



ACRE MILL BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER : DECEMBER 2015



	Morning 10.30am	Evening 6.00pm
6 Dec Lunch	Phil Bowden <i>Family Service</i>	Terry Haslam-Jones
13 Dec	Geoff Skilling <i>Communion</i>	Choir Musical : 7.00pm. 'The Glory of Christmas'
20 Dec	Sunday School & CBC <i>Family Service</i>	Carol Service
25 Dec	Terry Haslam-Jones <i>Christmas Day 10.30am</i>	
27 Dec	Peter Webb <i>Family Service</i>	No Evening Service
3 Jan	Terry Haslam-Jones <i>Series 1</i>	Celebration and Supper <i>Decorations</i>
10 Jan Lunch	John Prior Bible Text Sunday	David Clegg <i>Communion</i>
17 Jan	Rev Sandra Crawford <i>Communion</i>	Our Daily Bread <i>Videos and Reflections</i>
24 Jan	Peter Webb <i>Series 2</i>	Brad Lincoln

	Christmas Breaks	
	Last	Resume
Toddlers	15 Dec	5 Jan
Midweek	2 Dec	6 Jan
Rubicon	16 Dec	6 Jan
CBC	17 Dec	7 Jan
Choir	17 Dec	14 Jan AGM
Drop In	18 Dec	8 Jan

On Monday 30 November at 6.30pm, we are **decorating the church** ready for Christmas and everyone is welcome to help. Mince pies afterwards. The decorations will be taken down after the evening service on 3 **January** which will be a celebration and supper.



Stacksteads Countryside Park Group invites us to the switching on of the **Christmas Lights** at School Street on Sunday 6 December at 5pm.

Friday 18 December. **Carols Round The Tree** at Toll Bar. 7.00pm - with Stacksteads Band, our Choir, Baked Potatoes and a visit from Santa.

November The CBC leaders are grateful to everyone who helped at the **Bonfire**. Again, it proved very popular with our neighbours and friends and over 100 people enjoyed the bonfire, fireworks and supper. Thanks to everyone who helped, donated towards the fireworks and to **Morrison's** supermarket for donating groceries for the occasion. Special thanks to the catering team who worked so hard on the night.



Congratulations to Lee and Katie Metcalf on the birth of their daughter, **Lucy Amelia** on 22 November (7lb 2 oz/3.2kg). 'And now our adventure begins!' (They tell us!) Best wishes and love to all the family. Hoping we will be able to see and hold Lucy soon!

Thanks to **Pamela and Samantha** for arranging the Ladies' Meal on 14 November. The ladies had a great time despite being slightly bothered by a group of unruly taxi drivers who happened to be eating at the same place!

Deacons' Elections Philip Bowden, Ben Bracewell, Jean Cormack and Philip Webb were re-elected as **Deacons** to serve for the next three years. We send our warmest best wishes and thanks to **Brenda Murray** for her faithful service as a Deacon in recent years - her health has prevented her from continuing in this role.

We have a new **hot water heater** in the kitchen. There is a booklet with instructions and safety advice near the heater but please ask for help if you are not sure about using it.

Saturday 19 December.
Church Christmas Party.
5.00pm. - 8.00pm.
Everyone is welcome.



The Friendship Group met on Tuesday, 10 November and we had an enjoyable time learning how **Christmas decorations** are made.

We meet again on **Tuesday 8 December** at 2.00pm when we will be helping **Gladys to celebrate her 90th birthday** with afternoon tea, cake and sandwiches. You are warmly invited to come along - and maybe meet a **famous** television actor! We then have a break in **January and February** and resume on the second Tuesday in March.

Please Pray For

- Our Witness at Christmas
- Everyone waiting for hospital treatment, appointments, tests and results
- Our Deacons and Leaders
- The distribution of our Christmas leaflets
- All those who live alone, especially at Christmas.
- The work of Tear Fund and Cancer Research
- Safety for those travelling in the winter months
- A safer and more peaceful World
- The leaders and members of Rubicon
- The people of Stacksteads at Christmas

Give Thanks for

- Our Catering Team and brewers and washers up
- Families who come to Toddler Group
- Christmas events and everyone who works hard to make Christmas a special and blessed time.
- Newly born babies!
- Messages from the Bible and those who bring them to us each week.
- Problems prayed for and answered
- People with creative and technical talents
- Leaders of CBC and Sunday School
- Milder weather this year (so far!)



Today (and next Thursday) we are presenting all our children with **an Advent Calendar** and a Christmas Booklet published by 'Our Daily Bread' During 2015, the 'Our Daily Bread' Bible Reading booklets have become very popular and we have **increased** the number ordered. Please see Peter if you want to know more.

Sermon Series for 2016 Following this year's series of sermons based on St Paul's letter to the **Philippians** we shall shortly begin a new series - based on an Old Testament book which, believe it or not, NEVER MENTIONS GOD BY NAME!!! - the **Book of Esther**. The members of our preaching team pray that these messages will prove to be a real blessing to you all.



Flowers for December

6 December : The Bracewell Family in memory of Mr Ronnie Piper.
For the rest of the month the church will be decorated for Christmas. Many thanks to everyone who has **provided, arranged and distributed** the flowers during 2015.

Birthday Corner

Abigail and **Isabelle Sinkinson** will be six years old on 22nd Dec and **Noah Webb** will be ONE on Boxing Day!. Happy Birthday to all who have a birthday in December - including Kim Chadwick, Philip Webb, Ben Bracewell and (especially) **Gladys**, who celebrates her 90th.



Proposed Deacons and Church Meeting Dates 2016

Deacons	Church
Tues 5 Jan	Wed 13 Jan
Tues 23 Feb	Wed 2 Mar (AGM)
Tues 26 April	Wed 4 May
Tues 7 Jun	Wed 15 Jun
Tues 6 Sep	Wed 14 Sep
Tues 18 Oct	Wed 9 Nov

Please let us know if you notice any problems

The **Offering on Christmas Day** will be for Tear Fund and there will be envelopes under the tree if you wish to make a donation to **Cancer Research**.



The Church Tithe for 2015 will be donated as follows : Magdalene Project £100, Vision £100, Tear Fund £350, BMS £550, Home Mission Fund £640, Bacup Family Centre £100, Interserve £100

Christmas Musical The choir present the Musical '**Glory Of Christmas**' on 13 December at 7.00pm. Please support the choir and **invite someone** along if you can.



Posters for the musical and this year's **Christmas leaflets** are now ready for distribution so, if you can help, please take some and mark which streets you have covered on the list in the Fellowship Room. If you don't **live near church**, please feel free to take some for family, friends and neighbours.



Carol Service On Sunday 20 December at 6.00pm, our **Carol Service** will be led by David Clegg. Mince Pies and coffee will be served afterwards.

Celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus