

WIVES SEEN GER

IDLE
BAPTIST CHURCH

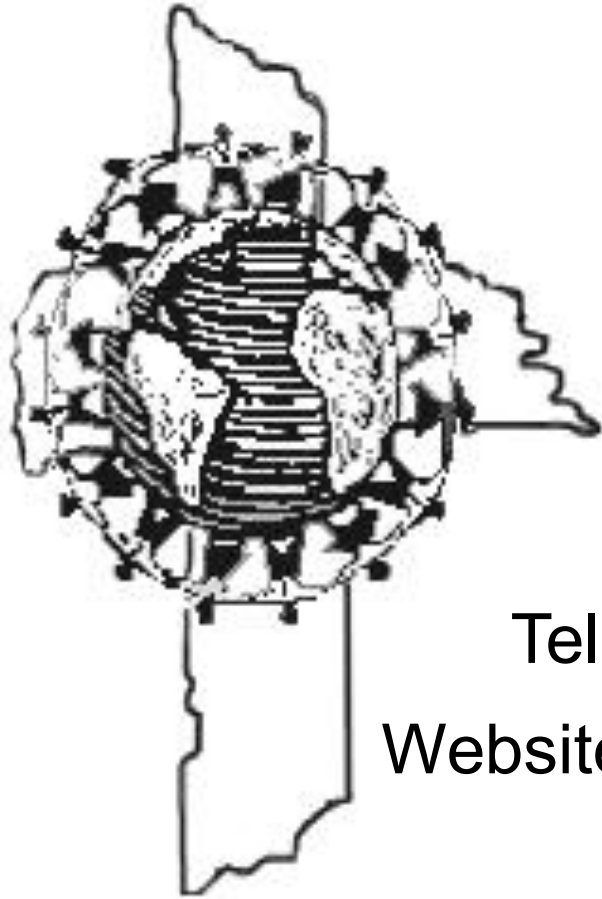


DECEMBER - JANUARY

2023

2024

Idle Baptist Church



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Idle

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CHURCH SECRETARY

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ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

I can't believe it's that time of the year already!!!

Maybe it's old age, but where has this year gone? We've had so many ups and downs that take up our thoughts and time and the world seems such a negative place as we come to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

I found this anonymous poem on a website which reminds me of my grand-furbabies :-

PUPPIES' CHRISTMAS

It's the day before Christmas
And all through the house
The puppies are squeaking
An old rubber mouse.

The wreath which had merrily
Hung on the door
Is scattered in pieces
All over the floor.

The stockings that hung
In a neat little row
Now boast a hole in
Each one of the toes.

The tree was subjected
To bright-eyed whims
And now, although splendid,
It's missing some limbs.

I catch them and hold them
The thought comes to me,
That theirs is the spirit
That Christmas should be.

Should children and puppies
Yet show us the way,
And teach us the joy
That should come with this day?

Could they bring the message
That's written above
And tell us that, most of all
Christmas is LOVE.

ANON

May everyone have a peaceful Christmas filled with Love.

Denise

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P.E.A.C.E

Poppy season is over for another year,

Everyone's efforts were greatly appreciated by users of our building.

A wonderful display to brighten dark days, yet with a serious purpose,

Creative calm in a world of unrest,

Each Poppy a Remembrance and a Prayer for Peace in troubled times.

Thank you, everyone for your Support, Prayers, and Efforts.

PS I am already thinking about another Project, Christmas is just weeks away and it is so Relaxing, Peaceful and Creative to use God given skills.

Let us Pray for people everywhere,

Open our Hearts to God's prompting!

Value our Gifts and Skills this Christmas

Express our Love in small acts of kindness.

Perhaps, Christmas Decorations might be my next Project?

Pat W

BMS Birthday Scheme

We wish the following friends a very happy birthday.

Happy
Birthday

December

2nd Jane

4th Lesley

January

19th. Sue

29th. Patricia W



Christine

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who, year by year, has continued to donate through the BMS Birthday scheme. During the year between September 2022 and October 2023 I have sent a total of £386. Each time I send your donation I receive a letter thanking us for helping the BMS in their very valued work in the Mission Field.

If you feel you would like to help, through donating to this worthy cause, I would be pleased to give you information as to how to do so.

Christine

CAROL SERVICE

Denise will be organising the Carol Service on Sunday, 17th December, starting at 4.00pm.

There will not be a morning service.

