

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

MINISTER: Rev. Peter Hughes peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk
0151 364 0134

Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

NEWSLETTER – 22nd November 2020



Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Sunday before Advent

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that they, bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are all well. Today is "stir up Sunday". This is the Sunday before Advent when we are supposed to give our Christmas cakes and puddings a final stir so that they will be at their best for the big day. Or, in my case, to pop over to Aldi and buy them!

Those of us with friends or family in America will be aware that this Thursday is Thanksgiving - an opportunity to enjoy turkey even before Christmas itself!

The special prayer (Collect) for today starts with the words "Stir up" and continues with a reference to fruit! But it also reminds us that this time of year is not just about physical food. Advent is a time to be fed spiritually, and I hope it will be a time of blessing for you.

Here's the prayer to get us ready:

"Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that they. Bringing forth the fruit of good works may, by you be richly rewarded, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen."

God Bless, Peter.

HYMNS FOR FACEBOOK

For those who don't use social media, since our church closed and lockdown began I have been posting a worship song a day on our church Facebook page for people to start their morning to, listen during the day or taking a moment to reflect.

This has been extremely successful but I'm running out of hymns and worship songs so if you have any suggestions at all please send me them via email amybates93@aol.co.uk or text 07951977709 - all suggestions welcome.

And for Christmas I will be doing an advent calendar countdown of people's favourite Christmas carols... please send me your favourite as soon as possible as I need 25 and the most popular will make the advent countdown! Amy

MAG Group - Christmas Wishes 2020

Christmas!! Yes, I know I'm starting early but I know how organised many of you are!! Since I last wrote my Christmas Cakes are now baked and wrapped in foil maturing nicely for Christmas. Over a number of years at St James' we have had a "Christmas Wish Tree" in church where, instead of exchanging individual cards with all your church friends, instead we have invited you to write a Christmas message, hang it on the tree, and, if you wish, make a donation to give to the charity we had chosen.

Sadly, this year, due to our current circumstances, this will not be possible. However, we have come up with a plan for our church family to share Christmas messages with each other and we need your help. We are hoping to create a St James Family Christmas Card / booklet which will include everybody's greetings. We will then print copies of the card / booklet and distribute a copy to everyone. We feel that this will be a small way of connecting all our Church family members together at a time when we would normally be sharing and enjoying so many Christmas services and events together but will not be able to do so this year.

If you would like to have your greeting included, and you can send a photo too **if you wish**, you can either

- email me at pambellis@hotmail.com or
- you can write to me at 3 Park Cottages, Kinseys Lane, Ince, CH2 4NS. Please write your name clearly so that I know who the wishes are from,
- or you might like to give me a ring instead on 0151 356 7510 and just tell me your message

Also, **if you wish** to make a Christmas donation with your wish, (but this is not required) then this can be done

- by Bank Transfer (Ref. CHRISTMAS WISH) as you would your weekly collection OR
- by post – a cheque payable to St James Church (please write CHRISTMAS WISH on the back) - to (the Treasurer) Mr S Elliott, c/o St James Church, Church Road South, Liverpool, L25 7RJ

The most **important thing** is not the photos or the donations, but **YOUR Christmas wishes** to be shared with **YOUR** St James' Family, so get wishing everyone!! Many thanks.

Calling All St James' Heart Makers!



Firstly, can I say a HUGE THANK YOU! To everyone who has been knitting, sewing or crocheting hearts for this year's MAG Group Christmas activities.

If you have any finished hearts that are ready for collection you can:

- Leave them in Roy and Lynne's porch – 88 Vale Road, Woolton, L25 7RN
- email me to arrange for them to be collected pambellis@hotmail.com
- ring me to arrange for them to be collected 0151 356 7510 or 07811 406016

Many thanks, Pam Bellis.

