Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 24

Give thanks that Jonny has arrived safely back to Aberdeen after his trip with AIM to visit Kirsty. He will be preaching on Sunday morning in our new Advent series and on Wednesday evening he will give an update on his travels at our monthly prayer time in the church at 7.30pm.

Sunday School, Bible Class and creche will meet in their usual slots during the second part of the morning service and the children will have their first look at our Nativity scripts as well as completing the History section of our lessons in The Biggest Story, with the story of Esther.

In the evening at 6.30pm, we will meet back upstairs for our monthly communion service.

Remember that you can join us earlier in the day as we have our Sunday Morning Prayer time at 10.30am, through in the side hall, with tea and coffee being served from 10.

Sunday lunch for students and young adults will be served in the atrium after the service on Sunday this week and then there is a break until after Christmas. All who class themselves in those categories are welcome to stay!

All mid-week groups run in their normal schedules this week and next, before the Christmas break. Home Groups take a break for the all-church prayer time on Wednesday. Choir rehearsals for the Christmas Carol Service continue on Monday evening at 7.30pm.

The Love Aberdeen project aims to deliver a gospel of John to every household in the city. We have a large supply of them in Hebron and would encourage everyone to take a few to deliver. You can check which streets and homes are still waiting online using the loveaberdeen.prayerwalk.app

The app shows which streets have been done, marked in blue, which streets are in the process of being visited in red and any areas needing done are unmarked. You'll need to create a log in, then select "add prayer walk" then you can click on a street to show you will cover it, and it will turn red. Don't forget to go back and turn it blue once you've delivered the gospels.

The Gospels are available to pick up from the church on Sunday, though you may have to add the stickers to the backs of them!

## Diary Dates: Some <u>Christmas dates</u> for your diary

- Online Advent Calendar opens each day from 1st December
- Hebron Choir singing at <u>The Marcliffe</u> on 8th December at 3pm
- Christmas Carol Service on Sunday 15th December at 6.30pm
- Nativity Service on Sunday 22nd December at 11am

- Sunday evening service on 22nd at 6.30pm
- Christmas Day Service on Wednesday 25th December at 11am
- Sunday morning service on 29th at 11am.

See last week's email for more details on the event at The Marcliffe and for flyers which you may want to save to your device and then send to friends if you are inviting them along to our Christmas services.

This year's online advent calendar will make use of the same material as we are using with the children each week in Sunday School: The Biggest Story. The Advent devotional has been designed to walk us through from the very beginning of Genesis to the birth of Jesus, with a different story each day. The devotional includes a Bible passage to look up, a video to link to, a brief thought for the day and an ornament to cut out if you click through to the printable page. We have a few extra printed copies if any of our creche families, or those with limited internet access would like a copy! You can follow along online on our website under Christmas 2024, on the church app under What's On or go straight to the link here: www.hebronaberdeen.org.uk/christmas

After Christmas we will be running the Hope Explored course, on three Thursdays from 16th January. Please be thinking and praying about who you could invite to come along to the course where they can find out more about the Hope we will talk and sing about at our Christmas events.

Somebody Cares are running a Reverse Advent Calendar to collect food essentials for those in need in our city. If you would like to contribute there are specific items they are still a bit short of at the moment: tins like ham, corned beef, chicken in sauce (they're not in need of fish tins like tuna at the moment!) and packets of biscuits. There are other items on their list <u>which you can view here</u> if you would like to add some variety. We have a collection box in the foyer where you can leave items until Sunday 15th.

In preparation for our Carol Service we will be collecting mince pies and apple pies to serve afterwards. There will be post-it-note tickets in the foyer on Sunday which you can take to help us collect what we need.

If anyone would like to send a Christmas Card to the church, rather than to lots of individuals, you can pop your card in the Hope Explored post box and we'll add it to the string in the big windows where everyone can read them.

We will aim to decorate the church for Christmas before Sunday 8th December. If anyone is keen to help out in any way please get in touch with Sally and we'll arrange a time!

Every Blessing,

