



Produced and distributed by the members and friends of  
**St Julian's Baptist Church** 35 Beaufort Road, Newport, NP19 7PZ  
Tel: 01633 439371 [www.sjbaptist.co.uk](http://www.sjbaptist.co.uk) Registered charity 1148152

# The LINK

*Community Magazine*

THE ONE  
WHERE WE WERE  
Q.U.A.R.A.N.T.I.N.E.D  
2020



## Christmas Savings at Newport Credit Union

### Can you imagine having no money worries at Christmas time?

Newport Credit Union's Christmas Savers account has proved invaluable to members over the years.

You can save as little or as much as you like, as often as you like, but can only access your savings between 1st November and 31st December each year.

You can have this account alongside a normal share account and even be running a loan at the same time!

When you make your withdrawal, you receive actual money rather than the vouchers which other Christmas Clubs offer.



**Collection Points—Visit us at St Julian's Baptist Church,**  
Beaufort Road **-Every Tuesday** (10.30am – 12.00pm)

**Newport Credit Union**

e: [info@newportcreditunion.co.uk](mailto:info@newportcreditunion.co.uk) t: 01633 214913

The church is intended to be a place where all can come and worship God, from the youngest child and the coolest teenager, to the oldest adult. We know we cannot be all things to all men, but we can come together as a family and worship Him. As we focus on God, we are changed to be more and more like Him. We seek to touch God's heart and be open to Him so He can speak into our situations as we allow Him to lead us by His Spirit.

We have a deep need of God, and our desire is to learn from Him and follow closer every day. As you would expect, our service regularly includes celebrating communion. This is open to all who know Jesus as their Saviour—members and visitors alike.

Our music is a mix of the old and new. Our aim is to be led by God's Spirit – to be neither particularly contemporary nor traditional but God focused.

After the morning service we have tea and coffee so we can spend time together as a family.

**So please come and share the special time we call 'Church'.**



**Family Service - Sunday 27th December**

**Worship & Children's groups 3rd January 2020**

**Both start at 10:30am**



# Sundays at

## St Julians Baptist Church

You are most welcome to join us any  
\*  
**Sunday at 10.30 am**

*A time to draw near to God,  
For Bible Readings, Prayers,  
Songs of Praise and Worship  
A time for quiet reflection*

**Groups for children and young people  
with stories and activities**

**Jesus** confirmed that the love of God is to be the very first priority in our lives. He showed us that if we love God and do what He wants for our world, then everything in our lives will fall into perspective. Because of this, worship of God has to be our starting point. As we put God in his rightful place in our lives, our lives become renewed, directed and focused on what is true, right and lovely. Worship of God is therefore fundamental to our life as a church.



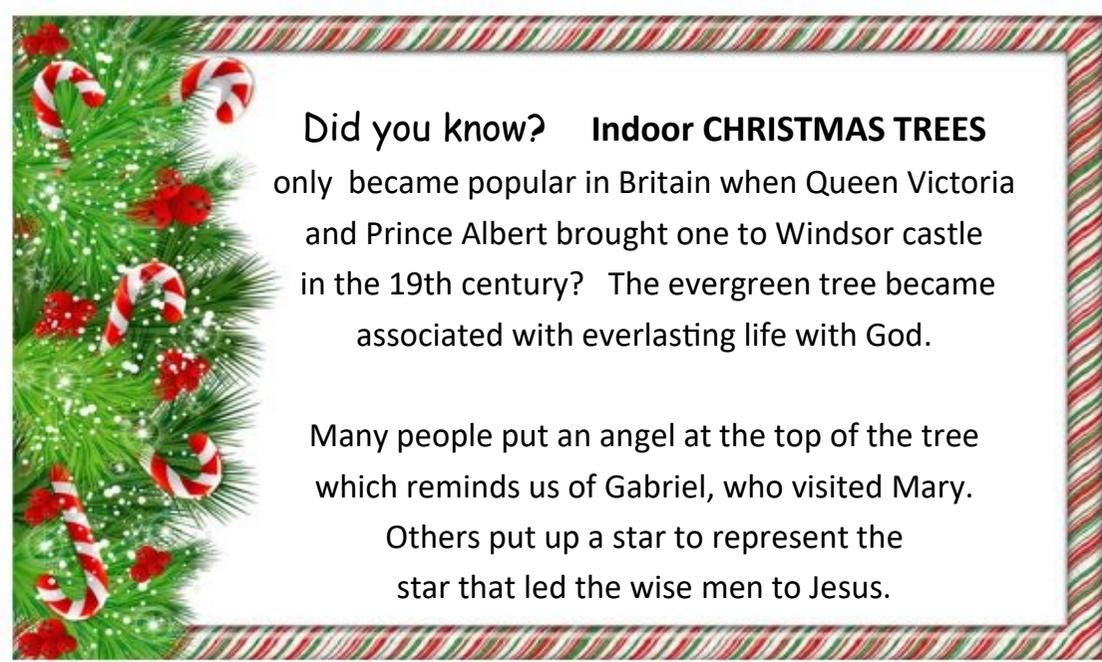
### Hello!

A warm welcome to you and to our Christmas Link Magazine. 2020 has certainly been a year we will remember for a long time. Who would've thought this time last year that we would endure this in 2020, But not only have we endured but we see our community come together in some amazing ways.

Despite all the challenges this year, we have managed to bring to you a fantastic Christmas magazine packed with lots of articles, poems, and stories that reflect back on this year. We also have some exciting new groups that have joined with us in our new Jubilee hall and you'll see them here so check them out.

We have been blessed by all who have shared in this edition of the Link and our prayer is that you will too. So grab yourself a cuppa, a comfy spot on the sofa and enjoy a good read through.

