

West Bridgford Methodist Church

December 2018 “At a Glance”

A Diary of Worship Services and Other Events



Where “details below” is shown next to a diary entry please see the general notices at the end of “At a Glance” for more information.		
Please note : In the “online” version personal contact details are NOT given, this information is available in the “printed” version available in church.		
Sunday 25 November	10.30 am	MORNING WORSHIP conducted by Monica Heard. With SUNDAY CLUB offering faith, friendship and fun for children and young people.
	5.30 pm	Youth Alpha. Today there will be NO Youth Alpha because of 3Generate.
Monday 26 November	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Monday Afternoon Fellowship A warm welcome is assured from this friendly group meeting at Ann Latham's house twice a month for fellowship, discussion and prayer. An interesting afternoon is promised with tea and cake too. See Ann or Georgina for more details.
	3.30 – 5.30 pm	X-Plore : a New Youth Group. X-Plore is a new youth group (meeting each Monday during term time) for those aged 9-13. Doors open from 3.30pm, start at 4pm and finish by 5.30pm. Join us as we learn about The Bible by creating “stop motion films”. For more information contact our Youth Engagement Worker, Abby
	7.30 pm	Open House Fellowship Group. Our meetings continue with a time of fellowship, Bible study (looking at Paul’s letter to the Thessalonians), prayer and concluding with tea or coffee. We are meeting at Gardens Court. Details from Brian Horler.
Wednesday 28 November	9.30 – 11.30 am	Parent, Baby and Toddler Group.
	10.00 am - Midday	Meeting Point : A warm and friendly group. Come for a cuppa and biscuits, a natter and a laugh. Look forward to meeting you.
	1.30 – 3.30 pm	Woolly Wednesday – a time for craft, care and cake. A time to share skills and learn new ones. Details from Jane Everett and Monica Heard.
	1.30 – 3.00 pm	Parent, Baby and Toddler Group.
	7.00 pm	Leadership Team Meeting – at the Manse.

Thursday 29 November	Women's Fellowship : Christmas Lunch – venue and time to be arranged.	
	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Singing Together : Further details below.
Saturday 01 December	'The Singing Christmas Tree'. Closing date for the return of decorated wreaths for 'The Singing Christmas Tree' . We hope that every church and community group will contribute a wreath for display during the week of concerts	
	9.30 am - Midday	Community Coffee Morning in the Community Hall. Organised by Jane Everett in aid of "The Singing Christmas Tree".
	10.30 am – 1.00 pm	Young People planning the Nativity Service – at the Manse. Pizza included – see Revd Rach Ward or Abby for more details.
	7.00 – 9.00 pm	Mahjong and games evening (in Community Hall). Please join us for friendship, fun and a cup of tea.
Sunday 02 December	10.30 am	MORNING WORSHIP including Holy Communion, conducted by Revd Marian Crawford. With SUNDAY CLUB offering faith, friendship and fun for children and young people. Flowers donated by John and Margaret Munn.
	6.00 pm	Memorial Service to Remember Loved Ones. All are welcome to join us for this special service to remember loved ones who have died. There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one. While we encourage family groups to light a candle, you may wish to remember more than one person. To this end, and to help us with planning, it would be most helpful if you would therefore let our senior stewards, Karen Hobdell or John Mellor, or Rev Rach know an indication of how many people may be in your family party and how many candles you may wish to light. Many thanks.
	5.30 pm	Youth Alpha. A series that explores life, faith and meaning. Further details below.
	7.30 pm	Working Party to rearrange church chairs to face West in preparation for the Singing Christmas Tree

