



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

www.elimcarlisle.org & www.elim.org.uk email: info@elimcarlisle.org

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

Church Bulletin 14th December 2023

Christmas Services

Carol Services – 9.30 and 11am on Sunday 17th December

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

Christmas morning – 10.30 – 11.30 am



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 20th December and will re-open on Tuesday 2nd January.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to hampers for our Christians Against Poverty (CAP) debt centre clients or helped with the CAP Christmas meal today. Here are a couple of quotes from grateful clients:-

"Please pass on my sincere thanks for the wonderful Christmas parcel. Almost everything in it were items I was going to do without this year, so they are all very gratefully received. Merry Christmas to all at CAP and the church. 😊"

"Thank you so much for my hamper, I'm truly overwhelmed and grateful it's amazing 🥰🥰" xx

Sunday 17th December

- **Engage Christmas Party** – Engage will be having their Christmas party this Sunday 6 – 8pm with fun, food, festivities and a Christmas Jumper Competition! Open to anyone aged between 17 and 39.
- **Meeting for new hospitality teams** - There will be a short meeting for those on the new hospitality teams for Sundays between the 2 services this Sunday in the belfry area of the church. Please make every effort to be there.



Sunday December 31st

We will be celebrating Alan & Gail's 29 years of service with us on Sunday 31st December. We will only be having ONE SERVICE AT 11AM followed by lunch together and will be getting cell groups involved in this. 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.

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 13th to 24th December between 12 noon and 2pm to give out items and minister to people. If you wish to join him on any of these dates, it's important to let him know on 07923 212107, and meet at the church at 11.55am.

Annual Fellowship Meeting

On Sunday 7th 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.

Induction Service

David will be inducted as Senior Pastor at 6pm on Sunday 14th January. Christine will also be inducted as Assistant Pastor on that evening. Please keep the evening free if possible.

Cell Groups

Due to the number of people coming to faith and into membership, many groups are being re-organised in the new year. These will be finalised early in the new year so you will hear further details from your group leaders, or from David or Christine then.

Baptismal Service



We are planning a baptismal service on Sunday 21st January. If you are interested in being baptised, please chat with David or Christine.

Encounter

'Encounter' is now closed for Christmas and will re-commence on Wednesday 10th 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.

Bible Texts

Just another reminder for those currently receiving our Bible Readings by text, that these will stop at the end of this year. You can receive these by email instead by contacting ruth@elimcarlisle.org and if anyone else would like to receive them too, just let us know!

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>

NISCU Connect Magazine

Northern Inter Schools Christian Union's latest 'Connect' magazine contains information about fun events for young people and children over the coming months and 2 copies are available at the info desk for your perusal. A copy of the magazine is also online at niscu.org.uk/connect.

If anyone would like to receive a monthly prayer diary and/or newsletter from NISCU, either email Rachel Gleave at Rachel.gleave@niscu.org.uk or chat to her on a Sunday and she will get you signed up.

Oasis Food Pantry

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:-

Tuesday 30th January 2024 – Christian Institute
Friday 15th – Sunday 17th March – Visit of Paul Hudson
Friday 26th – Sunday 28th April – Church Weekend
Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th 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 (07964 544893)

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

David Allen (07753 906727) david@elimcarlisle.org

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

FINANCE

OFFERINGS FOR NOVEMBER came to £20,744.76 and we thank God for providing for our needs as a church through the faithful giving of His people.

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 ABOVE.

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