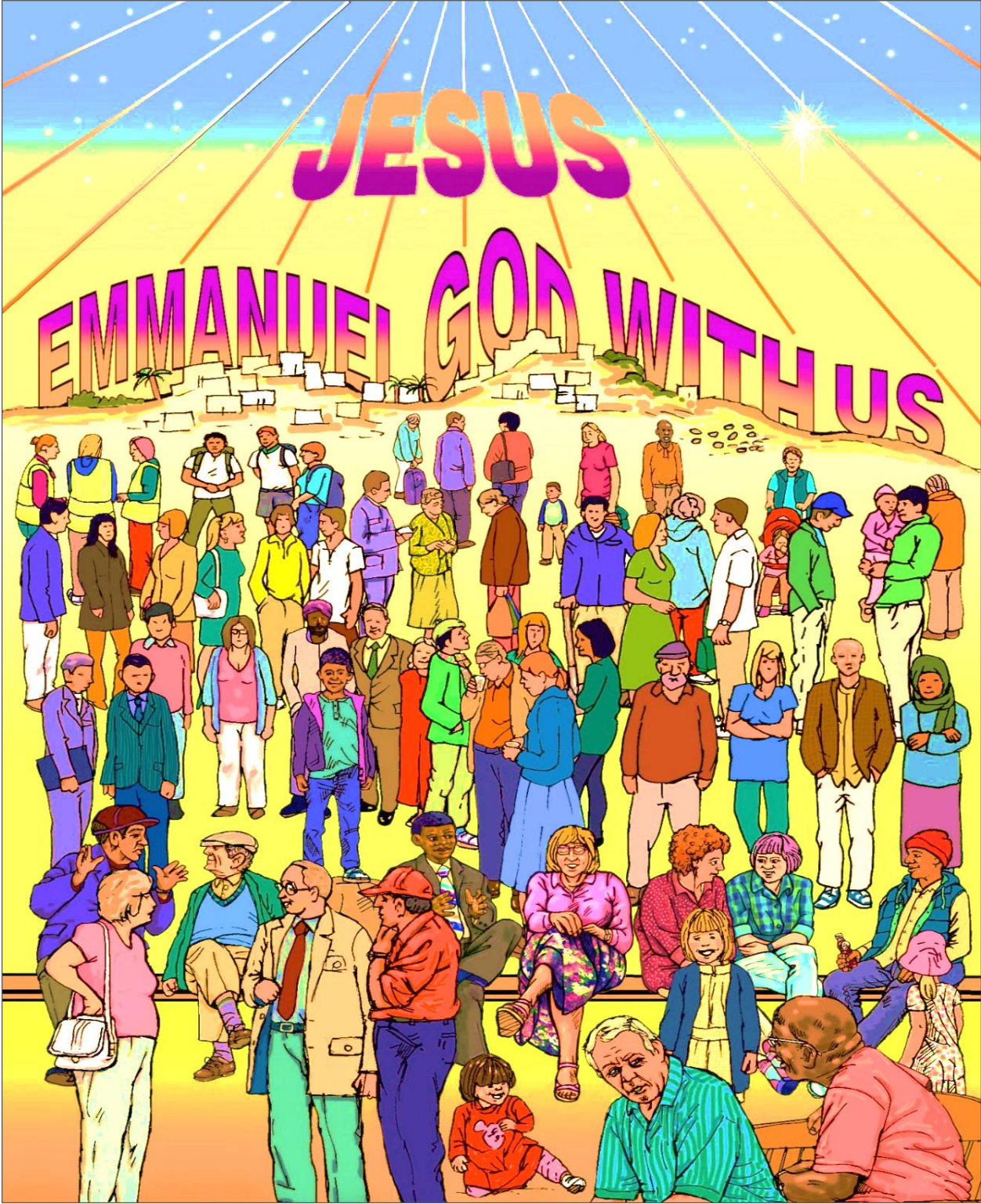


EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter – Saturday 21st December 2024

NEXT ISSUE - 4th JANUARY 2025



SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER

9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. GATEHOUSE Drop donations at 15 Newland Street (*between these times only please*). Homemade cakes and sandwiches should be labelled with name, date and contents. Gatehouse would welcome all the usual items plus warm clothing, hats, scarfs etc and some extra Christmas goodies if you can. They are very grateful for all donations throughout the year and wish everyone a very Happy Christmas.



10.30 a.m. MORNING SERVICE

Led by Maureen Thompson
Preacher - Revd Stephen Gaukroger
Christmas Uncut - The Magi: Wise or crazy?

Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXSLz5V86D98t1FqLLAwWlg/live>

6.00 p.m. CAROLS by CANDLELIGHT
A traditional service of lessons and carols
Retiring collection for Asylum Welcome

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00 a.m. FAMILY SERVICE

Led by Revd Zoltan Biro
Christmas Uncut: The Old Man: Not Santa, Simeon

SUNDAY 29th DECEMBER

10.30 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE HALL

Led by Janet & Steve Gaukroger
Christmas Uncut - Jesus: the baby grew up

COFFEE, CROISSANTS and PASTRIES from 10:15 a.m.
followed by service

Let's Be Wise at Christmas

“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 when it rose and have come to worship him.”

