



Woodley Baptist Church

www.woodleybc.org

***'United in knowing Jesus and
making Him known'***

TODAY'S SERVICES 23rd November 2025

10.15am: Service with Chris van Es leading and Grace Hope preaching

Refreshments: Elspeth Cooper and Anne Ballard

Prayer Ministry: John and Sylvia Saunders

12.30pm Church Lunch and Book Swap

6.30pm: Sunday Evening Prayer Hour

Everyone is welcome to join via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87827308029?pwd=Vi9wTldoejV0bjNwd2xnc3pwK3NyUT09>

Meeting ID: 878 2730 8029 Passcode: 50341

SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER 2025

10.15am: Service with Rachel Hughes leading and Jonathan Edwards preaching
Advent 1 – Small Wonder -Wonderful Plan

Refreshments: Tony and Rosemary Paine

Prayer Ministry: Carol Runnalls and Anne Ballard

6.30pm: Sunday Evening Prayer Hour

Everyone is welcome to join via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87827308029?pwd=Vi9wTldoejV0bjNwd2xnc3pwK3NyUT09>

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PRAYER MEETINGS

MONDAY MORNING

Please join us for the Monday morning prayer meeting in the lounge from 10-10.30am when we will be praying for activities in the church during the coming week.

THURSDAY EVENING

We usually meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month 7.30-9pm. The next meeting will take place on 27th November. Please join us as we seek the Lord for the direction of WBC.

GENERAL

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The Christmas Carol Service takes place on Sunday 21st December. As usual it will be a service of Readings and Carols. We can all sing the Carols but we can't all do the Readings so I am looking for volunteers, of all ages and sizes, to read the Lessons on 21st December.

If you would like to volunteer, please add your name to the list in the entrance hall.

John Russell

INVITATION – OPEN HOUSE PLEASE COME IF YOU CAN

Debbi Hosken, whom we support in her mission role in Asia, is currently in the UK visiting her parents and her son Chris who is at University here. She will be coming to stay with Gavin and me on her way home and we will be holding an open morning on Monday 24th November from 10am to 12.30 at our home (4, Stanton Close, Earley). Please come and chat with her over tea and cake! Debbi would love to meet as many of you as possible! **Carol**

ADVENT DAILY READINGS

Our Advent focus this year is loosely based on some materials from LICC called Small Wonder. LICC have also produced a series of daily Bible readings and reflections based on this series, which begin on 1st December.

If you follow this link

<https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/small-wonder-a-christmas-devotional-journey/>

you can sign up for a daily email which will take you through to Christmas Day, and hopefully will link your devotions more closely to the Sunday messages.

I trust they will be helpful.

God bless from Grace

CAROL SINGING OUTSIDE TESCO

We are hoping to put together a group of people to sing Carols outside Tesco one Saturday morning in early December, similar to what we did last year. Howard and his accordion are available on Saturday 13th December, so I need to ask if you are free and willing to join this venture, sharing the true meaning of Christmas with our neighbours. We aim to meet at 10:30am, and will finish within the hour. Please let me know if you can join us or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

God bless from Grace

FAMILY MATTERS

FAMILY CONTACT LIST

For some time, we have kept a list of the next of kin for those attending church. This means if there is an emergency we can contact relatives. This list is confidential and not on display. If you would like to be included on this list or have any questions please contact me. **Sylvia Saunders**

ADVANCE NOTICES

CHURCH LUNCH AND BOOK SWAP 23rd NOVEMBER

We will be having another church lunch after the service today. Please plan to stay and join in the fellowship and conversations over what is always a lovely lunch, as we each bring some food to share.

During the lunch we will also be holding another Book Swap, where we each bring a Christian book which has blessed us, and make it available for someone else to borrow. Don't forget to return the book you borrowed in September to its owner. God bless from Grace

PRAYER WALK

By God's grace we will be meeting again on Saturday 29th November, 9.30-10.30am for our Prayer Walk around the roads near the church. For those who will be able to join, please put this in your diary. If you would like to find out more, please speak to Mary.