We invite you to join any of our Christmas services, they may be a little different this year, but we guarantee a warm welcome awaits you. So from all of us at St Julian's we wish you a blessed, happy Christmas and a hopeful New Year.



**Did you know? Indoor CHRISTMAS TREES** only became popular in Britain when Queen Victoria and Prince Albert brought one to Windsor castle in the 19th century? The evergreen tree became associated with everlasting life with God.

Many people put an angel at the top of the tree which reminds us of Gabriel, who visited Mary. Others put up a star to represent the star that led the wise men to Jesus.

## Men's Breakfast @ **St Julian's Baptist Church**

On the **1st Saturday** of each month we serve a buffet style full English breakfast consisting of egg, bacon, sausage, beans, tomatoes, mushrooms, hash brown, onion rings, toast, juices, tea and coffee.



***We have been taking a break for Covid 19 but we look forward to meeting once again at some point in 2021***

Meeting from **8:30am** for prompt **9am** serving.

Meet other men from all walks of life for an enjoyable friendly experience, discussion and to listen to the guest speaker.

**Contact Nick Taylor**—Tel Newport 258067 for booking.

So, There are only two destinies you can have. -  
You can bend your knee to Almighty GOD and say “your will be done” or you can refuse to bend that knee to him, and the LORD says to us “your will be done”.

If you really want to enjoy this freedom of what the gift of love is all about. Trust JESUS! This is the world that gives you the gift of love and the beauty of sacredness in relationship.

The more you get to know him, the less you ask the other question. Because you know that in his wisdom, he has the explanation, that in time and in eternity will be ultimately revealed.

G.K.Chesterton was once asked by a newspaper to write an article answering the question what is wrong with the world. He wrote back a very short letter stating “I am, yours sincerely G.K.Chesterton.”

Sometimes we are too quick to look up and blame GOD, when we should look down and ask what our contribution is to the unrest in our church, our family, to the gossip, to the dislike or disdain of others in our personal life, church life and all the other aspects of our world. Do we contribute to all this strife?  
(Isaiah ch29 v13-14)

We as sinners need to look up to the LORD and Christ JESUS will shine on us. Sometimes we are too quick to look up and blame GOD. Ironically the same GOD who looked down from the cross he was hanging from and said of the ones who were producing the evil in his life “Father forgive them, they don’t know what they are doing”. (Luke 23 v34)

Please OH LORD help us to find it in our hearts to forgive one another and to forgive ourselves. (Matthew 22 v37-40).

***To everyone: have a blessed, peaceful, and Happy Christmas!!  
With much love in CHRIST, Lynn***



## Good and Evil – Submitted by Lynn Turner

The question is very often asked: Did GOD create good and evil?

We know that a perfect GOD almighty created the earth and the whole universe in six actual days, and we are born again into the kingdom of GOD through the blood of the covenant.

I believe there are only four possibilities of GOD and his creation.

1. That he created nothing!
2. Creating a world where there is no such thing as good or evil, an amoral world which would totally be devoid of a sense of right or wrong.
3. Choosing a world where we would only do good, which would be total constraint. We would have no free will!
4. Creating this world where there is the possibility of good and evil with the freedom given to us.

This is the only one of the four options where love is possible. In the previous three love is not possible at all because there is no choice. Four is the only option where love is brought together in the Divine and us! This is the only one in which love is given to us as a legitimate possibility.

Love is the craving of the human heart to belong in sacredness of love and trust in a relationship, and that is what we all long for.

How do we find cohesiveness? When we look at the relationship we have with the LORD, we realise that this is put together by GOD, when we allow it to happen, and this gives us hope, relationship and love! We find meaning in our lives being conquered by JESUS.

GOD in giving us freedom gave us the greatest gift we could ever have, with the greatest vulnerability at the same time. Once you know him and enjoy his love you will realise that for the sake of that love and relationship with you He gave you that freedom!

# ADVENT

LIGHT LOVE JOY

PEACE HOPE



*As we reflect on the Advent themes and light the Advent candles we read from the Bible:*

Jesus said: "I am the **LIGHT** of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the **LIGHT** of life." *John 8 v 12*

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living **HOPE** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time." *1 Peter 1 v 3-5*

This is how God showed His **LOVE** among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is **LOVE**: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. *1 John 4 v 9-10*

"Since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have **PEACE** with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us." *Romans 5 v 1-2*

The angel said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great **JOY** that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." *Luke 2 v 10-11*

**JESUS brings - LIGHT, HOPE, LOVE, PEACE and JOY - if we follow him**



## Eden Gate 2020—New Project Update

Eden Gate plan to launch a new “Assertive Outreach” project that we’re aiming to pilot from Saturday 14th November 2020. We have been in discussions with Supporting People (NCC), The Wallich and Helen Jones who are all supportive of this new project and we’ll continue to work closely with them throughout.

Eden Gate’s Assertive Outreach project seeks to meet those sleeping rough in Newport at their sleeping place on a Saturday and Sunday morning to provide them with a welfare check, breakfast, and the opportunity to access housing related support with our staff. The assertive outreach project will be followed by a drop-in service at our premises on Hill Street for those with support needs. This project aims to replicate the highly successful “Breakfast run” model that is provided on weekday mornings by the Wallich. Eden Gate’s assertive outreach project will form a continuation of this project, therefore bridging the weekend gap. If you know of anyone interested in volunteering please pass contact Katie Graham.

This means that Eden Gate will now be providing a total of 5 drop-in services each week:

**Tuesdays 10am – 1pm**

**Wednesday 10am – 1pm**

**Thursday 10am – 1pm,**

**Saturday 10am – 1pm (Rough sleepers only)**

**Sunday 10am – 1pm (Rough sleepers only)**

What a year it has been!

