

Circuit Newsletter

December 2021

Loving others as God Loves us

1) A Word from our Superintendent

Hello Church,

At a time when we are pressurised to spend as well to be spent, we hold on to our Christian principles of godly living. Of course, our society is driven by excessive consumerism such that many begin to believe that "I spend therefore I am." For us Christians, to be is not to buy excessively but economically with the knowledge that we have a mandate to care for those, particularly children, who are go without food, socially displaced, and lonely. Another example is this: our economical way of spending can provide us with more spending opportunities to care for young women who may be struggling alone under the weight of pregnancies. By the way, *how can the church be that safe space for them?*

In spending, we do equally well as Christians to evaluate its impact on the environment. As we spend, the environment is likely to suffer and be spent as we are spent, even exhausted on our shopping journeys in the pursuit of goods we can surely go without. On this I quote John Wesley "*gain all we can without hurting our mind any more than our body*", dare I add without hurting the environment!

Let's go on spending ourselves, albeit economically, in the fulfilment of the reason for our celebrations - the birth of Christ, who is our Immanuel, 'God with us.'

I wish everyone of you a safe and peaceful Christmas!

Marcus



Coventry & Nuneaton
METHODIST CIRCUIT

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2) Christmas Activities

T	I	R	I	P	S	Y	L	O	H
C	M	H	T	E	R	A	Z	A	N
D	I	E	A	D	V	E	N	T	H
G	R	N	H	T	W	D	H	A	P
I	A	E	R	E	J	O	I	C	E
M	C	M	J	P	L	G	E	D	S
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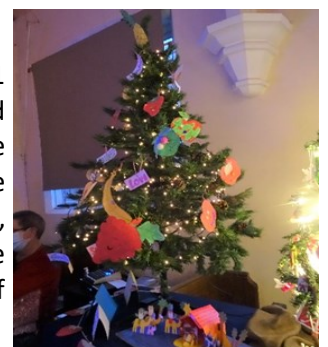
Christmas activity: see if you can find these words in the above wordsearch. Wisemen, Holy Spirit, Rejoice, Nazareth, Miracle, Advent, Star, Joseph, Mary and Bethlehem

Can you name these traditional Christmas Carols from the first letter of each word of the first line?

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------|------------|------------|
| 1) OCAYF | 5) HTAS | 9) ITBM | 13) SATWS |
| 2) ICUAMC | 6) GCMR | 10) CASTHM | 14) OIRDC |
| 3) AIAM | 7) GRYMG | 11) AFTROG | 15) SNHN |
| 4) CIAMM | 8) OLTOb | 12) LCDAC | 16) UUABIB |

3) Ryton Methodist Church 14th Annual Christmas Tree Festival

This was well supported by the local community and friends from across the circuit. We had 21 trees on the theme of Thankfulness, created by church and community friends and groups and many of the ideas on the trees were included in our prayers during our special Christmas Tree Sunday worship. Covid precautions meant we couldn't have our usual Carols by Treelight, but we went outside and sang lustily in the drizzle. Refreshments were greatly appreciated by all visitors, especially the homemade cakes. The craft stalls for charity were also well supported. Book the first weekend in December for next year's Festival; come and see or come and join in the fun of displaying a tree.



4) Christmas Services (Information provided is in line with current government Covid guidelines and subject to change)

	19th December Carol Service		Christmas Eve		Christmas Day	
Arley	6pm	J Braund	---	---	---	---
Atherstone	??	Carols by Candle light	---	---	10am	R Clemo
Balsall Common	10.30am	C Welham	11.30pm	J Braund	10am	J Braund
Bedworth	5pm	S Dawson	---	---	10.30am	at Collycroft
Central Hall	12th December 3pm	S Willey	4pm	S Willey	10.30am	S Willey
Collycroft	5pm	at Bedworth	---	---	10.30am	J Prickett AAW
Earlsdon	4.30pm	P McAinsh	5pm	D Koffie-Williams HC	10am	D Koffie-Williams
Fillongley	---	---	---	---	10am	Anglican HC
Horeston Grange	6.30pm	Live Stream lessons & carols	12-1pm and 6.30pm	Carols at the Coop and Community Carols	9.30am	A Smith/ Zoom
Meriden	4pm	Gail Bullivant	---	---	10am	I Coates
Nuneaton	10am	M Torchon	11.30pm	M Torchon	10am	M Torchon
Radford & Holbrooks	6.30pm	No preacher required	11.30pm	D Koffie-Williams	---	---
Ridge Lane	10.30am	B Taylor	---	---	---	---
Ryton	10am	S Fry	11.30pm	S Fry	---	---
Woodside	4pm	A & G Gee	---	---	---	---

5) Bedworth Methodist church

'How good it is to see our churches opening up again for community events. Our church coffee mornings restarted in September, opening just once a week rather than the usual three. Our customers were glad to meet up with us again. Like others in the Circuit our church also held its annual church fair again this year and despite snow and bitter cold weather we managed to raise over £1,000 (see photo). We hope Fillongley and Ryton did well with their Christmas Tree Festivals. We enjoyed hosting the Youth Service at Bedworth, it was good to join with Ruda, Ady and the youngsters for worship and to help them eat their pizza!! We were hoping to sing Carols to Tesco shoppers as we have for the past 5 years, but unfortunately the early date has been

cancelled due to mask wearing being re-introduced. It maybe we can sing outside Tesco or our own Church to shoppers walking by. We are in need of more singers this year so if anyone would like to join us please contact 07843250467 for more information. We collect for the local Air Ambulance charity while we sing. The dates are December 15th 6.30pm to 7.30pm and December 20th 1.30pm to 2.30pm. These arrangements are, of course, subject to Covid restrictions. Christmas blessings to you all.



6) Update from Stream 4 Justice, Compassion & Peace Team

Hello everyone.

Just wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone for their generosity and Helen and Sheila for their contribution to making this a success. We managed to collect and deliver a lot of toiletries to the refugee centre. Below is an extract from an email they have sent in response to what we have taken to them so far.

"We, at the Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre, are very grateful for your kind donations. Our Organisation relies on the generosity of people like yourself, and we really appreciate the toiletries that have been collected which will be very much appreciated by our destitute clients particularly around this time of year which has "the giving of gifts" as part and parcel of Christmas.

We would not have been able to assist our clients without

your support and generosity. Your support is so invaluable to us to help relieve hardship to some of the most vulnerable people in our city especially during the pandemic. We warmly thank you once again for choosing us and contributing to this worthwhile cause!"

May God continue to bless you all this Christmas. May we all strive to make it as eco-friendly as we can. Following this year's COP26 we are all aware of just how important it is to make every effort to be more sustainable. Starting by making small changes, we can make all the difference in reducing our environmental footprint, especially over Christmas, when the potential for waste, over consumption and mass shopping is high.

Let's all remember the real reason we celebrate Christmas. Stay blessed

Pep and the Stream 4 Justice, Compassion & Peace Team

We welcome Churches and individuals to offer prayer concerns, news items, inspirational poems, moving testimony (up to 200 words), or even a Bible puzzle or crossword to be included in the next Newsletter. Please send any articles, by **Wednesday 12th January 2022** to the Circuit Office c/o Bedworth Methodist Church, Mill Street, Bedworth, CV12 8JZ, Email: office@covnunmethodist.org.uk, or Telephone: 07517693474

WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY CHRISTMAS WITH A TIME TO REFLECT AND REJOICE. FROM ALL AT THE CIRCUIT OFFICE

