



CARLTON-IN-LINDRICK METHODIST CHURCH

CONTACT

January 2022

New roads

When the star had stopped
And they had seen the baby
They took a new road

When the decorations come down
And we have heard the story
We take a new road

New roads can be scary,
New roads are exciting
New roads are risky
It is time to go

Star maker
Lightbringer
Holy spirit of adventure
Come with us as we journey
through this new year.
Amen

(Ruth Burgess)

Dear Friends

This was the prayer which I closed my letter with last January. I think there was an air of anticipation of a much better year to come than the one we were saying goodbye to and closing the door on of 2020.

We are here at the start of 2022 and the main theme 12 months on still seems to be Covid 19 and what the next installment will bring. Thankfully most of us were able to spend time together with family members this year that was not possible the previous Christmas. On a positive, more and more people are being vaccinated and boosted, which will save more and more lives, and help prevent serious illness.



We have celebrated Epiphany which was Thursday 6th January, and the Magi are returning back to their places of origin. They were returning changed by their experience of the baby in the manger "our Lord Jesus Christ."

The dictionary definition of Epiphany is
"The manifestation of Christ to the gentiles as
represented by the Magi"

or

"A moment of sudden and great revelation or realisation."

How has our witness and worship of Christ born in humility affected us this Christmas just gone? As we gather as the body of the church in our areas, and begin our new journey through 2022, what Epiphany moments experienced in Christmas 2021 are we going to share and have the faith to be bold and put into action in 2022.

As Covenant services take place in January in our Churches we are asked to renew and rededicate our lives to what Christ calls us to. Those not already members may feel God calling them in a new direction and so seal their commitment to their local church by exploring their discipleship and thinking about becoming a member. To those, the words which open the covenant prayer "I am no longer my own but yours, put me to what you will", may hold trepidation and fear. It will be 10 years this January that as I said those words I knew I was making my commitment to explore a call to presbyteral ministry and give all that I had and was to God to serve him as he bid me. That I would be guided by the one who already knew my future and what it held, even though I was not fully sure.

I am hoping to run a united membership course across the churches in this section before I go on Sabbatical. More information will follow.

For some, the words "or laid aside for you" will be difficult when sitting back from certain roles and positions that they have held for a long while.

I would like to wish you all a happy new year. Whatever it may hold may you all, know that God goes before you, he is already opening the doors for us to go in and explore. May we not be fearful of change, and commitment, may we hear what God is saying and calling us, may we put our trust in the one whose power and glory is above all things.

Reverend Angela

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY		
Sunday 16 th	11.00 am 6.00 pm	Morning Worship – Rev Bob Heathcote Circuit Service at The Crossing – Deacon Emily Hoe-Crook
Monday 17 th	10.30 – 12 noon	Coffee Morning
Sunday 23 rd	11.00 am	Morning Worship – Rev Angela Potheary Covenant Service with Holy Communion
Monday 24 th	10.30 – 12 noon	Coffee Morning
Sunday 30 th	11.00 am	Morning Worship – Own Arrangement



A Time of Prayer

We held a time of prayer on January 6th, Epiphany, to focus on God and his will at Carlton for those who are the Methodist Church here. We had to change this to a Zoom session and realise there were those who were unable to join us. We hope you were able to take part by reading the document which was sent or delivered to you, and if you have any thoughts or ideas about the future of the church, would you please pass them to Rev Angela by Sunday 23rd January at the latest. They can then be included in a follow-up session. Thank you.



The retiring collection on Christmas Day (and donations since), for Action for Children, raised £121. Thank you to all who contributed.

Yvonne



Bag 2 The Future

After postponing collections in the last 2 years, I'm pleased to say that we have now booked two clothing collection dates for Bag to School, (in March and September). The first of these will be on Friday 11th March. Bags for your items will be available early next month from Monday coffee mornings, from Sunday services or by telephoning Eddie on 733288.

However, you will only be able to drop them off during one week this time - on Sunday 6th March at morning worship, during coffee morning on Monday 7th, or during the week by arrangement with Eddie. If you would like your bags collected please telephone Eddie on the number above.

Bag 2 The Future is interested in collecting **good quality adults' and children's clothing, paired shoes, hats, belts, handbags, soft toys, bedding, curtains, and towels**. All items are for **RE-USE**. No bric-a-brac please. (They **do not** accept school or work uniforms, duvets, pillows and cushions.) We are paid per kg of items collected, so please have a good turnout of your wardrobes and see how much we can boost our funds, as well as obviously helping those who will receive the goods.

