

# "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us".

John 1:14 (NKJV)



#### Contents page CONNECT CHRISTMAS SURVIVING CANCER GREETINGS Aims & Objectives NTCG Family Mrs Sonia Grandison 12 DAYS ADVENT EDITOR'S NOTE CHURCHES IN CHALLENGE Mrs Nastassia Holness COMMUNITY THE BIBLE IN Woodstock A YEAR COMBATING HOLIDAY HACK! ADMINISTRATIVE LONELINESS AT BISHOP'S GREETING Mrs June McKenzie Bishop Claion Grandison REFLECTION CHURCH MISSION AT NEWS **CHRISTMAS** Scripture: John 1:14 Mrs Nastassia Holness Symths Toys Operation Gift Voucher CHRISTMAS DINNER GIFT IDEA S CHRISTMAS, RELIGION & A CULTURAL CULTURE **FUSION** Bishop Anthony Parry Rev. Roger Maynard

# AIMS & OBJECTIVES

A Relevant, Relational Church, Reimagining God at work, in our communities and nation.

**CONNECT** is a quarterly publication from the Office of the Administrative Bishop. This will be published digitally and posted on our website for your viewing.

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- Encouraging Spiritual Growth: Helping each other grow in faith through prayer, sharing the Word, and church activities.
- Improving Communication: Keeping members directly updated about church activities, decisions and personnel changes, so that you are informed about your church.
- Building Community: Strengthening connections between members through this medium.
- Supporting Each Other: Encouraging involvement in and keeping you informed about local and national events.
- Celebrating Together: Recognising and celebrating important moments in the lives of our ministers and members to uplift and encourage each other.



# Editor's Note



Mrs Nastassia Holness Commissioning Editor

#### Dear Reader,

I hope you enjoy reading the Christmas edition of the NTCG National Connect Magazine; the aim is to Connect members of the New Testament Church of God to its leadership and to each other.

Our Christmas edition features our Administrative Bishop's Christmas Greeting. Bishop Anthony Parry gives insight on Christmas, Culture, and Religion. Rev. Linford Davis shares how his church impacts the community at Christmas, and Sis June McKenzie explores how the Christmas story brings hope to the lonely.

We have an inspirational interview with our First Lady and National Women's Discipleship Ministry Director, Mrs Sonia Grandison, who shares about surviving cancer.

As with every issue of the Connect Magazine, we hope you will be inspired and motivated to continue to Connect with your church and community.

Enjoy!

#### **Editorial support required**

We're looking for volunteers with proofreading experience and an eye for detail. If you are interested, please email: Nastassia.holness@ntcg.org.uk

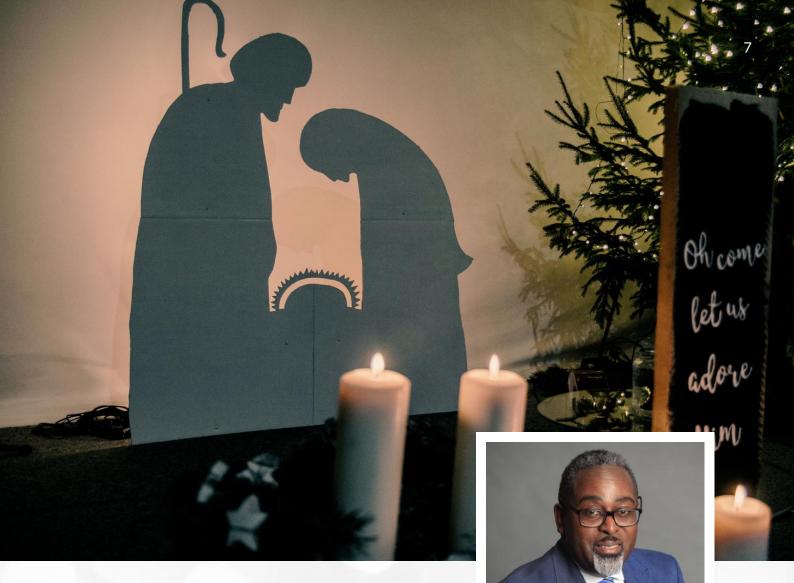




WISHING YOU ALL A

## Merry Christmas

BISHOP CLAION & SIS SONIA GRANDISON



#### I wish you a Kairos Christmas

"When Kairos is met with character and courage, even amongst the most ordinary individuals in a moment (Chronos), the extraordinary happens, and generations are affected."

What do you mean, I hear you say? Let me start by giving you some context. In the New Testament, two Greek words are used for time: Chronos and Kairos. Chronos is a personification or representation of time and the root of the word "chronological". Kairos means "the appointed time in the purpose of God", when God acts. The story of the nativity or the birth of Jesus has been told and retold for over two thousand years. It tells how God became human and dwelt among us or, as one version puts it, "moved into the neighbourhood".

This event was not unplanned or by happenstance; Gal 4:4-5 states, "But when the set time, had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship." Central to this Christmas narrative is the Lord Jesus, his mother Mary and father Joseph, the shepherds and the wise men who came with gifts.

In Luke 1, we are first introduced to Mary, a virgin engaged to Joseph, a carpenter who would become his wife in time (Chronos). No wedding details are given, just that she was promised to Joseph. However, all this is interrupted by an unannounced visit from an angel who bestows on the young virgin a very high honour, calling her highly favoured and blessed among women. This was not a 'pop your balloon' contest but the Holy Search of the Jewish community and finding the right girl with virtuous character and the desire to be a mother.

**Bishop Claion Grandison** 

Administrative Bishop

If Jewish culture were anything to go by, Mary would have had little or no say in the decisions that were being made regarding marriage and her future. You could say that her destiny was in man's hands until the angelic messenger Gabriel placed the destiny of all humanity in her hands with the proposition that she would be the mother of the world's saviour. In that meeting, she is faced with what some writers call "a Kairos moment, " which would alter history's course forever.

Throughout scripture, there have been many mighty kings and people of great repute who, when faced with Kairos moments, have walked away, lacking the courage to follow through with the impossible thing requested of them. But Mary bolstered with the promise that no word from the Lord will ever fail, responded, "Be unto me according to thy word" and "May everything you have said about me come true." Just days after her angelic encounter, Mary travelled to Elizabeth, her cousin who was already six months pregnant. During this meeting, there is not only a Kairos moment but a Kairotic confirmation.

As soon as Mary offers her greeting, the child in Elizabeth's womb leaps as it responds to the child Mary is carrying, and she is immediately filled with the Holy Spirit. The word spoken by the angel of the Lord had become flesh.

In Matthew's account of the gospels, Joseph, a man of great character, is faced with another impossible situation. His wife-to-be is mysteriously pregnant, and he is preparing to put her away privately to avoid shame and disgrace. That night, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and reassured him this was of the Holy Ghost. Joseph could have walked away, and no one would have blamed him. His decision to stand by his betrothed in this Kairos moment and make her his wife took Godly courage.

Then, not too far away, ordinary shepherds in a field watching their flock witness another Kairos moment. After 400 years of a closed heaven, the Almighty God breaks his silence, not to rabbis or the religious elite but to simple field hands who become the first witnesses to the saviour's birth.

