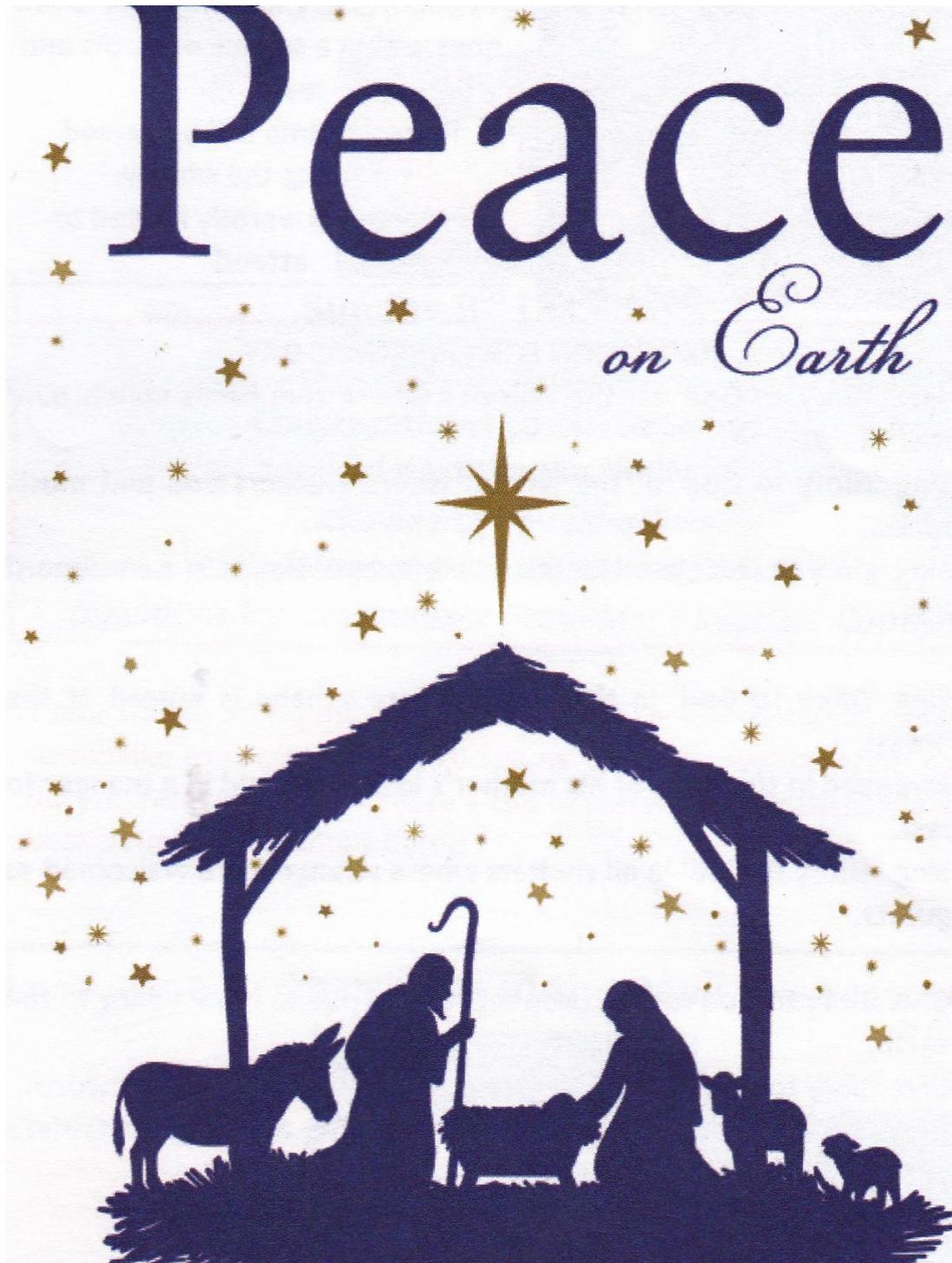


**WARMINSTER UNITED CHURCH**  
**George Street, Warminster BA12 8QA**



**November '18 to January 2109**

**Winter**

**Thursday November 29<sup>th</sup>**



**An opportunity to remember loved ones within a service of carols and readings.**

**Refreshments will be served following the service.**

**Everyone is warmly invited to attend**

**REFLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS DAY**

**Sing 'Glory to God' on the hillsides where shepherds watch over their flocks.**

**Sing 'Glory to God' at the parties where crackers pop and music rocks.**

**Sing 'glory to God' in all places where hunger sleeps in a cardboard box.**

**Sing 'Glory to God' in the stable where a babe is nursed at the breast,**

**Wrapped in the arms of his mother's love, then laid in a manger to rest.**

**Sing ' Glory to God' in all shelters where strangers are welcomed as guests.**

**Give Glory to God for the prophets who strive to bring peace to the earth.**

**Give Glory to God for outsiders, and for all who affirm their worth.**

**Give Glory to God in all places where unsung angels greet Christ's birth.**

*By Rev Jean Mortimer*

*From URC Prayer handbook 2018*

*Contributed by Heather*

**Minister: Rev David Coppard**

**Tel: 01373858805**

**email: [david.coppard@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:david.coppard@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Booking/ room hire: 07900661789**

**Web site [www.unitedchurchwarminster.org.uk](http://www.unitedchurchwarminster.org.uk)**

## Carol's By Candlelight



**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

**3.30 p.m.**

**Congregational Carols, Readings  
and items by the choir.**

**Followed by refreshments**

**and afternoon tea in the Cameo Room .**

**Donations for Warminster Alzheimer's Support Centre**

**There will be no morning service on 9<sup>th</sup> December but anyone who would like to come along at 10.30a.m. would be welcome, to help decorate the church and share a cup of coffee and fellowship to the background of Christmas Carols.**

## Christmas in the Mall



**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Around mid-day outside the library.**

**A Churches Together in Warminster Event**

**With Carols, simple readings, a school choir, the "King's Tent" etc..**

# Christmas Eve Communion

## 6p.m.

### led by Rev David Coppard

#### Christmas card

**SHARE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS WITH YOU CHURCH FRIENDS AND**



**GIVE A HOMELESS FAMILY A REASON TO CELEBRATE!**

As in previous years there will be a large Christmas Card in the Foyer in which you are invited to write your Christmas Greetings to your friends at Church.

