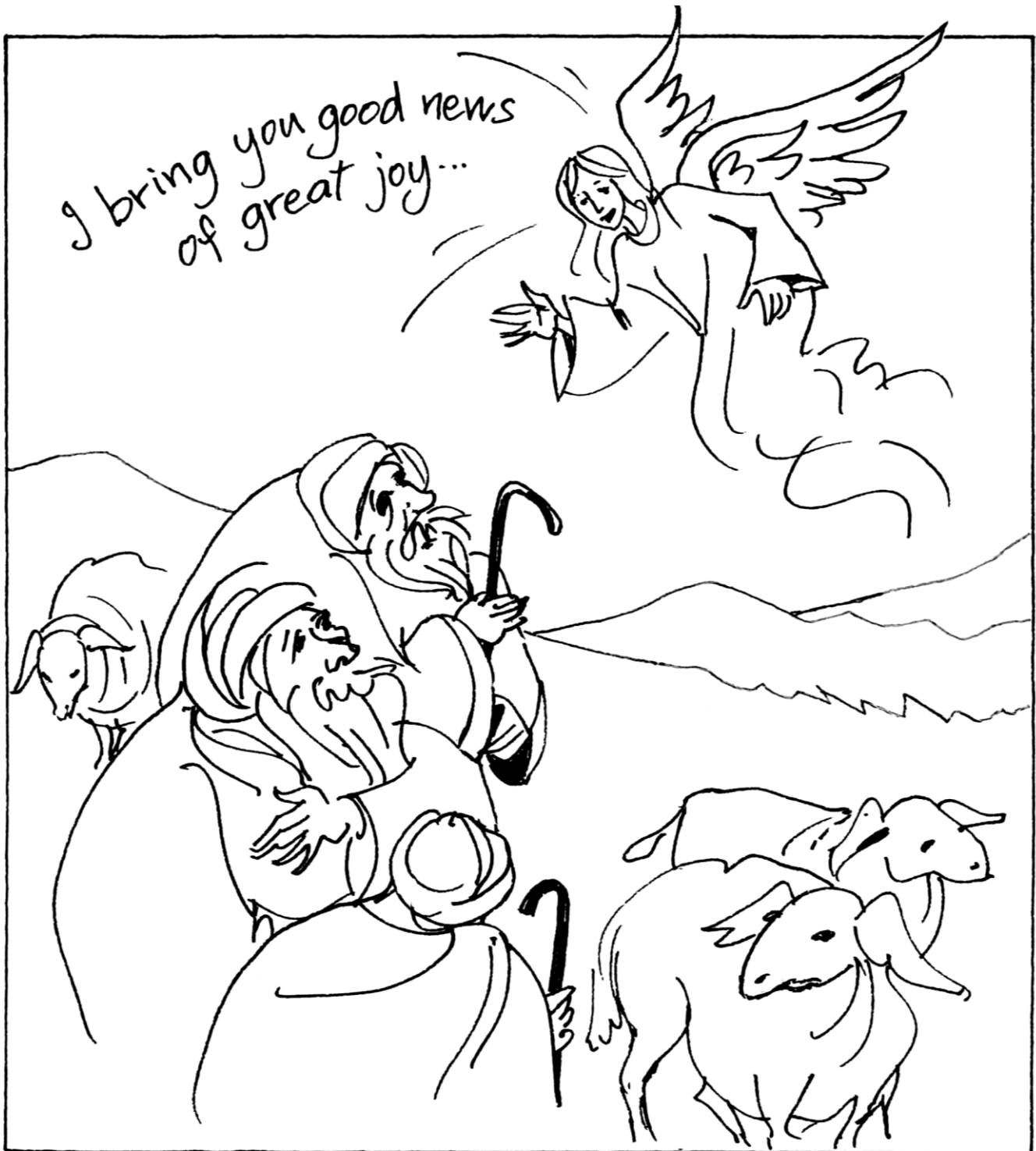




December 2012
& January 2013



Hanham Methodist Church



Minister: Rev Andrew Prout BA – Tel (0117) 9326692

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Hanham Methodist Church Magazine

The Hanham Methodist Church Magazine is the monthly Magazine of Hanham Methodist Church, in the Bristol & South Gloucestershire Circuit of the Methodist Church. Opinions expressed in some articles are those of the author of the article and do not necessarily reflect Church Policy. All enquiries need to be directed to the minister.

