



Weekly News from Blackpool Salvation Army

Sunday 24th November 2024

**Our Vision: Fullness of
life for *all* with Jesus**

Sunday:

9.50am: Prayer meeting @ Raikes Parade
10.30am: Worship & Bible Teaching for all ages
11.15am: Lighthouse Crew @ Raikes Parade

Monday:

10am: Shining Stars Baby & Toddler group @ Raikes Parade
5pm: Kids Community Choir @ Raikes Parade
6pm: Rainbows, Brownies and Guides @ Raikes Parade

Tuesday:

Employment Plus sessions @ Raikes Parade *By appointment only*
Community Wardrobe: *By appointment only @ Raikes Parade*
1-3pm: Midweekers - A warm welcome with games, papers and friendship @ Dorset St
7pm: Bible Study @ Raikes Parade *Please come via the back door and ring the doorbell*

Wednesday:

11am: Men's Prayer Meeting @ Raikes Parade
Employment Plus sessions @ Raikes Parade *By appointment only*
Community Wardrobe: *By appointment only @ Raikes Parade*
4.30-6.30pm: Youth Club @ Dorset Street

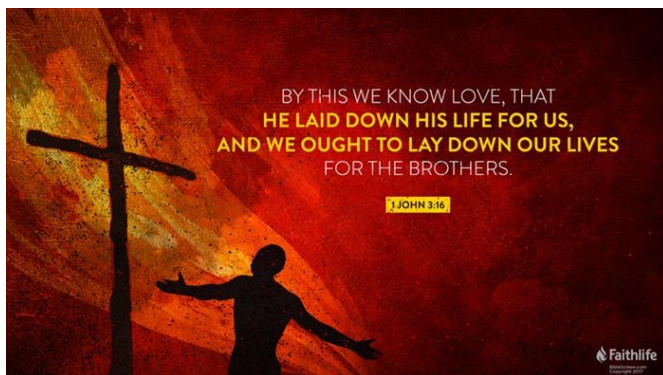
Thursday:

10-12noon: Coffee and chat @ Raikes Parade
12-1pm: Friendship club hot lunch @ Raikes Parade *Please book in advance with Jacqui Wild*
2-3pm: Friendship club @ Raikes Parade
7pm: Carol Concert @ Raikes Parade

Friday:

10.30am: Fellowship Band @ Raikes Parade

The Bridge Project @ Blackpool Citadel is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for the homeless hub drop in 9-11am and then hot meals from 12.00-2.00pm



Sunday Worship and Bible Teaching

This Sunday our worship and Bible Teaching will be led by Captains John and Naomi Clifton and we think about compassion as the mark of a disciple. We hope that you can join us at the Citadel at 10.30am or join us online via our YouTube page.

Please pray for:

- Jacqui Wild who is struggling with poor health at the moment
- Members of the Citadel and Fellowship band as they prepare for the busy carolling season
- This week's carol concert sharing the story of The Salvation Army's work and raising money for the Bridge project
- Clients of the Bridge project during this particularly cold weather

Advent Devotionals

Today is 'Stir up Sunday' - the last Sunday before Advent. While there is lots going on at The Salvation Army in Advent, we'd also encourage you to take time to be still and prepare your hearts for Christmas. Using an Advent devotional book can be a helpful tool for this. Some recommended resources include:
'The Meaning is in the Waiting' - Paula Gooder
'Advent for Everyone' - Tom Wright
'Walking Backward to Christmas' - Stephen Cottrell

Pauses for Advent - Trevor Hudson

Our Mission:

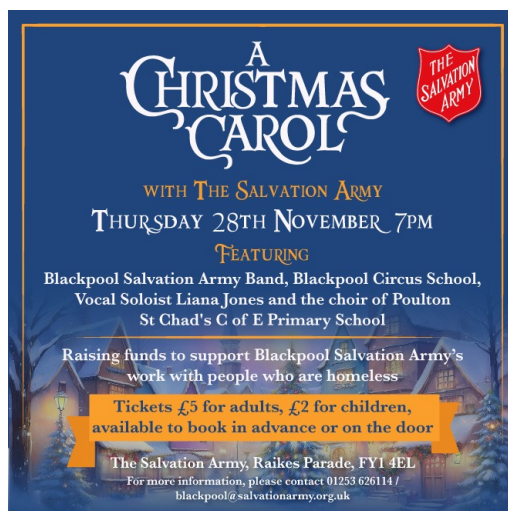
- To *share* the good news
- To *serve* others without discrimination
- To *nurture* disciples of Jesus
- To *care* for creation
- To *seek* justice and reconciliation

A Prayer for Stir Up Sunday

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

A big thank you to our volunteers who decorated the Christmas tree which now stands proud on the platform! This was a great morning with Christmas music playing and lots of laughter. If you missed out last week, there is another opportunity as we need people to help "deck the halls" in readiness for our Christmas Carol Concert where we can open our doors, welcome people and show how we have enhanced our wonderful place of worship for Christmas. If you are available between 1.00pm-4.00pm, on Monday 25th November we would welcome the help. Please contact Elaine Taylor, Volunteer Coordinator, by phone (07831150643) or email her on the details on the back page.