FELLOWSHIP (BIBLE STUDY) GROUP

Dear All. Thank you to everyone who responded to the enquiry about meeting on Zoom for a Fellowship Group. From the answers I thought it would be worth trying two meetings with an Advent theme on Mondays 30th November & 14th December. They will run from 8.15pm for about an hour. The late start time is to include everyone who responded, some have family duties which prevent an earlier start. I know that Advent is a busy time, but probably not as busy this year as many of the activities we would normally doing won't be taking place. EVERYONE is welcome to join us, whether you answered the original e mail or not.

If anyone is not sure about Zoom, you could ask a family member who is in your bubble to help you. Also, Graham Martin has offered to help people over the phone.

If you would like to join us please let me know and I will let you have Zoom details nearer the time. Depending on how things go we may continue with a group in the New Year.

Best wishes, Peter.

Telephone Worship – Sunday 22nd November 2.30p.m.

Dial In Instructions: Between 2.20pm and 2.30pm on Sunday:

From your normal “landline” telephone: **Dial: 0333-006-7775**

On being asked, enter the following number, or “Pin”: **08 39 09 01**

[Please note this is a new telephone number and pin]

You will be invited to say your name and will then be admitted to the Worship Session.

Order of Worship:

- Welcome and opening prayer (Host – Graham)
- Bible reading (Irene Elliott) Revelations Chapter 1 Verse 4 to 8.
- Lord’s Prayer (Host)
- Talk or “mini-sermon” (Rev Peter Hughes)
- Prayers (Dave Dickson)
- Grace and dismissal. (Host)

Many thanks, and God Bless

Graham Martin

[Call me on 0151-222-5832 or 07712-525239 if you have any questions]

Online worship, as set out below

Our Methodist Circuit: – Sermon by Rev Paul Wilson

You can dial in and listen to the service by calling 0151 317 9192 [Call charges apply]

Or watch by clicking: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrmGqAipfSRgi767l2srwrQ>

(Or copy and paste into your internet browser)

You can also now watch a **live service** from **Methodist Central Hall**, Westminster: Sundays 11am

This service is **streamed live at** <https://mchw.live/> (Along with a huge amount of other worship material)

Or you can still watch on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MCHWevents>

AND FOR YOUNGER PEOPLE...Tash and Andrew, our Children's & Youth Workers have launched a new children & youth ministry YouTube channel this Sunday called 'The Way'.

Here is the link: please share and subscribe!!!! (They are brilliant!)

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCryJZotipDp-j_bxONkxiXA

CIRCUIT NATIVITY SERVICE

We come with good news, great news! We shall be having our first all age family Zoom service on Sunday 6th December 10:30am! Oh no we are not... oh yes, we are!! This service will be our Circuit nativity service and we need the help of your young people to make this extra special!

Do you have any young people who would like to take on a part of a narrator?

Do a reading? Say our prayers?

This will not be pre-recorded but spoken live on Zoom with a fun script sent out weeks in advance. And there will be lots for the adults to do as well on the day, you are not getting out of dressing up that easily!! Please can you let Natasia know by Friday 20th November the names and how best to communicate with their parents!

God bless and many thanks! Natasia

NEWS

Reminder that There will be a "12 noon, After Worship Coffee Chat" on Zoom this Sunday (tea drinkers also welcome!)

Jayne McLaren is hosting, and joining details are:

By computer or tablet... Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81823449612?pwd=UHK5ZlhxYmVab3dxc1VlakNrYlJWUT09>

or use following via the Zoom "App":

Meeting ID: 818 2344 9612

Passcode: 828715

AVRIL COCHRANE

Avril's funeral will be at 9 am this Wednesday, 25th November at Springwood.

Please keep her family and friends in your thoughts at this sad time.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, remember, count not the candles...see the lights they give. Count not the years, but the life you live. Wishing you a wonderful time ahead. Happy belated 92nd birthday to Ron Swindells for last week. Ron would like to thank all those who sent cards, birthday wishes and greetings.

Everyone at St. James' wishes you a happy birthday and enjoy your day.

