



Christ Church Life

Christ Church Downend + The Church
Centre, Quakers Road

December 2017



Welcome to Christ Church

If you are here for the first time, please do make yourself known to one of the welcomers after the service and complete one of our 'Welcome' cards. There are children's groups that take place during part of the Service most weeks. You can find out where your child goes from one of the leaders at the Welcome Desk at about 10.45am. More details about the life of the church can be found on the website: www.christchurchdownend.com

Prayer

If you would value prayer, we would love to have the opportunity to pray with you after the service, please speak to the service leader or preacher or one of the welcome team.

Contact the Parish Office on 0117 908 9867 email: office@christchurchdownend.com
Web: www.christchurchdownend.com Instagram: [@christchurchdownend](https://www.instagram.com/christchurchdownend)
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchdownend> Twitter: [@ChristChDownend](https://twitter.com/ChristChDownend)
Youth Website: <http://www.igniteyouth-christchurchdownend.co.uk/>

Items for January's Christ Church Life - Email **Sue Richardson** on life@christchurchdownend.com by
6pm on Tuesday 19 December or call 07584 281 605

Sundays in December

December 3 [Mark 13:24-37](#)

9.15am Morning Worship

@ Church Centre Peter Misslebrook

10.30am All Age Worship Christingle

@ Christ Church Juniors Paul Peterson & Helen Buick

4.00pm Christingle @ Christ Church Juniors

6.30pm Holy Communion

@ Parish Hall Jo Vickery

December 10 [Mark 1:1-8](#)

9.15am Holy Communion

@ Church Centre Jo Vickery

10.30am Holy Communion

@ Christ Church Junior School

Paul Peterson & Jo Vickery

6.30pm Celtic Worship

@ Parish Hall Jo Vickery & Kathy Prosser

December 17 [John 1:6-8 & 19-28](#)

No 09.15am service at Church Centre

10.30am Morning Worship

@ Christ Church Junior School Jo Vickery & Nigel Stowe

4.00pm Carol Service @ Quakers Road

Jo Vickery & Paul Peterson

Christmas Eve [Luke 1:26-38](#)

9.15am Holy Communion

@ Church Centre Paul Peterson

No 10.30am service

4.00pm Crib Service @ Christ Church Juniors

No Midnight Communion

Christmas Day [Luke 2:1-14 \(15-20\)](#)

10.00am All Age Celebration

@ Church Centre Paul Peterson

December 31 [Luke 2:22-40](#)

9.15am Holy Communion

@ Church Centre Jo Vickery

10.30am All Age Worship

@ Christ Church Juniors Paul Peterson & Jo Vickery

No Evening Service

Weekly Events

Mondays

09.15am Morning Prayer @ Youth Hub

Tuesdays

10am-1pm Open Church @ Youth Hub

11.00am Bible Study

3.00pm Tuesday Drop in @ Youth Hub for Yrs 6 & 7

Wednesdays

07.00am Morning Prayer @ Youth Hub

2pm Stroke Gardening Group @ Youth Hub

6.30pm Elev8 @ Youth Hub

7.30pm Elev8+ @ Paul Peterson's

8.00pm Elev8+ @ Youth Hub

Thursdays

09.15-12pm Holy Communion & Open Church @ Parish Hall

6.30pm Ignite Youth Group

8pm Ignite+ Youth Group

Fridays

09.45am Jigsaw Toddlers Group @ Parish Hall

3.15pm Youth Drop in @ Youth Hub

Altar Flowers

There are no altar flowers during Advent until 24 December. These are donated by Mothers' Union and 31 December by Norman Low.

Open Doors monthly prayer meeting is on Tuesday 19 December @ 9.30am at 39 Cleeve Hill. Everyone welcome.

Please **pray for our PCC**, their next meeting is Tuesday 5 December 7.15pm

December Messy Church is on Wednesday **20th December** at 4.30pm in the Parish Hall. There is a time of interactive worship at 5.30pm and then we are having a 'bring and share' tea together. Everyone welcome.

Carol Singing anyone?

Join with Christ Church, Pendennis Good News Church and Sanctuary Church in **Carol Singing at Pendennis flats** on **Wednesday 13 December** @ 6pm. Meet at Nelson House. Hot chocolate and nibbles provided too. This is a great chance to witness to the community. For non-singers, come and deliver cards to residents.

If you prefer indoor carols: come to **"Family Carol Singing, crafts & games"** there will be refreshments too, as we bless the residents of William Court in Overhill Rd. **Thursday 21 December** @ 3pm

Come and watch Christ Church's first Christmas **Flash Mob** @ 11am on **Saturday 16 December at the Co-op**. Afterwards we will have a time of open air carols to bless the shoppers. We will be rehearsing a team of confident singers soon for the flash mob: if you would like to take part, please get in touch with Anita Dobson. The more the merrier to the open carols bit! Or, if you're not a singer, come and hand out cards to shoppers.

Everyone is invited to our **New Year's Eve Christ Church Family Party**: 7.30pm-12.30am at the Parish Hall. We will have music, dancing, games, a quiz, talent spots and a lovely meal together. Let Diane or Helen know if you are planning to come.

