



**Kelvedon**  
**United Reformed Church**  
89 High Street  
Kelvedon CO5 9AE  
**Notices and News for**  
**December 2025**



**New Members:**

We are very happy and pleased to welcome 2 new members to our Church Family. Julian and Sue were welcomed in during our service on Sunday 23rd Nov.

**New Elders:**

We are pleased to announce that three new elders have accepted the task of guiding the future of the Church and have been elected to our Eldership. Lea, Lynn and Trevor have agreed to serve on our Eldership and will be formally inducted in the New Year. We thank Ian and Ernie for all their hard work as they step down from the Eldership.

**Carols at The Tavern:**

**2nd Dec - Carols at The Tavern:** We have been invited to sing Christmas Carols at The Railway Tavern Christmas Market on Tuesday 2nd December at 6:00pm. Please come along and support our singers.

**Halstead Torchlight Procession:** We have been invited by URC Halsted to the Halstead Town Centre Torchlight Procession and outdoor Carol Service on Wednesday 3rd Dec.

**Warm Hub-Christmas Lunch:**

**9th Dec - Warm Hub Christmas Lunch:** We will be providing a Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 9th December, hosted by Kelvedon Community Association. More details to follow. See the leaflet and Poster for more details.

**Christmas Carol Service:**

Our Carol Service this year will be on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec at 6:30pm. Please come along and enjoy the festive spirit and listen to the Christmas Message.

**Essex Healthwatch - Free Slippers:**

**16th Dec - Essex Healthwatch:** Essex Healthwatch will be providing new safe slippers to those in the community who are frail and / or at risk of falls. This will take place alongside our weekly warm hub with slipper fitting taking place in the sanctuary. See the leaflet and Poster for more details.

**Bocking URC Carol Service:** We have been invited to Bocking URC Carol Service on Sunday 21st Dec at 4:00pm.

**Christmas Ramble:**

**27th Dec - Christmas Ramble:** Trevor & Janet have once again organised a Christmas Ramble on Saturday 27th Dec @ 1:30pm, with Refreshments and cakes at approx. 3:00pm. Please spread the word and come along for a Seasonal Blow Out. Everyone welcome including our four-footed friends (Woof, Woof, Woof).

**Christmas Cards:** There will once again be the lit "twig" for you to put Christmas cards for the Church family on in the small meeting room from 7th December. (please prepare cards with a loop ready to hang). A small donation for our charities in lieu of individual cards can be placed in a marked envelope in the offertory box in Church.

Our **Christmas Card Box** will be in the main Sanctuary for those who wish to send individual cards. However, please remember that it is only for those people in the Church Family and we cannot deliver cards to anyone. We will collect the box and sort the cards on the 18<sup>th</sup> December so please make sure you have "posted" yours by then.

**Danbury Mission Church Womens Conference:** Saturday 14th Mar 2026 - Booking for the conference opens on 11th Jan 2026, the speaker will be Rachel Jones and the title is "Restored". Please contact Gwyn Pegram for more information.

**Colne Valley Primary Care - Cancer Support Group:**

On the 1st Monday of each month Colne Valley Primary Care are running a Cancer Support Group from 1:00pm - 3:00pm.

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**Regular Events:**

**1st Monday of each month:** Colne Valley Primary Care are hosting a Cancer Support Group 1:00pm - 3:00pm

**Mondays: House Group** The House Group meet every Monday from 10:30 to 12:00 in the rooms at the back of the Church for a time of Bible Study followed by prayers/prayer requests.

**Tuesdays: - 9.15 - Lunchtime:** Weekly maintenance at the Church. If you can lend a hand, please do just come along, there are plenty of jobs that need doing in and around the halls & sanctuary. For more information, please contact Trevor Andrews.