BIBLE READING

Revelation 1 New International Version

Greetings and Doxology

4 John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits[a] before his throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the Earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

ST. JAMES' RAILINGS

Today's picture from our Church Railings reminds us of times and seasons. All these are a gift of God. We are about to pass from the season of Autumn into winter – depending on how you define it! We are also coming to the end of the Church Liturgical Year. Christ the King Sunday (today) represents the climax of the story life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. We lift our eyes to Jesus, enthroned in heaven.

Next Sunday - Advent Sunday - we begin the story again as we remember the preparations for Jesus being born as a baby, as well as being challenged to be ready for his coming as King.

You may notice that with the change of the Liturgical year our Sunday Gospel readings will change from Matthew to Mark. For the really keen, this means we will be starting Year B of the Lectionary. We are enduring a difficult "season" of life at present, caused by Covid 19.

The words from the railings (taken from the Bible book of Ecclesiastes) remind us that all seasons come and go. Even though Covid 19 seems to be a long season, it will eventually pass.

In the meantime, we can be assured that Jesus Christ is King, he will ultimately have the last word.



CHURCH BLOOPERS PART 2

Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind.

They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church.

Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM.

All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM . Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM . The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

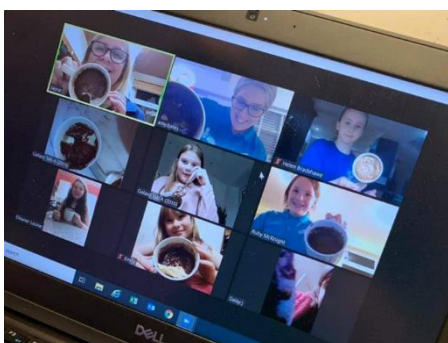
Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours."

GIRLS' BRIGADE

Girls Brigade have been meeting as usual since March but only on zoom, what did we do before technology!!

We have had lots of fun sessions including bingo, word games, crafts, chatting and show and tell but the favourite for everyone i think is when we make microwave cakes in a mug!! Very scrummy. We are looking forward to finishing this year making cards, advents and sharing Christingle. We feel blessed to have found other ways to still share in our GB mission, we always end with our prayer.



GB Prayer

**I am your little lamb Lord,
I follow where you lead,
I know you will take care
of us
And give us all we need.
Amen**



CHRISTMAS GIFTS NOTICE

Our Christmas Gift Service will be one of many 'special' services which we have been unable to hold this year and all of these services for worship have been very much missed. However, the love and generosity of our members and friends when asked for help has, as ever, been truly amazing and received with so much gratitude by those receiving the help and support through financial gifts.

The Harvest food donations were taken to Garston Food Bank and Food vouchers were purchased and given to Centre 56 and to the two Women's and Children's centres which we support.

We hope to be able to support this Christmas: Centre 56 – a day nursery and after school club for children living in poverty and who are living with or fleeing domestic abuse, two Refuge accommodation centres who support mothers and children fleeing from domestic violence and abuse, and the Action for Children centre at Ellergreen Community Centre, L11.

This year we will not be collecting or delivering toys or gifts but would ask you to consider making a donation in lieu, BEFORE THE 11TH DECEMBER, so that staff at these centres can buy the gifts according to the children they are looking after at this time and also supply gifts for the children to give to their mums. The staff know the circumstances of each child and family and therefore can purchase appropriate gifts in time for Christmas giving.

It may not be possible for everyone to include another family in their virtual Christmas shopping, but if you can, please send gift donations in one of the ways that is now becoming familiar i.e.

- by Bank Transfer (Ref. GIFT SERVICE) as you would your weekly collection – i.e.
- (HSBC - Sort Code 40-29-39 Account 11060856 St James Methodist /United Reform Church).
- OR by post – a cheque payable to St James Church (please write GIFT SERVICE on the back) – to (the Treasurer) Mr S Elliott, c/o St James Church, Church Road South, Liverpool, L25 7RJ
- OR leave an envelope with The Barkers at 88 Vale Road,
- OR ring Wendy on 07867 795179 to arrange a Covid-safe pick-up

Many thanks to you all for everything you do to help St James to support our community family.

