



Woodstock Baptist Church  
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<http://www.woodstockbaptistchurch.org.uk/>



**December 2020**



**Welcome to our services!**

**Our building remains closed for general services but is open for private prayer on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays**

Services and other meetings are on Zoom. We continue to explore reopening for some services to be both in the building and on Zoom. For details of a service on YouTube on December 13th, see below

You may still contact the church through the email above.

## Services in December

Sunday 6th	10:30am	Preacher Nick Archer Communion Service
Sunday 13th	3pm	Christmas Celebration Service
Sunday 20th	10:30am	Preacher Bruce Cummings
Christmas Day 25th	10:00am	Preacher Nick Archer Christmas Day
Sunday 27th	10:30am	Preacher Chris Mepham Service of Reflection.
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	10:30am	Preacher Nick Archer Communion Service

Please feel free to contact Nick Archer or a deacon about any matters on a Sunday or during the week.

# **GOD WITH US**



## **Woodstock Baptist Church**

Please join us for an all age

### **Christmas Celebration Service**

The Christmas story  
with readings and carols

available on YouTube  
from 3pm Sunday 13th December  
<https://bit.ly/3fgrHAS>

for more information or to join us at 10am live on  
Zoom on Christmas Day go to:

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



Please invite your friends to the All Age celebration on 13th December - you can use card invitations (available in Church) or do it electronically - the poster will be sent to all members and regulars and can be forwarded to whomsoever you wish.

The service on the 13th will include carols, readings and an account of the first Christmas written and read by members of the fellowship.

It can be accessed on YouTube from 3pm on 13th. It will be available for about a month so can be watched any time or repeatedly! The link is on the poster and invitations.

If you want to join informal chat before (from 2.30pm) the service - just use the usual Sunday service Zoom link (which will be sent in advance as usual) and you will be switched to YouTube at 3pm. If you do it this way, you will also be able to chat, eat virtual cake etc. after the special event.

Mondays	7:45pm for approx. 90 minutes.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Woodstock House group</u></b></p> <p>We continue to meet using Zoom We will be studying the book <i>Mission Shaped Living</i> by John McGinley. If anyone would like to join they would be warmly welcomed. We do the studies fortnightly and it is preferable if You purchase a copy of the book per household. If you are interested in joining then please speak to either Bruce or Jenny B.</p>
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Every Tuesday	10:30am	The Men's ARC meet on Zoom
Every Tuesday	7:30pm	Additional Revival prayer meeting. We will meet on zoom. For more information contact , Carolyn Allen
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup> December	7:30pm	Fellowship meeting by Zoom. An informal on-line meeting for sharing, discussion and prayer. A valuable 30 or so minutes to chat and pray.
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	4:30pm	Ladies Prayer Meeting Contact Jenny Bodinham for Zoom joining details
Every Thursday	10:00 am	Prayer for renewal/revival Contact Carolyn Allen for further details

Foodbank: if you wish to give whilst the church building is closed, you can donate money on line: <http://www.northoxfordshirecommunityfoodbank.org.uk/#/donations/4542603964> .

You may also leave donations of food or other items in the porch of 20 Flemings Road, ideally in a bag and they will be dropped over to the Foodbank or contact us to collect. Alternatively Woodstock Co-Operative shop has a drop off point too.

Client numbers are up by 200% since lockdown.



### Sunday Craft Café

The Craft Café continues to meet via Zoom at 3pm on the first Sunday of the month. Please join us for a relaxed and informal time together to share in craft activities whilst also enjoying a catch up. If you have your own craft project, please feel free to bring it along - we are also able to provide activities and resources for anyone needing them (contact Gill) everyone is welcome even if you would prefer to just come along for a chat!

**Next meeting 6<sup>th</sup> December. No meeting in January.**

The Sunday Craft Café Team

## Notices

We are carefully exploring moving some services into church and value member's opinions and suggestions on this. Zoom will continue to be used when services in the building recommence. A recent questionnaire sent around members showed that very few are keen to re-establish services in the church at present.

## Advent.



The Service on Christmas Day starts at 10am and lasts approximately 40 minutes - more carols which hopefully will have been recorded in church meaning a better and more reliable sound quality. The singers/musicians will be of the usual very high quality. Advent starts on 29th

November and lighters of advent candles have been recruited for each week but please do feel free to light one in your home during the relevant part of the services - especially on Christmas Day.

Harvest offerings allowed us to send £551 (including gift aid) each to Tearfund Yemen appeal and North Oxford Foodbank

**tearfund**

**Tearfund Quiz** night donations came to £547 slightly up on last year. An enjoyable evening thanks to Pete and Ann and everyone involved.

**The Christmas offering will go to  
Spurgeons Child Care.**



This will support children, young people and adults who are vulnerable and families who are experiencing difficulties or challenges so that they can have a better present and a hopeful future.

**Next Church meeting** Wed 20th Jan 7.30pm (unless the need to discuss the ministerial search before that arises)

**Prayers**

We thank you for the joys and the fulfilment that accompany your gift of life, but we pray for those who know no joy, and only despair – especially as we face this Christmas. Make us a people of grace, a people whose lives are truly a gift to others.

Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come, come into our lives and make all things new.

We remember in our prayers those known to us who have lost a loved one this year. We pray also for those who are ill, Philip, Tori & Sue H. Our hope is that you will feel God's presence and His loving arms around you and those who are closest to you.

## Prayers

A reminder to remain prayerful about our search for a minister. Ways of getting involved in this will be sent around to members when there are things to share or to discuss or a visitor to meet (all events will be legal and compliant with advice).

At the end of a year of upheaval and uncertainty for many, we pray for all those working to end this pandemic: Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure. Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer taken from [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

**Isaiah 9:6** *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*



*Nicola Onions*

*Please send items for the newsletter to:  
Joanne Onions or Nick Archer*