

St. Andrew's Psalter Lane Church
An Anglican Methodist Partnership
December 2018 - January 2019



NEXUS

Christ in Nether Edge & Us



*ilent night, holy night.
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.*

standrewspsalterlane.org.uk

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Who's Who

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Local Preachers	Mary Kenward	Jandm.kenward@blueyonder.co.uk	281 1284
Readers	John Harding	John.harding13@virginmedia.com	201 3516
	Judith Roberts <i>Pastoral worker</i>	Robertsjm4@gmail.com	236 1531
	Imogen Clout <i>Children's Minister</i>	Imogen.clout@btinternet.com	268 6645

Ecumenical Church Council

Wardens	Muriel Roberts	h.mcrowcafe@btinternet.com	255 1473
	John Boler	john.booler14@gmail.com	258 7697
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	Anne Hollows	anne.hollows@gmail.com	2493411
Chair	David Body	body.david@btinternet.com	268 6645
Treasurer	Joseph Dey	joseph@dey.co.uk	255 0953
Property Steward	John Cripps	cripps@uwclub.net	258 8932
Giving	Rodney Godber	rodney.godber@btinternet.com	266 3893
Secretary	Janet Loughridge	j.loughridge@sheffield.ac.uk	258 4164

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Administrator	Olivia Cox	office@standrewspalterlane.org.uk	267 8289
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CHURCH BOOKING

Caretaker	Debbie Thirtle	bookaroom@standrewspalterlane.org.uk	255 3787
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Music	Simon Dumpleton	simondumpleton@gmail.com	07734527449
St Andrew's Hall bookings	John Fieldsend	nicrite@btopenworld.com	258 2631

BADEN POWELL ORGANISATIONS – which meet in St Andrew's Hall

Brownies (Mon)	Chris Venables	chris.venables@blueyonder.co.uk	255 0805
Brownies (Fri)	Kay Smith	Kayelaine19@gmail.com	235 9741
Guides (Mon)	Jacqui Ford	jaxtimford@gmail.com	230 8040
Beavers	Nick Dulake	Beavers.72ndstandrews@gmail.com	
Cubs	Rich Wain	richardcwain@gmail.com.com	07990528783
Scouts	Tim Major	tmajor@hotmail.co.uk	07914450882
Explorers	See www.hallamscouts.org.uk/explorers.html		

(A District Group which meets at Ringinglow)

Welcome & Cover Illustration

Welcome to all readers of our Christmas and New Year edition of NEXUS. Our focus at this time of the year is on good news, the good news that Christ is born and the good news of all that is around us at a time of trouble and turmoil. Thanks to Jack Reavey for our cover design, and to Barbara Easton, Director of Education for the Methodist Church in Britain, whose ideas formed the basis of pages 23 and 23.

There are links to further information within the text and it will be easier to access those links by accessing Nexus on our web page <http://www.standrewspalterlane.org.uk/> Nexus is curated by Anne Hollows 07723407054, anne.hollows@gmail.com The next edition of Nexus will cover February and March 2019. Contributions are welcome and will be needed by Wednesday 16th January.

Letter from Gareth

Dear friends,

The theme of “good news” appears at various points in the Gospels. In Luke’s narrative of Jesus’ birth, the angel announces to the shepherds “good news of great joy for all the people.” Mark, who has no birth narrative but begins his Gospel with Jesus’ baptism by John and forty days in the wilderness, opens his account with the words: “The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” Later in the first chapter of Mark, as Jesus begins his public ministry, he calls upon people to “repent, and believe in the good news.”

The Greek word translated in these verses as “good news” appears many times in the rest of the New Testament. However, when we find it in the New Testament letters, it is more often translated as “gospel”, meaning the message about Jesus Christ which the apostles have been called to proclaim. In fact, according to Cruden’s Concordance to the Bible, the term appears 50 times altogether in the epistles.

As you may well know, the original Greek word is *euangelion*, which literally means “good news”. The English word “gospel” derives from the Anglo-Saxon *gōdspel*, which has the same meaning, but “gospel” came to be used as a theological term to express the content of this good news of Christ. It is also, of course, used as the title of the four accounts of Jesus, the “Gospels”.