Church Cleaning

As members of our congregation are getting older, it's increasingly difficult to find people able to do the weekly cleaning of the building. We are now down to three people on the rota, so are appealing for volunteers. If you feel you could help out, please get in touch with Yvonne (731043) and let her know. It would be really appreciated.

What time of day was Adam born?

Just a little before Eve



Where is medicine first mentioned in the Bible?

When Moses received two tablets

Jobs

This story concerns four people – Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but in the end Nobody did it. Everybody got very angry over this because it really was Somebody's job. Everybody thought Somebody would do it, but Nobody realised that Anybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody had asked Anybody.

Searching

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."
(Matthew 2: 1-2)

A few days after Christmas Christians celebrate Epiphany. I sometimes wish the church would get its act together and stop using words like that and translate them into English that everyone can understand. It's a time when we remember the coming of the wise men to see the baby Jesus. You know the carol – *We three Kings of Orient are...* and all that. It's interesting to get behind the carol and see what the Bible really says about them.

First, they weren't kings. The Bible says they were Magi – wise men. They were probably priests who'd travelled from Persia, and whether they had ridden camels like Christmas cards show, or had come on horseback or in chariots we just don't know.

Second, the Bible never tells us how many wise men there were. Old legends say there were twelve, but wherever you go today the number usually comes down to three. Maybe that's because there wouldn't be enough outfits to go round if the local school had to dress twelve of them, but the only reason for thinking there were three is because three gifts were mentioned – gold, incense and myrrh – and everyone assumes they each brought something.

The important thing to me is not who they were, or how many there were, or even what they brought to Jesus but the fact that they were searching for something. Reaching out beyond themselves and their own backyard for something, someone, to give meaning to life. And that's what Jesus still offers through the whole year.

Eddie Askew (1997)



THE HEAVENS (Yvonne)

Everyone loves a beautiful sunrise or sunset. The sun gives heat and light, a source of energy for the Earth. The moon is illuminated by the sun as it revolves round the Earth and controls the tides.

From the desert, the night sky can be seen clearly. We believe the wise men studied science and astrology. Possibly the star of Bethlehem, the guiding star was three planets in conjunction. Jupiter means righteousness in Hebrew. Venus is the symbol of love, fertility and birth, and the star, Regulus means prince or little king. They would appear as one bright star, if positioned in line. Stars have been used by seafarers for navigation for thousands of years.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are!
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.

When the blazing sun is gone
When he nothing shines upon
Then you show your little light
Twinkle, twinkle all the night.

Jane Taylor



Now the day is over
Night is drawing nigh.
Shadows of the evening
Steal across the sky.

Now the darkness gathers
Stars begin to peep,
Birds and beasts and flowers
Soon will be asleep.

Sabine Bearing-Gould



Little drops of water little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean and the bounteous land.

Little deeds of kindness, little words of love
Make our Earth an Eden like the heaven above.

Julia Carney



RECIPE CORNER (Yvonne)



Tuna Fish Pie (Herriot Hospice Homecare Cookbook) – preferable to Stargazey Pie !

1 large tin of tuna, drained & flaked
1 medium onion, thinly sliced
2-3 tomatoes, sliced
6 oz Leicester cheese, grated
2 lb potatoes, mashed with milk & butter
Seasoning

Spread tuna in an ovenproof dish. Add a thin layer of onion then tomato and season. Continue layers of onion and tomato until used up and season. Scatter half the grated cheese on top. Cover with mashed potato then remaining cheese. Bake at 190°C/375°F/Mk.5 for 40-45 minutes until golden.

Fluffy Clouds Pud (Free Church of Scotland's Disaster & Relief Fund Cookbook)

475g can creamed rice
475g can pears
1 ½ oz/35g dark chocolate
2 egg whites
3oz/75g sugar

Spoon rice into ovenproof dish. Drain pears and arrange hollow side up on rice. Break chocolate into small pieces and drop on pears. Beat egg whites until stiff and carefully fold in sugar. Pile on pears and rough surface with a fork. Bake for about 30 minutes at 170°C/325°F/Mk 3 until meringue is crisp. Serve hot.

Yvonne spotted this on a poster on holiday last year

One dry summer, the villagers decided to pray for rain.
On the day of prayers, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.
THAT IS FAITH

When you throw a baby into the air, they always laugh because they know that you will catch them.
THAT IS TRUST

Every night we go to bed without any assurances of being alive the next morning,
but we still set the alarm to wake us up.
THAT IS HOPE

We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.
THAT IS CONFIDENCE

We see the world suffering but still we get married and have children.
THAT IS LOVE

On an old man's shirt was written a sentence
"I am not 80 years old - I am sweet 16 with 64 years' experience".
THAT IS ATTITUDE

Have a happy day and live your life like these 6 stories.
Remember, good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace.

