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**BARROW UPON SOAR METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Website: [www. barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoarmethodistchurch.co.uk)  
**Minister: Rev Sandra Marshall**  
**Telephone: 0116 2304689**  
 Circuit Office - Telephone: 01509 807441  
 Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday  
 10.00 am until 2.00 pm  
 Email: [loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com)

## NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2021

### We celebrate with our fourth Advent candle of Love

We show love - because Jesus gave everything for us to know the forgiveness of God.

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### Weekly Diary

Monday 20 December		
Tuesday 21 December		
Wednesday 22 December		
Thursday 23 December		
Friday 24 December	6.00 pm	Crib Service led by Rev Sandra Marshall
Saturday 25 December	10.15 am	Christmas Celebration led by Rev Sandra Marshall

### “Plan B” and the Update of the Government guidelines for Coronavirus (Covid – 19)

From the 10<sup>th</sup> December it is mandatory for Face coverings to be worn in Churches, unless you are exempt. We will continue with our practice of also wearing masks when singing - Thank you for your care and co-operation.

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**No morning service on Sunday this week but we meet at 6.00 pm for our Carol Service led by Rev Sandra Marshall.**

**Notices will be going out next week on THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER if you have any Christmas greetings or anything else that you would like included please let me know – Thanks – [janeimthompson13@gmail.com](mailto:janeimthompson13@gmail.com)**

**DONATIONS** at the Thanksgiving Service for the life of our dear friend Nora Thompson amounted to £295. At the request of Nora and her family this money has been forwarded to the Salvation Army to help in their work.

**OUR LOVE AND CONGRATULATIONS** this week to Jonathan Doda who is marrying his fiancée, Chloe next week in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland – love to Heather, Steve, Bethany and Ben – we hope you have a lovely time and a blessed Christmas together.

### OFFERING REQUEST

Would anyone be prepared to assist in counting the offering after Sunday morning service please? This is not a big job as so many people are now paying by standing order, but it does have to be carried out by two people. If you think you could help or want to know more, please see Heather today.

### POSTAGE STAMPS FOR RNIB

Please cut your postage stamps from your envelopes and place them in the box on the bookcase in the Welcome Coffee Bar. These will be sent to RNIB to support their funds - Thanks Kate

### NATIVITY CHRISTMAS CARDS RECYCLING

Please recycle the **FRONT PICTURE ONLY** of your Nativity Christmas cards, by placing them in the box in the Welcome Coffee Bar. All in preparation for a Nativity Festival next year! Thanks Kate

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

<b>Sunday 19 December</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Carol Service with Rev Sandra Marshall – no morning service</b>
Christmas Eve Friday 24 December	6.00 pm	Crib Service with Rev Sandra Marshall
Christmas Day Saturday 25 December	10.15 am	United Christmas Day Service here with Mountsorrel and Sileby led by Rev Sandra Marshall
Sunday 26 December		No Service
Sunday 2 January	10.15 am	Sue and Adrian Speight
Sunday 9 January	10.15 am	Tilly Yates
Sunday 16 January	10.15 am	John Bateman
Sunday 23 January	10.15 am	Local Arrangement
Sunday 30 January	10.15 am	Circuit service at Christchurch, Shepshed

## CHRISTMAS AT THE METHODIST CHURCH



**SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER at 6.00 pm**  
**CAROL SERVICE led by Rev Sandra Marshall**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00 pm**  
**CRIB SERVICE led by Rev Sandra Marshall**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December at 10.15 am**  
**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION - led by Rev Sandra Marshall**

**EVERYONE WELCOME - PLEASE COME AND JOIN US**

**12<sup>TH</sup> Church is streamed every Sunday morning at 10.45 am on Facebook**

Sunday 19 December	Rev Andrew Lomax – Carol Service
Sunday 26 December	No Service
Sunday 2 January	Liz and Rob Newton
Sunday 9 January	Sue and Adrian Speight
Sunday 16 January	Emma Lowe
Sunday 23 January	Eleri Bristow
Sunday 30 January	Liz and Rob Newton



We send our best wishes to all of our Church Family and Friends at Barrow upon Soar Methodist Church.....

We hope and pray that all will feel the Hope and Love and Peace of Jesus , throughout this Christmastime and in the New Year.

