

SUNDAY 30th November 2025



**Local ...
Lively ...
Loving**

The Start of Advent

First of all, my sincere thanks to all who have sent messages and said prayers on my behalf during my recent hospitalisation – it has all been very much appreciated, and to Mark Dickens who has done an excellent job with the bulletin over the past couple of weeks.

The first Sunday of Advent is always a special time – it allows us to officially start thinking about Christmas (not that many of us need much of a reminder). Not only do we see the Christmas decorations start to appear in the hall, but we start to focus on the Christmas story ... and during this first week we would traditionally look at passages of scripture that foretell of the coming of Jesus, call us to vigilance, and to prepare ourselves for the Ministry of Christ. It is a day full of expectation and latent excitement as we start to see how all the Scriptures have been fulfilled. So now is the time to let ourselves go, to immerse ourselves in the wonder of the season, to open our eyes and ears to something totally extraordinary.

Jesus is coming!

Jesus is coming!

Jesus is coming!

Paul Heath

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People

We continue to remember those of our friends who are poorly or grieving the loss of a loved one. At the time of writing, Bill is on Elgar Ward at Southmead Hospital, but is making progress. The funeral arrangements for Daisy and Josie are as follows:

- The funeral service for Daisy is at the hall on Monday, 1st December 2025 @ 1pm. Following the service, there will be a reception in the Bradbury Hall. Please continue to remember Kay, Steve and their respective families.
- The funeral service for Josie will take place at Haycombe Crematorium (Bath) on Tuesday 9th December at 1pm.

Our thoughts are with Andrew Stephen (plays soprano cornet in our band) following a bicycle accident where he has sustained multiple fractures to his jaw requiring surgery. We pray for a rapid recovery.

Nicola and Colin are away from Tuesday 2nd - Thursday 4th December.

Chris and friends (also known as Elf's) have been making even more Christmas novelties to raise funds. They'll be on sale over the next couple of weeks, so please support.

Safety

As we enter the season of Advent we anticipate a high volume of people using our premises for both Church and community events. Please familiarise yourselves with the evacuation procedures for our building, along with keeping walkways and exits clear.

Thank you.

Christmas Eve

Carol's Round the Tree on Christmas Eve has become a 'go to' family event for many people within our community. Plans are well in advance (mainly in my head) but can you help? We need the following:

- Stewards
- Presentation / Prop Assistants
- Help with the visual aid - it needs 'bracing' and hinging'!
- Angel *
- Mary *
- Jospheh *
- Shepherd *
- Wise person *

[* need to be under 5ft 3inches tall!]

If this is you, then please speak to Colin

Flowers

Thank you to everyone who has given flowers over the past year to enhance our worship each Sunday. A new sign-up sheet for 2026 will be available within the next couple of weeks, but please feel free to have a chat to Viv in advance of the sheet coming out if there are any special dates that you would like to reserve.

As we are now in Advent, the flowers have been replaced by an Advent wreath, and we would like to thank Lilian Baker for this (placed in memory of her mum), and for Grace for making the wreath.

Royal British Legion Recognition

A couple of weeks ago, we let you know that the Royal British Legion had honoured The Salvation Army's support by giving us a special medallion, but were unable to show you a picture of it. If you would like a closer look at this, then it will be returned to Colin this weekend.



Christmas Cards

In order to help us 'Care for Creation', we will have the opportunity again this year to send a message to everyone via an 'electronic card'. We would encourage you to make the most of this so that we use less paper and card. For those who still want to send a physical card, however, there will be a post box available from today until Sunday 14th December – after this date you will have to hand out the cards yourself! Please make sure all cards are clearly addressed with the full name of the person you want to receive it. If you want to use this service then a donation will be expected – all proceeds to go to the building fund, thank you.

P.S. In order to 'Care for Creation' you will only receive an 'electronic card' from Colin and Nicola this year – why not follow their example?!

Christmas Carolling Rota

There are still gaps, please fill them in if you can. Thank you!

