

## Church Bulletin 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**We wish everyone a blessed and peaceful Christmas  
and God's richest blessing in the New Year.**



### Christmas Services

Our services over the weekend, which will also be livestreamed on Youtube are:-

**Christmas Eve 7 pm** – Carols and a devotional message

**Christmas Morning 10.30 am** – Celebrate Jesus birth!

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WON'T BE A SERVICE IN THE BUILDING ON SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER, BUT A PRE-RECORDED SERVICE WILL GO OUT ON YOUTUBE AT 9.30 AM INSTEAD.**

### Christmas Offerings & Board

There will be an opportunity to give to our Christmas offering on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning, and this will be **split between John and Rachel's work in Paraguay and Eden Valley Hospice**. You can also give online, using 'Christmas Offering' as the reference, or put a gift in the normal offering box on Sundays marked 'Christmas offering'. There is now a board up in the foyer where you can put a Christmas card to the church if you wish, instead of giving out lots of individual cards.

### Office and Food Pantry Christmas opening

The Church Office will be closed from Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December and will re-open on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Food Pantry will be open on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 2pm rather than the usual Fridays. The opening day will revert to Friday from 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

### COVID Update

Due to the rise in covid cases and the new omicron variant, we have reviewed our risk assessments and are putting the following precautions into place:-

- We have reluctantly **decided not to serve tea and coffee** between the two services on Sundays for the time being.
- We are asking people to **wear face coverings at all times** when in the building unless they are speaking or singing on the platform (or are exempt).
- In line with government guidance, we encourage everyone to **obtain and use lateral flow tests regularly** before coming to church, in order to protect others.

### Small Group Changes

Look out for major changes to our Cell Groups from the end of January. Some groups will change and some new groups formed. More information will follow in January, but ask your leader about your group or talk with Alan or John Ranson.

### Dates for your diary

- **DNA partnerships** will be meeting again during w/c 2<sup>nd</sup> **January** so cell groups won't meet that week.
- **Elim Day of Prayer** - There will be an Elim National Day of Prayer on 7<sup>th</sup> **January** with an online prayer event hosted by Elim's Kensington Temple at 7.30 pm. This will be streamed on the [Elim YouTube channel](#). Keep the date free and join in if you are able.
- **Annual Fellowship Meeting** – We will be holding our Annual Fellowship Meeting on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> **February 2022** and will be voting to ratify the appointment of Mal Tabb as an Elder. If any members have any objections, please inform Alan in writing.

### News from the Philippines

Pastor Glenn in the Philippines has organised a feeding programme and Christmas gifts for 200 children associated with the church and school in Bambang. They are also looking to appoint a pastor over the church and school and are hoping that Pastor Maie Gural and her husband will be willing to take this on. Please pray that the feeding programme etc goes well and that the appointment of a pastor for the church plant works out.

### Cumbria Safe Families prayer update

**Please pray with us this Christmastime.** The 'Good News' of Jesus Christ has been very much on our minds and hearts as volunteers and churches reach out to isolated families in our communities this Christmas. When Jesus was born into our world he changed history, and as children and families hear about the news of a saviour who is Christ the Lord, may they also be blessed by the demonstration of this good news and know him for themselves.

**Praise and thank God** for the new work opening up in Carlisle and the 2 new members of staff starting in January including Eleanor Brunskill – one of our leaders.

### Finance

Our offerings for November came to £11,888.84. Thank you for your giving as we trust God to provide for our needs as a Church.

**Giving to the Church** can be done in 3 ways:-

1. By standing order to the church bank account – details from the church office
2. Online using our secure online giving facility. Check out our website for details: [www.elimcarlisle.org/giving](http://www.elimcarlisle.org/giving)
3. By texting CC004 to 64647 and following the directions.

### **Church Contact details – 01228 523991**

**Church Office: 14 Spencer Street, Carlisle, CA1 1BG**

**Room bookings & general enquiries:** Contact **Ruth Whiffen** (Administrator) at the Church office or on her mobile

(Tues – Thurs 10.30 am – 2.30pm) [ruth@elimcarlisle.org](mailto:ruth@elimcarlisle.org) (07964 544893)

**Minister: Alan Meyer** (07775 666869) [alan@elimcarlisle.org](mailto:alan@elimcarlisle.org)

**Debt Advice:** Christians Against Poverty (0800 328 0006) or our Debt Centre Manager **Jill Wheatley** (07812 524849)

**Oasis Pantry:** 07838 349561 or contact Gail Meyer (07801 991204)

[www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/find-a-pantry/oasis-pantry/](http://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/find-a-pantry/oasis-pantry/) **Facebook page: @ylpoasiscarlisle**



### **Ministry Coordinators contact details:**

**Family Ministry: Jean Ranson** (07896 999887)

**Youth Ministry: Helena Cowling** (07868 595726)

**Discipleship: Christine Orr** (07905 139107)

**Cell Groups: John Ranson** (07428 590847)