So what is this good news, this gospel? It is, first of all, all that is summed up in the doctrine of the incarnation: that the divine is present in the world, and in the world of humanity, and that in the person of Christ this divine reality is seen most vividly. For the Eastern Orthodox churches, the incarnation is the central content of the gospel, together with the joy of the resurrection. Protestant churches have tended to identify the gospel more with the cross of Christ, and with God’s compassion for humanity symbolised in the cross. Whatever our doctrinal emphases might be, the good news is expressed in renewed lives.

However, the good news of Christ isn’t just something inward and doctrinal; the Bible also sees it as a concrete reality that affects people’s

lived experience. In Luke's Gospel, when Jesus preaches in the synagogue in Nazareth at the beginning of his ministry, he quotes a famous passage from Isaiah which begins: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor." Jesus goes on to apply these verses to himself: he has come to bring release to those in captivity and an overcoming of oppression; his message and ministry is the good news of justice, welcome and hope.

We tend to have difficulties with the word "evangelism" because of its association with particular forms of theology. However, an evangelist is literally someone who proclaims good news. If the good news is to do with divine grace in our personal lives and the call to live compassionately and justly, then in that sense we are all called to be evangelists.

Peace and love,
Gareth



CONTEMPLATION

COURAGE

Lord of life, I ask for a gift
I never want to need or use:
the gift of courage.

I pray for it for myself, as with uncertainty
i look towards an unknown future,
wondering where and when I will be tested and
fearing that my cowardice will one day be exposed.

I pray it for those who will need it this day.
Those who face threats from others,
the prospect of physical pain, or
exposure to ridicule and embarrassment.

Give me eyes to see beauty, dignity and
grace in the bravery of others.
Help me when I am tempted away from truth and service
by my lack of courage.

Help me to escape the habits and tricks of avoidance.
Rid me, I pray, of all false courage
and dangerous machismo,
of dull stoicism and unfeeling hardness.

Bless me, I pray, with the courage of Gethsemane.

And bind me in the fellowship of those
who take the cup of necessary suffering,
and drink from it.

Stephen Cherry

Talking Point : Good news stories

Christmas is coming and so too are the countless requests for donations. Sometimes these are accompanied by small gifts – coasters, or address labels from some. I particularly like the excellent free bamboo socks sent for the second year by a particular clothing company. I like them so much that I have ordered some for Christmas gifts. I wonder how much our response to charity requests is motivated by what we see in the materials they distribute. Of course at Christmas we all tend to donate to our favoured charities – we buy their Christmas cards or perhaps we buy gifts from their catalogues. I have a friend who makes a major donation every year at Christmas to a particular charity; the same charity to whom I give every month. They tell me that both kinds of donations are welcomed and valued in

different ways. But they have also told me that there's always a dilemma. Do they attract gifts by telling stories of war, tragedy, despair or do they achieve more by sharing good news stories – 'this year our mobile clinic was able to treat this number of women and children'. Without prejudice to the fund raising, I believe that good news stories have their place. But having asked for examples for this edition of Nexus, I have so far received few. That may be a result of the general level of despair felt by so many of us about... well where to start? The level of street homelessness, the relentless rise in food ban use – even before the dreaded Universal Credit kicks in, the increase in hate crime, to name just three. And that is without me getting started on the supreme folly of Brexit.

But last month I encountered a remarkable woman, Francine. She has made her life's work to gather good quality, but unwanted, furniture and re-purpose, or as she says 're-home', it to families rehoused after domestic violence or to young single homeless people given a tenancy. She has premises in Attercliffe (her father says it's real feast or famine – either so much stuff you can't get in or so little you just have to hope and pray that more in on its way.) She's looking for a small warehouse and has recently registered as a charity. If you want to pass on something, call her at re-house to re-home 07572060374

Another person looking for a warehouse is Abdul Gooljar, well known to the Interfaith Centre. He regularly sends containers of clothes and household goods collected from mosques in Sheffield to meet the needs of Syrian refugees in Turkey and Greece. For the refugees are still there in great numbers. If you know of any secure basement where he can store his collections please let me know. There's more about refugees later on.

I heard recently about two elderly women in the south of England who relentlessly knit baby clothes in pink or blue and dispatch to Baby Basics so that new mothers will have some hand knitted items for their new babies. Something for Knit and Natter to try perhaps?

