



**The Good  
Shepherd**  
Four Marks

[www.goodshepherdfourmarks.org.uk](http://www.goodshepherdfourmarks.org.uk)

Our church diary is available to view on  
the website

5th January 2020

**Our next Alpha Course starts  
13.01.20**

**On Mondays at 7pm.**

**Contact: Nigel Pink**

[nigelpink.cogs@gmail.com](mailto:nigelpink.cogs@gmail.com)

**or the church office.**

**There's still time to invite  
somebody to come along.**



**A Prayer Meeting to kick off the New Year**

**Tuesday 7th January, 7.30pm**

Do put it in your diaries, and join us if you can.

The evening will include times of individual prayer and  
also praying together in small groups (but this is not  
compulsory) along with sung worship



**Malawi Evening - Monday 20th January**

**Do come along to hear stories of Ali's work at  
Starfish Malawi. More details to follow**

**David Bush is running the Mindfulness  
Based Stress Reduction course beginning  
Thursday 16th January at 7.30pm.  
Fliers available in the porch**



## The Week Ahead

### Sunday 5th January

#### Gifted | What Can I Give Him?

#### Isaiah 60:1-6 & Matthew 2:1-12

8am - Said Communion

9.30am - All Age Communion Service

11.30am - Cell Church in the chapel

7pm - Celebration with communion

### Monday 6th January

8am - Prayer in the chapel

10am - Bumps & Babies in the church hall

### Tuesday 7th January

7am - Early Morning Prayer in the chapel

7.30pm - Prayer Meeting in the church

### Wednesday 8th January

10.30am - Westlands Communion

11am - Coffee & Communion in church hall

6pm - COGS Youth in the church hall

### Thursday 9th January

9.45am - Ladies Small Group in the church hall and upper room

### Saturday 11th January

4pm - Messy Church



### Sunday 12th January

#### Gifted | What Do We Have?

#### Exodus 3-18-4:5 & John 6:5-13

**Note: Gospel reading is John, not as stated on the teaching series card)**

8am - Said Communion

9.30am - All Age Communion Service

11.30am - Cell Church in the chapel

**7pm - Celebration Service (with a bring and share tea party from 6.30pm)**

## Caring in Prayer

### New/Updated

Christmas – Pray for our remaining Christmas events, that people would join us at them and hear the Lord speaking to them.

### Continuing

Election – Pray for our new government and for those who will serve in parliament. Pray for unity, justice and God's guiding.

Tea & Praise – Takes place this Sunday. Pray for those who come along, especially those who may not be able to get to other services, that the message of Christmas will speak to them..

Carmen – Has finished her course of chemotherapy and has now begun radiotherapy. Pray the cancer will be killed and pray for Carmen and her family..

Alpha – Pray for Alpha in the New Year, that people who join us at Christmas events would be open to knowing more. Pray that we as a congregation would be open to inviting those who are ready.

Youth – Pray that Lorna and the team will continue to dream big for the young people around us following the encouragement of the Youth Ministry Weekend..

Remembrance – Pray for those who are grieving loved ones lost in war and for those who are concerned for those currently serving. Pray for places where there is conflict and pray for a more peaceful world.

Doreen – The results of Doreen's biopsy showed all traces of the tumour had been removed. Thank the Lord for his healing. She has been told to telephone the hospital if any more appear.

William – William is back to usual. He is on new medication. Pray that it will be successful in controlling his fits.

We do not take offerings at our services. Our preferred method of financial giving to continue the excellent work of Church is via Standing Order. Please contact the Church Office or our Treasurer, David Craigen (01420 564152 or [davidacraigen@gmail.com](mailto:davidacraigen@gmail.com)) for more details or pick up a Standing Order Mandate at the back of the church. If you wish to make cash or cheque donations, please place in the receptacle. If you wish to donate online, these are our account details:

*Giving*

Acc No: 60003685. Sort Code: 60-01-13. Many thanks for your generosity.

---

### **Small Group Notes – 5 January 2020 – Gifted – What Can I Give Him?**

We begin a new series, Gifted. It's an opportunity to be encouraged in identifying, seeking and developing God's gifts to us.

We all have the same goal, to glorify God as we participate in the Kingdom of God, bringing Good News to the whole of creation, but we all have different roles to play. From front of house to the backroom, from administrators to service staff, receptionists, artists and embroiders! No-one is excluded, we can all be participants, we are all chosen. We are ministers as we take on the family likeness and join in the family business.

- What comes to our minds when we think about gifts, talents, abilities, and resources that God has gifted us with?

### **Read Matthew 2:1-12**

In this story the Magi play their part (see the lyrics of 'In the Bleak Mid-Winter') along with the other participants.

They were focussed in fulfilling their role of finding the King and worshipping him and were willing to make personal sacrifices in the achievement of their task. There were things they had left, things they had stopped doing, new things they had had to take up, in order to take their proper place in this Kingdom story. Upon seeing the star, they were overjoyed (what a great word) and they gave their extravagant gifts and worshipped.

### **As we enter this New Year:**

- What or where might we be being called towards?  
Think about the things that inspire you or stir your heart. Think about the things that energise you. Pray, asking God to give you his heart for what he has for you.
- What might we be called to let go of?  
Think about the things that hold you back. These might be emotions, including fear, or they might be things or habits to which we are attached.
- What can we already celebrate?  
Many things are already given in service to Jesus and his Kingdom. Reflect on and celebrate these (be overjoyed), acknowledging God's grace in them?
- What might we give this year?  
These might include time, money, energy, or they might be specific skills. How might we use these things to serve God's Kingdom?

## PRAYER and PASTORAL REQUESTS

If you have any prayer requests for the prayer chain, please email or ring the Church Office on 01420 560622, Alan Thain (01420 85185), or Howard Wright on 01420 563344.

If it would be helpful for a member of the pastoral visiting team to call on you, please contact Howard, Debbie Norgate (01420 84534) or Gilly Cobb (01420 544404).



## Ministers: All of Us Together

**Vicar: Howard Wright**  
Tel: 01420 563344  
Email: howardwright.cogs@gmail.com

**Youth & Children's Worker: Lorna Littlewood**  
Tel: 07914 519998  
Email: lorna.cogs@gmail.com

**Family Worker: Jane Hughes**  
Tel: 07711 407831  
Email: Jane\_COGS@btinternet.com

**Church Office: Matt Senior**  
Tel: 01420 560622  
Email: cogsoffice@googlemail.com

***Send Sunday Sheet items to the church office before end of day on Thursday***



Everyone is welcome to join us for a chat and tea/coffee **between** morning services or **before** the 7pm service

For communion, gluten-free wafers are available and there is a chalice with non-alcoholic wine. Please ask when you come forward if you would like to take these.

## **MISSION OF THE MONTH - January**

### **Bethany Children's Trust**

BCT is a Christian charity for children at risk, in Africa and beyond.



**[www.bethanychildrenstrust.org.uk](http://www.bethanychildrenstrust.org.uk)**