

The Blaby Baptist Messenger



**December / January
2018 / 2019**

Senior Leadership Team

Pastor:

Mrs Pauline Wills

Tel: 0116 2477450

Secretary:

Mrs Bette Bolton

Tel: 0116 2775391

Treasurer:

Mr Les Speake

Tel: 0116 2841133

Deacons:

Mrs Ann James

Tel: 07905130525

Mr Gareth Lanning

Tel: 07956005671

Mr Nev Taylor

Tel: 07825179417

Mrs Karen James

Tel: 0116 2783168

Mr Michael Dobson

Tel: 07854579532

Mrs Frances Speake

Tel: 0116 2841183

Greetings from Pastor Pauline

Dear Friends

As you read this you will be preparing for Christmas and the excitement of celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ so many years ago in a simple stable in Bethlehem. That scene contrasts with the multitude of parties that will take place today. But that birth -in such stark circumstances-has been the most important event that this world has ever witnessed. It showed us how much God loves us-to send His only Son, Jesus to live amongst us and then die for our sins to give us life to the full now and life everlasting with Him. Millions of people have experienced this good news and the hope that it brings them, and so Christmas is a special time for them to give thanks to our God for his gift of life. Sadly, millions of others have rejected this gift and although they will enjoy the Christmas celebrations, the joy of that season will disappear in the ensuing days. For those who have accepted God's gift the joy of knowing Jesus will always be with them and it is a joy that we can share.

Pray for those who do not know Jesus and take the opportunities that Christmas gives to share your knowledge and love of Him.

May God continue to bless you richly-now and into the New Year.

God bless you,

Pauline



Personal

I can't believe that this time of the year has come around again so quickly. It doesn't seem that long since last year.

We need prayers for a lot of our members and friends who are not well at the moment and hope they will soon be feeling better, especially our older members. Please pray for Tony who is having trouble with his sight and is due to have another operation after the New Year, so we hope this will be successful.

We also pray for Jan and Roy and Hilda who has just lost her niece.

One piece of good news is that Frances has had both of her cataracts done and is very pleased at what a difference it had made.

God Bless you all and a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to you all.

Wynne





2 Timothy 1:6

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

As we have been hearing much about persecuted Christians recently, this really touched me (from Daily in Christ by Neil T Anderson):-

An African Pastor was overwhelmed by rebels who demanded that he renounce his faith. He refused. The night before they took his life, he wrote the following lines on a scrap of paper: -

I am part of the “Fellowship of the Unashamed”. I have Holy Spirit power. The die has been cast. I’ve stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I am a disciple of His. I won’t look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still.

My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, and my future is secure. I am finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colourless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, chintzy giving, and dwarfed goals!

I no longer need pre-eminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don’t have to be right, first, tops, recognised, praised, regarded, or rewarded. I now live by presence, lean by faith, love by patience, lift by prayer, and labour by power.

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my guide reliable, my mission clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, turned away, turned back, diluted, or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won’t give up, shut up, let up, or burn up till I’ve preached up, prayed up, paid up, stored up, and stayed up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus. I must go till He comes, give till I drop, preach till all know, and work till He stops.

And when He comes to get His own, He’ll have no problems recognising me. My colours will be clear.

In His Name

Shirley

Please pray for encouragement, perseverance, faithfulness and mental and physical health of these 3 Christians who will receive our Cards of Encouragement before Christmas.



Rev Yumusa Nmadu
Nigeria



Marta
Ethiopia



Nguyen Trung Ton
Vietnam

Rev Yumusa Nmadu was recently elected General Secretary of the Evangelical Church Winning All (ECWA) denomination, one of the largest denominations in Northern Nigeria with a membership of over 5,000,000 worldwide. He is also head of Christian Solidarity Worldwide in Nigeria and works to promote religious freedom across Nigeria. He is constantly at risk from attack by Fulani herdsmen and Boko Haram.

When **Marta** was very young, her family agreed to give her to the local witchdoctor as servant and wife. She was abused but a family member told her of God's love and she became a Christian.

In her mid-teens, she left the witchdoctor's house, shared her faith and testimony with her family. All except her father came to faith in Christ. She needs prayer and encouragement to be free from the nightmares of her early experiences.

