

NTCOG NEWS

December 2009

Please read this newsletter carefully, make a note of the regular meetings, the special dates and make every effort to attend.

Our Mission

To present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the local community in a powerful, practical and relevant way.

To encourage every member of the Church to develop their God given ministry and to fulfil their potential.

Weekly Meetings

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
Popley Fields Community Centre
Carpenters Down
Popley
RG24 9AE

Monday – Hour of Power
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Home Groups
Tuesday
7:30 pm

Thursday – Open Door
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

www.ntcog.org.uk
info@ntcog.co.uk

Diary

Every Day 1:00 p.m.	Pray for one person for one minute at one o'clock.
Saturday 5 th December	Fasting
Sunday 6 th December 10:30 a.m. Popley Fields	First Sunday – we will be Breaking Bread together and sharing testimonies. Please note that we will not be having lunch after this service.
Saturday 12 th December	Ladies Breakfast
Wednesday 16 th December	Carol Singing
Thursday 15 th December	Carol Singing
Sunday 20 th December 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.	Christmas Carol Services – please invite your family and friends to join us at one of the services. Between the two services we will share lunch at the hall.
Thursday 31 st December 9:00 p.m. until late Ridgeway Centre	New Year's Eve Party Tickets are now on sale, Adults £5 children under 16 free if accompanied by their parents. Food will be provided, please bring your own drinks. Remember to invite your family and friends because this is a fantastic way to introduce them to the Church in a relaxed environment.
Saturday 2 nd January	Fasting
Sunday 3 rd January	First Sunday
Saturday 9 th January	Ladies Breakfast
Saturday 23 rd January	Men's Breakfast

Remember

Please make a special effort to attend as many of our meetings as you can especially the Prayer Meeting and Bible Studies. Sharing time together in Fellowship is important and helps us all to Grow Spiritually.

“We who had sweet fellowship together” Psalm 55:14

Poet's Corner

Twinkling lights
White crispy snow
Red berries on trees
White mistletoe

Sheep in the field
Cows in the byre
Angel voices singing
Shepherds winging
To the manger bare

On bowed knee amongst the hay
The baby lying there
Paying homage to the Saviour
Jesus is born today

Joan Macintosh

The Twelve Days of Christmas

For many years, like most other people, I thought that "The Twelve Days of Christmas" was just another silly folk song that people sang. Then one Christmas I discovered that this was more than just a folk song because the song was written by English Catholics as way of remembering core aspects of their faith during a period of persecution.

The partridge in a pear tree represents our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The two turtle doves reminded them that there are two parts of the Bible the Old and New Testaments.

The three French hens represent three core Christian virtues, faith, hope and love from 1 Corinthians 13:13.

The four calling birds represent the four gospels found in the Bible, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

The five golden rings represent the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament

The six geese a laying reminded them that God created the Heaven and Earth in six days.

Seven swans a swimming represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy found in Romans 12:6-8.

The eight maids a milking represents the eight beatitudes found in the Sermon on the Mount.

Nine ladies dancing represent the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit - Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self Control found in Galatians 5:22-23.

The ten lords a leaping represent the Ten Commandments.

Eleven pipers piping represent the eleven faithful disciples, Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James.

Twelve drummers drumming symbolise the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed which says:

I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, I believe a holy catholic church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

For a simple folk song that's a lot of Christian teaching. The lesson that we can learn from this song is that when we celebrate Christmas, Jesus is never far away if we are prepared to dig a little deeper. So this Christmas make time to look for Jesus and you may be surprised where you find Him.

Pastor Graham

Gift Aid

If you are a UK Tax Payers then the Government will give us 25 pence for every pound that you give so please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes for your tithe and offering.