Lastly, in this festive narrative is our final Kairos moment. Several wise men from the east astrologers, observers of the times (Chronos) and seasons, found the much older Jesus. Herod, the ruler of the Roman Empire, was deceptive, pretending that he, too, wanted to see Jesus hail him as King over kings. However, instead of returning to report to King Herod, as they had promised, they return another way. Their Kairos moment is accompanied by their courageous decision to disobey Herod's instructions.

When Kairos is met with character and courage, even amongst the most ordinary individuals in a moment (Chronos), the extraordinary happens, and generations are affected. Perhaps this will be a Kairos Christmas for someone facing impossible circumstances. You may be called upon to act in the face of opposition or persecution; these stories from the Nativity are written to inspire courage when faced with Kairos moments. Your Kairos moment may be reconnecting with estranged family, friends and loved ones despite warnings not to. It may be choosing to support and come alongside those ostracised or vulnerable. It may take justly defying the edicts of the powerful, the political influence or those with authority over us. It may be putting God at the centre of your Christmas this year and reminding those you encounter the real meaning of Christmas. It might also be saying no to debt and yes to financial freedom in the coming year.

Whatever the scenario or your choices, you can be assured that God chooses ordinary people with character and courage to boldly align themselves with his unpopular but perfect plan. He can speak through the likes of Liz (Elizabeth) to confirm that what you are carrying in the womb of your spirit is of the Holy Ghost. He can ask the Joes (Joseph) in your life to stick with you. And he can provide your angels (unexpected strangers) to be a blessing to you.

As the Church of Jesus Christ, we are not called to stand with politicians and popular personalities but with the broken; we're called to leave our flock to visit the unhoused family with a newborn and very little subsistence and possession, to defy pressured expectations, knowing that no word from God will ever fail.

There are Kairos moments all around us, opportunities to make practical, eternal and divine differences. All that is needed is ordinary people, like you and I, with the character and courage to say, "Be it unto me".

I wish you a Kairos Christmas and a purposeful 2025.





## Reflection

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us". John 1:14 (NKJV)

Growing up, Christmas cards were not only given and received by our family members and close friends, but it seemed like everyone was a part of this great rush before the big day; even our Muslim neighbours eventually joined the great frenzy. People who weren't necessarily Christians understood and embraced the principle of giving gifts and expressing their joy and well-wishes to one another. Nowadays, the preferred method for sending greeting cards has changed, but surprisingly, the various themes haven't; similar to Christmas Day, the sending of Christmas cards didn't start with any religious intentions, as designs often featured flowers, bright colours, and were very secular in nature, as they were intended to help the recipient celebrate the oncoming spring season after a long cold winter.

Around A.D. 273, the Winter Solstice Festival (Dies Natalis Solis Invicti - 'birthday of the invincible sun'), which signified everlasting life, was adapted and replaced with what we now know as Christmas Day. This was the early church's effort to counteract the pagan beliefs of the sun and replace it with the Christian worship of the Son, acknowledging Jesus as the true light of the world who conquered sin once and for all. The 25th December later became a national holiday, where Christians around the world would gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus with the use of lights, the decorating of trees, the giving of gifts, feasting, drinking, carolling, merrymaking, and the use of the famous Christmas colours (red, gold, green and silver) all shared the same roots.

Since its formation, many opposing views have been on the Christmas celebration. However, our gaze shouldn't only be on the historical frills and embellishments, but rather that Pagan influence never again shines brighter, as the purpose of the gospel is not only to transcend culture but to transform it. And so today, the ever-green trees (Christmas tree) seen as a symbol of everlasting life were reintroduced as Christ being eternal life. Christmas lights were reintroduced as Jesus being the light of the world. The gifts on Christmas day became a reminder of the gift of the Magi to baby Jesus, symbolising Jesus giving himself as a gift to the world so that we might be saved.

The idea of gods coming to earth wasn't new to the ancient Pagan, Greek, and Babylonian world. Pagan mythologies were based on gods coming to earth to advocate a philosophy of wine and hedonism, the prioritisation of pleasure in one's lifestyle, actions, or thoughts. In contrast, Jesus in the Gospel of John has come to offer his followers salvation from sin. John's account of the most significant event in history shocked the ancient world not because of the idea of God coming to earth but that God appropriated the corrupt stuff of this world in himself, voluntarily taking on human flesh to be subjected to everything that humans are subjected to, such as tiredness, hunger, and temptation. Yet, he did not succumb to its desires.

Theologian Bruce Ware suggests that what kept him from sinning wasn't his divine nature overpowering his human nature, but instead, he made use of all of the resources given to him in his humanity. He loved and meditated on God's Word; he prayed without ceasing; he trusted in the Father's will and Word; and he relied on the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit to strengthen him to do all that he was called to do. Jesus didn't rely on his divinity as he could, as this would have voided the substitute for our sins, as he had to be fully man to die and fully God to redeem. Completing the course that you and I were never able to do, and in doing so, he demonstrated the lengths and depths that the Father would go to simply redeem humanity. Christmas is Majestic because Jesus wasn't simply representing God, but rather, he was presenting God to a world as one who is touched by the feelings of their infirmities (Hebrews.4:15).

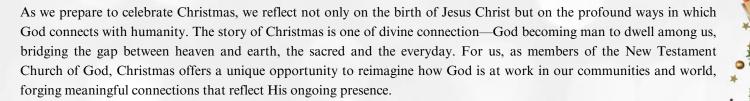
If we truly believe in the transformative power of God in our lives, then we cannot only tend to our own individual desires, we must connect to those in our reach, cancelling any Damascus Road notion before we make a move, but instead recognise that our calling is now, where we are placed. It is our responsibility as Christ's representatives to become light in every dark area around us, whether that's at work, school, university, or just volunteering at the local care home or shelter; whatever it is, the world is our pulpit, it is a platform bigger than the one in our local church, and it is one where we all have equal access, as it isn't based on the skills, education, or the experience of individuals. As we reflect on how God himself colonised the pagan system of the day, let us use all the resources given to us and Connect with the

dark areas around us. Amen.



Mrs Nastassia Holness Commissioning Editor

## Christmas, Religion & Culture





#### "His willingness to come near."

In the Gospel of John, we are reminded that "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us" (John 1:14). This is the essence of God's connection with humanity—His willingness to come near, to take on human form, and to live among us. The incarnation invites us to reflect on how God continues to make connections today, both with individuals and communities. As His church, we are called to participate in this divine work, establishing connections that reveal Christ's love, hope, and peace.

In our contemporary British context, Christmas often takes on a dual significance. For many, it is a time of cultural celebration —marked by festive lights, gatherings with family, and acts of charity. For others, it is a deeply religious occasion, commemorating the birth of our Saviour.

#### Connect with those around us

The New Testament Church of God's vision to "reimagine God at work in our communities and nation" calls us to reflect on how we are connecting with those around us, particularly during this sacred season. Christmas is not just about remembering an event from 2,000 years ago but about recognising the ways in which God is still at work, forging connections that heal, restore, and transform lives. Our role, empowered by the Holy Spirit, is to help make those connections visible, by being present in our communities and sharing the hope that Christ offers.