Pastor Nguyen Trung Ton is an outspoken human rights defender who was kidnapped by 'state agents?' in Feb 2017 and left naked, tied up and with serious knee and lung damage. He was tried on April 5th, 2017, on a charge of attempting to overthrow the state. He was sentenced to 12 years in prison and in July 2018 he was transferred to a prison camp, 1,000 km away from his home.



The joy of giving!



Dear friends,

We thank God for inspiring so many people to support this year's **Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal**, which resulted in an amazing **60 boxes**.

Thank you for your generosity in filling a box and for persuading your relatives, friends and work colleagues to also bring such joy to children who have very little of their own. Everything will be treasured, from a toothbrush to a toy, a comb to a car. Thank you also for your generosity, by including money towards processing, transport etc.

Our special thanks go to Dino and Elaine for providing shoeboxes, Les for transporting them, Pauline's shopkeeper, Martin, for donating so many 'stock' items, Pauline's Mum for knitting so many hats, mittens and scarves and Pauline for her 'behind the scenes' involvement and 'contact' network.

Here is a breakdown of gender/ages of the boxes:

	Age	Boys	Girls
Age	2 – 4	1	4
	5 – 9	14	24
	10 – 14	7	10
Total		22	38

Thank you for sharing God's love and our plenty with those who have so little, especially at Christmas when we remember the coming of Jesus, the greatest gift of all. *Frances*

Not only did God bless the shoe box appeal with 60 boxes that will bless children that we will never know but he blessed the Nehemiah coin collection raising money to provide clean water for people in Kenya to drink. We take clean water for granted but having accessible clean water will be such a blessing for so many who need it.



Children sorting the Nehemiah coins



Remembrance Of those who have given their lives. Let us never forget their sacrifice and let us continue to pray for Peace.



Welcome

New Members



Welcome Mehmet
God Bless you here
With your BBC family

Welcome Ken and Kate
God Bless you here
With your BBC family





Celebrating Seven Years!
God Bless you Pauline for the next seven!

Andy Cox from the Leicester police came to collect 80 trauma teddies knit by the avid knitters of Blaby Baptist Church. Thank you, Elaine, for getting the project going. Now these cute little knitted bears will be a blessing to someone in need.



God bless the teddies as they bring comfort to those who need a cuddly friend.