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Articles for the next magazine should be submitted by:- **13 January**

Copies of this magazine are placed on the Church Web-site and therefore the details in all articles will be subject to on line search-engines. Submissions of all articles should therefore highlight any information you do not wish to be accessible to the World Wide Web. Such information will then appear in the paper copies only.

We welcome all people to our church; you don't need to be a member to attend our worship.

Worship at Hanham Methodist Church

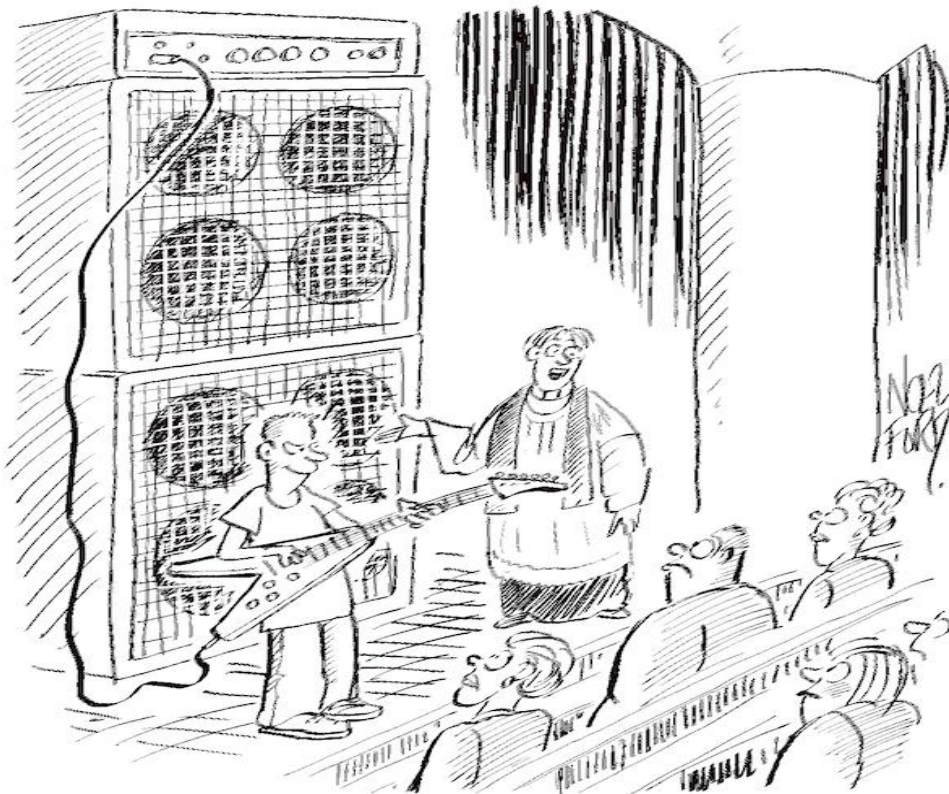
Worship at Hanham is traditional Methodist, in an informal and welcoming style. Hymn singing is led by our traditional pipe organ and we have a loop system for those who are hard of hearing. Notices, Service Sheets and the Church Magazine are all available in larger print and Services on CD are available for the housebound.

Everyone will be most welcome at any of our services.

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"For the next part of our carol-service, Nigel, the verger's nephew will play his interpretation of Silent Night..."

Word from the Minister

Dear Friends

An angel said to them 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the City of David a Saviour has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord. Luke 2 vv 10-11

As I look back over 2012 there is no doubt that many will remember the year for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics. Both the achievements of the Queen over sixty years and the exceptional performance of Team GB's Olympians and Paralympians have rightly been celebrated. Such accolades were gained of course as a result of years of dedication and service, and only at the end has the true achievement of the Queen and these athletes become apparent. These people were all at one time unknown. Now they are universally known and praised by many. When Jesus was born it was to an unknown couple from a small corner of a far flung outpost of the then Roman Empire. Jesus was cradled in Mary's arms as just another statistic on the Roman Census and subsequently grew up largely unnoticed in His home village. At the time of Jesus a Hebrew saying from their sacred writings was known and sometimes quoted...

Call no man Messiah until he has completed his task.

