The Link Letter

The Bible tells us:

"Now after Jesus was born...wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him'"... Matthew 2:1-2.

Because of the International Date Line you can fly from America on December 24th and arrive in Australia on December 26th, missing Christmas Day altogether. But you can also stay home and miss it, end up exhausted, broke, glad it's over, and not experience the joy it brings. Don't let that happen to you. Try something different. Before you dive into gift giving, partying or watching loads of television, gather your loved ones around and read them the Christmas story. Your children will never forget it. They might even make it a tradition they carry on with their children too:

- Tell them that whether you are rich like the wise men or poor like the shepherds, Jesus loves you. Your social status makes no difference; He values you as you are.
- Tell them that when Jesus came, He never left. His Word says, '...I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we may boldly say: The Lord is my helper...' (Hebrews 13:5-6).
- Tell them every prophecy concerning Christ's first coming came to pass, and that the prophecies in the Bible concerning His second coming are being fulfilled right now. So if they're wise they'll seek Him, surrender to Him, serve Him and be ready when He returns.

At the heart of Christmas is the story of Jesus, celebrated by millions around the world each year. Christians believe his birth is God's gift of hope to a world in desperate need of love, forgiveness and a better way of living. Why not come and celebrate this hope with us: we'd love to welcome you to one of our services. Our prayer is that you meet Jesus himself and find real hope for the future. May God bless you all,

Dave & Jenny Dickerson

The Link Activities:

Sunday Services at the Link, 10 am every week:

Sunday 11th Nativity Service with Bishop Sutton Pre-School

Sunday 25th Christmas Day Service

Worship Workshop: 8pm, 1st Thursday in the month to learn new songs and new skills for worship. Next is 1st December.

<u>Connection</u>: "Going deeper with God" ... 3rd Thursday in the month. Next is 15th December, 8pm, for prayer, praise, worship and waiting on God.

<u>Stop and Drop:</u> Stop for a cuppa before dropping off kids at the pre-school, everyone welcome, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:55am-9:30am term time.

<u>Coffee morning:</u> and chatter, with Scrabble and Upwords... Tuesday 10:30am-12 noon. Other board games are also available.

Art and Craft Group: Tuesday 2pm-4:30pm.

<u>Chill Out Zone (1) Youth Group:</u> ... Monday 5:30pm-7pm for 9/10 year olds (year 5) to 13/14 year olds (year 9).

<u>Bishop Sutton Film Club:</u> Saturday 3rd December, Family Matinee 2:00pm open for 2:30pm start; Evening Film 6:30pm open for 7:00pm. For film titles and bookings email: <u>Bishopsuttonfilmclub@hotmail.com</u> or tel:07843 276593 /01275 332746.

<u>Unity Singers Christmas Concert:</u> Saturday 10th December 7:30pm in aid of St Peter's Hospice. Tickets £5:00, Tel 01275 331805.

<u>Carols at the Red Lion:</u> Monday 19th December 6:30pm with free mulled wine and mince pies, bring a torch.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday 21st January 8:30am-10am in the Red Lion to hear Richard Meryon talk about the Syrian refugees: "All these refugees: "something must be done" but NIMBY?" Tickets £7 from Dave or booking: thelink.bsbc@btinternet.com /01275 332746.

<u>Food Bank particular needs:</u> Sugar (1kg bags), Coffee, Dried and Long Life Milk and Breakfast Cereals.