MANOR

COURT

BAPTIST CHURCH

CIRCULAR

December 2021







Ordinary people learning to follow an extraordinary God!

Manor Court Baptist Church
Manor Court Road
Nuneaton CV11 5HU
024 7638 2577
office@mcbc.org.uk
www.mcbcnuneaton.org.uk

Pastor:

Rev Jonathan Bugg His day off is Friday Contact: Pastor@mcbc.org.uk

Church office open 9.30-12.00

Foodbank

Monday & Thursday 10.30-12.00

WE HAVE 5 CORE VALUES:

- WORSHIPPING
 - Jesus at the centre
- DISCIPLING
- Every member growing
- MINISTERING
 Everyone using their gifts
- BUILDING COMMUNITY
 Open, honest relationships
- REACHING OUT
 Reaching out into the community

Please note the deadline for January magazine is 28th December

Yvonne.mead@mcbc.org.uk

So here it is Merry Christmas....well maybe not just yet ...but it must be close ... the Christmas jumpers are in the shops, Christmas jingles play



everywhere and Mary Berry is cooking up the perfect Christmas food, but is that all its about?

Each year we seem to move further and further away from the true value of Christmas and nearer and nearer to a time of conspicuous consumerism. We are inundated with people trying to persuade us to buy this or that gift, or trying to convince us that our celebration will not be complete without this particular food item or that particular drink. No wonder a journalist in one paper jokingly suggested that Advent should be renamed ADVERT!

Not that I'm suggesting that there is anything wrong in giving presents to friends and family. But if this is all that Christmas is about, isn't it rather unsatisfying and unsatisfactory?

Advent seems to have been reduced to a chocolate filled calendar counting down the days to a visit from Santa, a time when lives can become crowded and too busy to stop and take a breath.

But Advent is a season of hope. Through Christ's coming into the world everything is changed for ever. Through the simple glory of his life, Jesus showed us the potential for good that exists in all of us. He demonstrated human life at its ultimate. He showed us life as God intended us to live it — a life of service to others. Jesus lived in such a way that all those who came into contact with him, however

briefly, were changed by the experience.

It is easy to think that this world is a dark, bleak and hopeless place.

The news over the last few months and weeks has been all doom and gloom with tragedy, cruelty and greed high on the agenda. Strife in many parts of the world, concerns over Covid, all remind us that we are living in a fallen world, and its sometimes difficult for us to see it as God does.

But "God saw all he had made, and it was very good "

Lets not forget that it was God himself who gave the very first Christmas present of all time, there was no busyness or bustle in the streets that night, no frantic search for presents, just a world sleeping unaware that the King of Glory was leaving behind his home in heaven to come as a child into this world. not to condemn or judge us but to bring hope in His name ... Emmanuel God with us.

Let our advent prayer be:

Dearest God,

Please never let me crowd my life full to the brim.

So like the keeper of Bethlehem's Inn,

I find I have no room for Him.

Instead, let my heart's door be ever open,

Ready to welcome The new-born King.

Let me offer the best I have To Him, who gives me everything.

"Each of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus"

let us remember with thankfulness that Love came down at Christmas, and when all the celebrations are over and the decorations are packed away for another year hope is still with us and Its name ...Jesus







Notes from the Church Meeting 18th November (editors notes only see the full minutes distributed)



Voting took place for Church secretary and Treasurer, this included postal votes, and as a result Roger Gadsby continues as Church Secretary and Terry Salter as Treasurer.

As church restarts there are many opportunities for people to use their gifts and passions to serve $$\operatorname{\textsc{Opportunities}}$$ the church family. Whatever your interests there is a slot for you: on Sundays Working with children, welcoming, refreshments, Technical support, and in the week Little treasures would love extra helpers.





Maintenance of the building

Roy reported that he and Teresa are making a list of all small maintenance and repair jobs that could be done ourselves in house.

Please if you have maintenance or decorating skills look out for the date to be advertised in the near future.



Pam advised that Terry will be finishing on 20th December and Sheryl White will take over as the new Debt Centre Manager. Sheryl is from Bedworth Baptist Church and they are excited to be working in partnership with us.

Terry will be starting as the Manager of the new CAP Job Club ministry in the new year. He and Isaac are completing online training and plan to launch an 8 week course in February.

He and Isaac and Joy would welcome others in the church to join this exciting ministry.





Livestreaming of services has now stopped, but they will continue to be recorded, edited and then made available online, but there will be a zoom login made available to people who are isolating or housebound who cannot physically attend church.

As from January the new agreed start time of the service will be 10.30am

Prayer meetings on zoom have worked well but it was agreed meeting face to face is much more preferable.

Leadership are looking at prayer meeting formats etc. and we are being encouraged to pray about this and let them know any thoughts/ words from God we may have.





16th December (TBC) The meeting agreed it would be good to go out into the local streets Carol singing and also include a visit to Manor Court Home. There will be a MCBC Christmas card that can be posted through doors on the night and also distributed to our local streets on the run up to Christmas.



