

**ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
WOOLTON L25 7RJ**

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

MINISTER: Rev. Peter Hughes
5 Elder Gardens, L19 9DJ

peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk 0151 364 0134

Friday is Peter's day off and if possible people should not contact him on that day.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10th

Welcome to everyone in Church this morning.

A lift is available for access into church, and there is a ramp at the rear of the building. We have large print hymnbooks; other items are available in large print or braille on request. There is a loop system for people with hearing aids. **If you need any help, please ask a steward.**

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, St James' offers you a very warm welcome and we hope you'll come again.

We would like to keep in touch with you to let you know what's going on at St James', so please fill in your details on the 'NEW TO CHURCH' slip.

We are a Gift Aid Church. If you are a taxpayer, and not using the envelope system, please complete a Gift Aid envelope with your offering.

Offertory card - If you make your offering by monthly standing order, please take an offertory card from the table at the back of the church to place on the offertory plate each week to represent your gift.

	CHRISTMAS DIARY DATES	
	December 10 th Gift Service and parade at 10.30 am	
	17 th Christingle at 10.30 am	
	Harmony Café Carols at 6 for 6.30 pm	
	20 th Carol Singing around the village	
	24 th Christmas Eve worship at 10.30 am	
	Holy Communion at 11.30 pm	
	25 th Christmas Day worship at 10.30 am	

**The church is open for coffee on Tuesday mornings from 9.30 to 12.30:
BUT NOT ON BOXING DAY! –OR JANUARY 2ND!**

SERVING	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY DEC. 17th
	Gift service/Parade	Christingle
Minister	Rev. Peter Hughes	Worship Team
Welcome	Cook family	Ken Davies
Steward (V)	Liz Hudson	Carol Skyner
(W)	Pam Bellis	Pat Fagan
(B)	Margaret Dee	Ian Taylor
Readings	Brigades	Worship Team
Prayers		Worship Team
Offertory count	Jayne McLaren & Peter Barlow	Mike Hughes & Margaret Peacop
Tea/coffee	Jane & Hannah Williams	Jonquil & Dave Dickson
PowerPoint	Lynne Barker	Liz Hudson
Music	Roy Barker	Kathryn Norton
Flowers provider	Liz Hudson	
Delivered by	Jennifer Long	Jonquil Dickson
This evening	no service	Harmony Café Candlelight Carols
Tuesday Coffee	Wendy Doig & Eileen Curphey	Pauline Taylor
Saturday Coffee Morning December 9th	Church Family Life Committee	

ROY BARKER'S CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG

held on Saturday evening raised £1121.80. We are grateful to Barclays Match Funding, since through it the total amount to be shared between Oakleaf Children's Bereavement and Loss Support Service and our own Hall Refurbishment Fund will be £2121.80. Many thanks to Roy and Lynne for what was their 21st Christmas sing along. Their work and commitment is very much appreciated. Many thanks also to Tim, Adam, Jamie and Heather for their musical backing and to the Girl's Brigade memorable signed 'White Christmas' and to the unforgettable Woolton Village People who turned up and entertained yet again to uproarious applause. Thanks also to Wendy and those who help behind the scenes and to those from St. James' who supported us on the night, and to the many friends and families who came along to enjoy another wonderful entertainment.

Women's Guild Programme

December 13th

Christmas Meal at "Spire".

GLENYS EVANS

and family wish to express their thanks to so many friends for their cards and messages of sympathy over the last two weeks.

CAROL SINGING IN WOOLTON VILLAGE

all are welcome to join us on 20 December for some carol singing fun, starting at Sainsbury's at 4pm, moving to Tesco to start singing about 5pm, back to St James' for drinks, bring your tea if you'd like, then leaving for Marie Curie about 6.30 - 6.45 pm. For more information, contact Roy Barker.

OPEN HOUSE AT ST. JAMES'

Candle-lit Harmony Café meets again on Sunday, 17th December when we will tell the Christmas story. Come and join us for tea/coffee and cake from 6.00 pm for a 6.30 pm start. You are warmly invited to join us to sing (or listen to) a variety of songs, some new, some familiar, in a relaxed atmosphere. Cakes to share with our visitors would be much appreciated please. All are welcome - why not invite a friend!

GRENFELL TOWER DISASTER

Mike Long is still heavily involved with the effects of this – still handling enquiries daily from journalists around Europe - and in preparing for the Six Months' Remembrance Service at St Paul's Cathedral on the 14th. BBC News at 6 will be trailing this during that week, and the service will be broadcast.

NEWS FROM THE CIRCUIT MEETING

Stationing: the search for a Circuit Superintendent will continue in meetings of the Methodist Conference Stationing Committee during December.

Manses: the Manor Road manse is being offered for letting, at least until the Circuit need for manses becomes clearer.

The sale of the Rutherford Road manse will be completed in the near future.

Safeguarding: there will be a session of Foundation training on January 22nd, and a Refresher course on February 1st.

Trinity Church: John Crawford's time as Pastor has come to an end, and the morning service at Trinity on December 31st will be his Farewell Service, followed by a less formal event, and all will be welcome at both.

Youth Worker's events: "Starry Night" at Trinity, 7 pm on December 14th, tickets £3 and £1; and "Twelve Days of Christmas" at Elm Hall Drive, 5 pm on December 16th. See fliers in church.

Circuit Steward: Chris Williamson has now retired, and is replaced by Kate Harrison of Elm Hall Drive.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Many thanks to everyone for help and support and to those of you who attended. An excellent total of £1468 was raised for the general maintenance of our buildings which require constant and ongoing attention.

MARY AND JOSEPH'S 2017 JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

If you would like to take these lovable little knitted figures to work, to school, to a family gathering, to a meeting, to a leisure venue etc., and spread awareness of the Christmas story in the process, there are still a few slots open on **Wednesday 13th and Monday 18th**; just let Liz Hudson know as soon as possible. Last year Mary Joseph and their donkey met nearly 2000 different people – they hope to meet even more this year. Email Liz on liz.hudson2@btinternet.com, or text/call 07866 213330.

A photo journal of their journey can be seen on the St James' Facebook Page.

YOUR GIFTS TODAY

Gifts for this service will be divided between:

- the **Whitechapel Centre** serving the homeless
- **Action for Children** to support families in poverty
- **Centre 56** working with children suffering poverty and domestic abuse:
- **Women's Refuge Centres**, where women and children fleeing from domestic abuse are given help and support.

Gifts of toys for children aged 2 to 12.

Toiletries for women and teenagers (boys and girls). shaving foam, shampoo, warm hats, gloves and socks for young males.

Boxes of seasonal biscuits, chocolates and other Christmas goodies

**These gifts can be brought to the service at 10.30 on 10th December –
all items UNWRAPPED please.**

The Collect for Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility: that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Second Sunday of Advent

God of all holiness, your promises stand unshaken through all generations and you lift up all who are burdened and brought low: renew our hope in you, as we wait for the coming in glory of Jesus Christ, our Judge and our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Notices: please to derek.long2@tesco.net or 722 1014 by 9 pm on Wednesday.