**Tuesday: Place of Welcome: 10:00am to 12:00:** Place Of Welcome will continue every Tuesday throughout the the Autumn and Winter. Please come along for a friendly chat a cuppa and a biscuit in a warm friendly place. Please contact Lea Finch 07914 238456 for more details. **See changes for December.**

**Tuesday Lunches: 12:00 – 2:00pm:** Our Tuesday Lunches are on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month during the winter period and we are offering a meal of Soup, a Roll and Dessert. Booking is essential for catering purposes. Please contact Lea Finch to book your place. Everyone is welcome to come and join us. **See changes for December.**

**Tuesday: Stretch & Glow:** Chair based exercises to help keep you fit and trim. Everyone is welcome. Contact Andrea Wash for more details. **Our last class will be on Tuesday 16th December, restarting in February 2026**

**Thursday: - Little Lambs:** Little Lambs meet every Thursday during School term time 10:30 - 12:00 in the church, contact Lynn Hyde 07896 190288. **Our last date will be 11th December restarting on 8th Jan 2026**

**Church Services for December 2025 & January 2026**

**All Services start at 10:30 am unless otherwise stated**

| Date                                                                         | Worship Leaders    | Duty Elder        | Door Duty | Refreshments  | Piano  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| 7th Dec - <b>2nd Sunday of Advent - Communion</b>                            | Revd Joshua Norris | Ian Marshall      | Trevor    | Eileen        | Barrie |
| 14th Dec - <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>                                       | Jim Hyde           | Jim Hyde          | Lynn      | Lynn & Jim    | Neil   |
| 14th Dec - <b>Candlelit Carol Service @ 6:30pm led by Revd Joshua Norris</b> |                    |                   |           |               |        |
| 21st Dec - <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>                                       | Jean Summers       | Trevor Andrews    |           | Janet Andrews | Neil   |
| 25th Dec - <b>Christmas Day Service @ 10:00am</b>                            | Jim Hyde           | Jim Hyde          |           |               | Neil   |
| 28th Dec -                                                                   | Trevor Andrews     | John Loy          |           | Janet Andrews | Barrie |
| 4th Jan- <b>Communion</b>                                                    | Ernie Finch        | Neil Peacock      |           |               |        |
| 11th Jan -                                                                   | Trevor Andrews     | Lynn Hyde         |           | Anne & Keith  |        |
| 18th Jan -                                                                   | Mike Shelbourne    | John Loy          | Lynn      | Lynn & Jim    |        |
| 25th Jan - <b>Includes a Church Meeting after the service</b>                | Revd Joshua Norris | Jeremy Greenhalgh |           |               |        |

**Future Events**

**Place of Welcome - Tuesday**

2nd Dec, **9th Dec Christmas Lunch instead of Place of Welcome & Warm Hub,**

16th Dec, (23rd Dec & 30th Dec dependant on Volunteers).

6th Jan, 13th Jan, 20th Jan, 27th Jan

**Warm Hub - Tuesday**

2nd Dec, **9th Dec Christmas Lunch instead of Place of Welcome and Warm Welcome Space,** 16th Dec.

6th Jan, 20th Jan.

### **Other Event Dates**

1st Dec- Cancer Support Group, 2nd Dec - Carols at The Tavern, 7th Dec- KCS Santa visits Kelvedon, 14th Dec - Candlelit Carol Service, 16th Dec - Essex Healthwatch Free Safe Slippers, 25th Dec - Christmas Day, 27th Dec - Christmas Ramble. 1st Jan-New Years Day, 5th Jan - Cancer Support Group.

### **Elders & Church Meetings**

#### **Elders Meetings**

#### **Wednesdays @ 7:30pm**

14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026      18<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
20<sup>th</sup> May 2026      24<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
9<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2026      18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2026

#### **Church Meetings on Sundays after Morning Service**

#### **unless otherwise advised**

25<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026      29<sup>th</sup> March 2026 (Incl AGM)  
31<sup>st</sup> May 2026      Weds 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026 @ 7:30pm  
20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2026      22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2026

#### **Dates and times for Elders and Church Meetings subject to change**

**Any items for inclusion in the Agenda for the Church Meeting to be given/sent to Neil or Jeremy please.**

### **Contact Details for Minister, Elders and Safeguarding**

**Minister:** Revd Joshua Norris – [revjpnorris@gmail.com](mailto:revjpnorris@gmail.com) – 07930 128116

#### **Elders:**

Neil Peacock- [neil@datatrieve.co.uk](mailto:neil@datatrieve.co.uk) – 01376 572114

