

## MINISTER'S LETTER

Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the angel strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And man, at war with man, hears not  
The love-song which they bring.  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing!



From, *'It came upon the midnight clear'*  
by Edmund Hamilton Sears (H&P 108)

Christmas will soon be upon us and it is clear that the world is in just as much need as ever of the hope that this story of a newborn baby brings. Given the current situation in so many places in our world (and as I write terrible stories and pictures are reaching us from Mumbai), a message of light coming into the darkness is surely what is most longed for now. A world all too willing to embrace anger and hatred needs to hear this message of love once again.

Amongst the many carols that we sing at this time of year, *'It came upon a midnight clear'* remains a favourite of mine. It manages to hold within it, I think, a firm sense of the mystery that surrounds the Christmas story and yet at the same time continues to be deeply realistic. Two thousand years on, it seems that we are still in a mess and that the incarnation has made little difference. The message of light is too often hidden and the message of love forgotten.

And yet stories have the power to re-ignite our imaginations and restore

our sense of wonder. And if we listen carefully to *this* story then we might just find pictures to sit alongside those we have of burning buildings, refugees and war; and sounds to challenge those of weeping, screams and gunfire. Pictures of light and life and joy; pictures of searching and unity and self-giving. Sounds of relief and comfort and rest; sounds of surprise and wonder and celebration. Pictures and sounds that would be more than welcome today.

If we listen and see and hear these things, the story will then have spoken again. And maybe, just maybe, we will have caught the sound of the angels' song and will feel able not only to praise God but also to carry a blessing of peace to the people of earth...

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and New Year.

*Paul*

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## **CAROL SINGING**



It's that time of the year that we serenade the commuters of Morden. Once again we will be raising money for the National Children's Home and would welcome as many people to come along and join in the singing of carols at Morden Underground Station. We will be meeting at the Station on Friday 19th and Monday 22nd

December and plan to start singing at 5.00pm and finish about 7.00pm both of these days.

So if you can spare an hour, please come and join us. Or, if you use the station and hear us singing, please put a donation in the bucket!

## BILL COX

It is with regret that we have to announce the death of Bill Cox on Saturday 1st November. He had been very ill over the past few weeks with what was thought to be pneumonia but turned out to be cancer of the lungs. It had also spread to his liver and the end was mercifully quick. He is now reunited in heaven with his beloved wife June. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his children, Christine and Stephen, and their families.

Bill's funeral was on Monday, 10th November, at the NE Surrey Crematorium and later there was a thanksgiving service at Martin Way Methodist Church.

Bill was an active contributor to the Newsletter and supplied the 'Thought of the Month' along with many other articles, so I feel it is only right that we dedicate this Newsletter to him and allow a few people to put their thoughts of him in writing.

*Andrew Fox (Editor)*

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William Henry Cox, better known to us as Bill, was born on 17th February 1927, in Chiswick, a Son for Harry and Elsie Cox. Bill had a younger sister Margery who died aged 5 when Bill was about 7 years old.

Bill enjoyed learning and he went to Latymer Upper School in Hammersmith where he became Head Boy. He went on National Service to Singapore, where he contracted an unidentified infection which affected his ears and later his hearing.

Bill loved reading, he started his working life as an assistant librarian.

But his true vocation was in teaching. So he trained to become a teacher, teaching primary school age children at first. But then he worked with secondary school children as Head of Year and Head of Pastoral care for all boys at London Nautical School in Westminster.

He met and became friends with Ken Pausey and it was whilst he was calling for him one day that Ken's sister June answered the door. It was love at first sight and Bill married June in 1948. They had two children: a son Stephen, and daughter Chris. Sadly June died 11 years ago, a year before their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

It was in 1967 that Bill became a Local Preacher on full Plan, which he continued to do right up until the last few weeks of his life. Bill was also involved greatly in the life and work of the Methodist Church. He was a member at Martin Way and was involved with many groups, one of which being the Supper Club that he founded.

An avid writer, he wrote "A thought of the month" for both Martin Way and Raynes Park churches. His last contribution being in November's magazines, both articles are different! Last year he also wrote small book 'Thought for each Day', copies of which may still be available through Martin Way Church.

When Bill retired, he filled his days with gardening, art classes, even cookery classes! Lately he became involved with an art group and a reading group, both at Morden Library. He loved books, the countryside, badgers, painting, his family and Fulham Football club.

