

Worship... Service ... Witness ... in the name of Jesus

Beckminster Welcomes You

Check Out Our Website @ www.beckminsterchurch.co.uk

MINISTER: Rev. Dr. PAUL NZACAHAYO

Email: paulpetit7@hotmail.com

☎ (Office) 344910 or 07952206407

Pastoral Layworker: LIZ DEAN

Email: lizdeanmeth@gmail.com

Administrator & Safeguarding Co-ordinator: SUE LORIMER

Email: info@beckminsterchurch.co.uk

☎ (Office) 344910 (Home) 761322

Worship and Fellowship

11 December 2022

Advent 3

Beckminster Methodist Church
Birches Barn Road,
Penn Fields,
Wolverhampton WV3 7BQ
Tel. 01902 344910

What's On This Week....

Monday 12 December
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Closed
9.30am - 12.30pm Art Group
1.00 - 3.00pm Craft & Chat
1.00 - 3.15pm Take a Break
4.15 - 7.00pm Dinky Divas
7.00pm Advent Course

Tuesday 13 December
Office Closed
4.45 - 6.45pm Dinky Divas

Wednesday 14 December
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Closed
9.00am Zoom Prayer Group (See Notices)
9.15 - 11.15am WeightWatchers
7.00 - 9.00pm Horticultural Society

Thursday 15 December
9.30am - 3.30pm Office Open
12noon Thanksgiving Service for Margaret Fellows.
6.30 - 7.30pm Carol Singing at Sainsbury's (See Notices)
7.00 - 9.00pm St Johns Ambulance

Friday 16 December
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Open
9.45 - 10.45am Move It or Lose It
7.00 for 7.30pm Community Carols (See Notices)

Saturday 17 December
10.30am - 12noon Coffee Morning for CRISIS (See Notices)

Collect for the Day

To ponder and pray
God for whom we wait and watch, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people for the coming of the Messiah. Inspire the ministers and stewards of your truth to turn our disobedient hearts to you; that, when Christ shall come again in glory to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before him, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Come and join us on
Sunday, 18 December 2022

Advent 4
in Church and Live-Streamed

9.00am Holy Communion
led by Rev Glennys Bamford

10.30am Nativity & Carol Service
led by Mr Gabriel Gidi

1.00 - 4.30pm Hope City Church

**10.30am Own Arrangement
Gift Service
led by Mrs Christine Pearson**

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy 2022 by Derek Weber



Third Sunday of Advent

THE LORD'S HIGHWAY

Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146:5-10

Reader One: "The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus. It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing . . . A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray . . . And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away". (Isaiah 35:1-2, 8, 10 NRSV).

Reader Two: The prophet Isaiah tells us about the joy of ascending to God's house. The prophet tells us to imagine being set free, being unburdened, being released to live, to fully live in the grace and wonder of life itself, surrounded by those who love us like no one else. And then he tells us that the journey to get there is just as much a joy.

**Beckminster Methodist Church
Christmas Services and Carol Singing**

Sunday, 11 December
10.30am Gift Service

Sunday, 18 December
9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Nativity and Carol Service

Saturday, 24 December - **Christmas Eve**
4.00pm Christingle Service
9.00pm Christmas Communion Service

Sunday, 25 December - **Christmas Day**
10.00am All Age Worship

***There will be no service on
Sunday, 1 January 2023***

Community Carols on Friday, 16 December 2022
at 7.30pm in conjunction with our friends from Gateway
which will be followed by mince pies and refreshments.

Carol Singing will take place at Sainsbury's,
St Marks, Wolverhampton on Thursday,
15 December 2022 from 6.30 - 7.30pm
raising funds for The Good Shepherd and
Tesco (the old Waitrose) on Thursday,
22 December 2022 from 6.30 - 7.30pm
raising funds for Action for Children.

All are welcome to join us at any
of these services and events.

CHRISTINGLE. Volunteers are needed to make Christingles on Christmas Eve at 9.00a.m. Please contact Tricia Prescott if you are able to help.

ENGELBERG will be having their Christmas Fair on Saturday, 17 December 2023 from 2.00 - 5.00pm. All are welcome.

Eco - Beck. As part of our commitment to Eco - Church status, we are trying to encourage the recycling of small household items. Many people do this at home already but we are offering the opportunity to recycle batteries, crisp packets, stamps and blister packs at Beckminster. We will place containers marked for these purposes in the vestibule and hope you will find them helpful as we try to live more sustainably. Thank you for your ongoing support for our Eco - Church initiative.

