



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

# Spotlight

December 2021

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## Message from Karl

Dear Friends.

I cannot quite believe that we have reached this time of year again, and thus that Advent is here, and Christmas will soon be upon us. It feels like 2021 has whizzed by in the blink of an eye! At the time of writing, it is not clear whether we will find ourselves grappling with Covid restrictions being reintroduced, and that lends our celebrations a degree of uncertainty. However, I am hopeful that we will be able to share in the joy of Christ's birth together with at least some of our usual vigour!

Of the various things we do, my favourites are the High Street Sheep Trail and the Christmas Tree Festival. Both of these enable us to be visible in our community in different ways, and both are rather good fun! In these past few months, I have been working with others in the local community, and making new connections in New Malden that I hope will help us shape our ministry and mission in the coming years. When we gather again in the new year, I will share the first fruits of these explorations in worship and through Spotlight.

In this Advent period, we reflect on what it means for God to take on human flesh and share our life. If nothing else, it reveals the value God places on all people, and indeed on everything God has created. In short, matter matters. This in turn has real world implications for how we relate to one another on a daily basis, and how our society is structured and operates. Some of us will express this reality through our service in the Church, and others through our connections in the wider community. However we do so, it is important that the discipleship that emerges from our Christmas reflections is earthly and grounded – not unlike the God who comes to us.

So, friends, I hope that you will have a fruitful journey through the Advent season, which prepares you to meet with the Love that showed up in our neighbourhood as if for the first time, and to be changed forever in the process. This means taking the time to step off the treadmill of seasonal busyness, and slowing down enough to make time for self-examination and reflection. While Advent is nothing like as sombre as Lent, it is a time which calls for seeing ourselves honestly, warts and all, and being open to the ways God's love leads us to grow and mature as disciples. I also hope that you will have a great deal of fun and joy, and that the activities and services in the Church will be a special part of that for you.

With all the blessings of the season, Karl

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## Church Family News

**Ruth McLeod** celebrated her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November with tea and cake in Wesley's. The bunting and paper chains were made by Reg's granddaughter, Sylvie, who had special permission to come out of school to join in the celebrations with her Mum, Alison.



Ruth with her son, Andrew, and a slice of the delicious chocolate cake that she shared with all the Wesley's customers.

Also present were neighbours of Ruth's, a couple of Wesley's regulars and Margaret to whom Ruth was a nanny for 9 years and with whom she has kept in touch ever since.





We are delighted to announce that **Ellie Moore** and her boyfriend Tom got engaged on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Many congratulations from all of us! They hope to be getting married here at NMMC in Spring 2023.

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## Summary of November Sunday Notices

### Room required to rent

Vera Fields, a Christian lady in her 30s who's a regular at Wesley's, is looking for a place to stay. If you or someone you know in New Malden or SW London has a spare room to rent, please contact Vera on 07399 842846 or speak to Hilary.

### Wool Available

Ruth has brought in knitting patterns and a large bag of wool free to anyone who can use it. They are in the side office along with a bag of stuffing.

### St Pius X Catholic Church

We were invited to the Mass of Welcome for Father Paul Okora, the new Parish Priest of St Pius X Catholic Church at the Triangle Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November. We would like to extend a warm welcome to New Malden to Fr Paul.

### Thank you

We would like to thank everyone who baked cakes or sausage rolls, bought cakes, ate cakes etc at our coffee morning on 13<sup>th</sup> November. With two weeks to go I almost cancelled the whole thing but I'm glad I didn't as we raised a fabulous £230 and still counting for Friends of Kingston Music Service. This will make a real difference to someone's musical education and more, so thank you all. It really was a splendid effort by the church and I was quite overwhelmed by the number of cakes we had on the day. Special shout out to Hilary for selling jams and chutneys, getting in early to set up, and being the last to leave.

Caroline Auty & Isabel

### Lessons and Carols Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 10:30am

This year we are taking a slightly different approach to the music at our annual service of Lessons and Carols. The service will be in the morning when we will still hear the Christmas story and there will be the opportunity for everyone to sing a good number of our favourite carols.

There will also be a singing group to lead the carols and to contribute some choral items. We are hoping this will be drawn very widely from the congregation and include some of you who have not joined us before. The items will be easy to pick up and all you'll need is enthusiasm and to be able to sing more or less in tune! Please let Peter know if you would like to come along at [p.f.bullett@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:p.f.bullett@blueyonder.co.uk) or on 020 8942 0666.

Rehearsals will take place, distanced, in Church on two Saturdays 11<sup>th</sup> December 10.15 – 11.45 and 18<sup>th</sup> 9.45 – 11.15 mornings:

The earlier start on 18<sup>th</sup> is so we can have a break and a coffee before the Coffee and Carols (Community Carols) at 11:30.

Peter Bullett

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## Art Group

I am hoping, with the help of Stella, to restart the Creative Arts Group in January. This will be held on the third Thursday in each month from 2pm – 4pm.

This is for anything creative from art, card making, glass painting, collage, knitting and maybe even calligraphy. This could be in the same session together so we can all learn and enjoy something new, or individual crafts. It will be very informal, with tea/coffee and biscuits thrown in, and an opportunity to socialise and switch off for a couple of hours.

