



CHRIST CHURCH PARBOLD CHRISTMAS 2022 PRAYER NEWSLETTER



CHRISTMAS GREETING



May the Prince of Peace hold and thrill your hearts this Christmas time as we celebrate His birth together. And may He lead us in paths of righteousness for His own name's sake as we journey into 2023.

My love to you all, Sue

To my church family and friends. Thank you for your prayers over the past year. Wishing you a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. With love to you all, Sylvia Hunter.

To all my Church family and friends God Bless you this Christmas Season and throughout the coming year Barbara.

To all the church family. Christmas greetings and best wishes for the year ahead. Mark and Marie

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year in 2023. God bless, Dot.

May the love, joy and peace of Christmas be with you in the coming New Year. God bless to all my Christ Church family. Lin



PARISH TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN.

- a) Anyone who has a prayer need can phone his/her request to Brian and Frances McGucken (01257 462058) between 6pm and 6.30pm any day, or for urgent needs, at any time. A team of people is on hand to pray immediately for your need.
- b) If neither is available to take your call live - please do not use the answer phone for this purpose - but contact Lin Milne on 463523 or John Mountain on 463919.

Your prayer request will be treated as confidential – unless you state otherwise

ISAIAH 9 v 6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- As the nights draw in, please pray for those who live alone that the Lord will be close and give them peace.
- Pray that all our teachers and staff may have a restful time this Christmas and be ready for the New Year.
- Please pray that our church services will touch many hearts and bring God's light at the end of a difficult year.
- We pray for all those who are suffering this Christmas time especially the vulnerable and homeless – please read **Michele Holliday's story** about her experiences and the challenge that is for every Christian.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

See the notices for all the services this Christmas.

Friday 23rd 2pm in church we are **making Christingles**. All are welcome to help.

Sunday 31st December, New Year's Eve from 7pm everyone welcome to come and celebrate at 327 Preston Road Standish WN6 0QB. – Joanna and Derek.

NEWS FROM ANDREW FANSTONE IN BRAZIL



Thank you for your email. We are all well. A couple of weeks ago a lot of the missionaries and myself included all got covid, but we are now all fully recovered.

This weekend we are in the inside of the state here about 5 hours from Fortaleza working with and training a church here in missions and the next few weeks will be busy as we organize Christmas events for the children and people we work with in the slums and on the streets.

We will be coming back to England to spend Christmas with my mum. She is doing fine but I think it will be nice for her not to be alone over Christmas and the children are looking forward to seeing her as well and come to England as we haven't been for a while as a family.

Thank you for all your support and prayers which is such a blessing and mean so much. May you all have a very happy and blessed Christmas season.

Love from Brazil

Andrew and Claudia

A POEM FROM MARJ DIXON



There is hope in my heart, Lord Jesus
That the world will be as one.
All war and discord will fade away
Like dew in the morning sun.
Then will be food aplenty,
And little children will not starve.
O Jesus, come to earth again
And show us How Great Thou Art.



EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST Anat's story

The Harpur Memorial hospital, founded in 1910, is a ministry of the Anglican Diocese of Egypt which Embrace has supported for many years.

In 2017 it set up a Nurse Training School to help deal with the drastic short of trained nurses in the country as most nurses have had no formal training of any sort.

Embrace has been a major supporter of this initiative.

Here is the story received recently of one student.



Anat was working as a cleaner but her ambition was to be a nurse so she could help others. Thanks to Embrace support, Anat has been able to receive professional medical training at Harpur Nursing School in Menouf, Egypt. Embrace funds help to pay for the tuition and equipment needed for students like Anat to complete the two-year training course.

Unlike some of the students, Anat had no previous medical experience, so she had to study hard for the entrance exam. But her dedication paid off. She passed the exam and could start her training. Now she is looking forward to using her newly acquired medical skills to help others.

“Right now, I live in a place where there are not many health facilities. But soon I will be able to help my neighbours and community when they have problems. The nursing school is very hard, but I am so happy to be here.”

Brian McGucken

THE MESSAGE TRUST

Thank you for your continued support for me and the work I do at the Message Trust!

There's lots happening at the Message Trust at the minute – our Community Groceries are especially busy as people navigate the challenges the world is facing at the minute. We're doing our best to not only ensure people have enough food to feed their families, but also that they have opportunities to hear and experience the love of Jesus! You can read more about the community Groceries on our website (www.message.org.uk).

I've been busy organising lots of mission weeks around the country, taking our bands into schools and delivering lessons on topics like resilience and wellbeing and knife crime, before running end of week gigs. We have two more missions before Christmas, one in Cardiff and one in east Lancashire. Please pray that lots of young people would hear the good news of Jesus and that they would get plugged into local churches.

I'd really appreciate people's prayer as I make plans for mission next year – we have so many opportunities to go into schools across the country (and internationally) and I'm keen to make the most of all of these opportunities...it's just LOTS of work! Please pray for more team members so we can meet the demand (what a problem to have)!

