

Christmas 2023.

Dear Friends,

Another year drawing to an end! How fast the days weeks and months seem to pass! So much to do, that sometimes we miss out on the important things in life. Yet Christmas and all it means gives us time to draw aside and consider what is really important to us! Hard to imagine isn't it! The God behind all that there is taking time to become one of us. Born as a baby at a specific time in history. An ordinary night, with ordinary sheep and ordinary shepherds, were it not for our amazing God who loves to put an "extra" before the "ordinary!" The shepherds would have slept the night away, the sheep would have been forgotten, the angels would never have sung, a stable would never have been used as a delivery room, and wise men would never have followed the star, if it hadn't been for our God who loves to interrupt the ordinary!

Whatever your situation this year, I hope you are looking for God in the ordinary! That note from a friend to ask how you are! That call just because some-one was thinking of you! That unexpected gift, or that word of encouragement, look behind all of that and realise that God works in extra-ordinary ways. Recently, I came across a lovely little story about Christmas! A young Mum in Anderson South Carolina was stressed and busy wrapping up Christmas presents, and trying to think of all she had to do because she was due to go out to a Christmas celebration that evening. Her young son wanted to help and finally she said to him, if you really want to help you could polish the shoes I want to wear tonight! He did, he made such a lovely job of them that his Mum gave him 25 cents! That evening when she went to slip her feet into the shoes, she found a lump in the shoe....it was the 25 cents wrapped up in a wee note that said "I dun it for love!"

That's the truth of Christmas! God "dun it" for love! Love of you and love of me, so however busy you are this Christmas I hope you'll take time to look for God in the ordinary, peer behind the presents, look behind the turkey and the trimmings, enjoy the company of your loved ones, but look behind all of it and find a little bit of time to enjoy afresh the realisation that God interrupted ordinary life when he came as one of us, and he did it for love!

May this Christmas be a time of love and celebration for you, and may 2024 be a year of health and happiness knowing that we have a God who loves to put the extra onto the ordinary!

Yours always,

Elizabeth

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 2nd December 10am-12noon Christmas coffee morning and fayre.

Sunday 3rd December 10am Communion.

Sunday 10th December at 6pm Christmas Celebration.

All are welcome.