



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



## February 2025



*Nicola Onions*

**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  
Mills, by phone or  
email.

All the details can  
be found above.

*Please send items for the newsletter to:*

*Andy Mills*

[andy.mills.wbc@gmail.com](mailto:andy.mills.wbc@gmail.com)



## Services in February

Sunday 2nd	10:30am	a Jesus shaped people: <i>children</i> <i>Ephesians 4:1 -5:2</i> Service led by Andy Mills
Sunday 9th	10:30am	<i>a grace shaped people: Jesus – man of grace</i> <i>John 21:15-23</i> Service led by Andy Mills Including communion
Sunday 16th	10:30am	<i>a grace shaped people: undeserved &amp; unfair</i> <i>Luke 15:11-32</i> Service led by Andy Mills
Sunday 23rd	10:30am	a grace shaped people: <i>the strange way</i> <i>John 1:29, Matthew 20:28 &amp; Leviticus 16</i> Service led by Andy Mills

## Musings from the manse

For those of us who like such bits of trivia the 2<sup>nd</sup> February is 'Groundhog Day', a US tradition that was unknown in the UK, until it was made famous by the 1993 film of the same name starring Bill Murray. In the film Bill Murray's character, Phil Connors, is forced to relive the same day, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, over and over and over again (possibly 10,000 times!). Hence the phrase 'Groundhog Day' coming in common usage as referring to something that is seemingly repeated over and over and over again.

Do your lives of faith sometimes feel like Groundhog Day? Going over the same ground day after day. Doing the same things. Thinking surely this was the same service we had last week, the same songs, and the same sermon.

It's easy to get stuck in a rut as followers of Jesus. There's something good about routine and discipline, but there is also something that can end up becoming restrictive and limiting. What we should always grasp hold of are the words of God through the prophet Isaiah; words that remind us that with God we do not have to be left in a state of Groundhog Day in our lives of faith forever.

*Forget the former things;*

*do not dwell on the past.*

*See, I am doing a new thing!*

*Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? (Isaiah 43:18-19a)*

Your minister

*Andy*

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	7:30pm	Revival prayer meeting on zoom. For more information contact, Carolyn
Every Wednesday	12noon-1pm	Daytime Housegroup at the church. Bible study, fellowship & prayer. Talk to Alan B if you would like more details.
Every Thursday	10:00 am	Prayer for renewal/revival Contact Carolyn for further details
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	8:30am	Men's breakfast Charlbury Baptist Church
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	3-4:30pm	Craft Cafe
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb		Ladies Prayer meeting on Zoom. Contact Carolyn for more details.
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	10-11:30am	Pancakes & More

# Craft Café Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Woodstock Baptist Church

## SUNDAY CRAFT CAFÉ

Take part in free art & craft activities, enjoy a cup of tea & slice of cake, and have a chat in a relaxed & friendly atmosphere

Come along for fun and friendship-all ages & abilities welcome!

First Sunday of the month  
February –July, September  
–December 3-4:30pm

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> Februray

# PANCAKES AND MORE ...



**COME AND JOIN US**

**FOR FREE PANCAKES, FILLINGS AND DRINKS  
ON SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY - 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>February</b>	<b>Refreshments</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>
2nd	Joanne	Pat	Annabelle & Bruce
9th	Annabelle & Bruce	June	
16th	TBD	Hannah	
23rd	TBD	Annabelle	



**World Day of Prayer 2025 – Friday 7th March 2025**  
**Church's Together Ecumenical Service – Held at Woodstock**  
**Methodist Church - 7pm**

**Written by the women of the Cook Islands “I made you wonderful”**

*Kia Orana – May you live long and may you live well!*

Our sisters in The Cook Islands welcome us and lead us for this year's World Day of Prayer. The Cook Islands are a tiny nation, made up of 15 Islands located in the South Pacific Ocean. Their total size is around two-thirds that of the Isle of Wight. They have a rich and colourful Māori heritage and a deep connection to nature - as seen in the painting to the right especially created for this service. However, there are challenges being severely vulnerable to climate change and the devaluing of their culture.



The Cook Island women have chosen the words of Psalm 139 “I made you wonderful” as their theme. Through their words and stories, they invite us to recognise that God created each one of us with great attention and loving care. We should celebrate this and cherish all aspects of who we are and of those around us.

As we take part in this service, we will be joining in the great wave of prayer which encircles the globe, praying with, and for the Cook Island and its people. This wave starts as the sun rises over Western Samoa and Tonga and ends some 36 hours later back in the Pacific as the sun sets over American Samoa. Our service is at 7pm on the 7<sup>th</sup> March, at Woodstock Methodist Church. All are welcome – all ages and genders!

If you would like any more information, please contact Sarah-Jane  
07928701354



# Events in other Woodstock churches

## Methodist Church

A lovely opportunity to knit, crochet or draw together.



All are welcome Feb 3rd, March 3rd & April 7th

2pm to 4pm in the Church Suggested contribution of £2 per session to cover running costs.

Tuesday afternoon Fellowship 2:30pm 4<sup>th</sup> February.  
The Church & Schools-David Shepherd.

## Prayers

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

Please pray for Carolyn, Gary & family. Tori, Pete, Anna & Joe.

We give thanks for prayers answered but continue to pray for Nick, Ruth, & Hannah, Colin & Family, Anna, Pete & family, Bruce & Annabelle, Gregor & family, Chris, Pauline & Julie, June & Mike, Phil & Sarah, friends & family.

We pray for Matthew and all that he does as School Chaplain. Please pray for continued guidance, wisdom, and vision for Matt as he leads WYWT, and engages with young people in and around Woodstock. We pray for the right person to come forward to work alongside Matthew and extend possibilities in our local primary schools.

We give thanks for all who attend Noah's Ark.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. Psalm 1:3