There will also be a collection box in which you can put a donation to Shelter.

Writing your Christmas greetings in this card saves you the cost of buying cards . Why not give this

money to Shelter to help Homeless people over Christmas so they may know they too are important to God and to us.

## Shelter

The housing and homelessness charity

#### SPREADING JOY IN BULGARIA AND SERBIA THIS CHRISTMAS

Thank you to all who have donated goods and money towards the Christmas shoebox appeal. 120 boxes have been packed and £245 raised towards the cost of transportation. These boxes are given to *The Foundation for Change and Social Inclusion* ( an off shoot of Trussell Trust) who transport them overland to Bulgaria and Serbia. They go to abandoned children living in state care, poor rural schools and kindergartens, women's refuges, prisoners' children, isolated elderly people, refugees and Roma children living in difficult conditions.

These presents show people who have been rejected or are living in poverty that they are loved and they help build bridges with communities. Any surplus money generated by the appeal helps support long-term projects such as The House of Opportunity which transforms the lives of vulnerable care leavers

(Brenda is happy to receive your empty shoeboxes at any time, to store for next year!)



## SPACE FOR LIFE

At Coffee#1 in the Market Place, Warminster on Tuesdays from 1.45 to 3.45 in term time there is an Open Space for reflection.

*"Creating an open space to breathe in busy lives. All welcome to share good coffee, conversation, news, crafts and a thought for the day based on a Bible verse with a short time of reflection. Bring your own craft, or just turn up. Share interests & creativity. Find peace, friendship, & a time to find who you are. No need to book - just come along or bring a friend! At the back of Coffee#1"*

'Space for Life' is a Christian outreach initiative by one of our local churches. An opportunity to share Christ's love with our non-church friends.

