



UPPER EDGE BAPTIST
CHURCH

Newsletter

Dewsbury Rd, Rastrick, HD6 3QD

www.uebc.org.uk



*God of hope, who brought love into
this world, be the love that dwells
between us.*

*God of hope, who brought peace into
this world, be the peace that dwells
between us.*

*God of hope, who brought joy into
this world, be the joy that dwells
between us.*

*God of hope, the rock we stand on, be
the foundation of our lives.*

Amen



Upper Edge Baptist Church would like to wish you a
Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

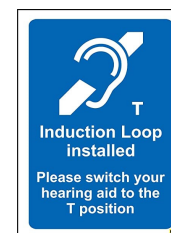
We would love to see you at one or more of our Special services
taking place in December.

Do come in and join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our
Lord.



December 2021 & January 2022

A hearing loop
is installed in
church.





Upper Edge Baptist Church
126 Dewsbury Rd
Rastrick
Brighthouse
HD6 3QD

Dear All

I wonder how many of you have started or even finished your planning for Christmas. Are the Advent calendars hidden away all ready to come out on Wednesday 1st December? Have you made a list of cards to send?, who will be cooking the Christmas meal?, who you are inviting to come over the holiday period?, what presents to buy?, what you will have to eat?, what you will wear even? Last year things were quite different and in November we were back in lockdown and everything was very uncertain. We just didn't know what was going to happen and how we were going to get presents to friends and family who we weren't allowed to meet with inside. Who we could spend the holiday period with was determined by our bubble and that meant some people being on their own or couples having to spend a lot of time together! People travelled hundreds of miles to meet with family in car parks to exchange gifts! What about all those traditions which we could not fulfil due to Covid?

It was hard for many people missing being with their families and we had to change what we normally would have done and be a little resourceful. Much of the planning had to go out of the window as the rules changed. How did we cope? One thing though, we do remember Christmas 2020.

At church too, we will be planning for this time before Christmas called ADVENT. Advent, in the Christian church calendar, is the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Christians mark the four Sundays in Advent as a way to prepare their hearts for the coming of Jesus.

So this year they start on Sunday 28th Nov, followed by 5th, 12th and 19th December. For many Christians it is a time of quiet reflection and a reminder about all the careful planning and preparations that took place over many hundreds of years before that very first Christmas when Jesus

came to this earth as a baby.

The candles on the Advent wreath symbolize love, joy hope, and peace. A new candle is lit each Sunday, as well as the one the previous week, until on Christmas day the middle one too is lit.

This year there is still some uncertainty about whether all the events which have been planned for this period will take place or not and whether there will be a need for restrictions on what we can do.

At Upper Edge Baptist Church we are planning to bring Toys and Tins on the 28th November which will be distributed by the Salvation Army to the needy. There is our Christmas lunch on Wednesday 8th December for anyone in the community who would like to join us. On that same day there is our Annual Christmas Concert for Overgate Hospice and we are hoping it will go ahead and that we can enjoy the 3 different choirs which will be performing for us. We did so miss that last year. We hope to sing carols at The Rock Tavern on Sunday 12th and on the 19th a Christingle service. Finally there is a short half hour Family Service on Christmas morning when you are invited to come along to church and open one of your presents there. We do hope you will plan to come along to join us for one of these events.

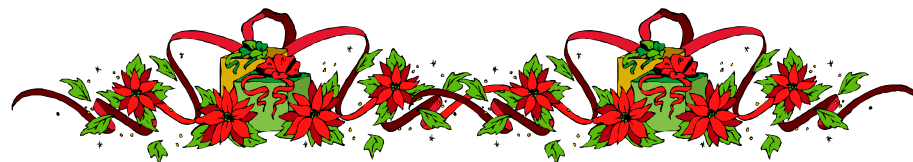
Waiting for Christmas to come can be a very busy and hectic time for many people, whilst for others it can be sad and a lonely one and there seems nothing to plan for. Do we take the opportunity to reflect on what it all means? Or do we spend too much time and money on the commercial side of it?

Will you be planning to take time to show love, joy, hope and peace to all you meet? Will you plan to come and join us at one of our Christmas Services to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

Will Christ be part of your Christmas?