Also Coming soon - Children's Christmas (Nativity) Service 10.30am Sunday 6th December, live on Zoom - Book date now, details to follow.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

S	H	A	R	P		G	I	L	G	A	L
H		S		H		U		I		G	
R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N
O		Y		Y		S		T			E
U	P	R	I	G	H	T		L	A	S	T
D		I		I		S	E	E	S		
		A	R	A	B		T		S		E
C	A	N	A			E	Z	E	K	I	E
U			V		A		R		S		I
P	O	M	E	G	R	A	N	A	T	E	S
	I		N		D		A		E		H
C	L	O	S	E	S		L	Y	D	I	A

Across: 1 Sharp, 4 Gilgal, 7 Resurrection, 9 Upright, 10 Last, 12 Sees, 14 Arab, 18 Cana, 19 Ezekiel, 20 Pomegranates, 22 Closes, 23 Lydia.

Down: 1 Shroud, 2 Assyrian, 3 Phrygia, 4 Guests, 5 Little, 6 Ago, 8 Net, 11 Assisted, 13 Eternal, 15 Ravens, 16 Beards, 17 Elisha, 18 Cup, 21 Oil.

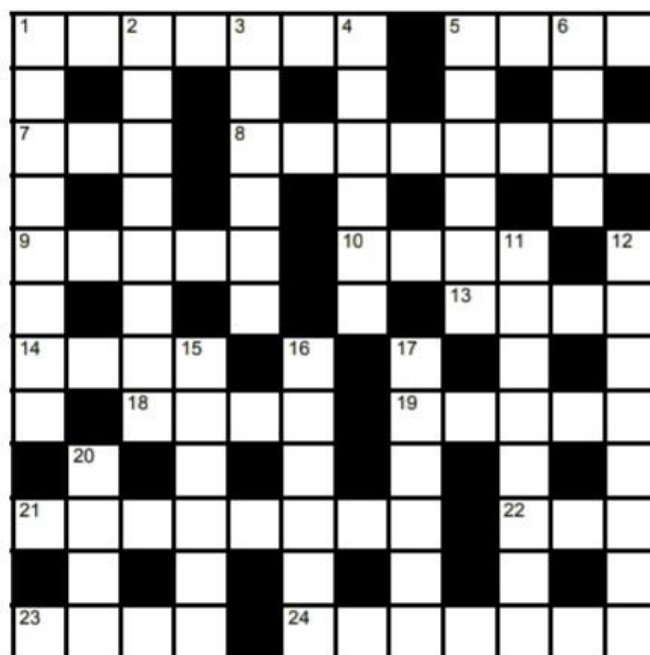
THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Cleansing ritual (7)
- 5 Fair (4)
- 7 Listening device (3)
- 8 Taken into custody (8)
- 9 Deal (5)
- 10 Leader (4)
- 13 Locks (4)
- 14 Left-handed (4)
- 18 Naomi's bitter name (4)
- 19 Provided by the sun (5)
- 21 Seller (8)
- 22 Commandment count (3)
- 23 Happy (4)
- 24 Bears (7)

Down

- 1 Lived (8)
- 2 One of the seven churches (8)
- 3 Visions (6)
- 4 Bethany resident (6)
- 5 Idolatry abolisher (6)
- 6 Offspring (4)
- 11 Keziah, to Job (8)
- 12 Collected works of an author (8)
- 15 Moved to the music (6)
- 16 Royal home (6)
- 17 Joyful (6)
- 20 Drawing place (4)



by Philologus

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PRAYERS NEEDED

Doreen Parker who's had a fall at home last Tuesday and has broken her arm and a bone in her face. At the moment she's staying with her daughter Ann for a few days.

Doreen and Alex Banks, Alex had a fall and He has cut is head rather badly. Hospital are reviewing his medications so he will be kept in hospital for a few days. Sadly, Doreen can't go in but hospital is keeping her well informed.