I heard about busy folk giving up the Friday before Christmas to help out with bumper packages at food banks. Numbers at Parsons Cross have already risen by 25% since Universal credit was launched.

And I heard about the people giving up Christmas Day to provide an amazing event for young people in care or who have left care with no family. They need helpers and hosts on Christmas Day, 10-3 OR 2-7

(OR BOTH) They also need donations to their Amazon wishlist at <https://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/registry/wishlist/IZE0X7RZTB7WN> and you can support them through the Waitrose green button scheme this month.

And if you need any advice on ways to spend a more virtuous Christmas, the info graphic below may help! Have a wonderful time over Christmas and for the new year, may I wish you and yours every blessing and hopes for a brighter, better, fairer and kinder year ahead.
Anne Hollows



All those little grey tents

Of course, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) isn't perfect. And of course, it is the job of those outside the organisation to continue to hold the agency to account, and ensure that money and resources are well spent in order to make the biggest possible difference to refugees facing impossible upheavals from their homes around the world. But, at a time when the US Administration is working hard to de-fund and slowly dismantle different parts of the United Nations, it is a good time to reflect on what an incredible system is in place. When a war breaks out and individuals, families and communities are forced to flee for their lives; or when a natural disaster leaves thousands of people without homes, it is remarkable to think that within 72 hours an emergency operation can be launched and refugee camps set up. Warehouses all over the world are located close to major air hubs – I visited the warehouse in Geneva. They hold tents and materials to build makeshift structures, as well different aid items like plastic sheets, blankets, mosquito nets, solar lanterns, cooking pots and jerry cans. Alongside these warehouses are staff who are always ready to deploy. The UN Refugee Agency currently works in 128 countries around the world, and almost 90% of the staff they employ are based in the field, working with refugees everyday.

Caitlin Procter

A good news church story

Once upon a time in a small ordinary town, there were two churches of different traditions. They were so close together that only a low wall and a rickety gate separated them. As the ecumenical movement was gathering momentum, they decided that they ought to have the occasional joint service. No earthquake occurred, so they went on to close one building once a month and worship together in the other. Meanwhile, pressures grew: rising costs, dwindling congregations And social challenges in the community. Were these just human secular issues, or could God use them? A handful of brave souls in each church grasped the nettle, and propose the unthinkable.-- close one building

altogether and unite in the other -but how to decide which? Both were relatively modern and both had good points and poor. A survey was done.

Shock ensued! Neither building was sound enough to be a long-term prospect: the only solution was a completely new structure. God had surely spoken, and after the initial doubt and apprehension the feeling grew that perhaps a small building appropriate for their reduced needs might even be a Good. Thing! But to those listening, God was saying something very different. These brave prophetic people were having visions and dreams! They saw, as it were in God's mind's eye, not just a "just adequate worship place, but a place where all would be welcome - with spaces for babies to play, the young to learn, the elderly to find companionship, a lovely sanctuary, a music venue, all leading off a real cafe, open every day for everyone. Many were stunned! Here in this struggling little town? It would never catch on, would it? And many doubted it could ever be paid for.

Still, able Folk were tasked with researching all the possibilities, and gradually the vision caught fire and was passed from one to another. Prophecy was turning into planning.

There were some great "alleluia" moments along the way; the one when complete demolition was about to happen - where now to worship? An expensive hall- hiring seemed out of the question. Then a miracle! A church just up the road announced it needed to move on, and the United Church could use their old building for free for as long as..... The foundation-stone laying by the oldest and youngest members, a lady of 100 years and a baby of eighteen months ,: and the chilly early Sunday morning when hardy members watched in amazement as the huge cross- shaped, steel window frame was installed in the partially completed facade right on the Main Street. Nothing like it had been seen before, nor ever made by the local engineering company.. God was given the glory!

On the day of the opening in May 2006, (nearly) all sceptics were silenced. The local press declared " Town centre vision now a reality" As far as we the members were concerned, " it was the Lord's doing, and marvellous in our eyes."

If you don' t know the Crossing in Worksop ,do go and experience this example of local good news.