The Apostle Paul reminds us of our calling: "God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:19). This message of reconciliation is one of connection. It speaks of God drawing humanity back to Himself, and it challenges us to be ambassadors of that connection, bringing others into a relationship with God and with one another.

In a society where isolation and disconnection are increasing, particularly during the Christmas season, the church has a unique opportunity to foster genuine, meaningful connections. Whether through outreach events, acts of kindness, or simply being a presence of love and peace, we are called to connect with those around us, showing them that God is at work in their lives and inviting them into His family.

Christmas is a time when many people, even those who do not regularly attend church, are open to connection. The festive spirit often softens hearts and opens doors to conversations about faith, hope, and love. We are called to seize these moments, reimagining how we can share the story of Christ in ways that resonate with our neighbours. Whether through a simple act of kindness, a community gathering, or sharing the story of Jesus' birth, we are invited to be conduits of God's connection to the world.

This Christmas, let us embrace the opportunity to reimagine God at work in our communities, making connections that reflect His love, peace, and hope. As the New Testament Church of God, we are called to be a church that not only celebrates the birth of Christ but also connects people to the ongoing work of God, transforming lives and renewing our world.

Together, we can create lasting connections that reveal the heart of Christmas—Emmanuel, God with us—actively at work in every life and every community.



Bishop Anthony Parry District Bishop: Leeds

# SOMA GRAIDSON



## SURVIVING CANCER

Why family is more important than ever.

"Never claim the illness as "your illness", claim your healing instead!"

irst Lady, Mrs Sonia Grandison shares her journey with Breast Cancer and how it has impacted her life, faith and ministry.

CONNECT MAGAZINE (CM) What symptoms led to the diagnosis? MRS SONIA GRANDISON (SG) I had no obvious symptoms, I just went to have my regular three-year routine check-up, which was done in an NHS mobile clinic van in the local Sainsbury's car park.

(CM) Whenever people hear the 'C' word, a death sentence usually comes to mind. How did you respond? (SG) Well, I was in shock initially during the consultation, but it wasn't until I got home and was able to speak to (Claion) Bishop and our children that I cried. When the biopsy came back, the consultant advised that it was stage two breast cancer but it was treatable.

**CM)** How did your faith strengthen you and your family during this time? (SG) I continued life, I still went to work, led worship and performed my day-to-day duties as usual. I just chose not to accept the cancer diagnosis, but stood on His word, that God still heals and will heal me.

#### (CM) How did your church respond?

(SG) Most people were incredibly supportive, from the phone calls to find out how I was coping, to those accompanying me to hospital visits as well as having wigs custom-made for me. All of which I am forever grateful. The encouragement of the words "I'm praying for you" kept me going and I felt the prayers and support of my church – locally and nationally.



(CM) As you were going through your treatment, what were you most fearful of? (SG) Whether the Chemotherapy would work and losing my hair. At one point, the consultant advised me that the chemo wasn't working. I lost my eyebrows and only found out from looking in the mirror at church when a close sister pointed out that something was wrong with my face, (LOL) we had a giggle about it at the time. I also remember getting ready for the National Convention in West Bromwich, and as I was combing my hair, clumps of hair came out in my hand. I did shed a few tears, and then my husband said to me let me just shave your head which he did. I put on my wig, and off we went to convention.

(CM) Now that you are healed and given the all-clear, how has the experience impacted your life, ministry, and faith? (SG) I now have a fresh outlook on life; I don't take anything for granted, as I am so thankful to see my children grow up to become the people God has called them to be. At the time, I remember asking God why; I felt Him say, that through this, people would know that He is a healer and His name would be glorified. My faith revealed strength that I didn't know I had; even during it all, people would often ask, how are you still smiling? And my response would always be, "It is well," which I

(CM) As the Christmas season draws near, why is family more important than ever? (SG) Christmas means so much more now; I remember the first two years after my all-clear, we booked a hotel and spent Christmas with just the four of us. Now we spend Christmas with all my family, which is is the only time of the year you get to stop and appreciate family. It's the season for families to get together and share stories, sometimes the same stories repeated from previous years.

declared every morning I woke up.

During the celebrations, we pause to reflect and give God thanks for all He has done.

(CM) What advice would you give to those going through Cancer or any other illnesses? (SG) Surround yourself with people who will lift you up in prayer; I said right at the beginning from my diagnosis that I didn't need sympathy or tears of the saint but just their prayers. You will get down days and need someone there for you when you have those meltdowns. Find ways to soak in God's presence and stand on the word. I used a journal to write scriptures of healing and the events of the day to document my journey. Never claim the illness as "your illness"; claim your healing instead!

(CM) How can the NTCG National Women's Department support those going through Cancer? (SG) The NTCG National Women's Department will encourage a culture to support women going through cancer by setting up initiatives that local women's departments can tap into. We will encourage awareness during October of each year and also celebrate the lives of those we have lost due to this illness. Coffee mornings, usually in September / October, are a way to support the Mcmillian charity, amongst others, to raise money and awareness, which local churches and communities have access to.

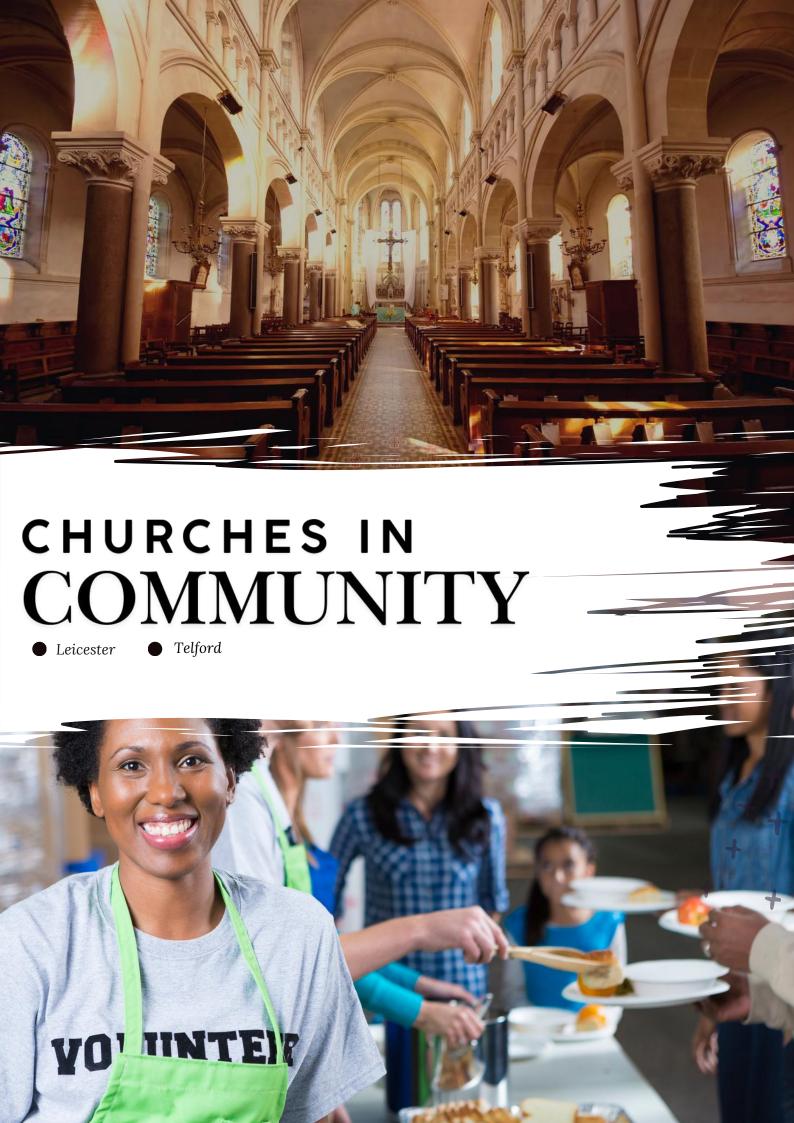
#### **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, I am so grateful that you've blessed us with another day. You are the God that heals and that nothing is impossible for You.

