

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

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

MINISTER: Rev. Peter Hughes

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

Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.



SUNDAY December 2nd 2018

Welcome to everyone in Church this morning.

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.

Refreshments are always provided after Worship – please join us.

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.

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.**

This Morning's Preacher is Derek Long

This Morning's Worship celebrates the beginning of Advent

Our Welcomers are Pat Fagan and Tony Laverty

The Vestry Steward is Carol Skyner

The Book Stewards are Pam Bellis and Stuart Williams

Our Readers are Wendy Doig and Jayne McLaren

The Readings are Jeremiah 33 14-16 and Luke 21 25-32

Your church is open for coffee on Tuesday mornings from 9.30 to 12.30

The Collect for the First Sunday of 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.

The Church is registered for Gift Aid 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 an offering by standing order, please take a card from the table at the back of the church to place on the plate to represent your gift.

DATES TO NOTICE:

Tuesday December 4th South Liverpool Orchestra Concert

Saturday December 8th Church Coffee Morning

Monday January 21st Special Projects Meeting at 6.30

Please see leaflets in church about

Bentley Operatic Society's Extravaganza, various dates and venues

African Children's Choir, St Peter's, December 6th

CHRISTMAS AT ST JAMES'

December 9th 10.30 am Parade and Gift Service

23rd 10.30 am Christingle: 6.30 pm Carol Service

24th 11.30 pm Christmas Eve Communion at **Garston Park**

25th 10.30 am Christmas Day worship

CAROL SERVICE - SUNDAY 23rd DECEMBER AT 6.30PM

Readers are needed for the Carol Service when we will have a series of Carols and 5 Bible Readings. If you would be willing to read at this Service please contact Peter either by phone or email as soon as possible.

WOMEN'S GUILD

December 5th Soup and Sandwiches, and carols

December 12th Christmas meal at Spire

CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE 2018: "Christmas Journeys"

Our Christmas Experience will be taking place between **Monday 10th and Friday 14th December** this year. The children from Woolton Primary School will be visiting us on Thursday 13th December.

If you would be available to lead children through the Christmas Experience that day your help would be much appreciated. Please speak to a member of the Mission Action Group or Peter if you are available to help.

All Church groups are welcome to enjoy the Christmas Experience, so please speak to a member of the Mission Action Group or Peter about a time for your group to visit the Church and be guided through the Experience.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS IN DECEMBER

Monday 3rd at 30 Stuart Avenue at 2 pm

Wednesday 12th at Sue Moister's

FULWOOD COURT METHODIST HOME

Every Tuesday, two volunteers operate a small shop table which offers small items for sale to residents - biscuits, sweets, toiletries, etc.

There is now an urgent need for more volunteers.

If you could offer up to an hour and a half on a Tuesday morning, on dates to suit you, - it could be one morning every two months - your help would be greatly appreciated.

GIFT SERVICE DECEMBER 9th

We shall be distributing gifts to:

Women and Children's Refuge Centres.

Action for Children.

Whitechapel Centre.

Garston Food Bank.

You can offer:

UNWRAPPED gifts of children's toys/books/games - ages 2 to teenage.

Toiletries for men and women and also teenage boys and girls.

Warm hats, gloves, socks.

Boxes of festive chocolates, biscuits, items e.g. jars of coffee, tinned food,

Christmas puddings, which could go into food packs.

BENEVOLENT FUND

Please see Peter or Jayne if you would like to nominate a charity for our collections in 2019. The collection on December 30 will be for Christian Aid.



33rd Allerton
Beavers / Cubs / Scouts

Be prepared for the adventure.

Are you interest in being involved with enabling the Scouting adventure?

Due to increased demand, Our Beaver, Cub and Scout sections wish to expand their leadership and support teams. You will be helping alongside existing leaders; roles can be hands-on or backroom with flexible time requirements. For more information, please contact one of our leaders or Colin Howard (Group Scout Leader) at thehowards@talk21.com.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank you to everyone who supported, helped, visited, donated to the Fair this year. This event is held every year to raise funds which are specifically used for the upkeep and general maintenance of the hall buildings. We are grateful for the support and commitment of all our groups associated with St. James'.

The amount raised this year is £1638.

CHRISTMAS CARD TREE

Several people have asked if we could have a Christmas card tree this year, on which people could write a message to all their friends in church, and leave a donation in favour of the Alder Hey Cardiac Unit in lieu of postage etc. This tree is now available.

*The ladies from the Tuesday Coffee Morning have suggested that instead of sending each other Christmas Cards in Church this year they will make a donation to a charity (still to be decided). Therefore, there will be a tin at the back of the church every Sunday and Tuesday from now until Christmas for those who wish to take part.

MANY THANKS

and appreciation to all my friends for their kind greetings and many best wishes for my recent 90th Birthday, which I enjoyed in Lytham St Anne's with all my family. Love and blessings to you all. **Ron Swindells**

SANTA STEVE RUNS TODAY

At our last property and finance meeting there was a discussion and proposal to consider funding toilet twinning as an initiative to sharing our new toilet facilities in the hall by raising funds to provide toilets, sanitation and clean water in some of the third world countries. The total expenditure would be around £400 to £500 to provide toilet blocks to a school and a church. As we have considerable expenditure already, I offered to do the Liverpool Santa Dash 5 K run on Sunday to try and raise the funds by sponsorship. This was a spontaneous gesture as I knew the fun run was imminent. Peter Hughes wanted us to try and get this initiative achieved ASAP in line with our own progress on our hall refurbishment. **Please, if you can, support Steve in making a small donation on behalf of our church.**

NEXT SUNDAY - December 9th: Parade and Gift Service

Minister	Liz Hudson	Offertory count	Margaret Peacop & Mike Hughes
Welcome	Miller Family	Tea/coffee	Miller family
Steward (V)	Pam Bellis	PowerPoint	Lynne Barker
(W)	Graham Martin	Music	Music group
(B)	Margaret Dee & Tony Laverty	Flowers	
Readings	Parades	Delivered by	Jennifer Long
Prayers	Ray Jennings	Tuesday coffee	Wendy Doig & Eileen Curphey

Notices for next week: please send to Derek Long at dandjlong765@gmail.com or on 722 1014.