

## Christmas and New Year 2019/2020 Prayer Diary



We worship the birth of a baby,  
and in doing so acknowledge  
God reaching down to touch the earth  
and bless it once again;  
to walk within the garden  
as once he did in Eden.

We worship the birth of a Saviour,  
an infant in whose fragility  
lay all the signs of sacrifice;  
born in humility,  
growing into his kingdom  
as Scripture's Promised One.  
We worship Jesus, Saviour and King.  
[www.faithandworship.com](http://www.faithandworship.com)

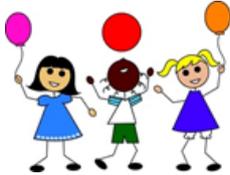
Please pray for our key events:

- The Great Rescue Christmas Story on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Christmas Sunday all age service on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec (10:30am)
- Carols by Candlelight on 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec (7pm)
- Our All Age Christmas Day Service (10:30am)
- Viewfield Praise and Prayer Day on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Jan
- Alpha starts on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Jan



Please pray:

- That we will invite friends and family along to the services and that they will feel welcome. (Invitation cards available at the Tea Bar.)
- For many children to come to the Great Rescue Christmas Story.
- For the organisation of all the events



- Give thanks for the work of Toddlers as they meet each Tuesday and Thursday morning.
- Pray for the parties, for good fun and a chance to be reminded about Jesus coming into the world as a baby.
- Pray that the parents, carers and children will come to the Christmas services.

## VISION ROMANIA

Every year Vision Romania asks our supporters to fill shoe boxes with simple items and give them to us so that we can send them to Romania to be distributed to disadvantaged children and young adults.

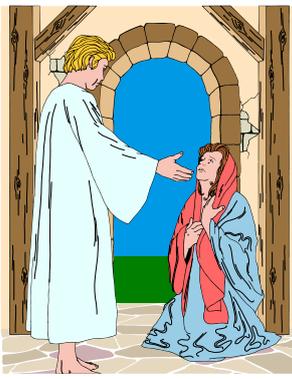
Photo below of boxes all packed up and ready to go. We've gathered in the order of 1400 shoe boxes.

A big thank you to everyone in VBC who participated in the appeal and to Gillian for coordinating the collection and packing.

Margaret will go to Romania on 12th Dec to participate in the distribution and prayer would be appreciated for the trip.

A big thank you on behalf of those you will bless this Christmas time.





# Christmas and New Year Prayer

You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus.

<sup>32</sup> He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High  
(Luke 1:31/32)



<b>December</b>		
Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent 10:30am The Present of God's Presence 12:30pm Church Meeting
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Second Sunday of Advent 10:30am The Gift of Joy 12:30pm Stay and Pray 1:30pm Carol Singing
Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	7:15pm Praying for our Leaders
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	General Election
Saturday	14 <sup>th</sup>	8am Men's Breakfast 1:30pm (P1-7); 3:30pm (Pre S) The Great Rescue
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Third Sunday of Advent 10:30am The Hope of Reconciliation (All Age)
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:30am The Passion to Serve God 7pm Carols by Candlelight
Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Possible Christmas Eve Celebration
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am Christmas Day Family Service
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am Morning Worship and Communion
<b>January</b>		
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am Morning Worship and Communion
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Church Praise and Prayer Day

Pray for the **Street Pastors** as they will be on the streets serving our city by being Jesus' hands and feet, getting alongside those who are celebrating with colleagues and friends. Please pray that the Street Pastors will be have the opportunity to share hope and care, and that they may be "there" when it matters.



Pray for all the people who will spend Christmas alone and in poverty

Bethany seeks to reach out to anyone who needs their services over the festive season, so pray that connections are made and people's lives improved.

Pray for families under financial pressure. Children are bombarded with advertising and parents feel bad when they can't provide what other children are getting. This only makes matters worse for people who are already struggling.

Give thanks that so many of the people coming to Bethany for help will be sheltered and supported this Christmas time. Pray that the real message of Christmas comes through as staff and volunteers demonstrate the Gospel in simple ways to show God's love in action.

Give thanks for funding that has allowed the Night Shelter in Edinburgh to move to a permanent location on Monday 2nd December until 3rd May where it will be possible to provide roughly 70 beds every night for what is an extended period.

### Christmas Stress

*Lord we all expect so much from the festivities of Christmas  
We always think that other people are having the perfect time with families round the tree.  
But there can be so much stress Lord.  
We pray for families who only see each other at Christmas: they may all want to celebrate in different ways.  
We think about the empty places at tables where loved ones no longer sit.  
We pray for new family groups making their own traditions;  
For those in the armed forces and others who have to be away from home or just at work.  
Lord, help us all to relax and rejoice in the true meaning of the season.  
Amen.*

### Prayers for the Election and Beyond

- May we love our neighbour whatever their political allegiance.
- May we love our neighbour whatever their colour or creed.
- May we not speak ill against others during this political campaign.
- May we see need, and respond to it in the busyness of our Christmas preparations and journeys.