



Weekly News

Sunday 14th December 2025

A family following Jesus

The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 2 vs 10,11

Welcome to our 4.00 pm Carols by Candlelight Service led by Revd Karen Bugg

Order of Service

Welcome

Light the third Advent candle: joy

Carol: O come, all ye faithful

Reading 1: Isaiah

Carol: It came upon the midnight clear

Reading 2: Mary and the angel

Reading 3: Joseph and the angel

Carol: O little town of Bethlehem

Reading 4: Jesus is born

Carol: Joy to the world

Reading 5: Shepherds visit

Media clip

Short talk: Joy

Reading 6: Jesus in the temple

Carol: Angels from the realms of glory

Reading 7: Wise men visit

Intercessions

Reading 8: John 1.1-12, 14 (NLT)

Carol: Hark! the herald-angels sing

(Offering bags to be passed round during carol)

Invitation and Blessing

Here's the sign-up link:

<https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/small-wonder-a-christmas-devotional-journey/> Do join in with this if you can!

Rosie Richardson would like to thank everyone at church for their kindness and thoughtfulness at this sad time. God bless you all. *Rosie*

Message from Lesley Lynch: Dear friends, I want to thank you all so much for the cards, flowers, visits and phone calls with which you have supported me ever since I became unwell. I watch the livestreamed services but hope with all my heart to be back in church with everyone when it becomes possible. May God bless you all.

Meet & Make is on **Tuesdays, 1.30-3.00 pm** in the Lower Hall, using the Holliday Street entrance. Come and join us for a time spent doing arts and crafts or jigsaws and puzzles. All welcome.

This is the last session for this year. We will not meet next week as we will be having a break over Christmas; the next session will be on **13th January**.

Open Church takes place **Thursdays 10.00 am until noon**. You will find us in the Lower Hall. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake. We will not be operating on **Christmas Day or New Year's Day**, but restarting on **8th January**.

First Steps, our parent + toddler group, is **now on holiday**, restarting on **8th January**.

Notices

In our services throughout Advent, we are reflecting on the wonder of the incarnation - when God takes on flesh in the form of Jesus, the baby in the manger. Along with this theme, there is a prayer journey you can join with, running from 1st December to Christmas Day. You can sign up and follow on the YouVersion Bible app or receive an e-mail each day.

Our **Small Groups** meet weekly and fortnightly. You are encouraged to attend one to share in mid-week fellowship and learn more about Jesus through his Word. Please speak to Pat Ginger, Sandra Wotton or Alun Sainsbury if you wish to try or join a group.

A reminder to all to please save used stamps for the charity 'Kicks count'. They work to prevent the death of babies in pregnancy and the early weeks. All you need to do is cut a centimetre around the stamp and pop them in the box in the lower hall. Thanks *Maggie*

The amount raised from our annual **Gift Day appeal** was £3308. A big 'thank you' goes to all those members and friends who contributed to this fine total figure. As agreed at our September church meeting, a donation of £1100 each will be sent to the Swan Youth Project and the Waterways Chaplaincy. The remaining third will be added to church funds.
John Ball, Treasurer

The **local Scout Groups** are offering a collection service for real Christmas trees after the Christmas season is over. For a suggested voluntary donation of £6 per tree, they will pick it up on Sunday 4th January 2026 (or Saturday 3rd January for the Hall Park area), and take it to the Dacorum Council shredder. All funds raised will go to support local Scout charities. You can book and pay for your tree collection online by 11 pm on 2nd January, or visit the Scouts' Christmas tree market stall next to Tesco in Berkhamsted between 8:30 am and 12:30 pm on **Saturday 3rd January**.

We are continuing to collect food and other grocery items for the DENS Foodbank; these are delivered to Hemel Hempstead each week. Please leave your contributions in the box in the church entrance. Their urgent needs include:

- Tinned ham/corned beef
- Tinned fruit
- Cooking sauces
- Long life juice/squash
- Jams and spreads
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned sweetcorn
- Tinned fish
- Sweet and savoury biscuits
- Christmas chocolates and selection packs
- Custard
- Nuts
- Rice pudding
- Sponge puddings
- Roasting trays (large)
- Deodorants
- Laundry liquid/tabs/powder (small packs)
- 2-in-1 shampoo

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayers

Please pray for

- the Leadership team
- our outreach to our community
- those who mourn
- Christmas services throughout our town

From BMS World Mission

Praise God for the dedication of churches in the UK, whose prayers and gifts have sustained BMS's work over generations. Ask God that he would continue to inspire churches to support this Kingdom work.

In a humble stable,
ignored by all
within Bethlehem's walls,
the divine touched this earth,
breathed the air we breathe
and walked the ground we walk.
Born to sacrifice.
Born to bring us life.
Forgive our reluctance
to proclaim this to the world,
forgive our ingratitude
when we disregard your word.
Bring us to that place
where shepherds heard
the angels sing,
and send us out
to share that glorious song.

From <https://www.faithandworship.com/>

Lord, thank you for walking with us through the seasons of our lives.
For the winter, when we are held safe in your arms through the darkness.
For the hope of spring, as we are filled with new promise and life.
For summer time, full of warmth and colour
And for autumn days as leaves fall to seed new growth.
You are always with us.
Amen.

Prayer courtesy www.lords-prayer-words.com

And finally...

The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Romans 14 v 17

Items for the next News Sheet to Chris Hayward by Thursday 18th December, please