



# Eastwood Baptist Church

Weekly News Update

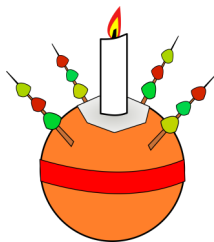
Sunday 12th December 2021 Advent 3



We are very pleased to welcome back Paul Wheeler this morning to lead our worship. His theme is JOY  
The reading is Luke 2 :8-21  
This afternoon at 15.00 we are being led by Jo Hellenbrand for our festive Tea Service.

Everyone is also very welcome to come to Jo's ORDINATION service at 18.00 tomorrow; Monday 13th.

**Christingle Making** – 2021 We need helpers please to put together our **Christingles**; we sit down altogether and prepare the oranges with the sweets and candles. We plan to start at 10am on Friday 24th December, please let JoH know if you can help. We have fun too with listening to Christmas music and coffee!! Thank you.



The funeral of David Wackett will be taking place on Monday 13th December in the South Chapel at Southend Crematorium at 3pm. Everyone is welcome but please let Jo H know if you are planning to come in case of changes in Covid restrictions.

## Contact Details

Minister : Jo Hellenbrand: 07810713415  
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**If you would like prayer or for any pastoral request, please contact.**

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To find out about room use please email  
[bookings@eastwoodbaptist.org.uk](mailto:bookings@eastwoodbaptist.org.uk)  
See us on our Facebook page too

## Christmas at EBC 2021

Wednesday 8th Dec, 2pm,  
Community Carol service

Tuesday 14th Dec, 7pm, Carol  
singing at the Oakwood Pub

Sunday 19th Dec, 6pm, Carols by  
Candlelight

Friday 24th Dec, 3pm, Christingle  
service

Saturday 25th Dec, 10.30am  
Christmas Day service

Sunday 26th Dec, 10.30am



## Carols at the Oakwood, 7pm – 8pm

**Tuesday 14th December.** Please join with our friends from Leighfields to sing Carols outside the Oakwood Pub as we bless our local community.

**Other Dates to note : See over and also Men's Breakfast at The Oakwood Saturday 18th ; see Graham Back to book.**



## Using our church for WORSHIP:

Covid precautions are still being taken: you can choose where to sit and whether to wear face coverings. The Sanctuary will be well ventilated. The heating is on but please do bring something warm and consider wearing a hat. We would ask that you do not attend church if you have any Covid symptoms or have been requested to self-isolate. Please continue to use the hand sanitisers.

**WELCOME TO YOU ALL**

We have a Prayer Board in the Lower Hall displaying Eastern Baptist Association churches prayer requests plus the opportunity to place our own prayers. These will be regularly prayed for by the Leadership Team and Prayer Team. We encourage you to make use of it.

#### FOR OUR PRAYER TIMES

**Let's be persistent in our prayers.** Pray hard and long.

Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out (Ephesians 6:18-The Message)

Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference (Max Lucado).

**Our world.** Pray about the problems of climate change, famine, war, and economic imbalance between countries. Pray especially at this time for successful diplomatic efforts to prevent possible invasion of Ukraine by Russia, and other places in the world where wars between and within countries are currently happening, often under the radar of regular news reporting.

**Refugees.** Pray for all refugees in the world today. Pray especially at this time for the thousands of refugees on the border between Belarus and Poland, seemingly being used as a political weapon. Pray also that countries around the world will develop ways to address this growing problem, created initially by wars, but what may in the future be created by climate change.

**Persecuted church.** Praise God for the hope we have, that all who are in Christ have already been made alive with Him and will one day be with him in glory. Pray for our brothers and sisters who today face harassment, discrimination, violence and persecution, that they will hold firm in the assurance of that living hope, and be sustained through the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Pray for all the **countries in the world where Covid 19** is being suffered by so many people, including the effects of long Covid. Pray that Governments and people of influence will work increasingly together, so that everyone can benefit from the vaccines which are necessary to beat this disease. Pray especially at this time that necessary restrictions in this country and around the world are applied, and accepted, to curb additional infections in respect of the newly identified Covid variant, Omicron. Pray that families and friends will be able to meet at Christmas.

**In this country,** pray for those who are struggling. The effects of the pandemic has created and worsened many physical, emotional, mental, economic and social problems. Pray that God will move mightily in these situations, and bring hope and peace of mind. Pray that shortages in supply chains will be eased. Pray for the many families and individuals who are facing financial and accommodation difficulties at this time, and now face increased prices on food, fuel and other bills.

**In EBC,** continue to pray for David Wackett's funeral, which is on Monday. Continue to pray for those who are unwell, in body or in spirit, that they may rest in God's care as they receive treatment and support. Thank God that we are able to make more use of our building, especially during this period of Advent. Thank God for all the meetings, services and outreach events that are planned for the remainder of this year, and for the further plans that He has for our church. Thank Him for his continued guidance in our search for a new minister, which has led to the post being offered and accepted. Thank Him for our Minister, Jo Hellenbrand, and pray for her ordination service on Monday.

Please save all used stamps for RNIB and place in box in vestibule. Thank you.



We would like to say a huge thank you for your support over this year. We will be open every Wednesday in the holidays to distribute food. We are closed for donations on Mondays 27th Dec & 3rd Jan and Friday 31st Dec. Sharon and Team

#### THIS WEEK 'S ACTIVITIES

**Monday 13th :15.00-16.00** open to receive Food Bank donations

**18.00** Ordination for Rev Jo Hellenbrand

**Tuesday 14th:10.00** Green FISH social

**Wednesday 15th Food Bank open 09.30-11.00**

for guests with vouchers to collect goods

**Friday 17th 11.30-12.30** open to receive Food Bank donations

**Next week December 19th at 10.30** Our morning worship service for Advent 4 will include a recorded address by Rev Claire Blatchford, Regional Minister. There will be a **Candle-lit Carol Service at 18.00** led by Rev Jo Hellenbrand

**After service refreshments:** please add your name to the rota in the vestibule if you can help with these.

#### REQUIRED THROUGHOUT DECEMBER!!!

##### MINCE PIE MOUNTAIN!!!

If you can bring any boxes of mince pies please them in the kitchen; check the expiry date is after 25th December please.

Freshly home made ones are also welcome for the 13th and 19th December too. Thank you. Rosie

#### Original Hand Made Cards by Carole Collier

Lovely hand-made cards by Carole are available to purchase with proceeds going to EBC. See selection in the vestibule which now includes Christmas Cards too! Carole can be contacted on 01702 511895 who will discuss your requirements for special orders.

These newssheets are online but if you would like a hard copy please ask Rosie or Graham. Thank you.