Janet Clarke

Get
up off
of your knees.
Come out of your
churches, your mosques,
your temples. God can hear
your prayers for peace, justice,
and hope in this broken world just
fine while you're out creating peace,
working for justice, and giving hope to
this broken world. When are we finally
going to realize that humanity is the solution
to inhumanity? When will we finally understand
that we are all drops of the same ocean, hurting
together, healing together, hoping together?
So don't just pray for hands to heal the hurting.
Pray with hands that are healing the hurting.
Don't just pray for arms to help the helpless.
Pray with arms that are helping the helpless.
Don't just pray for feet to respond to need.
Pray on feet that are responding to need.
Don't just pray for someone to do something.
Be someone who does something.
Don't just pray for answers.
Be the answer. L.R.Knost

Living at home with the Live at Home Scheme

MHA's Live at Home Sheffield Scheme's passion and ambition is to reduce social isolation and feelings of loneliness. We want every older person to be connected and feel a vital part of a community that cares and to be able to live healthy, fulfilled and independent lives for as long as possible. By working in the community to deliver a variety of social groups, lunch clubs, outings, activity days and much more we want to reach as many people as possible across Sheffield.

We are always looking for volunteers to join us and help us bring people together. Whether you have a passion for music or crafts to share with our members or can make an excellent cup of tea, love to chat and have the time, we'd love to hear from you!

We are seeking donations of tombola/raffle prizes we can use at

fundraising events. Sheffield Live at Home relies on grants, donations and fundraising to enable us to continue our work so any support is truly appreciated.

You can email us at Sheffield.liveathome@mha.org.uk for more details. We are based at MHA Southcroft and can be contacted throughout the week on 0114 258344

Interfaith News

News from Shirley House Interfaith Centre

Sheffield has really taken 'Interfaith Week' to heart. I knew of at least 8 different events that took place between 18th and 24th November, from a Turkish Muslim breakfast, to a Jewish speaker at Underbank Unitarian Chapel, the Launch of the Sheffield Faith Leaders Charter for Education, a debate on faith in the family hosted by the Islamic Society of GB, 'Stories from our Scriptures', and an Interfaith Walk(ley). Funnily enough, the National Interfaith Network had actually picked the previous seven days as Interfaith Week!

A month before that I attended a Vigil for the Pittsburgh Synagogue massacre, in the Peace Gardens, hastily arranged by (Muslim) Shahida Siddique, Director of Faith Star LLP, an interfaith community support organisation. Horrors like this in our twin steel city emphasise the need for good interfaith relations everywhere.

We hope you will be able to attend our forthcoming winter party, and other events in Shirley House listed below:

Wed 12th Dec. Party (Traditional games from different cultures)
7.30 pm

Wed 19th Dec. SIF Food & Friendship dinner 6.00-8.00 pm

Sun 13th Jan. 2019 Art & Craft afternoon (with tea & cakes)
2.30-4.30 pm

Thur 24th Jan. 2019 – SIF Food & Friendship dinner 6.00-8.00 pm

Feb 2019 (Date to be arranged) a **Talk about the Faith Action Survey** carried out to ascertain various social actions carried out by faith groups in the city, either working separately or as interfaith teams.



Eco Church

Since our last report (Nexus: Oct/Nov 2018), when we were awaiting with baited breath the arrival of the Churchyard Survey Report, it has all happened. This is really good news.

We had a meeting on 9th October at which our main business was to consider where the Church was at with “The Quiet Garden” project, instigated about 4 years ago, and which somehow seems to have dropped off our radar. We agreed that some of this project’s proposals should be incorporated into the eco-development of the large green area beside and behind the church. This development would be based on the recommendations of the Churchyard Survey which was still not to hand. A proposal was also considered that the orchard/meadow area plus the larger part of the compound, should be planted with suitable trees to support the national tree-planting initiative, and to reduce our churchyard maintenance needs in the longer term. This proposal was generally supported by the group, which has set up a sub-group to progress matters.

“Cometh the hour”, and the great survey report was eventually received on 19th October. Its appendix contained a list of the different species of plant/tree found (over 130) with 7 different insects seen on a dull day. There were 12 really useful recommendations under the following headings: use of native stock; creation of varied habitats; wildflower meadows; wildflower lawns; ponds and scrapes; log piles; bulb planting; hedgerows; spring and hedgerow wildflowers; orchards; allotments/cultivation; bird/animal feeding boxes and stations. Some of these overlapped.