It explains why Jesus never sought such a title until the end of His life, and it is only in Matthew's Gospel on the final page at the ascension that the disciples are gathered and upon seeing him they worship him. By then they could do no other. They had witnessed his adult ministry, his teaching in Galilee, his concern for the poor, his feeding of the multitude, his rising of the dead, his challenging of injustice, his sharing of bread, his washing of feet, his arrest, his crucifixion and his resurrection. There is no doubt in that moment they knew that He who had been among them had been the Son of God. This of course is the greatest miracle – the Incarnation – the knowledge in the words of John that the word has become flesh dwelling among us full of grace and truth. In Christ God indeed draws near and

shares our human experience in order that we too can be raised to his glorious kingdom. In the words of an early Christian theologian 'He became like us so that we might become like Him'.

The incarnation is a truly wonderful and mighty thing – 'Our God contracted to a span incomprehensibly made man' (C. Wesley). Mystery and yet reality it lies at the heart of our faith, that here 'Cradled in a manger meanly lay the Son of Man his head'. He comes to save, to liberate, to heal, to bring peace, to lift up the broken hearted, to give life in all its fullness and to lead us and all people from darkness to light, and from death even unto eternal life. Our knowledge of such things must surely mean that even at His birth with the shepherds and the magi we must humbly bow. We can do no other. In His gift of Himself lies both our hope and our salvation and the hope of men and women everywhere. We therefore join with the hosts above in celebrating Jesus' birth proclaiming aloud ...

'Glory to God in the Highest and peace on whom His favour rests'

Finally, I look forward to sharing in the Christmas services with you and to celebrating the Covenant Service on January 6th as we join with Methodists since 1755 in committing ourselves anew to God at the beginning of a New Year. We also hold in our thoughts especially at this time of year members of our Church and wider community who are housebound, those who are unwell or in hospital, those who have been recently bereaved and all who have need of our prayers. We find strength in each other and in the Saviour born for us all. I thank you for your support through 2012 and pray that you with me this sacred season may know the peace that Christ gives. For unto us and for the world a child is born – Immanuel – God with us! Let our voices be raised in thanksgiving.

Peace and Blessings

Andrew

Sunday's Services

December

2 nd	10.45am 4.00pm 6.00pm	Rev Andrew Prout Messy Church Mr John Creech	Communion
9 th	10.45am 6.00pm	Gift Service Rev Barry Bishop	
16 th	10.45am 6.00pm	Youth Church Rev Andrew Prout	Communion
23 rd	10.45am 6.00pm	Rev Andrew Prout Carol Service	
30 th	10.45am 6.00pm	Mrs Glenys Lewis Rev Andrew Prout	

January

6 th	10.45am 4.00pm 6.00pm	Rev Andrew Prout Messy Church Mrs Kate Kernaghan	Communion
13 th	10.45am 6.00pm	Mrs Julia Gilborson Food and Fellowship	
20 th	10.45am 6.00pm	Rev David Adams Rev Andrew Prout	
27 th	10.45am 6.00pm	Mr Mike Phillpotts Mrs Joy Harris	

December Dates

- 2 Dec Messy Church at 4.00pm
- 7 Dec Hanham High Street Christmas Fayre
- 8 Dec Church Prayer Meeting at 10.00am
- 9 Dec Gift Service at 10.45am (All Age Worship)
- 11 Dec Messy Church Planning Meeting at 6.30pm
- 12 Dec Circuit Meeting at Badminton Road at 7.30pm
- 16 Dec Morning Service led by Youth Church
- 22 Dec Church Prayer Meeting at 10.00am
- 23 Dec Carols by Candlelight at 6.00pm
- 24 Dec Crib Service at 4.00pm led by Theresa Warrey & Eleanor Bakker
Midnight Communion Service 11.15pm
- 25 Dec Family Service at 9.30am led by Veronica Jackson

January Dates

- 1 Jan Church Open for Reflection and Prayer at 2.30pm – 4.30pm
- 6 Jan Covenant Service at 10.45am
Messy Church at 4.00pm
- 12 Jan Church Prayer Meeting at 10.00am
- 13 Jan Food and Fellowship at 6.00pm
- 15 Jan Worship Consultation at 7.30pm
- 20 Jan Week of Prayer for Christian Unity United Service at 6.00pm
- 26 Jan Church Prayer Meeting at 10.00am
- 28 Jan Local Preachers Meeting at Fishponds at 7.30pm

Y's Mens Club of Hanham, Singalong-a-Film Night Friday **11 January, 2013.**

Following our very successful film night last year we have decided to run another. This year it will be the classic favourite "The Sound of Music". Please come and join us for a really fun evening, singing not compulsory!

