

Premier.

Ensure no one spends
#ChristmasAlone



Christmas should be one of the happiest times of the year for everyone; yet for millions of people across the UK it can be one of the gloomiest.

While most people are occupied amidst the festivities of Christmas day with their families and friends, some people experience it as one of the most loneliest times as many businesses around the country shut their shops, leaving them with no place to go.

VISION

No one in the UK should spend Christmas Alone unless they wish to.

MISSION

To create a directory of Christmas day events planned across the UK that can be used by people to find a place to visit and receive companionship.

PARTNERSHIP

We are pleased to be working once again with 'Community Christmas' who encourage communities to provide companionship to older people in the UK who are lonely on Christmas day. Their free telephone line 0800 063 9285 is available to anyone looking for information on Christmas day events.

Join our Christmas Campaign

Premier invites you to share its vision for Christmas and seeks your support in achieving it. You can help people in our society by making their Christmas day a delightful one. Together, we can provide companionship to people who do not wish to spend Christmas alone.

This pack highlights Premier's 2017 Christmas campaign and how churches across the UK can get involved in hosting a Christmas day event in their community.



It's never too early to plan for Christmas!



A simple gesture can put away the feeling of loneliness and bring a smile to people's faces. No matter what type of event you do or how you do it, people will always appreciate your efforts in providing them with some companionship on Christmas day.

A few suggestions on events that you could plan for your community:



CHRISTMAS MEAL

Hosting a Christmas meal is one of the most popular ways of holding a social gathering and providing companionship in your community.



WATCHING A CHRISTMAS FILM TOGETHER

You can arrange to show a festive movie that can be enjoyed by everyone.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS OR KARAOKE

Invite people to come along with their family, friends or neighbours and celebrate the joyous occasion as you sing Christmas carols and uplifting songs this festive season.



GAMES

Organise games or activities for your guests such as a raffle, charades or maybe even a Christmas quiz.



BE CREATIVE...

Do something a bit different – put on a pantomime for the community or watch the Queen's speech together with a cup of tea in hand...it doesn't have to be an elaborate gesture, just an opportunity for people to come together on Christmas day so they don't have to spend it alone.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT ALONE



Other Churches

You can work together with your partner church or other churches to evangelize your wider community - Christian unity and its mission go hand in hand.

Partnerships

Find brands or local businesses that support community welfare. Many organisations would happily offer you groceries, gifts or even their venue for a very small charge or even free.

Volunteers

Get some help from people who share your vision. There may also be some people who would prefer to offer their time than be alone on Christmas day.

Hints and Tips

Things worth considering as you plan your Christmas event



VENUE

Check the capacity of the hall in addition to facilities like toilets, heating, cloakroom and accessibility.



KITCHEN FACILITIES

The basics including a fridge/freezer, serving tables, crockery and heating equipment like a cooker or microwave should be available at the venue if you're serving food.



SHOPPING

Plan ahead for when and how the shopping will be done - food items, beverages, decorations, cutlery, gift wraps and gifts where necessary.



DRIVERS

Are you able to offer a pick up and take home service? There is likely to be a need as there will be no public transport on Christmas day.



TECHNICAL SUPPORT

It's best to check for the technical support in advance for things like Wi-Fi, screens, speakers, microphones and the number of sockets available to avoid last minute glitches.



INVITATION

How will you publicise the event? No matter which medium you use don't forget to include the start time, date and venue along with your contact details so that people can reach out with any queries they might have.



SET-UP ON THE DAY

You'll need a time line for the day and ensure volunteers know they need to come before the guests to help with the smooth running of your event.

Add your event to our #ChristmasAlone map!

Once you've decided to host the Christmas event and are ready to invite people, don't forget to **let us know!**

We will help you spread the word and let everyone know about the great initiative you are taking to ensure people get companionship on Christmas day. We will be putting together an interactive map on our website where anyone can search for Christmas events happening across the UK.

