

Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church

October & November 2026

MAGAZINE



Our Mission

Living With Christ

Living For Christ

Living to Make Christ Known

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Circuit website: bramhallwythenshawemethodists.org.uk

Church Office: Closed Monday
Tuesday 12:30- 3:30pm
Wednesday to Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm

Minister:
Reverend Alistair Jones (Day off Friday)
07782 376945 alistairjones@live.co.uk

**Children & Families
Worker**
Susie Metcalfe

**Community & Pastoral
Worker**
Jackie Sims

Church Treasurer
Maurice Turnpenney

Leadership Team:
Dave James, Charles Nevin,
Gill Smith

Articles for the **December/January** issue of the magazine
need to be submitted to the magazine editor Gill Smith
via email

by **Friday 20th November**

If you include your personal contact details in your article it
will be assumed that you are giving consent for these to be
included in the paper copy of the magazine which will be in
the public domain.

The Joy of the Lord is my strength!

(Nehemiah 8:10)

Life brings a lot of things, some good,
some bad, some easy, some hard,
some happy, some sad.

But what does it mean to have Joy!

There is a song that has spoken to me a lot recently and it is by Elle Limebear and is called 'Give me Joy' – look it up on spotify or you tube – you will recognise the chorus!



What is joy? It is deep, stable gladness of the soul that does not change based on a person's outer circumstances.

The prophet spoke the words: 'The Joy of the Lord is my strength' to the Israelites when they wept upon hearing the Law read aloud, realising how far they had fallen. He told them they should be filled with joy.

*Why should **we** be filled with the joy of the Lord?* Because it provides spiritual strength, sustains us through trials and reflects the unchanging nature of God's grace.

There is another song by Rend Collective called 'The joy of the Lord' – look that one up too!

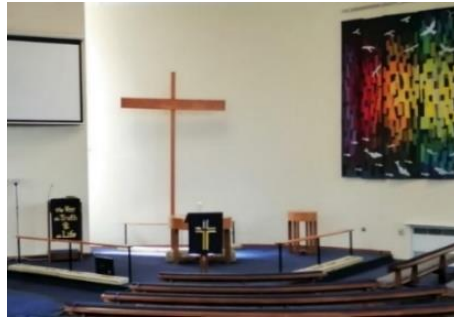
Every day we have a choice. To be joyful in all circumstances.

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18)

I am not saying this is always easy. When times are tough it is extremely difficult. In those times we might need to lean on others for help and for prayer but God brings us the strength to carry on and He has saved us through His Son so whatever we go through in life, we can be joyful in that and give God our praise.

Give me joy in my heart, keep my praising..... **Jackie Sims**

Join us for Worship



Services will be held in the Sanctuary and will be simultaneously livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Services in October

Sunday 4th October

10:30am Morning worship with Holy Communion
led by Rev Alan Bradley Deputy Chair (NWE Methodist
District)
and Mission Area Lead (Greater Manchester Plus)



Sunday 11th October

10:30am Morning worship led Rev Alistair Jones

Sunday 18th October

10:30am Morning worship led by Mr Dave James

Sunday 25th October

10:30am Morning Worship local arrangement
6:30pm Evening worship led by Rev Alistair Jones

Services in November



Sunday 1st November

10:30am Morning worship with Holy Communion
led by Rev Alistair Jones

4.30pm Annual Memorial Service led by Rev Alistair Jones

Sunday 8th November

10:30am Morning worship led by Mr David Allaby

Sunday 15th November

10:30am Morning worship led Mrs Mary Langton

Sunday 22nd November

10:30am Morning worship led by Mr Malcolm Gunn

Sunday 29th November

10.30am Circuit Service at St Andrews

6.30pm Evening Worship Churches Together Service
at Swann Lane URC

**Our annual Toy service will be on Sunday 6th
December**

Further details on last page

In our prayers



In your prayers please remember those who are in hospital, those having tests and treatments, suffering illness or bereavement and those going through challenging times.