I pray for anyone that is going through a time of sickness and oppression. You never fail, and Your Word tells us that if we ask anything in Your name, it shall be done. So Father, we ask for your healing whether physically or spiritually on those who are not well in body.

We pray that You will send your divine healing and that they will be made whole in Jesus name. We pray that Your will be done in their lives and that You will be glorified.

We thank You for strength and renewal of the mind in the mighty name of Jesus and give You all the praise for what You are doing. Thank you Father.





"We are "the address of God in the neighbourhood" and we provide a tangible point of contact for people to connect with Christ".

Across the UK, as Christian's gather on a weekly basis, whether in a church building, someone's home or in an open space, community is created. We call it the 'church community'. The people outside of the 'four walls' as we often refer to it, going about their day-to-day business, tend to be grouped together and called 'The community': full of differing ethnicities, cultural backgrounds and life experiences. 'There are different labels attached to 'The community' such as 'the un-churched', 'de-churched' and even 'the indifferent', which can create an 'us and them' paradigm. Whether we see it like this or not, one thing we should agree on is that they are people, who may or may not have come into contact with Jesus within the local community, are living in the same geographical location.

So how does the 'church community' affect the 'local community' in a Christ-like way? How do we, as a body of believers, invite people into relationship with Jesus in a way that promotes togetherness?

Pastor Linford Davis

& Sis Joy

Scripture tells us we are "the Light of the World". We are "the address of God in the neighbourhood" and we provide a tangible point of contact for people to connect with Christ.

We as a local church in Telford have the mission of being "Highly Visible". Last Christmas, we decided one of the ways we can be unmissable is by reaching out to schools. When we reach one child, we have the opportunity of engaging their parents, carers and siblings.

And so 'The Big Give' was birthed; a project to give every child in a selected school a Christmas gift. We partnered with Short Wood Primary School, with over 550 pupils, we purchased the gifts from the Entertainer Toy Store, wrapped the gifts, and headed to the school where we were able to deliver a whole school Christian Christmas assembly, and with much anticipation, present the gifts. Teachers were in tears, children were overjoyed, and the seed of the Gospel had been sown.



#### Support the "Big Give" Project

We would love to hear from you. If you want to partner with us in any way, please contact us to find more information about giving to the Big Give Project, and if you have the skills, passion and experience to support with wrapping or even rapping! Please do get in touch @ntcgtelford/ntcgtelford@gmail.com



SCAN: To Give



Our vision for growth and community connection has inspired us to run the project again this year, partnering with two Telford schools; Meadows Primary School and Woodlands Primary School. Combined, that's over 900 pupils plus their families. Having learnt from the first project, following this year's assemblies, we are aiming to continue watering the seed of these gifts by providing volunteer mentors and extra-curricular group facilitators for prayer/reflection, along with vision for creative faith and choir groups within the schools.





"The church's role extends beyond acts of service; it must be an integral part of the community's broader conversation"

Christmas is an exceptional outreach opportunity for any church, serving as a unique moment in the year when many individuals become more receptive to the message of Jesus. While the season has undeniably become commercialized, it retains the potential for genuine connection and goodwill, prompting churches to adopt a dual approach: altruistic in its spirit of giving and self-serving in the enrichment that comes from that very act of generosity.

In Leicester, the UK's most diverse city, this calling is especially pertinent. Home to a rich tapestry of cultures and two prominent universities, Leicester provides a vibrant backdrop for outreach initiatives.

NTCG The LightHouse (Leicester) has carved out a significant legacy within the African-Caribbean community. Known as 'The Black Cathedral of Leicester,' it stands as the oldest Black-majority church in the city, playing a vital role not just in spiritual guidance but also in community advocacy and support.

Bishop John Jackson &

Sis Alison

The LightHouse has made notable strides in outreach, recently earning The High Sheriff's Community Award for its involvement with 'Number 5,' a drug and substance abuse rehabilitation centre. The church's commitment includes providing pastoral care, preparing meals, and fostering a sense of community among service users.

This Christmas, the church will host a special Christmas lunch for both staff and users, embodying the message from the Gospel of Luke: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men." This message serves as a powerful reminder of the inherent worth and hope we can offer to those in vulnerable circumstances.

Moreover, The LightHouse will organize a second Christmas lunch for patrons of its Soup Kitchen, reinforcing its commitment to serving the marginalized. Ably spearheaded by Rev. Lorraine Burke, the church has prioritised community outreach, ensuring that it acts as an extended hand to all, regardless of background or circumstance.



#### This Christmas at The Light House

- ·Operation Shoebox
- ·Christmas Lunch- Number 5
- ·Christmas Lunch- Soup Kitchen
- ·Christmas Lunch Silver Strand (Seniors)
- ·Blaze Christmas ( Youth)
- ·Candlelit Carol Service
- ·Christmas Morning Service
- ·Watchnight & Baptism



SCAN: Church Info



In addition to these efforts, the church has partnered with 'Operation Shoebox,' encouraging its members to assemble shoeboxes filled with gifts for children worldwide, fostering a spirit of giving beyond local borders.

The church's role extends beyond acts of service; it must be an integral part of the community's broader conversation. This belief is manifested in our Candlelit Carol Service, to which esteemed figures such as the Lord Mayor, the Chief Constable, and the High Sheriff of Leicestershire are invited. This event not only celebrates Christ but also reinforces the church's commitment to civic engagement, creating a platform for dialogue and unity within the community.

As we prepare for this Christmas season, we recognize the unique opportunity it presents. Opening our doors to the community allows us to share the light of Christ, creating an environment where all can gather. This year, our efforts will continue to reflect our mission to 'Be The L.I.G.H.T.'—Loving, Impacting, Growing, Healing, and Transforming. By embracing this vision, we reaffirm our dedication to being a beacon of hope and support in Leicester, ensuring that our outreach resonates deeply and meaningfully with all those we serve.



## Loneliness at Christmas

How the Christian Message Brings Hope

Christmas means different things to different people. For many, it is a special time of excitement, anticipation and joy; while for others it's a time of sadness, loneliness and fear. To some, Christmas is merely a means to make more money, while to others it is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. Some people are more concerned to hear about their profit from Christmas than to hear about the Prophet from Bethlehem.

While it is easy to get carried along with the exuberant preparations some make, it is very easy to overlook the distress and loneliness that come at Christmas. This Christmas many will experience loneliness and social isolation because their loved ones are no longer with them. That special hug, the absence of the tantalising smell of Christmas morning breakfast: ackee and salt fish, fried plantain and fried dumplings coming from the kitchen to celebrate this very special day. For some, this moment is replaced by a deadly silence in the home, the menacing thought of going to the grave with flowers. For others, it's a reflection on those precious, special memories of Christmas past.