Monday 03 December	2.00 – 4.00 pm	Memory Lane Café : Christmas Party. Come and enjoy reminiscence, activities with music & singing, make new friends and enjoy tea & cake!
	3.30 – 5.30 pm	X-Plore : a New Youth Group. X-Plore is a new youth group (meeting each Monday during term time) for those aged 9-13. Doors open from 3.30pm, start at 4pm and finish by 5.30pm. Join us as we learn about The Bible by creating “stop motion films”. For more information contact our Youth Engagement Worker, Abby
	Open House Fellowship Group. Christmas meal at the Nottingham Knight.	
	7.00 pm	Working party to begin decoration of the Singing Christmas Tree after completion of the scaffolding erection
Tuesday 04 December	10.00 am	Coffee and Chat – Details from Fiona.
	11.00 am – 12.30 pm	Storytime. Bible based story and activities for pre-school children and parents/carers, finishing with lunch.
	1.00 – 8.00 pm	Decoration of the Singing Christmas Tree. Please drop in to help as you are able. The kettle will be on!
Wednesday 05 December	Toddler Christmas Party on December 12th – pre-booking is essential. The deadline for pre-booking is TODAY’S meeting and the cost will be £5 per child, which includes craft, party food and a present from Santa.	
	9.30 – 11.30 am	Parent, Baby and Toddler Group.
	10.00 am - Midday	Meeting Point : A warm and friendly group. Come for a cuppa and biscuits, a natter and a laugh. Look forward to meeting you.
	1.00 – 4.00 pm	Working party to complete decoration of the Singing Christmas Tree and install fairy lights
	1.30 – 3.00 pm	Parent, Baby and Toddler Group.
Thursday 06 December	2.30 pm	Women’s Fellowship : Last meeting before Christmas.
	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Singing Together : Further details below.
	7.30 pm	Thursday Fellowship (meeting in the Community Hall). Tonight, the focus will be on Luke 3 v. 1 – 6. Details from Monica Heard.
Friday 07 December	9.00 am – 4.00 pm	Working party to display Christmas Wreaths and collate programmes for the Singing Christmas Tree.

Saturday 08 December	Deadline for booking on the BMW walk (see 15th December for details).	
	8.30 am	Men's Prayer Group : further details below.
	9.30 am - Midday	Community Coffee Morning in the Community Hall. Organised by Jane Everett in aid of "The Singing Christmas Tree".
	7.30 pm	Concert by Ruddington & Lady Bay Community Choirs. (Stewards and helpers to be in place by 7.00 pm please)
Sunday 09 December	10.30 am	MORNING WORSHIP including Baptism of Elodie conducted by Revd Rach Ward. With SUNDAY CLUB offering faith, friendship and fun for children and young people. Flowers donated by Allan and Georgina Youdell.
	Midday	Working Party to rearrange church chairs cabaret style in preparation for the Monday's concert
	5.30 pm	Youth Alpha. A series that explores life, faith and meaning. Further details below.
Monday 10 December	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Monday Afternoon Fellowship A warm welcome is assured from this friendly group meeting at Ann Latham's house twice a month for fellowship, discussion and prayer. An interesting afternoon is promised with tea and cake too. See Ann or Georgina for more details.
	3.30 – 5.30 pm	X-Plore : a New Youth Group. X-Plore is a new youth group (meeting each Monday during term time) for those aged 9-13. Doors open from 3.30pm, start at 4pm and finish by 5.30pm. Join us as we learn about The Bible by creating "stop motion films". For more information contact our Youth Engagement Worker, Abby
	7.30 pm	Concert by Rosa's Lovely Daughters and Friends. (Stewards and helpers to be in place by 7.00 pm please)
Tuesday 11 December	1.00 pm	Working party to rearrange church chairs to face West before this evening's concert
	7.30 pm	Concert by BeVox. (Stewards and helpers to be in place by 7.00 pm please)

Wednesday 12 December	10.00 am - midday	Toddler Christmas Party – pre-booking is essential. The deadline for pre-booking is by the December 5 th meeting and the cost will be £5 per child, which includes craft, party food and a present from Santa.
	10.00 am - Midday	Meeting Point : A warm and friendly group. Come for a cuppa and biscuits, a natter and a laugh. Look forward to meeting you.
	1.00 – 3.00 pm	Toddler Christmas Party – pre-booking is essential. The deadline for pre-booking is by the December 5 th meeting and the cost will be £5 per child, which includes craft, party food and a present from Santa.
	1.30 – 3.30 pm	Woolly Wednesday – a time for craft, care and cake. A time to share skills and learn new ones. Details from Jane Everett and Monica Heard.
	7.30 pm	Concert by The Bridge Singers with Farnaby & Co. (Stewards and helpers to be in place by 7.00 pm please)
Thursday 13 December	10.00 am – 2.00 pm	Friends Together. A time to socialise with others over a cup of tea.
	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Singing Together : Further details below.
	7.30 pm	Concert by Radcliffe Ladies Choir and Nottingham Youth Voices. (Stewards and helpers to be in place by 7.00 pm please)
Friday 14 December	7.30 pm	Concert by Everyone Can Sing. (Stewards and helpers to be in place by 7.00 pm please)
Saturday 15 December	9.30 am - Midday	Community Coffee Morning in the Community Hall. Organised by Jane Everett in aid of “The Singing Christmas Tree”.
	10.30 am	BMW walk : Widmerpool to Keyworth. A short 2.5 mile walk in recognition of the short days and the energy we will need for the Singing Christmas Tree concert that evening! A highlight will be a visit to the Keyworth Methodist Church Christmas Tree Festival. Contact John Thurston (please see “printed” version for contact details) for details.
	7.30 pm	Concert by West Bridgford Social Singers. (Stewards and helpers to be in place by 7.00 pm please)