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:1-2,11)

As we enter this season of joy and celebration, the story of the Magi invites us to reflect on what's the true meaning of wisdom. These wise men did not just admire the star from afar; they followed it with purpose, seeking something greater than themselves.

Being wise at Christmas doesn't mean having all the answers or the perfect plan - it means having hearts like the Magi, ready to follow God's leading. It means pausing in the busyness to ask: What star am I following? What gift can I bring to Christ?

The Magi brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh, but our gifts can be just as meaningful. A moment of generosity, a prayer of gratitude, a word of encouragement, or simply time spent with someone who needs love -these are the wise gifts of Christmas.

Let us be wise this Christmas by embracing what truly matters: the joy of Christ's birth, the peace He offers, and the love He calls us to share. Like the Magi, let us follow His light with

faith, knowing it will lead us to what is good and true.

Wishing you a Christmas filled with His wisdom, joy, and peace,

Zoltan



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 st	Temidayo
3 rd	Ann G.
4 th	George B.
6 th	Jaedon
10 th	John M.
26 th	Sue L.
28 th	Larry

THERE WILL BE NO COFFEE MORNING IN JANUARY

Sunday 5th January 2025

10.30 a.m. All-Age Service.

3.00 p.m. Songs of Praise.

Thursday 9th January 2025

10.30 a.m. Bible Study resumes led by Zoltan. Meets in the hall 2nd & 4th Thursdays: all are welcome.

Noon Communion will resume on Thursday 16th January 2025

Sunday 12th January 2025

12.00 noon Church Meeting All members and regular attendees are welcome and encouraged to attend.



At this time of general celebration, we pray for those for whom this will be a difficult Christmas:

- those who have lost loved ones;
- those who will be alone;
- those who will be in hospital;
- those who will be homeless;
- those who will be in fear - of war, persecution or domestic conflict;
- those who will be stressed by the pressures to spend money they don't have;
- those in prison and their families;

And may we all look beyond our circumstances, and the glitter, and discern God's presence, now and throughout the coming year.

Christmas Dilemma

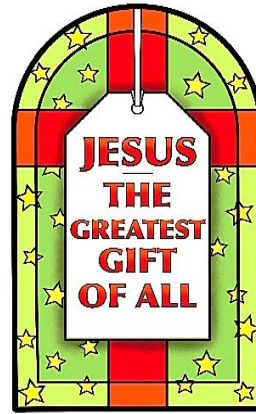
What a dilemma for a slimmer
Eating all that Christmas fare,
Getting fatter, what's it matter?
It's only once a year.

Now the party has begun,
Crackers and cheese and party hats
Turkey with trimmings, presents
with ribbons,
Figgy pudding - do we still eat that?

Food a-plenty, plates all empty
Waistbands bursting, no room left,
Soon we'll reach for the Alka Seltzer
That's the truth, I do not jest.

Celebrations, assignations,
party frocks with lots of bling,
But the reason for the season
Is the Baby in the manger,
came to earth as a stranger
Peace on earth and joy to bring.

Megan Carter



**Zoltan and our
Deacons send you
best wishes for
a very
Happy Christmas.**

May we all know
God's leading and
blessing through the
coming year.

CONTACT NUMBERS

ASYLUM WELCOME

Marcus Thompson 01865 881808
<https://www.asylum-welcome.org/>

DAILY HOPE

Free telephone line 0800 804 8044
24 hour music, prayers, reflections and
worship services from Church of England.

EYNSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Lombard Street, Eynsham OX29 4HT
01865 882203 (office ansaphone)
Email: eynsham.baptists@gmail.com

MINISTER - Revd Dr Zoltan Biro

01865 881670
minister@eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk
DEACONS Maureen Thompson, June Poole
and Sue Law

Messy Church Maureen - 01865 881808
June - 01865 375130
Sue - 07796 955472

Teens Sue - 07796 955472
June - 01865 375130

Lunch Club Maureen - 01865 881808
Pamela - 01865 426203

Hall Bookings

Rebecca Carley - 07554 012535
bookings@eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk

Care and Support

Denise Launchbury - 01865 881128
Malcolm & Barbara Cook - 07896 271905
or 01865 375730

Newsletter

Available by email and on church website

<https://www.eynshambaptistchurch.co.uk>

Lin Miller - linmiller25@gmail.com

Print Deadline mid-day Fridays

(subject to space/editorial discretion)

EYNSHAM FOOD BANK

Call 07450 328530 to request help

Food donations welcomed in Co-op, Spar
and Market Garden. Donate online at

<https://bit.ly/Eynsham-FB>

