# New Malden Methodist Church At the heart of the High Street

# Lockdown Life

Issue 9: December 2020

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# **Advent Thoughts**

I have been reflecting on how to make Advent as different as Christmas is going to be this year. Usually it is a mad rush of end of term rehearsals, Nativities, concerts and music exams, and I start planning for Christmas festivities only when term has finished and I'm not really in the right mood.



Now that I've mostly retired, and Covid has largely taken care of the rest of it, I offer these thoughts for a more festive, peaceful,

productive and joyful Advent season. Some of them can have double exposure as New Year Resolutions in due course.

There is of course no Christmas Fair this year and no Santa coming to the High Street, but let's make Friday Light Day a thing. (Nov 27). You have more time! Make a cake anyway, clear out a cupboard, make a donation to charity or the Church. Come and support Julie's Jam stall on Sat Dec 5, 10-12. Alison Bullett

## Every Day December, 1-24

- Phone someone (e mail is NOT the same)
- Wear bright cheerful colours
- Read a poem
- Find something to make you laugh (Would I Lie To You does it for me, every time.)
- Sing a Christmas carol out loud. How many can you do from memory?
- Double the amount of exercise you usually take, and then have a mince pie. Those mini ones from Waitrose are amazing. Apparently.
- Learn a new word, in any language
- If you haven't given up ironing, iron at least one thing so you don't have a full ironing basket to trip over or hide on Christmas eve. (Tip: If there's no ironing, it's probably time to do a wash.. )

• Listen to one of the 48 preludes and fugues of Bach. He wrote one in every key, twice. If you can't take the fugues, Chopin also wrote 24 preludes. Nothing to do with Advent, but the numbers fit.

#### One-offs

- Make your own Advent wreath. Advent Sunday is Nov 29.
- Buy an Advent calendar. They start on Dec 1. Apparently they have chocolate in them these days.
- Connect with your inner child and get yourself a colouring book, a paint box and a gluestick.
- Make a collage. Of anything. Or start a scrapbook.
- Start a jigsaw that will see you through the month. Ration yourself accordingly, in terms either of time or number of pieces per day.
- Buy stamps, more wrapping paper than you think you need and a proper sellotape dispenser. Get spare batteries for smoke alarm and carbon monoxide alarm.
- Don't go shopping on first day out of Lockdown. It's the non-essential shops that are re-opening, remember. Donate to Foodbank every time you shop for food in December.
- Have a Baboushka day (see page 9). Just one: cleaning and tidying. What you can't do in a day, cover up with .....
- .... Decorations. Get them out, make some more, buy a tree. Of course it's worth it.
- Take stuff you cleared out on Baboushka day to a charity shop. Check first to see when they are receiving donations.
- Change your pictures round or hang a new one.
- Try a new author and/or a new genre of music.
- Find the stash of Christmas cards you bought in last January sale, or buy more. Write cards/letters without mentioning the words virus, Covid or Lockdown. Everyone already knows about it. Post early. Keep spares for those who suddenly send on Dec 23 after 5 years of silence. Or don't.
- We have no Tudor Williams, so buying presents last minute will be tricky. Gift Vouchers are acceptable this year, especially for the young. Don't get fed up if you don't get a thank you letter.
- Write your own Fantasy Christmas list for Santa. You never know. Buy yourself something from it.
- If you like lists, do your Desert Island Discs with some new categories, eg food.
- Buy and plant some indoor bulbs.
- Write a letter to the oldest / youngest member of your family (again, email doesn't count).
- Do something you've put off for ages, eg mending.
- Make appointments for the new year Dr, Dentist , hairdresser , massage , whatever.
- Go to the Library. It will close if we don't use it.

And try to have as Merry a Christmas as you can in these circumstances.