Start time 7.00pm and tea, coffee, squash and biscuits will be supplied. Sweets will also be on sale.

We ask for your donations of £2 per adult, £1 per child or more towards our charities. Names to any Y's Man or just turn up on the night.

Santa

I am terrified of the Santa at the shopping centre where I work. Our HR person talked it over with me, and has discovered I am Claustrophobic.

NEW – Magazine Disclaimer

Copies of this magazine will be placed on the Church Website and therefore the details in all articles will be subject to on line search-engines. Submissions of all articles should therefore highlight any information you do not wish to be accessible to the World Wide Web. Such information will then appear in the paper copies only.

Presents

December is the month when the children begin to discuss what to get Dad for Christmas. Some insist on a shirt; others a pair of socks. But the argument always ends in a tie.

Advent House Groups 2012

Our house groups got off to a good start with Andrew leading us on the Advent and Christmas hymns, looking at both the words and the music. We sang several with Natalie accompanying us on the piano.

At the second meeting Natalie, our musical director, will talk about the hymns of Wesley, a subject she studied for her Master's degree. Again there will be an opportunity for singing. The final week we are all invited to talk about our favourite Advent hymn and Christmas carol before we sing it.

The dates and venues are:-

Wednesday 5 December at 4 Hunters Close

Thursday 13 December at 58 Greenbank Road

Both meetings start at 7.30pm.

We look forward to seeing you.

Tim Lansdown

Worship Committee Chairman

Visiting Father Christmas

A mother took her young daughter to visit Father Christmas in his grotto at the garden centre. He greeted the youngster merrily, and asked:

"And what would you like for Christmas?"

The little girl stared at him, open mouthed with horror. Then she gasped:

"Didn't you get my email??!!!"

Wives Group

Hello everyone, this is a brief report to tell you what we have been up to during the really great year 2012, what a special one it has been. We have had a most successful year, celebrating our 'Golden Anniversary' enjoying our usual meetings organised by Lynn and Dot who find the most interesting speakers and provide a very varied programme, educational, entertaining, serious and thought provoking, always a good balance. Our members are very loyal and give their support willingly to whatever is organised which was proved by the wonderful donation of £1874.00 we gave to Help For Heroes.

I think it quite remarkable that a small group of ladies raise such a large amount, although this year Carol Embleton's grandchildren having done their own collection of £21. 58 which was included in the total handed over.

Now, how to celebrate our 'special' Anniversary? One of the many ways the Queen celebrated her Diamond Jubilee was a cruise on the Thames. So, although with no beautiful boats to accompany us, we did our journey in glorious sunshine to Beese's Tea Gardens where we had a cream tea and a super 50th Anniversary cake thanks to Pat Webber and a huge 'Thankyou' to Myra Kenway for organising the event which everyone really enjoyed. A really lovely Golden Anniversary.

Why not come along and join us, you can be sure of a very warm welcome and a good cup of tea.

Nesta

Lord's Prayer, updated

I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime, she would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word right up to the end of the prayer: "and lead us not into temptation," she implored, "but deliver us some e-mail."

Mission Committee Update!

Your Mission Committee has been planning some events for the next year and hope that you can join with them in supporting two new charities for 2012/13, home & abroad, whilst continuing our commitment to worthy causes in our Local area.

Christmas Card Tree

This will be appearing in the church in early December and you are invited to attach a card and make a donation to charity. Last year we raised over £100 in this way!

Gift Service 9th December

At this year's Gift Service we shall again be supporting "Home Start", they work with families, giving support & friendship during difficult times. Their focus is on the child up to 5 years and mums. All gifts of toys should be new and unwrapped. They also appreciate chocolates & biscuits for the family and "Smellies" for mum.

If you have any spare blankets we should be delighted to receive them for the work of the Julian Trust. Whilst towels & men's' clothes, especially warm coats would be much appreciated for the work at Midland Road.

N.B. We shall be happy to receive all these on 9th December.

Christmas Tea

On 16th December from 4pm, you are invited to a Festive Tea, this will lead into evening worship. Donations are invited to help pay for the operation, which will greatly enhance mobility for Jude, a local 4year old with cerebral palsy.