Co-op & Building4Life Thank you to Co-op for their generous support to Ignite Youth Group who have been awarded **£5,324.31**. They've selected Building4Life as one of their Community Good Causes for 2017/18 and we'd love you to register your support for this fund on the Co-op website. This will give us a bigger proportion of the carrier bag sales and community donations from Co-op. Follow this link membership.coop.co.uk/causes to find your local good causes and search for Building4Life @ Christ Church Downend.

Shoebox Appeal Thank you so much to everyone who so kindly donated a shoebox. 92 are on their way! A great result! God's blessings to everyone who helped this great Christmas outreach Angela Avent

News from Christ Church's Mission Partners Christ Church has 6 mission partners, and we send 10% of our annual income to these 6 missions. Full details from **Dihlabeng Christian School** and **Bill and Sheila Robbins** are on the Church website <https://goo.gl/YACXC5> Thank you so much to everyone who bought **Neema crafts** in the last week. £605 has been raised. Read all about Ben & Katy @ Neema on our website. <https://goo.gl/Dk9e2M>

December Faith on the Frontline prayers: This month we are praying especially for those working or serving in Hospitality and Catering. Is this you, or someone you know? Tell us what you would like us to pray for you or for those working in that industry. What are the pressures, the opportunities? Get in touch so we can pray for you. anitadobson@christchurchdownend.com

African Christmas meal of Posho & beans, tomato & meat dish (veggie & meat options) at Quakers Rd. **Saturday 2 December** @ 7pm. Tickets £5 from Jan & Richard Bacon or the Parish Office. Hear about Mission Direct work in Uganda & other Christmas stalls too.

Church library We have moved the church library to a temporary home during the building works. If you would like to borrow or return a book, speak to Alex Clark. You can see the books here on the website: www.christchurchdownend.com/library

Prayer Link: If you know of an urgent or serious situation for prayer, call or email Mary Freestone and she will pass on the prayer request to a group of praying people. Remember to check with the person concerned that they are happy for the prayer request to go public. **Contact Mary on 0117 956 6630** ianandmaryfreestone@gmail.com

Mothers' Union Advent Lunch and Carol Singing Wednesday 6 December Tickets are £7. Call Beryl Evans on 976 1987.

Building 4Life Surprises Digging up the floor of the church has not been without its surprises! All kinds of fresh discoveries have been made which the architects and Building4Life team have been addressing over the last few weeks. We'd like to bring everyone up to date with how things are progressing in a 15 minute presentation on **Sunday 10 December @ 12.15** at CC Junior School. Due to unexpected costs and disappointing outcomes of our grant applications so far, we have needed to make a number of reductions to the original plans but we can start to add to things back into the scheme as additional funds come in. So we'd love to do some more 'fun and creative' fundraising in the New Year and would like to hear from anyone who is up for being part of a small team to make this happen. Please see **Maggie** if interested or contact her on 07790 250853 or building4life@christchurchdownend.com, and continue to pray with thankfulness and faith.

Building 4 Life funds We've set up a B4L **Easyfund Raising account**. If you shop online you can use this site <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> to give a donation towards B4L each time you shop and it won't cost you a thing.

B4L Team

Fellowship Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on **Tuesday 12 December @ 7.30pm** for 7.45pm in the Parish Hall. Tickets are £16 from Maggie Nichols 0117 3050711, Marguerite Luck 0117 9572377 or the Parish Office.

Churchyard and Memorial Garden Access For those wishing to visit the Memorial Garden, access can be arranged with **Maggie Nichols** on 07790 250853

December Dates For Your Diary

- Saturday 2** African Christmas Meal, The Church Centre
- Sunday 3** Christingle Services, Christ Church Juniors, 10.30am & 4pm
- Wednesday 6** Mothers' Union Advent Lunch & carol singing, 12.15pm, Tickets £7
- Tuesday 12** 2017 Christ Church Fellowship Christmas Dinner, Christ Church Parish Hall, 7.30pm, Tickets £16
- Wednesday 13** Carol singing at Nelson House, Pendennis Flats, 6pm
- Sunday 10** Building4Life update, Christ Church Juniors, 12.15pm
- Saturday 16** Carol singing and a flash mob at Downend Co-op, 11am
- Sunday 17** Christmas worship, Christ Church Juniors, 10.30am
- Sunday 17** Traditional Carols at The Church Centre Quakers Rd, 4pm
****There is no 9.15am or 6.30pm service on Sunday 17 December****
- Tuesday 19** Bereavement Support Group Christmas, Christ Church Parish Hall 1-3pm
- Wednesday 20** Christmas Messy Church, Christ Church Parish Hall, 4.30-6.30pm
- Thursday 21** Carol Singing and family craft fun with residents at William Court, Overhill Road, BS16 5FL 3pm
- Sunday 24** Holy Communion at The Church Centre, Quakers Rd. 9.15am
- Sunday 24** Crib Service, Christ Church Junior School, 4pm
****There is no 10.30, 6.30pm or midnight service this year****
Please join Frenchay 11.30pm, St James' Mangotsfield 11.30pm or St Stephen's Soundwell 11.30pm.
- Monday 25** Christmas Day Family Celebration at Church Centre, 10am
- Sunday 31** New Year's Eve Holy Communion, Church Centre, 9.15am
- Sunday 31** New Year's Eve Family celebration, Christ Church Juniors 10.30am
****There is no 6.30pm evening service on Sunday 31 December****
- Sunday 31** New Years Eve Church Family Party