## A Tribute to Reg Finch

#### 13<sup>th</sup> January 1931 to 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020



#### Dear friends,

We have been asked if we would like to write a tribute to our father, Reg who died on the 12<sup>th</sup> November in hospital aged 89. New Malden Methodist Church was the centrepiece of Dad's life for many years and I know how much he valued your camaraderie and friendship. Not one to impose himself on anyone, or engage in idle banter, Dad was a private, reserved kind of person. Indeed, there are many things that my sister Caroline and I do not know about Dad's life because of the way he lived: with modesty and integrity. We take pride in sharing this piece with you in remembrance of our father, hereafter referred to as Reg. Reg's paternal roots were in Hammersmith and Guildford until his father moved to Southport in Lancashire on return from the war - having been told by a fellow soldier that employment prospects were much better in the north. It was there that his father settled, married Amy a local lady, and raised three children of which Reg was the youngest. We recall Granny Finch's house being quiet, uncluttered and perhaps a little austere. In recent years we learnt that his Dad had been psychologically affected by the war to the extent that they lived almost in silence when his father was at home. Throughout his life, whilst Reg enjoyed the company of others, he always treasured 'peace and quiet'.

Reg went to the local primary school and then to King George V grammar school for boys in Southport. After obtaining his School Certificate, he enlisted in the RAF at Wigan to complete the required National Service. Once discharged, Reg joined the civil service and trained as a professional auditor with the National Audit Office, before being despatched to London in the early 60s. He lived 'in digs' (as he would say) with an elderly lady in Tolworth before settling with our mum Sylvia at Coombe Gardens in 1966. They had never intended to stay in the house for more than a few years as our mum desperately wanted a 'square hallway' and larger garden. But it became, and remained our family home, and in recent years its proximity to the church and High Street meant that Reg could live independently with no reliance on others – something that he always described as important.

Reg was baptised at All Souls church in Southport. He attended Sunday school there, then youth club and was actively involved in the church's badminton and amateur dramatics societies. He met Sylvia at All Souls, and after marrying and relocating to London they remained in touch with many friends from their formative years. Our parents shared a love of the Lake District and they were active members of the Co-operative Hillwalking Association (CHA). Reg used to help MC their seasonal dances and in more recent years helped with the administration of the association's head office in Drummond Street, London, including its sale to developers when the association had to finally close due to dwindling membership.

Our family holidays were usually 'up north' coordinated around family visits to Southport. Reg had little interest in travel abroad and was much happier enjoying the countryside on home turf. In the 1960s whilst working for the Ministry of Defence, Reg did travel on a regular basis - within Europe and to Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Panama, and Bolivia to name just a few destinations. On one of his trips, he got caught in an Earthquake. This muted his interest in long distance travel, although once he transitioned to the Commission for Racial Equality in the 1980s, there was no need for business trips, only a train ride to London Victoria! Reg then audited the Church Commissioners' accounts for many years before retiring shortly after turning 60.

Since that time Reg has lived very locally, enjoying the church, his garden, family and Classic FM. Probably one of the country's best recyclers (who meticulously cut the window film from envelopes), a loyal supporter of his milkman (finding the idea of plastic waste also abhorrent) and someone who considered the ethical principles of companies he banked with or supported, Reg was a gentleman of great principle. He lived his faith and took pride in living life purposefully in service of others. Reg was also a man of quiet intellect with a logical, mathematical mind. Up until very recently his daily routine included the Telegraph cryptic crossword and difficult sudoku.

As many of you will recall Sylvia died after a short illness in 1995, and Reg began to get more involved in the Methodist church. Prior to this it was Sylvia who was more known within the church community having been in the Young Wives group (as it was known then) from the late 60s. You welcomed him and he quickly felt very much part of the coffee bar and church community.

Reg was sometimes a little stubborn, and very much a gentleman who knew his own mind - characteristics which were evident in his wish to always remain self-reliant. The Lord was kind; both Caroline and I are thankful that our father was able to live with the dignity he so treasured until the end of his life.

We intend to hold a memorial service next year once life has regained a degree of normality for us all. In the meantime, if you would like to pause and join us in remembering our father Reg, we would like to commend The Lark Ascending by Vaughan Williams, played by Nigel Kennedy.

Thank you for your love, messages of condolence and prayers.

Alison and Caroline



Reg Finch with Caroline and Alison at Windsor Castle in 2009

## **Congratulations Ruth**

A socially distant group met outside Ruth McLeod's house on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November to mark her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Around 34 church people with several of Ruth's neighbours sang a rousing and tuneful rendition of 'Happy Birthday' followed by 'For She's a Jolly Good Fellow'.

