

DEAR Friends,

Christmas has certainly arrived early at my church this year. As I write this MENCAP has started with us on Monday mornings where for the moment coffee, tea and delicious cakes are being served, with the possibility of light lunches as we/they go along.

And only today did I meet with a representative for MOO-MUSIC, which specialises in musical activities for the 0-5 year age group, and they are going to start at our church on Tuesday, January 13.

Neither the MENCAP nor MOO-MUSIC enquiries came about through any intervention by myself or any of my church members, they came literally as a bolt from the blue, and I am so grateful that I have a church and members who are as keen as I am to open our doors to community organisations.

I guess what I am trying to say is that much of what happens in our local community and indeed in the world at large often comes unexpectedly and surprisingly as these examples.

Jesus certainly came like a bolt from the blue, to appear first to shepherds outside Bethlehem, and then – much later – to be found in Nazareth by the wise men from the East. God sent Christ to an occupied land, to a people in despair, persecuted and frightened, to offer hope and love.

We can so easily tend to forget in this day and time the love and the goodness surrounding us. It can get drowned in negativity, anxiety and downright fear. However, Christmas is the time for resounding joy and eternal hope, and for taking God-given opportunities as they appear.

You see, although in one way our Saviour came like a bolt from the blue he had nevertheless been foretold by prophets over thousands of years, we were just not ready to believe and welcome Him.

So, are we ready now, knowing He will come again? And are we preparing properly by opening our doors to those in need of a home?

Happy Christmas and may God bless you always.

Rev Preben Andersen

Thought for
the weak



with the Rev Preben
Andersen

