

Evangelism

Learning and Caring

Service

Worship

As we approach the season of Advent I notice how much the season is hijacked by the advertising of Christmas both secular and within the churches. People go into serious debt during this time of spending and celebrating, for some they have just ‘paid off’ last Christmas.

We wait for the first glimpse of the Coca Cola train advert, or the John Lewis tear jerker, to signal that Christmas is here. The church search for Advent hymns and sneak in the odd carol, nativity productions are being thought about and planned. If lucky Advent lasts 2 weeks before carols services and Christmas card distributions begin.

We need a time in Advent to bring us back to preparing ourselves not just to celebrate the birth, but to remind us that Jesus said he will come again. With that in mind we have the opportunity to re-evaluate our lives, our giving, our worship, our reason for what we do at this time of year. With this awareness our celebrations will hold a deeper meaning and may include a helping hand to a stranger, kindness to a lonely person, a listening ear to those grieving.

In the brightness of the shops staying open late, in the twinkling of tree lights, in the candles of the Christingles, amongst all the celebrations there are people living and walking in darkness, in sadness, in despair. May we be the light of hope, shining with Gods love, leading a way of sharing and caring?

Let Advent prepare you so your Christmas is welcoming to Christ and stranger.

Lord of the season keep us grounded

*Tinsel and turkey, late night shopping, buy one get one free!*

Help us to seek you amidst the temptations of spending

*Tinsel and turkey, late night shopping, buy one get one free!*

Open our eyes and hearts beyond the trappings

*Tinsel and turkey, late night shopping, buy one get one free!*

May our lives be worthy of your coming

*Tinsel and turkey, late night shopping, buy one get one free!*

*Buy one get one free!*

Rev. Linda Bishop



Hello and Welcome to New Song Network Warrington. We are a growing church that has a variety of opportunities for worship, discipleship, and fun for all ages.

We believe in being welcoming; we not only sing our faith, but live it out in very practical and tangible senses. This is done in many varied ways, for example through the Hot Drinks Ministry or collecting advent calendars for the Food Bank. If you would like to be involved please speak to any of our team, our welcomers or Rev. Linda Bishop. Bless you and welcome, New Song Warrington Leadership Team

**Welcome**

November - December 2017

Loving God, Loving People, Making Followers of Jesus

**New Song Network Warrington**



Today is the last day for collecting **Advent Calendars** for the Food Bank and also, for the **Trinity Kings Cross project.** Last Christmas they gave hampers to 120 families, and toys and gifts to 266 children and your people, and 180 adults. Thank you for your donations!

With reference to our separate Fundraising Sheet, we will of course continue to fundraise for others as well as for New Song.



We have had an issue with our **NS email account**, which has resulted in the loss of the mailing lists. In order to get it back up and running, please will you complete a new 'contact form' to help Kit resurrect the mailing lists.



Looking forward to Christmas, as New Song Café week is Christmas Eve, the date of the **December Café** has been moved to **Friday 22nd December.**



**The Season of Advent**. Join us for 4 weeks of ‘Waiting and watching’ by Joyce Huggett for Advent Bible Study. They will be held on Mondays (27thNov/4thDec/11th/18th) @1.30pm at Latchford, led by Kit and Tuesdays (28thNov/5thDec/12th/19th) @7:30pm at Bold St, led by Rev. Linda.



There is a **Maintenance Day** @ Bold Street on **Saturday 2nd December 9.30am** preceded by prayer breakfast at 9am. Anyone and everyone is welcome to come and join in!



**Safeguarding** In order to comply with relevant regulations & legislation, it is **mandatory** for all who hold a position of responsibility and/or work with children/vulnerable adults within the Methodist Church to have recently attended **Safeguarding Training** and to hold the correct paperwork. If you think this may apply to you, please contact our Safeguarding Co-Ordinator, Alice Squires, or speak to Linda Locke, Safeguarding Officer for the Circuit. New Song and Bold Street have a Safeguarding Refresher Module Training Session scheduled for 27/1/18. Contact alice\_squires@hotmail.com to book your place with further sessions are in the pipeline. If you need an up to date DBS, please speak to Alice or Linda.  
If you have any concerns in connection with Safeguarding, please speak to one of the Leadership Team, Alice, Linda or Rev Linda Bishop.



**STOP PRESS! Quiz tickets for 20th January now available.**

Quiz & 2 course meal £8 adults, £5 under-16s

Veggie option (please inform when buying tickets). See poster for more details.



Don’t forget, if you ever can’t make it to New Song Café, you can follow along on our twitter feed (@NSWarrington) and also on the Facebook event page as we’ll be live as we go through the evening. It’s a way to be part of the community whilst not physically in the building. Be part of the conversation!



