

Church Family News and Prayers

Being born in lockdown

: a family advent calendar part 3

11 Of course, we have few details about how it was for Mary. Easy or hard? Short or long? We don't even know the season of the birth. The narrators of the story have decided that those details are not needed. He was born. All that matters.

12 What we do know about Mary is that the birth occurred amid what can best be described as *makeshift* arrangements. People think that's dreadful but perhaps it wasn't. She was in the town of Joseph's extended family. It may have been strange but, if everyone pitched in, it was probably no more challenging than any other birth. Difficult but possible!

13 *Does he sleep?* people ask. Well, of course, he does but not always when you want him to. Sometimes it seems that he's happy to sleep only when you're awake and then be howlingly awake when you're trying to sleep. It could be worse – all you really need is infinite strength and infinite flexibility!

14 A scene from summer. Reuben is five months old and in the garden. He's been placed in his rocker chair next to his grandfather. Probably on the basis that this very simple supervision may be just about within his capability. Grandpa is talking about anything and everything, all of which means nothing to Reuben except for the fact he has company. But that's apparently splendid. What happens is always less important than actually being there.

15 Elizabeth and Mary are the older and younger cousins of the Christmas story. They spend time together at Elizabeth's house and it works so well that Mary feels blessed in spite of the challenges she faces. It isn't that Elizabeth does anything except be family. But, most often, that's exactly what is needed

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 4th December 2022 **Second Sunday of Advent**

Services

Steward: Sue Tester

9.15am Rev. Kofi Amissah - Communion

Readings: *Isaiah 11: 1-10; Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19; Romans 15: 4-13;*
Matthew 3: 1-12

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 11th December 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

Steward: Angela and Heather Bailey

10.30am Rev. Irfan John - Communion

Readings: *Isaiah 35: 1-10; Psalm 146: 5-10 or Canticle: Magnificat (Luke 1: 46b-55); James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11*



Informal mid-week Communion


Thursdays at 10.30am in the Fellowship Room

An Oasis of peace in a busy week

Cyncoed Church Premises

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

Notices

- ❖ **The Church Choir** is preparing for the **Service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday 18th December at 6pm.**
If there are any ladies who would like to join us you would be very welcome. Please speak to Carol or join us at rehearsal any Thursday at 8pm in the Fellowship Room. Looking forward to seeing you!
- ❖ **Circuit Advent Study.** All are welcome to join the Circuit Advent Study based on Walter Brueggemann's book 'Names for the Messiah'.
Monday Evenings: 21st November - 12th December from 7.30pm - 9pm on Zoom
Wednesday Afternoons: 23rd November - 14th December from 2pm - 3.30pm at Llandaff North Methodist Church.
For more information or Zoom details, please contact the Circuit Office office@cardiffmethodist.org.uk
- ❖ **Wenchi Hospital - Sponsored Swim update** I am pleased to tell you that -
 22 miles swum - Challenge completed 🎉
Thank-you to everyone who has sponsored me for this swim. I shall now finish collecting the sponsorship money.
Anne
- ❖ **Wenchi Hospital - Smarties Challenge** I am delighted to announce that the result of the Smarties Challenge is £500.00 with a few more tubes outstanding. Thank you so much everyone.
A magnificent effort. Well Done Smarties ★★
Chris
- ❖ **Advent PUSH Prayers on Zoom** will be led by Rev. Kofi Amissah on Fridays from 2nd to 16th December at 7.30pm. The Zoom details are below.

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