

# NEWSLETTER

## Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023



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**Prayer List:** Pat & Clive D, Richard B, Mike & Brenda S, Alan & Christine C, Jan, Beverley, Carol, Julia, Bill S, Barry, Joyce M & family.

Mon	23rd			19.30	Nexus
				19.45	Table Tennis
Tue	24th	10.00	Olive Branch	18.00	Footsteps
Wed	25th	10.00	Silent Prayer	13.15	Toddlers
Thu	26th			14.00	Dorcas
Fri	27th	13.00	Connect More		
Sat	28th				
Sun	29th	09.00 10.30	Holy Communion Morning Service	18.30	Evening Service

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023** This is a House Group week

Mon	30th			19.00	Bible School
				19.45	Table Tennis
Tue	31st	10.00	Olive Branch	19.00	Pop Up Ukulele's
Wed	1st	10.00	Silent Prayer	13.15	Toddlers
Thu	2nd				
Fri	3rd	13.00	Connect More		
Sat	4th	10.00	MAF Coffee Morning	19.00	On-line prayer
Sun	5th	09.00 10.30	Holy Communion Morning Service	18.30	Praise Service

**Joyce and family** wish to say a big thank you to the Church family for your kindness in sending flowers, cards and prayers at this very sad time – all much appreciated. Sorry we were unable to personally speak to you all, but owing to the large number attending John's funeral and the time slot given to us at the Crematorium, this was not possible. Bless you all, love Joyce x

**Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, at 3pm

**Coffee Morning** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 10am – 12noon. The first Coffee Morning is in aid of MAF (Missionary Aviation Fellowship) and contributions of bric-a-brac; books; cd's; dvd's etc would be gratefully received. Home made cakes, scones etc would be very much appreciated. Thank you. Barbara Thompson.

**Disabled Christian Fellowship** DCF starts again on Tuesday 21st February at 2pm in the hall. We are having a time of fellowship, tea and chat. More information on the group from Clive or Pam.

**COMFORT C.A.F.E** We would like to thank you all for your support over the past year, especially the amazing Harvest donations. Our September coffee morning raised funds to buy a freezer, so all the fresh produce was prepared and frozen for use in our Christmas meal. Ninety-one people came for that.

As the cost-of-living crisis bites deeper by the week we see more people coming in for a hot meal and a bag of 'Food For Tomorrow'. That is our new project, which is funded by some grants, and topped up with your donations.

We only hire the Parish Centre at St. Thomas's two days a week, so have no control over the kitchen. Nevertheless, when we had a spot inspection from the Food Safety Department, Chris Pawson and her kitchen team gained us the maximum **5-star rating**. We are very proud of that.

Some of our lovely Iranian friends come as volunteers. They work very hard and are an asset to us; we will miss them when they move on.

Gwen Cross



**Jigsaw Festival** - we are aiming to have a jigsaw festival during the Summer and it would be great if we could all help to make this a really special outreach event. We are asking that each family build a jigsaw and during these winter months would be a perfect time to start now. Once completed the jigsaws can then be contributed towards the festival more details to follow - thanks Jacqui Green

**Finance Review of 2022** I am pleased to report that the level of regular giving by our congregation has not fallen as a result of the COVID pandemic. Indeed, it has risen slightly this year, although not enough to make a significant impact. What has made a huge impact this year is the donations made for our Gift Day. Together with other one-off donations our "Grace" income for the year amounted to a whopping £72,860! When this "Grace" income is excluded to reveal our "Core" income, this was slightly up compared to the average over recent years. Turning to expenditure, our annual total spend was up by about £19,000 compared to the average over recent years. Most of this is attributable to a steep increase in our Parish Share request. Increased energy costs also had a significant impact.

The difference between Gross Income and Gross Expenditure was £32,300 but, if "Grace" income is excluded (in a 'worst case' scenario we might well not have been blessed in this way) this turns into a deficit of £40,560. This equates to a monthly deficit of £3,400.

As we start 2023 our total funds amount to £87,700, of which £37,000 are set aside as reserve funds. Applying the monthly deficit to the remaining £50,700 we would expect our disposable funds (in the absence of any new "Grace" income) to carry us through to about mid-March 2024.

Praise the Lord for His super-abundant Grace!