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Anne Inwood



Sunday 28th
10.30am 1st in ADVENT TOY AND TIN Service
Morning Worship led Mr Daryll Hackett

DECEMBER

Wednesday 1st
10.00am Time To Reflect

Sunday 5th
10.30am 2nd in ADVENT
Morning Worship led by Mrs Janet Lawton

Names for Christmas lunch on the 8th – TODAY please

Tuesday 7th
Beer and Banter Christmas meal @ 7.00pm
The Red Lion Rastrick

Wednesday 8th
10.00am Time To Reflect
12.15 for 12.30pm Christmas Lunch
7.00pm Overgate Hospice Concert

Sunday 12th
10.30am 3rd in ADVENT
6.30pm Morning Worship led by Mr Julian Dowson
Carols @ The Rock Tavern Upper Edge

Wednesday 15th
10.00am Time To Reflect

Thursday 16th
7.00pm Ladies soiree @ Lorraine's
Don't forget your Secret Santa gift

Sunday 19th
10.30am 4th in ADVENT
6.30pm Morning Worship – Christingle Family Service led by
Mrs Lorraine Tatham and the Young Church
Carols by Candlelight in church for all the family

Saturday 25th
10.30am – 11.00am CHRISTMAS DAY
Family Service led by Rev Allan
Wolfenden

2022 JANUARY

Sunday 2nd
10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev Louise Armitage

Wednesday 5th
10.00am Time To Reflect



Sunday 9th
10.30am Morning Worship with Communion
Monday 10th
Beer and Banter for Men @ The Red Lion

Wednesday 12th
10.00am Time To Reflect

Sunday 16th
10.30am Morning Worship led by Mr Julian Dowson

Wednesday 19th
10.00am Time To Reflect

Sunday 23rd
10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev Ernie Whalley

Wednesday 26th
10.00am Time To Reflect
2.00pm Deacons' Meeting

Thursday 27th
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Sunday 30th
10.30am Morning Worship
11.45am Followed by Church Meeting

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 2nd
10.00am Time To Reflect

Sunday 6th
10.30am Morning Worship led by Mrs Janet Lawton

Names for lunch on the 9th – TODAY please



Beer and Banter – is back – new place new time!

Tuesday 7th December 2021 – Christmas Dinner 7.00pm
at the Red Lion (names to Alan Hoggard asap)

Monday 10th January 2022 – Red Lion 7pm

7th February – Red Lion 7pm

7th March – Red Lion 7pm



News of and from the Fellowship

Please remember in your prayers those who are suffering from anxiety, loneliness and feeling very cut off. We have great ways to communicate nowadays, it is so easy to pick up a phone and doesn't cost any extra, but there is nothing like seeing a live face.



Don't forget to let someone know if you would like us to pray for them.

Father in heaven, may we share the light and life of Jesus with others today, and always.



To All in The Community - That means YOU

Wednesday 8th December

Church Christmas Lunch @ 12.15 for 12.30pm



3 course meal with coffee and chocolates. Also the singing of Christmas Carols and a few jokes.

Please book your place NOW. Donations welcome

Contact Lorraine on 01422 823013

We cater for many diets eg vegetarians, vegans, coeliacs - you must let us know though in advance when you sign the notice in the Church Hall or alternatively ring to book your place.

If you need a lift do let us know. Do come along to this informal meal for a chat, good food and generally a laugh or two and a few jokes.



Thank you to all who have bought jars of marmalade this year. After a slow start due to lockdown the jars are 'flying off the shelf'. So far this year the donations for Overgate Hospice have amounted to **£ 122.50.**

On Sunday 21st November the Young Church were asked to complete the following task, unaided, during the address for the adults. So you can read the responses I have tried to re-create their colourful work.



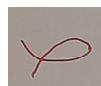
Can you prepare a list for the congregation on how they can be happy?

Can you make a list for the Young Christians?



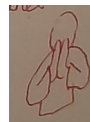
Give out compliments

I help my friend



I pray and be thankful

I go to church and celebrate our lives



When you pray

I spread kindness to everyone

We let Jesus in our lives to help and teach us

Having fun with my friends

To love and forgive others for their mistakes

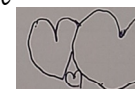
To have somebody you can trust and rely on

Thinking about Britain's history

To remember our mistakes and to learn from them

We enjoy seeing our family
Thinking about my culture's history

We enjoy letting our smile shine
To be kind to others



Prayers of Concern

Rev. Allan Wolfenden offered this prayer in church on 21st November. Please feel free to use it in your own devotions during the coming month.

Lord God, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

We remember all involved in the situation on the border between Poland and Belarus, where migrant people find themselves trapped in no-man's land. We pray for a lessening of tensions and a just way forward.

We pray for a creative solution for the people of Afghanistan, facing widespread hunger this winter; for greater equality between nations, and for everyone who is suffering in the face of hunger, disease and oppression.

We pray for Your planet in the light of the challenges that climate-change brings and for world leaders tasked with responding to COP 26.

Help us to live as stewards of Your world, bringing love, justice and equality, especially among the poorest and most deprived people, and for a planet that is able to experience healing and restoration.

In the light of the Liverpool bomb attack, and issues of asylum seeking, and racism, we pray for our security services.

May Your world become open to the movement of Your Spirit and of Your Word, revealed in Jesus Christ.

