 10.00 am to 12 noon and from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm

PASTORAL

Good news this week, Kathy Stephenson is home from hospital and making good progress at home. Best wishes from us all, Kathy, for your continued recovery.

Birthdays during the Festive season -

Sunday 26th December Harriet Slogrove.

Tuesday 28th. Denise Gould.

Thursday 30th. Viv. Evans

Thursday 30th. David Crocker.

Happy Birthday to you all with love and best wishes from everyone in Cheap Street Church.

Please remember our Church Family members in your prayers during the coming week, and also please pray for the parents and families of the young children killed and injured in a devastating accident, while enjoying end of year celebrations at a Primary school in Tasmania.

With love and prayers to you all.

Eirwen

FROM THE SECRETARY

We are hearing a lot about Covid precautions at the moment and this is certainly something we have to take on board. However, it seems to me that it is right for individuals to make their own decision as to whether or not they should join up with other people in different situations. We are expecting to have our Carol Service on Sunday at 10.30 am, led by Duncan and with the Music Group playing. Another Carol Service is also planned at Longburton on the same day at 4.00 pm. Then we hope a Christmas Eve Communion Service at 7.00 pm and a Christmas Day Service at 10.30 am will follow. There will not be a service on Boxing Day. As you are probably aware, it is now necessary to wear masks in churches, just as it is in shops.

The Christmas Tree Festival, was a beautiful sight, much appreciated, and we are very grateful to Don and all those who helped to make it so successful. Financially £1,998 was raised, and due to a very kind donation, we are now able to pass on £1,050 each to the Rendezvous and the Yeatman Hospital.

We shall be singing carols outside Waitrose, together with some from other Churches, this coming Saturday from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. I know some who are coming then, but more would be very welcome. Those who have offered to sing at Riverside will have to wait till later to know what is happening there, but I will see that you are told before Monday afternoon.

I have just heard about a Prayer Day on 6th January that is being organised by Methodist Districts across the South West. After our last Prayer Day in November, we had intended to have another one in January, and I think this could be a good opportunity to be part of a larger shared day. More details will follow.

However busy we are in the week that lies ahead, as Martin reminded us in Thought for the Day this morning, it is so important to remember the real reason for the celebration of Christmas – Jesus Christ, coming as a human baby, coming as God into our world. So whatever you are doing, or perhaps deciding not to do because of Covid, God is there, in his love, for each one of us and for all people.

Janet

PRAYER RING

The Prayer Ring is available for an urgent need or situation. Call any of these numbers and the circle of prayer will begin:

Eirwen Cox 01935 815960,
Penny Gardner 01935 389153,
Janet Le Moignan 01935 389662

Whenever and wherever we pray in the silence of our hearts, we are part of a rich and powerful fellowship, which serves to sustain everyone in our Church Family. Anyone can join the prayer group by just praying.

•We hold in prayer Kathy Stephenson and Viv Evans; Angie Langcricks; Peter and Denise Gould; Muriel and Raymond Wood; Martin and Pat Heal; Marjorie and Peter Kett; George and Norma Hamill; Brian and Margaret Walker; Jan and Phil Wallace and their daughter Emma; Eileen Higgins; Alex Palmer.

Please remember our Cheap Street Church Family in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Prayers for the persecuted church: **Cameroon.** Islamic extremist group - Boko Haram, is active in northern Cameroon and has kidnapped and killed Christians. Churches in the north have been attacked, and in other areas church activities are disrupted by security restrictions. Female converts from Islam are often forced into marriage with non-Christians, and Christian women also face the danger of abduction by Boko Haram. Believers from Muslim backgrounds who express their Christian beliefs are at risk of violent opposition from their communities.

Let us pray for healing for Christians who have suffered violence; that displaced believers would be able to return to their homes and rebuild their communities, and for peace across Cameroon - asking God to thwart the plans of those who stir up violence and hatred. Amen.

Letters

Christmas tree festival



A VERY BIG THANK you to all who contributed in any way to the success of our festival, especially to the stewards, Margaret, Jan and Colin. We had many expressions of appreciation for the layout

and for the fact we had achieved it against all odds.

We logged in 2,675 visitors and will be able to pass on £ 2,000 between the two charities.

Don

!! CANCELLED !!

EVENTS

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

I write with the sad news that today we have decided to cancel the in-person Christmas Day lunch. Whilst it appears to be true that people who are triple vaccinated should be reasonably safe from the latest Covid variant, I do not think that it would be wise for us to host this event. The level of infection expected by Christmas Day is unknown but certainly predicted to be huge.

However, we will offer all those who expressed an interest in our lunch an opportunity to receive a delivered meal courtesy of Sherborne Community Kitchen. From the outset I have explained to our donors that any donations received would be used for the meal at the hall and/or for delivered meals.

I will be contacting all guests and volunteers today.

Warm regards,
John Bradshaw,
Chairman Sherborne Churches Together

THE REPAIR CAFÉ

Sadly we've decided to cancel this Saturday because of the rapid spread of omicron and the closeness to Xmas. We will assess situation for January. I hope to put up a cancelled poster in The Pod and a poster on the day on the window of The Hall itself. Unfortunate but necessary I think. Best wishes and happy Christmas! Thanks for your support this Autumn. Bridget

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE NEWS AND PEW SHEETS TO Penny Gardner – email pennylgardner@gmail.com or 01935 389153

Minister – The Revd Duncan Goldie- 01935 812916

Church Secretary – Janet Le Moignan
01935 389662,



Dear Friends,

Children are starving to death as Afghanistan faces the bleakest of winters. The country is in the grip of a catastrophic food shortage – half of the population don't have enough to eat. Now, the bitter cold is setting in, with temperatures dropping as low as -20°C.

The prayers of your church are urgently needed. The support of churches like yours has already made a difference – hundreds of families have received life-saving support. But the situation is getting worse every day.

'We are not living like normal humans,' says Muhannad, a 38-year-old father of three. 'How will life go on in a family without bread, clothes, fuel, and less than 80 pence per week?'

Every night, Muhannad and his wife have to listen to the cries of their hungry children. More than 3 million children like theirs are at risk from severe malnutrition.

Our local partners are on the ground now, providing emergency food packages and distributing winter kits to help families who have lost their homes stay warm.

We know that this is the busiest season of the year for you, and that all of your services will be planned out already. However, if you would like to support this appeal financially then you can do so here.

Thank you for your faithful support. Together, as the church, we can make a difference to the people of Afghanistan.

Yours in Christ,

Nigel Harris
CEO, Tearfund