

Dear friends

Our Thankfulness theme has been so special. On Sunday mornings we have explored ways in which the people of God are invited to express gratitude to God, and we have had our wonderful Weekend of Thankfulness where so many people joined together to encourage, inspire and bless others in response to what they have received. It was so good to see some of the groups that we host here during the week joining in. Thank you to everyone who took part.

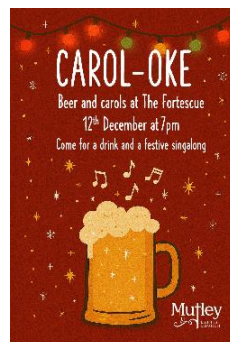
The thankfulness theme isn't finished yet, it will continue up to the start of Advent. Have a look at the following page for information about our special *Sing for Joy!* Service on 16th November. If you would like to join in please let me know.

Since we'll be in Advent by the end of November there's also news in here of our Christmas services and events, including Blue Christmas and a new idea to us: Carol-oke! We're going to The Fortescue pub across the road and singing carols with the regulars on 12th December, which should be a great event.

During the Advent Season we will be looking at names of Jesus: Immanuel, Prince of Peace, The Christ. I pray that we will find our faith firmed up in the familiar and we will discover new depths in the descriptions of the Son of God come to earth.

Be blessed, be a blessing

Nick



“Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord!”

Following our Weekend of Thankfulness and towards the end of our season exploring the theme of thankfulness, we're holding a special morning service where we're inviting you to share a hymn or song that is special to you: **Sing for Joy!**



Sunday 16th November

Rather like BBC's *Songs of Praise* TV programme used to be, we're offering an opportunity to choose a song or hymn for us to sing together, but alongside that we would like to know why that song is important to you.

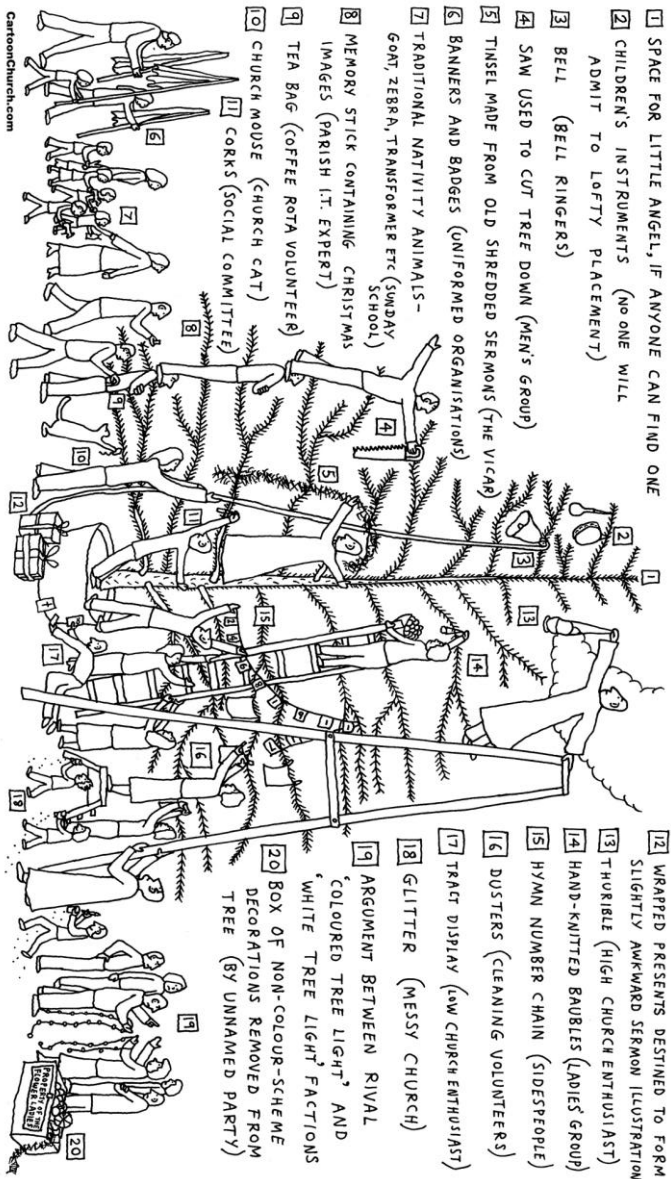
If you would like to choose a song or hymn, please let Nick know by 9th November. We can't guarantee we can sing your song, but we will try. It needs to be one that we sing together here rather than a commercial song, and it will help Nick if you can write out why it's important to you as well. If you want to read that out as an introduction in the service we can do that, or if you prefer Nick (or someone else) to do it for you that's fine too.

This is for all ages: the children and young people will be asked to choose the songs we sing before they go out to their groups.



THE PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE

THE THINGS THAT ARE HANGING ON IT (AND THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE DONE THE HANGING)



Maintenance Day

Our next event is on **29th November** from **9.45 am** when we will be decorating the church ready for our Christmas events, including decorating the Christmas Tree. Come and join in the fun!

Mutley Plain Late Night for Christmas

On **20th November** Mutley Plain will be full of Christmas cheer. School choirs will open the evening, singing on our church steps from 5pm. Many of the shops and businesses will be open late and have special Christmas activities and events including a Father Christmas Grotto in Rev 7 and Magic at Moo Music (at the top of the Plain just beyond Tesco).

It promises to be a lovely evening, and if you are able to help out with a couple of small jobs at the church after the school choirs have finished please speak with Nick.



Mutley Repair Café

Have you got items that are broken, torn have stopped working or simply need some TLC?

