

Preparing and keeping in touch

So how prepared are you for Christmas? One lady I know had bought all her family's Christmas gifts by the end of October. I think many others were enjoying a late summer break during our warm October. I have to admit to being a 'last minuter' in spite of the garden centre's early Christmas displays. But even for 'last minute me' my diary for December has filled up. For Christmas is the time for 'keeping in touch' with pre-Christmas meals or get togethers with various friends old and new.

I must admit that I still send Christmas cards. Modern technology has made it easier to keep in touch with friends near and far. As someone with family in Australia it is good to be in constant touch with their lives and to chat and laugh with them. But some of our elderly, housebound friends (closer to home) rely on phone calls, letters and cards for contact with friends.

We also use Christmas traditions to 'keep in touch'. Most families have 'things they always do' in the run up to Christmas. Not to say that these must change with the changing ages of family members. Something new is always fun and if it's good it may become a tradition.

And of course Donkey's Diary is a Peters Green tradition that helps us to 'keep in touch' with our friends and neighbours, but also with some who have moved away. Our figures Mary, Joseph and Donkey travel round each day of Advent.

Advent, as well as giving the children a daily treat as they count down to Christmas, is on the church calendar as our 'preparing time'. It is the time for us to prepare for the coming of Jesus, Immanuel 'God with us'.

Most churches have an Advent Wreath, lighting a candle on each of the four Sundays of December. Different churches have differing emphasis for the weekly candle but it enables us to focus on the message of Christ's coming from the words of the prophets, or John the Baptist, or Mary. I do like the simple message of :- the candle of HOPE, the candle of PEACE, the candle of JOY and the candle of LOVE. Then the central white candle lit on Christmas Day remembering that Jesus the Saviour is come.

We pray that the hope, peace, joy and love of God the Father and of Jesus Christ our Saviour may be with each of us this Christmas time.

God bless you and your family,

Pam

PERRY GREEN BAPTIST CHAPEL AT PETERS GREEN

Central Baptist Church Tel: 01582 363000 Branch Leader: Pam Greener Tel: 01582 604771

SUNDAY SERVICES 4.00 pm.

December

• 3rd.	Miss Pam Greener (c)	
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- " 10th. Mr. Roger Barton
- " 17th. Carol Service Mrs. Gill Short 3.00 pm.
 - 24th. Coffee & Carols 3.00 pm.
- " 31st Miss Pam Greener

January

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"	7th.	Mr.	Ian	Ber	ijam	nin	(c)
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- " 14th. Mrs. Gill Short
- " 21st Mr. Adam May
- " 28th Tea and Hymns at Central 3.30 pm

February

"	4th.	Mr. Roger Barton (c)
"	11th.	Mr. Samson Akinola
"	18th.	Mr. Roland Ogberigbe
"	25th.	Mr. Erwin Tadiar

Contributions for the next newsletter Please email your contributions to chapel@peteretteridge.com or hand your contributions to Pam Greener by 31st January.

We meet at 2.30 pm	
5th December.	Carols with Mrs. Liz Higgens
January.	No Meeting
6th February.	Miss Pam Greener (Weather permitting)
Enjoy a journey thr	elcome to Our Services ough the countryside to the village of Peters Green. 0 minute drive from the centre of Luton.

Perry Chapel. - Donkey's Virtual Diary

Last year's Virtual Donkey's Diary was a huge success. We all were able to follow Donkey's adventures before and after 'our' day. And, of course, it enabled us all to share Donkey's visits with our friends overseas.

Daily Diary items should come in on email (or by phone or text) and Peter will send them out to all as we did last year. We have some spaces available so if you missed out last year and would like to join in just contact us.

Our All Age Carol Service is on Sunday 17th December at 3.00 pm. And it will be led by our good friend Gill Short.

God bless you. Pam

As usual our Christmas offerings will be for





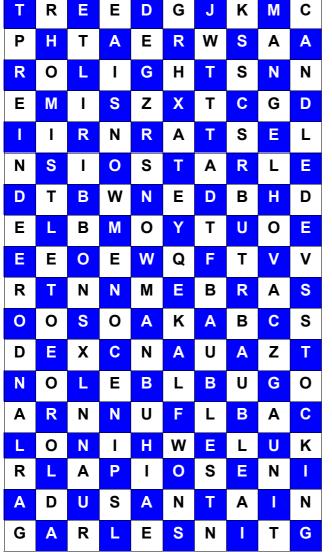
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year From all at the Chapel.



Sunday December 17th. 3.00 pm. At Peters Green

WORDSEARCH

Christmas



Tree Wreath Stocking Reindeer Garland Poinsettas Candle Mistletoe Tinsel Snowflake Lights Angel Ribbon Pinecone Santa Star **Baubles** Snowman

The words can be found on the grid, backwards, forwards, upwards, downwards, or diagonally.

EVENTS AND SERVICES



1st December. Mary, Joseph, and Donkey begin their journey around the village. Send greetings through Donkey's diary.





All Age Carol Service Sunday 17th December 3.00 pm.





Coffee & Carols 24th December 3.00 pm.



Festival of Angels

Kimpton Church will be decorated with the Heavenly Host from Sunday 17th December to 6th January.

St Peter & St Paul Kimpton

December

9.30 am. Christingle Service

- Sunday 3rd
- Sunday 17th 6.30.pm. Carol Service
- Sunday 24th 3.00 pm. Crib Service and Nativity Play 11.30 pm. Midnight Holy Communion
- Monday 25th 10.00 am. Christmas Worship

Ayot St Lawrence Church

Sunday 17th

Central baptist

Recordings of Services are available on the web

4.00 pm. Carol Service



www.facebook.com/lutonbaptist/

www.kimptonchurch.co.uk

Virtual Donkey's Diary

Visits by Mary, Joseph, & Donkey

Mary, Joseph and Donkey (our wooden figures for anyone new to this) will need a place to stay for each day in December. If we haven't spoken to you and you would like to be included please phone me (01582 604771) or

email: chapel@peteretteridge.com

Pam