Avril Cochraine's family and friend as they grieve and celebrate her life at her funeral on Wednesday.

Everyone having or waiting for treatment and appointments and those struggling at this time.

We also pray for all those in need at this time, especially those who are dealing with COVID-19.

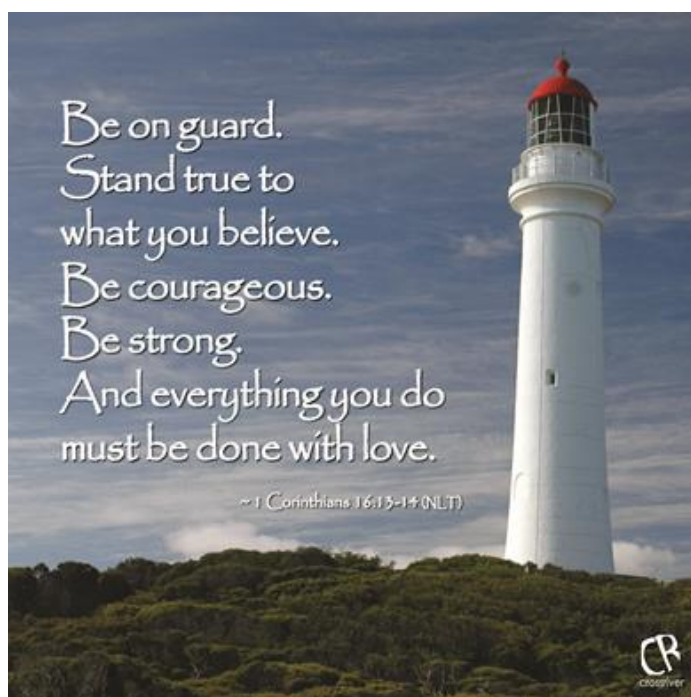
Most gracious and loving Father, I want to thank You for all the blessings You've given me, my family and friends and all those I hold dear.

Thank You Lord for giving me another day to see the beauty of your creations.
You know the state of crisis that I am in now Lord.

I want to be of use again to You, Lord. In the time of my hospitalization, You Lord remain as my rock and my anchor.

You stand as my lighthouse giving me hope.
I pray Lord that you will heal me soon.

In Jesus name, Amen.





CHRISTMAS PJ APPEAL WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Merseyside Junior Mentoring Project believe that every child should go to bed on Christmas Eve in cosy **new** Pyjamas.

With your help and generosity we are hoping to reach as many families as possible.

We would love for donations of Brand New Pyjamas, Slippers & Dressing Gowns with sizes ranging between Newborn to Adults.

If you would prefer to give a donation to help with this appeal, please use the contact details below.

DROP OFF POINT: Ellergreen Community Centre, L11 2RY

COLLECTION AVAILABLE

Please donate on or before Friday 11th December 2020, all donations are greatly appreciated!

For more information:

Email: Renee.obrien@actionforchildren.org.uk

Eleanor.hacking@actionforchildren.org.uk





**STRAWBERRY
FIELD**

An Hour of Hygge

Friday, 8pm-9pm via Zoom

Join us for a women's hour of 'hygge' on Zoom. 'Hygge' is a Danish word, pronounced "hoo-ga". It's a lovely word which translates into English as 'cosiness'. Hygge is about creating a warm atmosphere and enjoying the simple things in life.

Join us for an evening of Hygge each Friday between 8pm-9pm on Zoom. Light some candles, get a cuppa and get yourself comfy. We will share conversations, stories, and the simple things in life; even though we cannot meet in person.

Zoom details: **840 2465 3338** Passcode: **656366**

The Salvation Army is a Church and registered Charity in England (214779), Wales (214779), Scotland (SC009359) and the Republic of Ireland (CHY6399)



NEWSLETTER NOTICES FOR NEXT WEEK



If you would like to share anything during lockdown with your Church family in this newsletter including any birthdays, celebrations or anyone to include in our prayers, please let me know.

Please send any messages to Jayne McLaren at
jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk