

SHRIVENHAM METHODIST CHURCH SUNDAY 13th December 2015

Welcome to our Church

Our Website: www.shrivenhammethodistchurch.co.uk

Our Vision: "To be an active part of the body of God, and to spread the Good News of Christ by word and deed in the local Community at every opportunity."

Services Sunday 13th December

10.30 am Revd Keith Osborn

6.30 pm Carols round the tree

Steward Linda Hood
Door Morva White
Organ Stella Tidmarsh
Readers Morva White/Ian Brodie
Creche Bob Mawer

Services for next Sunday 20th December

10.30 am Family Carol Service

6.00 pm United Carol Service St Andrews

Steward Janet Mawer
Door Harold Taylor
Organ Stella Tidmarsh
Readers Harold & Helen Taylor
Creche Linda Hood
Flowers Tree
Coffee Harold & Helen Taylor
Garden Harold Taylor

Prayers this week

Circuit: Blunsdon

Rota: Defence Academy - staff, students, families & Chaplains

Local Roads: Colton Road, Curtis Road, Martens Road

Events this Week

Monday 14th

Fish Group 1 Christmas Social 6.45

Tuesday 15th

Refreshers 8.30 am in front room
10.30 dressing the tree*

Wednesday 16th

2.15 Afternoon Carol Service

Thursday 17th

Carols at Sainsburys 6-8
Prayer meeting 7pm in front room

Friday 18th

Hymn/Carol practice, Stella's 8pm-

Saturday 19th

Prayer breakfast 8.30 in front room
Carols outside Co-op 10.00

The Mince Pie Fund is open! Don't forget to put a donation aside for Phakamisa - money will be collected after the holiday. Happy eating!!

***Christmas Tree** going up in Church at 10.30 am on Tuesday - help appreciated

Mince Pies - we still need lots for

- Afternoon Carol Service on Wednesday 16th December
- Family Carol Service 20th December
- Open Church on 22nd, 23rd and 24th December

Church Open - the Church will be open in the mornings of 22nd, 23rd, and 24th (to include a 'Silent Communion*') - at least one person needs to be on duty to serve coffee - rota at back of Church to sign up.

***Silent Communion** -an explanation from Keith: *Several people have come up to me recently with a similar question: What on earth is a silent communion? So here briefly I am going to try to describe the indescribable. On Christmas Eve, between 10am and 12noon the Methodist Church will be open for refreshments and for Silent Communion. You may arrive at any time during this period and leave whenever you are ready. I would advise that you allow between 15 and 30 minutes for communion, longer if you would prefer. We will play quiet Christmas music in the background and you will be given a booklet/leaflet with the words of the communion and a few hymns/poems for reflection. Whenever you are ready you make your way to the front where I will serve you with bread and wine.*

Everyone is welcome to come and to join in as much or as little as they choose and of course there will be light refreshments serve in the other rooms also.

I look forward to seeing you all there. God bless. Keith

Christmas Cards - as usual, a small Christmas tree will be in the foyer for your Christmas cards to Church members, with donations to Action for Children.

CHRISTMAS CARE (Crisis at Christmas) Huge thanks to all those who have contributed to the appeal. If anyone has anything else to donate, the last date is Sunday 20th December. Lynn will be loading the care and going straight after morning service to make the last delivery to Queens Drive. If you have a problem getting items to church Lynn is happy to collect - just let her know.

Alpha - Building on the success of the recent Alpha course, the Churches together in Shrivenham are now planning a morning course, starting on the 11th January from 9.15 am to 11.15 am in the Methodist Church. If you would like more information, please pick up an invitation in the vestibule or contact Gill or Paul Sharpe on 01793 782178.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Afternoon Carol Service - Wednesday 16 December at 2.15 pm

Carol singing outside Sainsburys - Thursday 17 December 6-8 pm (in aid of Action for Children)

Carol singing outside the Co-op - Saturday 19 December

Family Carol Service - Sunday 20 December at 10.30 am

Church open for coffee & mince pies - mornings of 22, 23 and 24 December 10-12 noon

****NO Christmas Eve evening service - but there will be a 'Silent Communion' taking place in the morning when the church is open from 10-12 noon (see above)**

(NO evening service on Sunday 27 December)

NO Coffee Shop Saturday 2 January

Ecumenical Covenant Service at SMC - Sunday 3 January 10.30 am

Longcot Ecumenical Service - Sunday 3 January 3.00 pm

(NO evening service at Shrivenham Sunday 3 January)

Worship Consultation Meeting - Tuesday 5th January - 7.30 at Stella's

Bible Study 2016 - Saturday 23rd January with Revd Steve Wild (President of the Methodist Conference)

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Heavenly Father, in Jesus' name we ask for a fresh outpouring of your Holy Spirit on your church in our community. Help us to grow in our experience of your love, forgiveness and

healing. Challenge our contentment to stay as we are. Renew our vision of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, that through our words and the way we live, others may be drawn to your way. Give us the wisdom to seek your will and grant us the joy that comes from wholeheartedly following it. For your glory and the good of all your people.

Amen

Notices will be out on Friday next week so please let Morva by next Friday morning: morvawhite@supanet.com if there is anything to include