Bill loved people and he saw the good in everybody. Bill has two grandchildren Louisa and William and a great grandson Keaton who is 9 weeks old. He thought the world of them all.

Bill never complained, even though he was often in pain. When we think about Bill we think of a kind, caring, thoughtful, generous and selfless person. Someone who was greatly loved. We will all remember his lovely smile.

*Margaret Adams*

Bill had been a local preacher for over 40 years and I wouldn't mind betting if you asked him how he felt about that, his reply would have been "It's been a 'privilege' and 'blessing' serving the Lord in this way." I'll always remember Bill as being a preacher who seemed never to stop preaching! If he wasn't on the Wimbledon Circuit Plan, then without a doubt he'd have been asked to preach somewhere else and very often that of course would have been because he'd been invited to preach in his beloved Fulham.



As a relatively novice preacher who's still ploughing her way through the Faith & Worship studies, I have found Bill on many occasions to have been quite an inspiration. He always had a sound clear message for his congregation and his services would always contain and cover all those ingredients expected of a Methodist local preacher.

Bill absolutely loved to preach God's message and loved to share God's word. He would never give up the opportunity to lead worship. I remember a few months ago I was unable to take a service at Raynes Park Church and the first person I thought of to help me out was Bill; and of course he did and was delighted to do so. The congregation at Raynes Park loved him dearly and whenever I was planned to preach there, they would always mention Bill and ask after him.

Bill was a very experienced preacher with over 40 years under his belt. Me, well, I've just got 5 years under mine and still wondering and questioning, and yet still learning and progressing. Bill once said this....."We can make progress by using our God given intelligence and never giving up on the desire to 'learn' more." Even in his eighties he still had a hunger and desire to know more - giving no less than 100% in response to his calling and service.

He was a 'man of books'! an avid reader and felt that to be able to read was a 'privilege' that we should thank God for. He was an incredibly learned man and had a great theological knowledge that he was able to identify and relate so well to life experiences of today.

On thinking back over the years and thinking of Bill and some of the things he may of said in a sermon, bible study or just mentioned in conversation, for me, and I use his own phrase 'it was a privilege' to have listened, shared and learnt from him.

Well, we all have our own cherished memories of Bill, but I will always remember him, particularly in his latter years, sitting at the front of the church on one of these 'throne chairs' , a little table by his side, his bible firmly held in his hands.

A true man of God; preacher first and last, God's word his life's work. So many have been blessed to hear God's word through him; and over so many years; so many have come to know the Lord more deeply through his message.

Thank you Bill for all you have taught us, all you have shared with us and for the love you gave to us all. God Bless you.

*Brenda Cannon*

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Where does one start with such a good friend.

We will go down Memory Lane to 1983, when having just moved to Merton Park, Bill and June Cox found their way to this Church, Martin Way Methodist. Bill, the quiet, happy, smiling man, and June taking control and introducing themselves around.



It was quiet beginnings for them until it was known that Bill was a local preacher and June an organist/pianist who loudly made the keyboard rattle! Over a period of time they became well known in the Circuit Services on Sundays, then Bill giving his Biblical Talks plus many other subjects which he shared with Fellowships not only in this area but generally in Merton, Fulham and Epsom, his school teacher's experience holding captive audiences.

Around 1986/7 he and June had a very successful house group that met in their front room. Often at festival times this group became Party Time with lovely eats and Bill's party games, especially Bill's selection of word games and puzzles, with all the ladies receiving a small potted plant, often grown by himself.

1987 became a special year, at his Monthly House Group the speaker was the late Rev Ian Barnett. When finished, Ian mentioned that he also took parties touring the Holy Land, and that he was going again in March 1988. Well, within a week 13 of us were booked including June and Bill. I really think this led us all to a more nearness to Bill because with Ian Barnett he shared in the Bible Readings and daily discussions during that wonderful experience in the Land of the Holy One.

On that trip we learnt of a new Charity called Bible Lands and all of us came home knowing that the Jerusalem School for Blind Children needed our financial help besides sponsoring individual children. Bill quickly helped organise 3 sales at this Church involving 5 other local churches, so that the Charity benefited greatly.

Over the years he was instrumental in organising two Church Fetes a year, always aiming for greatest results. His local preaching or speaking was in great demand and with the passing away of dear friends or retirements June happily thumped away on organ or piano.

