



# e-MESSENGER

61<sup>st</sup> Issue: December 2024

Please feel free to distribute 'e-Messenger' to others who may find it of interest.

## A message from the Superintendent

Dear friends,

As I write this, Christmas day is less than two weeks away and I am not ready! Presents are neither bought or wrapped, wrapping paper and Sellotape are still hidden away in cupboards, sermons are not written, and carols are unchosen! I am not ready. As we go through December, we hear the familiar Christmas music played in shops and restaurants, we see adverts telling us that we need to buy the latest toy, or vacuum, or perfume to be really happy at Christmas. We put up trees, and fairy lights, we eat mince pies, and we wrap presents. We plan our Christmas dinner, decide which family members we're going to visit, and if they're coming to stay, we decide who's going to sleep where, and get our emergency chairs out so everyone can sit down. We work hard to be ready ... but in truth I'm not too worried about all that, I want to be ready for the celebration of Christ in Christmas, for the incarnation, for the miracle of God's grace ... So, what do I need to be ready? Well, let me start with three memories!

It was around Christmas that I remember seeing a new box above the door of the local shop in the village I lived in when I was in Yorkshire. Most people don't notice it - not because they couldn't see it but because they couldn't hear it. This small box was designed to emit an unpleasant noise at a frequency that only younger people could hear. It was designed to discourage young people from hanging about around the door! Most people couldn't hear it, because as they've grown older, they lost the ability to hear it, but the noise is still there.



When I was young, we always had a real Christmas tree in the house, and the strongest memories I have of Christmas growing up are infused with the smell of the pine tree. Every time I smell pine trees it takes me back to the excitement of Christmas time as a child.

Every Christmas time, on the lawn by the flyover in Litherland there was a nativity scene, and every year as I grew up, one night in Advent we went to have a look at it close up. I remember it being enormous, in a big box with a Perspex window, it was covered in lights, and there

inside was the stable, with Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Magi, and Jesus. I knew it was Christmas time when I saw that scene for myself.



We do all the Christmas things that we do each year, and hopefully we enjoy them, hopefully we find it to be a peaceful, happy time! But amidst all that, we need to see, to hear, the smell the message of God's grace around us, we need to let the glory of the incarnation fill all our senses.

That glory is all around us, its majesty infuses all the world, it echoes from eternity to eternity, in the darkest places of our world – it is peace, it is joy, it is love! The glory of Christ's incarnation is here, but so often we are unable to see it, or hear it, or smell it, and so we miss it. Perhaps we miss it because we are so busy. Perhaps we miss it because we are so wrapped up with other things. To be ready to celebrate Christmas we need to allow God's great story to fill our senses again.

At the heart of Christmas is the birth of Jesus Christ, we need to hear the great story and allow God to fill us with awe and wonder as the word becomes flesh!

So, as we prepare for Christmas, let the call of the angels to Mary and Joseph saying God is at work in your life, let the song of the great company of angels to the shepherd



singing "glory be to God and peace to all on earth", let the awestruck wonder of the Magi as they present gifts to a king, fill all our senses! Then when our senses are filled, look up, look out, look around, and know the great truth of God's grace in the history of the world. Two thousand years ago as Christ was born, but

today as Christ still moves to heal and bless and love.

Amidst all the other things we are doing, let us be ready for God to lead us deeper into the holy mystery of Christmas!

*Him the angels all adored,  
their Maker and their King;  
tidings of their humbled Lord  
they now to mortals bring.  
Emptied of his majesty,  
of his dazzling glories shorn,  
being's source begins to be,  
and God himself is born!*

*Charles Wesley*

With every blessing this Christmas,  
Graham



## Methodist Families Together



MFT have been busy so far this year, with lots going on for our families. The Christmas celebrations are in full flow.

You may know that Judy from Poynton has moved to Cambridgeshire to be closer to family. Judy was a huge part of MFT and was so supportive in driving our vision forward. She was Poynton's representative on my support group and was the focal point of arranging and delivering the MFT events at Poynton. Poynton have successfully continued the work that Judy did with some support from me. I just want to say a BIG THANK YOU to the team who worked with Judy and the new people who have stepped forward to ensure that the work of MFT carries on for the families who attend our events. Without you all none of this would be possible.

In November we welcomed year 2 from Whirley Primary School to Broken Cross Methodist Church as part of their RE curriculum as they were learning about different places of worship in their community. They were also learning about parables.

We welcomed them with a drink and biscuit and then shared with them things that happen in the Church on a regular basis and talked about special services that happen in our church. We held a mock baptism with the children, we then did our story in the box and craft session on the 'Lost Sheep.' The children enjoyed listening to the parable and then making a sheep. Their teacher decided that the sheep each child made would be hung on their class Christmas tree.

It was lovely to have the children in the church and especially seeing some familiar faces from our Deep Sea Divers Holiday Club in July.

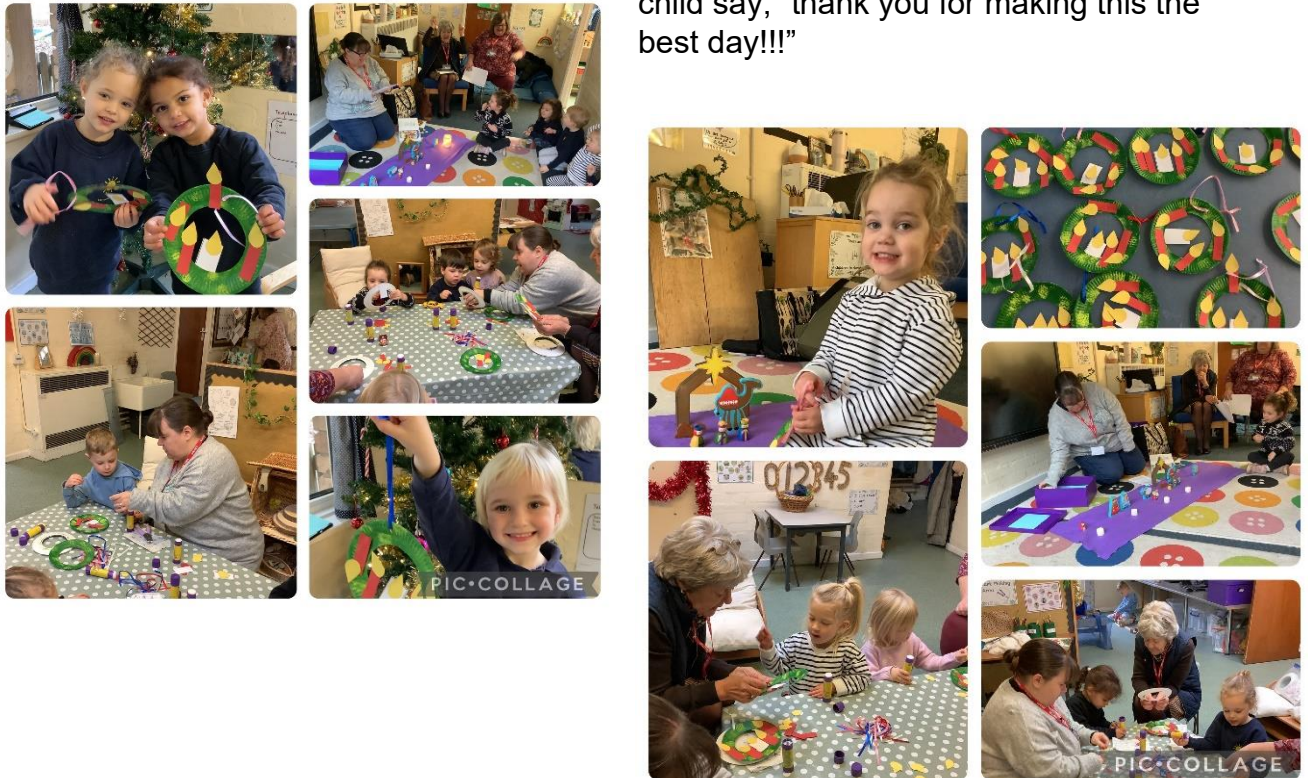


We have completed our first of many Christingles already. Rev Graham and four of his students from Cliff College joined 1<sup>st</sup> Gawsworth Girls' Brigade and took over their company evening to share in a Christingle. The girls and their families came and made their own Christingles with the help of 'Chris Tingle.' We then all went into the Chapel where the Cliff students spoke about what Christmas is all about, we read a Bible passage and then lit all our Christingles (over 40 were made) and sung carols by the candlelight.

It was a lovely evening and thank you 1<sup>st</sup> Gawsworth GB for inviting us to share in a Christingle service with you.

MFT have been into Prestbury Primary School to deliver our story box and craft session for, nursery and two reception classes. We shared the true meaning of Advent, not just a countdown to Christmas day. Then each child made their own Advent Wreath. The children and adults really enjoyed the sessions, we even had a

child say, "thank you for making this the best day!!!"



On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December Macclesfield host their annual Sunday School Christmas party. Once again, this year they have extended the invite to families connected to all the churches in the circuit. So, we look forward to lots of fun and celebrations.

THANK YOU to the Sunday School team for arranging and extending the invite.



# Christmas Events

**Messy Christmas** Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2-4pm at Broken Cross Methodist Church.

**Family Friendly Carol Service** Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 10:30am at both Macclesfield and Poynton Methodist Church.

## **Christmas Eve Christingles**

3:30pm Macclesfield Methodist Church

5pm Langley Methodist Church

6pm Broken Cross Methodist Church

As we enter a busy period with lots of activities going on for our families, we must make time for ourselves, so we can prepare, reflect, and wait for the mystery of Christmas.

Christmas is a very busy period, and I just want to take this opportunity to THANK EVERY VOLUNTEER who has helped at one of our events during the run up to Christmas. No matter what you have done, from cutting out, making knitted Christingles, baking or being at our events. Time is very precious and THANK YOU for sharing that with MFT.