Rick Hughes 1949-2021

It is with sadness that we heard that our previous minister - Rick Hughes (2005-14) passed away to be with Jesus on 19th November, The family have been in touch to let us know the following details....

Rick's Thanksgiving and Life Celebration Service will be held at London Road Baptist Church on Friday 17th December at 2pm.

The service will also be live streamed so if you live far away or are unable to join us in person, please join us virtually by following this link:

https://londonroad.org.uk/remembrance/



The cremation ceremony will be for family only earlier that day.

Please visit Dad's tribute online page and we would love you to please add your own pictures, thoughts and stories using the following link:

https://richard-hughes-1949-2021.muchloved.com

With much love, Rick family



Beryl Marriot

We have also heard that Beryl passed away on 22nd November in hospital, we have no news yet about funeral arrangements.

Please pray for family and friends who mourn her passing.



Prayer points for December are:

- Daniel Bugg for his recovery from surgery and for the whole family as they support him and one another.
- Christmas events and services. Carol singing in our local area and distribution of church Christmas cards with details of our Christmas services.
- Our own preparation for Christmas as we look forward to celebrating the coming of Jesus.
- Wisdom for everyone in the response to the emergence of the new Covid variant.
- Please pray for the family and friends of Rick Hughes and Beryl Marriot



Tearfund 2021 Christmas Appeal

Encourages us to look at what we spend at Christmas and consider donating that money instead.

There will be a board in church for church family to put a Christmas card rather than sending individual cards and a box for money donated in lieu of cards. The money given will be added to our Christmas Day collection which is going to Tear Funds Christmas Appeal which focusses on countries affected by climate change.

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28th	29	30	1	2	3	4
10.45 Morning Service	10.00 Holy Dusters 10.30 Food bank 8.00 AA 7.30 YDG	9.30 Littles treasures 2.00 Tuesday Fellowship 6.30 Nun Choral Society	2-3.30 Barbera's Home group	10.00 Sew & Grow 10.30 Food bank 7.45pm Prayer Meeting	9.30 Littles treasures	9.30-3.30 Saints Christmas Market 4.00pm YWAM Advent party
5 10.45 Morning Service	6 10.00 Holy Dusters 10.30 Food bank 12.00 CAP Christmas meal 8.00 AA 7.30 YDG	7 9.30 Littles treasures 2.00 Tuesday Fellowship 6.30 Nun Choral Society	8 2-3.30 Barbera's Home group	9 10.00 Sew & Grow 10.30 Food bank Deacons meeting	10 9.30 Littles treasures	11
12 10.45 Morning Service	13 10.00 Holy Dusters 10.30 Food bank 8.00 AA 7.30 YDG	9.30 Littles treasures Christmas party 2.00 Tuesday Fellowship 6.30 Nun Choral Society	15 2-3.30 Barbera's Home group	16 10.00 Sew & Grow 10.30 Food bank 6.30 Carol singing	9.30 Littles treasures Christmas party 2.00pm Rick Hughes Thanksgiving Service	18
19 10.45 Crib Service 6.00pm Carol Service	20 110.00 Holy Dusters 10.30 Food bank 8.00 AA	21 6.30 Nun Choral Society	22	23 10.30 Food bank No prayer meeting	24	25 10.00am Christmas day service
26th No service 2nd January 10.30 Reflection on the year/ Covenant ser- vice	27 10.30 Food bank	28	29	30 10.30 Food bank	31	

Flower Rota

Flowers provided in December by:

5th - Sonja Wilson

12th - Ann Bradbury

19th -Trevor Bailey

26th—no service

Please see Pam Gadsby if you would like to join the Rota and be a part of this very worthwhile ministry.

Tuesday Fellowship

The Tuesday fellowship extend a warm welcome to join them on a Tuesday afternoon at 2.00pm for an hour of praise and fellowship plus fascinating speakers December dates:

7th Carol Service

14th A time of sharing plus tea and cakes

2022 dates to be discussed and confirmed





Prayer meeting this month 2nd December 7.45pm

This will be face to face at MCBC but it is also hoped that people will also be able to join in via Zoom (technology permitting)

"Prayer is the powerhouse or heartbeat of the church "

Further meeting dates in January to be advised







An update on our sponsor child Meskatun Jannat

Meskatun lives with her family in Ghoraghat which is in Bangladesh

She is now 9 years old

Currently she is in primary school studying grade 3

World vision community workers have repeatedly visited Meskatun and her family to monitor her well being. They report she is in good health.

Here is her personal report for the last year.....she and her family have participated in and benefitted from :

Nutritional education: she learned which food to eat to grow healthy and strong and how to cook healthy meals to live a healthy life

Hygiene education: she practices good hygiene like hand washing

Child/early marriage prevention workshop/training

She is more aware of the harmful effects of early marriage

Because of Covid 19 impacts including restrictions to some activities when this report was being prepared, Meskatun doesn't have as much news to share as normal, it has been a difficult year for all.