Another one of their great events was a Church Pantomime. Bill being Fairy Grumpy and June Fairy Whatever! Between their antics on stage, not knowing the words, adlibbing and reading the words from behind the Magic Wand, they were sure to bring the house down.

Around 1993 the idea of a Men's Supper Club was talked about and I believe at our first meeting Bill most probably said he'd be our leader; others would cook, whilst others tidy up afterwards. Well, Bill not only found speakers, he cooked, opened and closed each meeting, which he did for every meeting except for three: the last two and one previously because of illness. We started with about 15 members and eventually had 32 names on the books; it worked and every month Bill was in charge. Many of us today really relate to the Supper Club and over the years, with Bill's leadership we've assisted in very many worthwhile charities, including Bible Lands, Wheelchairs for Africa, Tadworth Children's Hospital, St Raphael's Hospice plus many others. In the last five years we have raise over £6,000 and over the 15 years our Charitable giving exceeds £12,000. It was mainly due to Bill's determined way of collecting these monies that we were able to benefit those less fortunate.

In 1997 his dear June died and, as you can imagine, he was devastated. But he soon returned to his preaching and speaking engagements. In most of his engagements his dear June was mentioned, such as when looking at the organ he would say she should be sitting there playing.

Bill lifted himself up to a busier life, becoming involved with Wimbledon Guild as speaker and leader. He was already involved in his art classes, poetry society and very many speaking engagements.

I've only touched on a few of the good things Bill has done in his amazing life. He will be greatly missed as he has brought a great many things to our attention over the years. I can't remember him criticising anyone and he nearly always had that fantastic smile.

Thank you Bill for allowing so many folk to be a part of your life.

*Derek Heaton*

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I am so proud and fortunate to be the daughter of Bill Cox. I really don't need to list his attributes because everybody who knew him knows just what they were. He was the sweetest, kindest, most selfless



person that you could ever meet. He delighted in people, he thought everybody he came into contact with was just lovely. He never had a bad word to say about anyone. He was almost child-like in his trust of people and there have been just a couple of occasions when that trust proved to be misplaced. It was with a very heavy heart that I had to explain that they were not quite what they seemed but even then he tried to explain their actions away and was able to forgive them like the true Christian he was.

I've been racking my brains trying to think of a negative thing to say about my Dad and the only thing I can come up with was that he could be stubborn. This was clearly demonstrated in the last few weeks of his life when he was planned to preach in Martin Way. It was thought then that he was suffering from pneumonia but he didn't want to let anyone down. "I'll be ok" – he said in his usual fashion and I knew it was pointless trying to talk him out of it. So he promised to wrap up well and off he zoomed in his mobility scooter so that nobody would feel let down. He always, always considered other people before himself.

Despite his terrible disability, he never complained. He was always in pain but he never let it show. I would nag him to take more painkillers but he would just say that he was ok, he didn't want to get addicted. He was such a brave, brave man.

Our family have had so many lovely cards and letters. So many mentioned how they would miss his smile .... That great big smile that lit up his whole face. But there was one line in one of these that summed up my Dad perfectly. It said: " You can be justly proud that your dad lived until he died".

*Chris Ledger*

## **To those I love and those who love me**

When I have gone release me, let me go.  
I have so many things to see and do.  
You must not tie yourself to me in your tears;  
Be happy that we had so many years.

I gave you my love; you can only guess  
how much you gave to me in happiness.  
I thank you for the love each have shown,  
but now it is time I travelled on alone.

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must.  
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.  
It's only for a while we must part,  
so bless me with memories within your hearts.

I won't be far away, for life goes on;  
So if you need me call and I will come.  
Though you cannot see or touch,  
I'll be near if you listen  
within your heart you'll hear  
all my love around you soft and clear.

And then when you must come this way,  
I'll greet you with a smile and a  
"Welcome Home!"

SIGMA presents ...

# Oh no, NOT THE Nativity!



## **Martin Way Methodist Church**

**Buckleigh Avenue, Merton Park, SW20 9JZ**

**Sunday 14th December 2008 at 8pm**

**Retiring collection in aid of "Action For Children"  
(formerly NCH - National Children's Home)**

## **POLISH CHRISTMAS**

“Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia!” That is the way to say "Merry Christmas" in Polish. Among Poles, wherever they are, the most beloved and beautiful of all traditional festivities is that of Christmas Eve.