THE HOWLING WOLVES COMMUNITY CHOIR invites you to a 2022 Winter Charity Concert in support of local Wolverhampton Charities including Wolverhampton City of Sanctuary and The Haven on Thursday, 15 December 2022 from 7.00 - 9.00pm at St Judes Church, Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton WV6 0EB. No admission fee but a cash donation on the door is requested (suggested minimum of £2.00 per adult). Further details contact Sarah or Kathryn by email thehowlingwolveschoir@hotmail.com

Reader One: The Psalmist says "Happy are these whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord . . . who made heaven and earth . . . who keeps faith . . . who executes justice . . . gives food . . . sets prisoners free . . . opens eyes . . . lifts up . . . watches over . . . upholds . . . The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!" (Psalm 146 NRSV)

Reader Two: We light these candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, and of deep and everlasting joy, as a sign that we are those who walk with a skip in our step because we can see the destination, and it is pure joy. We are ascending to God's promise.

StF 166 'Christmas is coming!'

***'Christmas is coming!'
The Church is glad to sing,
and let the advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.***

1. The first is for God's promise
to put the wrong things right,
and bring to earth's darkness
the hope of love and light.
2. The second for the prophets,
Who said that Christ would come
With good news for many
And angry words for some.
3. The third is for the Baptist,
who cried, 'Prepare the way.
Be ready for Jesus,
today and every day.'

John L. Bell (b. 1949)

Welcome

StF 186 Tell out my soul,

Prayer

For the Children

Reading: John 1 : 29 - 34 read by Stephanie Wilkes

StF 185 Sing we the King,

Recorder Group and Marilyn Bose

StF 204 In the bleak midwinter
(verse 4 only, congregation seated)

Offering of Gifts

Intercessions by Hilda Evans

Poem - Come with me to Bethlehem written by Pam Hodgson
and read by Pam Wilkes

The Road to Bethlehem sung by Barbara Smith

The Grace - Together

**The Plants in Church
for December
are in Loving Memory of:**

**Donald Rushton
David Griffiths
Alwin Ordidge
John Felton**

We Welcome You to Worship Today

If you are here for the first time, please make
yourself known to those around you, or to one of
the Stewards or Minister. You may like to sign the
visitors book in the foyer.

Our fellowship will continue after morning
worship with tea and coffee served
in the Coffee Bar.

GOOD SHEPHERD 50th ANNIVERSARY. This year marks the 50th anniversary since the Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd first arrived in Wolverhampton. To celebrate this milestone, there are two events which you are invited to:

Service of Celebration

Thursday, 15 December 2022 at 2.00pm, St Peters Church, Wolverhampton. Refreshments will be provided after the Service.

FOLLOW THE STAR WOLVERHAMPTON on Saturday, 17 December 2022. A City Centre Nativity & Lantern Parade... Beginning at St John's in the Square Church at 3.00pm and ending in St Peter's Square at 4.30pm. Bring a lantern (LED lights only) and join Mary and Joseph and our alpacas for story telling and Christmas carols.

Sunday, 11 December 2022 - Support for Ukrainian Refugees. Sue Lloyd was asked (after morning service on Sunday 4th December) to be in the Coffee Bar again today, with packets of seeds collected from her garden; and a few house plants, for people to take away and make a donation towards the Ukraine Appeal.

Sue has been collecting donations for her seeds and plants throughout this year; raising and passing on £447.43 to the Ukraine Appeal already.

The 2 sessions at Beckminster on:

27.11.22 £118.50 & 4.12.22 £80.00 has now been raised.

**Beckminster members have so far donated a total of £198.50 -
THANK YOU.**

GRAND TOTAL IS: £645.93 for Ukraine so far.

Any donations made today, Sunday 11th December 2022 will be added to the total above and paid over to the Ukraine Appeal before Christmas.

Speak to Sue 07713 326932 or Graham 07713 327524 if you want more details.

WARM SPACE at BECKMINSTER. Due to the vagaries of the heating system we presently have, when heating the parts of our building where the upstairs offices are, The Epworth Room is also heated. A suggestion was made at a recent Church Alive Meeting, and has since been discussed and fully supported by the Beck Leadership Team, that during these times the room is made available to Beck members as a warm space during the winter months.

Therefore, starting from week-beginning 5 December, on **MONDAYS** from 9.00am to 2.00pm and **THURSDAYS** from 9.00am to 4.00pm you are welcome to utilise this space as an alternative to providing heating in your own home. You can come on your own (though you may wish to arrange to come with another person for company), you can bring your spouse (though you may wish to escape from them for an hour or two!), or bring other members of your family or close friends. You are welcome to bring reading matter, puzzle books, small games, knitting etc or just come for a chat. Flasks of hot water and drink making items will be provided, while you are welcome to bring packed lunch type food items if spending lunch-time in the room.

If you plan to take up this offer please let Pete Prescott know, either by speaking to him on Sunday mornings or ringing him on 01902 746316, so that we have an idea as to the number of drinks resources to provide. Pete Prescott on behalf of the Beck Leadership Team.

Feeling crafty? Fancy an afternoon out? or just a cuppa and a chat.

