

Crediton Methodist Church



Weekly Notices

Working out God's love in Crediton

Week Beginning Sunday 1st December

10:15 for 10.30am Café Church Service in Church

Hymns: StF180 O Come o Come Immanuel

Love came down at Christmas

StF175 Light of the World

StF185 Sing we the king

Reading Matthew 1 v 8 -24

or join the service from 10:00am on your computer

or mobile app with Worship on the Web

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

or call in (audio only) - 020 4526 8593

Phone Conference ID: 419 576 441

See www.creditonmethodist.org.uk or phone 01363 777308 for details

Dear Friends

Advent calendars aren't just for children anymore. You could, if you're so inclined, buy a calendar with tea, cheese, even gin behind each December door. When I was little, opening that days door was a cherished before school ritual (though if you opt for the gin calendar, I recommend you wait until rather later in the day before sampling each day's delights..). As an adult however, I've spotted a slight flaw in the very concept of Advent calendars – namely that they give the impression that Advent is simply the 'run-up to Christmas', when it is of course a season in its own right. It is connected to Christmas, obviously, and it is the season in which we do our Christmas shopping, eat mince pies, go to Carol services and put up with being bombarded by Christmas music in shops. Yet Advent encourages a richer, deeper experience beyond all the anxious Christmas preparations which fill our minds at this time of year.

Advent draws our minds to various people who were used by God to announce His purposes to the world, and to prepare the world for the coming of the Messiah. In doing so, they call us to remember that there is more to life than just what we see in front of us. The power and presence of God constantly break through into our world even though, most of the time, we live as they though didn't. Advent is a good time to spend some time with the prophets, with John the Baptist, and with Mary, and pray that we might be gifted their kind of faith, the faith that, through prayer, seeks the presence of God, and draws the work of God into our lives and our churches. We, after all, are as much a part of the story of God and His people as the great Advent figures - so let's refresh our faith, pray for the renewal and revival of the church, be willing to be part of what God is doing so that we can go forward into 2025 as confident, spirit-filled people of faith, whatever the future might bring.

Because we know, that ultimately, the future is in God's hands.

Happy Advent! God Bless *Ben*

CAFÉ CHURCH Burning Questions Part 5

This Sunday in Café Church, we'll be marking the beginning of Advent, and Jon Curtis will be helping us to explore the fifth '*Burning Question*' in our series.

Please do come and join us. Coffee will be served from 10:15 am.

FOR OUR PRAYERS AT HOME:

God of hope and promise, be with us throughout the season of Advent, draw us closer to you as we journey together towards the stable and the forthcoming birth of your Son.

Be with us as we make preparations for our own celebrations - may we make space amid all our busyness setting time aside for our own personal worship and reflections.

We see the bright lights of our towns and cities, but it is with the gift of your Son which fills our lives with the true light. AMEN

"And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken." Isaiah 40 v 5

CHRISTMAS LUCHEON CLUB Friday 13th December at the Waie Inn
Two course £22 Please add your name and menu choice to the list.
Everyone welcome

FRIDAY FOCUS - Theme: An Expectant Showed of Love

Everyone is very welcome to join us at Friday Focus, and our next meeting is in the Church on Friday 6th December, at 2.30pm.

As we wait for Jesus' birth, what gifts of love can we bring to him? e.g. poems, readings, pictures, stories or music.

We'll have a CD player should you share a musical piece with us.

Crediton Singers Christmas Concert – Sun 8th Dec at 4 p.m.

Do come along to a concert by the Crediton Singers choir here in our church next Sunday afternoon. It will include beautiful pieces from Bob Chilcott and John Rutter, a Zambian folksong and two blessings as well as some traditional and popular Christmas songs and carols.

No tickets required, entrance is free, donations to Hospiscare.

Week beginning Saturday 23rd November		
Sat 30th Nov	10:00-11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for Disaster Emergency
Sun 1st Dec	10:30 am	Café Church led by Jon Curtis
Mon 2nd Dec	8:00am	Start the week in prayer in church or wherever you are
	3:30—5:00pm	Big Top
	7:30pm	Discipleship. Contact Cathy
Wed 4th Dec	10:30am	3Ls Discipleship in the
Fri 6th Dec	10:00 -12:00pm	Coffee and Chat
	2:30pm	Friday Focus
Sat 7th Dec	10:00 -11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for Methodist Women in Britain
Sun 8th Dec	10:30 am	Worship in the Church or on the web led by Rev Barbara Greenwood

Contact Details
Minister Rev Ben Haslem tele 01392 256716 email: revbenh@protonmail.com

Notices to Gill by noon on Thursday please.
Tel: 01363 773641 or email: notices@creditonmethodist.org.uk