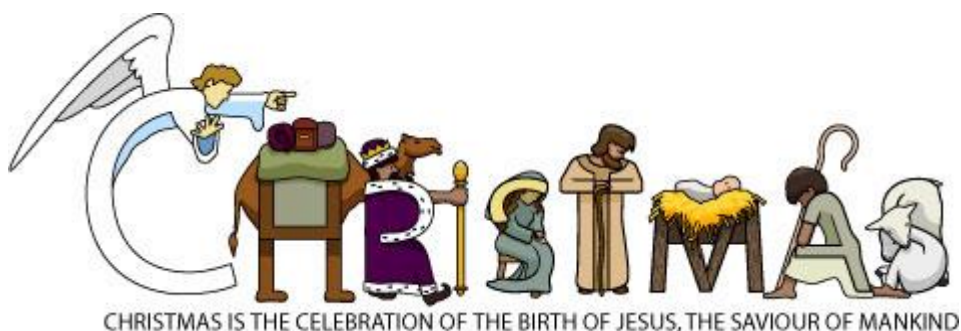
The first meeting will be Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January so do please come and give it a whirl. If you think you will be interested, it would be useful to let myself or Stella know so that we have a little idea of the support there might be.



Doreen Downey

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## Where would you find this Postbox and Knitivity?



## Christmas Services



**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

**10.30am**

**Festival of Lights**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

**10.30am**

**Gift Service**

Donations of luxury goods for Food Bank

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

**10.30am**

**Nativity**

'A Lad in a Manger'. A simple and straightforward radio play/panto type nativity.



**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

**10.30am**

**Lessons & Carols**

The traditional Nine Lessons & Carols service, but at the Sunday morning service.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

**7.30pm**

**Blue Christmas**

A quiet contemplative service for people finding Christmas difficult due to disappointment and bereavement.



**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**5.00pm**

**Christingle**

Led by Julia. Entrance by ticket only so that we can monitor the numbers. Please apply to Sarah in the church office if you would like to attend.

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**8.00pm**

**Communion Service**

To replace 11.45pm service.

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

**10.30am**

**Christmas Morning Service**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December**

**NO SERVICE**

## Sheep Trail

The sheep have been distributed up and down the High Street so please collect an entry form and find them all!



## Christmas Fair



**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am – 1pm**

**Christmas Fair**

Please come along and support our fair this year. Offers of help will still be gratefully received.

Cakes and other baked goods

Hot Sausage Rolls

Raffle

Toiletries & Jewellery

Jams/Preserves

Cuddly Toy Tombola

Books & Puzzles

Christmas Stall

Knitwear & Crafts

## Christmas Tree Festival

**Saturdays 11<sup>th</sup> December: 10.00am – 4.30pm**

**Saturdays 18<sup>th</sup> December: 10.00am – 2.00pm**

**Weekdays: 11am – 1pm when Wesley's is open**

We will need people to help with stewarding the festival on the two Saturdays so please sign up on the sheet on the noticeboard in Wesley's.



## Coffee & Carols



**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December 11.30 – 12.00**

**Coffee & Carols**

Carol singing in the High Street.

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## Next Issue & Winter Photo Competition

Please send all submissions to Sarah Moore at [nmmc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nmmc@hotmail.co.uk) (or in longhand through my door or the church door 😊). I am happy to receive anything you think might be of interest: memories, lockdown experiences, news of members, advice for life, poems, photos, recipes etc.

Following the popularity of the photo competition during Lockdown, we thought it would be good to brighten up the January issue with another one. Please send in any photos you would like to share with a winter theme (including Christmas). The deadline for the January issue will be Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January to allow you time to get your photos in to [nmmc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nmmc@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Vera's Linked Miscellany Quiz - Answers

1. **St Michael's Mount** is the rocky island connected to the Cornish mainland by a tidal causeway.
2. The Young Pretender was known to his Jacobite supporters as **Bonnie Prince Charlie**.
3. Richard Wilson played **Victor Meldrew** in 'One Foot in the Grave'.
4. St Andrew's day is in **November**.
5. **Sierra Nevada**, meaning 'snowy range', is the name of the mountains found in the Andalusia region of Spain.
6. The seventh largest Asian country in the world by area is **India**.
7. Martha and the Muffins' song **Echo Beach** was their sole UK hit.
8. The word which describes both a radioactive particle consisting of two protons and two neutrons and a dominant male is **Alpha**.
9. French forces were defeated by General James Wolfe in the battle of **Quebec City** in 1759.
10. **X-Rays** were discovered by William Röntgen in 1895.

And a bonus point if you spotted that the theme connecting the answers is the NATO phonetic alphabet.