**Angela and the MFT Team**

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

**Breakfast Church 9-10am** @Macclesfield Methodist Church & @Poynton Methodist Church

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

**Chippy Church 4-5:30pm** @Broken Cross Methodist Church

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February

**Messy Church 2-4pm**

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February @Broken Cross Methodist Church

**Messy  
Christmas**

**Saturday  
21st December**



**2-4pm @ Broken Cross Methodist Church SK10 3JR**

Explore the story of Christmas through crafts, story, songs and food.  
Fun for all the family.



Suggested donation £2 per child

**BrokenCrossChildren**

Suitable for 0+ yrs  
parents/carers to stay with children



**Christingle**

A short family friendly service

**24th December**

**3:30pm @ Macclesfield**

**Methodist Church SK10 1BX**

**5pm @ Langley**

**Methodist Church SK11 0BU**

**6pm @ Broken Cross**

**Methodist Church SK10 3JR**





## *Christmas Prayer*

*Lord, bless us,  
this Christmas with  
Peace that passes all  
understanding,  
Joy that is beyond  
material possessions,  
Love that knows no  
boundaries, and  
Strength that emanates  
from faith in You.*

## Members' voice....

### Threads Through the Bible

Last May, after using them for a study of the Creation myth, a small group from Prestbury Methodists visited Lichfield Cathedral to view the amazing exhibition of embroidered panels made by a textile artist, Jacqui Parkinson, called "Threads Through Creation". This was shared with our congregation in a service during Bible Month focussed on Genesis. Jacqui had previously stitched another series of huge panels which she called "Threads through Revelation". To these projects Jacqui has now added "Threads through the Cross" and all three will be presented as a single exhibition in Cathedrals around Britain during 2025/6. ([www.jacqui-textile.com/bible/](http://www.jacqui-textile.com/bible/)) Jacqui produces excellent booklets that make the theological links and explain the symbolism.

This will probably be not only the largest textile project by a single artist ever, but also the largest textile project for 600 years. It will be astonishing in its scale and variety. It will have taken ten years, and used more than 25 million stitches. There will be 42 panels. If they were presented side by side, they would stretch more than 80 metres. We are fortunate to discover that the premiere will be at Liverpool Cathedral in January 2025.

After that, there will be a further nine venues, through to the end of 2026.



It is proposed to run a coach trip to Liverpool to view this amazing work in the equally enormous and amazing Cathedral, the 5<sup>th</sup> biggest in the world, on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February leaving our Chapel at 09:30 and aiming to return by 5:00pm. We would like to invite our friends from our neighbouring churches to join us.

There will be adequate time to view the exhibition and have lunch in the excellent Welsford Bistro in the Cathedral. The coach fare will be £15 if enough people wish to come.

At the beginning of January, I will be inviting people to sign up and start collecting payment, so if you are interested please let me know on [admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@prestburymethodistchurch.org.uk) or in person so that I can contact you when I need to confirm the booking.

**Roger Bolton**



Thank you to all our friends in the circuit who contributed towards our Poppy drop  
Prestbury Methodist Church



***Could you write an article?***

*We love to feature contributions from members of the congregation who would be willing to tell us what they are doing during these strange times – what are you watching/reading/making? Any tips to share with others? It would be lovely to hear from you!*

**email: [macclesfieldcircuit@gmail.com](mailto:macclesfieldcircuit@gmail.com)**

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## Community & Church News

### Broken Cross

**Sunday 22nd December 10.30am** - Carol service



**Sunday 24th December 6pm** – Christingle

**Christmas Day 9.30am** – John Bird

### Langley

**Christmas Eve Christingle 5pm** - Our traditional Christingle Service led by Rev Graham Edwards



**Sunday 5 January 2024 10.30am** - Covenant Service with Sutton St. James joining us.

### Macclesfield

**Sunday 22nd December 10.30am** - Family Friendly Carol Service  
**3.00pm** - Carol Service with the Augmented Choir

**Tuesday 24th December 3.30pm** – Christingle

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm** - Valentine evening with our Community Choir entitled “If music be the food of love, play on”

Save the Date:- On Good Friday evening 18<sup>th</sup> April 2025 the Choir will sing Bob Chilcott’s St. John Passion.

## Poynton



*What's on this Christmas at*

**Poynton Methodist Church**

During Advent we will be looking at Women of the Nativity by Paula Gooder

Sunday 1st December 9am Breakfast Church  
10.30am Service (Sarah the Matriarch)

**Tuesday 3rd December Christmas Fest 6.30pm**

Sunday 8th December 10.30am Service (Huldah the Prophet)

Sunday 15th December 10.30 Service (Abigail an observer)  
**Afternoon Carol Service 2.30pm**

Wednesday 18th Dec Mid-week Service and Lunch 12noon

Sunday 22nd December 10.30am Service (Mary)  
including Muddy Church for families

**Christmas Day Service 25th Dec 10am (Shiphrah the midwife)**

Saturday 28th December Film Club Special 1pm

Sunday 29th Circuit Service in Macclesfield 10.30am

### Film Club Twixmas Special

Once the turkey is eaten and the visitors have gone, why not join us on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> for a Film Club Special. Bring some lunch or have tea/coffee and mince pies in the coffee lounge before the showing at 1.30pm. "A deliciously inventive comedy, a crowd-pleasing joy" Or just join us for the film. Robot & Frank is set in the near future, Frank (a retired cat burglar) is sent, against his wishes, a walking, talking robot to assist him in his daily living. However, Frank begins to see an opportunity to

use the robot's skills to try their luck as a heist team!! Everyone is welcome, regulars and friends.