From the above has emerged a discussion document setting out which proposals were most relevant to us, plus comments on their implementation. This could become the basis for our final plan to be submitted to the Church Council. We are getting there! But we will desperately be needing volunteers to get the work done after the go-ahead is given.....

Please do contact me with any comments or suggestions.

Anthony Ashwell (255 0568) on behalf of SAPLC Eco-Group.

Global warming – a quick update

The Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C (SR15) was published by the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC) on 8 October 2018. The report includes over 6,000 scientific references, and was prepared by 91 authors from 40 countries!

Its key finding is that meeting a target of 1.5 °C (2.7 °F) for global warming above pre-industrial levels between 2030 and 2052 is *possible*, but would require "deep emissions reductions" and "rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society." The report also finds that "limiting global warming to 1.5 °C compared with 2 °C would *reduce challenging impacts* on [ecosystems](#), human health and well-being" and that a 2°C temperature increase would exasperate extreme weather, rising sea levels and diminishing Arctic sea ice, coral bleaching, and loss of ecosystems, among other impacts.

Global warming will likely rise to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels between 2030 and 2052 if warming continues to increase at the current rate. Greenhouse gas emissions have already contributed 0.8–1.2 °C (1.4–2.2 °F) of warming but are unlikely to cause global temperature to rise to 1.5 °C alone, and a global temperature rise to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels is *avoidable*, depending on the rate of further emissions. But how? The report suggests that actions consistent with the 1.5°C pathway include "shifting to low- or zero-emission power generation, such as *renewables*; changing food systems, such as *diet changes* away from land-intensive animal products; electrifying transport and developing 'green infrastructure', such as building green roofs, or improving energy efficiency by smart urban planning." For example, an *increase of [forestation](#)* by 10,000,000 square kilometres (3,900,000 sq mi) by 2050 relative to 2010 would be required.

So let's get planting trees!

Clare Loughridge

Gardening Notes:

As crazy as the weather has been this year, I fear I must say, “welcome to the new ‘normal!’” And just to add to the weird, I picked figs from my tree in mid November. Not brilliant but definitely figs, sweet, soft and edible! This is a tree that was given to me as a Christmas present by my children. I had been told not to go into the shed, as there was a big box that contained my present in there. I was certainly surprised. Limiting its roots so that we get more figs and less tree has been challenging. But that is a long story and not one for here and now.



Fruit trees are a nice idea, but if you do decide on this course of action I would suggest you ask the recipient if this is something they would like. Living produce, fish, fowl or foliage ought to be sent to an appreciative home where they will be properly cared for. As a supplier of trees I recommend R.V.Roger's of Pickering. An excellent nursery and if it will grow in Pickering it will grow in our part of Sheffield.

This is the time of the year to be repairing and preparing your gardens. All those cleaning and fixing jobs that you put off because the weather was too good and gave you more pleasant and edible things to do. So get on with path and fence repairs, compost heap removal and eviction of that shrub that you shouldn't have bought and did not live up to the picture in the catalogue. Try not to walk on exposed soil and cover what will need to be dug with whatever is available, so that you can get onto it in February. Put some bird feeders in the midst of your fruit bushes. The birds queuing up for the feeder will perch on them picking off aphids and their eggs whilst waiting their turn. Please don't burn the prunings but put them into the bin. Sheffield burns its waste and that way the city gets to use the energy tied up in the wood and cleans the air as it goes up the chimney. If you are planning to grow garlic in needs to be in as soon as possible. Mine went into pots in the greenhouse mid November, as I have not yet cleared the dahlias from where it will be planted.

Have a happy Christmas good New Year.

Bill

Food and Feasting: A cake for Epiphany

As many of you will know, Epiphany is the major festival in Spain during the Christmas period. With roots at least as much in pagan culture as in Christianity, the festival of the Kings on 6th January is an occasion for exchange of gifts, street parades and showers of colourful sweets thrown from the moving floats to the delight of children, often armed with buckets to catch them. Roscón de Reyes is the cake, baked in a ring and decorated with crystallised fruits.

350 g flour
25 g fresh yeast
125 ml milk
100 g sugar
75 g butter (softened)
1 egg + 1 egg yolk
orange zest
1 tbsp rum
1 tsp orange blossom essence
1 pinch salt
candied fruit to decorate

Dissolve yeast in warm milk and leave for 15 minutes.

