



# Staple Hill

## Local ... Lively ... Loving

**Majors Colin & Nicola Hylton-Jones**

**Corps Officers:** 0117 9565232

**Corps Website:** [www.staplehillsa.uk](http://www.staplehillsa.uk)

**Hall Address:**

21 Broad Street, Staple Hill BS16 5LN

Telephone: 0117 9569733

[contactstaplehill@gmail.com](mailto:contactstaplehill@gmail.com)



**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Bulletin e-mail:** [staplehillbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:staplehillbulletin@gmail.com)

Over the past few weeks, we have been buying gifts, wrapping parcels, sending cards, queuing at the post office and putting up the decorations. There is now little left to do other than to relax and enjoy time with the family (as far as the restrictions allow). Of course, there are still preparations to complete for the big day itself – buying and preparing food, dropping off presents, double checking that no-one and nothing has been forgotten. What about Jesus? Is He still central to our Christmas? This year, we all have more time on our hands than ever, and yet it doesn't seem that way. We are still rushing around, filling our time with the trappings of Christmas but, perhaps, ignoring the substance. Can we find the time to change that in some way this year to bring Jesus back into the centre? The prophecies in [Isaiah 61](#) can remind us in a nutshell why Jesus deserves to have centre stage – not just a baby lying in a manger, but a radical Messiah that changes lives!

Along with prophecies about Jesus' ministry, Isaiah 61 also gives an insight into one of our tastiest Christmas traditions. Let all nations praise the sprout!

*For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.* Isaiah 61 v 11.

*Paul Heath*

## PRAYER DIARY:

Over the next couple of weeks, please pray for the following:

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 21 <sup>st</sup> | Molly A; Ashayi. Moses, Junior & Eli C; Brenda H; Peter & Valerie S; David & Doreen S                     |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Laura & Neil B; Mark C; Aiden N; Charlie T; Daisy U; Brian & Pat U; David T; Jeanette N                   |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Ruth & Ted B, Bev, Jon, Harry, Jessica and Emily D; Kelvin & Linda J; Malcolm & Mary W, Janine J & family |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | Ruth & Elise B; Esther D; Phil & Tash J; Jen & Les P; John W; Karen R; Paul & Brenda C; Francis & Ruth S  |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> | Bethany D; Elsie & Mike D; Bev W; Doris P; Geoff P; Glynn E; Beth E; Emma, Sam, Noah & Riley R            |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> | Sarah & Tim B; Morag F; Esther K; Lynette P; Sophie & Kathleen C; Mary Br; Debra & Mark H; Sue M          |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | Derek & Margaret B; Yolanda, Jeovany & Maria K; Catherine R; Gary, Joanne, Jacob & Emily R; Nneka H       |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Jon H; Joyce L; Doreen R; Sheila F; Paul & Heather C; Paul, Tracey, Victoria & Olivia H                   |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> | Staple Hill Corps   |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Staple Hill Community   |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | National & International Issues   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Paul & Roz C; Peter H; Bill & Freda M; Elaine & Peter R; Margaret S                                       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Hilton & Lilian B; Alison & Steve C; Colin & Nicola H-J; Carys & Senan H; Alan T                          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Jim & Pat B; Mary, Peter & James J; Chris P; Megan B; June W; Viv W, Graham & Julie W                     |

## **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY:**

- There will be no bulletin next week. The next issue of the bulletin will be issued on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021.
- Virtual Lighthouse Club has now broken up for Christmas, and will also resume on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021.
- This Sunday we have a Youth fellowship Christmas party (on zoom) at 7pm and then we will also break until the 3<sup>rd</sup>!
- Extra Slice Groups recommence on zoom in January – if you haven't tried one yet, why not make it your New Year resolution?

## **PRAYER NETWORK:**

Just after going to print last week, we did receive a number of prayer requests, so our apologies for not including them in last week's bulletin, but they are captured below. We have been praying for:

- Malcolm James (David James Brother) who is seriously ill in Hospital
- Marlene Nee who had a fall
- Continuing to pray for Charmaine.
- Gerry and family as they laid Malcolm to rest this week
- David Leonard and the family as Hazel was Promoted to Glory this week
- Rose (Colin's Aunt) who is receiving end of life care
- And we have given thanks for answered prayer as Linda Powell's daughters and grandson are now fully recovered from Covid 19

If you would like us to pray for something, then please drop us an email (a couple of sentences only, please) on [staplehillprayers@gmail.com](mailto:staplehillprayers@gmail.com).

## CHRISTMAS PARCELS:

Every December we work with Social Services and other organisations across South Gloucestershire to provide Christmas toy parcels and food hampers to families who would struggle to have anything to look forward to on Christmas day. Everything was a little bit more difficult this year but so far we have provided packages of toys and food for well over 400 children and adults in South Gloucestershire. We have also shared resources with the Bristol Salvation Army Appeal who have provided about 1900 individuals with gifts.