## SUNDAY SERVICES 10.30am (unless otherwise stated)

### DECEMBER 2018

- 2<sup>nd</sup> : Jacky Williams  
9<sup>th</sup> : **3.30 p.m.** CAROL SERVICE led by Rev Heather Morgan  
16<sup>th</sup>: Local arrangements : CHRISTIAN AID SERVICE  
led by Karen Woollard  
23<sup>rd</sup> : Rev Mary Teed  
30<sup>th</sup> : Rev David Coppard ALL AGE WORSHIP

### JANUARY 2019

- 6<sup>th</sup> : Rev David Coppard  
COVENANT SERVICE – HOLY COMMUNION  
13<sup>th</sup>: Rev Heather Morgan  
20<sup>th</sup> : Rev Mike Burrell  
27<sup>th</sup> : Clive Illman

### FEBRUARY

- 3<sup>rd</sup> : Local arrangements  
10<sup>th</sup>: Rev David Coppard HOLY COMMUNION  
17<sup>th</sup>: Eric Clifford  
24<sup>th</sup> : Pauline Tiller

Note there will be no morning service on December 9<sup>th</sup> but the church will be open at 10.30 while it is being decorated – refreshments available – anyone welcome.

There is a short service every Wednesday morning at 10.15 a.m.  
With Holy Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month

## CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS

2018	CHARITY	ORGANISER	RAISED
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	Epilepsy Action	Claire Johnson	£205
February 10 <sup>th</sup>	Compassion	Marion Hornby	£332
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Warminster Stroke Club	Elaine Hunter	£270
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund	Pam & Derrik	£225
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Christian Aid	Karen	£153 + raffle
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	Water Aid	Helen Richards	£237
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Guide Dogs	Anita	£275
August 11 <sup>th</sup>	Cancer Research	Penelope	£274
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	People Against Poverty	Joan Jones	£170
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	Rwanda Education	Karen Woollard	£240
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Shoebboxes	Joan Jones	£245
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Riding for the Disabled	Paula Johnson	

**CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS – 2<sup>nd</sup> SATURDAY EACH MONTH 10A.M TO 12 OFFERS OF HELP AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF CAKES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.**

2019	CHARITY	ORGANISER	
January 12 <sup>th</sup>	Action for Children	Barry Treadwell	
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	Sachibondu Mission Zambia	Marion Barton	
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Warminster Stroke Club	Elaine Hunter	
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund	Pam and Derrik	
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	Warminster Food Bank	Jean Colgrave	
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Christian Aid	Karen Woollard	
July 13 <sup>th</sup>	Shelter Box	Joan Jones	
August 10 <sup>th</sup>	Dementia UK	John Alpin	
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Guide Dogs for the Blind	Anita Silk	
October 12 <sup>th</sup>	School in a bag	Helen Richards	
November 9 <sup>th</sup>	Shoebboxes	Joan Jones	
December 14 <sup>th</sup>			

**Just one date left to fill in 2019 – if you would like to choose a charity and run this one please let Joan Jones know**

## Pastoral Carers Article

As we enter Winter, the colder weather and the darker nights, let's remember all those in our Church family who are less fortunate, unable to get out easily and would welcome a phone call and a brief chat. In our hectic world it is easy to forget how important it is to share time with our friends.

We remember those who are unable to come to Church to join us for services and socializing; Sally, Bernard, Howard, Tony, Daphne, Joy, Joan , Vera . There are also a number who have difficulty getting to church regularly and, with the inclement weather, may not be able to do so.

Thank you to all Pastoral carers – numbers attending our church are growing so more carers are needed. Some members can no longer attend church and it is good that we continue to care for them.

Whilst looking through some saved items on my computer, I came across an article, I wrote back in 2011 and it still relevant today:

*"I have to admit that the idea of becoming an Elder scared me and on the day when I was to be accepted, sat crying in the Church.*

*It does seem such a long time ago now and I have grown so much in faith. It is an honour to serve you, the congregation and our Ministers. The practical side of the job is not difficult – when you remember it all! As you will note I frequently forget to give the Minister the roving mike.*

*You will observe that I need written notes, as I'm sure most of the other Elders have done so. How can you remember what to say with so many eyes looking at you? But those eyes belong to friends who are listening. It is a responsible position but one which gives immense pleasure; it is inspiring, learning to share ones faith and grow spiritually and wonderful to share knowledge and learn more of the love of God."*

Marion Barton



A very big welcome to Angel who was born on 25<sup>th</sup> September , a baby sister for Solomon and Ebenezer. Congratulations to Joyce and Samuel and our love and best wishes to all the family.