Ruth was born in Stonehaven in 1920 and her parents ran a hotel out in the countryside. She had a long train journey to school. In 1938 she went to Edinburgh to train as a Nanny. She worked in a house there during the war, and had to turn her hand to other skills beside nannying, when Cook and the Gardener left. Her next job brought her to London to look after a baby, Margaret, whom she still sees regularly. Her husband Ronnie came from the same part of Scotland and they moved to New Malden in 1960 to the house in Coombe Gardens where she still lives today. Their son was born there, and she began to attend New Malden Methodist Church where she took part in all the activities, especially Wives, catering and dancing.

Ruth now has 4 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. Never one to be idle, she spends much of her time



knitting (you will remember the knitted bear tally from Stella's report on the Wings of hope Nursery in the November issue), and she gets out for a short walk up the road most days. She was overwhelmed by everyone turning up on Sunday and wants to thank everyone for their kindness, their cards and the flowers. She says she had no idea it was happening. Her neighbours are very supportive and call round frequently to check on her and to get her shopping. They had a gazebo up outside so people could call round all day. All in all, she says she had 'A Terrific Do!'



#### Change of address for Margaret Sydney

The care home where Margaret has been living will be closing in January for refurbishment so Margaret now has a new address. Please contact me if you would like it. Sarah

## **Give a Christmas Angel**

If you would like to join in with spreading some Christmas joy why not knit or crochet or sew a Christmas Angel? (Two options for knitting patterns below).

Pop it into a small food bag with a label, something like this





This Angel comes free to wish you and those you love a Happy Christmas from New Malden Methodist Church

and leave it somewhere in New Malden to be found and cherished.

Distribution by you from Dec 10<sup>th</sup> onwards. Let's spread greetings throughout the community!

(If you would like me to print you off some labels, just let me know how many. Alternatively, I can email you a sheet of them to print off yourself, Sarah).

# Angel 1

HEAD AND BODY

Cast on 36 stitches using double knitting yarn and size 3mm needles.

Knit 3 rows. (K2 tog, knit 7) repeat 3 times, 32 sts. Knit 1 row. Purl 1 row. (k2 tog, knit 6), repeat 3 times, 28 sts. Knit 2 rows. Purl 1 row. (Knit 2 tog, knit 5), repeat 3 times, 24 sts. Purl 1 row. Knit 2 rows. (K2 tog k4), repeat 3 times, 20 sts. Purl 1 row. Knit 2 rows. (K2 tog, knit 3), repeat 3 times, 16 sts. Purl 1row. (K2 tog), repeat across row, 8 sts. Purl 1 row. Kfb in each st, 16 sts. Starting with a purl row stocking stitch 7 rows. K2 tog across row, 8 sts. P2 tog across row, 4 sts.



Thread yarn through these 4 stitches and from the wrong side sew up the back seam. Put a little stuffing into the head of the angel and then sew a row of running stitches around the neck and pull tight.

#### WINGS

Cast on 21 sts on needle size 3 mm. K 1 row from RS. Then work short rows as follows: \* K 7, turn and K back, K 1 row over all sts \*, repeat from \*-\* 6 times in total.

Then \* K 2 tog, K 6, turn and K back, K 1 row over all sts \*, repeat from \*-\*until there are 15 sts on needle.

\*K 2 tog, K the rest of row \*, repeat from \*-\* until 9 sts remain, cast off.

Sew wings to the back of the body with a line of stitches down the middle

# Angel 2

Cast on 48 sts7. Knit row1. Knit row8. Purl row2. Purl row9. K2TOG, K8\*, repeat until end3. K2TOG, K10\*, repeat until end10. Purl row4. Purl row11. Knit row5. Knit row12. P2TOG, P7\*, repeat until end6. P2TOG, P9\*, repeat until end13. Knit Row

14. Purl Row
15. K2TOG, K6\*, repeat until end
16. Purl row
17. Knit row
18. P2TOG, P5\*, repeat until end
19. Knit row
20. Purl row
21. K2TOG, K4\*, repeat until end - 20 sts
22. Purl row
23. Knit row
24. Purl row
25. Knit row
26. Purl row
27. Knit row

At this point, you can change your colour to create the face if you want. 28. Purl row 29. knit row 30. Purl row 31. Knit row 32. Purl row 33. Knit row 34. Purl row 35. K2TOG - repeat until end 36. Purl row 37. Knit row 38. P2TOG - repeat until end

Using a darning needle, thread the end of the yarn through the stitches and tighten to create the top of the head. Turn the angel inside out and sew up the head and the body.