I had the privilege of speaking with a wonderful group of women from my local church who meet regularly to have fellowship, sing hymns and share their testimonies with each other. They shared their thoughts around loneliness at Christmas and how the Christmas message brings hope to them.

"I'm on my own, but I don't feel lonely at Christmas. I love being alone, but my family comes along every Christmas and drags me out."

"Somebody could be in a family group and still feel lonely because of the vacuum inside that need to be filled. They can experience a Christ-like loneliness, not having Christ in their life, a loneliness that only Christ can fill."

"The loss of a partner or child could highlight loneliness, but living alone doesn't necessarily mean that one is lonely."

"Being an only child can be a very lonely time at Christmas"

"As a Christian, being in a family home with an unsaved husband can be very lonely because I can't always talk with him about things that means so much to me."

"It's not only death that can create the feelings of loneliness. Divorce, being an only child, living with families who don't acknowledge your presence can leave you feeling very lonely."

They not only spoke about loneliness at Christmas, but also how to overcome this. "If and when you are feeling lonely, particularly around Christmas time, draw near to someone who might also be feeling that way. We don't walk by ourselves. That 'HUG' that you can give to someone over Christmas it makes a difference. So, don't wallow in your loneliness because God has a plan for us. He has work for us to do no matter how old or how young we are. Visiting or calling someone who is also on their own, your 'Presence' makes a wonderful Christmas 'Present' – a 'Gift' for that person.

The powerful message of Christmas, may not change the loneliness a person feels — even if they are surrounded by people. If they have lost someone around this time of year, the absence of that loved one will be deeply felt. Human companionship is still a potent remedy for loneliness. We all need people around us.

The Christmas message has not changed after 2,000 years. Christmas still reminds us that God is with us. Matthew 1:23 says, "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." You may feel lonely at times, but remember, you are never alone.

Mrs June McKenzie
District WDM
President,
Manchester



# WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US

Take part in a global community of Jesus followers, united to share God's love

**TALK WITH US** 





# SUPPORT MISSION WORKERS

OPERATION MOBILISATION (OM UK)

"Everyone deserves the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus. Want to help us take the gospel to the least-reached this Christmas?"

As December approaches, it's easy to get swept up in the busyness of the season—decorations, carol services, and all the festive preparations. But beyond the lights and gifts, we're reminded of the true meaning of Christmas: the arrival of our newborn King, Jesus. His birth was the ultimate gift of hope for the world. We're all familiar with the nativity story. The message of Jesus' birth is a powerful demonstration of God's missionary heart by coming to earth in human form. Yet, 3 billion people around the world have never had access to the gospel, let alone the story of His birth.

Operation Mobilisation (OM) is a mission organisation dedicated to reaching the least-reached with the gospel.

When OM speaks of "least reached," we mean communities where:

- a) there has been no gospel engagement, or
- b) there's been engagement, but no one is proclaiming the good news, or
- c) there's a community of Jesus followers, but access to them is limited by cultural, linguistic, or geographic barriers.

#### Here are 5 ways your church can partner with OM this festive season:

#### 1 Book an OM speaker.

Invite an OM speaker to your church. Our speakers are people who have lived and worked with OM teams worldwide. They come together to share their experiences, offering unique insights into mission life and how God is at work in hard-to-reach places. uk.om.org/om-speakers

#### 2 Host an OM Global Prayer Meeting.

We host a global prayer meeting once a month to create space for community, online or in person. OM is an international family, operating in over 147 countries. This is a great way to get plugged in to what we're doing and the impact that God is making around the world through news, updates, prayer requests and more. Join us—book your free place here: uk.om.org/events

#### **3** Give financially.

OM serves God's mission by mobilising and equipping the Church to see vibrant communities of Jesus followers among the least-reached. This work is possible because of the generosity of the Body of Christ. As your church likely knows, we too rely on financial support. uk.om.org/give

#### 4 Send someone from your church & support them.

Have you ever experienced mission overseas before? In OM, we have short and long-term outreaches happening all over the globe every year, from trekking in the Himalayas to interrailing around Europe sharing the gospel on the streets. Whatever experience, whatever age. uk.om.org/go

#### **5** Group outreach.

Want to go on an outreach? Why don't you go with others in your church too? OM fields love welcoming teams who serve together, supporting local communities. Have a youth group in your church? You can bring your teens with you too! There is a place for everyone. uk.om.org/shorts

As one church, united in Christ, we are called to share the gospel with all nations. Together, we can spread His love and salvation to every corner of the world. To find out more about OM, you can visit our website on uk.om.org

Ellie Coxall Marketing Officer (OM)



# When Christmas Dinner Comes with a Side of Rice & Peas

Food in the Maynard household is always a topic of conversation. On occasions, as soon as the day breaks, I have been known to say to my wife, "Morning Mel, so what will we be having for dinner today."

With food constantly on my mind, I also have a nineyear-old son with a huge appetite, and so together, we form a formidable foodie team who constantly challenge my precious wife's gastronomic skills to the max.

You can then imagine what Christmas is like in the Maynard household. Running a catering business and constantly being on the go cooking at work, my wife wears the Head chef's hat at home. Christmas day, however is when I take over completely and wifey sits back and is served.

The food festivities usually begin about two hours after church with a few assorted canapes. For the past few years this has been our new norm. Prior to that, we would be at Mel's mom's house with all of her family tucking into a very traditional Caribbean breakfast. Steaming bowls of hard food comprising of yam, green banana, boiled dumplings, ackee and saltfish would be washed down with traditional chocolate tea, the weight of the food would sit in the stomach for ages and by the time the Queen's speech came on you would still be feeling its after effects. Turkey would also be cooked alongside, other joints of meats and various acompaniments like rice and peas, sprouts, parsnips, and

the family would enjoy these treats as the day wore on and the hard food wore off.

Personally, I like to enjoy the British food fare on Christmas day, but the stomach tension of trying to consume the Caribbean and British delights in one day would often get the better of me, and so we have found that as we get older something had to give. The struggle is real.

As stated earlier, we will begin our food festivities with a few canapes, consisting of mini samosas and spring rolls, ackee and salt fish vol-au-vents and assorted mini quiche. We find this starter digests far easier leaving plenty of room to assault a fusion of British and Caribbean main course at around 3pm. This hybrid meal would consist of traditional roast turkey, or Gammon for the pork eaters (Not me, I hasten to add) well seasoned Salmon, all accompanied by roast potatoes, sprouts (yukky), parsnips, (yummmy) preboiled and finished off in the oven with honey or brown sugar, rice and peas, (always prefer Gungo peas to Kidney beans at Christmas), Yorkshire pudding (minus the roast beef) macaroni cheese and coleslaw.

We like to go the whole hog (no pun intended) and always add cranberry sauce and mint sauce (Mel's choice, but I could never understand why when lamb was absent)

All washed down with a small Guinness punch (lol), and seemingly endless Shloer.