I sent the total ( £240) from Rwanda coffee morning to one family with 2 school age youngsters and 2 young adults at university. They got together to decide what each of them needed for the next three months and went shopping together remembering to set some money aside for rice and beans for their mum who is poorly (slashed and left for dead in the Genocide and permanently poorly as a result).

I received the nicest message on Facebook "*please thank your church for thinking of us. God bless you. Gentile*" (Gentile is the oldest daughter's name).

Karen

## Notes from AGM 4<sup>th</sup> November

**ONE YEAR STEWARDS:** The following friends were invited and agreed to stand and the Church Meeting voted to accept them all as One Year Stewards until November 2019.

Pauline Howell, Hilary Reynolds, Arthur Pimm, Erica Castle, Marion Hornby, Samuel Otoo, Joan Jones, Diana Bennie

**SAFEGUARDING** – The Up to Date Safeguarding Policy was circulated and signed by Paula Johnson (chair) at the Stewards Meeting. Notices about our responsibilities have been discussed and information has been posted around the church building. Marion Barton (adults) and Karen Woollard (children) are our safeguarding officers.

### **NEWS FROM THE AREA MEETING**

On 26 January 2019 there is an Area Event at Wesley Road Methodist Church, Trowbridge –“ *Sunday Worship- Monday Life*” 10.30-3.30 with soup lunch.

28<sup>th</sup> February Area Meeting at Warminster United Church. Please join us.

World Church Group have so far amassed £3,241 for Send a Cow appeal which finishes April 2019. Still time to add to this amount.

*Important Area Discussion: What Difference Do We Make To Our Town?*

*In What way are we building up spiritual lives?*

*How Successful are we at this?*

*How Successfully do we involve the Local Community in Spiritual Growth?*

*How will you Continue to Change the Community?*

*These questions will be posed to the congregation for discussion and for returning our answers to Beryl, Area Co-ordinator.*

Mission News will no longer be ordered by the Area. If you want to receive this, please contact Mission Matters via Methodist Publishing.

**NEWS FROM CHURCHES TOGETHER** Please pray for Kingdown School Mission for G'sus this week (November) and follow up disco.

**STREET PASTORS** Currently there are 4 people per team on a six week cycle on the streets every Friday making a tangible difference in the Town's evening atmosphere. Please continue to pray for the pastors. The town requested the pastors come on Saturdays too but working until 3am is hard before Sunday worship. The door staff and police calm situations successfully.

**REFUGEE SUPPORTING** Things are going well. There are different issues with different families, Universal Credit has been a problem (all over the country). Driving is the next challenge. Wiltshire Council has been an excellent support and they have valued our work. Outings include the June Party in the Park, Longleat, London.



**Cornerstone** has been running for 4 years and have met more than 2000 clients via 26 volunteers and 6 trustees, open 3 mornings a week and now visiting some villages once or twice every month. The Town Council supports them as well as the Trust that owns

the building. Still open for more volunteers. This organisation is appreciated in the town. Currently the office staff needs an extra volunteer who would not be meeting the public but doing the computer administration.

**Christian Aid** There is a big Fund Raiser at the Agra Restaurant 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019, tickets will be £20 (£10 to Christian Aid). Last year each church was challenged to raise £600 and are challenged again this coming year. Geoff will hold a Christian Aid Quiz at Baptist Church – date to be confirmed. Awareness raising is important too, so do advertise the events, banners outside the churches, adverts in the press ....



#### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY JANUARY 20

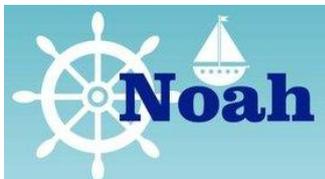
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	United Church 12 noon ( <i>our church</i> )**
<b><i>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January</i></b>	<b><i>Baptist 3pm Joint Service of Worship</i></b>
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Christ Church 12 noon – light lunch
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Minster 12 noon – light lunch
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	FCF 12 noon – light lunch
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	St Georges 12 noon- light lunch
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	St John's – venue to be confirmed

**\*\* It would be good if we can provide light lunch like other churches. Please let Karen know if you are willing to help organise this.**

#### GROUPS' REPORTS

##### LADIES CHOIR

The Musical "Nautical Noah" formed part of the morning service on 14th October & received appreciative reviews from the congregation



Thanks to those who took part, especially Solomon, who was a confident Narrator.

