



## Weekly Notices

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January

10:15 for 10:30am Cafe Church in Church led by Helen Fry

**Hymns:** StF175 Here I am to worship

StF81 Now thank we all our God

Stf707 Make me a channel of your peace

StF440 Amazing grace

.....

**Readings:** Jeremiah 31: 7 – 14

Ephesians 1: 3 - 14

.....

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](http://www.creditonmethodist.org.uk) for details

## **Dear Friends    Phew!**

I wonder if that exclamation sums up how you feel at this time of year? For some it may be an expression of relief that Christmas and all the extra activities involved are now at an end. For others it may also be a relief to have got through Christmas, but for very different reasons. Those with heavy hearts, for whom the season has not been merry and bright, and for whom finding peace and joy has been difficult at a time when it's supposed to be plentiful.

With the arrival of 2026 the thoughts of some now turn to New Year's resolutions, though I'm not sure how many people still resolve to join a gym or go on a diet as it's pretty well known that around 90% of these resolutions are abandoned within just a few months. It was popular in Roman times, however, when the god Janus (after whom January is named) was honoured. He was the god of new beginnings who had two faces, one looking to the past and the other to the future, and on 1st January people reflected on the past year and set goals for the future.

Last January, at Friday Focus, we had a quiz on Janus words which are single words with two opposite meanings. An example is BOUND which can mean (1) to be restrained from movement, e.g. tied up and (2) moving towards a destination e.g. 'bound for Paris'.

Just for fun, I wonder if you can think of the two opposite meanings of these three Janus words? DUST. SCREEN. BOLT. The answers are on another page in the notices.

Janus was a god of Roman mythology, in contrast to Jesus Christ, the only true God, the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end. In 2 Corinthians Paul says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come

As we step over the threshold into a New Year none of us can know for sure what it will hold – what joys, sadnesses, challenges and delights. Yet whilst we do not know what the future holds, we can know the One who holds the future in His hands. Minnie Louise Haskins' poem is called "God knows" and, though often quoted at this time of year, I make no apologies for repeating it below.

***And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:***

***"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."***

***And he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."***

*Hilary*

### **FOR OUR PRAYERS AT HOME:**

Lord we come to you at this time of Epiphany and we rejoice with the magi, Caspar, Melchior and Balshasar as they sought and found

***" the one who has been born King of the Jews".***

Lord Jesus Christ with your birth thank you for the new meaning you have brought to our world. May your living power renew us and the light of your eternal love shine through us. AMEN

***"the one who has been born.....Matthew 2 v 2***

***"On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him.***

**Matthew 2 v 11**

**FRIDAY FOCUS** 9<sup>th</sup> January 2:30pm

The first Friday Focus of 2026 will be looking at New Year Traditions and include an informal, fun quiz. Please come ready to tell us about your own family New Year traditions.

All are welcome and tea with home made cake will be served.

## Week beginning Saturday 3rd January

Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	10 - 11:30 am	Together 4 Coffee donations for Church Funds
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:15 for 10:30 am	Cafe Church in Church or on the web led by Helen Fry
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8 am	Start the week in prayer in Church or wherever you are
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7:00pm	Emmaus at Home
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2:30pm	Friday Focus
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00-11:30am	Together 4 Coffee donations for Methodist Ministry in Britain
Sun 11th Jan	10:15 for 10:30am	Covenant Service in Church or on the web led by Jeanette Richardson <i>Communion</i>

### Answer to Janus words

**DUST:** 1. To remove (dust from window ledge).

2. To add (dust with icing sugar.)

**SCREEN:** 1. To show, as a film in a cinema.

2. To hide from view

**BOLT:** 1. To dash away from a place.

2. To secure so things stay in the same place.

## Contact Details

A CHURCH STEWARD

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