Regular Events at Church

MONDAY

Homegroup 1st & 3rd week 10:30am to 12 noon in Room 2 at
Churc Contact: Margaret Parker

Memory Lane 2:00 - 4:00pm

Meets the second and fourth Monday of the month for those with
dementia and their carers
12th & 26th October & 9th & 23rd November Contact: Jackie Sims

Knit, Craft and Natter 7 - 9pm

Meets first Monday of the month 5th October & 2nd November
Contact: Jackie Sims

Homegroup- 1st & 3rd week 8pm Contact: Gez Butterworth

Take Time Together 8:00pm

Meets the **second** and **fourth** Monday of the month via Zoom-
contact church office for the link

TUESDAY

CAMEO 10:30am - 1:30pm

Contact: Val Pickwell

Chelwood Foodbank Collection 11:00 am - 12 noon

In the Church car park
Contact: Susie Metcalfe

Reflective Worship 7:00 - 7:30pm in Room 2

Contact: Pat James

MATCH (Men AT Cheadle Hulme) 7:30 - 9:00pm

A meeting for men every 4th Tuesday evening on Zoom.
Contact: Ian Porter

WEDNESDAY

Toddler Breakfast 9:45 - 10.15am once a month

Next breakfasts- 21st October & 18th November

Toddlers 10:30 - 11:45am term time only

Contact: Susie Metcalfe

THURSDAY

Baby Chat 10:30 - 11:45am term time only

Contact: Susie Metcalfe

Network 2pm

1st Oct - Cuppa and a Chat with mini AGM

8th Oct - Deacon Jenny Jones - Monday's Undies

15th Oct - Lunch out at the Aviator at 12.30pm

22nd Oct - Ruth Mason - Picture Quiz

29th Oct - Jean Nevin - The Preachers Wife

5th Nov – Cuppa and a Chat

12th Nov – Kath Lee - Family History

19th Nov – Andrew Mason - Hymn Practice

26th Nov – Val Pickwell - NHS in the 60s

Contact: Margaret Pattie

FRIDAY

Wobblers 10:30 - 11:45am term time only

Contact: Susie Metcalfe.

Homegroup 1st & 3rd weeks 2pm meet in the coffee lounge

Contact: Val Pickwell

Boys Brigade & Girls Association

Anchors 5-8yrs 6:30 - 7:45pm

Juniors 8-11yrs 6:30 - 8pm

Contact: Jackie Sims, Rachael East or Phil Sarbutts



NETWORK 8th October

On Thursday 8th October at 2.00pm Network will be hosting Deacon Jenny Jones who has agreed to come and speak about **Mondays Undies.**

If you would like to learn more about this charity do come along and join us.

Jenny would welcome any new undies you can donate, ladies sizes 10,12 & 14, and men's- any size, she is mainly asked for small or medium sizes but currently has no large.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Margaret Pattie
Secretary

Link to Hope – Shoeboxes



We will be packing the shoeboxes for Link to Hope in Room 2 on **Wednesday 21st October** from 9.30am and would welcome volunteers to help.

If you have any items for the shoeboxes please could we have them by Sunday 18th October.

Thank you, Lesley and Jacqui

Flower Visitors

October Flower Visitor – Cheryl Palmer

November Flower Visitor – Jo Scoltock



Thank you from Chelwood Foodbank



“Great to see the first Harvest collection come in. School holidays have taken a toll on our stock levels so we are really grateful for your support.

Thank you so much to the wonderful community at Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church.”

Wellspring

"Many thanks for the wonderful donation of clothes we received from Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church. We are very grateful for your support."



We will be collecting clothes for The Wellspring until Homeless Sunday on 4th October. If you are having a wardrobe clear out, Wellspring would appreciate any clean clothing in good condition in particular any male or female waterproof coats/anoraks, trousers/ jeans/joggers, fleeces, hoodies, t-shirts, socks, hat and gloves. Please leave in the collection bin in the Narthex.

Refugee Prayers – the future?

This monthly prayer meeting began back in 2015, in response to an earlier “Refugee Crisis”. The civil war in Syria was intensifying, and thousands, or indeed millions of people were heading west, through Turkey; into Greece, then across into Europe, hoping for a safer and more peaceful life.