Jeremy Greenhalgh – [jeremy.greenhalgh@btinternet.com](mailto:jeremy.greenhalgh@btinternet.com) – 07799 435671

Janet Davies – [janetd Davies177@btinternet.com](mailto:janetd Davies177@btinternet.com) – 07900 213833

Trevor Andrews - [trevorandrews65@gmail.com](mailto:trevorandrews65@gmail.com) - 07765 357422

Lea Finch - [leafinch64@gmail.com](mailto:leafinch64@gmail.com) 07914 238456

Lynn Hyde - [lynnhyde6@gmail.com](mailto:lynnhyde6@gmail.com) - 07896 190288

**Safeguarding:** Emma Keegan – [safeguarding@kelvedonurc.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@kelvedonurc.org.uk) – 07547 963059

| December                                                                                                          |                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                |        |                              | 2025   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
| Monday                                                                                                            | Tuesday                                                              | Wednesday                                                                             | Thursday                                       | Friday | Saturday                     | Sunday |
| 1                                                                                                                 | 2                                                                    | 3                                                                                     | 4                                              | 5      | 6                            | 7      |
| 9.15-10.15 Pilates<br>10.30-12 Bible Study<br>1:00 – 3:00 Cancer support Group<br>6-8pm Katherine Hayhoe - Studio | 9-12 PoW/Warm Wel<br>2:30 – 4.00 Chair Ex<br>7-9 PHAD (Dance Studio) | 9-12:30 Braille Club<br>Sanctuary & Halls<br>1-2 BabySling<br>4-9 PHAD (Dance Studio) | 9-12 Little Lambs<br>1:30 -4:30 Sewing Club    |        |                              |        |
| 8                                                                                                                 | 9                                                                    | 10                                                                                    | 11                                             | 12     | 13                           | 14     |
| 9.15-10.15 Pilates<br>10.30-12 Bible Study<br>6-8pm Katherine Hayhoe - Studio                                     | Christmas Lunch<br>2:30 – 4.00 Chair Ex<br>7-9 PHAD (Dance Studio)   | 1-2 BabySling<br>4-9 PHAD (Dance Studio)                                              | 9-12 Little Lambs<br>7-10 WI Sanctuary & Halls |        |                              |        |
| 15                                                                                                                | 16                                                                   | 17                                                                                    | 18                                             | 19     | 20                           | 21     |
| 9.15-10.15 Pilates<br>10.30-12 Bible Study                                                                        | 9-12 PoW/Warm Wel<br>2:30 – 4.00 Chair Ex<br>7-9 PHAD (Dance Studio) | 1-2 BabySling<br>4-9 PHAD (Dance Studio)<br>7.30 Elders Meeting                       | 6-10 Trefoil                                   |        | 12-3 Early Learners          |        |
| 22                                                                                                                | 23                                                                   | 24                                                                                    | 25                                             | 26     | 27                           | 28     |
|                                                                                                                   | 9-12 PoW/Warm Wel                                                    |                                                                                       |                                                |        | 1:00 – 4:00 pm Church Ramble |        |
| 29                                                                                                                | 30                                                                   | 31                                                                                    |                                                |        |                              |        |
|                                                                                                                   | 9-12 PoW/Warm Wel                                                    |                                                                                       |                                                |        |                              |        |

**Time for a Laugh**

**Dingbats**

|                                       |                 |            |                |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|
| 1                                     | 2               | 3          | 4              |
| NOW IN HERE                           | EACK            | BUS<br>BUS | LI standing NE |
| 5.                                    | 6               | 7.         | 8.             |
| Often<br>Not<br>Often<br>Not<br>Often | Person<br>ality | Polmomice  | XQQME          |

**Cryptic Christmas Card**

A man sent his friend a cryptic Christmas card. It said: A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z. The recipient puzzled over it for weeks, finally gave up and wrote asking for an explanation. In July he received the explanation on a postcard: "No L."

**True story**

The nativity play was going as planned and Joseph and Mary were going from house to house knocking on the doors and asking if there was any room for them. As they continued to get "no room" answers a little voice called from the back "YOU SHOULD HAVE BOOKED!" bringing the house down.