### **Carol Service**

December's Afternoon Service will be led by Julie Hallworth and will be a Carol Service followed by refreshments. Bring a friend and be sure of a warm welcome.



### **Prestbury**

At Prestbury we have recently enjoyed our festive Faith lunch.

During December we are having weekly advent reflections on Mondays at 2.30 PM.

On 12th December we are launching our Time Out Cafe from 1.30 to 3.30. This will be a chance for people to get together and enjoy fellowship and tea and cake! We will be holding this monthly on the second Thursday of the month. Our cafe will be dementia friendly.

**22nd December 10.30am** - Carol service led by Steve Oliver.

**24th December 11.30pm** - Circuit midnight communion service.

On 24th February we are planning a trip to Liverpool cathedral to see the Threads through the Bible exhibition. A series of embroidered panels depicting scenes from the Bible.

We continue to enjoy our regular meetings: the Thursday house group, the reading group (monthly) and Women's wellbeing on the first Thursday of each month (not January) to all of which everyone is invited and can be sure of a warm welcome.

On the **last Saturday of each month** we hold a very successful coffee morning which supports a different charity each time - it is a good opportunity for local people to get together.



# CHRISTMAS WITH MACCLESFIELD BRASS

SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
12.30 – 1.15pm  
Refreshments served from 11.45am

MACCLESFIELD &  
BOLLINGTON URC  
Park Green, Macclesfield, SK11 7NA

IN AID OF SILKLIFE FOODBANK  
Free entry but donations to the  
Foodbank gratefully received

*[thechurchparkgreen.co.uk](http://thechurchparkgreen.co.uk)*

# **Christmas Carols around the Crib**

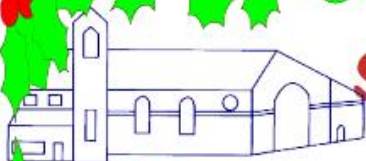
**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December,  
1:15pm**

**Market Place, Macclesfield**



**All are very welcome – come and join us -  
singing or listening.**

**Organised by St Alban's Catholic Church, Chester Road, Macclesfield**



**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
MACCLESFIELD SK11 8RS**



**Presents  
a concert of  
Christmas Music  
by  
Macclesfield Brass**



**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
2.30 p.m.**



**followed by seasonal  
refreshments**



**Ticket price £7.50 including refreshments**

**Accompanied children under 16 free**

**From any band or  
church member**

**or email: [stjohnstreasurer@btinternet.com](mailto:stjohnstreasurer@btinternet.com)**

**or 07976 235710**

**Raising funds for a defibrillator  
to be located in the local community**





# Sing Ceasefire Carols for Gaza!

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 11:30am-12:30**  
in front of Macclesfield Town Hall.

Join us to sing re-written carols and Christmas songs (e.g. 'O broken town of Bethlehem...')

Bring flags, lanterns, keffiyehs, red/black/white/ green colours and your singing voices. Let's make some noise for Palestine. Words will be provided.

*We stand for freedom, justice and equality for Palestinians in Gaza, the West Bank and all around the world.*



More information:

[maccpalestine@gmail.com](mailto:maccpalestine@gmail.com)



## Action for Children

### Become a Secret Santa for Action for Children this Christmas

Each year too many children experience a Christmas that is anything but magical, even in the UK. No stockings. No presents. No festive food - maybe no food at all. Their first memories of Christmas could be going to bed hungry, being too cold to sleep and losing all hope when Santa doesn't come.

But you could help change that by becoming a Secret Santa for Action For Children. Please get involved yourself and also encourage other people in your church and in your neighbourhood to do likewise.

<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/support-us/secret-santa/>



**Be a Secret Santa**  
for a vulnerable child

Support vulnerable children by making a donation and being a charity Secret Santa.

If you need further info or help please contact [steve.oliver3@ntlworld.com](mailto:steve.oliver3@ntlworld.com)



Don't forget if people are unable to get out of the house if you contact ROAR, they will be able to plate up a meal for the person as long as someone can go and collect it.