The food-a-thon is concluded later in the evening with an assortment of deserts, for me, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without my personal desert treat of traditional Christmas pudding, a minced pie topped with lashings of hot brandy sauce. Spare me the judgment as I only have it once a year.

Rev. Roger Maynard Senior Pastor: Willenhall Tabernacle







National Head Office Staff

A Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you all. May God fill our lives with love, joy, and peace this Christmas and throughout the New Year.



The Wilson family (NTCG The Rock & Chuckery)

May this be a time for us to count all our blessings and give God the glory. Wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy new year. God bless you all.



(NTCG Nottingham)

Wishing everyone a Peaceful Christmas and a Blessed New Year.



Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year



Bishop Hugh & Dr Deanne Gardner (NTCG Bristol)

Christmas is the time of year when families come together to celebrate. Food, gifts and long overdue rest are the order of the day. However, it is also at this time when we often reflect on the loss of a loved one that passed on during the

Our prayer is that amongst the mixed emotions, may this Christmas be a time of peace and good will as we remember the real reason for the season. Our Saviour, Christ the King was born to bring hope to a dying world.





Pastor Samuel Thomas & Family (NTCG Southampton)

This Christmas we shout 'Emmanuel' on the streets. We shout 'Emmanuel' in the community. We shout 'Emmanuel' in the neighbourhood, the one Pentecostal voice we shout 'Emmanuel'. God is with us. Abundant Grace



Rev. Barbara Martin (NTCG West Ealing)

Wishing you a joyful and blessed Christmas! May the love of Christ touch your hearts, and His peace and hope guide you in the coming year. Merry Christmas, NTCG family!



Rev. Catherine Elizabeth Harris & Brother Frederick Harris (NTCG Woodgate)

Christmas greetings and wishing you a 'Divine' blessing as we celebrate the cherished birth of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ. As you approach 2025, we pray the 'Spirit' of health and joy goes with you! God's grace and richest blessings always!



The Walder Family (NTCG Tooting)

May your hearts be lifted in praise this Christmas for the wonderful gift of Jesus and the joy He brings to our lives. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Blessed New Year.



Bishop Donnovan Allen & Family (NTCG Northampton)

Our world needs the light which shone in that manger so many years ago like never before. Let us continue to be that light in our homes, our communities and in our world as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, this Christmas.



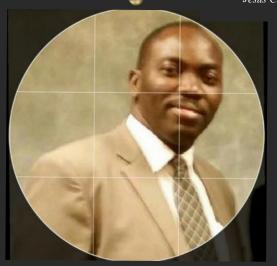
Bishop Jonathan Jackson & Family (NTCG Willesden)

Dear saints, as we come to the end of an eventful year our hearts can be warmed by a good Christmas celebration. We celebrate the birth of our King Jesus, our Emmanuel, together with families and the community of faith. We pray that the warmth of being together would be generated by the pure worship of Jesus Christ, our King, who is with us.



Mr Larry & Mrs Laurel Dinnal (NTCG Edmonton)

Let us reflect on the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Born of a virgin, 100% man 100% God, the lamb of God. Blessings and peace be with and your loved ones.

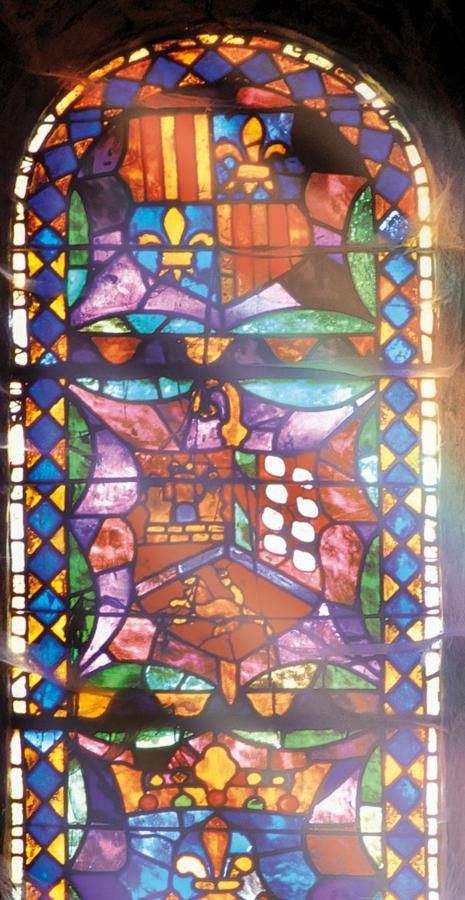


Mr Richard Bowen (NTCG West Croydon)

I would like to use this opportunity to wish you all, God's richest blessings over this festive Christmas season & beyond.











Names have special meanings, for the 12 Days Advent Devotional let's look at the meaning of names that are used to describe the deity and humanity of the Messiah. There are names of God that are used to indicate the relationship of God with his creation or creature. As we reflect on the names, please allow the Holy Spirit to **connect** us to the advent of our Lord.

#### 14th December

**Topic:** Names of the Messiah (Governmental Rule) **Scripture:** Isaiah 9:6

Wonderful - Describes Christ's distinguished and exceptional character . He is admirable and is incomparable.

**Counsellor** - Highlights the magnitude of His wisdom. Therefore, he is capable of giving the right advice.

Mighty God - Affirms the Messiah's divine nature. The Lord is a powerful warrior, He is God all by Himself.

**Everlasting Father** - Indicates that He is existing outside the limitation of time. As a Father He is a Provider and a Protector for His children.

**Prince of Peace** - declares hope to the world . His government is one of justice and peace . He is the true King who will usher in peace .

#### Meditation

Lord I pray that you will allow your Holy Spirit to connect us with you as we share fellowship with each other. I pray that we will listen to Your wise counsel to gain wisdom to live in peace and harmony. Amen

#### 15th December

**Topic :** Emmanuel (Hope)

Scripture: Isaiah 7:14 & Matthew 1: 23

The name Emmanuel was prophesied by Isaiah in Old Testament, and this prophesy was fulfilled in the book of Matthew in New Testament.

Isaiah prophesied that the Lord himself shall give a sign, and that a virgin shall conceive and bear son and His name will be called Emmanuel. In Matthew 1:23 the same message was given with the meaning of the name Emmanuel as 'God with us'.

Therefore, the word Emmanuel is not just a name but has Biblical meaning. John 1:14 explains that the word became and dwelt among us.

#### Meditation

Lord help us to be assured that your presence is with us and we are able to connect with you. Therefore, whatever you face today have assurance in God because his presence is with us. Amen

#### 16th December

**Topic:** Bread of Life (Connectivity)

Scripture: John 6:35

Jesus declared that He is the 'Bread of Life' indicating spiritual relationship or connectivity. In contrast to the term, 'Bread for life' which indicates physical sustenance.

The benefits to be gained from Jesus who is the 'Bread of Life 'is: Freedom from spiritual hunger by coming to Him, and freedom from spiritual thirst by believing in Him.

#### Meditation

Let us pray, Lord teach us your ways for connectivity, by coming to you and believing in you, to ensure that we will never be spiritually hungry or thirsty. Amen

#### 17th December

**Topic:** Lord of All (Inclusivism) **Scripture:** Philippians 2:9-11

The name 'Lord of All' was given to Jesus because of His humility, and made Himself of no reputation. He took on the form of Servanthood and obedience to the point of death.