Mike LeDieu (Treasurer)

**Has anyone got any** Christmas themed fabrics ie materials or bedding you no longer need. I am looking at having fabric bunting made for the next Christmas fair - much appreciated Jacqui Green 07530 358724

**Twinning** Here at All Saints we have "toilet twinning" but it's not just for here. We can do this at home and also with other items such as taps, fridges and bins. If you would like any information on this there are leaflets in the welcome area and Leonie Charlish would also be more than happy to chat to you about this.

### **From Paul and Sara Tester in Peru:**

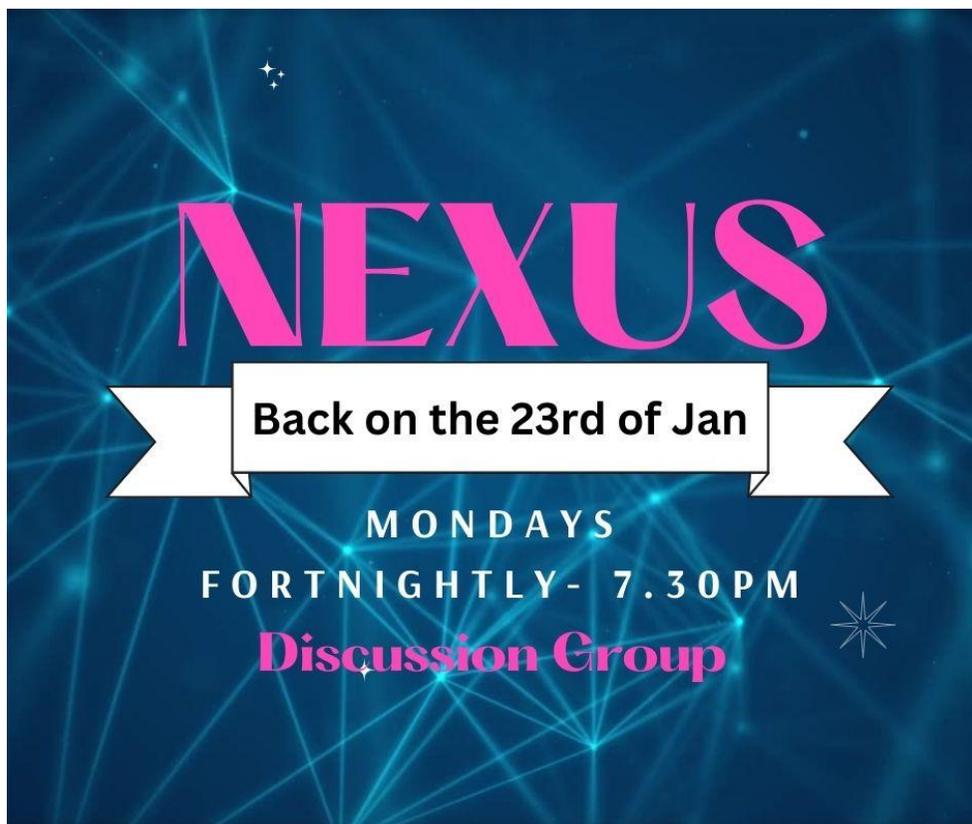
We hope everyone at All Saints had a wonderful Christmas. The girls had Christmas carol nights and end of year celebrations at school with Annabelle celebrating her graduation from early years and heads into grade 1 in March. Sarah even got in on the act as part of the parent / teacher choir and dance presentation! In the months before Christmas Paul had become something of an events planner having helped lead the recent Indigenous Peoples Mission Congress alongside Christian Indigenous leaders from across the region. He is now working with those leaders on implementing some of the key areas the Congress highlighted to see mission with Indigenous Peoples flourish. Then the whole family travelled to Argentina just after Christmas for the first ever CMS Latin America people in mission conference called "Refresh" which has just finished as we write. God has been at work in both these events and we pray for the follow up as we hope all the participants will return to their places of service greatly encouraged and refreshed to serve God.

**Please pray for:**

The follow up to both Refresh and the Indigenous Peoples Mission Congress and for all those who took part, that God would continue to guide and strengthen each one of us in God's service and to work in God's will.

The girls as they now have their long summer holidays until the beginning of March. May they find fruitful ways to spend those days and for some times of holiday as a family too.

Pray for Peru with an unstable political situation at present and widespread protests ongoing across much of the country. Pray for a peaceful and wise solution to the situation.



**Advanced notice:** Proposed date for Kidzone holiday club 2023 is 7-11th August with celebration service on Sunday 13th. Add it to the diary early then you don't miss out on the fun! 😊