

**...a warm welcome to ebenezer...**

## **Hello**

**Welcome** to you if you are new to our church or visiting. **Please make yourself at home.** If you require help or information, please ask a member of our **Welcome Team**. If you need **prayer** after the service, please feel free to go to the **Prayer Den**. If you have with you **babies, children, young people or those of any age with special needs**, we have groups that cater for their needs – please listen for announcements.

**In the event of a fire or emergency incident, please evacuate the building immediately, under the guidance of the Leadership Team.**

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### **1<sup>st</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**

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#### **10.30am Morning Worship**

#### **The gift that was always promised - Colossians 1:15-22**

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaen, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:15-20 (NIVUK)

#### **6.30pm Entreat including Communion**

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## The Advent Wreath and Candles

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Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (Latin: *adventus*) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time.

The Advent Wreath has four red or blue candles in a ring around a white or gold candle. Alternatively, there may be three purple candles, reflecting the liturgical colour for Advent, with a pink candle for the Third Sunday, when rose-pink vestments are traditionally worn. The first candle is lit on Advent Sunday; additional ones are lit, one on each Sunday, and the white or gold one on Christmas Day.

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### 8th December 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent

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**10.30am Morning Worship**

**The gift is given - Luke 2:1-7**



*The Adoration of the Shepherds* [Gerard van Honthorst](#)

**6.30pm Christmas Reflection**

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**15<sup>th</sup> December 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

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**10.30am Morning Worship and Communion**

**Will you receive the gift? - John 3:1-21**

No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in. *Phillips Brooks*

### **6.30pm Carols by Candlelight**

All are warmly invited to this annual celebration of the wonder and meaning of Christmas. Please join us in this very special service and bring with you your family, friends, work colleagues and neighbours. Special invitations for you to share with them will be available. The church will be specially decorated and the carols will be enhanced by the Ebenezer Church Christmas Choir, specially formed for



the occasion. Afterwards we will be serving mince pies, tea and coffee, with the opportunity to introduce your guests to your church friends.

Please don't miss this highlight of the Christmas season.

*Anita Hill says:*

As always, we will be grateful for your donations of mince pies!



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## Church Christmas Tree

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e•news editor says:

I am sure you will all join me in thanking Karen Douglas and Sharon White for the time and effort and, above all, artistry in decorating our truly beautiful Christmas Tree. Breathtaking!!

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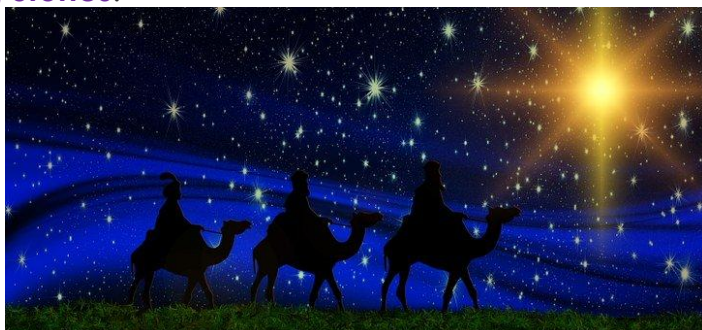
## One Church Christmas Card

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Gillian Blake says:

The **One Church Christmas Card** is now on the table next to the Welcome Table and will be there until 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Please write your Christmas greeting to one another and sign it.

Then place your donation in the **Christmas Money Jar**, and please be generous, as the money you give will go to support **Stepping Stones**.



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## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: INFORMAL CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER

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**RAY BEADLE SAYS:**

ALL MEN ARE INVITED TO MEET FOR BREAKFAST AT ALEXANDER BOWLS CENTRE ON 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER AT 10.00AM FOLLOWED BY A WALK TO WILSON'S PUB FOR 12 NOON FOR A CONVIVIAL PINT. NO NEED TO LET ME KNOW, JUST TURN UP TO ONE OR BOTH PLACES.

(Editor's note: **Convivial**: definition = people or occasions are **pleasant, friendly, and relaxed!!** Collins online dictionary)

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## Sunday Morning Communion

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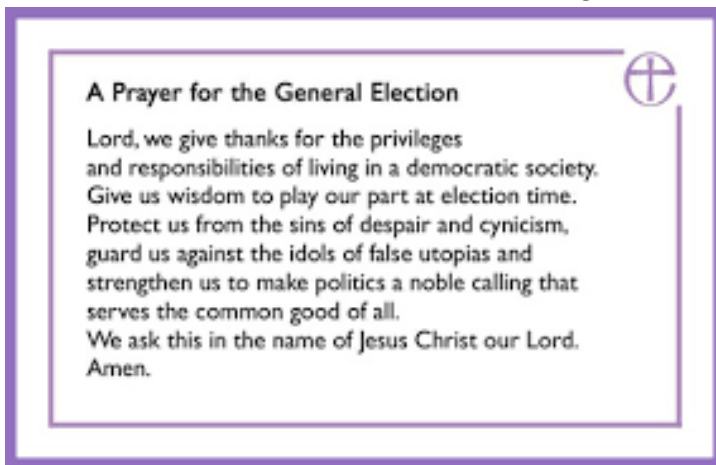
The date for the next Morning Communion in 2019 is:  
**15<sup>th</sup> December**

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## Prayer for the General Election Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019

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There are various websites that offer guides to praying for the Election. This prayer is from the Church of England.



