

## What's on !!!!

Messy church



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January. 3.30pm

Please pray for this event, that many children and parents will attend and through craft, story and fun, will hear about the love of Jesus for them.



Don't forget  
Sunday CommuniTea - 25<sup>th</sup> January,  
3-5pm and  
Winter Warmer -  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February  
All day fun, crafts and fellowship.

Wise\*Men  
  
Still Seek  
Him

Welcome to Worship at Peasedown St John Methodist Church over this glorious time, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

We pray that this will be a Spirit-filled time, and that the presence of the Lord Jesus is truly felt.

We believe in the power of prayer in the name of Jesus and therefore..

If you have a concern or a joy that you wish to share in confidence, our prayer team would like to support you, and pray with you, so if that is helpful for you, please join them after the service.

**Rev Michelle Ireland**  
is leading our all-age service  
this morning (4th)

Next week, 11th, Rob Doble,  
will lead worship at 10.30am

Giving in December = thankyou for your amazing generosity.

Offerings - 7<sup>th</sup> - £965.95, 14<sup>th</sup>- £586.93,  
21<sup>st</sup> - £507.30, 28<sup>th</sup>- £326.38

Julian House - £150

Thankyou for all the gifts for Julian House

### Birthdays in January

January - 1<sup>st</sup> Luc Parry, 5<sup>th</sup> Pam Turner, 9<sup>th</sup> Barbara Curtis and Laura Cross, 11<sup>th</sup> Thomas Scott, 12<sup>th</sup> Tracy Morris, 13<sup>th</sup> Ben Hillier (21<sup>st</sup> b'day), 17<sup>th</sup> Frankie Townsend, 18<sup>th</sup> Katie Smith, Jennifer White, Emma Parker, 19<sup>th</sup> Katya Cross, 25<sup>th</sup> Helena Midgley & Derek Edgell, 29<sup>th</sup> Brett Townsend, 31<sup>st</sup> Ruth Reeve

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What does the Bible say about the three wise men (Magi)?" Answer: We assume that there were three wise men because of the three gifts that were given: gold, incense, and myrrh (Matthew 2:11). However, the Bible does not say there were only three wise men. There could have been many more. Tradition says that there were three and that their names were Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, but since the Bible does not say, we have no way of knowing whether the tradition is accurate.

It is a common misconception that the wise men visited Jesus at the stable on the night of His birth.

In fact, the wise men came days, months, or possibly even years later. That is why Matthew 2:11 says the wise men visited and worshiped Jesus in a house, not at the stable.

We know that the magi were wise men from "the East," most likely Persia, or modern-day Iran. This means the wise men travelled 800 to 900

miles to see the Christ child. Most likely, the magi knew of the writings of the prophet Daniel, who in time past had been the chief of the court seers in Persia. Daniel 9:24-27 includes a prophecy which gives a timeline for the birth of the Messiah. Also, the magi may have been aware of the prophecy of Balaam (who was from the town of Pethor on the Euphrates River near Persia) in Numbers 24:17. Balaam's prophecy specifically mentions a "star coming out of Jacob."

The wise men were guided to look for the King of the Jews by a miraculous stellar event, the "Star of Bethlehem," which they called "His star" (Matthew 2:2). They consulted with King Herod in Jerusalem concerning the birth of Christ and were directed to Bethlehem (Matthew 2:4-8). They followed God's guidance joyfully (Matthew 2:10). Their gifts for Jesus were costly, and they worshiped Him. God warned them in a dream against returning to Herod, so, in defiance of the king, they left Judea by another route (Matthew 2:12). So, the magi were men who 1) read and believed God's Word, 2) sought Jesus, 3) recognized the worth of Christ, 4) humbled themselves to worship Jesus, and 5) obeyed God rather than man. They were truly wise men!

### **NOT TO BE MISSED - JONATHAN VEIRA IN CONCERT**

**Jonathan Veira is an opera singer and Christian with a brilliant sense of humour. He will be bringing his one-man show with a message to Box on 17 January. Book your tickets now.**

**Venue - The Selwyn Hall in Box. Date - Saturday 17 January at 7.30p.m. Tickets Adults - £10 Under 16s - £6 For ticket information or to book:**

**[boxmethodistchurch@boxmethodist.org](mailto:boxmethodistchurch@boxmethodist.org) or  
01225 743780.**