

FOREST GROUP NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER/JANUARY

**A happy and
blessed New
Year!**



Dear friends,

It is here, the New Year, with the beginning of Advent. A new church year of the Lord, beginning with what used to be a time of waiting, of soul-searching and fasting up to the feast of Jesus' birth – and what is now (at least in this part of the world) a party season in itself. Our feelings about the pre-Christmas noise none withstanding, we are called to listen out for God's voice, using John the Baptist as our guide: "Make straight the way for the Lord." (John 1,23) – in our own personal lives (in prayer and in getting priorities right), and in our churches.

Looking back, it was a bit of a mixed year for the Forest Group. From what I've heard many of us enjoyed the **Faith Pictures Course** and the conversations that it opened us up to. We got to know each other on a more personal level and were encouraged to talk about aspects of our faith in a fun and imaginative way. Some of us now feel better equipped and enabled to talk about what they believe to people

outside the church, and to spot an opportunity for doing so when it arises.

Our **Forest Group Day on Oct 8** marked the start of a joint journey, on which we try to discern our mission, how we want to work for the growth of God's kingdom, and how we need to set ourselves up to best achieve this. We looked at our positives, what we're good at and what "assets" we have, looked for opportunities and the aspirations we'd have with them. Questions have been taken back from this into our church meetings, and it will be a while of going back and forth in this way until we have found an answer that sparks our energy, feeds our courage and attracts others to become curious about walking the way with Jesus. Please pray for our group, for God's blessing and inspiration on this journey.

For one of our churches it was a year of working towards making a big decision. Our sisters and brothers in **Highams Park** saw that realistically, due to lack of people who can take on responsibility, they cannot continue. So they decided to ask for amalgamation with Woodford Green. Let us have them in our prayers in this time of bereavement, because this is what it is. Lots of memories of happy times in Malvern Avenue will be treasured, and the many hopes that have been over the past years for a revival of the church will now need to be put to a final rest in Christ. Please come and support them in their **final act of worship on Sunday April 23** in the afternoon.

And finally: Since October 31, Reformation Day, we are in the middle of the **500th anniversary celebrations of the Reformation**. The young monk Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses against the practices of what in 1517 was "The church" (= the Roman Catholic Church) onto the doors of the

church in Wittenberg, Germany. This was the beginning of nothing less than a revolution, changing the world as it was and giving birth to the “priesthood of all baptised”, their right and ability to read the Bible for themselves in their own language and interpret it with the help of the Holy Spirit. Germany’s churches these days are full of special events honouring and reflecting upon this occasion, and the bi-annual church convention “Deutscher Evangelischer Kirchentag” (www.kirchentag.de/english.html) from 24-28 May 2017 is going to be in Berlin and Wittenberg, all around this anniversary. A fantastic church experience (also) outside of church walls, with loads of talks/events in English as well. Who wants to come with me/us??

Watch out for local events around this remarkable commemoration.

With blessings, and wishing you all a happy New Year of the Lord. May our Lord guard and guide us on our way, and inspire us with His new life.

Yours in Christ,

Ulrike

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

(All services commence at 10.30 am unless otherwise stated)

Chingford

- 4th **Morning Worship with Holy Communion and Prayers for Healing** led by Revd Ulrike Bell (monthly collection for London Church’s Refugee Fund)
- 11th 9.45 **Service of Holy Communion**

10.30 **Youth and Christmas Gift service** led by Revd Richard Mortimer (gifts for Branches Homeless Hostel)

- 18th **Morning Worship** led by Steven Neville
- 24th **6.00 pm Christmas Eve Carol Service & Nativity Play** led by Revd Ulrike Bell
- 25th **Christmas Day Service** led by Revd Richard Mortimer. Other Forest Group Churches are invited (Collection for URC Ministers’ Widows & Orphans Fund)

January

- 1st **Morning Worship with Holy Communion and Prayers for Healing** leader to be announced (monthly collection tba)
- 8th **Morning Worship with Holy Communion and Prayers for Healing** led by Revd Richard Mortimer (*including induction/ ordination of elders followed by Church Meeting*)
- 15th 9.45 **Service of Holy Communion Youth service** led by Revd Ulrike Bell
- 22nd **Morning Worship** leader to be announced
- 29th **Morning Worship** leader to be announced
- 5th *Morning Worship with Holy Communion and Prayers for Healing* leader to be announced