**Didn't You Get My E-Mail?**

As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked the usual, "And what would you like for Christmas?" The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped: "Didn't you get my E-mail?"

**Who kissed Santa?**

At my daughter's elementary school Christmas concert, a first-grade girl introduced their song, "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" with clear, articulate, well-rehearsed speech, [and not in the least aware of the mix-up], saying: "Oh, what Mommy would have thought if she saw Daddy kissing Santa Claus!"

**The Real Santa?**

The local newscaster was with the crowd of parade watchers, welcoming Santa as he arrived in town, and in a live interview asked a bouncy 4 yrs. old girl if she had talked with this Santa yet to give him her Christmas list. "No" she replied emphatically. "Are you going to talk with Santa?" the newscaster asked. "NO" once again was the most definite answer which was not the reaction that he was expecting at all! "Why?" he curiously asked the little one. "Because the real Santa is at the Mall."

**THE VIRGIN BIRTH**

A woman takes her 16-year-old daughter to the doctor. The doctor says, "Okay, Mrs. Jones, what's the problem?"

The mother says, "It's my daughter Darla. She keeps getting these cravings, she's putting on weight and is sick most mornings."

The doctor gives Darla a good examination then turns to the mother and says, "Well, I don't know how to tell you this but your Darla is pregnant. About 4 months would be my guess."

The mother says, "Pregnant?! She can't be, she has never ever been left alone with a man! Have you Darla?"

Darla says, "No mother! I've never even kissed a man!"

The doctor walked over to the window and just stares out it. About five minutes pass and finally the mother says, "Is there something wrong out there doctor?"

The doctor replies, "No, not really, it's just that the last time anything like this happened, a star appeared in the east and three wise men came over the hill. I'll be damned if I'm going to miss it this time!"

**Save God the trouble**

There was a young boy who was saying a prayer out loud one night and his brother was listening to him. This

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boy asked God for a fresh milkshake in the morning. His brother said: "just shake a cow and milk it. It will save God the trouble."

### **A little help from Joseph**

One day during our children's sermon, I was telling the kids about how the angel came to Mary to tell her about how she would help bring Jesus into the world. One little girl seemed puzzled about this whole scene. Then another child asked what I thought the first thing Mary would have asked for after the angel left her. Instantly this little girl chimed in with "I'll bet she asked for a little help from Joseph!"

### **Who is the Real Virgin?**

A ten-year-old, under the tutelage of her grandmother, was becoming quite knowledgeable about the Bible. Then one day she floored her grandmother by asking, "Which virgin was the mother of Jesus? The virgin Mary or the King James Virgin?"

### **What Are The Three Gifts?**

While participating in a church Christmas pageant many years past, I had the good fortune to be chosen as the narrator. Each rehearsal went off well and then on the night of the show, I, in a loud and penetrating voice announced the gifts of the Magi as "gold, Frankenstein and myrrh."

### **No Room In The Inn?**

A boy wanted to be Joseph in the Sunday School pageant. He was cast as the landlord and objected loudly, but to no avail. When the pageant was presented, Mary and Joseph knocked on the door and asked him if he had a room for them. The boy smiled and said, "Yes, sure. Lots of room. Come on in!"

### **Pontius Who?**

At Sunday school, the younger children were drawing pictures illustrating Biblical stories. The teacher walked by and noticed one little boy was drawing an airplane! "Oh, what Bible story are you drawing?" she asked. "This is the Flight into Egypt," the little boy answered. "See, here is Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. And this," he said, pointing to the front of the plane, "is Pontius. He's the Pilot."

### **Same Name?**

A little boy named Nicholas told the store's Santa Claus: "You and I have the same name." Santa says: "Well, hello Harold."

### **Going the wrong way in the "Advent Rush"**

While a man had gone out driving to do some Christmas shopping, his wife had been watching TV when she heard the announcer say, "be very careful and watch driving on I5 today, there is a motorist driving the wrong way"! His wife got hold of him on the cell phone to warn him, and his reply was: "You tell me, there are hundreds of them here".

