



Staple Hill

Local ... Lively ... Loving

Majors Colin & Nicola Hylton-Jones

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Sunday 20th November 2022

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Autumn Colours

With the mild weather, autumn is very late this year. As I travelled to Manchester and back on a business trip this week, I couldn't help noticing how many of the trees that line the route are still adorned with their autumnal leaves in hues of red, yellow and brown. With the low sun shining through the canopy, the effect was truly spectacular.

It is easy to take for granted God's creation, but it really is breath-taking! The palette of colours that God has blessed us with in the autumn is perfectly mixed – never gaudy or harsh, just softly graduating from one shade to the next; an intricate tapestry that even the greatest artist could not come close to capturing. God, the divine artist of earth, sky and sea – the true master of colour – an eternal inspiration.

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
Father unto thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.*

The Song Book of the Salvation Army, No. 14

Paul Heath

ADVENT READINGS – AN ADVENT ADVENTURE:

Over the past couple of years, we have produced Advent readings, and we are currently in the process of finalising the readings for this year - An Advent Adventure. They start next Sunday and will be available to collect on the 27th November. Can you help deliver to those who are not able to attend worship next week? If you can, please speak to Colin. We are hoping to have a daily recording, for those who prefer this, along with a PDF version for those watching our meeting from a distance. Thanks.

PEOPLE:

We continue to remember and pray for those in our fellowship who are poorly or who are living with debilitating illnesses. In particular we remember those in hospital: Gwen and Joan. We have heard that Ted Barber has been unwell this week and we will let you know more information as we receive it. Both Roy and Angela (lunch club) have been moved from Southmead to Skylark in Yate.

We continue to support Linda following the funeral this week of Jim.

Please think of Olive and Gary this coming week as the funeral service of Michael (Olive's Son/Gary's Brother) will take place on Wednesday 23rd November at Westerleigh Crematorium.

Brenda Comley's funeral will be held next Friday 26th November at 2pm at Kingswood Salvation Army with the committal taking place at 3:30pm at Westerleigh. I am sure our prayers will help bring comfort and strength to Stan and the family in the coming days.



I'm not allowed to say how many joined the parade, but I counted them all out, and I counted them all back!

BAND LEAGUE:

Joined the band league yet? If you have, you can pick up your free band league magazine today from Beryl Gardner (as Becky is working today), or see Beryl to join.

FLOWERS:

Many thanks to Morag and Linda today for the flowers at the front of the hall.

CHRISTMAS RECEPTION – HELP PLEASE!

During the Christmas Period, our building is very busy, including people popping in to donate to our Christmas Appeal. From Monday 21st November until Friday 23rd December our 'Christmas Reception' will be open from 9am to 12noon Monday to Friday. We need volunteer 'receptionists' to cover from 9 to 12 each day – if you are able to help, please put your name on the rota on the noticeboard.

The receptionists are there to welcome anyone who comes into our building, accepting and recording donations (toys, food and money) and answering any questions people may have (full training will be given!) There are always lots of other jobs to do if it's quiet too! If you want to know more, please ask Nicola.

CHRISTMAS DAY:

It's great that this year we will be able to invite guests into our building for Christmas again after 2 years of just delivering Christmas to their houses. Anyone who would otherwise spend Christmas Day on their own is invited to join us for Christmas dinner, entertainment, lots of laughs and all sorts of goodies to take home. If you know of anyone who would like an invite, please let Nicola know.

We are also looking for people to help. We need people to help all day as Table Hosts, making people welcome, serving food and chatting with guests, and helping in the kitchen. We're also looking for people to pick up guests to arrive by 10:30am, and people to take them home again at 3pm. Please see Nicola if you can help in any way. Thank you.

WHAT'S ON AT CHRISTMAS:

Christmas is fast approaching, so please take a copy of the Christmas calendar so you can keep track of everything. We are looking for collectors to accompany the band at various events – please use the sign-up sheets on the noticeboard.

Saturday 3rd December	Christmas on the Hill (10am to 4:30pm)
Sunday 4th December	Toy Service (10am) – <i>please bring your donated gifts on this day</i> 'Light up a Life' service (5pm) – <i>booking required</i>
Saturday 10th December	Carolling
Sunday 11th December	Carol Service (5pm)
Thursday 15th December	Carol Service (11:15am)
Friday 16th December	Christmas Concert (7:30pm)
Saturday 17th December	Carolling
Sunday 18th December	Family Carol Service (10am)
Christmas Eve	Carols in the Square (5pm)
Christmas Day	All Age Worship (11am) Christmas Day for our guests (10:30am to 3pm)

THE WEEK AHEAD:

TODAY, Sunday 20th November:

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| 10am | All Age Worship
Hebrews 1: 5-14 |
| 11.30am-12:15pm | Children & Youth Activities |
| 3pm | <i>The Chosen</i> at the cinema |

Tuesday 22nd November:

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| 11am-12noon | Extra Slice Group at the Hall (leader: Kelvin) |
| 12noon-6pm | Hall open for a <i>Warm Welcome</i> |
| 6:30pm | Last YP Band Practice before Christmas |
| 7:15pm | Last Singing Company Practice before Christmas |
| 8pm | Last Songster Practice before Christmas |

Wednesday 23rd November:

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| 9:30am-11am | Tots on the Hill |
| 3:30pm-4:30pm | Extra Slice Group online (leader: Gerry) |
| 7:45pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group at Linda's house |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group online (leader: Beth) |

Thursday 24th November:

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| 12.30pm | Lunch Club |
| 6:45pm | Extra Slice Group at Colin & Nicola's house |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group online (leaders: Ian & Rachel) |

Friday 25th November:

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| 12noon-6pm | Hall open for a <i>Warm Welcome</i> |
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Saturday 26th November:

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| 1pm-5pm | Carolling at Yate Lights Switch-on |
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Sunday 27th November:

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| 10am | <i>ADVENTure: The Adventure Planned</i>
Isaiah 7:14 & 9:2-7 |
| 11.30am-12:15pm | Children & Youth Activities |
| 4pm-6pm | Messy Church |
| 5pm | Band at McMillan Lights, Downend |