Highams Park

- 4th **Morning Worship** led by Trevor Cottrell
- 11th **Morning Worship with Holy Communion** led by Revd Kevin Swaine
- 18th **4.00pm Service of Lessons and Carols** led by Revd Richard Mortimer
- 25th No service at Highams Park

January

- 1st **Morning Worship with Holy Communion at Woodford Green** led by Revd June Colley

- 8th **Morning Worship** leader to be announced
- 15th **Morning Worship** led by Revd Richard Mortimer
- 22nd **Morning Worship** leader to be announced
- 29th **Morning Worship** leader to be announced
- 5th *Morning Worship leader to be announced*

Ray Lodge

- 4th **Toy Service** led by Revd Jane Mortimer
- 11th **Morning Worship with Holy Communion** led by Trevor Cottrell
- 18th **Service of Lessons and Carols**
- 25th No service at Ray Lodge

January

- 1st No service at Ray Lodge
- 8th **Morning Worship with Holy Communion** led by Revd Kevin Swaine
- 15th **Morning Worship** led by Revd Ann Woodhurst
- 22nd **Morning Worship** led by Revd Richard Mortimer
- 29th **Morning Worship** led by the Elders
- 5th *Morning Worship led by Trevor Cottrell*

St. James', Buckhurst Hill

- 4th **Morning Worship with Holy Communion** led by Keith Brame (Communion Offertory for Ubuntu Unleashed)
- 11th **Gift Service** led by Revd Jane Mortimer
- 15th **6.30pm Gift Service for Uniformed Organisations** led by Revd Richard Mortimer
- 18th **Service of Lessons & Carols** led by the Worship Group
- 25th No service at St. James

January

- 1st No URC service at St. James

- 8th **Morning Worship with Holy Communion** led by Revd Jane Mortimer (Sacramental Offertory for London City Mission)
- 15th **Morning Worship** led by Revd John Steele (*Eco Committee meeting follows this service*)
- 22nd **Morning Worship** led by Revd Clare Wilson
- 29th **Morning Worship** led by Revd Richard Mortimer (*Church Meeting follows this service*)
- 5th *Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Revd Kevin Swaine*

Woodford Green

- 4th **Morning Worship with Holy Communion** led by Revd Richard Mortimer
- 11th **Morning Worship** led by Revd Ulrike Bell
- 18th **Service of Lessons and Carols**
- 24th **4.00pm Christmas Eve Nativity Carol Service**
- 25th No service at Woodford Green

January

- 1st **Morning Worship with Holy Communion** led by Revd June Colley
- 8th **Morning Worship** led by Revd Ulrike Bell
4.00pm **Messy Church returns!**
- 15th **Morning Worship** leader to be announced
- 22nd **Morning Worship** led by Revd Kevin Swaine (*Church Meeting after the service*)
- 29th **Morning Worship** led by Revd June Colley
- 5th *Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Revd Richard Mortimer*

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2016

- Thursday 1st **St. James'** 7.30pm Elders' Meeting in Church room
- Friday 2nd **Ray Lodge** 2.00pm Knit & Natter Group
St. James' 4.15pm-4.45pm Carol Singing in Queen's Road
- Saturday 3rd **Chingford** 9.45am Christmas Fair
- Monday 5th **Forest Group Advent Study Group at St. James'** 11.00am & 8.00pm in the Church Room
St. James' 2.00-3.30pm Craft/Prayer Group
- Tuesday 6th **Forest Group Coffee Morning** 10.30 am in Woodford Green Manse
Woodford Green 8.00pm Elders Meeting at manse
- Friday 9th **Ray Lodge** 2.00pm Neighbours' Club – Carols and Mince Pies
- Monday 12th **Forest Group Advent Study Group at St. James'** 11.00am & 8.00pm in the Church Room
Woodford Green 2.30pm Jubilee Club Christmas Tea Party
- Friday 16th **Ray Lodge** 2.00pm Knit & Natter Group
- Saturday 17th **St. James'** 6.30pm Carols and Mince Pies in the Church Room
- Monday 19th **St. James'** 2.30pm Carol Singing at Loughton Hall
- Weds 21st **St. James'** 5.30pm-6.30pm Carol Singing at Buckhurst Hill Station in aid of Redbridge Single Homeless Project
- Friday 23rd **Chingford** no coffee morning/prayers
- Friday 30th **Chingford** no coffee morning/prayers

