



Woodstock Baptist Church
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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 th 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 th January | 10:30am | Joyful are ... <i>Matthew 5:1-11</i> Service led by Andy Mills including communion |
| Sunday 18 th January | 10:30am | Salty and shining <i>Matthew 5:13-16</i> Service led by Andy Mills |
| Sunday 18 th January | 3pm | Service of Christian Unity (Woodstock Methodist Church) |
| Sunday 25 th 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 books 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

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---|
| 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 rd January | 8:30am | Men's prayer breakfast Woodstock Baptist Church |
| Saturday 17 th January | 10:00-11:30am | Cakes and more Woodstock Baptist Church |
| Tuesday 20 th 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

Your support for the foodbank is much appreciated.

| January | Refreshments | Flowers | Cleaning |
|----------------|------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| 4th | Pauline & Julie | Pauline | Pauline & Gill |
| 11th | Annabelle & Bruce | Julie | |
| 18th | Pat & Alan | Joanne | |
| 25th | Nnandi & Mary | Jenny | |

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
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