All of this is only possible with your help, and we have been bowled over once again by people's generosity. So, for all of you who have donated money, toys and gifts we thank you – your kindness will make a difference to people this Christmas.



**Do you think we should compare our  
'naughty and nice' lists?**

## ACROSS OUR FELLOWSHIP:

- We were sad to learn that after a long illness, Hazel Leonard was Promoted to Glory this week. Our thoughts and prayers are with David and his family at this sad time. Once we have details of Hazel's funeral we will send out via email.
- We also remember Gerry and her family who continue to grieve the loss of Malcolm, and pray for Doreen, John S, Ruth, John L, Arnold and Marlene all of whom are experiencing ill-health.
- We had an entry for the Corps Christmas Card, which came in just as we had pressed print, so another greeting: 'Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year from David, Rachel, Charlotte, Georgina and Harriet Nee.'
- Jen Reid celebrates a very special birthday on Christmas Eve – Happy Birthday Jen!
- Peter & Pat Exon send Christmas greetings to each and everyone at Staple Hill Corps and wanted us all to know how much they have been blessed through joining with us each week in our online worship.

## CHRISTMAS DAY:

- On Monday we are going shopping for Christmas Day, so if you know of anyone in the Staple Hill and Mangotsfield area who might benefit from a meal on Christmas Day, please contact us.
- We will need people to make the deliveries, but are only able to use volunteers that we know for this so please offer even if it's not something you usually do.

Please contact Nicola for further information on 0117 956 9733 or [nicola.hylton-jones@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:nicola.hylton-jones@salvationarmy.org.uk)

## ONLINE BROADCASTS:

- **TODAY:** 'Christmas with Staple Hill Salvation Army @ home' – online from 5pm
- **CHRISTMAS EVE:** 'Carols around the Christmas tree' online from 4pm
- **CHRISTMAS DAY:** Message online from 11pm
- **3<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2021:** Join our Territorial Leaders for an online Vision and Commitment Sunday meeting that premieres live on YouTube ([www.youtube.com/salvationarmyvideo](http://www.youtube.com/salvationarmyvideo)) Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January at 9am. The meeting will include the installation and welcome of Colonels Paul and Jenine Main as the new Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Leader Development. At Staple Hill, we will be looking at our Vision and Commitment during the rest of January so this will be a good introduction to that.

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIVISIONAL YOUTH SECRETARY (DYS) BETH:

There will be an online divisional youth event held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 6.30pm. Sign up closes on 8<sup>th</sup> January (although we would encourage people to sign up asap to allow us time to make up packs for the young people over Christmas). Young people can sign up via social media on the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NSFKXFP>



## KEYS FOR KENYA:



A new CD arranged and performed by Patricia Owen.



“For Salvationists, the act of making a difference is key to their identity as Christians. But behind every action is a deeply felt motivation, borne out of commitment and consecration. Keys for Kenya, a new recording of musical offerings by Patricia Owen, combines both worlds, being a practical fund-raising project on the one hand, and a vehicle for prayer and meditation on the other.

“The album begins suitably with an invitation to sit down in the Kingdom of God. As we accept this call to rest together with diverse others, we begin a musical reverie which describes the many influences that have informed our Christian journey. Each song has significance. Every melody is compelling. “

*Extract taken from Recording Review by Len Ballantine*

The CD can be ordered from the Kenya Trust website:  
: [www.thekenyatrust.org.uk/shop](http://www.thekenyatrust.org.uk/shop), and is just £10 plus postage.

All the proceeds from the CD will go to the Kenya Trust, and all the costs of production have been covered by a sponsor.

## THE TWO WEEKS AHEAD:

### **TODAY Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

- 10am – 11am Christmas Reception
- from 11am Sunday Worship – online
- Advent 4 The Shepherds and the Angels' [Luke 2:8-20](#)
- from 5pm 'Christmas with Staple Hill Salvation Army @ home'
- 6:30pm Coffee meet up over zoom (last one of 2020)
- 7pm Youth fellowship Christmas party (on zoom)

### **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

- 10am - 12pm Christmas Reception

### **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

- 10am - 12pm Christmas Reception
- 11am - 12pm Food Parcels available at Hall

### **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

- 10am - 12pm Christmas Reception

### **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve**

- 10am - 12pm Christmas Reception
- 11am - 12pm Food Parcels available at Hall
- From 4pm 'Carols in the Square' - online

### **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day**

- From 11am - Christmas Day Message – online

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December**

- from 11am Sunday Worship – online
- 'Baby Jesus in the Temple' [Luke 2:21-40](#)

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021**

- from 10am Lighthouse Club Session available online (ages 7-11)
- 10am Youth Group meets online (ages 11+)
- from 11am Sunday Worship – online
- 'The Wise men' [Matthew 2:1-12](#)