A gifted team of repairers meet on the first Thursday morning of each month in the Knibb Room (downstairs) between 10 and 12. They can repair clothing and fabric, electrical* and small mechanical items, jewellery, stick things back together, and more beside.

So far the team have repaired lamps, clocks, radios, shawls, jumpers, buttons sewn back on, stitching renewed, clocks necklaces, earrings and more. They can't guarantee to be able to repair what you bring but they will have a go.

They can only repair items onsite, so if you can carry it, bring your items for repair and see if it can be restored. It's much better to repair and reuse than throw away. The repairs are free, and you can have a cuppa while you wait.

*electrical items are PAT tested onsite.



Remembrance Communion

Our Remembrance Sunday service will be at 10am on 9th November. This year, instead of holding Communion on the first Sunday of the month, we are sharing bread and wine together in our Remembrance Sunday service. All are welcome to eat the bread and drink the wine: "Do this in remembrance of me."



Christmas Events at Mutley Baptist Church

These are the times and dates for our 'usual' services in December:

14th 10am Youth and Children take over the morning service

6pm Alternative Carols: a lively and interactive celebration

21st 6pm Carols by Candlelight: traditional carols and readings

25th 10am Christmas Day Celebration: celebrate Jesus' birth together

In addition we have some extra services and events:

7th 4pm Blue Christmas – a gentle and reflective service away from the stress, busyness and revelling. There will be space for you to remember people whom you long could share Christmas with you.

12th from 7pm 'Carol-oke' – enjoying a drink and singing carols with the regulars at The Fortescue. Come and join the crowd as we sing the familiar Christmas words in the pub on the opposite side of Mutley Plain. We'll provide the music and invite people to choose their favourite carols for us all to sing.

We'll also be carol singing in Freedom Square, date to be confirmed

'Restore' campaign

In many countries throughout the global South, the climate crisis is colliding with a debt crisis – trapping people into lives of poverty. Christian Aid's Restore campaign is based on the belief that the UK Government can help repair the harm. They are urging us to write to our MPs because the UK Government can make reckless polluters pay for the climate crisis. It can introduce new debt justice laws that force private lenders to cancel or negotiate debt and end poverty for millions.



Christian Aid are combining thousands of prayers and messages into a huge 'transformation pot' which will be centrepiece of this. If you would like to join in, have a word with Nick.

Find out more at

www.caid.org.uk/restore

Let's Face It!

From 29 November to 4th December there will be an immersive exhibition at Sherwell United Church (on North Hill) called *Let's Face It!* It describes itself as 'a powerful exhibition and immersive experience designed to explore the diverse journeys and faces of homelessness and housing insecurity. With stories, photos, music and poetry, plus spaces to engage and reflect, the installations will endeavour to challenge prejudice and dismantle stereotypes.'

On Saturday 29th at 7.30pm, there will be a launch concert featuring Rhys Wynn Jones AKA The Night Pianist. More information about the event (being organised by Helen Pearce) is at <https://swpmethodist.org.uk/lets-face-it/>

Mutley Baptist Church online

As well as joining with our services on YouTube, you can find out a lot more about us including our beliefs, vision and values as a church and our activities on our website www.mutleybaptist.co.uk

You can watch recent services on our YouTube channel, and you can listen to our back catalogue of sermons from Sunday mornings in the 'Sunday Services' page if you scroll down the *What's On* page.

You can see what's coming up and find links to book for our youth, children and families activities on the *What's On* page.



Church Members Meeting

The next Church Members meeting takes place after the morning service on 2nd November. It will be in the Spurgeon Hall and online (members will receive an email with the Zoom link before the meeting).

This is an opportunity for us to listen to God together (in and through one another), to discern together and, having listened and discerned, to agree to follow what we believe is God's will.

There will be some important items to consider including:

- Appointing members of the Leadership Team
- Hearing about the ministries of the church and what God is doing in and through them (especially in the light of Fiona's calling to a new phase of ministry at Greenspace)
- Agreeing our budget for 2026

There will be activities for children to engage in to enable parents to attend. We hope that members will be able to attend in person or online.

General information

The church office is usually open from 10am to 5pm Tuesday - Thursday Mutley Plain, Mutley, Plymouth, Devon, PL4 6LB

Office contact: office@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk (01752) 203346

Rev Nick Lear (Minister) - nicklear@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk 07869 809064

Beth Hemes (Youth Children & Families Pastor) beth@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk

Fiona Spicer (Community Pastor) - fiona@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk

Sunday Services

10am in the Sanctuary (with groups for children and young people) and 6pm in the Spurgeon Hall (a more informal service)

Home Groups (term time evenings)

Hartley and Zoom

Tuesdays

Joy & Adrian Sutton

Woolwell

Tuesdays

Paddy & Karen Allen

Mutley

Wednesdays

Fiona & John Spicer

Mount Gould

Thursdays

Tim & Helena Provost

Contact the church office for more details, or pick up a card in the entrance area.

Youth children and families groups (term time)

contact Jane Frost or Kelly Thomas - ycfadmin@mutleybaptistchurch.co.uk or book online on our website

Buzzy Bees Messy Mondays - Monday mornings

Buzzy Bees Stay and Play—Wednesday mornings

Baby Bees— Friday afternoons

Lighthouse Café and Supernova Thursday evenings

MY1 and MY2—Thursday evenings

Mutley Youth, Kids' church and Creche—Sunday mornings

Cosy Corner Tuesdays 12-2pm in the Lounge (closed in School Holidays)

Bigger Table Thursdays 12-1pm in the Hall: free meal and bags of food (£2)

Please send any items for inclusion in the next edition of Mutley Mutters to Nick by 24th of the preceding month. There's always up to date information on our Facebook & Instagram pages and the 'What's on?' section of our website: