

Sunday 2 January

...a warm welcome to ebenezer...

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shēn.

He named it Ebenezer, saying,

'Thus far the Lord has helped us.'

1 Samuel 7:12 (NIVUK)

Ebenezer means 'stone of help'

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**Today:**

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**10.30am Tea and coffee served**

**11.00am Live in church and Live Streaming on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/EbsBaptist/>

Today we welcome Dr Rev'd Jim Purves, our Interim Moderator, and Mrs Jennifer Purves.

**Confidence in God**

**Psalm 91**

**FAMILYLights**  
belong believe become

**The Wise Men wanted to find Jesus!**  
They were not put off by:

- ★ distance
- ★ time
- ★ discipline
- ★ planning
- ★ effort
- ★ disruption
- ★ sacrifice
- ★ enemies
- ★ image
- ★ questions
- ★ mystery

**This year let's join them in their search!**

**Come along on Sunday 2nd January to Ebenezer**

**10:30am Refreshments & star making**  
**11am Songs, prayers and notices**  
**11:30am (ish) into the hall for games, activities and reflections!**

**Bring a Christmas gift to show and tell 🎁!**

*all your... with me seek... when you... Me find and... You will seek Me...*

*Jeremiah 13:1-9*

There will be no evening communion today, 2 January 2022

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR!! WELCOME TO 2022!!**

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**We may not know what the future holds,  
but we know Who holds the future!!**

*Crown Him the Lord of years,  
The Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres,  
Ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For Thou has died for me;  
Thy praise shall never, never fail  
Throughout eternity.  
M. Bridges 1851 G Thring 1871*

The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He will not grow tired or weary,  
and his understanding no one can fathom.  
He gives strength to the weary  
and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;  
but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:28-31 (NIVUK)

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## Thankfulness

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Sheena says:

**Always give thanks for everything to God the Father in the  
name of our Lord Jesus Christ**

Ephesians 5:20 NLT

2021 was a difficult year for our Church Family at Ebenezer. Along with the rest of God's world we continued to be impacted both individually and corporately by the presence of Covid.

As Christians whose hearts' desire is to worship our God we, like our brothers and sisters around the world, could not gather together to sing out our praise and adoration and our pastoral care was hampered by restrictions in many ways.

Our hearts have been saddened by the loss to our fellowship of those who gathered with us gladly way back in January 2020 and especially as we said goodbye to James, Joy and their family and later in the year to Neil and Karen.

We do need to acknowledge the hard parts of last year, but as Ephesians 5:20 declares, we also need to give thanks to God our Father who has remained faithful to us every step of the way.

His faithfulness, wisdom, creativity and great love for us has carried us through as each one of us has offered back to Him the gifts, the skills and the commitment to stand strong together and so we give Him our praise and thanks for everyone who has made a difference to our Ebenezer family through the past year.

The roles are numerous so this is a time for each of us to reflect on the way different people have served us in so many ways and as we bring them to mind give thanks to God for everything.

We look to the new things God will do among us in 2022 with eager anticipation and we know He will, for we have seen His creativity, His vision and His plan to share the good news of the Saviour whose birth we have just celebrated, in all that He is doing through our FAMILYLights team.

So let's give thanks with grateful hearts and prepare ourselves to welcome Jim and Jennifer into our midst and together journey on into 2022 trusting our Lord to direct our paths.

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## Prayer for Scarborough: Oliver's Mount

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On Saturday 8 January at 9 – 10am on Oliver's Mount, join with others to pray for our town and surrounding areas.

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:1-4(NIVUK)

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## Sunday 9 January

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**10.30am Tea and coffee served as usual!!**

**11.00am Live in church and Live Streaming on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/EbsBaptist/>

### **A Service of Thanksgiving and Confirmation**

**The cost of following Jesus**

**Matthew 8:18-22**

### **Followed by Light Refreshments**

We will be joined by **Graham Ensor** from Yorkshire Baptist Association. He will take part in welcoming Jim and Jennifer in this special Service of Thanksgiving and Confirmation, as Jim takes up his place in our fellowship as Consultant Pastor, and as we make our commitments too.








*Following* the service light refreshments will be available: an opportunity to share our *individual* words of welcome.