Christ approach in his humility demonstrated His love for the entire world.

#### Meditation

Let us pray, Lord help us to appreciate the magnitude of your Love. You have shared your love for all in contrast to exclusivism, salvation is free for all who will accept you as Lord and Saviour. Help us learn from your example and to love each other regardless of their faults and failures

#### 18th December

**Topic:** Alpha and Omega ( Durability) **Scripture:** Revelation 22: 13

In a world where nothing last for ever, throw away mentality, changing to a newer model, God is from everlasting to everlasting.

The title Alpha and Omega, speaks of God as the beginning and the ending. It is reassuring to know that God is outside the realm of human limitations.

#### Meditation

Let us pray, Our Father we acknowledge you as our beginning and the ending of all things, thank you for your durability. May you grant us your peace to connect with you. Amen.

#### 19th December

**Topic:** The Light of the World (Illumination) **Scripture:** John 8:12

Light is important as its illumination allows us to see our surroundings and distinguish details. Jesus declares that 'He is the Light of the World '; if we follow Him we will not walk in the darkness but we will have the light of life.

The blessing of a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ is the light of life, a blessing which stretches into eternity.

#### Meditation

Let us pray, Lord, we acknowledge that you are the Light of this world, help us to walk in your Light, so that we can connect with you for eternity. Amen

#### 20th December

**Topic:** Chief Corner Stone ( Dependability)

Scripture: Psalm 118:22

A typical building has four corners, the chief corner stone of a building is the first stone that is laid down on the ground at one corner of the building. The importance of the chief corner stone is that all other stones are dependable to take the same angle of the chief corner stone.

The analogy of Jesus Christ as the Chief Corner Stone is positioned as the foundation of our faith. Our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ must be in line with the foundation Jesus had laid.

#### Meditation

Let us pray, Lord Jesus, I pray that our faith will align with the foundation that you have made. Our desire is to be correctly connected to you, our Chief Corner Stone.

#### 21st December

**Topic:** Son of the Most High (Supremacy) **Scripture:** Luke 1:32

The title 'Son of the Most High' is to describe the supremacy of Jesus Christ. In Hebrew culture, the concept of a 'son' Easy implies someone who has all the qualities of the Father.

Jesus, as the Son of the Most High , is believed to have all the Divine qualities of God the Father. This title describe the greatness of Jesus Christ and His eternal advent and reign

#### Meditation

Let us pray, Lord, help us to recognise You as the Son of the Most High God. Holy Spirit, guide us and connect us to Jesus, Son of the Most High God, we will look forward to His advent reign.

#### 22nd December

**Topic:** Good Shepherd (Leadership)

Scripture: John 10:11

The title 'Good Shepherd' indicate the leadership care that Jesus Christ gives to His people who are described as Sheep. Some of the qualities of Jesus as the Good Shepherd is; He labours out of love, He gives His life for the Sheep.

The Good Shepherd feeds the Sheep, tenderly cares for them and leads them wisely.

#### Meditation

Let us pray, we accept you as our Good Shepherd, we submit to your leadership for provision, protection and guidance.

#### 23rd December

**Topic:** The Lamb of God (Humility)

Scripture: John 1:29

The term 'The Lamb of God', is an implication of the humility and obedience of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the perfect and ultimate sacrifice for sin. The sacrifice of lambs played a very important role in Jewish religious life and the sacrificial system.

Christ as the Lamb of God died to make atonement for sin and pay the penalty of sin for all who believe in Him.

#### Meditation

Let us pray, We give thanks for the lamb of God who takes away our sins. We pray for humility that we will appreciate the sacrifice of the Lamb of God.

Amen

#### 24th December

#### 25th December

**Topic:** Head of the Church (Authority)

**Scripture:** 1Timothy 1:1

The 'Head of the Church' is a title given to Jesus Christ in the New Testament. This title denotes that Christ has sovereign Lordship and supreme authority over the Church.

As Christ is the head of the Church, therefore the church is obligated to follow under the authority of Christ.

#### Meditation

Let's pray, Lord help us as a church to be under the authority of Christ who is the head of the church. We trust your sovereign authority over the Church and will endeavour to connect and submit to your Lordship.

**Topic:** Saviour ( Gift of Love ) **Scripture:** Luke 2:11

The title 'Savior' indicates that Jesus Christ is the gift of Salvation. Salvation is the heart of the Christian faith, let us celebrate the gift of God's love towards us. We celebrate by accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and Master of our lives.

As we commemorate in this festive season, let us remember that the Lord Jesus Christ is the greatest Gift of Love.

#### Meditation

Let us pray, thank you Lord for today, for our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ, as our Gift of Love. We pray that as we accept this gift of love, that we will share the message of salvation to others so that they too can be connected to the gift of love

Amen.



Rev. Laurel Woodstock Senior Pastor - NTCG Oldbury

# For to us a child is born, to us a son is given

ISAIAH 9:6

#### HOLIDAY HACK!

# CHRISTMAS LEFTOVER







- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp chilli flakes (optional)
- 1 tsp paprika
- 6 eggs
- chopped cooked • 1/2 cup potatoes
- 1/2 cup chopped vegetables
- 1/4 cup meat (leftover)
- 1 cup grated cheddar cheese











A twist on the traditional Italian dish using leftover from your Christmas dinner.

#### THE METHOD

Pre heat grill to medium.

If using an oven, preheat to 200°c | Fan 180 °c | Gas mark 6.

Step 1: Heat 5 tbsp of oil in a non-stick frying pan over medium heat. Add onion, garlic and cook for about 2 minutes. Add the herbs, spices, potatoes, vegetables and diced meat. Heat thoroughly for about 5 minutes, stirring frequently.

Step 2: Crack the eggs into a bowl, season with a pinch of salt and black pepper then whisk to combine.

Step 3: Pour the egg mixture over the potato mixture, stir slightly to make sure the mixture spread evenly. Cook on low heat for about 5 minutes until it starts to set and coming away from the side of the pan; the middle should still be wobbly.

Step 4: Sprinkle the grated cheese on top and place under the preheated grill for about three to four minutes. If using the oven, cook for about 8 minutes until it sets and cheese is melted and the top is slightly brown.

Enjoy with your favourite sauce breakfast or with salad for lunch.

### HOW TO ENTER:

Our children's Nativity Christmas Art Competition is for anyone aged 3-12.

## READ

Read about the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-7), the angels appearing to the shepherds (Luke 2:8-21) and the wisemen visiting the stable (Matthew 2:1-12) in the Bible.
Click on the links or read the story from your bible.

## DRAW

Pick a part of the story and then draw or paint it on paper. We are looking for pictures that best show the details of the story.

#### 3 SEND

Get an adult to email us your picture to connect@ntcg.org.uk by Sunday 8th December 2024. Don't forget to tell us your name and your age.

4 WIN

SNYT//S

E30

GIFT CARD

Winner will be notified by email on Tuesday 10th December 2024.





□ 30 - Exodus 17-20



Most Christians never completely read the whole Bible. Many people start reading the Bible but then become overwhelmed by the number of chapters (1,189) and verses (31,102) there are. What we don't realize is that we can read the Bible in a year by reading fewer than four chapters a day. By dividing the Bible into 365 daily readings, your goal of reading the Bible in a year can easily be accomplished, so let us do this together! Click here to read Bible Society online bible.