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## Churches Together in Scarborough: Election Hustings

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*Pastor Geoff Bowell says:*

**HUSTINGS Tuesday 3rd December** at Scarborough Christian Fellowship, Castle Road/Oxford Street, YO11 1XE. There is car parking opposite on North Street Car Park and behind, down Oxford St at William Street Car Park. We will serve hot drinks and cake from 6.30pm, with the Hustings beginning proper at 7pm. We will end at 8.15pm, definitely 8.30pm. If you would like to submit a question to the candidates at the Hustings please email your questions to Rev Geoff Bowell at [bowellfamily@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bowellfamily@yahoo.co.uk).

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## e•news Deadlines Joint Editions

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*Viv Games, e•news editor says:*

There will be a joint edition of **e•news** on Sundays 22nd and 29<sup>th</sup> December. Please ensure that items for dates between 22nd December 2019 and 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020 are sent to [enews@rockofhelp.org.uk](mailto:enews@rockofhelp.org.uk) by **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. Thank you.



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**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 9am**

**Prayer for Scarborough Oliver's Mount**

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Everyone is invited to join together to pray for Scarborough and the surrounding area. If the weather is very inclement, the meeting will be held at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

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**Rainbow Centre Christmas Appeal 2019**

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A festive poster for the Rainbow Centre Christmas Appeal. The background is a vibrant rainbow with white stars and snowflakes. On the left, three Christmas baubles (two red, one gold) hang from the top. On the right, there is a small illustration of a baby in a manger with a yellow star above it. The text is in black, with the title in a larger, bold font.

**Rainbow Centre Christmas Appeal!**

The Rainbow Centre is looking for Volunteers to help with wrapping of Christmas presents over the festive period.

We are also asking for donations for food parcels given out over the holidays. We try to make these as Christmassy as possible for those in need.

If you would like to donate presents and toys, we are sorry, but can we ask that these are new and not second hand and appropriate for ages 0-14.

As always the Rainbow Centre wishes to thank everyone who supports us each and every year to help those in need over the festive period.

Any queries please contact Trish 01723 500663

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**Supporting Refugees in Scarborough**

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If you want to find out more about supporting refugees in Scarborough there will be a meeting on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December**, at 7.00pm at Quaker Meeting House, Woodlands Drive (near Scarborough Hospital)

A speaker from the Refugee Council will give a short talk about the Refugee Resettlement Programme and volunteers will be there to explain their roles.

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. 'Get up,' he said, 'take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.'

<sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. Matt 2:13,14(NIVUK)

**Scarborough Citadel Salvation Army &  
The Rotary Club of Scarborough**

**INVITE YOU to their**

# **CAROL & TOY SERVICE**



**Coffee/Tea &  
Mince Pies  
afterwards**

**SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

**at 6.00pm**

**The Salvation Army Citadel, Alma Parade, Scarborough.  
Music provided by the Scarborough Citadel Salvation Army Band  
&  
The Salvation Army Songster Brigade**

**ALL  
WELCOME**

## **PLEASE BRING an UNWRAPPED CHRISTMAS TOY for a boy or girl**

**The presents will be distributed to LOCAL underprivileged children  
THIS CHRISTMAS**

**A freewill offering will be taken in aid of the Salvation Army's Open House  
on Christmas Day.**



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## Spring Harvest Returns to Harrogate

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There's an opportunity to join in a time of praise, worship and learning with Christians all over the North of England when Spring Harvest returns to Harrogate next year. Among the key speakers at the event, which runs from April 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, will be the Revd Lisa Holmes,



lead minister at Skipton Baptist Church, and the Archbishop of York, the Most Revd John Sentamu. For more information go to <https://springharvest.org/harrogate/> Source: Yorkshire Baptist Association

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## An Advent Prayer to Remember God's Promises

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Lord,

**Advent is here, but so is family tension.**

**Advent is here, but so are dysfunctional relationships.**

**Advent is here, but so are old habits.**

**Advent is here, but gone are people we love.**

**Advent is here, but old baggage still exists.**

**Advent is here, but fears surface.**

**You say, "I see all that, and I can handle all that."**

**You say, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."**

**You say, "Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid."**

**You say, "Tell everyone who is discouraged, Be strong and don't be afraid! God is coming to your rescue..."**

**What looks unscalable, You boost me over.**

**What seems unbearable, You bring me through unbelievably.**

**What can't be managed, You say, "Let down your guard and I will guard you."**

**Amen.**

~Edited from Kelly Balarie's "7 Verses When Relationships Hurt at Christmas"