It has shown us God’s love!

It has shown us God’s miracles!

It has shown us God’s compassion!

It has shown us God’s mercy!

It has shown us the love and warmth of welcoming new members!

It has shown us sadness at the loss of friends,

It has shown us that we need not be afraid or discouraged by events beyond our control!

It has shown us God is in control!

It has shown us the need for prayer

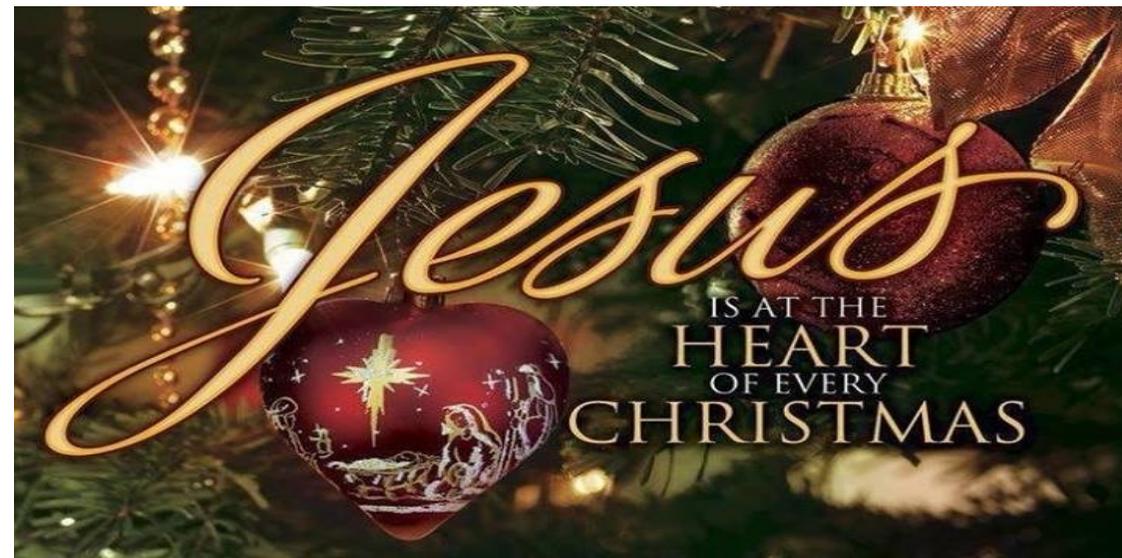
We have said a fond farewell to Pastor Clive and Jeanette

We have been blessed with our new Pastor Lee and Michelle and their lovely family.

It has shown us, we can come through tough times with God’s help.

God bless each and everyone of our church family! Amen

*Written and submitted by Marion.*





## Christmas Wish List

This year, instead of shoe boxes we've put together an Amazon Wishlist of all the supplies we'll be giving to rough sleepers during the winter months through Assertive Outreach. We thought this might be a safer option for individuals and communities to help minimise the risk of spreading Covid-19.

The amazon link can be found here and the parcels get send straight to us: [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/LMALT3R1QWPR?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/LMALT3R1QWPR?ref=wl_share)

## The future of Night Shelter

As you may or may not know, in June 2020 the Government stated that Night Shelter floor space is no longer an acceptable option for those experiencing homelessness and therefore we aren't able to open our Night Shelter. It is because of this that the future of Night Shelter still currently seems uncertain. We are currently in communication with the council who are developing ideas with us about how we can provide emergency accommodation, as it is evident that it is still required.

*From Katie Graham, Operations Manager*

Eden Gate, 25 Hill Street, Newport, NP20 1LZ

T: 01633 243235

E: [katie.graham@edengate.org.uk](mailto:katie.graham@edengate.org.uk), Facebook: /edengatenewport

Twitter: @EdenGateNewport, W: [www.edengate.org.uk](http://www.edengate.org.uk)

Reg Charity 1154545



## From getting a shoebox, to sending a shoebox



Growing up in Ukraine, I had very different Christmases to the ones I have experienced in the UK. On Christmas Eve we would walk to church in the freezing cold, we would sing carols at our friends' house, then home for dinner and to open presents under the tree.

Some years this was a pair of slippers or a new winter hat, and one very exciting year it was a pineapple and a coconut!

My parents always found creative ways to make the holiday magical and I have never once felt that it was lacking something. I think my absolute contentment with our Christmases was the reason for my surprise when one year I have also received a shoebox from our local church. I am sure that the majority of the other families that got one were much worse off than we were, so to this day I think I didn't really deserve that shoebox. Nonetheless, someone had decided to give it to us and my sister and I were incredibly grateful! I remember every single item in that box and I am almost certain that it came from the UK. The rules must have been less strict back then because, amongst other things, it contained rich tea biscuits and a jar of strawberry jam.

My absolute favourite item, however, was a photo of three smiling children with beautiful red hair in front of a lovely, large brick house. I only remember one name from the message written on the back of the photo, Angus.



## Mary's Song

And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46 (NIV)

Words are taken from Luke 1:46-55 (NIV).



J Q F E A R B W R P H B N O E  
 R Y W W G X O J I R U H E R J  
 Y K C T W L U Y C O S O Z T H  
 I Y G H W B O L H U Y L T M U  
 Y M E S R E U R M D X Y H U N  
 B D E E W O J Z I E D Q R B G  
 L S O R S K Y Q D F V F O E R  
 E S T V C U N F E B I J N S Y  
 S P W A R Y D E E D S E E D K  
 S I F N M I G H T Y T C S E S  
 E R C T H I N G S T I N L R E  
 D I F V Q P E V A O P B E M F  
 Z T H M W G H E J N M L A C Y  
 G O G Y I R R E F U U N H Q S  
 N H C F R G R F H R J M T S C

|           |        |        |          |         |
|-----------|--------|--------|----------|---------|
| blessed   | great  | mercy  | rejoices | soul    |
| deeds     | holy   | mighty | rich     | spirit  |
| fear      | humble | name   | rulers   | things  |
| glorifies | hungry | proud  | servant  | thrones |



**Time  
Out**

# ZOOPERS

Breakfast and After School Club  
at St Julian's Baptist Church Hall  
Beaufort Rd, Newport, NP19 7PZ

Fun, stimulating and safe Childcare. Pick up and drop off to  
St. Julian's Primary School. Children from other schools accepted  
although own transport must be provided.



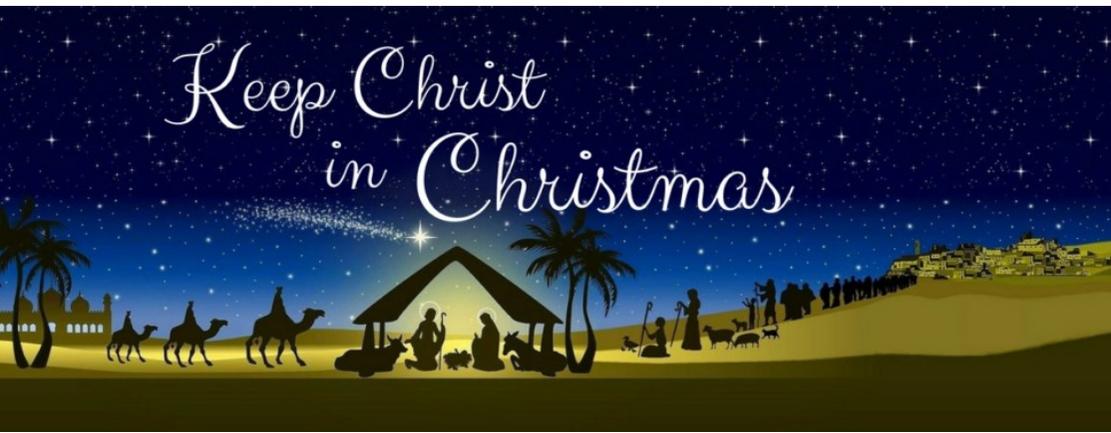
Children aged 3 to 12 years

Registered with CIW



For further information: Viv: 07887396455

zoopersafterschoolclub@gmail.com



Now, when my children and I carefully select the items to put in our shoeboxes, I think of Angus and his brother and sister who did the same for me that one year. We talk about the little girl and boy who will receive our shoebox



and we hope that we will make them as happy as I was opening mine. Even though we can't send biscuits and strawberry jam, we always, always include a photo with a note, in the hope that years from now someone else will reminisce about a little boy and girl called Holden and Hattie who has made their childhood Christmas just that little more special.

*Submitted by Zsofi*

## The Amazing Journey of a Simple Shoebox Gift Begins With You

A simple shoebox gift packed with love and fuelled by prayer can have a huge impact! Watch how Operation Christmas Child brings Good News and great joy to children around the world.

Since 1990, more than 178 million children in over 160 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child.

Visit [samaritanspurse.org.uk](http://samaritanspurse.org.uk) for more details



# Prepare the way of the LORD!

Mark 1 :1-8 (NIV)



X H B O S R R I V E R W Q G W  
 B A N P A T H S B Y U N T I E  
 L S H C J I A J R O K Z L L S  
 O A I B O N E O J O Z N O M I  
 C N F A R G D H Q E I O Y C N  
 U D W P D K B N L V O I C E S  
 S A O T A M H N P R O P H E T  
 T L R I N W O S T R A I G H T  
 S S T Z W C N D Y D D E T A S  
 R Q H I O W E H V B H K O X U  
 F N Y N F S Y I S A I A H G I  
 B R E G P S R L P R E P A R E  
 Z C O N F E S S F K V P H N R  
 S I R R W I L D E S E R T M T  
 J F O R G I V E W G P I R Y J



Isaiah  
 prophet  
 prepare  
 voice  
 desert

straight  
 paths  
 John  
 baptizing  
 forgive

sins  
 confess  
 Jordan  
 river  
 locusts

wild  
 honey  
 sandals  
 worthy  
 untie

## Bible Memory Verse

"A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord,  
 make straight paths for him.' "  
 Mark 1:3 (NIV)

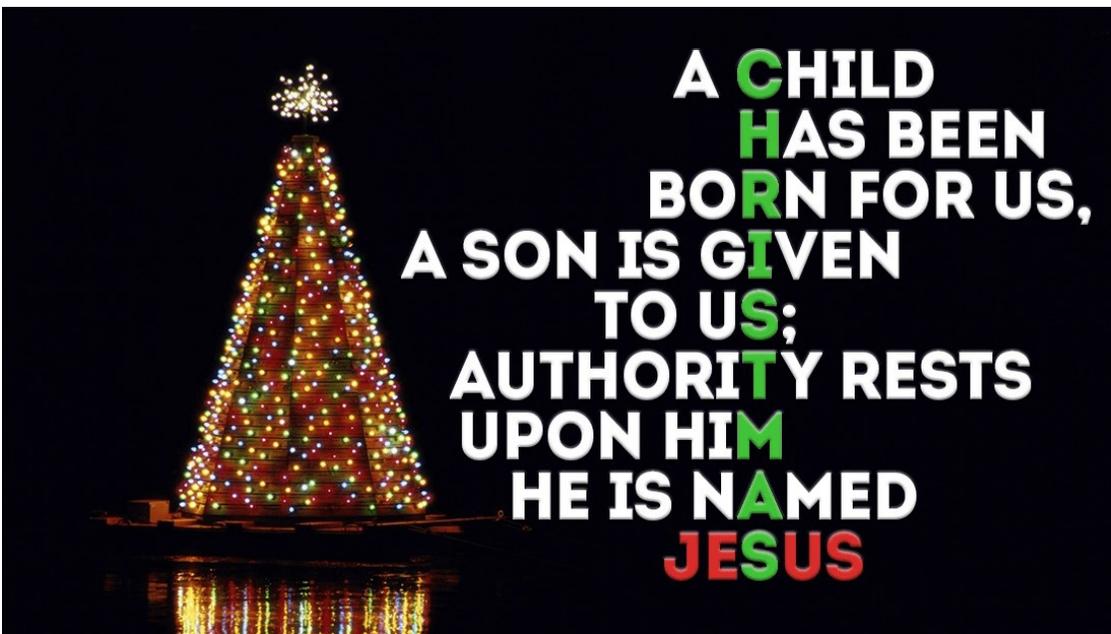
We're told to "only go out for essentials"  
 To sanitize everything & to wear a mask,  
 Once—having a browse 'round the shops' was enjoyable,  
 But now has become quite a hazardous task.