# 2025



## Christmas Tree Collection

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> January



**We collect and  
recycle your  
tree**



**You donate to  
East Cheshire  
Hospice**

**We collect from these areas:**

**CW12, SK9, SK10, SK11, SK12 & WA16**

**Arrange your collection at:**

**[www.echtrees.org.uk](http://www.echtrees.org.uk)**

**For more information call 01625 708939**



Main Sponsor:

**AstraZeneca**



**East Cheshire  
Hospice**

Where people come to live  
Registered Charity No: 515104



**Methodist Women  
in Britain**

**for women, for justice, for Christ**  
Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women

The British Unit of the World



## **Prayer Diary**

**December 2024 to February 2025**



*Join us in praying for Methodist Women in Britain Officers, Trustees & Ambassadors, Methodist Women in Ireland and the World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women as well as the work of Methodist Women in Britain across our Areas & Districts.*

*Our prayer diary can be used alongside the Methodist Church Prayer Handbook.*

<b>Day 1</b>	Methodist Women in Britain Cochairs: Maggie Woods & Leonora Wassell
<b>Day 2</b>	Helen Kim Scholars Britain & Ireland: Madeleine Reed & Heidi Hogan
<b>Day 3</b>	WFM&UCW World President: Sipiwe Chisvo & WFM&UCW President Emerita: Alison Judd
<b>Day 4</b>	London, Beds, Essex & Herts and South East MWiB Area Trustee: Annah Mwadiwa
<b>Day 5</b>	Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury, Birmingham, Mid Wales MWiB Area Trustee: Diana Bosman
<b>Day 6</b>	Bolton & Rochdale and Lancashire MWiB Area Trustee: Philippa Hill
<b>Day 7</b>	Methodist Women in Ireland All Ireland President: Alexa Brown
<b>Day 8</b>	Bristol and South Wales MWiB Area Trustee: Gillian Pengelly
<b>Day 9</b>	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Helen Cornick, Cynthia Bonds, Ruth Dawson, Margaret Dunn, Chris Thompson
<b>Day 10</b>	World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women
<b>Day 11</b>	Liverpool, Chester & Stoke, North Wales, Manchester & Stockport MWiB Area Trustee: Margaret Lindley
<b>Day 12</b>	Methodist Women in Britain Communications Officer: Bronwen Braidell
<b>Day 13</b>	Darlington, Newcastle and Cumbria MWiB Area Trustee: Debs Coggrave
<b>Day 14</b>	World Day of Prayer Representative: Charity Madenyika
<b>Day 15</b>	Methodist Women in Britain Resources Officer: Caroline Fillery
<b>Day 16</b>	Methodist Women in Ireland
<b>Day 17</b>	Lincolnshire and East Anglia MWiB Area Trustee: Rita Rowe
<b>Day 18</b>	Manx Methodist Women
<b>Day 19</b>	Methodist Women in Britain Digital Media Coordinator: Ruth Dawson
<b>Day 20</b>	WFM&UCW Area President & Vice President: Barbara Easton & Wanda Hogan
<b>Day 21</b>	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Elizabeth Colley, Jacky Woor, Hazel Jackson, Gillian Womersley, Sue Smith
<b>Day 22</b>	Methodist Women in Britain Finance Officer: Sheila Hall
<b>Day 23</b>	Notts & Derby and Northampton MWiB Area Trustee: Mary Gill
<b>Day 24</b>	Cornwall and Plymouth & Exeter MWiB Area Trustee: Elaine Banks
<b>Day 25</b>	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Ann Taylor, Janet Thompson, Pam Gidney, Sue Clarke, Margaret Johnson
<b>Day 26</b>	Southampton and Channel Islands MWiB Area Trustee: Liz Chick
<b>Day 27</b>	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Judith Oldroyd, Delphine Gratrix, Pamela Stenson, Barbara Rumfitt, Glenda Sidding
<b>Day 28</b>	MWiB Area Ambassadors: Gwenda Humphries, Susan Murrell, Naledi Phaladi, Di Smart, Viv Lowe
<b>Day 29</b>	Yorkshire West, Yorkshire North & East and Sheffield MWiB Area Trustee: Janice Clark
<b>Day 30</b>	Scotland and Shetland MWiB Area Trustee: Barbara Harrison
<b>Day 31</b>	Your local officers, activities and projects