New Year Reflection

After some thought we have decided to hold a "Reflection" on New Year's Day 2013. You may remember that we discontinued these about 4 years ago through lack of support, however the idea was mooted again by

Worship Committee so we are happy to help. This may be a "One off", it depends entirely on you!

The church will be open from 2.30pm until 4.30pm on the afternoon of January 1st for reflection, with music and readings and light refreshments. Please feel free to join us for all or part of the time.

Shawl Ministry

Shawl ministry meets on the last Thursday afternoon of the month from 2.15pm until 4.00pm. Everyone is welcome to share a cup of tea or coffee, conversation and knitting or crochet. We can even help you improve your technique! We are currently knitting, blankets, scarves, hats & small garments and would be delighted to receive any unwanted wool. Please see Pam L or Pam B

Midland Road Methodist Centre

Our Church regularly supports Midland Road in its outreach to the city, at the moment they are desperately in need of helpers to work in the shop, if you think that you could help, please telephone 0117 955 5606. The centre is usually closed on a Monday.

N.B. Both Janet for JMA & Muriel for Home Missions would be delighted to give you a box for collecting for these worthy causes.

Lastly, may I thank you for all your past support and pray that we as a Church may be able to continue our outreach into the local community and beyond.

Pam Blackmore

Mission Committee Chairman

Pat Headford

Janet, Melv, Lynda and families would like to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity after the sudden death of Pat.

Right from the first 999 call to her Service of Thanksgiving the professionalism and compassion have been amazing from everyone we have had contact with not least the Church Family.

The Thanksgiving Service and the lunch afterwards were a revelation and helped us greatly.

We would particularly like to thank Andrew who was there for us all along the way.

God Bless

Janet & Mel Morgan

P.S. Approximately £500 has been donated which is being shared between Air Ambulance South West and Save the Children.

Church officials

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church."

"Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel demanded.

Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door?"

"They're hushers."

Bible Food Quiz

For answers please refer to the King James version of the Bible.

1. The risen Lord ate a piece of this, "broiled".
2. A prophet asked his hearers, "Wherefore do you spend money for that which is not - ?"
3. Jael brought this in a "lordly dish" for her country's enemy.
4. A strong man found some of this in the carcass of a lion.
5. The ravens brought this to Elijah along with bread.
6. Pharaoh's baker was carrying a basket of them in his dream.
7. Abraham brought a drink of this for the refreshment of three heavenly visitors.
8. Jesus asked whether men gathered them off thistles.
9. Esau sold his birthright for a pottage of these.
10. Two men brought a large cluster of these to the camp of Israel.
11. Men, selling the refuse of this, were rebuked by the prophet Amos.
12. Isaac sent Esau to bring him some.
13. Gideon brought this in a pot to an angel, but the angel told him to pour it out.
14. In the wilderness the Israelites remembered this round fruit of Egypt.
15. David gave two clusters of these to a captive Egyptian.

Answers on page 21.

Crossword

Across

1 'The blind receive sight, the — walk' (Luke 7:22) (4)

3 Got (Philippians 3:12) (8)

8 Leave out (Jeremiah 26:2) (4)

9 Castigated for using dishonest scales (Hosea 12:7) (8)

11 Weighty (1 John 5:3) (10)

14 'Now the serpent was more — than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made' (Genesis 3:1) (6)

15 'Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot — God' (Romans 8:8) (6)

17 Because Israel lacked one of these, tools had to be sharpened by the Philistines (1 Samuel 13:19) (10)

20 In his vision of the two eagles and the vine, this is how Ezekiel described the latter (Ezekiel 17:8) (8)

21 Rite (anag.) (4)

22 Nine gigs (anag.) (8)

23 'The eye cannot say to the — , "I don't need you"' (1 Corinthians 12:21) (4)

Down

1 'Flee for your lives! Don't — — , and don't stop anywhere in the plain!' (Genesis 19:17) (4,4)

2 Principal thoroughfare (Numbers 20:19) (4,4)

4 'The tax collector... beat his — and said, "God have mercy on me, a sinner"' (Luke 18:13) (6)

1		2			3	4		5		6		7
8					9							
				10								
11												
										12		13
14							15					
						16						
			17									
18		19										
20									21			
22									23			

5 'The zeal of the Lord Almighty will — this' (2 Kings 19:31) (10)