Blaby Baptist Church

81st year

Women's Own

December 5th

Carols and Cake

January

No meeting

February

AGM



Bring a friend - she will be glad you did

Friendship Group

Meets every Wednesday evening

December 5th Carols and Mince pies, BBC Lounge

December 12th Christmas Story, BBC Lounge

December 19th Christmas Lunch, Southfields College

January Let's get together to finalise the schedule

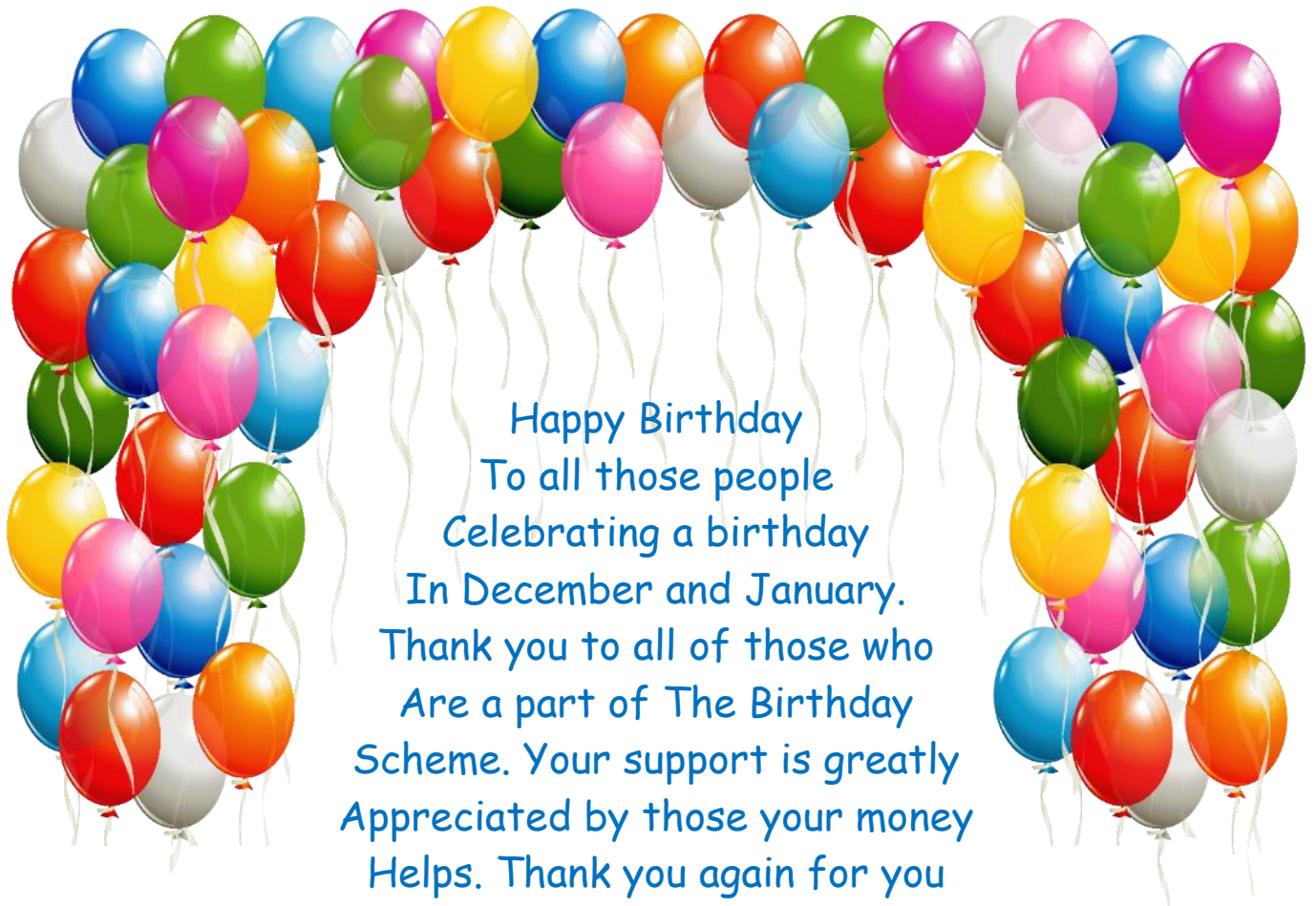




**BIRTHDAY
SCHEME**



*Do something wonderful on your birthday.
Share the gift of life.*



Get involved in this worthy cause. Talk to Ann James for
more information.

Praise and Worship



SUNDAY EVENING

WORSHIP MEETINGS

Dates are confirmed for our evening meetings in 2019 which will be held at 6pm:-

27 January
24 February
24 March
28 April
19 May
30 June
28 July
18 August
29 September
27 October
24 November
No meeting in December

Praise Him!



**Discipleship, worship,
prayer,**

**Bible study and social
Usually meet Wednesday
evenings, various venues**

7:30pm

Contact Kathryn:

07954784994

Come and join us for



It is time for the whole family to be involved in:

December 4th

Games

Songs

Crafts

Stories

January 6th

Activities

Food

We will be delighted to welcome you on the first Sunday of each month at 4pm

**Why
am
I here**

**Where
am I
going**

**Is
this
it**



Do you have questions?

What is the meaning of life?

Why do bad things happen to good people?

Why is there suffering?

Who is God?

**Come along to the Alpha Course and find the
answers you are looking for.**

**If you would like to be part of an exciting
journey? Talk to June Hughes for more**

information 07809 502830

BLAZE

Games, singing,
stories,
crafts and
competitions

Ages from 3- 11

We invite you to our
exciting new children's & young people's
groups on Sunday's from 10.30am

Youth Group
12 upwards

A fun group to help
young
people deal with the
daily
difficulties they
face today
in a positive fun
way



Blaby Baptist Church, Northfield Road, LE8 4GUPastor - Pauline Wills 0116 277 0780

www.blabybaptistchurch.org.uk



Not Only Christmas Day

Lord, this is my [prayer](#)
Not only on Christmas Day
But until I see you face to face
May I live my life this way:

Just like the baby Jesus
I ever hope to be,
Resting in your loving arms
Trusting in your [sovereignty](#).

And like the growing Christ child
In wisdom daily learning,
May I ever seek to know you
With my mind and spirit yearning.

Like [the Son](#) so faithful
Let me follow in your light,
Meek and bold, humble and strong
Not afraid to face the night.

Nor cowardly to suffer
And stand for truth alone,
Knowing that [your kingdom](#)
Awaits my going home.

Not afraid to sacrifice
Though great may be the cost,
Mindful how you rescued me
From broken-hearted loss.

Like my risen Saviour
The babe, the child, the Son,
May my life forever speak
Of who you are and all you've done.

So while this world rejoices
And celebrates [your birth](#),
I treasure you, the greatest gift
Unequalled in your worth.

I long to hear the same words
That welcomed home your Son,
"Come, good and faithful servant,"
Your Master says, "Well done."

And may heaven welcome others
Who will join with me in praise
Because I lived for [Jesus Christ](#)

Not only Christmas Day

-- [Mary Fairchild](#)



WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ALL ABOUT



And, lo, the angel of the Lord
came upon them... And the angel said
unto them, Fear not: for, behold,
I bring you good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.



LUKE 2:9-11



Offertory

September	Envelope	Plate	Total
2nd	£380.00	£44.54	£530.54
9th	£280.00	£70.20	£456.20
16th	£635.00	£52.22	£793.22
23rd	£265.00	£57.35	£428.35
30th	£515.00	£59.51	£680.51

Average £577.76

October	Envelope	Plate	Total
7th	£397.50	£121.40	£651.40
14th	£197.50	£52.06	£382.06
21st	£237.50	£113.11	£483.11
28th	£172.50	£93.40	£398.40

Average £478.74

Les

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
...
GENEROUSLY

Thoughts from the Reluctant Editor

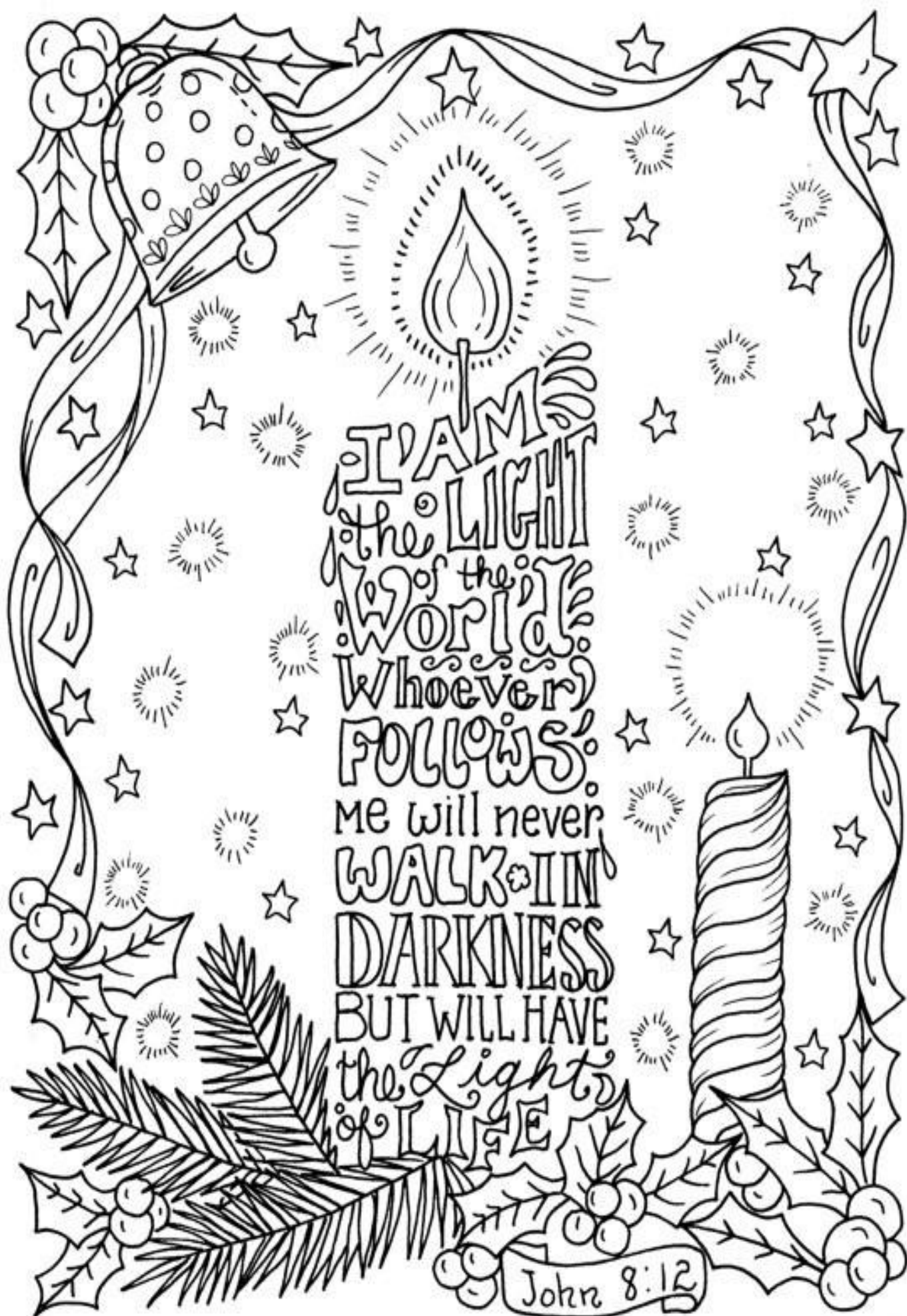
Life is so unpredictable. One minute you are bumping along doing the same old things, living your life, in a routine that is comfortable and then wham something happens that causes your world to tilt and send you off balance a bit.