Christmas Concert - "A Christmas Carol"

This week it's our annual Christmas concert raising money for our work in the Bridge project to support people who are homeless. This will be a Salvation Army 'Christmas Carol' as we reflect on the Spirit of Christmas past, present and future. Tickets are almost sold out so we really encourage you to book in advance to get a ticket! Tickets cost £5 for adults and £2 for children. See Tina today to buy yours! Or booking forms are available in the foyer or you can email us on blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk to request a booking form. We hope you can be there!

Christmas Donations from Be Inspired Magazine

In recent years we've been grateful to Karen and the team at Be Inspired Magazine who have collected many toys for our Christmas present appeal. It was a delight to welcome them back with their first donations to this year's appeal this week.



Remembering Marian Launn

On 22nd November it was 20 years since the Promotion to Glory of Marian Launn, for many simply known as 'Auntie Marian'. The flowers on the altar table have been given in memory of her from John, Andrew, Tracey and their families. They are remembering her this weekend, as always, with love and thanking God for her Christian influence for so many people, both young and old.

Funeral of Norman Warnes

The funeral of Norman Warnes will take place on Monday 2nd December at 10:45am at Lytham Crematorium. This will be followed by refreshments at Fylde Rugby Club, Blackpool Road, FY8 4EL. Sarah has asked, that if you are able to join family and friends at the rugby club you let her know, so she can advise the caterers in relation to numbers.

Christmas Present Appeal Update

We have already received over 1600 referrals for our Christmas Present appeal and are expecting to receive more before the deadline. Please pray that God will provide all that we need to provide these gifts in the weeks to come. Please also take a poster away to display to encourage others to donate to the appeal.

Christmas Present Appeal - Volunteers Needed

We always value the support of corps members who help to sort incoming gifts, select gifts, pack sweet bags, check codes, and much more. This will be taking place on Friday 6th December, and on weekdays from Monday 9th December to Friday 20th December. If you can help, please contact our volunteer coordinator Elaine Taylor.

Toy Service

Our Toy Service will be on Sunday 8th December and will be an important moment in our Christmas Present Appeal. New and unwrapped presents will be gratefully received but we'd also encourage you to make your toy a cash donation towards the cost of vouchers for teenagers receiving gifts this year. Special envelopes are available in the foyer to put your monetary gift in - please include your name on the envelope if you gift aid your donations so we can make it go even further.

News from the Bridge project

This week clients have started work on decorating one of the meeting rooms into 'The Sea Room' - watch this space for photos of the progress. With the cold turn in the weather, our supplies of gloves have run out - if you are able to donate any pairs of adult gloves these would be greatly appreciated by the clients!

Next week we're beginning to prepare for Christmas, with one of the clients offering to put up our Christmas tree. Our support worker, Poppy, is organising a 'Christmas workshop' on Tuesday 10th December, 1.30-3pm for a group of our clients. If anyone has spare Christmas decorations or Christmas card making materials that they can donate, please drop them off to reception and these can be passed onto the Bridge team.



Needed - Collectors for Carolling

During the Advent Season the Band will be in the Town Centre playing carols and raising funds for the Corps on Saturdays. If you are able and willing to help collect for one hour, please let Tina Meredith know when you are available. The dates we need collectors are: .
30th November, 11-1pm - Sainsbury's Supermarket and Town Centre
7th, 14th, and 21st December, 11-1pm - Town Centre
Thank you for your support!

Corps Family News - Bill Garbett

This week we heard that Bill Garbett died last weekend at the age of 95. Bill and his late wife Betty were members of the corps, having served as Salvation Army officers for a time. Alan and Wyn Bennett recall that Bill was the first chef when the bistro, then called "Taste And See" first opened in the 1980's. He is survived by two daughters. Bill's funeral is at Lytham Crematorium at 1.15pm on Thursday 19th December.



Dates for the diary:

Thursday 28th November, 7pm: Carol Concert
Sunday 8th December, 10.30am: Toy Service
Sunday 22nd December, 10.30am: Carol Service
Sunday 5th January, 10.30am: Covenant Day
Sunday 12th January, 10.30am: "Together as Blackpool Salvation in 2025"

Contact details:

General enquiries: blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk / 01253 626114

Corps Officers (church leaders):

Capt. Dr John Clifton - john.clifton@salvationarmy.org.uk / 07921 578589

Capt. Naomi Clifton - naomi.clifton@salvationarmy.org.uk / 07823 442959

Corps Sergeant Major:

Major Ged Nicoll - gerald.nicoll@salvationarmy.org.uk

Community Centre Manager:

Allan Murray - allan.murray@salvationarmy.org.uk / 01253 626114

Volunteer Development Coordinator:

Elaine Taylor - elaine.d.taylor@salvationarmy.org.uk / 01253 626114 / 07831 150643

Where to find us:

Blackpool Citadel, Raikes Parade, FY1 4EL

Blackpool South, Dorset St, FY4 3BB