Beautifully lit Christmas trees are placed in all public arenas, outside churches and in homes. Traditionally the trees are decorated with shiny glass balls, walnuts, beautifully wrapped chocolate shapes and many other decorations and lights. On the top of the tree is a star or a glittering top piece. In many homes, sparklers are hung on the branches of the trees giving it a magical air. Sometimes the trees are left standing until February 2, the feast day of St. Mary of the Candle of Lightning.

Poles prepare the traditional foods and everyone anxiously awaits the moment when the first star, known as the Gwiazdka, appears in the eastern sky on 24th December. It is then that the Wigilia, or Christmas Eve Dinner is served. According to tradition, bits of hay should be spread beneath the tablecloth as a reminder that Christ was born in the manger. Before sitting down at the table, everyone breaks the traditional wafer, or Oplątek and exchanges good wishes for health, wealth and happiness in the New Year. The Oplątek is a thin, unleavened wafer similar to the altar bread in the Roman Catholic Church. It is stamped with the figures of Jesus, Mary and angels. The wafer is also known as the bread of love and is often sent by mail to the absent members of the family.



The dinner should consist of 12 dishes – symbolising the 12 apostles. According to myth, in no case must there be an odd number of people at the table, otherwise it is said that some of the feasters would not live to see another Christmas. A lighted candle in the windows symbolizes the hope that the Godchild, in the form of a stranger, may come to share the Wigilia and an extra place is set at the table for the unexpected guest. This belief stems from the ancient Polish adage, "A guest in the home is God in the home."

The Wigilia is a meatless meal, and a traditional menu would include mushroom or beetroot soup, boiled potatoes, herring, carp, dumplings

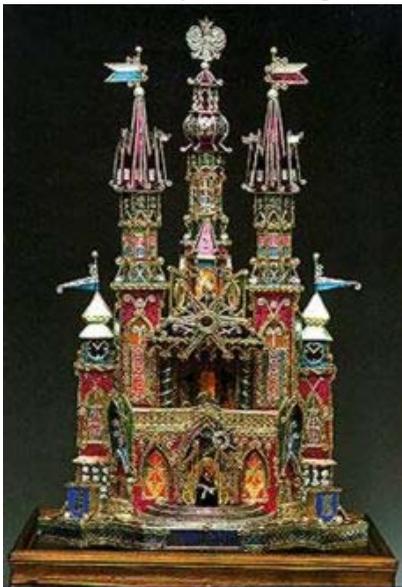
(pierogi), beans and sauerkraut, a dried fruit compote (a traditional light refreshing drink known since Ottoman times. It is often made from raisins, prunes, apricots and spices boiled in water with sugar and left to cool and infuse), nuts, poppy seed cake or gingerbread (pierniki). The gingerbread is made in a great variety of shapes, including hearts, Christmas trees, stars, animals and St. Nicholas figures.



After the meal the members of the family sing Polish Christmas Carols (kolędy) while the children wait impatiently around the Christmas tree (choinka) for the gifts to be exchanged.

Polish Christmas Carols are numerous and beautiful, especially when sung in Polish parishes at the Christmas Eve Mass. This Mass is called the Pasterka, which means the Shepherds Watch, and there is popular belief in Poland that while the congregation is praying, peace descends on the snow-clad, sleeping earth and that during that holy night, the humble companions of men - the domestic animals - assume voices. But only the innocent of heart may hear them.

Christmas Day itself is spent in rest, and visits to various members of the family. In Poland, from Christmas Day



until the twelfth night, boys trudge from village to village with an illuminated star and a ranting King Herod among them to sing carols. In some districts, the boys carry models called szopka. These are built like a little house with two towers, open in the front where a small crib is set and are elaborate form of the Nativity scene. This tradition started back in the 13th century in Krakow, but after Poland regained independence in 1918, szopka started to be made and sold as souvenirs of Krakow. The city's municipal authorities decided to support this tradition by announcing the first

competition in December 1937. Since then, with the exception of the war years, a szopka presentation and tournament takes place on first Thursday of each December, at the Main Market Square, Krakow. The Krakowian szopki sometimes reach six feet in height. Their construction is based on elements of Krakow's historic architecture including Gothic spires, Renaissance facades and Baroquian-topped domes. The best szopki are displayed in the Historical Museum of Krakow.

On the feast of the Epiphany, the priest and the organist visit the homes, bless them and write over their doors the initials of the three wise men - KMB (Kasper, Melchior and Balthazar) - in the belief that this will spare the homes from misfortune.