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2017

January

- Thursday 5th **Forest Group Winter Prayer Walk** 11.00am
St. James' 7.30pm Elders' Meeting in Church Room
- Friday 6th **Chingford** 11am Worship Group
Ray Lodge 2.00pm Knit & Natter Group
- Sunday 8th **Forest Group Messy Church at Woodford Green** 4.00pm
- Monday 9th **St. James'** 2.00-3.30pm Craft/Prayer Group
- Tuesday 10th **Forest Group Coffee Morning** 10.30 am in Woodford Green Manse
Woodford Green 8.00pm Elders Meeting at manse
- Thurs 12th **Chingford** 7.30pm Youth Council
- Friday 13th **Ray Lodge** 2.00pm Neighbours' Club (tba)
- Thurs 19th **Chingford** 8.00pm Elders meeting
- Friday 20th **Ray Lodge** 2.00pm Knit & Natter Group
- Sunday 22nd **Forest Group Council Meeting** 2.00pm at Woodford Green
- Friday 27th **Ray Lodge** 2.00pm Neighbours' Club (tba)
- Saturday 28th **Forest Group Study Day** at Woodford Green

February

- Thursday 2nd **Forest Group Pulpit Supply meeting** 10.30am at Ray Lodge
- Friday 3rd **Ray Lodge** 2.00pm Knit & Natter Group

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION



Coffee morning, 10.30 – 12.00
@ Woodford Manse
- come and bring a friend ☺

December 6 Is Christ in Christmas?
January 10 What's going to be new in the New
Year? - New Year's resolutions
February 7 (theme?)



... is back!!

A fun and creative form of Church, for families, everybody young and old and in the middle!

After a pause of almost a year, where we have thought and prayed about how to give our family ministry a boost, we have changed location and are starting again: at Woodford Green URC. With this we're hoping to reach out to families of nearby Woodford Green schools and be a better presence within that community. **Do come and join us! Every 2nd Sunday, 4-6pm**

Yummy!

Bible Story

Crafts



Worship

On January 8, February 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, (none in August), September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10.

FOREST WORSHIP GROUP



The Forest Worship Group consists of members of all 5 churches who meet to prepare worship services during the week, which are distinctly different from what we do on a Sunday morning.

Please do come to our next services and mark them in your diary:

November 24, 7.30pm at Woodford URC: Worship to reflect on the end of the Church Year

January 5 2017, 11.00am Prayer Walk to greet the new calendar year, finishing with soup lunch @ Woodford Manse

March 5, 7.30pm (with a Lent theme)

April 27, 7.30pm (with a “new life”/Easter theme)

June 29, 11.00am outdoor worship; songs of praise

HOLDING PALESTINE IN THE LIGHT

A month ago academics, church leaders, a rabbi and a retired diplomat spoke at an event in Lichfield Cathedral titled ‘Holding Palestine in the Light’. The cathedral’s Facebook page was instantly deluged with abusive allegations of antisemitism, some accusing it of holding a ‘hate fest’. Now the largest Jewish group in the UK that supports rights for Palestinians has partnered with Christian organisations and prominent individuals to commend the event organisers and uphold the right to advocate for Palestine. Jews for Justice for Palestinians (JfJfP) spokesperson Naomi Wayne said: “It is not anti-Semitic to point out when a nation state – in this case Israel – breaks international law and deprives an occupied people of their basic human rights.” The full text of the statement follows.

JEWS AND CHRISTIANS FOR FREE SPEECH ON ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

We, Christians and Jews who advocate for justice for Palestinians, would like to put on record our admiration for the Dean of Lichfield, with a group of local Christians from other churches, in hosting the festival ‘Holding Palestine in the Light’ in Lichfield Cathedral last month, despite opposition from some quarters. We regret the intemperate attacks to which the hosts were subjected. The language used and the opinions expressed would be rejected by many – including many Jews – in this country.

There were Jews among the members of a group from Liverpool, twinned with the West Bank village of Bil’in, who delivered an exhibition of Palestinian children’s photos to Lichfield Cathedral for the festival.

The founding chair of the Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community was moved to send a message of support saying: "Many Jews, including many in religious communities like ours, welcome discussions like this conference." We find it disquieting that the Lichfield conference has been seized on by those who seek to silence criticism of Israeli policies.

The Israeli government's near half century occupation, with its appropriation of Palestinian land and resources for Israeli use, and its abrogation of Palestinians' basic human rights, is conducted in direct contravention of several international laws including the Fourth Geneva Convention.