Around the neck, take a small amount of stuffing and place at the top of the head, then thread some yarn between stitches and pull loosely together.

Angel 2- Wings

#### Option 1

Cast on 27 sts

- 1. Knit row
- 2. Knit row
- 3. Decrease at each end (Knit)
- 4. Knit

5. Knit 12 rows, decrease at each end

cast off. Sew wings to the body.

#### Option 2 (more advanced)

The wings are knitted in short rows, with the yarn wrapped around the last stitch in the middle of each ridge. To complete this you need to bring your yarn forward, slip the stitch over purl-wise, take the yarn back again, replace the slipped stitch, bring the yarn forward again and turn the work.

w&t = wrap & turn

Cast on 9 sts 1. K8, w&t, K8 2. K6, w&t, K6 3. K4, w&t, K4 4. K2, w&t, K2 5. K4, w&t, K4 6, K6, w&t, K6 Repeat these 6 rows, 4-5 times as necessary. Sew wings to the body.



# **Christmas Quiz**

Continuing the angel theme, knitted or otherwise:

Can you identify which Christmas carols contain the following lines?

They are all in Singing the Faith, and the same carol may appear more than once.

- 1. His wings as drifted snow
- 2. A shining throng of angels
- 3. Hosts of angels chanted from above
- 4. Angels sing again the song you sang
- 5. From angels bending near the earth
- 6. With peaceful wings unfurled
- 7. Far and near the angels' song
- 8. Sing choirs of angels
- 9. With the angelic host proclaim
- 10. They bend on hovering wing
- 11. Star and angels gave the sign
- 12. Wing your flight o'er all the earth



The Choir master is listing possible carols for the carol service. Can you decipher his Initial jottings? (NB they are NOT anagrams, just initials.) Can you spot his glaring omission?

1. WSWTFBN	2. OLTOB
3. WTK	4. THATI
5. OIRDC	6. ICUTMC
7. SATWS	8. AFTROG
9. OCAYF	10. SHLOABOS
11. TAGFHC	12. CAJTC



Look out for the Christmas Trees in the windows of Wesley's from next weekend and come down to the church on Saturday morning 5<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 12noon to support the Christmas stall where we will be selling jams and chutneys and a limited selection of other crafts.



#### The Baboushka Carol Arthur Scholey (Music by Donald Swann)

This is a version of the Russian folktale that has delighted children over many years and serves as a warning to the overly houseproud! Russian children believe that Baboushka still roves the world seeking the Christchild, and at Christmas, when she sees a sleeping child and hears of good deeds, she will leave a toy, just in case...

'Come in my Royal Masters,
I'm glad to have you stay,
I'll welcome you and ask you
A question, if I may?
Why have you come this distance,
From where your kingdoms are?
O tell me noble sirs, why are you travelling so far?'
'Baboushka, oh Baboushka, we're following a star,
Baboushka, oh Baboushka, we're following a star'

'The star's a mighty marvel,
A truly glorious sight,
But, Lords, you must stay longer,
Oh won't you stay the night?
Do tell me why you hurry,
And here's another thing,
I marvel at the meaning of the precious gifts you bring.'
'Baboushka, oh Baboushka, they're for a newborn king,
Baboushka, oh Baboushka, they're for a newborn king '

'Some king, to have such treasures,
A star to show his birth,
And you to do him honour,
The greatest ones of earth.
And yet, he is a baby, a tiny man is he?
O Royal Ones, I wonder then if he will welcome me? '
'Baboushka, oh Baboushka, oh why not come and see?
Baboushka, oh Baboushka, oh why not come and see?'