**Regional Minister Team Leader Graham Ensor** who oversees the work of the Association and is responsible for collaborating with YBA colleagues to identify vision, direction and appropriate strategy that encourages the 'growth of healthy churches' throughout the Association. Graham's responsibilities also include pastoral support of ministers/churches in Bradford and the Craven area, overseeing safeguarding procedures and Home Mission, as well as representing the Association at national level.

enews items to: [enews@rockofhelp.org.uk](mailto:enews@rockofhelp.org.uk)

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Please pray this week for the team:

-  Regional Minister Team Leader Graham Ensor
-  Regional Minister Mary Taylor
-  Regional Minister Clive Burnard
-  Regional Minister Alex Harris
-  Trust Officer Ann Chesworth
-  Mission Enabler Kez Robinson
-  Discipleship Enabler Peter Dun
-  Children, Youth and Families Enabler Jodie Thorpe
-  Association Administrator Debbie Gamble
-  Finance Officer Adrian Howe
-  Admin Assistant Julie "Joolz" Crabtree

For photos and for responsibilities:

<https://www.yba.org.uk/about-us/who-are-we/staff-team>

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### Missions Updates

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<https://www.rockofhelp.org.uk/> under the Resources tab,

### Missions Updates

-  FISS Bang News December 2021
  -  Worldshare Prayer Calendar January 2022
  -  YBA New Year Message 29 December 2021
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### Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child 2021

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*enews editor says:*

Thank you to all those who contributed towards the Shoebox Appeal.

Perhaps we don't all appreciate the enormous task of ensuring that all the boxes are appropriately packed and labelled, ready for the start of their journey abroad.

We are grateful for the hours of effort and hard work that Michelle and Paul give to this work, at what is already a busy time of year.

Well done, and thank you, on behalf of the church and the children and their families who have received these gifts.

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## FISS Schools Ministry Training Opportunity

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Date: Thursday 13 January 2022  
Venue: Scarborough Christian Fellowship  
Time: 9.45am – 4pm  
Trainer: Scripture Union  
Booking: [fiss.scarborough@gmail.com](mailto:fiss.scarborough@gmail.com)



Read the information on our website,  
<https://www.rockofhelp.org.uk/> under the Resources tab,  
Missions Updates; click on

### **Schools Ministry Training FISS Scripture Union**

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## Ways forward for the days ahead

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*The Leadership Team say:*

There are more *spaced-out seating areas* in parts of the church.

We know that through work, health and other requirements many people undertake *regular lateral flow tests*. This is another option to consider ahead of coming to Church.

As part of Plan B announced by the Prime Minister on Wednesday 8 December 2021, face coverings are now *compulsory* (unless exempt) in Places of Worship. They may be removed when singing.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-confirms-move-to-plan-b-in-england>

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## Prayer for Scarborough 2022

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Scarborough, we bless you in Jesus' name.

We bless each household, each marriage and each family, especially as we continue to learn new ways of inter-acting both within and without the home; we pray continued protection for the vulnerable.

We bless the relationships between different generations, and thank you for the new links forged through this covid crisis. May we maintain and deepen these new relationships.

We pray for the generations of families, especially where there is mourning for loved ones who have passed away; may you comfort the grieving in their loss.

We bless your health and pray for continued protection from the Covid 19 virus, in all its variants. Thank you for the effectiveness of the vaccines and the speed that they were, and continue to be, developed.

We bless your wealth, when it has been so threatened and damaged.

We bless the work of your hands and all employees, especially those who have to work in activities which have a greater risk of exposure to infection; those who continue to be isolated while working from home; those who have been made redundant; those who fear going to work.

We pray for all those who are now financially challenged, that they might obtain the provision they need for themselves and their dependants.

We bless every wholesome enterprise in which you are involved. We pray it prospers, that there will be swift recovery.

We bless the fishing and other industries along our coast, and pray that these industries will endure.

We bless all involved in tourism, as people have resumed their visits to our area. We pray you will be kept safe, and find creative ways to rapid recovery.

We bless and thank You for the statutory services who have worked so hard and unselfishly for our communities: health, police, fire, council and social services. We ask God to continue to protect you and enable you to deliver excellence to the area at this time when resources are so stretched. We bless our MP and local government, that they will make wise choices to tackle ongoing and developing problems.

We bless and thank You for the voluntary agencies and support networks of faith and friendship, especially their creative adaptations to needs; that there may be a rich harvest for the Kingdom of God; that the Lord will turn that which has done harm, into a greater good. Protect those who will be supporting the many more who are vulnerable and needy.

We bless our pupils and students in schools, colleges and universities, asking God to accelerate their learning, that none suffer in the future because of gaps in tuition.

We thank and bless teachers and all those in education settings who have worked to support our children and young people; we ask God to provide abundantly as they adapt to the changes in ways of educating.

Who bless all those in Scarborough who find life challenging for any reason, praying you come to know God as your Champion and as your Comfort and Strength.

We bless the lonely, that you will find love and courage in God's presence and make new friendships as you venture out.

We bless all Christian places of worship in our town, praying that the Word and Spirit of God may flow from you, under evolving circumstances. We bless the ministries you undertake, praying for their fruitfulness, and for your on-line presence, remembering that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him.

We bless each person residing in Scarborough, praying your hearts may be soft and responsive to the voice of God.

*(enews editor's Local adaptation of the Ffold-y-Brenin blessing in The Grace Outpouring)*