

The Week Ahead



TODAY 25th November

9.45am Meetings for toddlers, children & teenagers
 11.00am **Sunday Worship** with Colin & Nicola
 4.45pm Small Band Ensemble at 'Jakes Light Switch-on'
 5.00pm **Go Forth in Worship** with Colin & Nicola

Monday 26th November

6.00pm Rainbows
 8.0pm CAMEO Craft Group – Christmas Table Decorations

Tuesday 27th November

9.30am Parent & Toddlers Carol Service
 6.45pm Young People's Band Practice
 8.00pm OPEN Band Practice

Wednesday 28th November

9.30am Baby Song Christmas Party
 3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm Slimming World
 7.45pm **NO** Wednesday night Cell Groups until the New Year

Thursday 29th November

10.30am "Meet & Greet"
 12.30pm Lunch Club
 2.00pm Friendship Club
 6.30pm Band Carolling at the Mall
 6.30pm Band Carolling at Tesco's Yate
 6.45pm Singing Company Practice
 8.00pm Songster Practice

Friday 30th November

9.30 & 11.30am Slimming World
 6.00pm Friday Club
 6.30-8.30pm Band at Keynsham Victorian Evening

Saturday 1st December

All Day Christmas on the Hill – see inside

Sunday 2nd December

9.45am Meetings for toddlers, children & teenagers
 10.00am Band Ensemble at BIRU Frenchay
 11.00am **Toy Service** with Colin & Nicola in Christmas Jumpers!
 4.00pm **Family Christmas Crafts**



THE SALVATION ARMY STAPLE HILL

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The Weekly Bulletin for Sunday 25th November 2018

With Christmas just around the corner, it's easy to get so busy that we forget why we're doing it all in the first place. Sometimes, the very people we love get lost in the hustle and bustle of parties, and carolling. This Christmas, let's keep our focus on Jesus and not forget to invite Jesus to His own birthday celebration.

1 Corinthians 13 ©By Sharon Jaynes: 'If I decorate my house perfectly with lovely plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights, and shiny glass balls, but do not show love to my family – I'm just another decorator. If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals, and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family – I'm just another cook. If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family – it profits me nothing. If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties, and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point. Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't envy another home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens. Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of your way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who can't. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. Love never fails. Video games will break; pearl necklaces will be lost; golf clubs will rust. But giving the gift of love will endure'.

'Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, that starry night in Bethlehem. Like the Shepherds, I'm still amazed at Your great love. May I not lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas, but celebrate Jesus' birthday with joy!'

Marc Willetts. Corps Sergeant Major (07808 730706) marckay83@gmail.com

Jake Skinner aged 11, from Crossfield Road Staple Hill has covered the entire outside of his house in decorations in memory of his sister who died on Christmas Day 3 years ago. He has put up lights that belonged to her, in order to honour her memory. Every year his sister Stacie Skinner, decorated her desk in Christmas lights where she worked at Co-op legal services. When she sadly died aged 17 of an anaphylactic shock, the lights were kindly returned to the family. Jake has single handedly taken on this task without any help from his parents. He is switching the lights on tonight at 5pm & aims to invite 100 people to attend all to donate £1 to reach his target of £100 for charity. Through Facebook he asked if the Salvation Army Band could come & play – how could we say no! Colin & a few of us will be there & back a little late for tonight's Worship – I know you'll understand.

CAMEO BULLETIN:

Tomorrow you'll be making Christmas table decorations – sounds like fun!

SHOE BOXES BULLETIN: Thank you to everyone who contributed. We received a range and variety of donations from complete shoeboxes to individual items, plus monetary gifts. (Margaret Belcher)

FELLOWSHIP BULLETIN: staplehillprayers@gmail.com

A few of Gerry's & Malcolm's Wednesday Night Cell Group met for Bible Study at the Brain Injuries Recovery Unit at Frenchay to be with Brenda & Paul Cook. However, they were also joined by other patients & members of staff. In total, there were 12 & nearly everyone took part in reading & discussing. Gerry said it was a real joy & blessing sharing with one another.

Continued prayers for those you know need them

Former Staple Hill Corps Officer Lt Col Janet Pallant was Promotion to Glory this week. Please remember Lt Col Steve Pallant and family at this sad time.

CHRISTMAS BULLETIN: What are you expecting?

LOVE LIFE, LIVE ADVENT – have you got your copy yet? A book of Bible reading, a reflection, prayer & a simple action to prepare yourself for Christmas. See Linda James for your copy.

Christmas Postal Service: The Post Box is out today for you to start posting your cards to people who attend the Staple Hill Salvation ONLY.

Band Carolling: The 'Carolling Season' has started. The Band play the the Christmas message but we need YOU to help talk to the public & collect their generous donations – see the Noticeboard for when you can help.

Christmas on the Hill: Saturday 1st December: A fantastic opportunity for us to meet the community of Staple Hill – everybody comes out on this day! There are 3 aspects to our day: Hospitality, Outreach (talking) & Music. This isn't a new venture, so I hope you're already involved. But if you're waiting to be asked, then speak to one of the following or see Colin & Nicola:

- Hospitality - cakes, serving and washing-up - please see Mary White
- Conversations & making contact with people - please see Mark Hatcliffe
- Supporting the musicians, including collecting - please see Nathan James



The Angel Tree provides gifts to children who would otherwise have little or nothing under the tree on Christmas morning as well as providing many of these families with food hampers. As you do your Christmas shopping maybe you could buy an extra gift. Please take a tag from the angel tree in the foyer and buy a gift for the person as indicated on the back of the tag. All gifts need to be **brand new & unwrapped**. You can bring your gifts to the hall at any time or to our **Toy Service** on **Sunday 2nd December at 11am** when we wear our **Christmas Jumpers** Thank You.

