



Staple Hill

Local ... Lively ... Loving

Majors Colin & Nicola Hylton-Jones

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**Sunday 18th December 2022 to
Sunday 1st January 2023**

Bulletin e-mail: staplehillbulletin@gmail.com

When I was Lost

On Wednesday of this week, Paul Campbell brought to us the on-line advent reading for the day. As I said last week, I do look forward to these readings every day, but the final words of Wednesday's reading really made me stop and think. As part of the prayer, a line from a song was quoted:

'When I was lost you came and rescued me'

[The Song Book of the Salvation Army, No 483]

We most often associate that with an upbeat arrangement that the Songsters sing. The prayer that followed stated that whilst I might be only a little lost today, I still may need rescuing to live life to the full.

I've never considered being only a little bit lost before, but it is true, isn't it? We can start to lose our way for all sorts of reasons, especially during the hustle and bustle of Christmas. On occasions, we need to be reset and refocussed. We need God to direct us back onto the straight and narrow path from all the detours we are apt to go down. So when I do get a little lost, I am glad God is always there to rescue me.

Paul Heath

PEOPLE:

We were sad to learn that Derek Boxell's mum passed away on Thursday. Our thoughts are with Derek and his family at this sad time. We continue to remember Olive who is preparing for John's funeral. As we have more information, we will let you know.

Jill Welling remains in hospital, but as of writing most have returned home or have moved into a care environment. As we enter this holiday period, please continue to support each other practically and in prayer. Please contact me (Colin) if you need anything over these coming weeks.

HELP NEEDED PLEASE:

Christmas Eve:

9.30am - Help to prepare for Christmas Day: lay tables, prepare vegetables etc.

Christmas Day:

People to give lifts to guests to arrive at 10.30am and leave about 3.15pm & volunteers to help all day - hosting a table of guests.

Thursday 5th January:

Help to 'put Christmas away' any time in the morning.

Every Tuesday and Friday:

Help needed in Warm Welcome 12noon to 6pm – See Linda James.

BULLETIN OVER CHRISTMAS:

This is the last bulletin for a couple of weeks. The next edition will be available on Sunday 8th January 2023.

CHRISTMAS POST BOX:

Thank you to those who helped sort the large number of cards. Remember to pick up your cards today. Please do not add to them, as many people have already taken their cards and some have been delivered to those who are unable to get to the hall.

THANK YOU:

We want to say a big thank you to everyone who has donated presents, food or money to our Christmas Appeal this year. We have been bowled over by people's generosity and we are very grateful. The donations will make a huge difference to many families this Christmas. We work with Social Services, local schools, and other agencies to distribute the gifts and food hampers to families across the whole of South Gloucestershire. And in every area numbers have gone up since last year, so thank you very much it really is appreciated.

- Over 650 people received a parcel of several gifts (150 more people than 2021)
- Over 120 families received a Christmas food hamper

We are now busy making preparations for Christmas day, and have more people booked in than in 2019.

It's been a mammoth task of organising and sorting and lots of people have helped in practical ways, including administration, sorting, shopping, moving and lifting. Thank you to everyone who has helped – you know who you are!



Older
People's
Ministries

Christmas Reflections

GUEST SPEAKER
LIEUT-COLONEL DEAN PALLANT
SECRETARY FOR COMMUNICATIONS
UNITED KINGDOM & IRELAND TERRITORY

Join us on Monday 19th December
at 11am via Zoom

'Unto us a child is born'
Isaiah 9:6

Zoom ID: 824 859 6234

Passcode: 128359

Come and share with us for
Live Worship
Reflections
Prayers

BEYOND THE WEEK AHEAD:

Saturday 14th January	Coffee Morning
Sunday 22nd January	Messy Church
Saturday 11th February	Coffee Morning
24th – 26th February	Staple Hill Youth Retreat
Sunday 26th February	Messy Church
Saturday 4th March	Staple Hill Band Concert
Saturday 11th March	Coffee Morning
Sunday 12th March	YP Band & Singing Company at Stroud
24th – 26th March	Territorial YP Workers weekend 'Shalom'
Saturday 1st April	Coffee Morning
Sunday 2nd April	Messy Church
Sunday 9th April	Easter Sunday
30th Sept / 1st Oct	Harvest Weekend
14th / 15th October	YP Prizegiving Weekend



**Carolling finished for another year...
God rest ye merry gentlemen**

THE REMAINING DAYS OF DECEMBER:

TODAY, Sunday 18th December:

10am Family Carol Service

Tuesday 20th December:

12noon-6pm Hall open for a *Warm Welcome*

Thursday 22nd December:

12.30pm Lunch Club

Friday 23rd December:

12noon-6pm Hall open for a *Warm Welcome*

Saturday 24th December: CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm Carols in the Square

Sunday 25th December: CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30am to 3pm Christmas Day for our guests

11am Christmas Day Service

'The adventurer dwells within us'

[John 1: 9-14](#)

(Come and join with your church family for informal worship including hot drinks, cake, mince pies, chocolates etc. etc!)

Tuesday 27th December:

NO *Warm Welcome today (Bank Holiday)*

Friday 30th December:

12noon-6pm Hall open for a *Warm Welcome*

IN THE NEW YEAR:

Sunday 1st January 2023: NEW YEAR'S DAY

10am

All Age Worship

'You're never too old for an adventure'

[Luke 2:36-38](#)

(Come and share together for informal worship including bacon rolls!)

Tuesday 3rd January:

12noon-6pm

Hall open for a *Warm Welcome*

Thursday 5th January:

All Morning

Help needed to 'put Christmas away' please

Friday 6th January:

12noon-6pm

Hall open for a *Warm Welcome*

Sunday 8th January: COVENANT SUNDAY

10am

All Age Worship

11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities

4pm to 7:30pm Divisional Youth Rehearsals

(Extra Slice Groups will recommence after 8th January)