May the Church here be renewed in Your image and confident in Your Gospel, outward-looking and Kingdom centred, resourced by the grace of Your presence and equipped for the challenges we face at this time. May our love for each other deepen, our capacity to cooperate with You, be enriched.

In Your love and faithfulness, bring us home. Amen



How To Have A Sustainable Christmas In 2021?

Party Like It's 1951! Today, the state of the planet and our environment is at the heart of what we do. We are all doing our best to

try and mitigate the situation by cutting waste and recycling wherever possible. Yet everything we buy leaves a carbon footprint and some things are worse than others. So, let's think about Christmas 1951.

In the UK recycling was a way of life in the 1950's. The years of wartime austerity had taught people to "Make do and mend" and not to waste anything. There were no supermarkets and few had the luxury of a fridge or freezer. There was still rationing, so sugar was in short supply and stayed on ration until 1953. Meat was rationed until 1954 and chicken was a luxury. Food was bought on Christmas Eve, with shoppers only buying what they would need. You bought it and ate it! People did not buy more than they could eat just in case.... It seems amazing nowadays but in 1951 the milkman and the postman still delivered on Christmas Day.

My husband's Dad was a postman and he remembers his Dad going on his round on Christmas morning and being offered so many sherries that they had to go and find him to bring him home in time for his dinner. The milk was delivered using an electric milk float and it was in a glass bottle.

Produce was seasonal and bought from the right shop, so vegetables from the greengrocer were all placed in brown paper bags, cheese and bacon were cut to the required amount and each wrapped in greaseproof paper, and at the bakers the bread was wrapped in tissue paper.

Christmas started when the schools finished, there wasn't the "lead in" time that happens today with days of preparation. The house was decorated with paper chains looped across the room and honeycomb like paper bells were hung at the 4 corners of the room. A few sprigs of

holly would be shoved behind a picture on the wall. I find it difficult to believe now, but we had real candles on our Christmas tree and yes, one year it did all go up in flames. Christmas presents tended to be 1 from each member of the family and a stocking from Santa with some fruit, chocolate and maybe a small toy.

Fast forward to 2021. I have no wish to go back to 1951 but I think we could all be a bit more thoughtful about our Christmas traditions. According to estimates, we throw away almost half of the bread we buy at Christmas, not to mention the sprouts and even unused potatoes find their way into the waste. We could all do better. Be aware of the amount of plastic that gets thrown away in the packaging of toys and food. Steer clear of pointless things.

I have been really upset by an advertisement from a well-known shop which was advertising “a light up bottle of gin with edible gold leaf” the advertising slogan says “I don’t want a sparkly tipple for Christmas, said no-one ever”. Well, I WOULD say that. What a waste of resources. The other thing I have spotted recently was a musical biscuit tin, it contains 150g of shortbread biscuits, that’s half a small packet of chocolate digestives and it costs £6.99. I am sorry to say another waste of precious resources. I don’t want to sound like Scrooge and I really do hope that everyone has a fantastic Christmas but please make it a more sustainable Christmas.

[Thanks to Lynne Moran Fixby and Brighthouse WI Climate Change Ambassador for the article]



Little Johnny went to his mother demanding a new bicycle. His mother decided that he should take a look at himself and the way he acts. She said, "Well Johnny, it isn't Christmas and we don't have the money to just go out and buy you anything you want. So why don't you write a letter to Jesus and pray for one instead." After his temper tantrum his mother sent him to his room. He finally sat down to write a letter to Jesus.

Dear Jesus,

I've been a good boy this year and would appreciate a new bicycle.

Your Friend,

Little Johnny

Now Little Johnny knew that Jesus really knew what kind of boy he was (Brat).

So, he ripped up the letter and decided to give it another try.

Dear Jesus,

I've been an OK boy this year and I want a new bicycle.

Yours Truly,

Little Johnny

Well, Little Johnny knew this wasn't totally honest so he tore it up and tried again.

Dear Jesus,

I've thought about being a good boy this year and can I have a new bicycle?

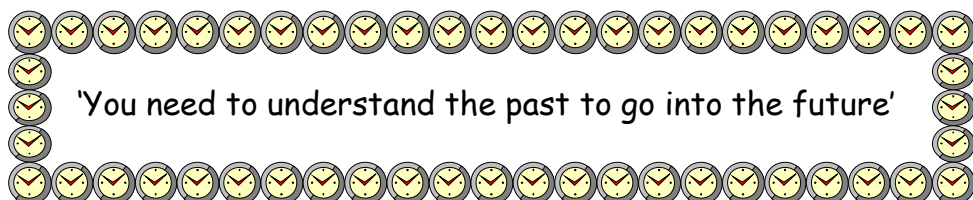
Signed,

Little Johnny

Well, Little Johnny looked deep down in his heart, which by the way was what his mother was really wanting. He crumpled up the letter and threw it in the trash can and went running outside.

