



NCCM Christmas update 2025

This year I resolved to get my Christmas cards written early and ready for the post, presents bought and wrapped and food ordered in sufficient time for the annual gathering of family. Invariably, something crops up, my plans fail miserably and Christmas is once again a last minute rush. Each year I vow to myself that 'next year, I'll be better organised'. However, I fear that next year, I'll find myself in the same position. Someone once said that 'life is what happens whilst you're busy making plans' - and for me, that's always been the case in life - especially at Christmas.

So how are your Christmas plans going? Does my experience sound familiar?

Thankfully, God is much better than us when it comes to planning. The birth of his son Jesus, was for us, the start of his plan for our salvation - and what a plan it was! God, making himself as vulnerable as a baby, living amongst us, demonstrating his authority over the whole of creation (Matt 8 vs 23-26), spiritually (Matt 8 vs 28-32) and physically (Matt 9 vs 4-7).

As Christians, we know that's just the beginning. His salvation plan was to conquer death and through his resurrection, show that by faith, we can have eternal life with him - what a plan!

At NCCM, we like to support others in their plans to develop their Christian ministry and training. It's thanks to you, that NCCM can support people like Amy Boddam-Whetham by part funding her ministry training course to help equip her in her role as Children and Youth Ministry assistant in Bath. Amy writes:

"Support from NCCM has allowed me to take the South West Gospel Partnership ministry trainee course as part of my placement year doing youth and children's ministry at St Bart's church in Bath. This year-long course takes place every Thursday and has been extremely valuable in growing my own personal faith and understanding of the Bible, as well as equipping me with the skills and knowledge I need to teach and lead studies for the young people at the church.

After the Christmas break I will begin reading the Bible one-on-one with some of the girls in our youth group so would really appreciate prayer that I would be faithfully pointing them towards Jesus, as well as growing in fellowship and being teachable myself. Please also pray for the non-Christian youth who attend our weekly groups, some of whom have started attending church and Christianity explored, that they would grow in curiosity and longing for the gospel to the point where they are ready to commit their lives to Jesus. Thank you for all your prayer and support,"

Amy Boddam-Whetham



Without your support, NCCM would not be able to contribute towards funding the Associate Minister role at St Peter's and St John's in north Carlisle. Kieran writes:

"Doesn't time fly? it has been a great privilege to serve St John's and St Peters over the last 15 months. It has been a joy to be part of the life of our four congregations and to get to know so many of you.

Week by week, ministry is wonderfully varied, so there is never a dull moment. From preaching and teaching, to visiting people, to mens groups, bible studies and evangelistic events. It's been great to serve in a wide range of ways.

One of the great joys is working alongside our local schools. Every Tuesday I lead worship at Houghton School, opening the bible and helping the children explore what it means in an age appropriate way. It's great to see so many little hands go up in the air when questions are asked. This term I also have been invited into the school to lead a number of classes supporting teachers as they teach the RE curriculum.

One highlight in particular from the summer term was leading the 321 course with all the teachers and support staff. It was really encouraging to see the staff engage so openly with the big questions of life and faith.

We continue to run the Quest Club in both Houghton and Kingmoor. After some games and fun, we spend some time exploring the Bible together. The children engage really well and often have thoughtful questions- it's a real blessing to see their curiosity and enthusiasm.

As a family we now feel very settled in the parish (though we must confess there are still a few boxes waiting to be unpacked...) Ashley and the boys enjoy worshipping at St Johns in the morning and 4Life in the afternoon. Thank you for the warm welcome you have shown them - it has meant a great deal.

Ashley continues to serve Radstock Ministries as International Operations Manager, she is able to work from home which is great for family life. The boys are loving being at Houghton School and have made many lovely friends.

We would value your prayers as we continue to get to know people in the local area. We have made many connections at the school gate, and we pray that those relationships will deepen into genuine friendships.

Thank you so much for your support, prayers and many words of encouragement. We truly appreciate the love and kindness that you have shown to our family".

And finally.....

Thanks to you, NCCM can go on supporting people in sharing the good news of Jesus. In addition to its ongoing commitments, NCCM is always on the look out for, and welcomes, new applications for support. Do please get in touch if you'd like to know more.



Kieran, Ash, Archie and Lachlan

However you plan to spend Christmas this year, we pray for God's continued blessing upon your lives. May you know His peace that passes all understanding and find rest in His abounding love.

Thank you and Happy Christmas



Neal Andrews



Andrew Towner



Jo Boddam Whetham



Bryony Woodbridge



Steve Blake