



"Becoming an army of passionate disciples,  
standing for truth ..... saving the lost ..... restoring the broken."

[www.elimcarlisle.org](http://www.elimcarlisle.org) & [www.elim.org.uk](http://www.elim.org.uk) email: [info@elimcarlisle.org](mailto:info@elimcarlisle.org)

An Elim Pentecostal Church, Registered Charity no. 251549 .. A member of the Evangelical Alliance

## **Church Bulletin 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

### **Christmas News!**



**'Nativity from Scratch' will be held THIS SATURDAY. Please don't forget to drop your children off for a 12:30 start if they have booked in!** Whether you have a child involved or not, please consider coming down to watch the performance - 4:30pm for refreshments with curtains up at 5pm.

### **Mince Pie Request**

We need donations of mince pies for our Nativity from Scratch Service on 9<sup>th</sup> December and Carol Services on 17<sup>th</sup> December. **Please bring any donations this Saturday or Sunday** and leave in the foyer kitchen.



### **Christmas Services**

**Nativity from Scratch – 4.30 for 5pm Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

**Carol Services – 9.30 and 11am on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christmas Eve – 11am and 7pm (no 9.30 service)**

**Christmas morning – 10.30 – 11.30 am**

Invitations to these services will be available on Sunday to take and give to your friends.

### **Christmas Offerings**

Our Christmas Offerings this year will be split 50/50 between Eden Valley Hospice and the work John & Rachel McDonough are doing in Paraguay. These will be taken on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning but if you are not around then and wish to give, or want to donate online, please do so in the usual ways (details on page 3) but mark your gift 'Christmas'. There will not be a Christmas Card Board this year due to lack of space.

### **Home alone on Christmas Day?**

If you are on your own on Christmas Day or are willing to host others, please let us know and we will try to link people up.

### **Church Office Closing times**

The church office will be closed from Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December and will re-open on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

### **Ministry to the Homeless/Asylum Seekers**

Nick Weston has been given a grant from the church of £100 to buy warm items for asylum seekers who have become homeless as the use of hotels to house them is discontinued. He will be going out on the streets from 13<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> December between 12 noon and 2pm to give out items and minister to people. If you are willing and able to join him on any of these dates, please let him know on 07923 212107 and meet at the church at 12pm.

### **Annual Fellowship Meeting**

On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January there will ONLY BE ONE SERVICE AT 11 am. Please bring your lunch with you that day and stay through after the morning service (tea & coffee will be provided). Our AFM will then take place at 1.30 pm. All members are expected to attend the AFM and regular attenders are invited to join as well, although they will not have any voting rights. (Please note that you need to be a member for 6 months before you are eligible to vote.) Please give your apologies to Ruth if you are a member but are not able to attend. Members will have the opportunity to ratify the appointment of John Ranson and Chris Vernon for a further 4 years and to elect Felix Nabena as an Elder. A membership list is on the notice board – if we have inadvertently missed anyone off please let us know.

### December 31<sup>st</sup>

We will be celebrating Alan & Gail's 29 years of service with us on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December. We will only be having ONE SERVICE AT 11AM followed by lunch together and will be getting cell groups involved in this. More details to follow. After this we will have a time of reminiscing with Alan & Gail as we look back on their time with us. Please make every effort to be there to join the celebration.

### Tech Team Meeting - tonight

A reminder to those interested in being part of the tech team that there is a meeting TONIGHT, at 7.30pm in the church, which you are invited to attend, to discuss where we go from here.

### Encounter

'Encounter' is now closed for Christmas and will re-commence on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 1.15 pm with lunch and a devotional thought from David.



### Discipleship Courses

Our Vision & Values course and First Steps course are not running in December but will re-commence in January. Chat with David or Christine if you are interested in attending either of these.

### Standing for Truth

Part of our Vision statement is that we stand for truth and from time to time we need to challenge the distorted "truth" in our twisted world. Alan has recently signed this petition. Will you consider doing the same?  
<https://citizengo.org/en-gb/212254-norfolk-county-council-withdraw-your-sexually-explicit-radical-transgender-rshe-programme>

### Abaana African Choir Chaperones

Abaana African Choir is with us in May but are travelling throughout the UK from January to June 2024 and need chaperones to accompany the children. If you would be interested in doing this, please chat with David.

### Oasis Food Pantry

The following testimonies have been received from Food Pantry Clients recently:-

*"Thank you so much it's very much appreciated. Thank you to all the team for everything you all do. You have been a lifeline to myself and my two boys which I'm very grateful for."*

*"I'd like to express my gratitude to Oasis Pantry. It really is a lifeline in helping me in this current economic climate. As a disabled person who isn't working it's so beneficial. The volunteers make me feel welcome and are friendly and helpful. The range of products I can choose from is brilliant and I am very grateful. Thank You so much!"*

If anyone would like to donate food items to the Pantry, **tinned fruit, jam and breakfast cereal** would be helpful this month. Please put any donations in the trolley in the foyer on Sundays (shops own brands are fine).



### Dates for your diary

Please take note of the following events coming up over the next few months:-

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December** – Alan's final Sunday before retirement

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January** – Annual Fellowship Meeting

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January** – Induction Service for David as Lead Pastor

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024** – Christian Institute

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March** – Visit of Paul Hudson

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April** – Church Weekend

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May** – Abaana African Choir

### **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 am – 3 pm) [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)

**Assistant Minister:** **Christine Orr** (07905 139107) [christine\\_orr@hotmail.com](mailto:christine_orr@hotmail.com)

**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)

**Finance:** **Jane Wood & Ojima Adio** (07531 828289) [elimfinance@outlook.com](mailto:elimfinance@outlook.com)

### **FINANCE**

**GIVING TO THE CHURCH** can currently be done in 3 ways:-

1. By standing order to the church bank account – NATWEST Bank A/c Name: Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance (UK), A/C no 28080254, Sort Code 60-05-16
2. By placing your offering in the boxes available at our Sunday services
3. We also have facilities to give one off donations by Debit or Credit Card (although this costs us more as bank charges are higher than with other ways of giving).

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT GIVING OR GIFT AID, CONTACT DETAILS FOR OUR FINANCE TEAM ARE BELOW.**

### **EASY FUNDRAISING**

**\*\*\*DON'T FORGET TO USE EASY FUNDRAISING IF YOU ARE BUYING CHRISTMAS PRESENTS ONLINE THIS CHRISTMAS\*\*\***

It's free to register and will take less than two minutes to sign up. Once registered, whenever you shop online, visit the easyfundraising website or app first, before visiting your favourite brand, and Elim Community Church, Carlisle will benefit! Help make a difference, sign up now:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/elimcarlisle/?utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_content=donationdaybeenpaid-email1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/elimcarlisle/?utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=email&utm_medium=social&utm_content=donationdaybeenpaid-email1)