To cut a long story short Julian applied for a job in Guernsey, four days later there was a skype interview, three days later he was on a plane going over to teach a lesson and be observed, one week later he started his job. Just in case you are wondering Julian is a science teacher. Now he is just covering for a teacher who is on sick leave so is only contracted until Christmas. This means that me and the dog are home alone for the five weeks until Christmas.

God is a great big God and although there seems to be great upheaval in our lives, I trust him with whatever comes next and know that whatever happens he is there with us all the way.

And so, I end where I began, life is unpredictable but in all of that God is there for us to always rely and depend on. Sometimes it is hard to let go and just let God work in our lives, but it will always be worth it in the end.

Karen



Blaby Baptist Church Calendar

December	2nd Morning Worship First Sunday in Advent Messy Church 4pm
December	3rd Churches Together AGM
December	4th Rainbows/Rangers Christingle 6-7pm
December	4th Deacons Meeting 7pm
December	9th Morning Worship Second Sunday in Advent
December	10th Quiz Night
December	11th Bible Study 7pm
December	12th Brownie/Guide Christingle
December	16th Morning Worship, Communion and Third Sunday in Advent Carols, Candles and Cake 6pm
December	17th Stokes School Christingle 9:30am
December	23rd Family Worship and Fourth Sunday in Advent
December	25th Christmas morning worship 10pm
December	30th Morning Worship
January	7th Prayer Meeting 7pm
January	15th Deacons Meeting 7pm
January	20th Church Meeting
January	22nd Bible Study 7pm
January	27th Evening Praise 6pm



Church Services

Sunday Service: 10:45 am

Communion: The third Sunday of every month.

Groups

Wednesday:

Playtime: 10am-11:30 an informal drop-in session for babies and toddlers. £1 per session.

Contact Pauline 0116 2477450

Friendship Group: 7:30pm-9pm every Wednesday.

Contact Pauline 0116 2477450

Women's Own: 2:30-4pm every first Wednesday.

Contact Pauline 0116 2477450

Friday:

Rhythm Time: morning classes (babies and toddlers)

Contact Chris 0116 2773239

Rainbows/ Brownies/ Guides/ Rangers

Contact Beryl 07891689841