We are now practicing on Saturday mornings for the Carol Service to be held at 3.30pm on Sunday 9th December and look forward to receiving your support : ***we will need people to read lessons & meditations. Also to supply mince pies & serve refreshments after the service!***

## **WORSHIP GROUP**

Karen is hoping to start this soon but is unsure what day or time of day would be good, and how often. We will be exploring growing our church's spirituality because we are already very good at 'good works' but helping one another grow in their relationship with God is still a work in progress.

## **JAM**

We are bubbling on nicely in organised chaos. We have 2 regular children and 2 or 3 other occasional ones. The adults are Helen, Karen and Joan. The activity days (one at Easter and one in the Summer Holidays) were really well attended and popular. **We would like to organise another one in February but need more help with the organising as well as on the day. If anyone else wants to be involved, please contact Joan.**

## **SEWING GROUP**

We continue to meet twice a month during the year with the exception of August. We have around 20 members but generally about 15 attend. During this year we have seen several new members which is good. Sometimes I wonder whether it should be called a 'Knit and Natter' group but everyone seems to enjoy what they do, mainly knitting or embroidery, and our very newest member, Sebastian, has just learnt to roll over! He enjoys lots of hugs so Mum Helen has a little break. We always have a Christmas party where each member brings a small present for a 'lucky dip'.

## **FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP**

Penelope presented her report to Karen and this is to be posted up in the Cameo Room. Please note that suggestions are invited for the Summer Excursion.

**COOPER HOUSE GROUP** The current membership is 7. Though we were meeting every month this has not been possible so that we only meet when there are 5 members available. Our current study is a series of Prayers found in the bible. We usually meet on a Monday at 7.30 p m. No longer do we ask a member to lead us. We discuss all the questions which are at the end of the opening passages.

We would welcome any person who would like to join us. The contact is Pam & Derrik Copeland telephone 01985 213987.

**WENDY HOUSE GROUP** This group meets once a month, 7pm to 8.30pm at Marion's home in Imber Court and currently we are six regular members. This year we have been reading Mark's Gospel with the help of Barclay's Notes (from the church library) and have found it very enlightening. There is room for a couple more members if anyone wants to join, see Karen.

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

Pauline explained how the property committee is functioning (by email and generally informally). Council suggested that Pauline's job is very involved and some jobs need to be delegated to committee members. Garden will be improved next year if anyone would like to donate commemorative benches etc.

**ROOF REPAIRS** – There has been a problem for two years but there are serious leaks and quotes (around £3,000) have been collected and a church specialist workman, Micah Newman, to start in November and we have the money to go ahead.

**KEYS FOR NEW LETTINGS** – Heather will look at the Key List and approach members to return under-used keys. If you have a key you don't need please could you return it.

**SHED FOR GENERAL STORAGE** just under £1,000 – permission given. Boiler room can never be used to store any equipment due to the asbestos in there. **Mugs for Coffee Bar** have been donated by members .

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Audit of accounts – Norman Swaney has done this.

Cheque from the Town Council £1,000. We will use the money for a storage Shed (so the Cameo Room does not become cluttered) and a report will need to be prepared to explain that we can't use it for the original purpose (applied for in 2015 by Hilary Reynolds and Marion Barton for chairs but because the cheque took so long to arrive that cause has been dealt with).

