

Hello and Happy Christmas!

Although as this plan covers the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany and the start of Advent – maybe that should be I hope you have a good multi-season 3 months.

I often hear people say doesn't time go fast – and I have to say at times I agree – but I wonder whether we can say we have spent that time well! Have our relationships with God, others and our self been the best they can be, or do we make the excuse that we don't have time to consider our discipleship and faith.

Advent and Lent challenge us to find time to do just that – and across the circuit, there is the opportunity to join one of the bible groups that are meeting for an advent course – details can be found else where in this plan or available in the circuit weekly notices. We will all be using material based on the Methodist Church Christmas resources "out of the ordinary" – details of all the resources can be found here - [Advent and Christmas resources \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://www.methodist.org.uk/resources/advent-and-christmas-resources)

Our circuit service this quarter (3rd December) will be held at Church Gresley at 10.30am. Please note that the service will probably not be live streamed, as we need to put together the equipment needed to ensure it works well. The service will be led by a group called "signs for worship" who lead worship using BSL and English. They will be reflecting on Advent and Christmas and teaching us some sign language. More details of what they do can be found [Signs for Worship Walsall - Place of Worship and Community in Walsall. \(business.site\)](https://www.signsforworship.co.uk/)

As I've been making this plan (with support from Sarah, our circuit administrator) I've been conscious of the names that are not on there. We remember and give thanks for the life and work of Peggy Halton who died in September, and those who are unable to take appointments this quarter due to illness. We remember them in our prayers and thoughts.

And finally a huge thank you from me, for all those who give time to ensure our worship takes place each week in our local churches and on Zoom.

God bless you all.

Rachel Wood

Advent Bible Studies

Join us as we journey towards Christmas to share in the wonder of how God's love is revealed in the ordinary...and how a seemingly ordinary birth became God's out of the ordinary world-saving event through Jesus

Session 1	OASIS - 29/11/23, 2pm Church Gresley - 21/11/23, 7pm The Well - 27/11/23, 3pm The Stream (Zoom) - 29/11/23, 7.30pm
Session 2	OASIS - 6/12/23, 2pm Church Gresley - 5/12/23, 7pm The Well - 4/12/23, 3pm The Stream (Zoom) - 6/12/23, 7.30pm
Session 3	OASIS - 13/12/23, 2pm Church Gresley - 12/12/23, 7pm The Well - 11/12/23, 3pm The Stream (Zoom) - 13/12/23, 7.30pm
Session 4	OASIS - 20/12/23, 2pm Church Gresley - 20/12/23, 7pm The Well - 18/12/23, 3pm – The Stream (Zoom) - 20/12/23, 7.30pm

Christmas Events

26/11/2023 15:00pm	In Memory Of Service A sacred space, in the run up to Christmas to pause, to remember to give thanks to those we love who have died. Everyone is welcome, contact revrachelessd@aol.com for more details.	Draycott Methodist Church
15/12/23 19:00pm	Silhouette Theatre Company Presents... A Christmas Carol. Tickets: Adults £5, Teens £3, Junior School children free when accompanied by an adult. For more information contact Rev. Mike Redshaw.	The Well (Formerly Roland Memorial)
16/12/23 11:00 – 13:00pm	Carols & Brass - Gresley Colliery Brass Band with Churches Together 'Scratch' Choir	The Delph, Swadlincote
18/12/23 19:00pm	Service of Light	Church Gresley Methodist Church

Christmas Day Services		
Time	Church	Person
09:30am	Short Street	Rev Manoa Ratubalavu
09:30am	St Thomas'	Helen Harrell
10:00am	Church Gresley	Rachel Moss
10:00am	Etwall	Mike Redshaw
10:00am	Hilton	Rachel Wood
10:00am	Newhall	Jenny Kilgour
10:00am	Uttoxeter	LA
11:00am	Barton	Helen Harrell
Christmas Eve Services are included on the main plan.		

Ministers Availability		
Please note that Ministers are generally not available on the following days - please contact Sarah in the circuit office or another minister in an emergency.		
Helen Harrell	Friday	
Rachel Moss	Monday	Friday (Study Day)
Manoa Ratubalavu	Monday	
Mike Redshaw	Tuesday	
Rachel Wood	Monday	