

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES – Week commencing December 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

### FOOD BANK AND REFUGEE COLLECTIONS.

These take place on Mondays and Wednesdays, 11 -12 midday.

Sunday, Dec.21st	<b>Rev.Stuart Earl Carol Service</b>	<b>10,30am</b>	Church
	<b>Carol Service</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Church
Monday December 22nd	Badminton Open Church  KOGs	10AM - 12mid 10.45 -12 5 -7.30pm	Croft View Church  Church
Tues Dec.23rd	Carol singing	5.30pm	<b>Meet outside church. See notice</b>
Wed, Dec. 24th	Reflective Service and Holy Communion Carols on the Green	4.30pm  6pm	Church  Village Green
<b>Thursday Dec. 25th</b>	<b>CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	10am	Church
Saturday Dec 27th	<b>Coffee Morning Ukraine charity</b>	10am - 12mid.	<b>CHURCH</b>
Sunday Dec. 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO SERVICE</b>		
Saturday Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Coffee Morning To be confirmed</b>	10am to 12 mid,	Church

**CHURCH NOTICES FOR NEXT WEEK.** If you any items for the week commencing **January 4<sup>th</sup>** please telephone Margaret on 07795 034427 or email [churchnotices@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:churchnotices@hotmail.co.uk) by **Wednesday, December 30th**

Minister: Rev. Stuart Earl, 33 Ford Road, Lanchester.

<http://www.lanchestermethodistchurch.org.uk>

Tel. No.:01207520604

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK THE NOTICE BOARDS AT THE BACK OF CHURCH,**



THE NORTHWEST DURHAM CIRCUIT

LANCHESTER METHODIST CHURCH

We ARE A FAMILY FRIENDLY CHURCH

[www.lanchestermethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.lanchestermethodistchurch.org.uk)

**SUNDAY December 21<sup>th</sup> 2025**  
Fourth Sunday in Advent



10.30am  
Stewards  
Creche  
Jr. Church

**Rev. Stuart Earl. Carol Service**  
Sarah and Bill  
See notice  
All Age worship

**6pm**  
Stewards

**Carol Service Rev.Stuart Earl**  
Philip and Lynn

### WELCOME

We welcome any visitors and anyone who is joining us for the first time today. Please introduce yourself to one of our stewards who wear name badges. For safety reasons, would parents please look after their children after the service both inside and outside the church?

### CRECHE

Sadly we are not able to provide a creche at present, but there are toys, books etc in the back room if parents/carers wish to take their children out of the service. Children of any age are very welcome to join in with junior church although we ask if any child under 3 could come out with a parent / carer..

### CHURCH FLOWERS

December 21<sup>st</sup> Christmas Flowers  
December 28<sup>th</sup> Christmas Flowers  
January 4<sup>th</sup> Mrs Ashcroft

**Tuesday December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025**

**Carol singing around the village. Meet outside of church at 5.30pm.  
Please see notice.**

### CHRISTMAS EVE – WEDNESDAY , DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>



**4.30PM Reflective service. Rev.Stuart Earl. Holy Communion,**

**6pm Carols on the Village Green.**

### CHRISTMAS DAY – THURSDAY ,DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> 2025



**10am CELEBRATION WITH REV. STUART EARL. ALL AGE WORSHIP**  
**Stewarda Annie and Phillip.**

### SUNDAY JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> 2025

10.30am **Rev. Stuart Earl. Covenant Service..  
Holy Communion.**  
Stewards Sarah and Margaret  
Creche See notice  
Junior Church All Age worship

### CAROL SINGING

This Christmas we hope to revive the tradition of Carol Singing around Lanchester. We are meeting outside of Church on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 5.30pm**. It would be fantastic if as many people as possible could join us to help with the singing. Also, if you would like us to sing a carol at your home or the home of someone who might appreciate a visit ( within walking distance in the village!) please could you contact us with the address and post code. We are very happy to sing for free to spread joy this Christmas, but if people want to make a donation we will be collecting for Willowburn Hospice. If you are singing please wrap up warm and if you have one bring a torch or lantern. Please contact Sonia ( on 07736774141) or speak to any member of the Foxhills Cell Group if you would like to sing or have a carol at your home.

### TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB 6TH JANUARY

The EP School nativity will be taking place in Church on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** so there will be no lunch club on that day or the following week. We look forward to meeting with everyone again in the new year, on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January**. Margaret Coates

### COFFEE MORNING SAT DEC 27

There will be a coffee morning on **Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**. Dulcie Richards is holding it on behalf of a Ukraine charity

### SOUND THE TRUMPETS

Thank you to all who came to the concert which was a great evening. A varied programme with some lovely Christmas music meant there was definitely something to suit everyone's taste! The concert ended with the church lights dimmed while the trumpeters played 'Silent Night' which was very moving and afterwards everyone enjoyed festive refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies. £360 was raised to support the work of Willow Burn Hospice. Thank you, Margaret Coates

## **LANCHESTER WIVES & FRIENDS**

**2026 7th January 12pm** ; In house Buffet lunch cost £10. Names & money to Dianne please

## **HEALTH AND HOPE**

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Health & Hope festive coffee morning on Saturday 6th December. The amazing amount of £769.10 which was raised on the day will be a great help to the Myanmar team.

## **SATURDAY COFFEE MORNINGS JAN 3 AND 10 (NEXT YEAR!)**

The rota for the later part of the year is filling up nicely, but these two dates are still available . If you would like to take one of these for a charity of your choice, or the church charities, please let me know. Many thanks  
Judith Brown 07947 600415,

## **CHRISTMAS STAMPS - SAVING USED STAMPS**

Please can everyone keep your used stamps, with a small half centimetre border, over the next few weeks. Any foreign stamps please keep separate in a bag / envelope. There is a box in church, which when full will be sent to the N.E.Air Ambulance Service for their funds.

## **TOY APPEAL**

Thank you to everyone who donated toys. Philip took several sacks full of toys to the Salvation Army to be distributed to local families. Your generous giving is really appreciated and means that more children will be happy on Christmas Day!

Thank you Margaret Coates

## **ZOOM CIRCUIT BIBLE BOOK**

2026 Dates and Books

Jan	Tuesday 20	Matthew chapters	17-end
Feb.	Tuesday 24	Revelation chapters	1-11
March	Tuesday 24	Revelation chapters	12 to end

New members welcome at any time . We are a friendly bunch, no-one needs to speak and all views are respected . Each month we read the book or half a book at home and then share our thoughts when we meet by zoom. If you would like more info or to be added to the Zoom contact list please contact me at  
janetquinlanachord@hotmail.com  
God bless  
Janet

## **ECO SHOPPING – CHOCOLATE THIS CHRISTMAS**

**This Christmas, how can we choose the most ethical chocolate to match our budget?** Extract from 'Ethical Consumer': - Over 70% of the world's cocoa is grown in West Africa, primarily in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. Oxfam reports that up to 90% of cocoa farmers in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire don't earn a living income, forcing them to rely on child labour because they can't afford adult workers, involving practices that harm children's health, safety, or morals. Approximately 2.1 million children work on cocoa farms in these regions. Fairtrade certified chocolate has a set minimum price for cocoa to protect farmers.

Pesticide use is rife in cocoa cultivation, especially worrying due to the prevalence of child labour on cocoa farms and the lack of access many farmers have to proper protective equipment. Chocolate production is a major cause of deforestation. EU deforestation law states 'By December 30, 2025, all cocoa entering the EU must be deforestation-Mondelēz (own Cadbury, Green & Black) is urging for a delay of another year.

Of the 'affordable' chocolate that is readily available I found Oxfam chocolate, scoring 87/100, a clear leader at £2.40 for 100g. Ferrero, Lindt, Mars, Mondelēz and Nestlé all score under 25/100 overall for ethicality – with Cadbury's scoring 3/100!!

Our eco stall now has Oxfam Fairtrade milk and plain chocolate at £1.20 for 50g bar.