

Eastwood Baptist Church News

for Sunday 19th December 2021 -Advent 4, Sunday 26th December- Boxing Day and Sunday 2nd January 2022

We are very pleased to be hearing a message from Rev Claire Blatchford, Regional Minister this morning. The readings are; Isaiah **9:2,6-7 and John 1: 1-14** This evening at 18.00 we are being led by our own Rev. Jo Hellenbrand for our Candlelit Carols

Everyone is very welcome to join us and also to enjoy some free refreshments after both services





WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR. Childrenj Chrijtinglje Service 3pm Friday? 24th december.

4020 Shoeboxes went from the Rayleigh depot and some we know are on their way to Liberia. Thank you for all who gave their support to this project. If you sent a bar code you will learn of your box destination in February

Christmas

Copies in vestibule

Thank you to everyone who made my ordination evening so special, from those who prepared and served the refreshments, arranged and cleared away tables and chairs, Neil for spending the weekend at church preparing the live streaming, Cecilia for playing and all those who welcomed my family and friends. And also for all the messages, cards, flowers and gifts, it was such a blessing. I plan to use the Love Offering to take myself away for a few days on a quiet retreat in the New Year (which will be hard for me to be silent I know!!) but one I feel God is calling me to. To just spend time in quiet and reflection with God after the craziness of the last couple of years seems a Godsend so again thank you. Jo x

Graham's Big Christmas Quiz is available for anyone who would like it:

Pinocchio's Friday Club and Energise are all taking a Holiday until week commencing 9th January. Thank you to Jan Noble and all her helpers for all their work with the children and young people and their families

The Leadership Team here at EBC wish you all a joyful Christmas

Contact Details

Minister : Rev Jo Hellenbrand: 07810713415 jo@eastwoodbaptist.org.uk

Val Statt: Church Secretary secretary@eastwoodbaptist.org.uk

Church Address: Nobles Green Road, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 5PY answerphone 01702 520618

If you would like prayer or for any pastoral request, please contact.

Graham and Val Back: gandvback@gmail.com tel: 01702 511303

Church Website: www.eastwoodbaptist.org.uk Email: enquiries@eastwoodbaptist.org.uk To find out about room use please email bookings@eastwoodbaptist.org.uk See us on our Facebook page too with the children and young people and their fan 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.

Using our church for WORSHIP:

Covid precautions are still being taken: you can choose where to sit and how much space you would like. **Face coverings are now mandatory** expect for when taking refreshments unless you are exempt.. 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).

As a festival, Christmas is not mentioned in the Bible at all. The major festivals that God instituted were the three festivals that required pilgrimage to Jerusalem: Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles. In these and other biblical festivals, provision was always made for the poor. As we experience the joy of remembering the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, of exchanging gifts and meeting with family and friends, let us think also of the poor. As you journey during this Christmas period, reflect and pray about the words someone has written (anon).

Now that the song of the angels is stilled Now that the star in the sky is gone Now that kings and princes are home Now that shepherds are back with their flocks the work of Christmas begins: To find the lost To heal the broken To feed the hungry To release the prisoner To rebuild the nations

To bring peace among the people.

These newssheets are online but if you would like a hard copy please ask Rosie or Graham. Thank you. The next edition will be on January 9th

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. Many thanks to Carole for producing these lovely cards for us.

Please save all used stamps for RNIB and place in box



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

ACTIVITIES for the next few weeks

Monday 20th :15.00-16.00 open to receive Food Bank donations Tuesday 21st: Blue FISH Wednesday 22nd Food Bank open 09.30-11.00 for guests with vouchers to collect goods Friday 24th 10.00 Christingle making 11.30 – 12.30 open to receive Food Bank donations 15.00 Christingle Service led by Neil Keeble CHRISTMAS DAY 25th at 10.30 Our morning worship will be led by our own Rev Jo Hellenbrand Sunday 26th 10.30 morning worship led by Rosie Midson.

Wednesday 29th Food Bank open 09.30-11.00 for guests with vouchers to collect goods.

Sunday 2nd January 2022 10.30 our first Worship service for 2022 will include Communion and include a message from Rev Gale Richards, Regional Minister .

Tuesday 4th 10.00 Green FISH resumes and will study Ephesians

Wednesday 5th Food Bank open 09.30-11.00 for guests with vouchers to collect goods.

Friday 7th 11.30-12.30 open to receive Food Bank donations.

After service refreshments: please add your name to the rota in the vestibule if you can help with these. Milk and biscuits are supplied .Thank you.