'I will, my Royal Masters, but not just now, I fear.
I'll follow on tomorrow, when I have finished here.
My home I must make tidy,
And sweep and polish too,
And then some gifts I must prepare, - I have so much to do!'
'Baboushka, oh Baboushka, we dare not wait for you ,
Baboushka, oh Baboushka, we dare not wait for you '

At last I make the journey, No star to lead me on. 'Good people, can you tell me The way the Kings have gone?' Some shepherds tell of angels, But now there is no sound,



The stable it is empty, and the baby Egypt-bound. 'Baboushka, oh Baboushka, we know where he is found. Baboushka, oh Baboushka, we know where he is found.'

Through all the years I seek him, I feel him very near, 'O people, do you know him, O tell me, is he here? In all the world I travel, But late I made my start, Oh tell me if you find him, for I've searched in every part.' *'Baboushka, oh Baboushka, we find him in our heart, Baboushka, oh Baboushka, we find him in our heart'.* 



Donald Swann (1923-1994) is of course best remembered for his ground-breaking world-famous partnership with Michael Flanders, but he was also greatly involved in children's choirs and in religious music, including Hymn no 85 in StF, Praise the Lord who Reigns above, based on Psalm 150. Wesley words to a Swann tune called Flanders... a winning combination! Sadly, his other hymn collaboration with Arthur Scholey, above, did not make the cut when Stf was produced. If you still have a copy of Hymns and Psalms, look at no 503, the Song of Caedmon. 'O Praise him, O Praise him.' When we were at Barnes Methodist Church in the mid 90s, when a certain Eric Murray was Minister there, the liturgical dance group enacted and dramatised this hymn, the adults swooping small children across the stage , dressed as various 'things that leap and swim and fly' (verse 2). It was very memorable.

This mention of Donald Swann sent me searching for another half- remembered carol. Called the Storke Carol, the words are anonymous, having been found, somewhat miraculously, on the fly leaf of a 16<sup>th</sup> century prayerbook. Perhaps written during a long sermon... who knows?! I don't know how authentic the spelling is, nor do I know if this is the origin of the stork's traditional association with the births of babies. It has a delightful melody, and of course, being Donald Swann, an exquisite piano part. Do search it out if you can.

#### The Storke Carol words C16th anonymous , music by Donald Swann

The storke she rose on Christmas eve And sayde unto her broode, 'I nowe must far to Bethlehem To viewe the Sonne of God.' She gave to eche his dole of mete, She stowed them farely in, And far she flew and fast she flew And came to Bethlehem.

'Nowe where is he of David's line? She asked at house and halle, 'He is not here', they spoke hardly, 'but in a mangier stall.' She found him in a mangier stalle With that most Holy Mayde, The gentle storke she wept to see The Lord so rudely layde.



Then from her panting breast she plucked The feathers, white and warm, She strewed them in the mangier bed To keep the Lord from harm. 'Nowe bless-ed be the gentle storke for evermore', quoth he, 'For that she saw my sadde estate and show-ed such pity. Full welcome shall she ever be in hamlet and in halle, And called henceforth the bless-ed bird, And friend of babies all.'

#### Save your stamps

# This Christmas, collect stamps for RNIB and make a difference to blind and partially sighted people.

If you receive cards and letters through the post, could you save the stamps to send to us? We will recycle them into much-needed funds for our services, such as our <u>Letter from Santa</u> in accessible formats for children with vision impairment to help them feel included at Christmas.



#### How stamps make a difference

By collecting stamps you're helping to break down the barriers that stop people with sight loss living life to the full. We accept all stamps: new or used, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums. Stamps are sold by weight and we raise £20 per kilogramme of stamps, so it's a brilliant way to raise money.

Over the past few years I have been collecting stamps for various causes, this year we will be sending them to the RNIB. I already have a large box that is filling up with a huge donation that I was given a few years ago. You are welcome to send your stamps off yourself, via the envelope scheme on their website or you can hold onto your stamps and them put them in my pigeon hole at church when we are allowed back in (finger crossed very soon in the New Year). I can then put them with all the other stamps I have and send them off together.

For stamps to be worth anything to the RNIB it is really important that they are not damaged in any way, so, don't try pealing the stamp off the envelope, leave it on and cut around it leaving at least a 1cm margin around all sides.



