

Dear Friends,

I wish you and yours a very happy Christmas. May there be much that will encourage you as we remind ourselves of the wonder of Jesus' birth.

Thank you for your frequent questions about C, our foster daughter. She had her 12th birthday last month and we marked the day with various friend and family celebrations. She has done really well adjusting to the demands of secondary school this term, although her love of schooling hasn't increased!

I am delighted that, with the easing of Covid restrictions and the improvement in my knee, I am now able to spend more time supporting Central Church, Swindon. Their superb premises are right in the middle of the town and, since their birth, they have always been conscious of their calling to be a resourcing church. Over the past few weeks we have been exploring ways in which that can be done and, next year, we will be welcoming an organisation called Big Breakfast Plus which provides breakfast for the homeless and others suffering from food poverty. The church members have been delighted to welcome this initiative and we are now talking with others who may be able to make use of the church's excellent coffee shop.

Thanks for your love and support through another year. It means so much to me to know of our prayerful interest.

Yours ever, in Christ,

Jonathan

DECEMBER DIARY

Wednesday 1st

Morning - Final Physio in Reading (the knee is doing brilliantly. Just a little swelling and stiffness)

Afternoon – Swindon pastoral

Thursday 2nd

Meeting with our Supervising Social Worker

Zoom meeting with John Buckeridge of Premier

Friday 3rd

Newbury Office

Saturday 4th

Day Off and Tom's 29th birthday

Sunday 5th

Preaching at Central Church, Swindon

Monday 6th

Through the Roof Team Meeting

Tuesday 7th

Swindon meetings

Wednesday 8th

Premier Christmas Celebrations in London! This will be the first time that I have seen Premier colleagues since before the pandemic. I am speaking at the Carol Service in St Michael Paternoster Royal, a church in the City of London.

Thursday 9th
Morning – Recording Be Still and Know devotionals for Premier
Evening – Spurgeon’s College Governors’ finance meeting

Friday 10th
Mentoring in East Berkshire

Saturday 11th
Day Off

Sunday 12th
Morning – Preaching at Central Church, Swindon
Evening – Preaching at St Nic’s, Newbury

Monday 13th
Eastleigh Baptist Church Ministry Team Meeting

Tuesday 14th
Zoom meeting with Moderators from the Southern Counties Association

Wednesday 15th
Speaking at the Premier Team Morning Meeting

Thursday 16th
Newbury Office

Friday 17th
Swindon Pastoral

Saturday 18th
Day Off

Sunday 19th
Morning – Worshipping at Newbury Baptist Church
Evening – Leading the Carol Service at Central Church, Swindon

Monday 20th
Newbury Office

Tuesday 21st
Swindon Pastoral

Wednesday 22nd
Oxford visits

Thursday 23rd to Friday 31st Christmas Holiday (during which I will be preaching at the Boxing Day Service at Eastleigh Baptist Church - recorded)