**Can you help out?**

What would NSC be without cake or NSB without bacon butties? We haven’t got anyone signed up for **serving refreshments** on the rotas at either service for the next few months.

Breakfast: cook, serve and clear away breakfast at Latchford MC: 8.15-9.00am

Café: Help serve (6.15-7.00pm); help serve (7.45-8.15pm); clear away at end (8.45-9.30pm). You can sign up for separate times or the whole evening.

**Helpers at New Song Kids** on 1st Sunday of the month in the afternoon again on a rota or just occasionally. Help with craft, games or general help with primary age children.

Could you **co-ordinate the Prayer Chain**? You would send out prayers for special occasions and world events and respond to people’s requests using a distribution list.

Help is always required for **setting up for Café**! 4.30-5.30pm on the day. Just turn up.

**Back-up** for lights and sound at Café.

1 extra **admin** person is required for the **website**.



If you would like to talk to Rev. Linda Bishop or someone else in New Song, please leave your details and you will be contacted.



We’re trying to build a community on the Facebook page and group, so please join our group for updates and discussions.



During the break at Café if you would like someone to pray with you, people are available in the Doncaster Chapel (off the foyer).



**Christmas Hot Drinks Ministry**. *A chance to take a short break from the hustle and bustle at this busy time of year.*  For many, Christmas is a poignant time, when loved ones are missed most acutely. For several years, members of New Song have given their time for an hour or more to stand alongside those who grieve, offering a listening ear, a warm drink, a smile or a shoulder to those who may need it, at Fox Covert Cemetery and Walton Crematorium (Christmas Eve 9:30am-3pm; Christmas Day 9:30am-2pm). If you could spare some time to help, please complete your details on the slips of paper. **We can never have too many volunteers**. All the drinks and biscuits are provided though some volunteers bring extra cakes and, for example, bubbles for children. We can put those who haven’t done this before on a shift with others who have experience. If you have done this before, you will know how valued our Hot Drinks Volunteers are, if you haven’t helped in the past, why not give it a go this time! Thanks

**Connect with God: Bible Reading Plan**

Knowing God begins with reading the Bible. Yet reading isn’t always so simple. Each week, read the passage and consider the question. Join us on Facebook to find the reading and a discussion. Join us to create an online House Group!

**w/c November 26:** *Genesis 16-17.*

How does Abraham show he believes what God says? How does he show lack of believe? What makes him so inconsistent? Where does the same inconsistency show up in your life? What is the remedy?

**w/c December 3:** *John 5.*

Why would anyone get mad at Jesus for healing a man who couldn’t walk? In what ways does the reaction of the Pharisees (the religious leaders of the Jews) show belief or unbelief? What is the difference between keeping rules and obeying God?

**w/c December 10:** *Genesis 18-20.*

Why did Lot put up such a fight about leaving Sodom? If Lot loved God, why wouldn’t he want to get away from such a horrible place? Are you, like Lot, clinging to anything that God finds repulsive? Why?

**w/c December 17:** *John 6:1-6:26*

How is God stretching your faith as Jesus stretched Philip’s faith? What’s the difference between looking for Jesus because God works through him and looking for him because he gives out free meals?

**I***n what we’ve looked at so far, consider – how did your understanding of who God is and the ways he works change?*



**New Song Network ®**

**Warrington**

Bold Street Methodist Mission,

Palmyra Square North, Warrington,

WA1 1JQ

Latchford Methodist Church,

Thelwall Lane, Latchford, WA4 1LH



**Find Out More**

You can find out more

in the following ways:

**Website:**

www.newsongwarrington.com

**Facebook:**

New Song – Warrington

New Song Network

**Twitter:**

 @nswarrington

To find out more about **fresh expressions** and the journey of New Song, Please visit the fresh expression website: www.freshexpressions.org.uk

**Email:** To make contact about anything in this newsletter or about New Song in general: kitheald1@ntlworld.com



**New Song at a Glance….**

*Advent Bible Study: Mon @1:30pm at Latchford (27thNov/4thDec/11th/18th) or Tues@7:30pm at Bold Street (28thNov/5thDec/12th/19th)*

*Fridays are Rev. Linda Bishop’s day off; please don’t contact her on that day.*

*New Song Kids: 1st Sunday afternoon, 3.30—5.30pm at Bold Street (3 December)*

*Discipleship: 2nd Sunday evening, 6.30pm at Latchford (10 December)*

*New Song Breakfast: 3rd Sunday morning, 9am at Latchford (17 December)*

*New Song Café: 7pm at Bold Street (****Friday 22nd December****)*