Thank you for your continued support, because of this Meskatun and her community have a brighter future, they are learning how to provide for their children now and in the future

Please continue to remember Meskatun and her family in your prayers that they may come to know and experience for themselves *Emmanuel God with us* this Christmas.



The Vine Christian Bookshop The Borough

News from The Vine

We are feeling very Christmassy at The Vine this month! From Monday 29th November we will be serving our festive menu once again (we missed it last year!). This is a turkey, stuffing and cranberry filling, which can be had in either a toastie, cob or sandwich, mince pie and hot mulled punch (non-alcoholic). You can get all three for just £5.00 in the run up to Christmas. We have also recently started serving homemade soup again - great to warm you up on these colder days. We'll be serving this right through the winter. New in the bookshop are the latest discounted books in the "Take Note" range. This time there are titles for advent and Christmas including festive CDs, a good selection of devotional books great to start the New Year with, new titles in Christian living and biography and some lovely new Bibles including the fantastic new Good News Family Edition, which comes with a £7.00 saving! This is a fantastic resource for young families or church groups - it is A4 size and is designed so that several family members can use it at the same time but in different ways - drop in to have a look. We are still in need of volunteers (especially someone who can be available to cover ad hoc absences) and are looking for a paid assistant to cover alternate Saturdays and Fridays. For more information, please drop in or email thevinehinckley@btconnect.com





From Jim Keeley Treasurer and trustee of Nuneaton Food bank ...

On behalf of Nuneaton Foodbank thank you for your generous donation from your harvest appeal of £ 558.80

Please be assured this will help ensure we are able to continue to operate to support those people who come to us when they are in crisis.



We would like to invite you to join us for our CAP Christmas Lunch... everyone welcome

A full turkey dinner with all the trimmings, followed by our speaker Yvonne Mead. It is open to everyone but please bring a friend, neighbor, community client ...someone who is lonely or isolated.

When: Monday 6th December 2021

Where: Manor Court Baptist Church

Time: 12 noon-2pm

Please contact Terry Salter on 07890 592985 to book your place and request if you need help with transport. Hope to see you there!

Website: mcbcnuneaton.org.uk Email: office@mcbc.org.uk Tel: 024 7638

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Warwickshire CVII 5HU

Mince pie appeal......

We would love to be able to offer mince pies after both the **Crib and Carol Services on 19th December**

If you can help please bring any shop bought pies before that date and put them in the kitchen.

Thank you so much



THE SAINTS NUNEATON MISSIMS MADE

Saturday

4th of December

9.30am-3.30pm

Christmas Market

Browse stalls run by local businesses with beautiful handcrafted gifts and

Also farmers market stall

decorations.





We want to welcome you to our Open House

We have a Christmassy afternoon planned with food, carols, family fun and a King's Lodge house tour!

ALL WELCOME,

Saturday 4th December starts at 4.00pm,
YWAM The King's Lodge, CV10 0TZ. See you there

Opportunities To Serve





As Church restarts there are many opportunities for you to use your gifts and passions in a number of ministries in the church.

A lot goes on behind the scenes on a Sunday morning ...

Would you like the opportunity to be part of this ministry? could you offer maybe one Sunday a month?

There are ministry opportunities to suit all ages and abilities (full training given)

- Meeting and greeting on the door
- Propresenter (projecting the words for the songs)
- Sound desk
- Live recording :camera and sound
- Making and serving tea and coffee
- Children's work
- Prayer walking

or maybe you would prefer to serve during to week?

If you have a heart for children's ministry Little Treasures are in church on a Tuesday/Friday morning.

Foodbank are in church on Monday and Thursday mornings

CAP Debt Centre, CAP Job Club would welcome volunteers.





Saints Christmas Market

Saturday 4th December 9.30-3.30

CAP Christmas Meal

Monday 6th December 12.00-2.00pm

Carol Singing in the community

Thursday 16th December 6.30pm TBC

Church Members Meeting

Thursday 20th January 2022 7.45pm

Saturday 22nd January

9.00am-4.00pm BYO lunch

Light on the Bible Seminar :Jesus & the Gospels

Suggested Donation £15 For more info contact Bible.seminars@ywamthekingslodge.org

CAP Job Club (8 week seminar)

Thursday 3rd February 2022 10.30am













Christmas at Manor Court Baptist Church

Thursday 16th December 6.30pm (time tbc)

Carol Singing in our local streets including a visit to Manor
Court Home

Sunday 19th December

10.45 am Crib service (followed by mince pies)

6.00pm Carol Service ('followed by mince pies)

Saturday 25th December 10.00am

A short Christmas Morning Service *

(*the freewill offering will be given to Tear Fund Christmas Appeal focussing on countries impacted by climate change)

Sunday 2nd January 10.30am

A Reflection on the year & Covenant Service (to include bacon butties)



I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people, for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour who is Christ the Lord