



December 2022 Newsletter

Seasons of the year

Christmas is coming and the media have sprung into action Again. while we will all somehow join in the general rush, we would do well to remember (and so benefit) from what, as Christians comes before it, namely the season of Advent.

The Jewish people believed that God had come to them in the Exodus and entry into Canaan. They further believed that He would come again in the Messiah and establish His Kingdom. When this did not happen, the cry went up “How long, O Lord?”

Many Christians in the Majority world can echo these words. Those in Syria long before the war there. Those in Afghanistan and Iran long for easing of government restrictions. Nigerian believers long for an end to raids by Fulani tribesmen. North Korean Christians wonder if they will ever be free from persecution and the Chinese Church sees their freedom being drastically reduced. Elsewhere, there is much low level discrimination against the followers of Jesus. Mercifully we are spared this, so far.

These are all fellow members of the Body of Christ. If they Suffer, we suffer. Let us put them on our Christmas present lists. Organisations such as BMS World Mission, Open Doors, Barnardo’s Fund and others can give us ways to help. In this way we prepare for the coming of Jesus into the world and for His ultimate coming again.

Rev Fred

Prayer Focus

We have many needs as a community. A prayer drop-in will be held on Saturday December 3rd for anyone to pop in to pray, or to be prayed for, or simply to meditate from 11am-1pm.

Led by Gee M

Food Collection

A need has come up for dry food packets and toiletries for a family. Donations of one item a on regular basis such as packets of rice, pasta, mash, cereal; tins of veg, potatoes, meat, fruit, cartons of juice/milk will help. We are also collecting unwanted gifts eg men's toiletries, mugs, to donate to military veterans as a response to Remembrance Sunday. These items are for a local Royal British Legion branch.

Family Christmas Crafts & Carols

We'll be in open for craft activities and a carol sing-a-long on Saturday December 10th 12noon-2pm and snacks. Bring smiles, family and friends for an afternoon of festive fun.

December pulpit schedule

4th.: **Second Sunday of Advent**

Communion Service

Mike Buck (our Moderator from Londonderry Baptist Church, Oldbury)

11th.: **Third Sunday of Advent**

Maxine Chamberlain (GLBC)

18th.: **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Christmas Carol Service led by the music group from GLBC

25th.: **Service 10:15am**

Christmas Day - Christ is Born!

led by Maxine Chamberlain (GLBC)



Christmas at Green Lane Baptist Church

Sat Dec 3rd Prayer Drop-in 11am-1pm

***Sat Dec 10th Family Christmas
Crafts & Carols 12noon-2pm***

Sat Dec 17th Carols at the Green Lane Shops 10:30am

Sun Dec 18th Christmas Carol Service 10:30am

Christmas Day Service 10:15am

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