This covid virus has caused havoc,  
 As businesses start to unfold,  
 Many shops, restaurants, bars and clubs,  
 Are now having to close.

Oh when will this be over,  
 When will this pandemic end?  
 God says "just wait a little longer,  
 And I'll have it all in hand".

Perhaps the restrictions have helped us,  
 To get our priorities right,  
 And realize just how much we've taken for granted,  
 And maybe this time, we will get it right.

*Written and submitted by Kath Jarvis*





## 2020

My what a year,  
Many people have been living in uncertainty and fear.  
They've been kept apart from loved ones,  
They've been afraid to go outside,  
They've only kept in touch by virtual,  
With their phones always by their side.

Our little ones have been growing up,  
Without that special cwtch from nannie,  
Without lots of kisses from aunts and uncles  
And with no playing tricks and & tormenting their bampy.

We've all been told by government,  
"if possible stay at home"  
But staying home for a lot of us,  
Has meant being home alone.

## What a year! - From our Church Secretary Ole

When we came into 2020 we knew it would be a big year of change for us as a church. Our pastor, Clive, of 20 years was due to retire at the end of March.

Our new Jubilee Hall was under construction which would give us so many opportunities in the local community. But little did we know the very big changes we would face. The year started well. The Jubilee Hall was getting close to completion.

We had called a new pastor, Lee who was due to start with us after the summer. But then....lockdown....everything stopped and we had no idea when it would start again. We are a friendly, welcoming church that loves being together so it was very hard and the challenge was to keep in touch with each other over what seemed a never ending time when we couldn't be with each other in person.

So how did we fill the gap? We came up with lots of ways

- We divided the church contact book between leaders and made sure that everyone got regular contact – ideally each week
- We produced a church newsletter each week to keep in touch and include a few jokes or funny stories to cheer us up
- We made lots of phone calls and sent cards, letters and texts to each other
- We got into what's app. We had a contact group to share news, songs, fellowship and fun and a prayer group to support each other where we saw some miraculous answer to prayer
- Wednesday became quiz night thanks to James – and yes with what's app again
- The leaders zoomed each week to check on any church business and pastoral issues
- We posted children's talks and sermons on to our website and facebook page each week

It was great to be able to get back to church in September. Even if it was different and we had to socially distance with no singing or refreshments we enjoyed seeing each other. But we do recognise that some of us do not feel able to come back as yet. So do keep phoning and sending letters and cards so we can continue to communicate with each other.

# Final Jubilee Hall update 2020

We have finally opened our doors! After what has seemed a very long wait, and at times very frustrating, the Jubilee Hall is now complete, and in use! And it is lovely, as you can hopefully see from these pictures.



The joys of planning applications, what must be done about trees and car parks and drains, needing to re-draw part of the plans midway, very mixed weather and the coronavirus have all contributed to the delay, but we have kept going. We always believed in the vision God gave us of a space to help and to bless the community alongside our existing church building.

We now have a much larger hall space than before, which can be subdivided into two, plus two smaller meeting rooms. The building is self-contained, with its own kitchen and toilet facilities, so two activities can now run alongside each other in separate buildings. It's certainly warm with the underfloor heating and much better insulation. Those of you who remember the old Banbury hall will be especially grateful for this!



You can contact us by email [beechwoodwi@hotmail.com](mailto:beechwoodwi@hotmail.com), follow us on Twitter @beechwoodwi and join our Facebook groups Beechwood WI, and Beechwood WI – members only.

*We guarantee a warm welcome for you at Beechwood WI!*



## Beechwood WI Current intended themes for 2020

All meetings, which are subject to change and confirmation, will hopefully be able to be held face to face, according to government guidelines and local restrictions. If circumstances do not allow us to meet physically, the meetings will be held via Zoom.

January 4th - Judicial Psychology (and happy 6th birthday to us)

February 1st - Be prepared!

March 1st - Life/Still Drawing (and St David's day celebration)

April 5th\* - Membership renewal and Gwent Wildlife Trust \*Easter

Monday - meeting date may move

May 3rd\* - Annual Meeting \*bank holiday, meeting date may move

June 7th - Foraging Fun

July 5th - Music and/or Movement

August - No official meeting, but an optional social event to be arranged (usual practice across WIs). \*\*Date, venue, event TBC\*\*

September 6th - Local History

October 4th - Menopause Madness

November 1st - Pumpkin Pursuits

December 6th - Christmas Party Event



## Welcome to Beechwood WI



We were established in January 2015, and currently have around 40 members. We have a vibrant programme of monthly meetings, which in the past has included Taiko drumming, salsa dancing and sword fighting!