QUIZ TIME



Christmas Quiz Answers

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Connecticut | 7. George R Sims |
| 2. Nutmeg | 8. Devon |
| 3. Honey | 9. James |
| 4. Call the Midwife | 10. Michael Faraday |
| 5. A magical advent calendar | 11. It's A Wonderful Life |
| 6. Frankincense | 12. World War 1 |

Christmas Carols and Songs Answers

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. O come all ye faithful | 14. The first nowell |
| 2. It came upon the midnight clear | 15. O little town of Bethlehem |
| 3. The twelve days of Christmas | 16. In the bleak midwinter |
| 4. Little donkey | 17. See him lying on a bed of straw |
| 5. Driving home for Christmas | 18. Mistletoe and Wine |
| 6. Angels from the realms of glory | 19. Holy Night |
| 7. Ding dong merrily on high | 20. When Santa got stuck up the chimney |
| 8. We three Kings of Orient are | 21. Once in Royal David's city |
| 9. Frosty the snowman | 22. Rudolf the red nosed reindeer |
| 10. Hark the herald angels sing | 23. When a child is born |
| 11. Do they know it's Christmas | 24. See amid the winter's snow |
| 12. Mary's boy child | 25. The holly and the ivy |
| 13. Rocking around the Christmas tree | |

January Quiz

1. What is the birthstone of the month of January?
2. What US National holiday is celebrated on the third Monday of January each year?
3. Who had a UK number one hit in 1975 with "January"?
4. On which day in January is Burns Night?
5. Which Commonwealth country celebrates its National Day on 26th January?
6. What was the title of Barbara Dickson's number 11 UK hit in 1980?
7. Which London mainline station was opened on 11th January 1864?
8. The wearing of seat belts in the front seats of cars was made compulsory in the UK in the January of which year?
9. The author of such classics as "The Pit and the Pendulum" and "The Murders in the Rue Morgue", which famous author was born on 19th January 1809?
10. Louis Braille, who was born on 4th January 1809, introduced the Braille system of writing for blind and the visually impaired. What is the maximum number of raised dots used to represent each character?
11. Which singer was born with the name David Robert Jones on 8th January 1947?
12. Which London Street became the first in the world to be lit by gas lights on 28th January 1807?
13. With the exception of leap years January always begins on the same day as which other month?
14. Which future US President was born on 9th January 1913?
15. The first commercial flights of the supersonic plane, Concorde, took place on 21st January 1976. Departing from London and Paris what were their respective destinations?

Why didn't Noah like going fishing?
Because he only had two worms



How does the apostle Paul make coffee?
Hebrews it



Winter Blessing

When sleet blinds you,
Hail drowns out voices,
And snow hides your path,

May you discern each flake
A star, image of the one
That guided the Magi,

And find that in the pain
Of birth, death or change
There is a light
To guide you.

Mary Palmer



Closing date for items for the next Contact – Monday 24th January

CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE WISE MEN

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem a very bright star appeared in the east. Some wise men in a foreign country who studied the stars and looked up what they meant, saw this bright star and found out that it showed that a king had been born in Israel. They decided to make the long journey to find this king. The star moved and they followed it. The journey took a long time and it was probably about a year after the birth of Jesus that these men arrived in Jerusalem, the capital of Israel.

The king of that region was a Roman because they ruled Israel at the time. These men came to the king, Herod, and asked him where they would find the child born king of the Jews. Herod didn't like this, so he asked his advisers where the king would be born. They searched the Jewish scriptures and found that a king and saviour would be born in Bethlehem. Herod then told this to the travellers and asked them to come back and tell him where the child was. The wise men went off and found that the star had moved so they followed it to Bethlehem where it led them to the house where Mary and Joseph with Jesus were staying. They bowed down and worshipped Jesus, and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

It was important that they were allowed to worship Jesus because it showed that he was king of more than the Jews. We are glad of that because we are not Jews but we are called to recognise Jesus as our king. The wise men were told by God not to visit Herod so they went home a different way. Herod had intended to kill Jesus in case he grew up to remove the rule of the Romans.

God Bless you
Rev Alan



WISE MEN WORDSEARCH

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

BETHLEHEM

JESUS

EAST

JOURNEY

FRANKINCENSE

KING

GOLD

MYRRH

HEROD

STAR

A colouring page for the young at heart

