

Carterknowle Methodist Church Newsletter

December 2009 / January 2010

No. 184

www.carterknowle.ecclesallmethodist.org (Carterknowle)

www.ecclesallmethodist.org (Circuit)

Events at Carterknowle

Carols and Mince pies

11am to noon, Saturday 19th December

Do join us in front of Carterknowle Church, singing carols and giving out mince pies and coffee to those passing by.

Carol Service

Sunday 20th December 4pm.

Come and share our celebration of Jesus' birth, followed by tea in the hall.

Carols on Christmas Eve.

Why not join the carol singers on Christmas Eve?

Starting at Brenda Wynne's at 7 p.m. Or would you like us to call? We sing outside and all the neighbours can hear. Help us to share the real meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Day Service

Friday 25th December 11am.

Join us at Carterknowle as we celebrate Jesus' birth.

New Year's Eve

There is no party at Carterknowle on New Year's Eve. But if you are going to the watch night service at 11.30 p.m. and would like to join us at 116 Bannerdale Road from 8.30 p.m. onwards you will be welcome.

Please bring food to share- and a game if you have one.

Watchnight Service

Thursday 31st December 11.30pm.

A short service at Carterknowle. Welcome in the New Year in Our Lord's house.

If you want information about all the special things happening around Christmas you can find most of them on the Church website. See www.carterknowle.ecclesallmethodist.org.

From Our Minister

Dear Friends,

We are fast approaching Christmas and I have just heard the list of the top ten 'must have gifts' for this year. I wonder to what extent items from this list will heighten the anticipation and expectation on Christmas morning. One of the items, a children's toy, did not feature in a large toy stores Christmas catalogue this year because supplies are not on the shelves for longer than one minute! Word of mouth is apparently lifting sales.

As we journey through Advent we will be presented with a number of readings from scripture recording 'word of mouth' proclamations of a coming king; a messiah. Before he was born there were a number of expectations of this messiah and many looked forward to His coming with anticipation. But Jesus confounded expectations coming as a child born in humble circumstances, heralded by Angels, worshipped first by Shepherds and visited by gift bearing Magi. Christmas reminds us of the very best gift of all, one that we should embrace with anticipation and expectation:

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. [John 3: 16 – 17 NIV]

May we travel through Advent with a heightened sense of anticipation and expectation centred on Christ as we look to His coming bringing light to the world. Jesus, whose reign is not part of a transitory top ten, but whose offering of love and life is freely given and lasts from everlasting to everlasting.

I pray that you might know the love and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas and in the New Year. May our words and our actions proclaim His love this day and always.

Love,
Francis

What's On

	Sunday 6th December	Sunday 13th December
Morning Service		
Pre-Service Singing (10.30am) led by	Howard Baxter	Katrin Hackett
Morning Service (10.45am) led by	Revd. R. Burge (Holy Communion)	Brian Speed
Church Steward	Mark Goldsworthy	John Hackett
Door Stewards	Val Leigh	Margaret Bellamy Brenda Wynne
Evening Service		
Evening Service (6.30pm) led by	Revd. Francis Neil (Share the Feast)	- No Service -
Church Steward	Euphie Reid	
Events		
Monday 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open 2.00pm Ladies F/ship (TBA) 7.00 - 9.00pm The Edge	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open 7.00 - 9.00pm The Edge
Tuesday	9.30am Prayer & Praise 10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	9.30am Prayer & Praise 10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open
Wednesday	Wednesday Club 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open
Thursday	10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open
Friday		
Saturday		

December

Sunday 20th December	Christmas Service 25th December 11am	Sunday 27th December
Morning Service		
Simon ETTY		Maureen Baxter
Ted Hunt	Revd. Francis Neil	John Harding
Euphie Reid		Leroy Wenham
Pat Dowling Alex Dowling		Peter Cassidy Eva Coldwell
Evening Service		
Carol Service 4pm Revd. Francis Neil	- No Service -	- No Service -
Leroy Wenham		
Events		
7.00 - 9.00pm The Edge		
9.30am Prayer & Praise 10.30am Carers & Toddlers		
10.30am Carers & Toddlers		

What's On

	Sunday 3rd January	Sunday 10th January
Morning Service		
Pre-Service Singing (10.30am) led by	Elaine Holberry	Val Leigh
Morning Service (10.45am) led by	Revd. Francis Neil (Holy Communion)	Revd. Robert Lewis
Church Steward	StJohn Wright	Simon ETTY
Door Stewards	Joan Carter Ada Klufus	Theresa Lewis Ian Lewis
Evening Service		
Evening Service (6.30pm) led by	Revd. Francis Neil (Share the Feast)	- No Service -
Church Steward	John Hackett	
Events		
Monday 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open 7.00 - 9.00pm The Edge	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open 7.00 - 9.00pm The Edge
Tuesday	9.30am Prayer & Praise 10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	9.30am Prayer & Praise 10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open
Wednesday	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open
Thursday	10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open
Friday		
Saturday		