The Christmas season closes on February 2, known as Candlemas Day. On that day, people carry candles to church and have them blessed, ready for use in their homes during sickness or death of family members.

Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia i Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku!

*Adriana Surowiec*

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## **THE METHODIST WIMBLEDON CIRCUIT RAFIKI TRUST**

“KENYA – Jambo Sana Project”

**Biannual  
working trip  
12- 24 August 2009**

As has become our tradition every 2 years, a group from the Wimbledon Circuit will be going to Kenya for two weeks to continue our mutual links.



### ***The Aims of the Trip***

1. To enhance the existing partnership for mission between the Wimbledon Circuit and Kenya.
2. To create new friendships and links between our respective communities.
3. To expose our people to a part of the global Methodist family.
4. To bring back eye-witness accounts of needs for continued support of projects.

### ***What does the project involve?***

The second trip helped build a one-storey multi-purpose semi-permanent building which houses the feeding Centre for the poor school going children. The villagers also use it as the hub for teaching the adolescents and young parents various trades such as tailoring carpentry and computers to help them gain meaningful formal or self-employment. The jobseekers and school dropouts under the name, Kings and Queens, use Jambo Sana centre for their games, entertainment and a hybrid of performance arts.

Our contribution there will be:-

1. To fellowship with the Jambo Sana community by visiting their homes and participating in their day to-day activities.
2. To assist with the landscaping and painting of the building
3. To assist with children's work in the centre – reading, painting, cooking, teaching, helping with the nearby dispensary – the opportunities are almost limitless.

The present thinking is that the trip will consist of a week's work in the magina village followed by a week's holiday in Mombasa.

Accommodation will be at the Jambo Sana centre (including a night or two in the homes of the villagers) and then at a beach hotel in Mombasa.

### ***Who is going?***

A group from the Circuit - We already had our first meeting last

Sunday. Our next one is on 4<sup>th</sup> January at Wimbledon Methodist church 3pm. There are a couple of vacancies left on a first come first get basis. It would really be helpful if you can let me know by 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2008 if you are going so that we can start thinking about air tickets in good time. The tickets are between £500- 600 if paid by the first week of January.

***What will it cost?***

£1300, that is, flight, organizational costs, food, local transport and accommodation while in Kenya. One has to take care of jabs & tablets + spending money. (Most probably we can reduce this slightly if we pay air tickets in good time and book as a group)

**For further details, contact...**

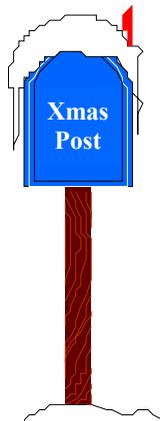
Rev Faith Nyota (jfnyota@btinternet.com) tel: 020 8946 3181 or  
Valerie Ashcroft (Valerie.ashcroft@yahoo.co.uk) tel: 020 8715 3938.

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## **CHRISTMAS POST BOX AND CARDS**

As it has been our tradition over the years, we will again place our Christmas post box. It will be outside the vestry from Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December to Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December for those wishing to send cards to members of the church family. Donations in lieu of postage (remembering that it would cost 27p to post a card through the Post Office system) will, as usual, go to Methodist Homes for the Aged. When addressing the envelopes, it is asked that surnames are included please.

Those preferring to send a single card to the whole church family may post them in the post box and they will be displayed in the vestibule.



The cards will be available for collection on  
**Sunday 21st December.**

## **BOOK REVIEW from RE:FRESH BOOKS**



### *Do nothing to change your life*

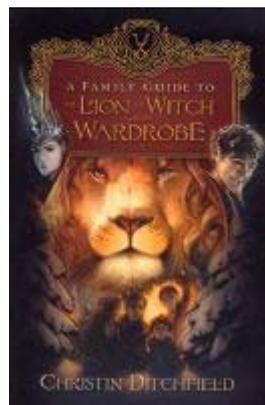
by Stephen Cottrell (Bishop of Reading) £6.99

The quote on the front cover affirms that this book is “A joyous affirmation of life for anyone feeling exhausted, bitter or dismayed by the pace of modern life”. The author encourages his readers to take a step back from the busyness of everyday life in order to take time to become more aware of the inner self and the places where their lives and God’s life might touch. By doing nothing, a person’s experience of life can be changed. This small book (89 pages) is grounded in Stephen Cottrell's reflections on experiences in his everyday life and is readily accessible to anyone wanting to “start an adventure of self-discovery, play and renewed creativity....and.....catch a glimpse of God.”