All around us there are attempts to equate criticism of Israeli government policies with antisemitism. This form of censorship seeks to halt legitimate discourse about the history and politics of Israel and Palestine. Whether we are Christians or Jews – secular or observant – our core values are ultimately based on the Hebrew scriptures as well as the values of the Enlightenment.

"... let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." Amos 5, v 24.

The oppression of Palestinians by a succession of Israeli governments is neither just nor righteous and it is not antisemitic to point this out, to speak truth to power. It is our duty as Jews, as Christians – indeed as citizens – to work for a just peace for all in Israel-Palestine.

Jews for Justice for Palestinians, Kairos Britain, Amos Trust, Friends of Sabeel UK, Bishop Richard Llewellyn

© Free Speech on Israel 2016

NOTES OF MEETING AT CHINGFORD

Church Meeting 6th November

22 Members present, 1 apology, Minister in the chair

Minutes of 9th October agreed and no matters arising
Malcolm Smith re-elected as an Elder and Church Secretary for a further 4 year term.

The Minister circulated a paper based on the discussion at Elders on October 20th following the Forest Group Day on 8th October. The main conclusions were

- We do not believe the time is right to close four churches and focus in one place. We believe the church is the people and buildings should remain open to engage with the people in each place and seek to address the needs of each community. However, as some years have passed since the Group's inception, we believe the question of the purpose of the Group as a whole now needs further reflection. Individual churches have Mission Statements – we need one for the Group as a whole as well as a Group Constitution. Chingford has a Mission Statement – is it adequate?
- The motive for being in a Group has been the enabling of shared ministry. There is much that we treasure in the Group but reconciling being an individual church with membership of the Group has been difficult – how do we keep the home fires and the children's work burning and yet do things together and share properly?
- We appreciate the move to provide other shared Forest Group services not on Sundays. We would welcome further exploration of the idea of a Buildings Team and a Finance Team covering the whole Group. We would like the five churches to circulate membership lists.
In answer to questions Revd Richard Mortimer said that Synod was still involved in restructuring, which was taking longer than originally expected. Consequently Synod was

leaving groups like the Forest Group to continue with their business without interference. Involvement would come on reassessing ministry for the Forest group when Richard retires in 2017.

Richard also outlined the position regarding the proposed amalgamation of Highams Park church with Woodford Green, which was not known about on 8th October.

Malcolm Allard commented that Messy Church was relocating to Woodford Green from January and that Pilots will also need to relocate from Highams Park to Woodford Green.

All churches now needed to engage in social media as part of their outreach

Revd Jane Mortimer said that in her experience all five Forest Group churches were very welcoming and it would be a shame to lose the care given my members of the congregation to those who attended services.

The Young People support a continued youth provision at Chingford and have elected Gabrielle Morris as their representative at any meetings

The way forward is to review Chingford's mission and outreach and agree the role of the Forest Group for the future.

It was reported that Daphne Stothard is moving to a care home in Chelmsford

Next Church Meeting 27th November to elect 4 Elders and 2 Forest Group representatives and any other urgent business.

27TH CHINGFORD SCOUT GROUP

The Scout Group celebrated its 90th Anniversary on 6th October and this will be commemorated at a weekend of activities on the 18th/19th February 2017

Extract from Honours Book re Beavers

Leaders: 1984/2015_Malcolm Smith 84/86, Carole Cressy 86/89, Margaret Thorne 89/93, Ron Cooper 93/98, Jenny Winn 99/13, Malcolm Smith 13/15

Achievements: Won District Road Safety 1989, won St Ivel Design competition 2007, won District Fun Day 2013 & 2015
Restarting Beaver Colony_– date awaited

Scout News

Daniel Moriarty – following the Chief Scout's award Daniel has now been awarded the Petchy Young Persons award and we have a grant of £250 to spend on the Scouts.
Badges gained by Scouts so far this term 3 Expedition Challenges, 1 Adventure Challenge, 1 Personal Challenge (Expedition Challenge hike), 2 Team Work (incident hike), 3 Nights Away (Danemead Fun Camp), 4 Emergency Aid (1st aid evening), 5 Year badges, 2 Artist, 4 Creative, 1 Hobbies, 5 Model maker, 1 Music, 5 Photographer (Creative Challenge evening), 9 Digital badges (Digital Skills evening with laptops etc) 1 Skills (Skills Challenge evening), 1 Air, 1 Martial Arts, 2 Nautical, 1 Paddle sports, 1 Water (outside activities)

Congratulations to all the young people achieving their goals.