Sunday 16 December	10.30 am	NATIVITY SERVICE conducted by Revd Rach Ward. Flowers donated by Karen Hobdell.
	4.00 pm	Closing Celebration worship to mark the end of the Singing Christmas Tree, all are welcome. This will be followed by a Celebration Sunday tea. Minimum donation £5 in aid of Singing Christmas Tree charities. Please be sure to book your place with Margaret Thurston or Karen Hobdell
	5.30 pm	Youth Alpha. A series that explores life, faith and meaning. Further details below.
Monday 17 December	10.00 am onwards	Clearing of the church and the Singing Christmas Tree displays before the scaffolding is taken down. Please drop in to help as you are able. The kettle will be on!
	Midday	St Luke's Church, Gamston : Operations Manager St Luke's are seeking to appoint an Operations Manager from January 2019. For further details please go onto their website: st-lukes-gamston.org where you will find the application pack under the "About Us" tab. The closing date is Monday 17 th December 2018 at 12.00 noon
	Midday – 2.30 pm	Helping Hands. Your opportunity to help the running of the church by joining others to tackle the myriad of small maintenance and cleaning work needed. Newcomers are ALWAYS welcome. Please note the NEW time and date. As a reward for your efforts, lunch will still be provided.
	3.30 – 5.30 pm	X-Plore : a New Youth Group. X-Plore is a new youth group (meeting each Monday during term time) for those aged 9-13. Doors open from 3.30pm, start at 4pm and finish by 5.30pm. Join us as we learn about The Bible by creating "stop motion films". For more information contact our Youth Engagement Worker, Abby
	7.00 – 8.45 pm	"The Nativity" Advent Course. Further details at the end of "At a Glance" in the general notices.

Tuesday 18 December	10.00 am	Coffee and Chat – Details from Fiona.
	11.00 am – 12.30 pm	Storytime. Bible based story and activities for pre-school children and parents/carers, finishing with lunch.
	2.30 – 4.00 pm	WOMEN'S TUESDAY GROUP. A Christmas Miscellany with music provided by the "Singing Together" group, this will be followed by a Faith Tea. Please join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Meeting in the Community Hall, all are welcome.
	7.00 – 8.45 pm	"The Nativity" Advent Course. Further details at the end of "At a Glance" in the general notices.
Wednesday 19 December	10.00 am - Midday	Meeting Point : A warm and friendly group. Come for a cuppa and biscuits, a natter and a laugh. Look forward to meeting you.
	3.30 – 5.30 pm	Messy Church. All are welcome to join us for this intergenerational family time together. Please bring your friends and family as we think about Christmas and the Nativity and 'get messy'. A time of worship and activities for all ages, followed by a meal shared together. For more information contact our Youth Engagement Worker, Abby (please see "printed" version for contact details).
Thursday 20 December	2.30 – 4.00 pm	Singing Together : Further details below.
	7.00 – 8.45 pm	"The Nativity" Advent Course. Further details at the end of "At a Glance" in the general notices.
Friday 21 December	7.00 – 8.45 pm	"The Nativity" Advent Course. Further details at the end of "At a Glance" in the general notices.
Saturday 22 December	9.30 am - Midday	"Coffee and Cake" in the Community Hall. Organised by Sandra Morrey. Today there are no dancing classes.
Sunday 23 December	10.30 am	CAROL SERVICE conducted by Monica Heard. Flowers donated by Ellie Connors.
Monday 24 December	4.00 pm	Christingle Service conducted by Revd Rach Ward. All are welcome.
	11.00 pm	Christmas Eve Communion Service. Conducted by Revd Rach Ward.
Tuesday 25 December	10.00 am (note earlier time)	CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION WORSHIP. Conducted by Revd Rach Ward.
Thursday 27 December	10.00 am – 2.00 pm	A time to chat and have a drink. Abby (our Youth Engagement Worker) and Jane (our Community Engagement Officer) will be at church if you fancy popping in for a cuppa and a chat with folks or some games. Bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided.

