

Church Family News and Prayers

Another New Year

It was a clear sky with the last glow of sunset fading into the earth: the end of December, once more. He turned and went inside. He did not want the light to fade from this last day or the emptiness to close over another year.

Are you thinking of the old days? she asked.
He smiled at her understanding: Yes.

He was remembering the golden years long ago when he had thought the future held the promise of great things; the years when he had felt that God was shaping his life in a special way; the years when he had cherished a dream of putting wrongs to right and changing the world.

She smiled: *These haven't been bad years, have they?* He looked out into the darkness, knowing every contour of the countryside, every pattern of the stars. These had been quiet, uneventful times, empty of dream or and excitement. But, yes, she was right: they had been fair years in many ways. *God is good*, he declared and then he rose to his feet. *Time for bed. I will not wait up to see the beginning of another year. Tomorrow will be a day like any other, God willing.*

The night settled over the desert, blacking out the bush that would one day soon be ablaze with God's glory. The New Year began quietly, imperceptibly in his dreamless sleep: the year of the burning bush, of the miracles and the plagues, the year of action after the long years of waiting.

But no more important to God than the beginning of the year before or the year before that when he had been quietly moulding his servant Moses for the task that would count through all eternity.

Lynette Bishop (adapted)

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



CYNCOED METHODIST CHURCH

Church Notices for Sunday 1st January 2023 Second Sunday of Christmas

Services

Steward: Angela Bailey

10.30am Rev. Kofi Amissah

Readings: *Jeremiah 31: 7-14; Psalm 147: 12-20; Ephesians 1: 3-14; John 1: (1-9) 10-18 or Sirach/Ecclesiasticus 24: 1-12; Canticle: Wisdom of Solomon 10: 15-21; Ephesians 1: 3-14; John 1: (1-9) 10-18*

No More Covid Restrictions

As we are all aware, all COVID restrictions have been lifted. There are therefore no restrictions applicable to our services or any gathering in the Cyncoed Methodist building. We are however aware that Covid is still around. For this reason, we encourage that when in the Cyncoed Methodist building, everyone must graciously respect the preferences of other members of the congregation and the community, especially if people choose to maintain any of the preventive protocols.

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.

The Ministerial Team:

Rev. Kofi Amissah

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Sunday 8th January 2023

Sunday after Epiphany/First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Steward: Angela and Heather Bailey

10.30am Rev. Kofi Amissah – Covenant Service

3.00pm Messy Church

Readings: *Isaiah 42: 1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10: 34-43; Matthew 3: 13-17*



Please Note.

The Next Informal mid-week Communion
will be on Thursday 5th January 2023 at 10.30am

Cyncoed Church Premises

For Out of Hours or Emergency access to the Cyncoed Church Premises please call Martin on 07849 632 394

Notices

- ❖ **Update on the Soup Run** Many of you have supported the Soup Run over the years (making soup or sandwiches regularly, donating food, clothes or money and helping on the evening) for which we are very grateful. Although the Wednesday night Soup Run stopped because of the pandemic, Margaret has continued to support the homeless & those in insecure accommodation. She helps at Conway Road where breakfast is served each Monday keeping in touch, providing support & advice where needed as well as providing fresh fruit to supplement the breakfast rolls. You can **continue** your support through a monetary donation or buying a jar of coffee or a bar of chocolate (no nuts please). Thank you.
- ❖ **Church Flowers 'Fund'** The beautiful flowers that decorate our church are bought and paid for with money donated by members either in memory of family or friends or to celebrate special events. The 'fund' is now unfortunately running low and needs topping up. If you are able and willing to make a contribution please see one of the Stewards.

Please send items for the church notices to the Church Office or email to cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com before 5.00pm on Wednesday.