An article from Tearfund in 2016 commented ***“the scale of the refugee crisis is hard to grasp. Who can count the millions of families who have fled the fighting in Iraq and Syria?”***

European governments responded in various ways, sometimes brutally, perhaps overwhelmed by the numbers. We were shocked by the atrocities and tragedies daily on our screens. We held a Prayer Vigil, helped by Emma Coe, with items placed around the Sanctuary, for reflection and prayer, each item to symbolise some aspect of the refugee journey. And it seemed imperative that we should pray – so a small group of us began to meet, to pray together monthly, here at CHMC.

Since then, more and more desperate situations have developed around the world. The “Refugee Crisis” is widespread and increasingly complex. Rohingya refugees fleeing Myanmar; Civil war in Sudan; Ukraine; Gaza . . . to mention just a few - sometimes it feels that the whole world is on the move. And often it all feels overwhelming. But for the past 10 years, we have continued to pray – ***“Father may your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”***

So that we could pray in an informed way, we have compiled a Prayer Update each month, with relevant information from sources such as UNHCR and Médecins Sans Frontiers. These update sheets are available in folders “The Journey” in Room 2.

As mentioned in this year's report for the GCM, there has been some uncertainty about the future of "Refugee Prayers". Perhaps because people are overwhelmed by the enormity of world problems, in addition to Refugee situations, or perhaps people are too busy with various responsibilities. Perhaps Refugee Prayers has served its time. Whatever the reasons, Refugee Prayers is no longer meeting.

If anyone feels they would like to "relaunch" it, please speak with members of the Leadership Team.

Margaret Parker, Jean Goodacre and Refugee pray-ers

**Please note Susie has a new
work phone number and email!**

**Please could you delete my previous phone number
and note my new work email address**

Many thanks. Susie

New Planters outside church

As a member of the Greening Up Cheadle Hulme group, I was instrumental in setting up the planters alongside the bench in front of church recently.

I hope you agree they look lovely and enhance the area!

Jenni Hardman



Thank you

Thanks to the flower fairy for the flowers given to me due to my accident when I had a fall whilst in Madeira. When I got home my Diabetic nurse sent me straight away to A&E, which resulted in me spending more than three weeks in Stepping Hill Hospital. I have now recovered.

David Clark

A note of appreciation and thanks

Thank you so much for all of the prayers, kind wishes, and beautiful flowers given to me over the months during my illness. Thanks again to my wonderful church family.

God Bless,

With love, Elaine Busby

Thanks

To my church family with a huge thank you for all your love and support you have given me over the past five months. I have spent this time in various hospitals and I would like to share with you that I met four Hospital Chaplains and received much blessing and fellowship from them and our own Jackie Sims. One of them reminded me of the poem "Footsteps" and this one too, from both of these I received comfort and help.

I very much felt the reality of YOUR prayers for me. Thank you so much for those- how much they helped meant I didn't have to have my leg off! So, thank you so much with my love to each of you.

Margaret Gulson

Think of the Maker

In the beginning God made the world.
Let us give thanks for all God has made.

Think of a time when you saw that the world is beautiful.....
Think of a sunset over the hills,
or sunrise over a sleeping city.
Think of a running river,
or stars shining on a dark sea.

Think of a light flashing on a puddle,
or geraniums growing in a window box.
Think of a time when you saw the world is beautiful
- and give thanks.

Think of a time when you found pleasure in your body....
Think of walking in the wind or digging in a garden.
Think of dancing until dawn or climbing a mountain.
Think of giving birth to a child,
or holding someone you love.
Think of a time when you found pleasure in your body
-and give thanks.

Think of a time when you learned something new about life...
Think of understanding something that had always been a
mystery
Or of seeing someone else in a different light.

This poem was given to Margaret by a Hospital Chaplain.
Author unknown

WAITING ROOM – OURS OR GOD’S?

There I was one minute all comfy and settled in my home and the next I was far from comfy or settled on an A & E trolley.

Now many of you know that feeling and many of you have spent 20 hours or so, as I did, on such a trolley with nothing to do, no company, no book, no magazine, no Kindle or paper and pencil.



What is our health worth these days?

So quickly and over 60 years of experience of such things I have watched astonished by such changes and developments but now it all needs more room and more help (Stepping Hill is trying hard to meet the first but not the second)

How can any human being do all these things that are asked of them? To do so there are shortcomings in care for example and particularly in communication. We sit outside this world of theirs and criticise but we should try it- would we be stressed and tired and disillusioned?

