



Genesis, St Luke's, Holmes Chapel

Sunday 8th September 2019

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to *Genesis*- a place for young people, 2-11 years, to explore faith through craft, music, drama and friendship. We trust you have had an enjoyable summer and it is beginning to feel that Autumn is upon us already!

We are approaching one of our busiest times of the year and as the lead up to Christmas beckons, it brings with it Harvest, Operation Christmas Child and Mary's meals, Remembrance and an all singing and dancing nativity! Our diary of events below may help you keep track. This autumn is also especially exciting as our new minister, Canon Rob McLaren and his wife Jean, join us to lead St Lukes in its Christian mission.

Sept 8th- Genesis: Parable focus- The Lost Son

Sept 15th- Family worship.

Sept 22nd - Genesis: Parable 2- The Good Samaritan

Sept 29th - Harvest family service for *Genesis* and the uniformed groups. Please bring your tinned /packet food items to the service. These goods will be delivered to the Barnabus homeless charity in Manchester. This service will be interactive, and children's participation will be greatly encouraged.

Oct 6th- Genesis: Launch of Operation Christmas Child 2019 and Mary's meals (also a charity for children providing them with backpacks, clothing and stationary goods.) ***Please also bring your donations of cake which we can sell after the service to raise money to buy items in short supply for the boxes and back packs.*** Thank you.

Oct 13th- Genesis: Parable 3- The lost sheep (plus St Lukes day reference which occurs on 18th October)

Oct 20th - Family Worship

Oct 27th- Genesis: Bible Sunday. This is the beginning of half term and many of us may be away. **Can you please confirm if you are able to make Genesis on 27th October.**

Nov 3rd - Genesis: Finale of Operation Christmas Child and Mary's meals. Please bring your filled shoe boxes, back packs or items to go into either of these. Last year we were especially short of little games i.e. small balls, skipping ropes and small teddies and toiletry items.

Nov 10th - Remembrance Sunday marking 101 years since the end of WW1. *Genesis* joins the uniformed children's groups in Holmes Chapel for Remembrance activities and reflections. This will be a very busy and thought-provoking morning. We wind up our

activities by 10.45am to enable us to cross the road to the Cenotaph for the 1 minute silence at 11am.

Nov 17th - *Genesis*: Please note family worship is the fourth Sunday not the third this month, as we want to be in Church for Canon Rob's first service next week. The 17th Nov will be our first rehearsal for the Nativity. Could you please let us know your availability for the 3 practice sessions and final performance on 15th December? It would be really helpful if your child could attend all the rehearsals. We shall be handing out Nativity parts and organising costumes during this first rehearsal.

Friday 22nd November- Institution and Induction service for Canon Rob McLaren
7.30-8.30pm

Nov 24th - Family worship led by our new minister, Canon Rob McLaren. All most welcome. Please come and support our new minister as he and his wife settle into their ministry at St Lukes.

Dec 1st - *Genesis* Nativity: Second practice followed by Christmas markets in Holmes Chapel 4-7pm.

Dec 8th - *Genesis* Nativity: Third practice.

Dec 15th - *Genesis* Nativity performance in the Church Hall.

Dec 22nd- 7pm candlelit lesson and carol service

Tuesday Dec 24th - Christmas Eve Christingle and Crib services at both 3pm and 5pm. This is a very popular service for families. The first part of the service involves building the crib scene and then the Christingle oranges are distributed and lit. If you would like to order a Christingle and collecting candle, please add your name and number of Christingles required on the form available from *Genesis* from the end of November.

You will also find attached a contact/allergy document and GDPR form. Can these please be completed and returned to a member of the *Genesis* team as soon as possible. Let's now look forward to a great year ahead, making Christ known in the community of Holmes Chapel, so that we can all share in the joy of God's love.

Fiona Pullé, Karen Cragg, Jayne Cawood and Olivia Middleweek
The *Genesis* team

Name:

I am/ am not available for the *Genesis* Nativity on 15th Dec.

Available/ not available- Please confirm which dates you are available in Nov/Dec