

**CHRISTMAS CARD TREE IN AID OF METHODIST FUND  
FOR WORLD MISSION**

There will be an opportunity to send Christmas greetings to the Church family by placing a Christmas card on the tree in the church entrance hall and contributing to the World Mission Fund. Last year this amounted to £105, I am hoping to top this in 2008! Please put your donation in an envelope and pass it to me or one of the stewards. Thank you.

Beth Saunders (Treasurer M.F.F.W.M.).

**THIS MONTH:**

**December 2008** is now available on a cream sheet. Items for the January monthly sheet should be submitted by Tuesday 16 December.

If you have items for the weekly notices, please submit them to the church office by 11.00 am on Thursday.

***In the unlikely event of a fire, the fire alarm will sound. Please follow a Fire Marshall leaving by the nearest fire exit.***

***Assembly point: lower car park.***

**Church office hours:**  
**Tuesday-Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm**  
**Church telephones:**  
**348178 (office)**  
**331186 (pre-school and hall)**

Office and minister's secretary: Mrs Jane Spry  
admin@ridgewaymethodist.org.uk

**Minister: Revd John M Haley:**  
min@ridgewaymethodist.org.uk

**www.ridgewaymethodist.org.uk**

**WELCOME TO  
RIDGWAY METHODIST CHURCH**

If you would like to help us get to know you, please complete the following information.

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Other) .....

CHRISTIAN NAME .....

SURNAME .....

POSTAL ADDRESS .....

.....

POSTCODE .....

TELEPHONE NUMBER .....

E-MAIL .....

*THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HELPFUL*

ARE YOU OFTEN HOME DURING THE DAYTIME?  
YES / NO (*please delete*)

- ..... I have just moved to the area.
- ..... I am interested in joining the church.
- ..... I would like to know more about Gift Aid
- ..... I would like the minister to call
- ..... I would like information about

.....

*(please tick as appropriate).*

Please put in the office post box in the church entrance or pass to a steward. Personal information given on this form may be stored on computer.

If you are on holiday please take our greetings to your home church.



Welcome to  
**Ridgeway  
Methodist Church**  
**7 December 2008**

**10.30 am**

**Revd John Haley  
(Holy Communion)**

Please join us for coffee/tea  
after the morning service

**7.00 pm**

**Dr John Birkett**

Dr John Birkett is a lay reader from Christ Church,  
Weston-super-Mare.

**www.ridgewaymethodist.org.uk**

## PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord Jesus Christ, prepare our hearts to welcome you now, that we may be ready to welcome you when you come again. Teach us Lord, that your gracious purpose goes back to the beginning of time, and will endure forever.

AMEN

This Week's Bible Verse



This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

(Matthew 1:18)

## THIS MORNING'S ORDER OF SERVICE

*Hymns and songs are projected. If you would like a copy of Hymns & Psalms (HP) and Songs of Fellowship (SF) please ask a door steward for the books and refer to the list below.*

HP 85 O come, O come Immanuel

HP 827 A song of the incarnation

HP 82 Hark! the glad sound (tune: Thomas Merritt)

SF 655 And he shall reign for ever

SF 1047 These are the days of Elijah

HP 241 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

SF 742 Great is the darkness

SF 1041 There's a place where the streets shine

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## HOLY COMMUNION

The Methodist Church welcomes baptised people from all Christian denominations to receive communion. We normally receive communion at the communion rail and are shown forward by stewards.

If you wish to receive communion but find coming forward difficult please speak to a steward. If you do not wish to receive communion you are welcome to come forward for a simple blessing.

There will be a retiring collection after the service today for the Benevolent Fund.

## THIS WEEK'S DIARY

### Monday 8 December:

9.00 am - 1.00 pm Pre-school

6.00 pm Boys' Brigade

7.30 pm No Minister's Bible Study: (exam week)

### Tuesday 9:

9.00 am-2.40 pm Pre-school

10.00 am-11.30 am Parent/Toddler Group

10.00 am-12.00 Patchwork group

3.00 - 4.00 pm Cake Café

7.30 pm Ladies' Group Christmas Concert

(in aid of Shelter Box)

7.30 pm Men's Fellowship joining with Ladies' Group

### Wednesday 10:

9.00 am-1.00 pm Pre-school

10.00 am-12.30 pm Coffee followed by lunches

7.30 pm Stewards' meeting

### Thursday 11:

9.00 am-1.00 pm Pre-school

2.45 pm Women's Fellowship: Mrs Mary McNaughton

### Friday 12:

9.00 am-2.40 pm Pre-School

10.00 am-11.30 am Parent/Toddler Group

### Saturday 13:

10.00 am-12.00 pm Oasis Coffee Bar:

Church Funds (Avril and Pamela)

### Sunday 14:

10.30 am Revd John Haley

6.00 pm Revd John Haley

(All-Age Candlelit Carol Service)

## PRAYER DIARY

Requests for prayer are included in the prayer diary for three weeks. After the third week you can renew these requests if you have updated information. Please inform a steward of your request. Prayer cards are also available for use or to be given to family or friends who might wish to send in requests.

## CELL GROUPS

Cell groups are meeting as usual this week. More information from Mike Tozer or one of the stewards.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

Revd John Haley and Dr John Birkett who are leading our services today. We continue to pray for family and friends of Mabel Legg; Paddy; Maureen; a young teenager; Shirley; Betty Keith in hospital; and Geoff's sister Lyn in her continuing fight against cancer.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Jennie Tomlinson and Anthony Kirby on their recent engagement.

## LADIES' GROUP

A concert will be held here at Ridgeway on 9 December at 7.30 pm. Although planned by Ladies' Group, it is a special concert for all featuring the Torpoint Lady Singers. For further details please see the notice in the vestibule.

## ALL-AGE CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE

**SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER 6.00pm**

The first of our Candlelit Celebration Services at 6.00 pm: as usual there will be a procession up the Ridgeway, starting from outside the Co-op at 5.30 pm. Children's Christmas activities and preparation for the service will start at 3.00 pm. Children will need a packed tea and should be collected at 5.00 pm ready the procession.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you to everyone for their Shoe Box donations for Operation Christmas Child - 72 boxes were sent from the church.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

Every household in our church community should receive a card. If anyone has been missed please contact the office. Please make sure you collect your card and if you can deliver any cards still in the box that will be a great help.

## BIBLE READINGS 2009

Please return your forms for Bible Reading 2009 to the office on or before this coming Tuesday (9 December).