

## Church Family News and Prayers

### The Tree

Christmas Eve mattered when I was little. That was when my dad would bring home the tree. We never had one until then because mum said that was tradition and anyway it made me too excitable. What I didn't realise was that we were broke. On one occasion, he was really late. I was desperate - thought he wasn't coming. Even mum looked worried. We waited and waited and waited. It was dark before he turned up, dragging the biggest and best tree I had ever seen. It was beautiful even without the decorations. His job had delayed him even on that day and he'd got to the market right at the end – just as it was closing. There was one big tree left and the man practically gave it away in order to get home himself. It was so big the bus conductor laughed and said he should charge him a fare for it.

That was the best Christmas of all because I thought it was all going wrong but it turned out to be just wonderful. And it taught me something I've never forgotten: there are times when you just have to keep waiting even when you no longer believe anything good is ever going to happen. Dad walked in out of the darkness with that tree in just the same way that God can turn up in the most unexpected and unpredictable ways. The festive season can be lonely. I can't promise anyone that this Christmas will be great. You never know. But I still think that, if we can wait patiently on God just as I had to wait for my dad and the tree, then somehow and somewhere he will come and make our hearts gladder than we can even imagine.

Dave Kitchen

***We continue to pray for those members of our Church Family and Friends who are unwell and all those who mourn.***

*If you would like to be included in the prayer list, please write your name in the book in the foyer of the church.*

**Please pray for our CEEMP Prayer Partners:  
St Edeyrn's, Llanedeyrn**

**Prayer in Your Street for December – Duffryn Avenue**



### CYNCOED METHODIST CHURCH

**A warm welcome to everyone worshipping with us today  
Please stay for coffee or tea in the church after the service.**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Steward: Peter Evans**

**10.30am Dave Kitchen**

**11.15pm Rev. Dr. Stephen Wigley  
Midnight Communion**

*Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Canticle: Magnificat (Luke 1:46b-55) or  
Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26; Romans 16: 25-27; Luke 1: 26-27*

### ***At Cyncoed Methodist Church***

we are called to tell God's story by living as God's people through:

- Preaching and teaching the gospel
- Encouraging spiritual growth
- Outreach in the community
- Responding to opportunities for change

**all inspired by God centred worship and prayer.**

**A family room** is available, if needed, for the use of parents with babies and toddlers, allowing parents to share in worship while the little ones enjoy the toys provided. Please ask one of the stewards for more information.

***Please ensure that your mobile is on 'silent' during the service***

### The ministerial team:

**Rev Philip Buckland:** Tel: 029 2049 5202, [buckland.philip@gmail.com](mailto:buckland.philip@gmail.com)

**Rev Jarel Robinson-Brown:**

Tel: 029 2052 9255, [jarel.robinson-brown@methodist.org.uk](mailto:jarel.robinson-brown@methodist.org.uk)

**Family & Community Lay Worker - Helen Osborne**

Tel: 029 2039 3439, mobile 07788 701 129, [helen.osborne11@btinternet.com](mailto:helen.osborne11@btinternet.com)

**Church Office: 029 2039 3439**

[cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com)

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017

#### First Sunday of Christmas

#### 10.30am Service at Rumney

*Readings ; Isaiah 61:10-62: 3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4: 4-7;  
Luke2: 22-40*

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018

#### Sunday after Epiphany

**Steward: Alison Harrison**

**9.15am Rev. Philip Buckland – Communion**

**10.30am Dr. Alun Hughes**

**6.00pm Rev. Jarel Robinson-Brown @St Andrews**

*Readings; Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm29; Acts: 19: 1-7; Mark 1: 4-11*

### Events

**Christmas Day** Family Service 10.30am

A short all age service to celebrate the birth of Jesus on this special day.

**If you are new to this church or if you have any particular concerns and would like to talk to someone please give your name and contact details to one of the ministers or stewards.**

### Notices

- **Soup Run Christmas Presents.** This year we would like to give out new Boxer Shorts (Medium Size) and bars of chocolate (no nuts). See Margaret Ashford. Tel 029 20634923
- **Cardiff Foodbank:** In urgent need of UHT milk, fruit juice, tinned rice pudding, tinned potatoes and vegetables. Can you help?
- **Midweek Communion:** there will be no Thursday communion until January 4<sup>th</sup>.
- **Jesus was a Refugee. Can we give help in his name? BABY BOX ITEMS NEEDED.** As in the notices last week, could you donate baby grows, vests, mittens, bibs, coats cardigans, moses basket sheets, and small blankets. Anything for newborns. Also, items for mum, shower gel, shampoo, skin lotion etc, If you can help, please phone Chris on 02920736725. Many thanks.
- **CAMEO:** Quiz and Nibbles evening + Bring & Buy Stall. Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January at 7.30pm

### TODDLERS

**Maz Grierson** has stepped down from her role in the Tuesday Toddlers Group and was very moved by the gift presented during the Nativity service – please see Thank You card at the back of the church  
**Urgent:** there is now an important role to be filled. We are therefore looking for a team of volunteers to fill this role on a rota basis. If anyone would like more details, or is willing to help in this vital role please speak to Helen.

**Please leave items for the church notices in the Church Office (for Mike Berry) or email to [cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com) before 5.00pm on Wednesday.**