For more information visit their website

https://www.rnib.org.uk/donations-and-fundraising/fundraising-your-community/stamps-appeal

Nicky Horton

# **Zoom Christingle**



You are invited to join a "Zoom Christingle" on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm.

You will need an orange, red ribbon (plus a pin to attach or tape), a candle or glow stick, 4 cocktail sticks and 4 sweets!

A small ball of wool.

Also a nativity set would be useful so you can "build your own" Christmas scene but not vital as all will evolve on the screen.

It will not be the same but I will aim to include as many elements as possible

Keep an eye out in Karl's pastoral letter for more details nearer the time, including the Zoom link.

# Sheep Trail



Due to Covid restrictions, the annual sheep trail will be done a little differently this year. There will be a knitted sheep in the window of every premises listed.

Each sheep will have a tag around its neck with its name on. Find the sheep and write its name in the space on this form, which you can also download from the church website.

This year the sheep trail is just for fun. Shepherds of all ages welcome.

Shop / Premises		Sheep Name
Adorn	(jeweller)	
Barnard Marcus	(estate agent)	
Barnardo's	(shop)	
Boots the Optician	(optician)	
Cancer Research	(shop)	
Curchods	(estate agent)	

Shop / Premises	Sheep Name
Eye Contact (optician)	
Foxton's (estate agent)	
Groves Residential (estate agent)	
Halsa (Clinic, Blagdon Rd)	
Headmasters (hairdresser)	
Hermans Pharmacy (chemist)	
F. Hinds (jeweller)	
Holland & Barrett (shop)	
Il Villaggio (delicatessen Blagdon Rd)	
Keys Residential (estate agent)	
Lodge Brothers (undertaker)	
Manuels (baker)	
Metro (dry cleaner)	
Millimetre (hairdresser)	
New Malden Carpet Centre (shop)	
New Malden Methodist Church	
Parry & Drewett (estate agent)	
Pengilly's (cobbler)	
Princess Alice Hospice (shop)	
Specsavers (optician)	
Suttle's (stationer)	
The Place (café)	





# What the Donkey Saw

No room in the inn, of course, And not that much in the stable, What with the shepherds, Magi, Mary, Joseph, the heavenly host, Not to mention the baby Using our manger as a cot. You couldn't have squeezed another cherub in For love or money.

Still, in spite of the overcrowding,I did my best to make them feel wanted.I could see the baby and IWould be going places together.



U. A. Fanthorpe

# **Picture Quiz**



# **Another Christmas Carol Quiz**

#### Guess the correct titles of the carols from the cryptic clues listed below. Answers next month.

- 1. Move hitherward the entire assembly of those who are loyal in their belief.
- 2. Listen to the celestial messengers produce harmonious sounds.
- 3. Nocturnal time span of unbroken quietness.
- 4. An emotion excited by the acquisition or expectation of good given to the terrestrial sphere.
- 5. Embellish the interior passageways.
- 6. Twelve o'clock on a clement night witnessed its arrival.
- 7. The Christmas preceding all others.
- 8. Small municipality in Judea southeast of Jerusalem.
- 9. Diminutive masculine master of skin-covered percussionist cylinders.
- 10. Omnipotent supreme being who elicits respite to ecstatic distinguished males.
- 11. Jovial yuletide desired for the second person singular or plural by us.
- 12. Obese personification fabricated of compressed mounds of minute crystals.
- 13. Expectation of arrival to populated area by mythical, masculine, perennial gift-giver.
- 14. Natal celebration devoid of colour, rather albino, as a hallucinatory phenomenon for me.
- 15. Geographic state of fantasy during the season of mother nature's dormancy.
- 16. The first person nominative plural of a triumvirate, of far eastern heads of state.
- 17. Tintinnabulation of vacillating pendulums in inverted, metallic, resonant cups.
- 18. In a distant location the existence of an improvised unit of newborn children's slumber furniture.

# Let Every Day Be Christmas by Norman Wesley Brooks

Christmas is forever, not for just one day, for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf. The good you do for others is good you do yourself.