Put 320 g flour, sugar and orange zest in a bowl and add milk and yeast to a well in the centre. Mix to incorporate into a thick paste but leaving some flour on the edge of the bowl. Add egg yolk, rum, butter, essence and salt. Mix well incorporating all the flour.

Use the rest of the flour to sprinkle onto your work surface and tip out the dough to kneed – it should be slightly sticky but not adhering to the surface. Place in a floured bowl and cover, leaving to rise for 2-3 hours. When doubled, kneed again to remove air (1 Minute), then form into a ring. Place on a baking sheet and allow to rise again – 30-60 minutes. When it is leavened, brush with the beaten whole egg and decorate to taste with fruits. Bake for 25 minutes at 160 degrees (fan 150) until golden.

NB it is usually carried home from the bakery to be eaten after a meal of slow roast lamb. A similar cake is also eaten at Easter

Church and Community

Knit and Knatter

Mondays 10-12 noon Knit and Knatter. In Shirley House. Contact: Alison Gregg, 266 5638.

Parent and Baby Group: New baby in the family? Join our friendly group of parents - Mums and/or Dads with babies up to 12 months. Friday mornings during term time 10.00 – 11.30 at St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church. It's a chance to meet other new parents in friendly relaxed surroundings. Refreshments teas, coffees, other beverages and home made cakes. Cost: £1. 50 per family per week Contact Muriel on 2551473 or Jean 2550198

17th Sheffield Monday Brownies

Mondays at St Andrew's Hall from 5.45pm – 7.15pm. If you are at all interested, please contact Chris Venables. 07950 432487 for further information.

The Tuesday Café

The Tuesday Café, our café for people living with memory loss or dementia and their carers opened in the middle of March. The café takes place in the narthex in church on Tuesday mornings between 10.00 a.m. - 12 noon . We intend that it will be open every Tuesday of the year (except Christmas Day!) The café offers hot drinks, biscuits and homemade cakes, music, memory activities, and the opportunity for a chat. The café already has a good group of volunteers from the congregation and we are also grateful to those who have offered to bake for us. If you know anyone who might be interested in coming to the café, do please take flyer with all the information. If you are interested in helping, please speak to Judith Roberts.

Church Family

Congratulations to

John Harding on receiving a certificate to mark 40 years as a Local Preacher

Fran and Andrew Hales-Hill following their wedding, and Kath Hales as

mother of the bride

The families of Emeline Sowter and Charlie Brentnall following their baptisms, and of Ruby Illingworth following her thanksgiving

Our thoughts and prayers are with

John and Barbara Booler following the death of John's brother Philip
those with health concerns: Chris Lowry, Alistair Dempster, Peter Rothwell, Jenny Banks, George Glover, Lisa Solk, Ernest and Christine Carrick (Mark's parents), and Margaret Abbey
those recovering from operations and falls: Janet Loughridge, Jan Birch, Hilda Muntz and Dorothy Pointer

Young SAPLC

Sandcastles: Our monthly service for younger children and their parents/carers is on the second Sunday of the month at 9.15. All church members are welcome to attend these services and share in the worship with this part of the church family.

Junior Church: (Pebbles 3-5, Stones 6-10,) is during the main service at 10.30. Children between 2 and 3 can join in the youngest group (Pebbles) with a parent/carer)

Christmas Card Tree for HARC

The tree, collecting box, card to sign and gift aid forms will be in Church from Sunday 9th December. For anyone new to our Church, those of us who wish send one card to the whole congregation and the money saved on cards and stamps is donated to the Sheffield charity, Homeless and Rootless at Christmas (HARC).

Rodney & Marilyn

About our services

Sunday Services

Normal pattern: 10.30 am Service: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays Holy Communion service; 2nd and 4th Sunday, Morning Worship

Monthly services: 2nd Sunday – Sandcastles at 9.15 am
4th Sunday – Holy Communion at 9.15 am (using Common Worhsip and the Book of Common Prayer)

2nd Sunday – Holy Communion at Southcroft, 6.30 pm

Please note that the bread used in our communion services is gluten free. Both fermented and unfermented communion wines are used.

Wednesday Services

At the 10.00 Communion service on Wednesdays, we reflect together on a piece of spiritual writing. This may be from one of the Christian traditions, or sometimes from another tradition of faith. The person leading the service will make copies of the piece of writing to give out to everyone. Come and enjoy an oasis of reflective calm in the middle of a busy week, and join us for coffee or tea afterwards.