Saturday 29 December	9.30 am - Midday	“Coffee and Cake” in the Community Hall. Organised by Sandra Morrey. Today there are no dancing classes.
Sunday 30 December	Deadline for submission of items for the January issue of “At a Glance”	
	10.30 am	MORNING WORSHIP conducted by Revd Andrew Barker. With SUNDAY CLUB offering faith, friendship and fun for children and young people. Flowers donated by Jane Cresswell.
Saturday 05 January	9.30 am - Midday	“Coffee and Cake” in the Community Hall. Organised by Sandra Morrey. Today there are no dancing classes.
Sunday 06 January	10.30 am	COVENANT SERVICE including Holy Communion, conducted by Revd Rach Ward. With SUNDAY CLUB offering faith, friendship and fun for children and young people.
Monday 07 January	3.30 – 5.30 pm	X-Plore : a New Youth Group. X-Plore is a new youth group (meeting each Monday during term time) for those aged 9-13. Doors open from 3.30pm, start at 4pm and finish by 5.30pm. Join us as we learn about The Bible by creating “stop motion films”. For more information contact our Youth Engagement Worker, Abby
	7.30 pm	Open House Fellowship Group. Our meetings continue with a time of fellowship, Bible study, prayer and concluding with tea or coffee. Please note that we now are meeting twice monthly – on the first and third Mondays in the month. We are meeting at Gardens Court. Details from Brian Horler.
Saturday 12 January	8.30 am	Men’s Prayer Group : further details below.

Church Christmas Card :

Each year we have a large 'Church Christmas Card' for you to share the season's greetings with everyone at church. Rather than buying lots of cards for other church members - we invite you to sign it with your message and make a donation. This year the money raised will go the MHA (Methodist Homes Association) and we hope as many of you as possible will contribute. The card will be available for signing in the foyer after worship each Sunday in December. Many thanks. Margaret Thurston

Men’s Prayer Group (meeting in Room 4) :

Anyone who wants to join is welcome and should contact Charles Rayner (please see “printed” version for contact details).

Flower donors and arrangers :

Please would you let Georgina Youdell know if you now longer feel able to continue with your “flower role”, or if you would like to become involved with the “flowers” – either as a donor or arranger.

'The Nativity' Advent Course (on Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Thursday 20th, Friday 21st December) :

All are welcome to join in this opportunity to take time out in the busy-ness of Christmas, to remember and re-enter the God-story of Christmas from a different perspective, using the BBC's excellent 'The Nativity' series. Each evening will begin with the showing of an episode of 'The Nativity' followed by a short time of discussion and reflection. This really is an excellent BBC production, taking us back to the reality of the world into which Jesus was born, and the enormity of the request made of Mary and Joseph. While it is possible to watch each episode as a stand alone, I encourage you to set aside as many evenings as you can to take the opportunity to journey to Bethlehem, not only with God but together as a Church community. It is also an ideal opportunity to invite friends and family to share in the story. Please see Rev Rach for further details.

'The Singing Christmas Tree':

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help with this great event which promises to be a huge success. There's still a few spaces on the sign-up lists in the church corridor and there's always room for more helpers to join in the fun! A strong presence of volunteers will mean that the tasks get done easily, without a great load falling on a few, and we will be ready to welcome our visitors with confidence and enthusiasm.

We are supporting five local charities, Autism East Midlands. WAIS (Women's Aid Integrated Services), Nottingham and Notts Refugee Forum, The Friary and The Meadows Foodbank. We are aiming to send up to £1,000 to each of these very worthy causes as our gift at Christmas, so we do ask for as much help as you can give.

Seats can be booked at www.eventbrite.co.uk by searching Singing Christmas Tree or by phoning (for number see "printed" version of "At a Glance"). Please help us to make sure that everyone hears about the event and do come along on at least one of the dates to enjoy a great evening of entertainment.