6 'The day of the Lord is — for all nations' (Obadiah 15) (4)

7 Specified day (Acts 21:26) (4)

10 Deadly epidemic (Deuteronomy 32:24) (10)

12 Roman Catholic church which has special ceremonial rights (8)

13 Tied up (2 Kings 7:10) (8)

16 In his speech to the Sanhedrin, Stephen described Moses as 'powerful in speech and — ' (Acts 7:22) (6)

18 'Although he did not remove the high places, — heart was fully committed to the Lord all his life' (1 Kings 15:14) (4)

19 Tribe (Deuteronomy 29:18) (4)

Sudoku

Easy

	9	8		2	4			
		3	5		9			
2			6			7		
1	6	2				3		4
9	7						6	2
3		4				9	5	7
		6			7			5
			2		1	4		
			4	3		8	7	

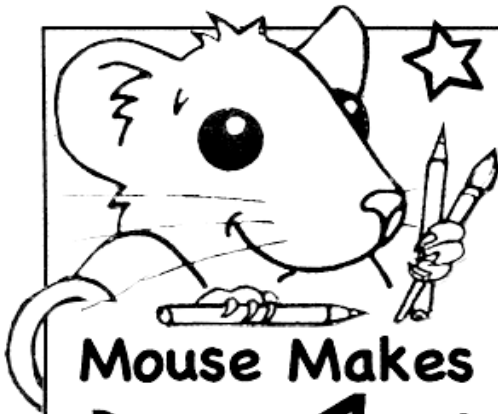
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Intermediate

		1		7				3
				8			7	
		5				6		
1				4			3	
9				7		6		5
	8			3				1
		6				5		
	9				4			
4				8		7		

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For the Children – Mouse Makes