HIGHAMS PARK NEWS

Prayer Partners

<i>Pam</i>	<i>Bernice</i>	<i>Joyce</i>	<i>Kay</i>
<i>Francis</i>	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Helen</i>	<i>Helen</i>
<i>Valerie</i>	<i>Margaret</i>	<i>Lorraine</i>	<i>Ken</i>

Please speak to your prayer partner and see if there are any specific things they would like to pray for. Or if possible, why not arrange a time to pray together during the month.

Please also pray for past members and friends.

If you would like a Prayer Partner please let Helen know so that you can be added to the list.

Happy Birthday greetings go to Bill on the 2nd of December and Pamela Hayles-Downe on 8th, Doris J on 22nd, Richard on 28th and Helen L on 30th of January.

REFLECTION

Antony, a second-century monk, had one ambition to make the most of God's gift: to be better at this thing called life! Therefore he visited much, was a courteous and considerate guest, and sought out only the best in the people he met. He learned patience from one, gentleness from another, loyalty from a third . . . and so on. Along the way he became known as "God's friend."

I imagine if someone knocked on my door, or yours, looking to learn from our best qualities, we might come to call them friend as well – after we got over the shock of someone thinking we were worth learning from!

Thanks to The Friendship Book of Francis Gay

STORIES FOR CHANGE BANGLADESH

Across the developing world, rural women play a crucial role in agriculture and farming. Bangladesh, where women exceed 50 percent of the agricultural labour force, is no exception.

So it's no surprise that much of Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations's (FAO) work in the country has focused on supporting rural women farmers across a variety of sectors. This work includes aquaculture, crop and dairy farming, all of which are featured in a FAO video, *Women Farmers of Bangladesh*.

Shipra Bagchi, whose story is featured in the video, is a shrimp farmer from the village of Baniakhali in Bagerhat, a district of the Khulna division in south western Bangladesh.

When she first started shrimp farming twenty years ago, Shipra had less than a tenth of a hectare of land. She recalls how difficult it was to make ends meet in those days. "At that time, this whole area was inundated. Rice cultivation wasn't possible." She remembers that people used to survive by picking water lilies. And Shipra herself struggled with her new endeavour. "Earlier, I didn't know the good practices of shrimp farming."

Thanks to a project implemented by FAO and the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, with support from the Standards and Trade Development Facility, Shipra received training in key skills and techniques for improved and increased shrimp production: "How to enhance shrimp production, the benefit of the nursery and the use of PCR certified seeds, correct doses of lime, etc."

ST. JAMES' CHURCH MEETING NOTES OCTOBER 2016

Our October Meeting was chaired by Revd. Richard Mortimer and was attended by thirteen people. Before the Meeting began we stood in memory of Dorothy Marriott who had passed away on 8th October and will be sadly missed.

We began by exchanging news of the church family before moving on to other matters.

Roger Neville presented the accounts for the last year and a budget for 2017. We agreed that our contribution to the M&M Fund should be the same as last year. It seems a new electricity cable will have to be relayed from the end of the church driveway to the front of the church, and upgrading of the solar panel invertors is also necessary to make them more efficient. Hopefully, this will result in more electricity being generated to help with church funds.

Those of us who had attended the Forest Group Day on 8th October gave some feedback, but further deliberations will have to take place as we seek to see our way forward within the Forest Group. Two Elders will attend a follow-up meeting at the Woodford manse on the evening of November 28th to continue this discussion.

The *Faith Pictures* course which is being held after some church services in the autumn is being enjoyed by those who attend, and the last one will be after the morning service on 20th November when we will welcome some people from the other Forest Group Churches for a joint discussion about the course.

The leaflet produced by Church Build entitled, *Is Your Church a Millstone or a Springboard?* had been considered and we all agreed that St. James' is a welcoming place to our eyes, but maybe we should ask some of the other users of our premises what they think!

Revd. Richard Mortimer and I attended a Churches Together Meeting at the Baptist Church on 3rd October, with representatives from the Baptist and Anglican churches present. News from each of our churches was shared and plans for the pre- Christmas Commuter Outreach at the station discussed. It is good that we can work together as Christians in the local community even if our ways of worshipping are different and we may hold a variety of Christian beliefs. We were told at our Church Meeting that the ecumenical Buckhurst Hill Money Advice Service is being well used and is in need of more volunteer advisers.

People were reminded about filling shoe boxes for *Operation Christian Child* again this year and to bring their boxes to church by Sunday 27th November.

