



Staple Hill

Local ... Lively ... Loving



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A Year to Look Forward To!

The New Year is a time to look forward to things that are to come. It suits my ethos ... I have never been one to dwell on the past. Each day is different and challenging in its own way. Each day is an opportunity for us to be better than we were the day before. Each day is a true gift from God to be cherished – something full of unique promise and potential.

It is true that some days ahead this year will prove to be difficult for many of us. Some, perhaps, full of sadness and will lead us down paths that we do not want to tread. But even during those days – God will be with us and will walk beside us. And the next day is sure to be better as a result!

So, as we start this New Year, let us be thankful that we can start it with God, and let us look forward with excitement and enthusiasm for all that He will do for us and with us during the coming 12 months.

*The days I cannot see
Have all been planned for me;
His way is best, you see;
I'm in his hands.*

[The Salvation Army Song Book No 848]

Paul Heath

CAROLLING:

This year's shorter carolling season raised £3,783.33 Thank you to the band members who played, our collectors and counters.

PEOPLE:

There are a number of people in our fellowship who have been ill or poorly over Christmas including Margaret Bessex and Elsie. Please let us know if you have been or are poorly, so that we can pray for you.

It is with sadness that we heard that Bob was promoted to glory in the early hours of New Year's Day. Our thoughts and prayers are with Pauline, Janine, Simon and their families at this sad time. Please surround them with love, compassion, and kindness.

ZOOM COFFEE:

As we have not been able to meet physically today (Sunday, 2nd), please join us for a virtual zoom coffee at 12noon. It will take the same format as 2020/21, and we will break out into small groups so as we can talk more easily. It's just for 30mins, but it will be good to catch-up. Keep an eye out for the zoom log-in details.

COVID:

With the rise in COVID cases before Christmas we, like many Churches, moved back to on-line worship. Whilst cases are still very high this is not necessarily reflected in the numbers of people needing care in hospital. As you will appreciate, we face yet more difficult decisions but will be working with the Mission Council and activity leaders to make the right decisions for the different groups. We will cascade information out as needed.



I made a New Year's resolution to exercise more ... Care to guess what I've already decided to give up for Lent?

THE WEEK AHEAD:

Due to the current COVID situation, worship within our hall is currently suspended. Please keep an eye open for further announcements on our website, on email and via social media regarding worship next Sunday.

TODAY SUNDAY 2nd January

Worship online only

12 noon Virtual Coffee fellowship, via Zoom

SUNDAY 9th January

To be confirmed