

DECEMBER



SLIGO CITY CHURCH

Sligo City Church

2015

A community with God's heart for family, growth & mission

As Christmas descends and the presents, food and business often arrives. We hope that you will find time to read through and be encouraged by this month's news letter. We seek to remember the true meaning of this time of year, which is so often lost in the world we live in. As we seek to be God's hands and feet in Sligo this month, let us do all we can to bring the reality of Christmas to those we meet.

This month on Sunday:

Throughout this month we will be digging into the Story of Christmas and it's true meaning for us as individuals and as a church. We pray that through this we will be again struck by the awesomeness of God's plan for salvation. We will be challenged by the obedience of each person in the story and reminded of the great Kingly servant that arrived, in stable in Bethlehem.


CHRISTMAS
BEGINS WITH
CHRIST




Christmas Family Service Sunday 20th at the Mercy College

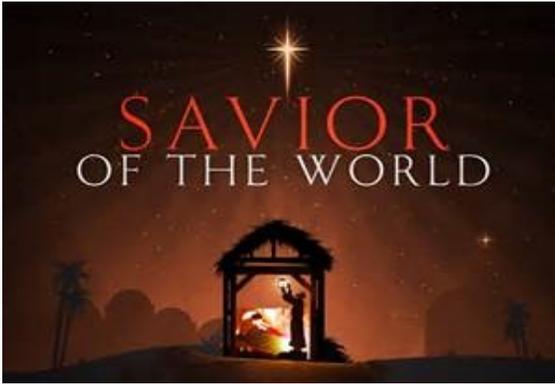
Ladies Event on December 9th. Speak to Ursula for more details.

United Youth Christmas Trip will take place on December 18th and will include going to the cinema and then for chips. Please see Josh and Kat for details.

Being the hands and feet of God in our community

The Story...

When asked to write a short article about Christmas for the church newsletter, my brain immediately began scanning the story I've heard a million times for some fresh insight or a new spin. Should I talk about Mary's immediate acceptance of the angel's words to her? Perhaps a story from the perspective of Joseph, the shepherds, the innkeeper, or even the angels who announced the birth of our Saviour? As I looked at the story again from various



angles and perspectives, I couldn't really find anything new. The life of Jesus has been called the greatest story ever told, and it has been told A LOT, particularly the part about His birth. One reason it's still the best story ever told, after all these years of telling and retelling, is that it is still true and the world will never be the same because of it. One of the best things about the Christmas story, the birth of Jesus Christ, is that it is really only one chapter of the greatest story ever told. The story of a God who loved us enough to come and live with us and die for us started millennia before Christ's birth, and it is still being

told today. We get to be a part of it, living with His Spirit inside us and being His body to a hurting world - the world that He arrived to heal so long ago. How are we sharing this most wonderful story with that world this year, as individuals and as Sligo City Church? Are we being His Body to those around us who may not know the story and its significance in their lives? The story of His coming is only significant if it is followed up with the good news of His life, death, resurrection and involvement in the lives of those alive today. How will you tell His story during this Christmas season?

Stephanie

We wanted to include in this newsletter a reminder of the values we set as a church and pray knowing these values will help us share the story.

Being Family

Interdependent

Committed

Loving

Compassionate

A sense of ownership

A sense of belonging

Encouraging Growth

Intentional discipleship

Investing in people

Equipping people to serve

Engaging Mission

Being God's hands and feet Globally and locally

Making God known

A resource to the region

Reaching beyond ourselves

Loving and Serving

Church planting

Kids Page

Print off and colour the nativity story to be in with a chance to win an extra Christmas prize. All pictures must be handed back into Kat Hardingham by December 19th. All pictures will be displayed for our family service on December 20th where prizes will be awarded. Happy Colouring.

Name: _____

Age: _____



UP & Coming for 2016

Our new children's ministry will launch a new and exciting Children's Ministry format on January 10th 2016. Instead of splitting into 3 age related classes the children will remain together and take part in a child focused program. The morning will include Bible story, crafts, prayer, worship, games and much more. This will be a big change for both Children's Ministry Team and children, but we are excited by the opportunity it will give us to grow this area of our church family.



Please pray for Gwyneth, Noelene, Cathy and Kat as they oversee this change, pray for the Children Ministry team as they take on this new adventure, and for the children that through this they will experience a new and deeper understanding of God.



As a church we are committed to praying for one another throughout the week. If you have prayer requests or answers to prayer that you would like to share with the church, please send them to 086 8492552 so they can be circulated throughout the church.

Join us at 9:30am at the Mercy College every Sunday as we pray for our service.

United Youth Group meets every Friday Night, alternating between The Crib on Rockwood Parade (7:30pm) and joining with Youth Challenge (8pm). For further details and all the Christmas activities planned please speak to Josh and Kat Hardingham.

HOTS, our ministry towards those in need of healing, continues to take place every Saturday morning from 11am—1pm in Wine Street Car Park, behind Tesco's. Please speak with Jerome McNamara or George Rich if you would like to get involved or for running dates over Christmas.

Tom and Cathy McGarvey serve as our pastoral care workers. They are available to help and support any of us that are facing a difficult situation or season of life. Their heart is to journey with us through those difficult times, offering prayer and wisdom. Please feel free to contact them on 087 7003211, if you would appreciate their love and time.