Sue and Adrian Speight

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**MANY YEARS AGO**, on a Christmas Day, a very rich man who had no wife, no children, no other family members, decided to invite all the employees of his mansion to dinner.

He called the staff and asked them to sit at the table. In front of everyone there was a bible and a small sum of money. After everyone had their dinner, the Rich Man asked: "What would you prefer to receive as a gift: this bible or this money? Do not be shy, you can choose what you want."

The Security Guard was the first to react: "Sir, I would love to receive the Bible, but since I have not learned to read, the money will be more useful to me."

The Gardener was the second to speak: "Sir, my wife is very sick and that's why I need more money, otherwise I would choose the Bible for sure!"\*#

The third was the Cook: "Sir, I like reading to tell the truth, it's one of the things I like to do, but I work so hard that I never find time to flip through a magazine, let alone the Bible. I will take the money. "

In the end, it was the turn of the boy who takes care of the animals of the mansion, and as the rich gentleman of the villa knew that the boy's family was very poor, he stepped forward and said: "Surely you too want the money, do you not? So that you can buy food to have a good dinner at home and buy new shoes?"

But the boy surprised everybody with his answer: "It would not hurt to buy a turkey and other tasty food to share with my parents and siblings. I also need a pair of new shoes because mine are very old. Even so, I will choose the Bible because I have always wanted one. My mother taught me that the Word of God is worth more than gold and that it is more tasty than a honeycomb."

After receiving the Bible, the boy immediately opened it. He found two envelopes inside. In the first, there was a cheque that was ten times higher than the money on the table. In the second, there was a Will that made him (whoever would choose the Bible), the heir to all the wealth of the Rich Man!

Faced with the Boy's emotion and the astonishment of the other servants, the Rich Gentleman opened one of the Bibles and read aloud so that everyone could hear:

Psalms 19:7-10:

The law of the LORD is perfect, it restores the soul.

The testimony of the Lord is true, he makes wise the ignorant.

The ordinances of the LORD are righteous, they rejoice the heart.

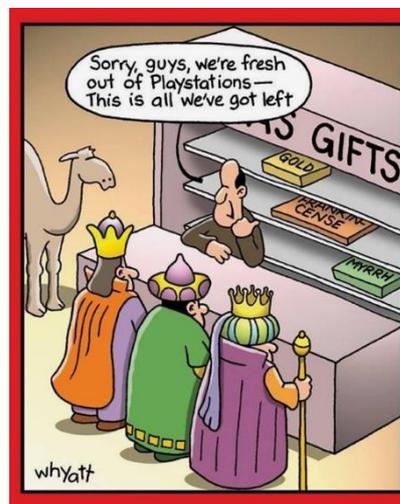
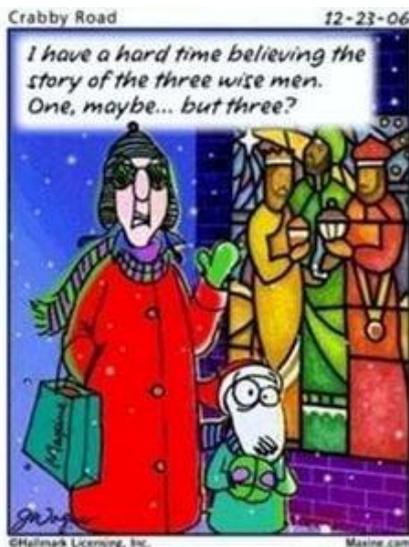
The commandments of the Lord are pure, they light up the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure, it subsists forever.

The judgments of the Lord are true, they are all just.

They are more precious than gold, than a lot of fine gold; They are sweeter than honey, than the one that pours rays.

May God give us wisdom and help us always make the Right Choice. - So what do you Choose?



### PRAYER FOR THE DAY

God of the wild places and margins, give us the grace to honour those who are different. God of the dispossessed and empty, give us humility to value in others the things we lack. God of the spiritually poor and cynical, give us the self-awareness to avoid arrogance. God of the aggressive and defensive, give us the courage and patience to love unconditionally God of ourselves, give us the tenderness to see ourselves as you see us.  
Amen.

Lin Hudson, Lidgett Methodist Church, York Circuit