

## Church Bulletin 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

### Call to Prayer and Fasting

We are planning a week of prayer and fasting from **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023** to pray about future plans of the church. We are currently considering starting a new service on Sunday evenings and an after-fellowship at a local café for adults under 40. We are also looking at the possibility of hiring somewhere to have a united service once a month and are looking out for other buildings which could accommodate our growing numbers.

### Christmas News!



This year sees the return of 'Nativity from Scratch' – a nativity play completely put together in just one afternoon. This is open to any child in primary school and you will be able to drop your child off at 12.30 pm on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December and return at 4.30pm for refreshments and the nativity performance. Information and booking forms will be available in the foyer on Sunday or from Jean Ranson. **PLEASE NOTE: ALL PLACES MUST BE PRE-BOOKED BY THIS SUNDAY (4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER).**

**We would welcome donations of mince pies for our Nativity from Scratch on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec and Carol Services on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. Please bring to church this Sunday.**

### Details of our services over Christmas and New Year are as follows:

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 5 pm** – Nativity from Scratch (refreshments served beforehand)

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 9.30 and 11 am** – Carol Services

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December 7 – 8 pm** – Christmas Eve Service

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 – 11.30 am** – Christmas Morning Service

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January 10.30 am** – New Year's Day Service

Please note: there will be no separate children's work on 25<sup>th</sup> December or 1<sup>st</sup> January.

**Christmas Hampers** – Each year we make up Christmas hampers for our most recent Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre clients. Each cell group has been asked to make up a hamper, but if you are not in a group and would like to contribute, you can bring items on Sunday and give them to Jill or Jane or bring them to the office by arrangement. A list of hamper contents is displayed on the notice board in the church and at the end of the Bulletin. **ALL DONATIONS MUST BE IN BY THIS SUNDAY PLEASE.**



Our **Christmas Offerings** this year, which will be taken on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning, will be given to Eden Valley Hospice (50%) and 25% each to support the missions work in Paraguay and Cambodia.

**If you are on your own on Christmas Day or would be willing to host someone,** please let the office know and we will try to link you up with someone.

### Important Information

1. If you are regularly attending with children, you can only make use of our children's work, including creche, after giving us your contact details for safety reasons.
2. If you want to be involved in the life of the church, please ensure we have your details on our database so that you can receive our weekly emails keeping you up to date with everything going on. Please get a form from the ushers.
3. If you wish to serve, you need to become a member and the initial step towards this is to attend our vision and values course on a Thursday evening. See Alan for more details.

### Prayer Needs

- Please remember Jill Wheatley, Janet Dewhurst, and their dad, Dennis, in your prayers as their mum, Ann, passed into the presence of the Lord on Tuesday. Ann & Dennis had been married for over 60 years. The funeral is planned for 1pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October at St John's Church at Houghton.
- Also remember others who are unwell currently including Jane Fearon, Joe Barnes, Mo King, Pat O'Brien, Claire Wamsley, Penny Griffiths, Dorothy Waugh and any others you may be aware of.

### DNA (Discipleship, Nurturing and Accountability)

DNAs are groups of 2 or 3 people (of the same sex) who meet together for mutual encouragement and accountability, and are running next week so cell groups will be closed. If you are not yet in a DNA partnership, why not ask someone else to start one with you? See Christine Orr for ideas about how they work best.

### Safe Families Fundraiser – still opportunity to donate



Safe Families

Matt Potter is doing a fundraiser for Safe Families and running 7 half marathons in 7 days starting today until 7<sup>th</sup> December. Safe Families help support children, families and care givers who may feel alone or without hope. If you would like to donate, please visit Matt's Justgiving page - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mpotter7>

### Oasis Food Pantry Product of the Month

Food Pantry's donation products for December are cereals and pasta again. Shops own brands are fine and donations can be put in the trolley in the foyer on Sundays.

### Parking on Sundays

Please note that the disabled space by St Paul's Surgery is limited to disabled use 7 days a week so cannot be used for parking on Sundays. You may get a ticket if you park in this one space or over a dropped kerb ..... You have been warned!

## Missions Focus

### Philippines

Our partner Church in the Philippines is involved in planting a Church in Bambang City, where we support a school and outreach. The pictures are of the church plant in Bambang, that has just started its Sunday meetings. Please pray for the planned outreach into the community at the end of December. Pray that men will be added into the Church.



### Paraguay

It was great to have Pastors John & Rachel McDonough with us on Sunday while they are in the UK visiting family. Please continue to pray that their time introducing Jesse to the family will be a special encouragement to all and that their time away from the mission field will be a time of refreshing. Pray for them as they return to Paraguay this weekend.

## Finances

### Ministry opportunity

We are looking for 2 people to work alongside Jane Wood as Deputy Treasurers. Initially this will be a volunteer role but may lead to a paid position in the future. If you are interested, talk with David or pass your CV into the office.

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

1. By standing order to the church bank account – details from the church office
2. By texting CC004 to 64647 and following the directions
3. By placing your offering in the box available at our Sunday services  
**(online giving using PAYTHRU not currently available due to technical issues)**

### Easy Fundraising

Please help Elim Community Church, Carlisle raise free donations when you're doing your Christmas shopping by signing up to #easyfundraising! It's an easy way to help during these difficult times that will make a BIG difference to us! Please sign up today, it only takes 2 minutes: [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=AQ7Z28&char=157870&referral-campaign=c2s&utm\\_campaign=qp-nov-22&utm\\_source=email](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=AQ7Z28&char=157870&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_campaign=qp-nov-22&utm_source=email)



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

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

**David Allen** (07753 906727) [david@elimcarlisle.org](mailto:david@elimcarlisle.org)

**Pastoral Assistant: Christine Orr** (07905 139107)

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

**Oasis Pantry:** 07838 349561 or contact **Caroline Lunny** (07799 634601)

**Family & Children's Ministry (ages 0-11):** **Jean Ranson** (07896 999887)

**Youth Ministry (ages 11-16):** **Nick & Thea Weston** (07923 212 107)

## Christmas Hampers



### Suggested Contents

Tea / Coffee  
Fruit Juice (carton)  
Tinned Ham / Salmon  
Luxury Soup  
  
Christmas Pudding  
Custard / White Sauce  
Christmas Cake  
Mince Pies  
Yule Log  
Tin of Biscuits /  
Shortbread

Savoury Crackers  
Pringles / Kettle Crisps or  
similar  
Mixed nut selection /  
peanuts  
Box of Chocolates  
Non-alcoholic drink  
(eg Shloer / J2O)  
Selection Box  
  
Christmas crackers  
Small Christmas  
decorations

Tinsel  
Wrapping paper

Directions  
PLEASE PURCHASE  
GOOD QUALITY ITEMS  
TO BLESS OUR  
CLIENTS, rather than  
anything from  
basics/savers ranges and  
only purchase **Alcohol**  
**Free** products.