If so you are welcome to Join us twice a month on **Monday afternoons 1.00 - 3.00pm** in the Coffee Bar at Beckminster along with tea, cakes and lots of chat. We will be providing a craft activity for you to participate in if you wish to do so, which will be accessible to both the seasoned crafters and newbs. Alternatively if you have a project that you are working on already you are welcome to bring that along to do. The cost of each session will be £2.50 to help cover the cost. **12th Dec, 9th & 23rd Jan, 13th & 27th Feb.**

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE. The service this morning will be live streamed. The camera focuses only on those taking part but the back of your head might be seen. If you wish to remain out of sight of the camera, please sit at the back of the church.

ZOOM PRAYER MEETING on a Wednesday at 9.00am. All are welcome and for further details please contact Sue.

MARGARET FELLOWS. Our thoughts and prayers are with Simon, Rebecca & Family and Liz & Keith, following the death of Margaret on Friday, 11 November 2022 in Compton Hospice. There will be a Service of Thanksgiving to celebrate the life of Margaret on Thursday, 15 December 2022 at 12noon at Beckminster. All are welcome. Margaret's family would like to thank her many friends of Beckminster for their kindness, lovely cards and messages of support which has helped immensely and is much appreciated.

CHURCH OFFICE is closed and will reopen on Thursday, 15 December 2022 at 9.30am. Please send notices in the usual way. Sue.

BECK TOGETHER. You are warmly invited to join us on Wednesday, 21 December for our pre-Christmas afternoon of fellowship, mince pies and a cuppa from 2.00 - 4.00pm. Marilyn Bose has kindly agreed to come with her accompanists to enhance our get-together with some musical entertainment and everyone will be most welcome. Bring your friends!

CHRISTIAN AID. If you wish to help, an extra Christmas gift to support the ongoing work of Christian Aid would be very welcome. Envelopes will be available at the rear of the Church. Wendy Bate.

THANK YOU to Loraine Harris and her team for providing us with a beautiful Chrismon Tree once again this year.

SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING. Our next Saturday Coffee Morning will be on Saturday, 17 December 2022 from 10.30am - 12noon which will be in aid of the homeless charity CRISIS.

If anyone has any charity which they hold close to their heart which they wish to hold a Coffee Morning for next year as there a few months not affiliated to a charity yet, please contact Liz Dean.

JMA CHRISTMAS POST. We will be running the Christmas Post until Sunday, 18 December 2022. Cards can be sent in the following ways:

1. One card to be sent to our church family to be put up on the notice board in the vestibule.

2. Christmas cards for individual church members, please post in the box with full name and address.

Christmas post donations for JMA put in a sealed envelope with your name or use the gift aid envelopes provided. Val Pollard, JMA Secretary.

CAROL SINGING. After nearly three years, we are off Carol Singing again. We will be performing at Sainsburys, St Marks, Wolverhampton on Thursday, 15 December 2022 from 6.30 - 7.30pm raising funds for The Good Shepherd and Tesco (the old Waitrose) on Thursday, 22 December 2022 from 6.30 - 7.30pm, raising funds for Action for Children. If interested, please let Sue or Tim know.

COFFEE MATES. Meet Monday, 2 January 2023 at Albrighton Garden Centre (British Garden Centre Grp), Newport Road, Cosford, WV7 3EE from 10.45am - 12noon. Everybody welcome. June Sutton, tel. 07790272865.

EATING OR HEATING. There is now a supply of small 'cosywrap' blankets at Beckminster for anyone you may know who is in need of some extra warmth this winter. Thanks to all who have helped to produce these much needed items. Ann Holt.

Wishing everyone a lovely Christmas and best wishes for 2023. With Love from Stuart & Christine Davis.

GIFT SERVICE. At our annual Gift Service **TODAY** 11 December, we welcome small sized gifts suitable for babies and children **up to the age of 13**. They can be new or very nearly new. These will be donated to Wolverhampton City of Sanctuary who are planning to give gift parcels to Sanctuary Seekers at Christmas. Suggested categories of goods are:-

Writing eg. Pens, pencils, crayons.

Washing eg. Soap, hairbrush, comb, toothbrush & toothpaste, facecloth.

Wearing eg. Socks, underwear, hat, scarf, gloves, mitts.

Playing eg. ball, yo-yo, frisbee, small kite, cards, games, doll or small cuddly toy, puzzles.

Eating - Sweets.

Adults will be given vouchers so they can choose what they most need themselves. Therefore gifts of money in the form of a cheque or direct donation would be very much welcomed as an alternative, perhaps by those who cannot donate goods. See separate sheet. Further information if needed from Sue Reed 762310.

COMMUNITY CAROLS: Our Community Carol Service will be on Friday, 16 December at 7.00 for 7.30pm in conjunction with our friends from Gateway which will be followed by Mince Pies and refreshments. I look forward to seeing you at this event. Many thanks. Tim.

THANK YOU. The members of Jacantas would like to thank all those who attended the Fish and Chip Supper for their warm welcome. All four of us have friends who have been victims of cancer and we are delighted that the charity Target Ovarian Cancer will benefit from your generosity. Thank you again!