He aimlessly wandered about; depressed because of the way he treated his parents and really considering his actions. He finally found himself in front of a Catholic Church.

Little Johnny went inside and knelt down, looking around not knowing what he should really do. Little Johnny finally got up and began to walk out the door and was looking at all the statues. All of a sudden he grabbed a small one and ran out the door. He went home hid it under his bed and wrote this letter.



Jesus,

*I've broken most of the Ten
Commandments; shot spit wads in
school, tore up my sister's Barbie
doll and lots more. I'm desperate.
I've got your mama. If you ever
want to see her again, give me a
bike.*

Signed,

You know who



Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

It's here again, that time of year,
When families meet and share good cheer.
A nut roast in the roasting tin,
And mother is having a sneaky gin.
Sprouts, carrots, parsnips and peas,
Vegetables galore served up with ease.
Potatoes both roasted and mashed,
None of that awful, rotten packet SMASH!
The final flourish on the festive dish,
Is a flavoursome gravy and stuffing delish.
The piece-de-resistance, even if you're quite full,
Is the flaming Christmas pudding, Is there room in
your tum?
It's got almonds and cherries, fruit fit to burst,
You've got to give it a go, go on do your worst.
Decisions, decisions brandy butter or whisky cream?
Just plain old custard would go down a dream.
It's nearly 3 o'clock time for the Queen,
Let us all gather together around the screen.
To listen to our Monarch with hopes to come,
Here's wishing 2022 is a fabulous year for everyone !!



Jane Foley



The First Advent Calendar

On the first of December, children all around the world will be opening the first door of their Christmas Advent Calendars, eager to see what picture, chocolate, or mini gift is hiding inside.

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin phrase "coming toward." For Christians, the period of Advent marks "coming toward" the most important date in their year, the birth of Christ.

The idea of physically marking Advent has its roots in late 19th century Germany, when the Lutherans made chalk marks on doors from December 1st until the 24th.

There are two contenders for the very first Advent Calendars. According to the Landesmuseum in Austria, the first one was produced in Hamburg in 1902 by a protestant bookshop owner. Others claim that the first hand made calendar was made in Germany in the late 19th century for a child named Gerhard Lang. When Gerhard was a little boy his mother made him a calendar with 24 small candies attached to cardboard, one for each day before Christmas.

Lang's mother stuck 24 tiny sweets to a square of cardboard, for her son to eat over the Advent period. This simple idea stayed with Lang and when, as an adult, he went into partnership with his friend Reichhold, they opened a printing office. In 1908 they produced what is thought to be the first-ever printed Advent Calendar.

This earliest calendar set the mould for those we see today, with small pictures, one marking every day between 1st and 24th December. A few years later, Lang introduced the concept of 24 little doors – giving each new picture an element of surprise.

Lang's business came to an end in the 1930s, but the idea had taken hold, and others, such as the Sankt Johannis Printing Company, started producing religious Advent Calendars, often with Biblical verses instead of pictures behind the doors.

The First World War bought rationing, and a temporary halt to the manufacture of calendars. In 1946 however, when rationing began to ease after the end of the Second World War, a printer named Richard Sellmer reintroduced the Advent Calendars into the lives of children all over the Western World, and soon they became as much of a Christmas tradition as trees, cards and gifts.





Christmas Concert for **Overgate Hospice**

at
Upper Edge Baptist Church, Rastrick
Dewsbury Rd, HD6 3QD

Wednesday December 8th 2021

at 7pm

Featuring

Rastrick High School Choir Groups

Director - **Charles Rhodes**


Also **The Overgate Hi-notes** and
Paul Whittaker's Signing Choir

A collection will be made during the concert for
the work of Overgate Hospice



Coffee, tea and biscuits will be served at the end in
the Community Hall downstairs






BIRTHDAY GREETINGS in

DECEMBER		JANUARY	
Marion Lyonga	5th	Ann Gilmore	1st
Mary Green	9th	Louise Armitage	14th
Allan Hainsworth	22nd	Allan Wolfenden	21st
Christine Withers	24th	Lorraine Tatham	27th
Esther Church	26th		
Karen Thompson	30th		

Special celebratory wishes to 2 people in January, Ann G and Lorraine who will have reached another big O birthday. We pray they will have a wonderful time celebrating with family and friends.



Sunday 12th December at 6.30pm

Carol Singing

led by members of Upper Edge Baptist Church

At The New Rock Tavern

Dewsbury Rd, Rastrick

Come and join us at this event.
Everyone is welcome. Wear a
Christmas hat or jumper.

*Mince pies and Mulled wine will be
served.*

*Support your local pub for
Christmas carols round the fire*



UPPER EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
Dewsbury Road, Rastrick, HD6 3QD

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