January

Sunday 17th January	Sunday 24th January	Sunday 31st January
Morning Service		
Howard Baxter	Katrin Hackett	Simon Etty
Revd. Francis Neil	David Green	Pauline Mann
Mark Goldsworthy	Euphie Reid	John Hackett
Gloria Curtis Jean Dawson	Maureen Nunn Thomas Holberry	Kath Timmiss Stan Timmiss
Evening Service		
- No Service -	- No Service -	- No Service -
Events		
10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open 7.00 - 9.00pm The Edge	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open 7.00 - 9.00pm The Edge	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open 7.00 - 9.00pm The Edge
9.30am Prayer & Praise 10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	9.30am Prayer & Praise 10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	9.30am Prayer & Praise 10.30am Carers & Toddlers 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open
Wednesday Club 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open	Wednesday Club 10.30 - 3.00 Cafe Open
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News

Shoe Boxes

A big thank you to everyone who did a shoe box. We collected 44 boxes and one donation. I know these will be appreciated by the children in eastern Europe.

For information, videos and inspirational stories, the official website is:

www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk

Margaret

Thank you everyone for cards, visits, help etc... I hope to be back to normal soon.

I apologise for being unable to do a Prayer Diary, but trust something in the thoughts and prayers will make you think. Thanks to Carole for typing my scribble and probably adding a few of her own thoughts.

Ruth

District Network Morning Market

There will be various Stalls with coffee provided.

Where: Victoria Hall

When: Friday 4th December,
10am until 1pm

Website!

Carterknowle Church has had its own website for some time now. Updated regularly by an illegal army of cybermonkeys, it is a useful source of information about upcoming events and church groups as well as hosting some photos of our church.

Just follow the link on the first page of this newsletter.

HARC (Homeless and Rootless at Christmas)

A big thank you to everyone who donated clothes to HARC last month. They will make a big difference and be greatly appreciated.

Carole



Monday Housegroups (8pm)

Mon 7th Dec - 116 Bannerdale Road
Mon 21st Dec - 116 Bannerdale Road

Tuesday Housegroups (8pm)

Tue 1st Dec - 74 Quarry Lane
Tue 15th Dec - 60 Archer Lane
January TBA

If you are thinking of joining one of our groups, you'd be very welcome. We usually follow a Bible passage or topic with relevant questions we can discuss. We finish with refreshments. If you would like further details, see Ruth or Katrin.

Christmas cards.

Many members at Carterknowle send one card to all their friends at Church, which we use as part of the decorations and give a donation to Children's Hospital scanner.

Please put your card and donation in the boxes provided.

Sunday 6th - Hunger lunch.

Do stay after church and have a small lunch and give what you would spend on your normal Sunday lunch for H.A.R.C.



Closures

	Last Occurrence	Resumes on
Ladies Meeting	Tuesday 7th December	Tuesday 8th February
Cafe	Thursday 17th December	Monday 4th January
Monday Housegroup	Monday 21st December	February

We have a Prayer Chain at Carterknowle - if you know of someone who needs prayer all you have to do is contact Maureen Baxter Tel. No. 2817116 or if Maureen is not available Ruth Webster Tel. No. 2819722. Your prayer requests will then be passed on to other members on the Prayer Chain team.

We also have a Prayer Team at Carterknowle. Please feel free to share your prayers with them before, during or after the service. The Prayer Team members are: Diane Maragh, Ruth Webster, Kay Gilbert and Maureen Baxter.

The Extra Electric Train

Though money didn't flow as freely as the rain that winter, my parents worked with joyful anticipation to give my brother and me a Christmas present we would never forget. They scrimped for months and then spent more than they could probably afford for a Marx electric train.

Then the day before Christmas, a cousin stationed at a nearby military base pulled into the driveway. Opening the trunk of his car he lifted out a large heavy box. My brother and I could hardly wait to see what it was. On Christmas morning we opened it first. Eagerly we unwrapped an expensive new electric train set. Wow! You had to pull us down off the ceiling. A Lionel train, too! Then we opened the presents from our parents - another electric train. Ho hum. And not nearly as extravagant as the one from our cousin. Guess whose we played with most?

