



E-NEWS



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Rise and Shine Radio Show

Revd Jack Dunion, broadcasts his own online radio show every Sunday at 9am on Lomond Radio (formerly River Radio):

<https://lomondradio.co.uk/shows/rise-and-shine>

The link below now gives access to backdated Rise & Shine programs:

<https://www.mixcloud.com/RevJack/>

Christmas Message from Revd Helen Brown

Please find a Christmas message from our interim Spiritual Leader, Revd Helen Brown, available to download at:

<https://www.generalconference.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/christmas.pdf>

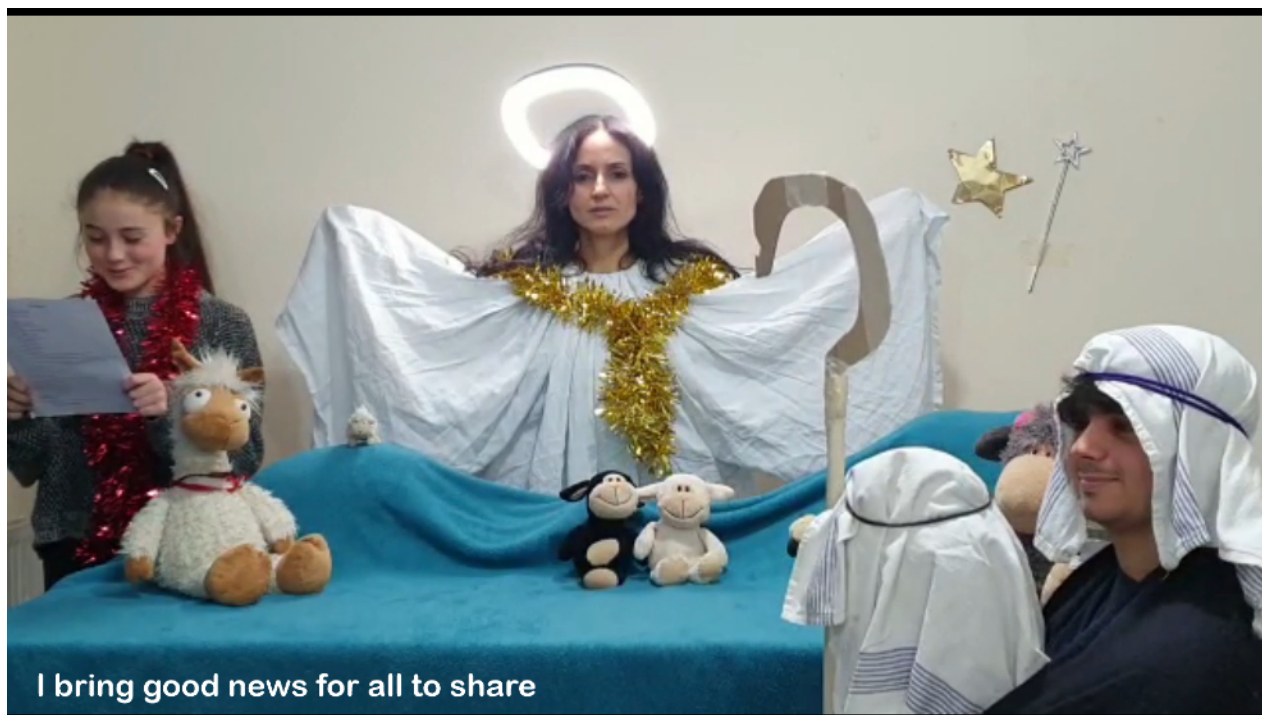


Nativity

Carolyn Kennion reports:

What do a washing-machine box, a blue teddy bear, a garden shed and a pair of crutches all have in common?

Well, they were all used in the Zoom Nativity service on 12th December!!



The service was organised and led by the New Church Youth Association but couldn't have succeeded without the efforts, skills and imaginations of many people. It felt good to have families and church groups from all around the country contributing to retelling the story of the birth of Jesus. Congratulations and thanks to the Jarratt, Skinner and Jones families, Seaburn Dene Seekers group and Kearsley Sunday School who each performed and videoed a scene. Thanks also to Gwendolen Rowe and Keith Dunbar for all their technical support and to those who sang and played to create videos of carols. Below are some photos of characters and scenes from the Nativity Play.

(Oh and just in case you are wondering – the





washing-machine box was used to make scenery for the stable, a blue teddy accompanied 'Joseph' to bed, the shed became an inn in Bethlehem and the crutches were transformed into camels for the wise men!)

Addendum: Thanks must also go to Carolyn who came up with the idea and who adapted a script to make it suitable and then encouraged the various families /Church groups to take part. It really worked well as a production and was so enjoyable.

— Gwendolen Rowe



Seaburn Dene Carol Service

Lynne Griffiths reports:

Seaburn dene held their annual carol service on 19th December 2021 after last year's enforced absence. we were blessed with readings from the Word, explanations of their meanings and sang Carols, accompanied by Rev Jarvis on the organ.

We were further blessed that our young people took part including those returning from uni and we even managed two video readings from those not yet home! We

really are lucky to have so many young people partaking in worship. As is our tradition here we collected gifts from both the congregation and local community to donate to Wearside Women In Need who run services for families affected by domestic violence, including refuges and outreach in hospitals.

The gifts will be shared amongst families to bring light in their times if darkness and we are thankful that we could help with this, particularly in this season of advent.



Prayers from the Zoom Carol Service

Revd Becky Jarratt writes:

Here are the prayers from the Carol Service, as some people wished to read them at home.

A Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson (adapted by Gill)

Loving Lord, Help us remember Your birth as Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness
come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by
the blessing which You brings and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Your children, and Christmas
evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Your
sake. Amen.

The feast day of your birth resembles You, Lord
Because it brings joy to all humanity.
Old people and infants alike enjoy your day.
Your day is celebrated
from generation to generation.
Your festival will be remembered until the end of time.
Your day is a means and a pledge of peace.
At Your birth heaven and earth were reconciled,
Since you came from heaven to earth on that day
You gave us so many gifts on the day of your birth:
A treasure chest of spiritual medicines for the sick;
Spiritual light for the blind;
The cup of salvation for the thirsty;
The bread of life for the hungry.
Thank you for your blessings Lord at this Holy time. Amen

Thanks to Gill Gordon, who provided the prayers for this service, as she has done
for many others. Becky