***What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer***

***Could I bring you all my hopes and dreams, my moments of despair?***

***Could you take what I'm thinking and find that it's a prayer?***

***(Joy Webb Singing The Faith 522)***

15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	On this day in 1973, the American Psychiatric Association voted unanimously to remove homosexuality from its official list of mental disorders. Let's pray today for people all over the world who are persecuted for things they can't change about themselves, and give thanks for the work that has been done to ensure that they are protected from abuse and discrimination.
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	On this day in 1971, Doctors Without Borders was founded in France. Let's pray for the people worldwide who bring care and medical aid into places of suffering, and thank God for those who are called to bear His image as healers and comforters.
29 <sup>th</sup> Dec	On this day in 1913, filming began for Hollywood's first feature film, <i>The Squaw Man</i> . Let's pray for creators and artists worldwide, and give thanks for the ingenuity and imagination that God has bestowed upon humankind.
5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>6<sup>th</sup> FTG</b> On this day in 1993, 84,700 tons of crude oil was spilt on the coast of the Shetland Islands after the <i>MV Baer</i> ran aground in a storm. Let's pray today for the state of our planet – particularly for the safety and restoration of our oceans and water supplies – and for the corporations and governments of the world to take decisive action in light of the climate crisis.
12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>13<sup>th</sup> Exec</b> On this day in 1895, the National Trust was founded. Let's give thanks for our rich history, for the things we have to remember it by, and for the lessons learnt from the mistakes of the past. Let's also pray that we will continue to take good care of our stories so that those lessons won't be lost to time or malicious concealment.
19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	On this day in 1920, the US Senate voted against joining the League of Nations, which was founded in pursuit of world peace. Let's pray that God will nurture love of peace in the hearts of our world leaders, and bring reconciliation and friendship into places of conflict and fear.
26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	On this day in 1949, the Hale telescope became the largest aperture optical telescope of its time. Let's praise God for scientific curiosity and advancement, and pray for continued discovery and learning, and especially for Christian revival in the scientific communities so that our deepening understanding may glorify God the Creator.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	On this day in 1922, James Joyce's novel <i>Ulysses</i> was published. Let's give thanks to God for distinct national voices and identities around the world, and pray that each country may have ample opportunity to have its unique creative voice heard internationally.
9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Exec; 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Trustees</b> On this day in 1907, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies held their first large procession – the Mud March. Let's thank God for the women in our world who haven't been afraid to speak out in pursuit of justice, and pray that God will continue to raise up women like this in each generation, so that injustice is never allowed to settle in and get comfortable.
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	On this day in 1945, America's first ever anti-discrimination law was passed. Let's pray for all the people who are vulnerable to discrimination and abuse yet are unprotected by law in their country. Let's also pray for people who suffer despite being protected by law due to hate crimes, vigilantes or microaggressions.
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	On this day in 1763, South America's first major slave revolt began in Guyana. Let's give thanks to God for the progress made internationally towards a world without racial discrimination, and pray for the power to continue the fight, especially in an age where White Supremacy has become so insidious, and so hard to spot for those who unknowingly benefit from it.

(Prayer focus this quarter prepared by Madeleine Reed, Helen Kim Memorial Scholar)

## The Twelve Days of Christmas Praise

by - Carroll Roberson

1. On the first day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me... Salvation...full and free.
2. On the second day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
3. On the third day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
4. On the fourth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
5. On the fifth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
6. On the sixth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
7. On the seventh day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
8. On the eighth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
9. On the ninth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Mansions up above, a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
10. On the tenth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...a Street of pure gold, Mansions up above, a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
11. On the eleventh day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...a Thousand Tongues to sing, a Street of pure gold, Mansions up above, a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.
12. On the twelfth day of Christmas, Jesus gave to me...Eternity to praise, a Thousand Tongues to sing, a Street of pure gold, Mansions up above, a Robe and a Crown, a Body glorified, Power from on high, Joy for my soul, Love for all men, Peace in my heart, Everlasting life and Salvation...full and free.

[joyfulabundantlife.com](http://joyfulabundantlife.com)

# CHRISTMAS SERVICES – something for everyone across the Circuit!

## Carol Services

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

10.30am Broken Cross  
10.30am Gawsworth  
10:30am Macclesfield (family friendly)  
10.30am Poynton (family friendly)  
10.30am Prestbury

## Christmas Eve Christingle

3.30pm at Macclesfield  
5.00pm at Langley  
6.00pm at Broken Cross



## Circuit Christmas Eve Midnight Communion

11.30pm at Prestbury

## Christmas Day



9.30am at Macclesfield – Rev Graham Edwards  
9.30am at Broken Cross – John Bird  
9.30am at Poynton – Richard Baker  
10.30a.m at Gawsworth - Rev Graham Edwards  
10.30a.m at Prestbury – Steve Oliver  
11.00a.m at Woodlands – Abigail Ogier

