



Weekly Notices

Sunday 21st December

10.30am Morning Service in Church led by

The Worship Group

Hymns: StF213 O little town of Bethlehem

StF216 See him lying in a bed of straw

StF221 While shepherds watch their flocks

StF204 In the bleak winter

StF212 O come all ye faithful

.....

Readings: Luke2 v1-5

Luke 2.6-7

Luke 2.8-16

Matthew2 1-2, 7-10

.....

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 for details

DEAR FRIENDS

Things we do at Christmas

Of all the Christmas traditions, perhaps the one that is most like marmite (you either love them, or you groan inwardly every time you hear one) is the Christmas cracker joke. Probably the reason why I like them quite a lot is they are typically created through the use of pun – that is to say ‘a joke exploiting the different possible meanings of a word, or the fact that there are words which sound alike but have different meanings.’ And then there are others that are just plain silly.

So, after a bit of careful research, please find below (possibly) some of the top jokes that are making an appearance in Christmas crackers this year. If you'd like to have a go at guessing before revealing the answer, please place a piece of paper over the right-hand column then, when you've got all the answers, spot the odd one out:

- *Who hides in a bakery at Christmas?**
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- *What carol do they sing in the desert?**
- *Why is crime especially bad in multi-storey car parks**
- *How does a Penguin build a LEGO house?**
- *Why did nobody bid for Rudolph and Blitzen on eBay**

*A mince spy!
A sensible turkey
O Camel Ye Faithful
Because it's wrong on
so many different levels
Igloos it together!*

They are two deer

Sometimes, there are variations on a theme. For example, ‘Did you hear about the thief who stole a calendar?’ He got 12 months. Or, more topically for this time of year, ‘Why is it so hard to buy Advent Calendars these days?’ Answer: Because their days are numbered. This is a cunning cracker joke, but not particularly accurate since there seems to be as many chocolate-laden Advent Calendars in the shops as ever before.

By now, you will have opened nearly all the windows in your calendar, if you have one. A couple of days ago, I met a walking Advent Calendar. This lady lives in Cornwall. She was once an actor and appeared in the House of Elliott series (remember that series?). Anyway, she fills each pocket of the calendar with a sweet or chocolate and a verse from the Bible. Then, each day wears it (like one wears an apron) wherever she goes. She invites the very first person she encounters to take the confectionary from the pocket for that day and read the verse. It's proved to be a great conversation starter about faith, and she's shared some very special and poignant moments with complete strangers. Ingenious.

So, we have watched and waited through Advent, and now Christmas is very nearly here. As we celebrate the most wonderful news of the birth of Jesus, Immanuel, God with us, may you know the hope, joy and peace that Jesus brings.

Wishing you a very happy and blessed Christmas, *Cathy*

FOR OUR PRAYERS AT HOME:FOR OUR PRAYERS AT HOME:

"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)

Gracious God, thank you for the glorious message of this season - glad tidings of great joy. Thank you for the way you still change lives today because of the Good News at Bethlehem all those years ago. **AMEN**

The Word Became Flesh - "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning".

John 1 v 1,2

THANKS

May I take this opportunity to thank June for submitting her prayers each week and Cynthia for the letters she composed over the years and has now retired.

Also to thank Martin and Lloyd for agreeing to fill her shoes. I know from comments given to me these letters are much looked forward to.

Happy Christmas everyone *Gill*

These notices cover two weeks, so there won't be a separate sheet for 28th December. The next notice sheet will be for Sun 4th Jan (notices to Gill by noon on Thursday 1st Jan please).

CHURCH FAMILY

Lloyd Smale has let us know that his daughter Chloe had a baby boy on Thurs 11th December.

We send our love and prayers to Chloe and her new son, and to his grandparents Vicky and Lloyd.

CREDITON FOODBANK requests this week:

Decaffinated Teabags, Cooking oil, Cranberry sauce, Stuffing mix
Small Christmas cakes, yule logs, stollen, Share bags of crisps
Gifts for adults such as: gloves, socks, toiletries, stationery etc

Week beginning Saturday 20th December

Sat 20 th Dec	10 - 11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for All We Can
Sun 21 st Dec	10:30 am	Worship in church or on the Web led by the Worship Group
	4:00pm	Carol service led by Revd. Jeanette Richardson
Mon 22 nd Dec	8 am	Start the week in prayer in Church or wherever you are
Thurs 25 th Dec	10:30am	Family service led by Rev David Greenwood
Sat 27 th Dec	10 -11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for Disaster Emergency
Sun 28 th Dec	10:30 am	Morning Worship led by Rev Barbara Greenwood <i>Communion</i>
Mon 29 th Dec	8:00am	Start the week in prayer in Church or wherever you are
Fri 2 nd Jan	10:00-12:00pm	Coffee and Chat
Sat 3 rd Jan	10:00-11:30am	Together 4 Coffee donations for Church Funds
Sun 4 th Jan	10:15 for 10:30am	Cafe Church led by Helen Fry

Contact Details

A CHURCH STEWARD

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