There's always time for a cuppa and a chat at each meeting, and we regularly keep in touch via email and our Facebook page. Between meetings and before Covid 19, we often go to see shows at The Dolman Theatre as optional extra trips. We also encourage our members to contribute their ideas for meetings and activities through our suggestion box which is available at every meeting.

We are delighted to now be meeting on the first Monday of the month (this may change due to bank holidays) at the new **Jubilee Hall, St Julian's Baptist Church, 33 Beaufort Road**. Doors open at 7pm with the meeting starting at 7.15 and running until around 9pm. Each meeting has a themed activity, though due to Covid 19, we may have to have speakers via, or hold meetings through, Zoom.

You are welcome to attend a meeting as a visitor (a maximum of three visits is permitted). Each visit is £4 plus an optional £1 for refreshments (if available, in line with COVID restrictions) with which you will receive a raffle ticket for our raffle that takes place at the end of the evening. However, you can currently try us out until April 2021 for only £10.75. If you would like to join as a member the national subscription rate is currently £44 per year, paid in April and reduced quarterly for new members starting later in the year. For this you will receive many benefits: at least 11 monthly meetings, eight copies of WI Life (the WI membership magazine), a monthly federation newsletter and various discounts for shops, restaurants etc.

Although we have not been able to have a formal opening for the building due to the ongoing restrictions on sizes of gatherings, we have already started using it both for our own activities and for several community services and hirings. Please do get in touch with us if you are interested in using any of our church spaces.

Obviously a massive thanks goes to Ed and his team of builders and contractors, to Mark Tutton as the architect, and to all in the church who helped in various ways with planning, fundraising and administration. We were able to make a small presentation to Ed and



to Mark in a recent service to say thank you. Most of all our thanks to God for giving us the vision in the first place, the determination to keep going, and for always providing for our needs, just as he promises to. May this hall be for His glory and for the blessing of everyone in our community of St. Julians throughout the coming years.



### Gifts with a special touch!

Many think that we started giving gifts at Christmas following the example of the wise men who brought gifts to Jesus. But we don't tend to give strange gifts like **gold, frankincense and myrrh!**

These gifts were not chosen to be practical or even fun, instead they were symbolic of who this baby Jesus really was and what he would do on earth.

**Gold** was a gift always presented to a king for a state visit, and Jesus was the promised King of all Kings.

**Frankincense** was used by the priests to offer at the temple altar. It represents God's presence. This gift was a way of declaring that Jesus was God in human form. Jesus would also be our heavenly priest, opening the way for us to come into God's presence.

**Myrrh** was a spice used for burial of the dead, so this gift was predicting that Jesus would die as a sacrifice for our sins, and be buried in a tomb. Some of the women followers of Jesus took myrrh and other spices to anoint his body after he died on the cross. Instead they discovered the empty tomb and saw that Jesus had risen from the dead.

The wise men understood these things and brought expensive gifts. But the other Christmas visitors were poor shepherds, and we are not told that they brought any gifts at all. Instead, they simply came themselves to worship Jesus and be the first to share the good news that he had been born. This Christmas, why not do the same as the shepherds did, and come simply to worship Jesus as King, and God, and sacrifice?

*Submitted by Kath Jarvis and Peter Banks*



WELCOME

# New Venue Hire

## Jubilee Hall

Looking for a conference or meeting venue in the heart of St Julian's with parking and a bus stop right outside? Look no further!

We are looking to hire out the majority of our new hall building to local community organisations, groups and charities. We have a number of different sized rooms to cater for a range of needs. Our rates are competitive and our church aims to provide a high level of service to you and your guests when you're with us.

We have a large hall, two good size meeting/training rooms and a fully fitted new kitchen with dishwasher and modern facilities. All our rooms are accessible by wheelchair.

If you would like more information or to visit us to see whether our venue is suitable for your event, please get in touch with our booking secretary on 07979155904 or email [matt2012@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:matt2012@hotmail.co.uk).



St Julian's Baptist Church 35 Beaufort Road,

Newport, NP19 7PZ

Tel: 01633 439371 [www.sjbaptist.co.uk](http://www.sjbaptist.co.uk) Registered charity 1148152

Our next **Prayer and Communion** evenings are

**Wednesday 2nd December 7pm**

**Wednesday 6th January at 7pm**

## Attending Our Christmas Services 2020

*As always we invite you to join us for our Christmas services and warm welcome awaits you.*

*To keep you safe we have put into place some measures, we are asking the following:-*

Masks must be worn inside the Church at all times, unless you have a medical condition which prevents you from doing so.

If you feel unwell or have developed any of the Covid symptoms, we would ask you not to attend

We are operating a one way system around the church, One person in the toilet at a time. Please remember to wash your hand for at least 20 seconds.

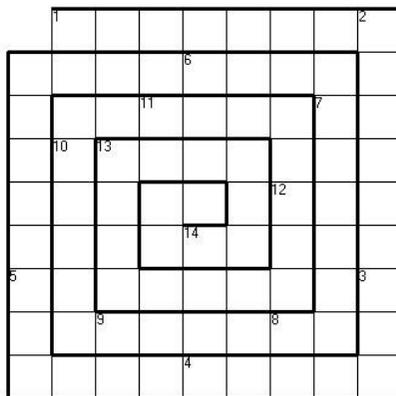
We will ask you your name and contact number on entry for test, trace protect, or you can scan the QR code on entry to the Church. We also have hand sanitiser on entry too.

Family household together, chairs are socially distanced apart. We would ask you not to move them.