Good News!

Some of you may already be aware, Naomi is exploring her call to officer-ship at present and would appreciate your prayers.



St Peter's Hospice

Staple Hill Salvation Army
presents

Light up a Life

A concert featuring
**The Staple Hill Salvation Army Band
& The St. Peter's Hospice Choir**

*A chance to celebrate Christmas,
sing Christmas Carols & remember a loved one*

Friday 5th December | 7pm

The Salvation Army | Broad Street | Staple Hill | BS16 5LN

Christmas '25

with Staple Hill Salvation Army

Sunday 30th November

10am - All Age Worship

4pm - Messy Church

Friday 5th December

7pm - Light up a Life Concert

Sunday 7th December

10am - Family Carol Service

Sunday 14th December

10am - All Age Worship

Sunday 21st December

10am - All Age Worship

5pm - Carol Service

Christmas Eve

5pm - Carols in the Square

Christmas Day

11am - Christmas Morning Worship



Love Came Down

Broad Street | Staple Hill | BS16 5LN

The Salvation Army is a Christian Church & Registered Charity No. 214779

The Week Ahead

TODAY Sunday 30th November:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10am | All Age Worship led by Majors Colin & Nicola
"Love came down: Love reaches out"
Colossians 1: 15-20 |
| 11:30am-12:15pm | Children's Church & Youth |
| 4pm – 6pm | Christmas Messy Church |



Monday 1st December:

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|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1pm | Daisy Usher's funeral
<i>at the hall, followed by refreshments</i> |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|

Tuesday 2nd December:

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|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10am – 2pm | Open Doors including Employment Plus and Light lunch at 12.30pm |
| 10am-11am | Fitness Club |
| 8pm | Songster Practice |

Wednesday 3rd December:

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|-------------|------------------|
| 9:30am-11am | Tots on the Hill |
|-------------|------------------|

Thursday 4th December:

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|-------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 7:45am | Frontline Carols <i>at Neil's workplace</i> |
| 10am-12noon | Open Doors |
| 11:15am | Extra Slice Group <i>at the hall</i> |
| 12:30pm | Lunch Club - <i>booking essential</i> |

Friday 5th December:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 7:30am-12noon | Slimming World Groups |
| 10am-12noon | Open Doors |
| 2pm | Cleaning Hall |
| 7pm | Light Up a Life Concert |

As it is now Advent, please check with your leaders regarding your Extra Slice Group – the Thursday morning group will be meeting this week

Next Weekend

Saturday 6th December:

9:30am	YP Rehearsal for Family Carol Service
10am-1pm	Carolling <i>at Tesco, Yate</i>
10am-2pm	Carolling <i>at Sainsbury's, Emersons Green</i>

Sunday 7th December:

10am	Family Carol Service
11:30am-12:15pm	Children's Church & Youth
12noon	Frontline Carols <i>at Deerhurst and Kift Lodge</i>

Dates for the Diary

Here are some other dates that are coming up soon:

Monday 8 th December	11am Band at Page Park Bowling Club
Tuesday 9 th December	7:30pm Songsters at Badminton Gardens
Wednesday 10 th Dec.	9:30am Tots on the Hill Christmas Party
Thursday 11 th December	11:15am Thursday Church carol service 12:30pm Lunch Club Christmas Dinner 7pm YP at Park View
Saturday 13 th December	10am Carolling at Tesco's & Sainsbury's
Sunday 14 th December	10am Toy Service 12noon Frontline Carols – Coopers Court & Jenner Court Toy Sorting in afternoon
Tuesday 16 th December	6:30pm Carolling at Tesco's, Yate
Thursday 18 th December	6:30pm Carolling at The Mall
Saturday 20 th December	10am Carolling at Sainsbury's
Sunday 21 st December	5pm Corps Carol Service 7pm Youth Fellowship
Monday 22 nd December	6:30pm Carolling at Tesco's
Christmas Eve	5pm Carols in the Square
Christmas Day	Worship at 11am