

NETWORK

Cullompton Baptist Church

December 2018 & January 2019

Minister: Rev. Glen Graham 01884 34077 Church Secretary: Marilyn Bidmead 07749 086976

Hello and welcome to the Network. Like always, I hope you find something to stimulate you in this issue.

“In him was life, and that life was the light of men.”—John 1:4.

As I write this Advent is upon us. The word “Advent” means arrival or appearing. Over the next few weeks we will be remembering how Jesus—who John describes as “Light” and “Life”, came into the world as a humble, tiny baby. Next, we will be remembering that one day Jesus is going to come to earth as our victorious king. On that day, the old Heaven and Earth will pass away and a new Heaven and Earth will come in its place.

Those who know the Lord will find their home and rest in him. They will also experience a life of joy and peace.

We don’t need to wait for that day to know a full measure of his blessings and love. Luke says *“The Kingdom of God is within you.”* It is because of Jesus’ birth and death that we can know a living, vibrant relationship with the Saviour and Creator of the world.

My prayer for us all is that we will know the life of God in you and in wonderful ways this Christmas.

I want to draw you attention to a few things:

- On the **23rd December** we will hold our annual ‘Carols by Candle Light’ service at 4 p.m. I am looking for about 6 people to do the Bible readings. If you think you can help, then please let me know by the **16th December**.
- On the **30th December** we will be holding our popular ‘Mince Pie’ service. I am looking for contributions of poems, stories or musical items. If you think that you have something to offer, could you please let me know by **28th December**.
- Finally, due to a number of circumstances we have had to stop holding our regular ‘Lunch Club’. In the New Year we are hoping to replace this activity with several afternoon tea events scattered throughout the year.
- If you have any other ideas of ‘Outreach’ events please feel free to share them with me.

Thank you for any help you may be able to offer with any of the above mentioned items.

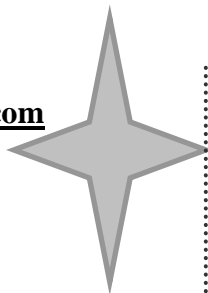
Wishing you all a joyful and blessed Christmas and a New Year full of hope.

Yours in Christ

Glen and Rowan Graham.

E.-mail: revglengraham@aol.com

Tel.: 01884 34077



ENCOUNTER—Blessing from God

A Prayer Initiative during the week of Christian Unity from 10 a.m. on Friday 25th January until 10 a.m. Sunday 27th January 2019 in a shop in the High Street of Cullompton. Would you be willing to pray for an hour during these 48 hours of prayer? If you are interested in being involved we would love to hear from you—please contact Judy Smith on 01884 32315 or e.-mail judy@3in1devon.com

Pastoral list

As 2018 comes to a close and we look forward to 2019, the diaconate felt that it would be helpful to inform people about the pastoral list. With some people moving on and new people joining the church the pastoral list needed to be updated so it seemed like a good time to explain why we have a pastoral list. Deacons and some other members with pastoral gifts have agreed to look out for individuals within our congregation and be there for them in times of trouble. The list shows those people under the name of the person who has agreed to look after them in this way. If you wish to know who is your pastoral person the list will be displayed on the notice board outside the schoolroom, or, you can ask any of the deacons who will be happy to identify who you “belong” to. This does not in any way mean that you are restricted to seeking help from them and no others. You can of course approach anyone you feel most comfortable talking



to. We had thought to publish the list in the Network magazine but with the new data protection guidelines felt that it would be better not to. Should you have any questions about this, or indeed anything else, please speak to Glen or any of the deacons who will be happy to help you.

I had a thank you message for the parcel of various items which I sent recently. They are grateful for all items. They have requested scarves for adults and children's jumpers.

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 On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019, we would like to welcome you to the **South West Sacred Harp Singing Day** in the Schoolroom at the Baptist Church. Do come and join in the singing for a while, or stay all day, or come and listen! 10.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. (doors open at 10.00 a.m.), but do pop in at any time.

Think community singing with hymns, sung in unaccompanied, robust four-part harmony. We sing from The Sacred Harp, an American hymn book dating from 1844. Some tunes you might recognise from English hymn singing, some from folk songs or perhaps from films, other will sound like nothing you have ever heard before! The most popular writer of the words is our own Isaac Watts, and the songs speak of all life's experiences. Everyone is invited to choose a song for the group to sing. We do not rehearse, we are not performing, we are sharing the music, and would love to share it with you too!

Contact us for more information on 01884 563138  
 Steve: 07976 605692, [steve@mulberryhouse.org.uk](mailto:steve@mulberryhouse.org.uk)  
 Martin: 07721 451406, [catherwoodsreticule@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:catherwoodsreticule@hotmail.co.uk)



27<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham

## Church Diary Welcome!

You are welcome to join in any of our activities. Newcomers to the town and holiday visitors are particularly welcome.

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Services are at 10.30 on a Sunday morning. We have a regular Morning Sunday School. Children take part in the 10.30 service before going to their own activity. Please join us after the service for coffee in the Hall.

December  
 2<sup>nd</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham  
                                           —*Dedication and Family Service*  
 9<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham  
 16<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham—*Communion*  
 23<sup>rd</sup> **4 pm** Rev. Glen Graham  
                                           —*Candlelit Carol Service*  
 25<sup>th</sup> **10 am** short service—*Christmas Day*  
 30<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham  
                                           —*Mince Pie Service*

January  
 6<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham  
 13<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham  
 20<sup>th</sup> am Roger Grant— *Communion*

### House Group

Every Monday—venue announced in notices previous Sunday.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sat  
of month

### Prayer Meeting

Sat. 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. and 19<sup>th</sup> Jan.  
 9.30 am in vestry.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat  
of month

### Coffee Morning

Sat. 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. and 12<sup>th</sup> Jan.  
 10-12 in the schoolroom.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat  
of month

### Fairtrade

Sat. 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. and 12<sup>th</sup> Jan.  
 a.m., in schoolroom or outside.

### Fellowship meeting

Tue. 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan.  
 7 p.m. for prayer,  
 meeting at 7.30 p.m.

### Deacons' meeting

Tue. 8<sup>th</sup> January 7 p.m.

### Culm Valley Choir Concert

Thu. 13<sup>th</sup> and Fri. 14<sup>th</sup> Dec.  
 7.30 p.m.

### Christmas Party

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7-9 p.m.