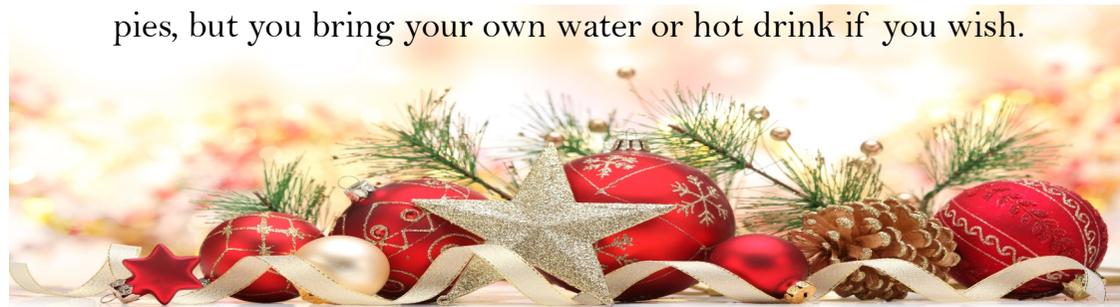
This year, unfortunately we cannot provide any drinks or mince pies, but you bring your own water or hot drink if you wish.



A Christmas Spiral Puzzle



1. The reason the wise men wanted to find Jesus
2. Animal that Mary rode to Bethlehem
3. Earthly father of Jesus
4. Announced Jesus' birth to the shepherds
5. Watched their flocks
6. It led the wise men to Jesus
7. Where the baby Jesus was laid
8. An infant
9. He saves people from their sin
10. There was no room there for Jesus
11. The wise men brought these to Jesus
12. City where Jesus was born
13. A place where animals sleep
14. The mother of Jesus



## Who is He to you?

To the disciples , Jesus was the Son of God,  
To the artist He is altogether lovely,  
To the architect He is the chief cornerstone,  
To the banker He is the hidden treasure,  
To the baker He is the living bread.

To the biologist He is the life,  
To the builder He is the sure foundation,  
To the Doctor He is the great physician,  
To the educator He is the great teacher.  
To the farmer He is the Lord of the harvest.



## Mini Mincemeat Muffins

*These heavenly cupcakes are a real festive treat.  
Topped with a creamy cheese and cinnamon topping.*



**Serves:** 12 people

### **Ingredients:**

200g Self raising flour  
100g Caster sugar  
100ml Sunflower oil  
100ml Milk  
1 Large Egg  
200g Sweet mincemeat

### **Frosting:**

140g Butter, softened  
280g icing sugar  
1/2 tsp Ground cinnamon  
A little milk  
12x Glace cherries

### **Method**

Pre-heat the oven to 180°C/305°F/Gas mark 4.  
Mix the flour and sugar together, then make a well in the centre. Mix the oil, milk and egg together, then pour into the well of the flour mixture and beat well. Then mix in the mincemeat. Divide the mixture between 12 muffin/cupcake cases. Bake for 20 minutes.  
**Meanwhile make the frosting:** Cream the butter with the icing sugar and mix in the cinnamon and a little milk to make it more manageable. When muffins are cooked, let them cool before covering them with the frosting. Top each muffin with a cherry and serve.

## Luncheon Club

### Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month

*12.30 for 13.00 pm*

**Tickets are £5.00**

**includes a 2 course meal followed by tea  
or coffee**

**We look forward to resuming as soon as we  
are able in 2021. Welcoming you back to  
Luncheon Club in our new venue,  
Jubilee Hall**

**35 Beaufort Rd, Newport [www.sjbaptist.com](http://www.sjbaptist.com)**

To the florist He is the Rose of Sharon,  
To the geologist He is the rock of ages,  
To the jurist He is the rightest judge.  
To the jeweller He is the pearl of great price.

To the lawyer He is my advocate,  
To the publisher He is the good tidings of great joy,  
To the philosopher He is the wisdom of God,  
To the preacher He is the word of God.  
To the sculptor He is the living stone.

To the statesman He is the desire of all nations,  
To the theologian He is the author and finisher of our faith,  
To the traveller He is the new and living way,  
To the sinner He is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the  
world,

To the saint He is the son of the living God, our saviour, our  
redeemer, and our Lord, He is the I AM!

What is He to you?

*Submitted by Ann Dorling*



## Something big is coming!

No, it's not the vaccine! No, it's not the "great reset" though that one's on the way too! No, it's not the Coca-Cola Christmas trucks either! Christmas comes but once a year - and thank goodness for that I hear you say! But... Something big, really is coming!

There was a man called Isaiah who lived in Israel about 700 BC. He was a "Prophet of God" which is a way of saying that God used Isaiah as a spokesperson to give messages to certain people at certain times. Sometimes these messages were pretty hard hitting and challenged people to the core. That's why prophets tended to have a hard time of it - people often didn't like or appreciate what a Prophet of God had to say.

But it wasn't always a message of doom and gloom. In Isaiah's writings he speaks of a time when the world will be crying out for a saviour - a "man with a plan" - a Messiah to rescue the nations from the nightmarish scenarios plaguing the world (not unlike our world right now) This is how he pictures it in Isaiah chapter 9 in the Old Testament of the Bible:

'The people who walk in darkness shall see a great Light - a Light that will shine on all those who live in the land of the shadow of death. For unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders. These will be his royal titles: "Wonderful," "Counsellor," "The Mighty God," "The Everlasting Father," "The Prince of Peace." His ever-expanding, peaceful government will never end. He will rule with perfect fairness and justice from the throne of his father David. He will bring true justice and peace to all the nations of the world. This is going to happen because the Lord of heaven's armies (God) has dedicated himself to do it!' (Isaiah 9:2,6-7 in 'The Living Bible')

The world is often a dark place and has a lot for us to deal with - much more than we are humanly able to bear or endure (if we're honest) which is why, just as in Isaiah's day we too need a rescuer. We desperately need to be saved and unfortunately, superheroes are only the stuff of Hollywood and comics.