### *A Family Guide to The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*

by Christin Ditchfield - £5.99

A chapter-by-chapter look at *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, highlighting Biblical parallels and principles with questions for reflection or discussion and scripture references. The book also includes an introduction to CS Lewis – his life, faith and the inspiration for the Chronicles of Narnia – suggested activities, crafts and projects inspired by *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, a list of important characters and a map of Narnia.



*These books are available from Re:fresh Books & Christian Resources,  
23 The Broadway, Tolworth, Surbiton KT6 7DJ*

**MARTIN WAY TOY SERVICE  
7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2008**

**CHRISTIAN CARE ASSOCIATION**



We would like presents – new or as good as new – to give to the boys and girls aged between 1 month and 11 years who attend the Christian Care Association New Year Party on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

**For babies and toddlers** – rattles, bath toys, pull-along toys, puzzles, anything from Thomas the Tank Engine/Bob the Builder ranges, phones, baby dolls, building blocks.

**Cars, trucks, trains, Lego, games** – appropriate for different ages  
{*Note: We cannot give toys and games with expensive batteries which have to be replaced. We cannot use jigsaws and games with small pieces that are easily lost*}

**Dolls, anything from Action Man, Spider Man and Superman**  
{*Note: We do not require soft toys*}

**Outdoor Games** - footballs, skittles etc.

**Stationery** – crayons, gel pens, pencils, pencil cases, drawing books, photo album, disposable camera.

**Books** – fun activity and story books for all ages, but appropriate for children where English is not their first language  
{*Note: Not dictionaries, encyclopaedias*}

**Clothes etc** – hats, scarves, gloves, pretty tights, backpacks, bags.

## CHURCH BULLETINS

They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins!

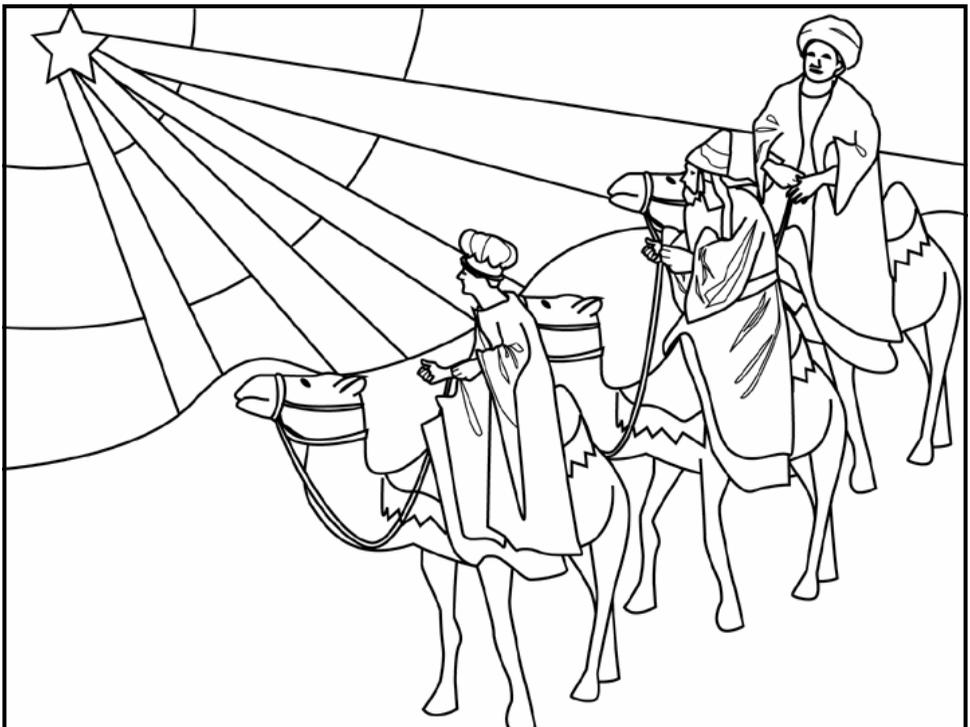
These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

