



Woodstock Baptist Church  
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[www.woodstockbaptistchurch.org.uk/](http://www.woodstockbaptistchurch.org.uk/)



**January 2026**



**Welcome to our services!**

Why not come in and join us, or  
if you would like to find out  
some more about the church  
visit the website or get in touch  
with our minister, Andy

## Services in January

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	10:30am	Jesus presented at the temple <i>Luke 2:21-40</i> Service led by Alan Band with Pat Band preaching
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	10:30am	Joyful are ... <i>Matthew 5:1-11</i> Service led by Andy Mills including communion
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	10:30am	Salty and shining <i>Matthew 5:13-16</i> Service led by Andy Mills
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	3pm	<b>Service of Christian Unity</b> (Woodstock Methodist Church)
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	10:30am	To fulfil? <i>Matthew 5:17-20</i> Service led by Andy Mills

## ***Musings from the manse***

In the darkness of January we get far more night than we do day, and this experience that can bring a certain melancholy to many people, but it is also something that leads us to my fifth desert island book is *Learning to Walk in the Dark* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

Barbara Brown Taylor helps us explore darkness. Our natural inclination is that light is good and darkness is dangerous, but through the book Brown Taylor encourages the reader to ask what we can learn from the darkness instead of simply fearing it.

I first read this book when I was on a silent retreat and the book's grace, wit and insight was so powerful in helping me to look at darkness from a different angle and finding space to see God's presence in the dark aspects of life and faith as well as the light shades.

So in these darker months this might be a book for you to explore as well.

*Your minister*

*Andy*

## **Deacon contact details**

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*jenny@wfamily.co.uk*

*sarah-jane@gpmstechnology.com*

*alanband90@gmail.com*

*peteappleford@hotmail.com*

Mondays	9:30-11am	Foodbank
Every Tuesday	10:30am	The Men's ARC (Actively Retired's Coffee Club) gather at the church before descending on a coffee house for conversation.
Every Tuesday	9-9:30am	Morning prayer on Zoom (Meeting ID: 892 8863 1407 - Passcode: 642818)
Every Wednesday	12noon-1pm	Daytime Housegroup at the church. Bible study, fellowship & prayer. Talk to Alan B if you would like more details.
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	8:30am	Men's prayer breakfast Woodstock Baptist Church
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	10:00-11:30am	Cakes and more Woodstock Baptist Church
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	7:30pm	Church members meeting

**Craft Café returns in February.**

# **cakes and more ...**



## **plus 'Ask Andy'**

**our minister Andy Mills will be available for you  
to chat about anything related to life & faith**

**so come and join us  
for free cakes and drinks, and a chat  
on Saturday 17th January – 10 to 11.30am  
Woodstock Baptist Church**

## **Noah's Ark, the Wednesday morning toddler group**



**9:45-11:15 am.**

**Every Wednesday in term time. Please contact Andy if you are able to help in running this valuable and much appreciated ministry/community service.**

### **North Oxfordshire Community Foodbank:**

You can donate to the foodbank in two ways.

Donations of food can be placed in the box in the church foyer, put in the collection bin in Woodstock Co-Op, or you can contact Andy.

If you wish to give financially, please go to the following link:

[www.northoxfordshirecommunityfoodbank.org.uk/#/donations/4542603964](http://www.northoxfordshirecommunityfoodbank.org.uk/#/donations/4542603964)

Your support for the foodbank is much appreciated.

<b>January</b>	<b>Refreshments</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>
<b>4th</b>	<b>Pauline &amp; Julie</b>	<b>Pauline</b>	<b>Pauline &amp; Gill</b>
<b>11th</b>	<b>Annabelle &amp; Bruce</b>	<b>Julie</b>	
<b>18th</b>	<b>Pat &amp; Alan</b>	<b>Joanne</b>	
<b>25th</b>	<b>Nnandi &amp; Mary</b>	<b>Jenny</b>	

Please have a word with Pat if you can help with refreshments. Serving refreshments after church is a valuable practice for building community, fostering relationships, and extending hospitality to newcomers. It creates a welcoming atmosphere where people can connect, support one another, and experience church as a caring family





**Coming soon....**



## **got questions about life and the Christian faith**

If you're looking for answers then maybe it's time to make a Start.  
Run in a small group, each session involves video clips, group discussion and  
time for reflection. Each session lasts about an hour and is free to attend.

*What's life all about and where are we going?*

*Does God exist and what is he like?*

*Why is the world in such a mess?*

*Who was Jesus, and is he relevant?*

*What does Jesus' death on the cross mean for me today?*

*How far can I go forward with God in my life?*

Start will help you discover more about God, Jesus and the journey of life.

cost – absolutely nothing, the course is **free**

starting – Wednesday 14 January 2026

for more information contact – Andy Mills – [andy.mills.wbc@gmail.com](mailto:andy.mills.wbc@gmail.com)

organised by Woodstock Baptist Church



## Events in other Woodstock churches

### Methodist Church

**Tuesday Fellowship (2.30pm to 4pm)**



### St Mary Magdalene Church

1st Sunday of the month at Woodstock-

ENGAGE - Modern Music Worship

5:00pm start (refreshments from 4.45pm)



## Prayers

Father God, we pray for our world, our church, our community, our families and friends.

We continue to pray for Nick, Ruth, & Hannah, Anna, Pete & family, Bruce & Annabelle, Gregor, Jenny & family, Chris, Pauline & Julie. Please pray for a swift recovery for Perrie after her operation.

We remember in our prayers Sarah-Jane, Baz, Tabitha & Jemima after the passing of their friend Emma.

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*  
*Matthew 5:4*

Prayers also for our families attending Noah's Ark. Those returning and new families. We pray they will enjoy friendship and fun in a relaxed setting.

We continue to pray in unity for peace on earth and in particular upon the Ukraine-Russia borderlands.

*"Glory to God in highest heaven,  
and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."*  
*Luke 2:14*

Please send items for the newsletter to: Andy Mills  
[andy.mills.wbc@gmail.com](mailto:andy.mills.wbc@gmail.com)