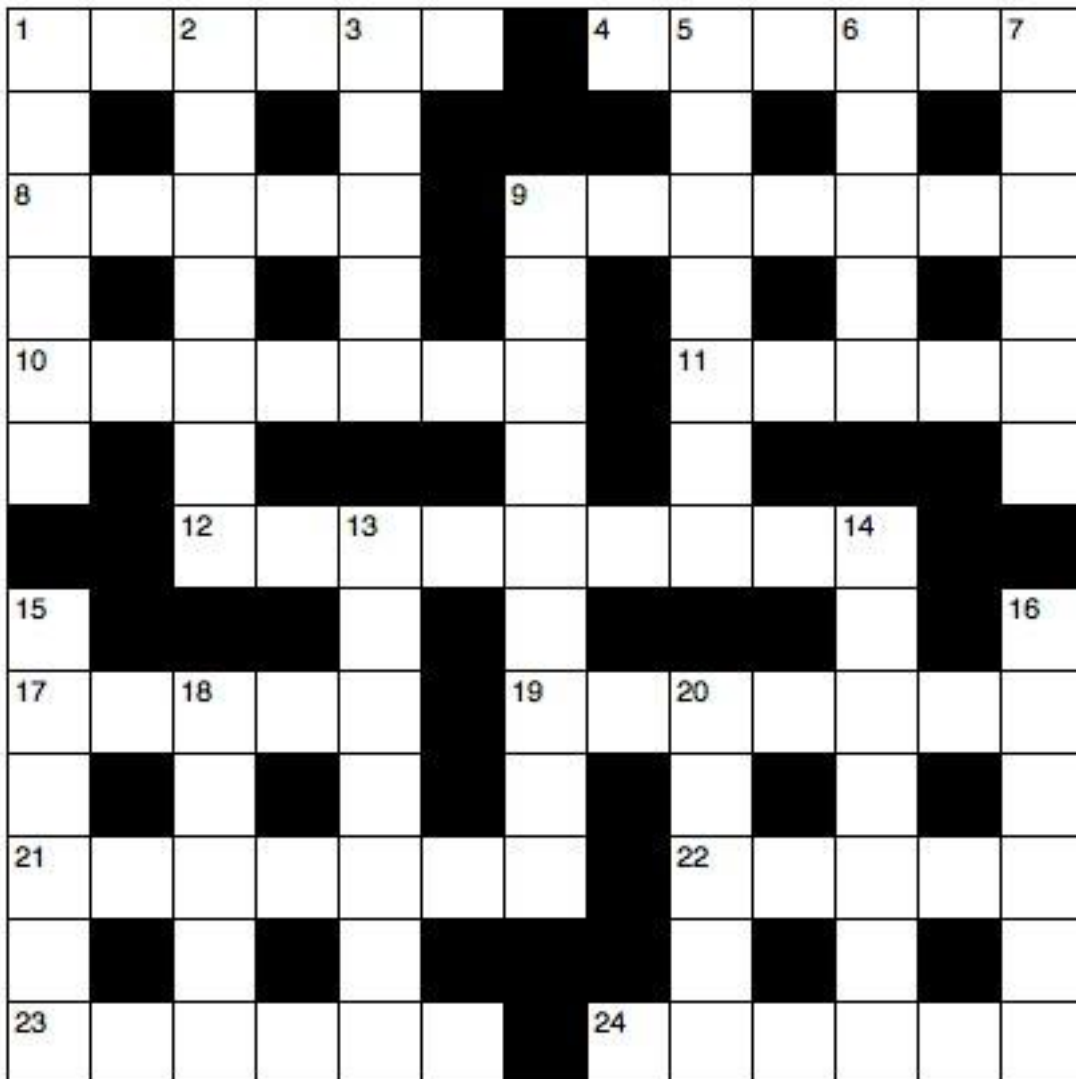
## December Circuit Service

29 December

10.30am at Poynton

**We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy  
New Year!**

## Just for fun



### Across

- 1 Tertullus, who presented the high priest's case against Paul in his trial before Felix, was one (Acts 24:1) (6)
- 4 As balm (anag.) (6)
- 8 Having explored Canaan, he and Joshua urged the Israelites to take possession of it (Numbers 13:30) (5)
- 9 On becoming king of Judah, he had all six of his brothers killed (2 Chronicles 21:4) (7)
- 10 'Even the — has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself' (Psalm 84:3) (7)
- 11 Banishment(Jeremiah29:1)(5)
- 12 'And now I will show you the most — way'(1Corinthians12:31) (9)



- 17 'Titus did not exploit you, did he? Did we not — the same spirit and follow the same course?' (2 Corinthians 12:18) (3,2)
- 19 Mice den(anag.)(7)
- 21 How Egypt is often described in the Old Testament: 'the land of — ' (Exodus 13:3) (7)
- 22 One of the first Levites to resettle in Jerusalem after the exile in Babylon (1 Chronicles 9:15) (5)
- 23 'As a sheep before her shearers is —,so he did not open his mouth' (Isaiah 53:7) (6)
- 24 Paul's birthplace(Acts22:3)(6)

## Down

- 1 Ravenous insect inflicted on Egypt in vast numbers as the eighth plague (Exodus 10:14) (6)
- 2 Well-being (Philippians 2:20) (7)
- 3 Small piece of live coal or wood in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (5)
- 5 Sportsman or woman (2 Timothy 2:5) (7)
- 6 The original name of Abraham's wife (Genesis 17:15) (5)
- 7 'So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each — belongs to all the others' (Romans 12:5) (6)
- 9 According to Peter, a wife's beauty should not come from wearing this (1 Peter 3:3) (9)
- 13 'For God did not send his Son into the world to — the world' (John 3:17) (7)
- 14 'The Lord of heaven and earth...does not live in — built by hands' (Acts 17:24) (7)
- 15 'If your hand — you to sin,cut it off'(Mark9:43)(6)
- 16 Something like these fell from Saul's eyes as soon as Ananias placed his hands on him (Acts 9:18) (6)
- 18 Track(Job41:30)(5)
- 20 Religious doctrine(5)