- Thursday night - Potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- *This afternoon there will be a meeting in the South and North ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.*
- Tuesday at 4:00 pm there will be an ice cream social. All ladies giving milk will please come early.
- *Wednesday the ladies liturgy will meet. Mrs. Johnson will sing "Put me in my little bed accompanied by the pastor."*
- Thursday at 5:00 pm there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All ladies wishing to be "Little Mothers" will meet with the Pastor in his study.
- *This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.*
- Next Sunday a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and do so.
- *The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They can be seen in the church basement Saturday.*
- The pastor will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, "Break Forth Into Joy."
- *A songfest was held at the Methodist church Wednesday.*
- The eighth graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7p.m. The Congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- *Our next song is "Angels We Have Heard Get High."*
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- *The senior choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join them.*

- Ushers will eat latecomers.
- *The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment.*
- The Rev. Merriweather spoke briefly, much to the delight of the audience.
- *During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.*
- Next Sunday Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on "It's a Terrible Experience."
- *Pastor is on vacation. Massages can be given to church secretary.*

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## CHRISTMAS COLOURING TIME I



## CHRISTMAS COLOURING TIME 2



# CHURCH DIARY



Tue	2	10-12noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Weds	3	7.45 pm	Midways Group - <i>Merton Libraries</i> - Andrew Fox
Sun	7	10.30 am	All Age Worship led by Rev Paul Timmis
		6.30 pm	Evening Service led by David Eagle
Tue	9	10-12noon	Coffee and Chat
		7.30pm	Men's Supper Club - <i>Christmas Meal</i>
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
		8.00 pm	Preacher's Meeting at Worcester Park
Fri	12	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club - <i>Christmas Meal</i>
Sun	14	10.30 am	Communion Service led by Rev Margaret Adams
		8.00pm	SIGMA presents "Oh no, not the Nativity" - A Special Christmas production
Tue	16	10-12 noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Weds	17	7.45 pm	Midways Group - <i>Christmas Meal</i>
Fri	19	5.00pm	Carol Singing for NCH at Morden Station
Sun	21	10.30am	Nativity Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
		5.00pm	Carols by Candlelight led by Valerie Ashcroft
Mon	22	5.00pm	Carol Singing for NCH at Morden Station
Weds	24	5.00pm	Christingle Service
		11.30pm	Midnight Communion at Martin Way
Thurs	25	10.30am	Christmas Day Service
Sun	28	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Valerie Ashcroft

Tue 30 10-12noon Coffee and Chat  
8.00 pm Time for Prayer

## **CHURCH DIARY**



Sun 4 10.30 am All Age Worship led by Greg Van Vuuren  
6.30 pm Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis

Tue 6 10-12noon Coffee and Chat  
8.00 pm Time for Prayer

Weds 7 7.00 pm Midways Group - *Billie Holiday* - Mike Mortley

Fri 9 12.30 pm Luncheon Club

Sun 11 10.30am Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis  
6.30 pm Young People Service led by David Somers

Tue 13 10-12noon Coffee and Chat  
8.00 pm Time for Prayer

Sun 18 10.30am Praise Service led by Rev Paul Timmis

Tue 20 10-12noon Coffee and Chat  
8.00 pm Time for Prayer

Weds 21 7.00 pm Midways Group - *Quiz Night* - Janet Laker

Fri 23 12.30 pm Luncheon Club

Sun 25 10.30am Morning Service led by Joanna Puslecka  
4.00 - 7.00pm Circuit Workshop and Service at Ruxley

Tue 27 10-12noon Coffee and Chat  
7.00 pm Circuit Meeting at Ruxley  
8.00 pm Time for Prayer

*Please refer to the Website ([www.martinway.org.uk](http://www.martinway.org.uk)) or Weekly Notice Sheet for any additional information*

We wish all of those who celebrate a birthday  
in either December or January a very



*Happy Birthday*

and especially to:

**Natalie Johnson on 2nd December**

**Zandile Sepanya on 16th December**

**Kutloano Sepanya on 19th December**

**Floyd Sepanya on 24th December**

**Christopher Sweby on 23rd January**

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**Lean, Slope, Slant - INCLINE**

**One \_\_\_\_ of Bread - LOAF**

**Conquer - DEFEAT**

**Not Deep - SHALLOW**

**Young Lion or Bear - WHELP**

**Second son of Jacob - SIMEON**

**PUZZLE  
CORNER  
ANSWERS**

Solution to the  
Double Puzzle from  
last month's Newsletter

Taking the correct letters from these  
words would then give you this verse from the Bible

**Follow peace with all men and holiness (Heb.12:14)**

Items for the **February Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox,  
(email: roife@hotmail.co.uk) by **Sunday 18th January** at the latest