Dates for Carol Singing in December were confirmed: Friday 2nd in Queen's Road, Buckhurst Hill as part of the pre-Christmas Festival there, at Loughton Hall Care Home on Monday 19th at 2.30pm and at Buckhurst Hill Station on Wednesday 21st from 5.30-6.30pm, in aid of Redbridge Single Homeless Project. Please come to help with the singing, if you can.

Isabel Bala

REMEMBERING DOROTHY MARRIOTT

I first met Dorothy Marriott, who died on the 8th October, in the early 1990s when paying a rare visit to church. She was being given a lift by my grandfather, and I was thinking of coming back to church on a permanent basis and it was Dorothy's kind words that cemented it for me. Eventually it would be me giving Dorothy lifts to church, either to services or to social events. I would become Dorothy's Elder and thus a great friendship would be struck up.

Dorothy was youthful in her outlook, generally very positive and could always see the funny side of things. She never took herself too seriously and had many friends. Above all she had such a zest for life.

For many years she lived in Hurst Road and then moved on to Dene Road just over 10 years ago as the big house in Hurst Road was becoming too much to manage. She was a widow of many years standing and had one son, Martin and a number of grandchildren who she would often speak about to me. She also had an older sister who lives down in Devon.

As she was alone one year when we were up at Rous Road for Christmas we invited her for Boxing Day, along with my mum's aunt. A great day was had by all, playing games and eating, generally having a good time.

Dorothy would often spend one day a week going up to Barts Hospital to help out there; a sign of her generous nature. Her friends from the Townswomen's Guild and WI and everyone at church just loved her. She enjoyed going to the theatre, reading and going out for a meal.

Dorothy was also my quiz marker for a number of years. She would especially enjoy reading the strange answers to

questions! She was also prepared to have a Green Party board outside her house and sit at a polling station for me.

I will miss for her kindness and her laughter, her generosity and that precious twinkle in her eye, and most of all I will miss a very dear friend.

Steven Neville
(St. James')

ST JAMES' PRAYER PARTNERS

Val- Louise, Margaret M. – Steven, Isabel - Marisa,
Diane – Graham , Kathleen T. – Eileen

Jesus, you came at an inconvenient time- nothing was ready, no-one was ready.

Nothing was proper. Nothing was prepared.

Nothing was right, according to our way.

And yet you came right then, right there; no room for you to be received - and yet you came.

And still you come at inconvenient times - when we are busy or distracted,

when we are tired or confused, when we are sorting our homes, our work, our church, our lives

And struggle for time to focus on you.

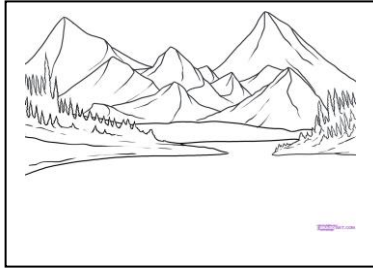
You come in inconvenient ways - no baby in a manger, no angel chorus overhead,

but unannounced, overlooked and often ignored in the people and places we see every day.

Jesus, you are here. May we make room for you.

Karen Campbell

WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY!



James Corney, a young member of Woodford Green United Free Church, has secured a place on a five-week expedition to the Yukon, Canada, in July 2017. This expedition, organised by the British Exploring Society (BES), will enable James to

enhance his life experiences at the end of his college course. He will learn new skills and learn more about himself in preparation for the next stage in his ambition to become a Paramedic.

The BES has existed for 84 years and in that time has run 17 expeditions to Canada. This expedition involves mountain trekking and river/lake canoeing in the remote north east of the territory. The area is predominantly rocky and more or less uninhabited – apart from the mosquitoes and bears!

They will be guided by qualified leaders, experienced in exploring this region. In the words of the BES: 'We go to the end of the path and keep going'.

Of course, this opportunity comes at a cost – around £4,000 plus flights. So James has started raising money by working and applying for various grants. However, he will need further support and is aiming to engage in some fundraising. We are very proud of James in what he has achieved so far, especially in his service with St. Johns Ambulance, and we will be looking forward to helping him with his fundraising.

WOODFORD FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN
CHURCHES

ECUMENICAL ADVENT CAROL SERVICE



**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CHURCH,
HIGH ROAD, WOODFORD WELLS**

4 DECEMBER 2016

4.30 PM

with the Choirs of All Saints Church, St Thomas of
Canterbury Church and St Antony's Primary School
(tea and mince pies will be served in the Becket Centre
afterwards)

ALL ARE MOST WELCOME