I sat on my trolley (is it on't trolley? Those of you who are my age will remember Victoria Wood's "Is it on't trolley!!") Well there I sat and WATCHED and I saw such a lot.

The nursing staff each seemed to be running in three directions at once. The doctors were wandering around twiddling their stethoscopes or sitting staring at of the many computers- Just that? No they are concentrating, thinking, considering, working out lifesaving actions. Yes they all need computer skills, but yes times moves on.

There were lots of other staff- porters, cleaning people, tea ladies and many more all rushing about, all working hard- does it look like the hard job it is? Where is the room, the space, how do they cope with all those chairs and trolleys, machines and people- how?

But they do!

There is camaraderie, there is friendliness, there is togetherness- they are together all working for OUR CARE.

I just wanted to share these thoughts with you.

I just wanted us all to remember that God has given each one of these people (and us) the skills which they are using for US.

But they need more room in our WAITING ROOM

Then I went to wards where there are different skills in their waiting room.

God has given each one of us skills maybe very different from those I have observed but are we aware of them and turn to God to support and help us use them?

Margaret Gulson

Decorating the Church

As you all know, Sue Jacklin has been the inspiration behind the decoration of our church for many years. With the assistance of Mike, her husband, and other helpers, she has also made her own vision come to life.



As Sue and Mike are planning a move away (though the local housing market has other ideas!), we are looking for a person or persons to take on the organising role. Many of you have been involved already (for example providing a plant for the back of the sanctuary or sewing the banners) so we hope you already consider yourselves as part of the

team, but new team members would be welcomed in addition to a new organiser.

Dividing the role into two parts:

We need someone to provide the flowers for the church (the sanctuary) or perhaps devise a rota for the



provision of the flowers by a team.

We need a new volunteer to organise the seasonal decoration of the sanctuary. Les and Phil Peacock have agreed to tackle changing the banners and the Remembrance Day poppy net, but the new volunteer would organise: Advent, Lent, Easter and Harvest decoration. Again, additional volunteers will be needed to put ideas into action.

Sue is anxious to emphasise that full guidance will be offered to ensure a smooth transition.

Please let Sue or Pam know if you are interested. There is a modest budget available to support the work.



Pam Howie Worship Planning Leader

1st Cheadle Hulme Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association

Friday 11th September was a big night for CHMC as we saw the first ever meeting for our BBGA company and, as the strap line says, 'the adventure begins here'!

Anticipation was high for the leaders who assembled in the Narthex to prepare for the influx of children we were hoping to arrive at 6:30pm. The hall had been prepared for games, craft activities organised and devotions thought about to welcome children to our new youthwork initiative. It would be fair to say that we were nervous too – who knew what the next hour and a half would hold.



The night started with children arriving and playing a game of Traffic Lights, running, walking and standing still around the hall until all the children had arrived – more on that later, before we headed into the welcome talk and opening

devotions.

Phil talked about the parable of the mustard seed, how something small can produce a large tree capable of providing shade, a home and much more. Poor Finn may not trust us again after being encouraged to eat the mustard seeds – to be fair they are fairly tasteless!

We then had some literal ice-breaker questions with the questions having been frozen in ice before we could answer them. Questions like 'where would you like to go on holiday' and 'if you could be a Disney character who would you choose and why?' helping us to understand a little about the children.

More fun and games followed with two different games, the most interesting was a form of 'Rock, Paper, Scissors' in the form of a team relay race. It is difficult to explain why some of us were so poor at playing such a simple game, but it was great to witness the leaders, including our Chaplain Charles (not to be confused with Charlie Chaplin!) getting involved with this one. Much laughter was had with this game.



We then moved into a quieter time with more ice-breaker style work with a craft activity led by Jackie and Jacqui. This was origami work to create a 'chatterbox' with pre-set questions under the flaps to allow us to find out even more about the children.

The evening finished with some closing devotions before waving the children off and the leaders collapsing into a heap – the first night complete!

It would be remiss of us though not to acknowledge that, despite all the hard work, training and advertising of the new group, only 3 children turned up. It was not an issue to the running of the evening and, perhaps, we would rather have 3 people turn up than 30 for our first adventure into BB.