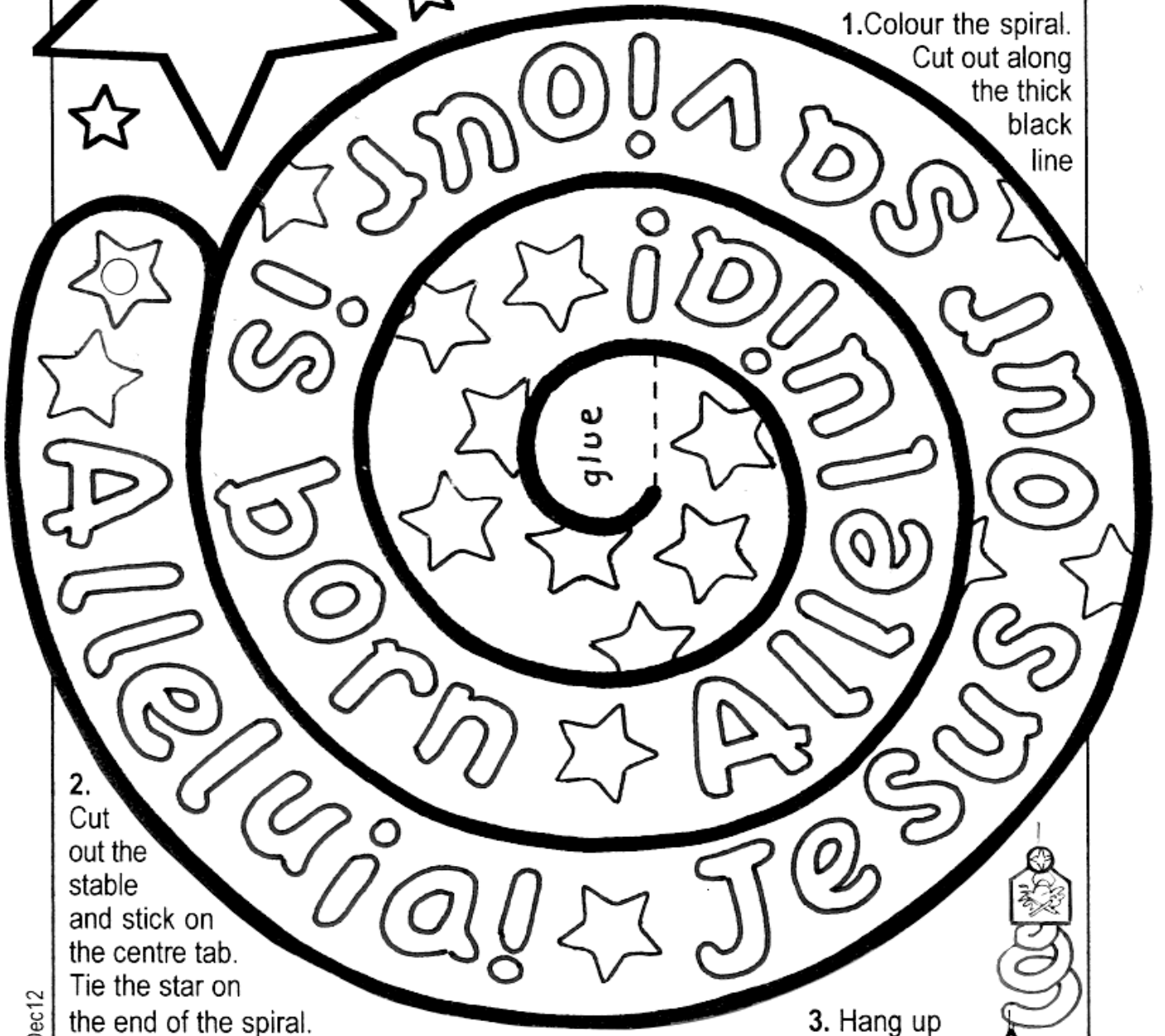
Mouse Makes

"I bring you **good news** that will cause **great joy** for *all* the people. Today in the town of David a **Saviour** has been born to you; he is the **Messiah**, the Lord"

Read:
Luke 1-20



1. Colour the spiral.
Cut out along the thick black line



2. Cut out the stable and stick on the centre tab. Tie the star on the end of the spiral.

3. Hang up

Dec12

© Deborah Noble @parishpump.co.uk

Amen to all that

When my young daughter said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). Then, for several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, she began to add: "And all girls."

This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing. My curiosity finally got the best of me and one night I asked her what she meant by it. Her response was simple: "Because everybody always finishes their prayers by saying 'All Men!'"

Signposts

This week in Bath and in other towns began the official switching on of the Christmas lights. Advent beginning just a few weeks ahead.

When Jesus came into the world He entered into a country of occupation, a country where the rule of Herod was often feared and His life began with His parents fleeing with Him into Egypt. Mary and Joseph had to travel many miles to Bethlehem for Jesus to be born as it had been commanded that a census should be taken with people returning to their own city. A difficult time.

Jesus coming into the world to show the love of God and how all people could come to God and share in all creation.

Over the years trouble seems to continue in the world as at present the terrible unrest in the Middle East. The death of people, even young children in Israel, Gaza, Syria and the instability in much of the region.

So in our celebrations with lights and decorations, the sending of Good wishes, the giving of presents may we also give thought to the suffering in the world, give time and energy in whatever way we can to support those who would be peacemakers, politicians, doctors and nurses and ordinary people.

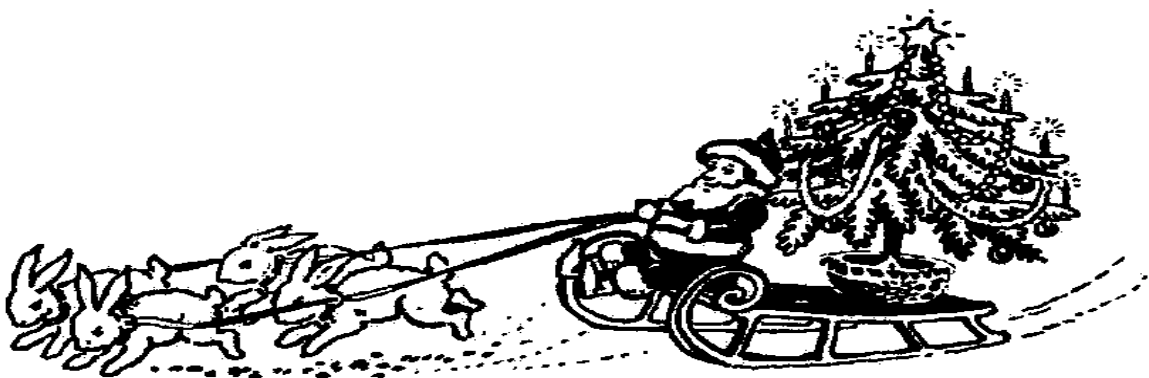
Then in such a short time we will enter a new year with all its promise and challenge. Whatever the future might hold for each of us we may be certain that we can be assured of God not separated from us but one who came to the world, took earthly form in Jesus and gives us the opportunity to rejoice in a wonderful, beautiful world of creation that can be celebrated at any time not just at this wonderful time of year and surrounded in His love.