Lastly, please pray for all the young people we've had the privilege of working with over the last year – pray that they would continue to grow in faith. Please pray for more stories like Charlotte's:

Charlotte is one of the 45,000 pupils who saw the Festival Manchester schools team. When she heard about the gig taking place near her house that Friday, she decided to go along with her friends. As she enjoyed music from OTC, LZ7, SoulBox and Saintz, Charlotte also heard about how Jesus loved her so much that he died on the cross for her, so that she can have hope and a future. Immediately struck by what she'd heard, Charlotte responded to the gospel and has been getting involved in the church youth group and follow-up ever since. Knowing that others need to hear about Jesus, she decided to volunteer at the festival weekend in Wythenshawe Park.

One evening, she went running up to James from OTC, who she'd met in school, and excitedly told him that she'd just told someone about Jesus and got to pray with them as they gave their life to him. From hearing about Jesus in a lesson, Charlotte is now leading others to faith!

Thanks so much, Judith

MERCY RESCUE TRUST NEWS

Hi Everyone, a personal message from Jedidah – The official Newsletter from Mercy Rescue Trust is attached to your email.



As Una and I made it back to Kitale we both felt the temperature difference as soon as we stepped off the plane. We have quickly adjusted though and it is still raining in the afternoons so it's not too bad. Everyone was happy to see us. Sally in particular, who stepped up in my absence, was very happy and relieved to have me back. We managed to go a whole 6 weeks without any complicated cases or medical emergencies which we are all glad about.

I'm sure God had a hand in that because I was only here for 4 days before we had our first emergency together. Baby Dantel (pictured) gave us a real scare going in and out of consciousness as we rushed him to hospital. Thankfully he now seems to have fully recovered.



Yesterday (Tuesday) we rescued a new born and realised she was very cold so we took her to the hospital to be placed in an incubator. Please pray for her. She has been named Emiliana.

Thank you so much for the warm welcome you gave both to Una and I. It truly meant a lot. The generosity and interest I got, not just towards Mercy Rescue, but towards both Una and me was amazing. I felt really loved. Hopefully our next visit won't take as long

God Bless you all.

Jedidah



Educaid - Learning for Life - December, 2022 - Update for Christ Church, Parbold

Special Christmas Greetings from all at EducAid to everyone at Christ Church in Parbold.

Christmas is a very special time and many lessons may be learned from the events surrounding the birth of our Saviour. The rich (Shepherds) coming together to perform the same task in a humble stable. We hope that we can all come together to perform the same task now, and achieve the Peace that passes our understanding for everyone in the world today. We wish you all A Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful, Contented and Healthy 2023.



The Sierra Leone Education Innovation Challenge (SLEIC) officially launched on 1st September. The SLEIC is the world's largest education outcomes funding programme and EducAid is excited to be one of 5 providers working to improve primary school literacy and numeracy outcomes as part of the project. EducAid will work with 65 schools, impacting more than 20,000

students.

With your help EducAid has been able to continue the work in Sierra Leone, including -

- 528 students (48% girls) received free, high quality education at one of EducAid's model schools.
- 100% of pupils at Marina Primary School passed their National Primary School Examination.
- Lumley School was in the top ten schools in Sierra Leone in the West African Senior Secondary Certificate examination results.
- The EducAid Equality Team, together with interested students march with 'Not in My Name' to support Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation in Sierra Leone.
- Eight more students passed EducAid's Degree Course, with Makeni University, in Business Administration and Management.
- Miriam presented at Education Collaborate 2022 at Ashesi University in Ghana and was part of a Curriculum Foundation team training teachers and stakeholders of the new National Curriculum in South Sudan.
- Fifty EducAid Students and recent leavers attended EducAid 'Employability Workshops' held at Maronka with the support of Ashesi University.



On World Teacher Day this year (5 October), EducAid students took over for a day - running assemblies, greeting students at the door, taking attendance and more.

If you would like Miriam, the EducAid Country Director, to visit Christ Church, Parbold during April, 2023, please make contact and let her know.

Further details of the work of EducAid and ways in which you could help are available from Pat Horn - 07941 577 436, or 01257 462008, or patval@sky.com.

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER – CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

Consistently, one of the nation's favourite carols.

In the bleak midwinter
Frosty wind made moan
Earth stood hard as iron
Water like a stone
Snow had fallen
Snow on snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter
Long, long ago

Angels and Arc Angels
May have traveled there
Cherubim and Seraphim
Thronged the air
But only his Mother
In her maiden bliss
Worshiped the beloved
With a kiss

What can I give him?
Poor as I am
If I were a shepherd
I would give a lamb
If I were a wise man
I would do my part
But what I can I give him
Give him my heart
Give him my heart

May the lord bless you and your family this Christmas and please enjoy all our Christmas Services as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you for your support and prayers over this past year.

