

Church Bulletin 8th December 2022

Christmas News!



Please come and support our 'Nativity from Scratch' production on Saturday, doors open at 4.30 for refreshments and performance starts at 5pm. This is always a great evening so come along and bring your friends.

Mince Pies - Further donation of mince pies would be welcome for our carol services on 18th December please.

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

Saturday 10th December at 5 pm – Nativity from Scratch (refreshments served beforehand)

Sunday 18th December 9.30 and 11 am – Carol Services

Saturday 24th December 7 – 8 pm – Christmas Eve Service

Sunday 25th December 10.30 – 11.30 am – Christmas Morning Service

Sunday 1st January 10.30 am – New Year's Day Service

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

Our Christmas Offerings this year, which will be taken on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning, will be divided between Eden Valley Hospice (50%) and 25% each to support the missions work in Paraguay and Cambodia. There is now a board in the church where you can pin a Christmas card to the whole fellowship rather than sending lots of individual cards. Why not do this and put the money you would have spent on cards in the Christmas offering instead?

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 people up.

Call to Prayer and Fasting

We are planning a week of prayer and fasting from **Monday 2nd to Friday 6th 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.

Oasis Fellowship

Oasis Fellowship will be having their carol service on Wednesday 14th December 2.15 – 3.15 pm and David Allen will be the speaker. Everyone welcome.



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.

Request for toys, children's books and bible study resources

We have received a request from Diana Geres who has visited the church in the past, for children's books, toys and Bible study resources for a toddler group in Romania that she is helping to set up. If you have any items you could donate, please contact her directly on 07526113800 to arrange delivery to her home in Carlisle.

Thank you!

Gail would like to thank everyone for the gift of a weekend away at the Christmas markets in Manchester for her retirement. She really appreciated the gesture and her and Alan had a lovely weekend away.

Congratulations!

Well done to Esther Allen and Greg Bates on completion of their 'Life Skills' Training. Life Skills will be starting early next year and teaches people money saving techniques such as cooking on a budget and making money go further. Watch this space!

Bible Readings

We send round bible readings by email or text to anyone on our database who would like them, and these take you through the whole bible in 5 years. If you don't currently use a bible reading plan, why not try it out in the new year? To sign up email ruth@elimcarlisle.org or text 07775 666869.



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 recently while they were in the UK visiting family. They have now returned to Paraguay so please pray for them over the Christmas period; for them as a family and for their ministry in Paraguay.

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 (07964 544893)

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

David Allen (07753 906727) 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)

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

