

PRAYER MEETING (Seven:14)
Every Wednesday Evening at 7.14 pm
BOYS BRIGADE
Tuesdays: Anchors 6.00 pm - 7.00pm (In church)
Juniors 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm at Madeley Rest Room (Church Street)
Company Section (11 - 15yrs) Fridays 7-9pm in church
Contact: Wayne Trumpeter - 07824 618061
COFFEE MORNINGS
10.30 am Every Monday and Thursday in Church

“Christians are just beggars who can tell other beggars where to find bread.”

A Man for All Seasons

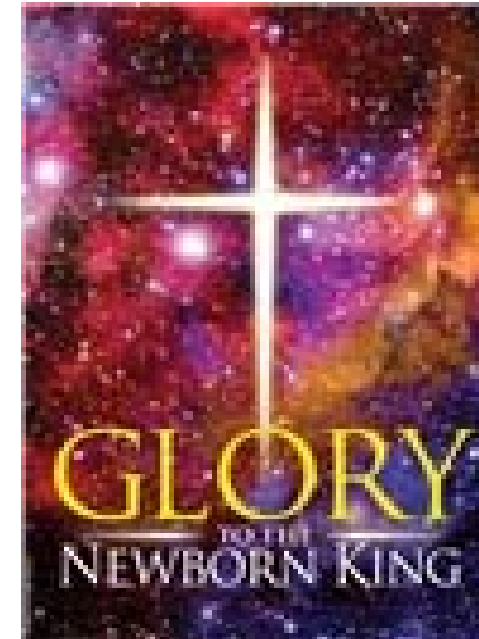
Now once more
 The year has turned
 The advent candle
 Long since burned
 Hearts darken
 As we count the cost
 And the season's spirit
 Is all now lost
 But it need not
 All be dark and gloom
 Light can again
 Illuminate the room
 So here is a philosophy
 For all of us
 God is for life
 Not just for Christmas



*And the Word became
 flesh and dwelt among
 us, and we beheld His
 glory....full of grace
 and truth*

What a God!!

*Ponder the achievement of God. He doesn't condone our sin,
 nor does he compromise his standard. He doesn't ignore our
 rebellion, nor does he relax our demands. Rather than dismiss
 our sin, he assumes our sin and incredibly, sentences himself.
 God's holiness is honoured, our sin is punished....and we are
 redeemed! God does what we cannot do so we can be what
 we dare not dream; perfect before God.*



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MBC 20 - 27th December 2009

www.madeleybaptist.org.uk



A very **warm welcome** to **everyone** for our **Christmas Services 2009**.

Below you can find details of **all** the services covering the Christmas period. You are welcome at any of these services, and always, at

Madeley Baptist Church.

This morning, at 10.30am Sunday 20th December, we welcome the Boys Brigade Parade and celebrate an all age service with Communion, led by Meena.

At 6.30pm this evening, we welcome you to our **Carol Service**
Further events:

Weds 23rd December @ 6pm: Carol Singing in Hills Lane. Meet at church 6.00pm for prayer, Hills lane at 6.30pm. MBC event, STAC invited to join in.

24th Dec 7.30pm Communion Service led by John and Bron Battye at MBC.

25th December 10.00am Christmas Day Family Service

27th December 10.30am End of Year Service **No evening Service**

31st December 7.30pm - Social - bring food to share, then at

11.00.p.m. Watchnight Service (See Notice Below)

Friday 1st January 2010: Communion at 10.00am

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Our church family get-together commences at **7.30pm** in church

(Not 8.00pm as previously stated)

Come along and join the games, or just chill out, watching others having fun! Activities are being arranged for all ages. Refreshments are by way of **'bring and share' buffet** table. Our evening will finish with a **Watchnight Service**. Everyone is welcome to this event - please come along and bring a friend!!



TELL THE CHILDREN!!

(A Pause for thought from the Editor's pen)

When I was a child, I was (and still am to some extent) "animal mad". i.e. I loved all animals - large or small and remember often being dragged away from patting a huge dog in case he wasn't as friendly as I was!!

I used to love Christmas Eve; all the excitement in the house, the 'front room' was polished and cleaned, the fire lit and all was set up for the great day tomorrow as the world waited for the Great Event to be remembered which had taken place so long ago in a cold cave somewhere Bethlehem. I believed that at midnight, all the animals in the world bowed their knees as the Saviour of the world was born, and before drifting off into my untroubled childhood's world of dreams, I imagined what it would have been like to have been there (I would have been tending the animals!). On waking on Christmas Day, sure enough, Santa would have visited and there would be a pillow case (!) at the foot of my bed, full to bursting with exciting parcels, all begging to be opened. At breakfast time, we would all sit around the table, children full of excitement, Dad presiding over everything and we would bow our heads to give thanks for the Day and all the wonderful things that our Father in Heaven had provided for us and Mum would be there - an ever peaceful, lovely presence, bringing smiles, warm food and all our needs.

The above is a very simplified, but true sketch of our family life on Christmas mornings when we were young and I do realise (now!) just how extremely fortunate we were - my question is - how many of our young people now "celebrate" Christmas without even the *slightest* inkling of what it is all about? How many think it is just another 'winterfest' where they will be given yet more electronic toys which consume their interest, or more money to spend on yet another War game set - or whatever. How many of our very young children (aged 5-8 yrs) already are aware that Santa is only 'pretend'? How many have never heard the name of Jesus mentioned in their house (unless as an expletive?)

Tell the Children!

Light a candle with them - Jesus came into this world to bring light into the darkness

Point out the shape of the Christmas Tree - pointing the way to heaven

Show them the Star on the Tree - Tell them about the Star which lit the way for the Wise Men to visit the Saviour of the World

Show them the gifts under the tree - and tell them how, over 2000 years ago, a baby was born to a young girl in a cold and draughty stable cave in Bethlehem and he it is whose birthday we celebrate today - he was God's Precious Gift to us.

In just a few months, we shall be remembering other things about him.....

May I wish everyone a Blessed, Happy Christmas in Jesus' Name. (Bette)