BIBLE

Польты по	Society offinite office.			
□ 1 - Genesis 1-3 □ 2 - Joshua 1-5 □ 2 - Isaiah 23-28 □ 3 - Psalms 1-2 □ 4 - Job 1-2 □ 5 - Isaiah 1-6 □ 6 - Matthew 1-2 □ 7 - Romans 1-2 □ 8 - Genesis 4-7 □ 1 - Job 17-18 □ 1 - Job 17-18 □ 1 - I Corinthians 9-10 □ 2 - Isaiah 45-50 □ 2 - Exodus 1-4 □ 3 - Matthew 23-25 □ 3 - I Samuel 16-20 □ 4 - I Corinthians 1-2 □ 4 - Psalms 39-41 □ 5 - Genesis 36-39 □ 5 - Job 27-28 □ 6 - Ruth □ 6 - Jeremiah 7-11 □ 7 - Psalms 27-29 □ 7 - Mark 7-8 □ 8 - Job 11-12 □ 8 - Job 19-20 □ 8 - I Corinthians 11-12	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
□ 10 - Psalms 3-5 □ 11 - Job 3-4 □ 12 - Isaiah 7-11 □ 12 - Genesis 24-27 □ 13 - Matthew 3-4 □ 14 - Romans 3-4 □ 15 - Genesis 8-11 □ 16 - Joshua 11-15 □ 17 - Psalms 6-8 □ 17 - Psalms 6-8 □ 19 - Isaiah 12-17 □ 20 - Matthew 5-7 □ 21 - Romans 5-6 □ 22 - Genesis 12-15 □ 10 - Matthew 26-28 □ 10 - ISamuel 21-25 □ 11 - I Corinthians 3-4 □ 11 - Psalms 42-44 □ 12 - Genesis 40-43 □ 12 - Job 29-30 □ 13 - ISamuel 1-5 □ 13 - Jeremiah 12-16 □ 14 - Psalms 30-32 □ 15 - Job 21-22 □ 16 - Isaiah 30-32 □ 16 - Isaiah 56-61 □ 17 - Matthew 17-19 □ 18 - I Corinthians 5-6 □ 19 - Isaiah 12-17 □ 20 - Matthew 5-7 □ 21 - Psalms 5-6 □ 22 - Job 15-16 □ 22 - Job 23-24 □ 20 - Jeremiah 17-21 □ 21 - Mark 11-12	□ 1 - Genesis 1-3 □ 2 - Joshua 1-5 □ 3 - Psalms 1-2 □ 4 - Job 1-2 □ 5 - Isaiah 1-6 □ 6 - Matthew 1-2 □ 7 - Romans 1-2 □ 8 - Genesis 4-7 □ 9 - Joshua 6-10 □ 10 - Psalms 3-5 □ 11 - Job 3-4 □ 12 - Isaiah 7-11 □ 13 - Matthew 3-4 □ 14 - Romans 3-4 □ 15 - Genesis 8-11 □ 16 - Joshua 11-15 □ 17 - Psalms 6-8 □ 18 - Job 5-6 □ 19 - Isaiah 12-17 □ 20 - Matthew 5-7 □ 21 - Romans 5-6 □ 22 - Genesis 12-15 □ 23 - Joshua 16-20 □ 24 - Psalms 9-11 □ 25 - Job 7-8 □ 26 - Isaiah 18-22 □ 27 - Matthew 8-10 □ 28 - Romans 7-8 □ 29 - Genesis 16-19	1 - Job 9-10 2 - Isaiah 23-28 3 - Matthew 11-13 4 - Romans 9-10 5 - Genesis 20-23 6 - Judges 1-6 7 - Psalms 15-17 8 - Job 11-12 9 - Isaiah 29-33 10 - Matthew 14-16 11 - Romans 11-12 12 - Genesis 24-27 13 - Judges 7-11 14 - Psalms 18-20 15 - Job 13-14 16 - Isaiah 34-39 17 - Matthew 17-19 18 - Romans 13-14 19 - Genesis 28-31 20 - Judges 12-16 21 - Psalms 21-23 22 - Job 15-16 23 - Isaiah 40-44 24 - Matthew 20-22 25 - Romans 15-16 26 - Genesis 32-35 27 - Judges 17-21	□ 1 - Job 17-18 □ 2 - Isaiah 45-50 □ 3 - Matthew 23-25 □ 4 - I Corinthians 1-2 □ 5 - Genesis 36-39 □ 6 - Ruth □ 7 - Psalms 27-29 □ 8 - Job 19-20 □ 9 - Isaiah 51-55 □ 10 - Matthew 26-28 □ 11 - I Corinthians 3-4 □ 12 - Genesis 40-43 □ 13 - I Samuel 1-5 □ 14 - Psalms 30-32 □ 15 - Job 21-22 □ 16 - Isaiah 56-61 □ 17 - Mark 1-2 □ 18 - I Corinthians 5-6 □ 19 - Genesis 44-47 □ 20 - I Samuel 6-10 □ 21 - Psalms 33-35 □ 22 - Job 23-24 □ 23 - Isaiah 62-66 □ 24 - Mark 3-4 □ 25 - I Corinthians 7-8 □ 26 - Genesis 48-50 □ 27 - I Samuel 11-15 □ 28 - Psalms 36-38 □ 29 - Job 25-26	□ 1 - I Corinthians 9-10 □ 2 - Exodus 1-4 □ 3 - I Samuel 16-20 □ 4 - Psalms 39-41 □ 5 - Job 27-28 □ 6 - Jeremiah 7-11 □ 7 - Mark 7-8 □ 8 - I Corinthians 11-12 □ 9 - Exodus 5-8 □ 10 - I Samuel 21-25 □ 11 - Psalms 42-44 □ 12 - Job 29-30 □ 13 - Jeremiah 12-16 □ 14 - Mark 9-10 □ 15 - I Corinthians 13-14 □ 16 - Exodus 9-12 □ 17 - I Samuel 26-31 □ 18 - Psalms 45-47 □ 19 - Job 31-32 □ 20 - Jeremiah 17-21 □ 21 - Mark 11-12 □ 22 - I Corinthians 15-16 □ 23 - Exodus 13-16 □ 24 - II Samuel 1-4 □ 25 - Psalms 48-50 □ 26 - Job 33-34 □ 27 - Jeremiah 22-26 □ 28 - Mark 13-14

☐ 31 - Mark 5-6

The reading plan from May to August will be featured in the next issue.

□ 31 - Psalms 12-14

# CHURCH NEWS

Connecting members of the New Testament Church of God to its leadership and to each other.



SENIOR PASTORS' PRAYER MEETING January 11, 2025 For more info, click <u>HERE</u>



NATIONAL YOUTH DAY OF PRAYER January 18, 2025 For more info, click <u>HERE</u>



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CONFERENCE FEATURING

ANNUAL OLIVER LYSEIGHT LECTURE February 8, 2025 (To register - Click <u>HERE</u>)



REIMAGINE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT February 21 – 22, 2025 For more info, click <u>HERE</u>