Visit our website:- www.idlebaptistchurch.co.uk

NOTICE BOARD

DATE		PREACHERS	STEWARDS	TEA & COFFEE
December	3	J Small <i>Communion</i>	Eileen	Audrey
	10	<i>Gaynor</i>	Helen	Christine
	17	Denise <i>Carols at 4.00pm</i>	Shirley	Lesley
	24	Peter	Christine	Rosemary
	31	Paul Allen	Rosemary	Eileen
January	7	<i>Gaynor</i> <i>Communion</i>	Audrey	Christine
	14	Paul Allen	Stephen	Denise
	21	Rev. Chris Edmondson	Helen	Doug
	28	Paul Severs	Christine	Helen
February	4	Pat and Alan	Doug	Lesley

DATE		COMMUNION	FLOWERS
December	3	Audrey	Mrs J Teale
January	7	Helen	Shirley
February	4	Christine	Mrs P Wagstaff

IF YOU WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE PLEASE TRY TO ARRANGE COVER

Visit our website:- www.idlebaptistchurch.co.uk

QUIET ROOM

In this busy life it is often helpful to

“Take Time Out”

be quiet for a few minutes and have time to think.

Please feel free to use our Quiet Room.

It is open whenever the building is in use.

**Use this quiet space
and seek God’s presence.**

ALL ARE WELCOME

The next edition of the Messenger will be available on

Sunday, 4th February, 2024

Please let me have anything you would like to see in that edition by

Sunday, 28th January, 2024



You can telephone me

At home: 0113 204 7419

Mobile: 0756 808 6103

or email

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**AUDREY AND MILTON WISH YOU ALL
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS**

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Silent Night

The words to Silent Night were written in 1816 by Joseph Mohr, a Catholic priest. It was first performed on Christmas Eve 1818 at his Church in Oberndorf, near Salzburg in Austria. The music was written for this performance by Franz Gruber, the organist at a nearby church. Mohr brought the words to Gruber and asked him to compose a melody with guitar accompaniment as the church organ was damaged, possibly by flooding. When the organ was repaired the organ builder heard the hymn and was impressed by it. He took it back to his home in the Tyrol and introduced it to two travelling families of folk singers. These popularised it, initially in Austria and then further afield. It eventually reaching the USA in 1839.

1 Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round the virgin and her child:
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace;
sleep in heavenly peace!

‘Silent night’ concentrates on some of the detail from the main passage about the birth of Jesus recorded in Luke 2. In the first verse we see that Mary was a virgin.

Matthew wrote:

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Matthew 1 v 18

In Isaiah 7 v 14 we find the prophecy:

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

In John’s gospel we read that John the Baptist gave witness to Jesus as, ‘*The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.*’

John 1 v 9

Everything was bright around the mother and child.

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2 Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glory streams from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia",
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born!

In verse 2 we find the shepherds afraid when the angel appeared
And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

Luke 2 v 8 & 9

In the fourth line the heavenly host sing....

¹³ *Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,*

¹⁴ *"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."* Luke 2 v 13 & 14

The last two lines state that Jesus is the Saviour, Messiah.

...in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2 v 11 & 12

3 Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light:
radiant beams your holy face
with the dawn of saving grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

The third verse emphasises the fact that Jesus is God's Son and that Jesus brought saving grace to the world.

John 1v 14

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Paul wrote to the Corinthians:

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord..... For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ. 2 Corinthians 4 v 5 & 6

Isaiah 9 v 2 contains the well-known words,

*The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.*

It may have been night time when Jesus came into the world but in verse 1 we are told "All is bright", verse 2 has glory streaming from heaven and verse 3 contains references to "love's pure light" and "radiant beams".

Jesus said "*I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.*" John 8 v 12

There are two main translations that appear in our hymn books. The older one by John F Young is the one I have looked at. The other version is by Stopford A Brooke. (See Mission Praise 597). There are several other translations. There is a fourth verse below; this was added later.

Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing
"Alleluia" to our King;
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.

Peter

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HOW ARE YOU HOPING TO SPEND CHRISTMAS NIGHT?



You're probably not thinking of a rough sea crossing, biting winds and the anguish of fleeing the country you love. This Christmas, could you give a gift of hope to refugees who have lost everything?

Scan the QR code to uncover how you can support those risking everything to survive.



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WEEKLY DIARY

Sunday	10.30am	Service of Christian worship <i>Includes Communion</i> <i>on the First Sunday in the month</i>
Monday	2.00pm to 4.00pm	Well Connected Café <i>Second Monday of the month</i>
	7.30pm to 9.30pm	W.I. <i>Third Monday of the month</i>
Tuesday	10.30am to 12noon	Firm Roots Cancer Prayer Support Group <i>First Tuesday in the month</i>
	10.30am to 12noon	Coffee drop in. <i>First & third (& fifth) Tuesdays</i>
	1 1.00am to 12.45pm	“Memory Tree” <i>Second and fourth Tuesdays</i>
	5.30pm	Slimming World
Wednesday	9.30am to 12 noon	Table Tennis
	6.30pm to 8.00pm	Brownies and Rainbows <i>School Term Times only</i>
Thursday	3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7,30pm	Slimming World
Friday	9.00am & 11.00am	Slimming World
	1.00pm to 4.00pm	Guitar Class
Saturday	10.00am to 2.00pm	Art Club

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