For any questions or comments, please speak to John Heard or email him (email address is in the "printed" version of "At a Glance").

Traidcraft will continue trading in 2019 :

It will come as a relief to those who buy from the Fairtrade stall in church to learn that Traidcraft, our chief supplier, will not cease trading at the end of this year. Following mounting losses and after a lengthy consultation process with suppliers, customers and staff, Traidcraft will adopt a new 'slimmed down' mode of operation. The consequences will be fewer purchases from our suppliers in the Third World and an 80% reduction in staffing at Traidcraft's premises in Gateshead. This will obviously have a traumatic effect both on our suppliers and on the Traidcraft staff facing redundancy. We therefore ask you to remember them in your prayers and keep on buying fairtrade goods whenever you can!

Though Traidcraft is going through difficult times, its charitable arm, Traidcraft Exchange, will not be affected. In fact, the work of the Exchange is likely to increase as they try to find new markets for those suppliers hit by the scaling down of Traidcraft's operations. For this reason, in the run up to Christmas, our church stall will be devoting whatever profit it makes to Traidcraft Exchange.

Phil Bramall

Volunteer requests :

A new rota is being put together for Sunday Club volunteers and the same is being created for Sunday and Monday youth groups. If you would like to be involved, or find out more information, please contact Abby (Youth Engagement Worker).

Singing Together :

Singing Together, is a friendly group being led by Gill Cubitt. We meet on a Thursday afternoon from 2.30-3.30, followed by refreshments. There's a small charge of £3.00. All welcome - no previous choral experience necessary. For further details, contact Jane Everett or Gill Cubitt (for contact details please see the printed version of "At a Glance").

Children of Honduras Trust :

The latest update of the work of the Trust is available in the newsletter in the foyer.

Good things are being achieved by the Trust but the need is great. Please borrow one of the magazines, which will explain in some small way the great procession of Hondurans making their way through South America to the border between Mexico and the US. *Marcia Siefken*

The next edition of "At a Glance" :

This will cover January (the period Sunday 6th January to Sunday 3rd February). The absolute deadline for submissions is Sunday 30th December ALL submissions MUST be by e-mail (address in "printed" version of "At a Glance") or in writing (to Brian Horler – can be placed in the appropriate "pigeon hole" at Church).

It would be appreciated if submissions were made by e-mail wherever possible because it makes things much easier (and less prone to errors) than if written submissions are made. Brian Horler (Editor of "At a Glance").

Youth Alpha :

The "Youth Alpha" group continues to meet on Sunday evenings (running until December 16th). Come along to explore life, faith and meaning. We will share a meal together at 5.30pm to begin and from 7pm to 8pm we will have optional games time. For more information contact youth engagement worker, Abby, please see "printed" version for contact details.

Ukelele Group :

The church Uke group continues to meet usually twice a month for details please contact Myke Blackburn.

Christian Books in Church :

We have a selection of new books from the Methodist Book Shop on a sale / return basis and they are priced on the back. Please leave a note in the red book provided if you take one and let Myke Blackburn have the money when you see him. There is also usually a separate selection of sale books available for a donation.

Friary Drop-in :

As well as Friary needing men's and ladies' clothes, and toiletries as always, there is a always a need for other items. Amongst items needed are foodstuffs to restock the Friary kitchen such as : Coffee, Sugar (castor and demerara), Flour, Jams and Lemon curd, Desiccated coconut, Tinned mushrooms, tinned fruit, Milk powder, evaporated milk, custard powder, Chocolate chips. Also needed are drinks, snacks, chocolate bars and crisps for their non-cook food parcels (around 75 are issued each week).

Thanks, and hope this will give people ideas of items that Friary would really appreciate!

Printing of "At a Glance", "Voice" and "Circuit News" :

The above three publications are printed for our Church or the Circuit on a regular basis, it would be helpful if there were some additional people prepared to assist in the printing. This would not involve the editing of the publications only the printing once the documents had been saved to the internal storage of our "new" copier. This is not a difficult job at all and full training will be provided. If you feel that you could assist, please speak to me.

Brian Horler

Mary's Song

And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me— holy is his name.
His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the
humble.
He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away
empty.
He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful
to Abraham and his descendants for ever,
even as he said to our fathers."

Luke 1:46-55 (ANIV)