

The background is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, bright stars. A single, exceptionally bright star with a prominent starburst effect is positioned in the upper center. Below the sky, a silhouette of the Nativity scene is visible, featuring a manger with a baby, Mary, and Joseph, set against a backdrop of rolling hills. A bright light emanates from the manger, creating a lens flare effect that illuminates the scene below.

**For unto us a child is born, unto
us a son is given. Isaiah 9:6**

December 2018

Sunday 2nd December

Preaching

9:00 Holy Communion

Rev Laurence Smith

10:30 Morning Worship

Rev Laurence Smith

Mens Walking group

Will be going on a country walk on Tuesday 4th December, followed by a pub lunch. Please meet at the church for a 9.30am departure.

WOW (women on walks)

Will be going on a country walk on Tuesday 4th December, followed by a pub lunch. Please meet at the church for a 9.30am departure.

Church Christmas Tree

This year our Christmas tree will be decorated byyou! From next Sunday onwards the tree will be in place and everyone is invited to add a decoration from the box next to it or one that you bring in, bought or homemade. Enjoy!

Messy Christmas Celebration

You are all invited to join our Messy Church families for our Messy Christmas Celebration on Sunday 9th Dec. Its a fantastic opportunity for both congregations to join together to celebrate Jesus' birth. There will be NO 10.30am service instead messy church will run from 11am and at 12 we will be having a special extended celebration with a live band and the puppets helping us to celebrate the good news of Jesus' birth followed by a buffet lunch. We would love you to come and join us from 12 for our celebration and stay for lunch.

Messy Sheep trail

Can any primary aged children help?... some sheep have got lost in Woodley again... you've got from Sat 24th Nov - Sun 9th Dec to find them all so they can join the shepherds to journey to see baby Jesus. Leaflets are available in church and at the Library and also at the Extravaganza on Sunday 3rd Dec. Prizes of two £20 Entertainer vouchers 1 for Under 7's and 1 for KS2.

Choir for Carol Services

Next rehearsal will be on Thursday 6th December at 7.45pm. More details from Tim Raggett

Woodley Christmas Extravaganza

Today! Between 10 am and 3pm,. Please come along and show your support.

Bags to the Future

Bags to the Future that were collected on Monday raised a total of £73.20. Many thanks to everyone who provided the bags.

Neema Craft

Thank you all who supported the sale of goods from NEEMA Craft on Sunday. I am delighted to say we made £338= which will build up the Craftwork in Iringa and help with the provision of housing for the staff.

St James' Vision

St James 2020 Vision is to be a growing people of all ages that:

1. Are rooted in prayer and growing in our faith in Jesus Christ
2. Are growing as confident disciples, and are willing and able to make disciples of others
3. Are committed to nurturing and investing in children and young people
4. Are growing in our understanding of and open to being empowered by the Holy Spirit to build up the church of God
5. Reach out into our community to be and to share the good news of Jesus Christ both inside and beyond the church walls, and across Woodley in partnership with others
6. Are listening, generous, and committed to quality in all that we do

Mission Partners

The Mission Support Group have met to discuss our giving support for 2019. After December we will no longer be supporting Cristina Vargas in Argentina as a Local Partner as her retirement is due. We will again be supporting Ben and Katy Ray and their family working at NEEMA Craft with CMS in Tanzania. This will be encouraging as Liz Hansford is working with them. This has all been approved by the PCC.

Preschool Christmas Fair

"The Pre-School's Christmas Fair last week raised £396.90p for its funds. Many thanks to everyone who organised the event, donated and/or bought items, won prizes, manned the stalls or helped in any other way to make it a success."

Prayers for REinspired - Woodley

Monday 3rd Dec Yr 5/6 at Woodley CofE are exploring Is the Christmas story true (2 classes)
Tuesday 4th Dec Yr 5/6 at Woodley CofE are exploring Is the Christmas story true (1 class)
Thursday 6th Dec Yr 3/4 at Woodley CofE are exploring Has Christmas lost its true meaning? (2 classes).
Friday 7th Dec Yr 3/4 at Woodley CofE are exploring Has Christmas lost its true meaning? (1 class).
Please pray particularly for Monday and Tuesday's lessons with Yr 5/6 as we are needing to adapt this lesson.

Prayers for the world

United States Wildfires in the US state of California have claimed over 90 lives, with many more still unaccounted for. Expected heavy rain may help fire-fighters, but is likely to trigger flash floods and mud-slides. Pray for people having to evacuate their homes, many for a second time, and for survivors of the fires.

Yemen Save the Children estimate that at least 84,000 children have died of malnutrition in Yemen, particularly because of a blockade of port city Hodeidah. Heavy fighting and air strikes continue in the city. Pray for its inhabitants, for a cease-fire and for more access for aid.

Climate Change A UN Conference to agree concrete targets on emissions will open in Poland on Sunday 2nd, against the backdrop of increasing carbon dioxide Levels. Pray that political disagreements will not damage the talks, and that other countries will not join the US in pulling out of the 2015 Paris agreement.

Brexit Pray for the UK Govt and the EU as the debate over terms of departure for Britain rumble on. Pray for wisdom and for those fearful of the future, particularly if a bad or no-deal outcome.

Prayers for our Church Family

Please pray for all those who are unwell, lonely or bereaved at this time. Please continue to pray for Michael Patterson, Joan Wise and Mick too and Steve Litchfield's sister. Pray for Liz Hansford, settling into life and work at Iringa, Tanzania, assisting Ben and Katy Ray at Neema Handicrafts. Life is hectic with Christmas orders and sales!

Services in December 2018

Sunday 2nd

9:00am Holy Communion

10:30am Holy Communion Advent Sunday

The Kingdom is Near
(The Patriarchs)

Sunday 9th

9am Holy Communion

I Iam Messy Church Christmas

The Promises of God Fulfilled
(The Prophets)

Wednesday 12th

Midweek Communion

Sunday 16th

9:00am Holy Communion

10:30am Morning Worship

Prepare the Way of the Lord
(John the Baptist)

6:30pm Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 23rd

9:00am Holy Communion

10:30am Morning Worship

Rejoicing in God (Mary)

Monday 24th Christmas Eve

3:30pm Christingle Service

5pm Christingle Service

11:30pm Midnight Communion

The Word Became Flesh

Tuesday 25th Christmas Day

10am Family Worship

Sunday 30th

9:00am Holy Communion

10:30am Morning Worship

Listening to the Lord

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