**Parish Pump**



## This quarter's services

2024/25	DECEMBER					JANUARY				FEBRUARY			
	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23
READINGS:	Jer 33:14-16, 1Thes 3:9-13, Lk 21:25-36	Mal 3:1-4, Phil 1:3-11, Lk 3:1-6	Zeph 3:14-20, Phil 4:4-7, Lk 3:7-18	Mic 5:2-5a, Heb 10:5-10, Lk 1:39-55	1 Sam 2:18-20, 26, Col 3:12-17, Lk 2:41-52	Jer 31:7-14, Eph 1:3-14, Jn 1:1-18	Is 43:1-7, Acts 8:14-17, Lk 3:15-17, 21-22	Is 62:1-5, 1 Cor 12:1-11, Jn 2:1-11	Neh 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 1 Cor 12:12-31a, Lk 4:14-21	Jer 1:4-10, 1 Cor 13:1-13, Lk 4:21-30	Is 6:1-13, 1 Cor 15:1-11, Lk 5:1-11	Jer 17:5-10, 1 Cor 15:12-20, Lk 6:17-26	Gen 45:3-11, 15, 1 Cor 15:35-38, 42-50, Lk 6:27-38
BROKEN CROSS 10.30	OA	Edwards HC	Morell Df	Bird C	CCT	Oliver	CCT	OA	S Edwards CS	OA	CCT	S Bishop	Halstead T
GAWSWORTH 10.30	F Bishop HC	Whiteley	OA	S Bishop C	CCT	Ward T	CCT	Halstead P T	Edwards CS	F Bishop	CCT	Maltby	OA
LANGLEY 10.30	S Bishop	OA C	Ward T	Edwards HC	CCT	Edwards LU CS	CCT	Maltby	F Bishop T	Bradley	CCT	Oliver	OA
MACCLESFIELD 9.00 10.30 15.00	OA Bf Maltby	S Bishop HC	OA	S Edwards AAW C Edwards C	Edwards CCT	OA Bf Hawkyard	CCT	Edwards CS	Baker	OA Bf S Bishop	Edwards CCT HC	OA AAW	Baker
POYNTON 9.30 10.30 14.30	OA Bf Hawkyard	Baker	Edwards HC Rashleigh	Maltby	CCT	OA Bf OA	Edwards CCT	Rashleigh Edwards CS	S Bishop CS	OA Bf Smith	CCT	OA Halstead T	Hawkyard
PRESTBURY 10.30	Rashleigh	OA	F Bishop HC	Oliver C	CCT	F Bishop CS	CCT	LU @ St Peter's	Rashleigh	Beesley	CCT	Edwards	OA
WOODLANDS MHA 14.30				Rashleigh					Ogier				Rashleigh
ZOOM 18.30													
VIDEO													
PRAYER CYCLE:	Prestbury	Broken Cross	Gawsw'th	MFT	Langley	Poynton	Woodl'ds	Macclesfield	Prestbury	Broken Cross	Gawsw'th	MFT	Langley

**AAW** All Age Worship; **AfC** Action for Children Sunday; **AwC** All we Can; **B** Baptism; **Bf** Breakfast; **Blue** Blue Christmas; **C** Carols; **CA** Church Anniversary; **CB** Christmas Box; **CCT** Circuit; **Cf** Cafe; **Cn** Compassion; **CON** Contemporary Worship; **CONF** Methodist Conference; **CS** Covenant; **CT** Christingle; **Blue** Blue Christmas; **E** Emmaus; **EO** Easter Offering; **F** Family Service; **G** Gift; **GCM** General Church Meeting; **H** Healing; **HC** Holy Communion; **HF** Harvest Festival; **HM** Home Missions; **IO** Iona; **L** Faith Lunch; **LP** Local Preacher Recognition; **LS** Ladies' Sunday; **LU** Local United; **M** Memorial; **M&M** Music & Meditation; **MHA** Methodist Homes for the Aged; **N** Nativity; **OA** Own Arrangement; **OM** Overseas Missions; **P** Parade; **Pr** Proclaim; **Ps** Pulpit Swap; **Pv** Pastoral Visitors Dedication; **SOP** Songs of Praise; **T** Please Provide Transport; **Th** Thanksgiving; **Trad** Traditional; **TS** Toy Service; **TR** Time to Remember; **Tz** Taize; **WBC** Wellbeing Church.

## CONTACTS & INFORMATION

**YOUTUBE....** <https://www.youtube.com/c/macclesfieldmethodistcircuit>

### Circuit Facebook page

For the latest information on what is happening within the circuit, follow....

<https://www.facebook.com/MacclefieldCircuit/>

### Circuit Website

We also now have the Circuit website and there are lots of past services on this, see

<https://www.macclesfieldmethodistcircuit.com/>

the page with the links etc on is

<https://www.macclesfieldmethodistcircuit.com/about-3>

### Daily Hope (see below)

This service includes messages, prayers, hymns and church services.



Are you in need of some daily hope?  
The **Church of England** have a new  
FREE telephone line for you to ring to  
hear comforting hymns, daily prayers  
and reflections.

### Other important links

<https://www.methodistchurch.org.uk/MWoL>

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### Contact Details

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### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Lawyer. 4, Balsam. 8, Caleb. 9, Jehoram. 10, Sparrow. 11, Exile. 12, Excellent. 17, Act in. 19, Endemic. 21, Slavery. 22, Galal. 23, Silent. 24, Tarsus.

DOWN: 1, Locust. 2, Welfare. 3, Ember. 5, Athlete. 6, Sarai. 7, Member. 9, Jewellery. 13, Condemn. 14, Temples. 15, Causes. 16, Scales. 18, Trail. 20, Dogma.