### **The Wrong Gift**

The parents began to assemble the special Christmas gift they had for their children. They had ordered a kit for a tree house and received the plans for it. However, the materials they received were for a sailboat. They wrote the company to complain. The company's reply: "While we regret the inconvenience this mistake must have cause you, it is nothing compared to that of the man who is out on a lake somewhere trying to sail your tree house."

### **God's Not Deaf**

Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents' house the week before Christmas. At bedtime, the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers. The younger one began praying at the top of his lungs: "I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE..."

"I PRAY FOR A NEW NINTENDO..."

His older brother leaned over, nudged him and said, "Why are you shouting? God isn't deaf." to which the little brother replied, "No, but Grandma is!"

### **Actual children's versions of Christmas Carols:**

"...sleep in heavenly peas";

"Joy to the world, the Saviour rains";

"This is he whom Sears of old...";

"Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plane";

"While shepherds washed their socks by night

### **None of Them Are Toys!**

When my daughters were little I would always tell them around Christmas that this is Jesus' birthday and he only received 3 things so do not be disappointed in what lies under the tree. When it came time for worship on Christmas morning, I asked the children what they thought Jesus would think of Santa and all the hype. Would

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he ask Santa a question? My youngest daughter replied, "I think Jesus would ask how come I only got three things and none of them were toys?"

**Viking Mary**

When my son was 8 years of age, He was in a Christmas Pageant at our church. His line started "And the Virgin Mary was with Child." He did his line correctly at every rehearsal. On the night the of the presentation everything was going wonderful. All the children were relaxed and reciting their lines without flaw. It came time for my son to recite his line and this is exactly how it came out: "And the Viking Mary was with Child." It was quite a job for all the adults watching the presentation to restrain ourselves and not bellow out in laughter.

**Signs**

**Sign in a shoe repair store:**

We will heel you.

We will save your sole.

We will even dye for you.

**A sign on a Blinds and Curtain Truck:** Blind man driving.

**Sign over a Gynaecologist's Office:** Doctor Jones, at your cervix.

**In a Podiatrist's office:** Time wounds all heels.

**On a Septic Tank Truck:** Yesterday's Meals on Wheels.

**At an Optometrist's Office:** If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place.

**On a Plumber's truck:** We repair what your husband fixed.

**On another Plumber's truck:** Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber.

**At a Tyre Shop:** Invite us to your next blowout.

**On an Electrician's truck:** Let us remove your shorts.

**In a Non-smoking Area:** If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and will take appropriate action.

**On a Maternity Room door:** Push. Push. Push.

**At a Car Dealership:** The best way to get back on your feet – miss a car payment.

**Outside a Car Exhaust Shop:** No appointment necessary. We hear you coming.

**More Smiles**

1. I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me!
2. Broken pencils are pretty much pointless!
3. What do you call someone who enjoys Mondays? Retired!
4. Retirement is wonderful. It's doing nothing without worrying about getting caught!
5. Sometimes the best part of your career is retirement!
6. Retirement is what happens between doctors' appointments!
7. How many retirees does it take to change a lightbulb? One, but it takes all day!
8. Every time I cough, splutter or sneeze, my radiator leaks and my exhaust backfires!
9. The good thing about having a bad memory is that jokes can be funny more than once!
10. I'm not hard of hearing...I've just heard enough!
11. Be kind to your kids. They choose your nursing home!
12. Money isn't everything, but it sure keeps you in touch with your children!
13. What kind of music do planets like?...Neptunes!
14. What did one hat say to the other?...You stay here, I'll go on ahead!
15. What tree can fir into your hand?...A Palm tree!
16. Why are ghosts bad liars?...They're totally see through!
17. How do poets say hello?... Haven't we metaphor?
18. How does the ocean say hi?... It waves
19. How did the art competition end?...In a draw
20. Why did the bike fall over?...It was two tired
21. Where can you buy soup in bulk?...The Stock Market

**Dingbat Answers**

1. In the middle of Nowhere
2. Cake Mix
3. Double Decker Bus
4. Standing In Line
5. More Often than Not
6. Split Personality
7. Mother in Law
8. Excuse Me