We are not discouraged in the slightest by the numbers – we thought it could be small which explains the choice of opening devotions. We are continuing to push the Company on social media channels, Facebook and Instagram, so we remain confident that that we will grow and that, by half term, we will be full and maybe even have a waiting list!



We are, of course, a Christian youth organisation so we remain rooted in God's provision and are trusting him throughout this process. So far He has provided us with the initial impetus to start the group, the enthusiasm of Rachael, the number of people willing to get involved, and, crucially, some children...of course He will provide more as we

are ready!

So, please keep remembering us in prayer or asking any of the leaders how things are going and keep an eye out on the next magazine for the update on how it is going!

Rachael East, Jackie Sims, Jacqui & Phil Sarbutts, Gez Butterworth, Malcolm & Alison Gunn, John & Barbara Galbraith, Jean Porter, Pam Howie, Margaret Parker, Pat James, Catherine Hulse, Jenni Hardman and Rev. Charles Nevin

On the Way

On the Way is a short course for people who want to explore the Christian faith, connect it with everyday life, and ask honest questions together; questions such as

There are three persons of the Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Which one is the hardest for you to connect with?

What could make this more real or tangible?

And 'What unfair things in the world make you most angry or sad?' And 'Why did the resurrection happen, and what difference does it make to us?'

The course is for both new and established Christians and we hope to run it at church in the near future for anyone who wants to join in.

On the Way uses the Bible, short videos, printed images of famous paintings, and questions for reflection and discussion. It's very accessible, with lots of variety and flexibility. It's a space for encouragement, challenge, laughter and connection.

The challenge for us will be to find an opportunity in the week when interested people are free at the same time!

If you think this might be for you, please talk to Margaret Parker at church or give her a call on the phone.



For some further information and a short video go to

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/evangelism-growth/discipleship-pathways-travelling-together/on-the-way/>

The forgotten art of wonder

One of the saddest things about growing older is not the wrinkles on our faces; it is the wonder we sometimes lose from our hearts.

Children are experts at wonder. Show them a ladybird and they will crouch down for 20 minutes. Give them a feather and they'll treat it like treasure. Blow a few bubbles in the air and suddenly you have created the greatest show on earth.

Adults, on the other hand, become experts at being busy. We rush from one thing to another.

We eat while driving, answer emails while drinking coffee and think about tomorrow before we've finished today. Somewhere between learning our times tables and paying our taxes, many of us quietly mislaid our sense of awe.

The world hasn't become less wonderful. We've simply become less observant.

While on an errand recently, I passed an older man who smiled and said: "Beautiful morning, is it not?"

I stopped, looked up and realised I had hardly noticed it. The sky was a brilliant blue. Birds were singing. The trees shimmered gently in the breeze. Flowers were bursting with colour in gardens. I'd walked through all that beauty without really seeing any of it.

As I continued my walk another thought struck me. How often do I do the same spiritually?

How often do I rush through my prayers? Read the Bible simply to complete a chapter? Sing a hymn without really thinking of the words?

It's possible to be surrounded by wonder and yet completely miss it. Perhaps that's why Jesus said, "Look at the birds" (Matthew 6.26)

Not because nobody had ever seen a bird before, but because hardly anybody was really looking. Perhaps that's why Jesus said we must become like little children, not childish but childlike. Children ask the questions adults have forgotten to ask: "Why is the sky blue?" "Who taught the birds to sing?" "Why are there so many stars?"

GK Chesterton observed that the world never lacks wonders; it only lacks wonder. How right he was. The greatest things in life are not manufactured. They are marvelled at. Wonder is gratitude with its eyes wide open. A hurried soul is rarely a grateful soul. The quickest way to lose your joy is to stop noticing your blessings.

The Bible begins with awe: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1.1) No explanation. Just majesty.

Creation is God's first sermon. The heavens preach without words. The stars sing without voices. The mountains applaud without hands. Every sunrise whispers: "There is a creator. Every flower bears his signature." The psalmist understood this. He looked beyond creation to its creator.

Then he prayed one of the most beautiful prayers in Scripture: "The one thing I ask of the Lord - the thing I seek most - is to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, delighting in the Lord's perfections and meditating in his Temple." (Psalm 27.4).

