

Just a thought ... Security light – Jim Collins

A few years ago, we decided on the need for a security light for our drive. Each time guests left our house in the dark we had to warn them to ‘mind the step’ down from the door. Due to the convenience of existing wiring (and to avoid a big drilling job through a wall) we were advised to have an LED movement activated light installed over the garage door. The principle has worked well – although the product has failed twice within a short period of time.

Recently, we had a new unit installed. The LED lamps (which are not replaceable) were only giving a faint glimmer when activated rather than illuminating the drive. Following the new one being fitted, it then took several nights to adjust the settings.

At first, every car passing by was putting the light on. You then have to adjust the distance or sensitivity control to make sure the light comes on at the appropriate distance and for the right amount of time. If these settings are not adjusted correctly, you can end up offering free street lighting for your road!

This reminded me of what the Bible tells us about the security and safety that comes when we walk in the light of God’s Word.

The writer of Proverbs points out that, “He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress...” (Proverbs 14:26) This fear is a healthy fear, when we have absolute reverence and awe for Almighty God – the Creator of all things. Proverbs 8:13 outlines what fearing the Lord looks like in practice. “To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behaviour and perverse speech.”

David the psalmist testified to knowing the security and safety that only God can give. He said, “For in the day of trouble He will keep me safe in His dwelling; He will hide me in the shelter of His tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.” (Psalm 27:5)

We may not have the physical enemies that David had in his day – but in our times of uncertainty and when we feel vulnerable, the Name of the LORD is a strong tower, the righteous run to it and are safe. (See Proverbs 18:10)

The purpose of a security lamp is to shed light in the darkness and guide our footsteps to a safe path. The Good News of Jesus is a constant and continued story of God’s light breaking through into the darkest places and circumstances of our lives.

The coronavirus pandemic has darkened all of our lives in some way. However, the light of God shines in the darkness. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Whether we are just experiencing a passing shadow or trying to find our way through complete darkness, the Bible says - "The entrance of your words gives light..." (Psalm 119:130) May God direct our footsteps according to His Word.

Christmas Nativity – Joy May

Are you retired but still dwelling on the fact you were never able to be Mary or Joseph in the school or church nativity? Do you miss the days when you could put a tea towel on your head and become a shepherd? Perhaps you were looking forward to being part of a nativity at school this year and it's no longer able to happen? This year, we have an opportunity to come together like never before (while remaining appropriately isolated and/or socially distanced)! We're looking for volunteers – young and old (and in between) to take part in a virtual nativity to jointly tell the greatest story ever told. There's a range of roles to be played including some non-speaking parts and possibly some non-visual parts too. It's been such a long time since we have all been able to come together, and we hope that as many as possible will be able to get involved to create what could be (!) a masterpiece!!

If you're interested in taking part please email joyfuljenkins@gmail.com or call Joy on 07780434980 or contact via the Brixham Baptist Facebook page by the end of Sunday 29th November.

Building Update – Edwin Pocock

Do you want the good news or the bad news first??

Let's start with the good news. Jon & Becky have purchased a very nice Nordman Christmas tree and erected it, with the help of Harry, in the usual place. Given the current lockdown and weather it does not really feel like Christmas time now.

The wobbly courtyard slab has been removed, cleaned up and reset. It appears to be firmly set at the moment even after a few cars have travelled over it. A replacement hand dryer has been received and installed in the Front Room toilet where it is working correctly. Now the bad news!! We are having problems with some of the older fire alarm sensors, which are causing false alarms on a regular basis. This is causing aggravation to Barry Lewis who has to visit the church to see which sensors are triggering these and reset the system but more especially to the tenants who are assailed by the noise from the sounders at all hours of the day and night. I must say they have acted reasonably to this nuisance and not 'bashed our ears' when theirs have been deafened! We plan to have some new ones fitted that have a more modern sensing system.

The really bad news is that the hall roof is now leaking quite badly. In the back left hand corner water is running down the inside of the wall, soaking this area and staining the ceiling under the gallery. There is evidence of water ingress all along the top right-hand wall

where it meets the roof ceiling. The panel in the roof that was replaced last year is now looking damp and mouldy. I doubt it will collapse shortly, but it is showing signs of distress.

Items for Prayer:

David and Jenny Beard following the passing of David's brother.

Sharon Stoneman following the passing of her cousin.

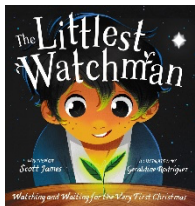
Give thanks that Jen and Bob Bache are recovering from Covid, but continue to pray for Douglas House, its staff and residents.

Jeanette Hunter who has had to have further surgery on her hip.

BMS Boxes – Jean Robertson

Jean asks that if you have a BMS box could you please count the contents, if you are able, and give a call to arrange for the money to be collected on 01803 854245.

Littlest Watchman – Jenny Beard writes:



Christians in Brixham have joined in a project for Christmas based on a book "The Littlest Watchman" from The Good Book Company.

<https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/the-littlest-watchman>

<https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/the-littlest-watchman-advent-calendar>

The Front Room windows will have an illuminated display of the storyline.

A family trail will be available, and the project will run from 1st December to 6th January. 60 church families (approximately 100 children) will receive packs with the story book, Advent calendar, badge, trail form and pencil (all Covid safe!). It will be advertised on Facebook directing to the window display and trail form downloads for other interested children.

Please pray for this project to bring the message of hope to everyone.

Any queries contact Jenny Beard 01803882147

I have taken on the task of collating the Weekly Welcome – At Home whilst it is needed.

If you do have any news or words of encouragement do email me at

geoff.andrews61@gmail.com or telephone and leave a message on 01803 854718. Space is limited but I will try to incorporate these. Geoff