Arnold Wheeler

Conscientious

A minister walked into his church office and found his eager young assistant minister had emptied a huge box of various teaching resources that had been sent to the church, including a Noah's Ark for the very young children. The assistant had most of the animals lined up along the desk, and he was searching for more. "Whatever are you doing?" asked the minister in bewilderment.

The assistant minister looked up eagerly. "The box clearly said: 'Do not use if seal is broken'. So - I'm looking for the seal."



The reindeer were on strike so Santa had to make do with what they had left in the pet shop.

Bible Food Quiz Answers

1. Fish (Luke 24: 42 – 43)
2. Bread (Isaiah 55: 2)
3. Butter (Judges 5: 25)
4. Honey (Judges 14: 6)
5. Flesh (1st Kings 17: 6)
6. Bake-meats (Genesis 40: 17)
7. Milk (Genesis 18: 8)
8. Figs (Matthew 7: 16)
9. Lentils (Genesis 25: 34)
10. Grapes (Numbers 13: 23 – 24)
11. Wheat (Amos 8: 6)
12. Venison (Genesis 27: 3)
13. Broth (Judges 6: 20)
14. Melon (Numbers 11: 5)
15. Raisins (1st Samuel 30: 12)

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Lame. 3, Obtained. 8, Omit. 9, Merchant. 11, Burdensome. 14, Crafty. 15, Please. 17, Blacksmith. 20, Splendid. 21, Tier. 22, Singeing. 23, Hand.

DOWN: 1, Look back. 2, Main road. 4, Breast. 5, Accomplish. 6, Near. 7, Date. 10, Pestilence. 12, Basilica. 13, Tethered. 16, Action. 18, Asa's. 19, Clan.

Pause for Thought

Hark! the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
the Savior promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

He comes the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure;
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with thy beloved Name.

Philip Doddridge (1702–51)

This familiar hymn (HP 82) not only offers opportunity for reflection as Christmas approaches but is notable because the set tune to which it is usually sung is called 'Bristol' written by T. Ravenscroft and first published in 1621.

Rotas – Doors and Books

Dec	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
am	P Blackmore J Green	A Sagar M Sagar	N Hogg M Wilby	H Teague B Jones	M Stone M Golding
pm	M Houlden A Houlden	C Haycock R Ireland	M Kenway M Kenway	J Morgan M Morgan	B Griffen W Stanford

Jan	6th	13th	20th	27th
am	B White J White	P Webber J Tippett	M Frost W Frost	M Howe N Howe
pm	T Lansdown A Angell	A Wheeler H Wheeler	A Houlden M Houlden	M Kenway M Kenway

Rotas – Flowers

December

	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
Church	Valerie Smith	Hilary Knapp	Christmas	Christmas	Free
War Memorial	Free	Hilary Knapp	Christmas	Christmas	Free

January

	6th	13th	20th	27th
Church	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
War Memorial	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc

Weekly Activities

You are invited to share in our services and activities as listed below.

If you would like an introduction to any of the groups / activities please contact the Minister or a Church Steward.

Details of further events inside.

Sunday

10.45am Morning Worship, Youth Church & Creche
4.00pm Messy Church (First Sunday of each month)
6.00pm Evening Worship

Monday

10.00am – 3.00pm Friendly Table
2.30pm Bright Hour
Evening Brownies, Guides & Rangers
Table Tennis

Tuesday

7.30pm Girl's Night In
(First Tuesday of the month, ask about venue)

Wednesday

1.30pm Mums & Toddlers
Evening Rainbows
7.30pm Wives Group (Alternate weeks)
Men's Curry Club (As announced)

Thursday

2.15pm Shawl Ministry (Last Thursday of the month)
Evening Boy's Brigade (Anchors, Juniors, Company & Seniors)
Brownies

Friday

7.30pm Y's Men (Third Friday of the month)
Men's Curry Club (As announced)

Saturday

9.30am Prayer Meeting (Second & Fourth Saturday of the month)
Coffee Morning