Perhaps that is the forgotten art of wonder. Wonder is not simply admiring a sunset; it is meeting the one who painted it. Wonder is not simply standing beneath a star-filled sky; it is worshipping the one who calls every star by name. Creation is the signpost. Christ is the destination. The beauty of the world is meant to awaken us to the beauty of the Lord.

Creation is God's picture book. Jesus is God's self-portrait. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1.14).

The God who painted the sunset stepped into his own sunrise. The God who designed the mountains walked among them. The God who filled the skies with stars lay beneath those same stars as a baby in Bethlehem. The creator entered his creation to bring his creation home. That is the wonder of the incarnation.

It leads us to an even greater wonder. The one who hung the stars hung on a cross. The hand that flung galaxies into space stretched out in love and bore the scar of nails. Then, on Easter morning, wonder walked out of an empty tomb. Death was defeated. Sin was conquered. Hope was reborn. Grace had the final word.

No wonder the disciples were never the same again. Neither should we be. We become familiar with prayer. Familiar with worship. Familiar with grace. Familiar with the cross. We sing extraordinary truths as though we were reading tomorrow's weather forecast. Familiarity is one of faith's greatest thieves.

So today... slow down. Look up. Listen carefully. Laugh often. Pray thankfully. Live expectedly. Notice the birds. Watch the sunset. Listen to the rain. Read a psalm. They lift your eyes beyond the gifts to the giver. Because the sunsets are still his. The stars are still his. The sparrows are still his. The whole earth is still full of his glory.

Canon J John

An evangelist and founder of the Philo Trust (jjohn.com)

With thanks to Margaret Parker for submitting this article. This appeared in The Methodist Recorder on 4th September and we have permission to use.



**Christian Aid Sponsored Swim
Sunday 15th November 4.00- 5.30pm
Cheadle Hulme School Baths**



Last year we raised **£2525.50** with our annual sponsored swim,
can we raise the same amount or event more in 2026?

We need swimmers and sponsors!

Swimmers of any age, would you like to swim this year?

Swim for 15 minutes, any speed, any swimming stroke.

Please contact Gill Smith to book an allocated swim time.

Sponsors, we encourage you to please look out for the
swimmers with their sponsors forms

Friends of Hesketh Park and Mellor Green

You may have seen our lovely poster that was on display in church for the BBQ in Hesketh Park on Saturday 5th September?

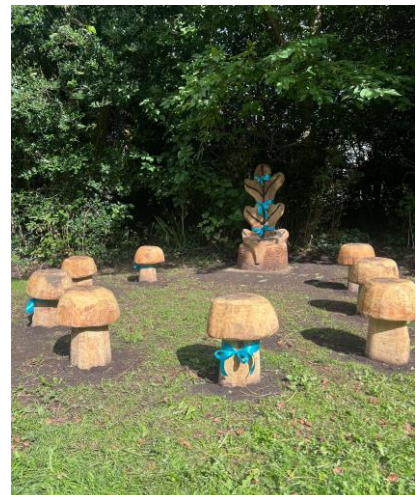


I was a bit anxious that everywhere would be too dry for it to be safe to actually BBQ, but the rain came in time - and also stopped in time!

We had a very pleasant successful afternoon at our Fairytale themed event, with several children in lovely costumes and our very own Bubble Fairy to entertain the children in addition to a Fairytale trail and tombola.



The icing on the cake was that we finally got our reading circle installed during the week before the event, which really added to the theme.



Jenni Hardman

Christmas is coming!!

Sunday December 6th Toy Service



We will be collecting toys and other items for **Stockport Without Abuse**. They are the largest domestic abuse organisation in Stockport who offer a range of services to help and support women, men and children who are affected by domestic abuse.

Last year they requested new toys and craft supplies for children aged 3-15 years old, women's gifts of dressing gowns, slippers, toiletries and towels or small kitchen items like mugs. We will have details of what they need nearer the time, and will put this in the weekly notices.



We also support **Action for Children**, our Methodist charity, by donating online to their 'Secret Santa' appeal.

<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/support-us/secret-santa-christmas-appeal/charity-christmas-gifts-2026/>

You could give a vulnerable child a Christmas present, new coat, a trip to visit Santa, a new coat, a teddy bear, warm winter clothes and bedding, or a stocking full of gifts.