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### Diary Dates - December

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.45pm	Graham Child Christmas Carols
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am onwards	Set-up for Christmas Fair
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am – 1.00pm	Christmas Fair
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am – 1.00pm	Tree decorating for Christmas Tree Festival
	<b>AND</b> 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Tree decorating for Christmas Tree Festival
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Women's Institute
	10.00am – 4.30pm	Christmas Tree Festival
	10.15am – 12.00	Rehearsal for Lessons & Carols (Upper Hall)
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Harmonie Choir & Orchestra Concert
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Bereavement Café
	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – Christmas Flower Arranging
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am – 11.30am	Rehearsal for Lessons & Carols (Upper Hall)
	10.00am – 12 noon	Wesley's – Mind – Hannah Walsh
	10.00am – 2.00pm	Christmas Tree Festival
	11.30am – 12 noon	Carol singing outside the church
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Wives & Friends – Carols & Readings (Choir Vestry)
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	1.10pm	Lunchtime Concert – Music for Christmas

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## Circuit Plan

		<b>KINGSTON 10.30am</b>	<b>SURBITON HILL 10.30am</b>	<b>NEW MALDEN 10.30am</b>	<b>CHESSINGTON* 10am</b>
05 December	am	Stan Brown: HC	David Fullbrook	Karl Rutledge: G	LA: G/N
	pm	No Service	4.30pm Stan Brown PP	No Service	No Service
12 December	am	Karl Rutledge: N	Stan Brown: HC	L.A: N	Mark Wakelin: HC/M
	pm	No Service	4.30pm Choir Cafe	No Service	No Service
19 December	am	Karl Rutledge: Ca	Stan Brown	LA: Ca	Judith Wakelin: C
	pm	No Service	5.30pm Stan Brown CL	No Service	4pm: CL
20 December	pm	No Service	No Service	No Service	8pm: CL
21 December	pm			7.30pm Karl Rutledge BC	
24 December	pm	No Service	4.30pm Stan Brown: CG 8pm Stan Brown: HC	5pm Julia Morton: CG 8pm: Karl Rutledge: HC	11.15pm: Mark Wakelin: CE
25 December	am	Sally Rush: AA	Stan Brown	Karl Rutledge: AA	Mark Wakelin/ Paul Han
26 December	am	No Service	No Service	No Service	Mark Wakelin S
31 December	pm	11.15 pm: WS	No Service	No Service	WS
02 January	am	Karl Rutledge: Cov/HC	Jilly Bridges	Mark Wakelin	Stan Brown
09 January	am	Lorraine Webb	Stan Brown: Cov	Karl Rutledge: Cov	Mark Wakelin: Cov
	pm	No Service	4.30pm Stan Brown PP	No Service	No Service
16 January	am	Stan Brown	Karl Rutledge	David Fullbrook	Mark Wakelin: C
	pm	No Service	5pm Zoom Service	No Service	No Service
23 January	am	Karl Rutledge	Stan Brown	Duncan Lloyd	Linda Davis
30 January	am	Jilly Bridges	Denis Vernon	Stan Brown	Karl Rutledge
06 February	am	David Fullbrook	Stan Brown	Karl Rutledge	Paul Han: HC
	pm	No Service	4.30pm Stan Brown PP	No Service	No Service
13 February	am	Stan Brown	Judith Wakelin	Lorraine Webb	Mark Wakelin
20 February	am	Karl Rutledge: HC	Stan Brown HC	Hannah Chun	Mark Wakelin: C
	pm	No Service	5pm Zoom Service	No Service	No Service
27 February	am	Mark Wakelin	Stan Brown	Karl Rutledge: HC	Denis Vernon

\* Korean Language Service at Chessington on Sundays at 12.00 noon led by Rev Paul Han

**Online services** (*follow links*)

Chessington: 10am Sunday: [chessingtonmc.online.church](https://chessingtonmc.online.church); YouTube: [Chessington Methodist Church](#)

Kingston: Sundays & You Tube: [Windows on Worship](#)

New Malden: Sundays & You Tube: [Windows on Worship](#)

Surbiton Hill: 10.30 Sundays. You Tube: [Surbiton Hill Methodist Church](#)

Worship Books	Methodist Worship Book (Holy Communion only)	Methodist Worship Book (complete)	Methodist Worship Book (complete)	Methodist Worship Book (Holy Communion only)
Bibles	GNB	NIV	NRSV	NIV
Music (Projection by arrangement)	Singing the Faith Songs of Fellowship 1-3	Singing the Faith Hymns & Psalms Let's Praise 1-2	Singing the Faith	Hymns & Psalms Songs of Fellowship 1-3

## Notes & Abbreviations

AA: All Age Worship; BC: Blue Christmas; C: Contemporary Service; Ca: Carol Service; CE: Christmas Eve Service; CG: Christingle; CL: Carols by Candlelight; Cov: Covenant Service; G: Gift Service; HC: Holy Communion; LA: Local Arrangement; M: Membership Service; N: Nativity; PP: Praise Party; S: Short Service/Morning Prayer; WS: Watchnight Service

**Holy Communion:** to be arranged locally at the discretion of each church and Minister

**Ministers' Day Off:** Stan: Saturday; Karl: Monday. Mark works part-time and can usually be contacted Sunday, Monday and Tuesday

**Preachers Meeting:** *To be arranged*

**Circuit Meeting:** 8pm on 12 January at New Malden

*Note: Preachers – please send requests for the next Plan to the Circuit Office by 11 January 2022*