

Forest Gate Baptist Church

Rejoice
in the
Lord
always

Taking Jesus to the people
Bringing the people to Jesus

DECEMBER - Morning Worship - 10.45am

3rd	Phil Jump - Communion
10th	Andrew Hardcastle
17th	David Wilkinson
24th	Carols by Candlelight - 4.00pm
25th	Malcolm Hancock
31st	Ray Lea

- * **HELLO & WELCOME** - We give a very warm welcome to our Regional Minister Rev Phil Jump, who will lead us on Sunday 3rd. Please join us for refreshments and continue in fellowship with one another as we meet downstairs after our service.
- * **ALL** are invited to spend time in spoken or silent prayer, in the quiet room, for a short time before the service. Please feel free to join in with others.
- * **OUR OFFERINGS** - For the month of October were £2,048.30. Thank you for your generosity. Our total income was £2,205.10 and expenditure £1,431.88.
- * **FLOWERS IN CHURCH** - Thank you to Janet & Gemma for the wonderful displays we enjoy every week. If you would like to remember someone or a special date have a chat with Janet or Gemma. A small donation towards flowers would be appreciated.
- * **IF YOU KNOW** anyone in need please feel free to take any items from the food boxes downstairs. Community Groceries are also very grateful for our regular donations.
- * **DO YOU HAVE** - a favourite chorus/song, old or new, that you would like to sing before our service. Please tell Joy and when available she'll arrange to play for us.
- * **VERY IMPORTANT** - We have an urgent need for more first aiders. If you have the training or this is something you could do please have a word with Liz for further information.
- * **PLEASE** return your BMS boxes to Edna as soon as possible during December.
- * **WE HAVE A NEW GROUP** - 'Forest Friends' using our premises on a Monday afternoon. Please see enclosed leaflet and help to make it known if you can. Thank you.
- * **DIARY DATES for CHRISTMAS** - Please pick up a leaflet for all our December events.
- * **SAT 2nd DEC -1.00pm** - We are decorating the church. Come & join in the frivolities!
- * **STRAWBERRY GARDENS** - at the junction of Newcastle Ave. and Breck Rd. are holding their Christmas Tree switch on at 6.00pm on Fri 8th with Carols, the children's lantern procession and they'll also be serving hot chocolate and mince pies.
- * **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS** - We are going to produce another Christmas booklet where we can share our own greetings with one another without having to write lots of cards. All donations received will be sent to BMS & Home Mission. Time is needed to compile and print the booklets so please complete the slip and return to Gill on or before Sunday 3rd December at the latest. Thank you.
- * **CAROL SINGING SAT.16th DEC - 1.00pm @ the Belle Vue, Whitegate Drive.** PLEASE come and join us even if you can't sing!! Let's put F.G.B.C. on the map!
- * **PLEASE NOTE** - *There will be no morning service on Sunday 24th.* Please join us for our Carols by Candlelight Service at 4.00pm when we shall take up a collection for our local Brian House Childrens Hospice.
- * **CHRISTMAS MORNING 25th** - Our short family service will be led by Malcolm at 0.45am.
- * **NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE** - Sunday 31st Dec at 10.45am led by Ray.





PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY & OUR WORLD

♦ We lift up all our church family who are going through difficult times whether it be illness, hospital appointments, emotional pain or other challenges.

Please continue to pray for Ian & Tracey, Julie and all their families, coming to terms with the loss of Dorothy who is now at home with the Lord. Ken in hospital and comfort for Janet after her fall. Michele & Keith at home, for Nega (one of our Iranian friends) now dealing with ongoing hospital treatment, Kathryn recovering from her recent operation and for those, who we name quietly in our hearts, who need the healing touch of our Lord and Saviour.

♦ At this Christmas time Lord, In a world filled with conflicts and unrest, we lift our voices in prayer for peace. We pray for peace to prevail in every corner of the world. May Your divine presence bring an end to violence, conflicts, and injustice. Lord, ignite a spirit of reconciliation, understanding, and harmony among nations, cultures, and religions. Heal the wounds of division and replace hatred with love. Grant us the courage to be instruments of peace in our communities, extending grace and forgiveness. May Your peace, which surpasses all understanding, envelop our world. Amen.

♦ At the top of all his compositions, Johann Sebastian Bach, would write: "J.J.," Jesus Juva, which meant "Jesus help me." Then at the end, he would write: "S.D.G.," Soli Deo Gloria," which meant "To God Alone be the Glory". He was composing instrumental music and saying, "I want to praise God." Let's praise God though all our sufferings and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

<u><i>Duty Deacon</i></u>	<u><i>Door Steward</i></u>	<u><i>Communion</i></u>
3rd	Gill	Stan
10th	Barbara	Elaine
17th	Liz	Joy
24th (pm)	Joy	Barbara
31st	Olive	Stan
		Gemma & Caroline

December - Coffee Bar

3rd	Liz & Alan
10th	Janet & Ken
17th	Andrew & Gemma
24th	Barbara & Anne R + others
31st	Chantelle & Anthony

<u><i>December</i></u>	<u><i>Readers</i></u>
3rd	June
10th	Olive
17th	Ken
24th	Carol Service
31st	Elaine



See Gemma



See Anne-Louise

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THE TRUE MEANING OF *Christmas*



**GIFT BOW-TIED AS
WE SHOULD ALL BE
TIED TOGETHER IN
BONDS OF
GOODWILL
FOREVER.**



**CANDY CANE-
THE SHEPHERD'S CROOK,
USED TO BRING LAMBS BACK
INTO THE FOLD-A REMINDER
THAT WE ARE ALL OUR
BROTHER'S KEEPER.**



**THE BELL-RINGS OUT TO
GUIDE LOST SHEEP BACK TO
THE FOLD-SIGNIFYING ALL
ARE PRECIOUS IN THE EYES
OF THE LORD.**



**THE CANDLE-A MIRROR OF
STARLIGHT REFLECTING
OUR THANKS FOR THE
STAR OF BETHLEHEM.**



**RED-
THE FIRST COLOR OF
CHRISTMAS SYMBOLIZING
THE SAVIOR'S SACRIFICE
FOR ALL.**



**THE STAR-A
HEAVENLY SIGN OF
PROPHECY FULFILLED
LONG AGES AGO-THE
SHINING HOPE OF
MANKIND.**



**FIR TREE; EVERGREEN-
THE SECOND COLOR OF
CHRISTMAS SHOWS
EVERLASTING LIFE. THE
NEEDLES POINT
HEAVENWARD.**



**THE WREATH-A SYMBOL
OF THE NEVER ENDING
ETERNAL NATURE OF
LOVE, HAVING NO
BEGINNING AND NO END.**