# Answers to Nicky's Garden Quiz

How did you do? Here are the answers:

# **Next Issue**

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful Christmas and sending you all love, especially those who have lost loved ones this year. We hope that we can all gather together again before too long.

In the meantime, the theme for the next issue of Lockdown Life is Sport. Have you joined Joe Wickes in his daily workouts, taken up a new sport or staged an 'It's a Knockout' in your garden? What sports did you enjoy before covid, or in your youth? We are using the word 'sport' in its very loosest meaning. Can someone come up with a Sports quiz? Please send me any articles and photographs of interest.

Please send all submissions to Sarah Moore at <u>nmmc@hotmail.co.uk</u> (or in long hand through my door or the church door  $\bigcirc$ ), no later than 6<sup>th</sup> January.





# Windows on Worship

# **Programme for Advent and Christmas 2020**

Follow the journey through Advent and Christmas 2020 with *Windows on Worship*, and explore what it might be to speak of 'God with us' in the midst of the current situation.

Each video can be accessed from the date and time advertised below, and you are invited to watch at that time and share your comments and thoughts with others. If you can't make those times, don't worry, as the videos can be watched at any point from then onwards.

Find all the Advent and Christmas 2020 videos as they are added by visiting Windows on Worship

Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	First Sunday of Advent: Give a Little Love
from 10am	Looking at Advent through the lens of Isaiah 64, and pondering what the John Lewis advert tells us about cascades of grace.
1 <sup>st</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Three Minute Advent Calendar
from 7.30am	A series of short, fun videos looking at different characters and elements of the Christmas story over the twenty-four days before Christmas Day.
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Second Sunday of Advent: Embracing our Inner Child
from 10am	Exploring John the Baptist and the tension between growing into spiritual maturity and being childlike, with a little help from the McDonalds advert
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Third Sunday of Advent: Is There Really No Naughty List?
from 10am	Pondering the calling of Isaiah 61 to work for justice, in conversation with the Tesco advert, with its interesting perception of human nature
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent: A Christmas You Can Believe In
from 10am	Looking at Mary's story and whether we have to believe the unbelievable in order to embrace it, with help from the Lidl advert.
Christmas Eve	Candlelit Vigil: Preparing for the Birth of Jesus
from 8pm	A short, reflective vigil service by the manger (have your candles ready!)
Christmas Day	Celebrating Christmas in Style
from 10am	A fun Christmas Day service, based on the story in Luke 2:1 – 20
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Lessons and Carols
from 10am	A playlist of carols and readings to contemplate and enjoy.

# New Malden Methodist Church – Advent and Christmas 2020

The following is a provisional programme of services for Advent and Christmas 2020, some of which will be in the Church (subject to lockdown restrictions), and some of which will be on Zoom:

Monday to Friday	Advent Daily Prayer (On Zoom)
from 9.30am	Karl will be leading Morning Prayer for Advent every weekday from 1 <sup>st</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> December. The services will last up to thirty minutes.
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Second Sunday of Advent (In Church)
from 10.30am	Karl Rutlidge will be leading worship for the second Sunday of Advent
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Third Sunday of Advent (In Church)
from 10.30am	Mark Wakelin will be leading worship for the third Sunday of Advent
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent (In Church)
from 10.30am	Karl Rutlidge will be leading worship for the fourth Sunday of Advent
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Blue Christmas (On Zoom)
from 7.30pm	A service for all who find Christmas difficult due to bereavement or other losses and absences.
Christmas Eve*	Lessons and Carols (On Zoom)
Time TBC	A traditional service of Lessons and Carols in an online format, followed by time for conversation
Christmas Eve	Christingle Service (On Zoom)
from 5pm	A family friendly and fun Christingle service in an online format.
Christmas Day	Celebrating Christmas in Style (In Church)
from 10.30am	Sally Rush will be leading worship on Christmas Day. Please bring your favourite present so we can share our excitement, and some instruments with which to make a joyful noise as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Carols, Coffee and Chat (On Zoom)
from 10.30am	An hour of conversation, carols and reflecting on the Christmas story.
New Year's Eve	Watchnight Service (On Zoom)
from 11.15pm	See in the new year with this reflective service, led by Karl Rutlidge, with hymns, prayer and Auld Lang Syne!