CHURCH DIARY DECEMBER

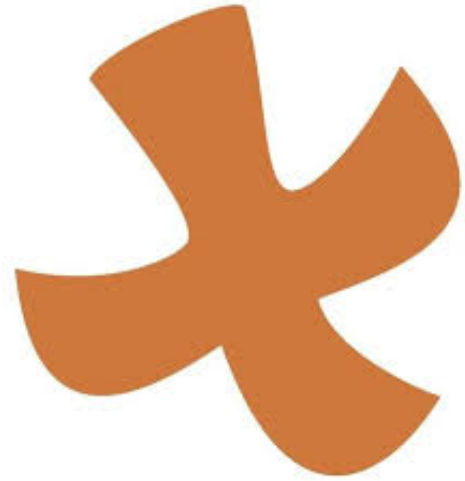
Saturday 1 st	9.30 am onwards	Working Party	
Sunday 2 nd	12.30 pm after morning service	Soup and Puddings Lunch – all welcome!	Narthex
Thursday 6 ^h	9.30 am onwards	Working Party	
Saturday 8 th	6.30 pm	Music! Music! Music! An evening of music with the Southcroft Singers and musicians from SAPLC	Southcroft Lounge
Sunday 9 th	11.00 am – 3.00 pm	Nether Edge Farmers Market	
Tuesday 11 th	7.30 pm	Property and Finance Meeting	Interfaith Room
Thursday 13 th	6.30 – 9.00 pm	Sheffield Carols - traditional Sheffield Carols with live music, Christmas gift stalls and refreshments. Admission free.	Church

JANUARY

Tuesday 15 th	7.30 pm	Worship Planning Meeting	
Wednesday 16 th	7.30 pm	Property & Finance Meeting	Interfaith Room
Wednesday 23 rd	7.30 pm	Eco-Church meeting	Narthex

DECEMBER – JANUARY SERVICES

December 2nd	Advent Sunday	
10.30 am	Holy Communion, Gift Service and Advent Carol Service	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
December 5th		
7.00 pm	Taizé Prayer for Advent	
December 9th	Second Sunday of Advent	
9.15 am	Sandcastles	
10.30 am	Morning Worship	<i>Imogen Clout</i>
6.30 pm	Holy Communion at Southcroft	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
December 12th		
7.00 pm	Taizé Prayer for Advent	
December 16th	Third Sunday of Advent	
10.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Gareth Jones, Mark Carrick</i>
December 19th		
7.00 pm	Taizé Prayer for Advent	
December 23rd	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
9.15 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
10.30 am	Morning Worship	<i>Judith Roberts</i>
6.30 pm	Christmas Carol Service	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
December 24th	Christmas Eve	
5.00 pm	Christingle Service – the Christmas story re-told	
December 25th	Christmas Day	
10.30 am	Family Holy Communion	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
December 30th	First Sunday after Christmas	
10.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Anthony Ashwell</i>
January 6th	Epiphany	
10.30 am	Covenant Service and Holy Communion. We will be joined by friends from the other Mission Partnership Churches, St Augustine's, St Mary's Bramall Lane and St Peter and St Oswald's	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
January 13th	Baptism of Christ	
9.15 am	Sandcastles	
10.30 am	Morning Worship	<i>Mark Carrick</i>
6.30 pm	Holy Communion at Southcroft	<i>Revd Anthony Ashwell</i>
January 20th	Second Sunday of Epiphany	
10.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
January 27th	Third Sunday of Epiphany	
9.15 am	Holy Communion	<i>Revd Gareth Jones</i>
10.30 am	Morning Worship	<i>Imogen Clout</i>



TAIZE IN ADVENT

Quiet reflective worship with gentle
repetitive singing
on Wednesdays at 7.00 pm in the Chancel
Dec 5th, 12th & 19th

WE KNEEL

Mary sits,
 the child rocked in her womb
 now rocked in her arms.

Joseph stands
 the child given to him
 now bound to his heart.

We kneel
 the child come to us
 now capturing our love.

O God come to us once more,
bind us to you
with cords of love.

Lead us with reins of kindness
and bring us to fulness of life.

Kate McIlhagga