Mom and Dad were hurt. The outlay for an unmarried Air Force lieutenant was nothing compared to the sacrifice my parents had made. But all we saw was the glamour of an expensive train. We counted our parents' gift as merely a nice accessory.

Our heavenly Father spends many a disappointing Christmas. Amidst the glittering ornaments and flashing Christmas lights, the hurry and hustle of shopping and wrapping and family get-togethers, parties and presents, trees and turkeys - who really cares about His gift? What gets more attention from us: our Father's gift of life in Jesus Christ or the quickly-wrapped department store gifts from our cousins?

Thank you, Father, for Jesus. Thank you for the abundant life that we, His disciples, can enjoy now. Thank you for sending us a most expensive gift - your own life. Thank you!

Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

Radical Hospitality

The series exploring Radical Hospitality will start on Tuesday 12th January, from 8 - 9:30pm in the church. All are welcome.

Emmaus

The Emmaus group will meet on Thursday, 3rd December , 7:30pm at church, in the crèche

We will be having a Christmas meal at the Fulwood Inn on 17th December – please see Diane Maragh or Carole Smith if you would like to join us.

The group does not plan to meet during January in order to enable our participation in the Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations sessions.

Carol Singing

Carol Singing for Christian Aid in Norfolk Row on Saturday 5th Dec from 2:30 - 3:30. Singers and collectors wanted.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from Monday 19th Jan to Monday 25th Jan. For full details of venues and times see the poster in the lobby. To find out more, visit www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer.

Lent Study Groups

Lent Study Groups: Churches Together in Abbeydale are planning to run the Lenten Study groups in 2010. More details about this will follow in the new year. We will be looking for people willing to host a group and also to lead (or co-lead) a group.

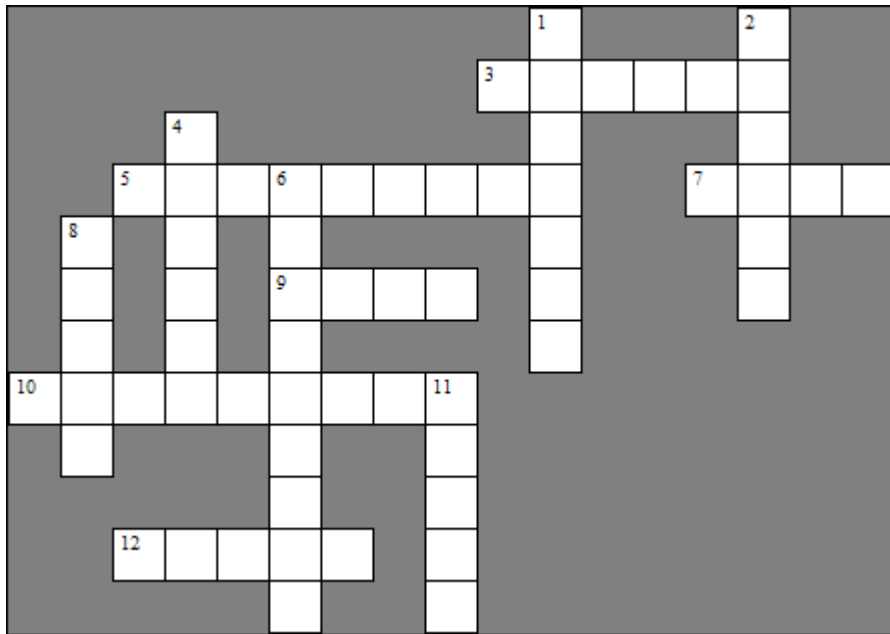
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATOR Based at Banner Cross Church

15 hours per week, £7.50 per hour

Provide admin support to Circuit Ministers
Computer literacy essential

For an application pack please phone 0114 236 1306
Closing date – 14 December 2009

Christmas Crossword



ACROSS

- 3 Baby Jesus's bed (6)
- 5 The day after Christmas (6,2)
- 7 Jesus's mother (4)
- 9 Something the angels did sing (4)
- 10 Town where Jesus was born (9)
- 12 The number of wise men (5)

DOWN

- 1 _____ Carol, name of a carol (7)
- 2 Circular band of flowers or leaves (6)
- 4 Jesus's father (6)
- 6 Stable owner (9)
- 8 Sits atop a Christmas tree? (5)
- 11 One of the wise men's gifts (5)

Answer to last issue's puzzles:

- 1. incorrectly
- 2. 10 feet
- 3. Your heart.
- 4. Ant
- 5. Strait. The rest are land masses.