**Successor for Hilary** – Samuel Otoo has volunteered to help with this.

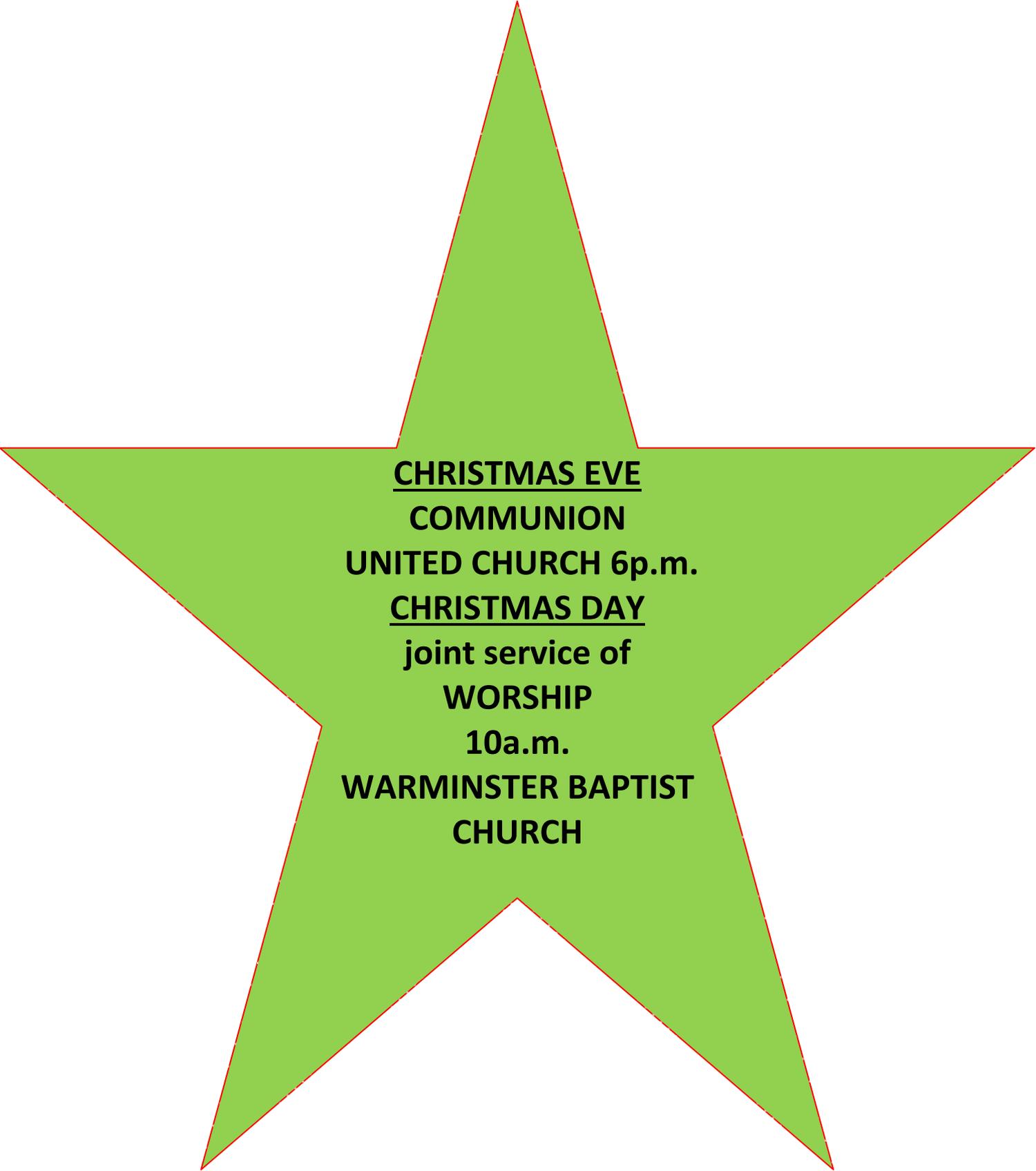
Hilary would like internet access at the church so that bills can be paid from the vestry. John Alpin is looking into this.

	<b>DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS –</b>
<b>CHURCH COUNCIL</b>	<b>- 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 1019 @ 11.00 am</b>
<b>CHURCH MEETING -</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 @ 11.45 am</b>



## **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

**7<sup>TH</sup> – 9<sup>TH</sup> December at The Minster**



**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**COMMUNION**  
**UNITED CHURCH 6p.m.**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**joint service of**  
**WORSHIP**  
**10a.m.**  
**WARMINSTER BAPTIST**  
**CHURCH**