**Allegra ladies' choir** is thrilled to be able to utilise the wonderful facilities of St Julian's Baptist Church as its rehearsal venue. Rehearsals will take place on **Wednesday between 7 pm and 9.15 pm. New singers are always welcome.**

**We are a fun loving, welcoming, and enthusiastic choir with a diverse group of ladies who come together to discover the joy of music and assist charitable causes.** Since forming in autumn 2011, Allegra has flourished into a thriving, talented group of over 40 singers and raised many thousands of pounds for local charities.

In July 2019 we were privileged to be selected to take part at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod and have been fortunate to perform at some of South Wales' prestigious venues including St David's Hall, the Glanfa Stage in the Wales Millennium Centre and Cardiff Arms Park. COVID 19 restrictions have not dampened our enthusiasm and we are keen to be singing together again.

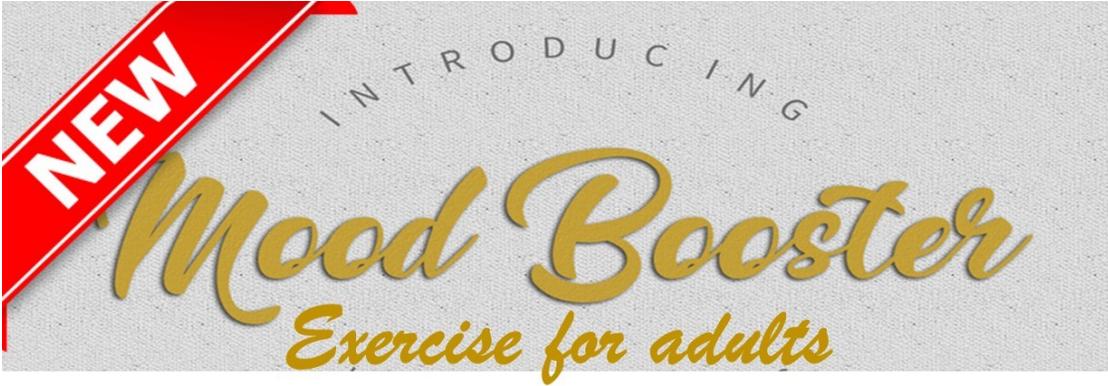
In 2020 we began working with our new and musical director, **Robert T Elliott**, who aims to continue to develop our high standards with an exciting new repertoire planned over the next two years alongside favourite pieces from our established repertoire.



Originally from Newport, **Rob** has many years' experience working with choirs and regularly adjudicates at top festivals and National Competitions in Europe. In 2001, he founded Wessex Male Choir and successfully led it on to win over 20 prizes, including the International Trophy at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in 2011 before retiring from the role in 2013.

Rob has performed and directed in a host of venues including the Royal Albert Hall, Cardiff Castle, The NEC, Central Hall Westminster and Wembley, as well as the Cathedrals of Westminster, St. Asaph, Llandaff and Southwark. He has conducted the community singing and the National Anthems on several occasions at Twickenham for International Rugby games, and his own private Male Chorus performed at all the Games there in 2015 for the Rugby World Cup. In 2017, Rob was Director of the 'World's largest Male Choir Festival' - with over 60 Male Choirs taking part. He continues to be in demand for his adjudicating and choir-coaching roles.

Please contact: To join [newmembers@allegraladieschoir.co.uk](mailto:newmembers@allegraladieschoir.co.uk)  
To book a performance [bookings@allegraladieschoir.co.uk](mailto:bookings@allegraladieschoir.co.uk)



There is no "man with a plan" who can get us out of the mess we are in - at least not a man from this world. Cue a man called Yeshua: His name literally means "The Lord's Salvation", it's the Hebrew name that his mum and dad were told to give him before he was born - we know him today as Jesus, the Son of God who was miraculously born into this world as a tiny baby, fully human yet fully divine too! That means Jesus is God in a flesh-and-blood body just like ours.

This is the one who Isaiah was talking about! This is the child who would be born! This is the Son who would be given, and who will one day bear the entire government of the whole world upon himself as the great King of all kings!

He is, and will be a 'Wonder of a Counsellor - The Almighty God of all the earth - The everlasting always faithful and wonderfully compassionate and merciful Father, and above all - something that should make all our hearts leap for joy, "The Prince of peace" who would bring true and lasting peace and stability to the whole world and even the universe! It's no wonder that at his birth a vast army of Angels filled the sky and sang out the greatest news we have ever heard.

Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah - Christ the Lord. "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests." (Luke 2:11, 14)

I told you something big is coming! I know Isaiah would certainly not be disappointed and neither will we. Have a great Christmas and, to use a well-loved phrase; "Remember, Jesus is the reason for the season!"

*Pastor Lee Presley*

*Keep fit classes, Beginner to intermediate*  
*By Deborah Williams professional fitness instructor*

*Tuesdays - 9:15am to 10:15am, £4 entry*  
*Thursdays - 9:15am to 10:15am, £4 entry*

*Bring own mat, towel and water bottle*



*At Jubilee Hall, St Julians Baptist Church,*  
*33 Beaufort Rd, NP19 7PZ*

*Please remember to keep to social distancing and wear a mask indoors,*  
*sanitize your hands on entry*





**A warm welcome awaits you this Christmas at  
St Julian's Baptist Church**

**Sunday 20th December**

**10:30 am** Family service

**6:30 pm** Christmas carol service

**Christmas Eve**

**Candlelit Carol Service**

**6:00 pm**

**Christmas Day**

**10:30 am** Family Service

*Christmas offerings will be divided between Raven House Trust  
food bank and the Future development fund.*



**Merry Christmas**