MEETING WITH YUAN YANG (MP)

The Baptist Union governs, along with Methodist and URC churches, the Joint Public Issues Team (jpit.uk). JPIT seeks to address issues of public concern to do with the economy, the environment, poverty and inequality, asylum and migration, peace-making and politics. The JPIT group at Christ Church Woodley has invited Yuan Yang for a conversation on Sunday 30th November, starting at 3:30pm with refreshments.

Please let Jane know if you would like to attend the meeting so that we can give Christ Church an idea of numbers.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

This year's celebration will be taking place on Friday 5th December from 7.30pm at Yeldall Manor, Blakes Lane, RG10 9TA. Please join us for graduations, news and worship followed by coffee and mince pies.

THE CHOSEN - HOLY NIGHT

On Sunday 7th December we are going to be showing Holy Night, a short Christmas movie by the makers of the hit series, The Chosen. The event will run from 5:30 to 7pm, with time for some discussion as well as the movie. Entry is free and is open to everyone. See the flyer for more details.

BAPTISMAL SERVICE

The Carey Woodley congregation, Hope Church, which meets in Rivermead School, is going to be holding a baptismal service in our church building on Sunday 14th December, from 6:30pm. We are invited to join them for this special occasion.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Graham has organised a Safeguarding Training Course for Saturday 7th March 2026 here at WBC, as most of our volunteers need to renew their certificates. Please add this date to your diary.



Please pray for peace in the Middle East, particularly in the light of recent international efforts, and for the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and Syria.

Please pray for John and Julie Russell, Val Lee and family, Audrey Goulding, Jonathan Edwards, Rosemary Allen, Peter Kerr, John Tidmarsh, Jean Prince and Mandy & Allan Dodd.

UPDATE FROM PRAYER MEETING

Our focus this time was on being a church that encourages and builds up its people. We read Eph.ch 4 v 1-16, and Col. ch 3 v12-17 and used these as our guide to prayer.

We remembered that 'church' should be a supportive environment for Christians to gather for worship and prayer, and to encourage and care for each other.

It is also a place where we all use our God-given spiritual gifts to build up the body of Christ for works of service.

We prayed for those who lead and preach, those who read the scriptures, teach the children, operate the sound and vision equipment, those on the Prayer Team, those who prepare and serve communion or lead the music and singing. There are those who clean and set up for each Sunday, lead and help with groups during the week, in church or in home groups, those who bring folk to church week by week, or visit those who are unable to attend or not well.

We are all precious and part of God's family here.

The challenge is-are you encouraging others as much as you could? Are you fully using your God given gifts in His service?

Do spend some time seeking God if you are not sure of your gift. Ask Him what you could say or do this week to encourage someone in church. And be blessed.



PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH

I have chosen some verses from Paul's prayer for the Colossians as a model for how we can pray for one another this week.

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love you have for all God's people.

Colossians 1:3

Let us thank God

- For the loving and gifted people whom God has given us in our church.
- For God's generosity to us in so many ways – our homes, food on the table, family and friendsand so much more. We are truly blessed!

Let us pray for each other

- That love and grace and mutual trust may be the basis for our relationships.
- That Jesus will be more and more at the centre of our life as individuals and as a church.
- That we will work together to make our church a place where members and friends feel valued and where visitors feel welcomed.



We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way.

Colossians 1:9-10

Let us thank God

- For the Bible in our own language so that we can study it and learn more each day about what it means to follow Jesus and please Him.
- For those who preach and teach, for our home groups and for the many ways we can learn from one another and grow in our faith.



Let us pray for each other

- That our relationship with Jesus will be vibrant and that we will live in such a way that others will want to know Him too.
- For opportunities this week to share our faith with someone who doesn't yet know Jesus.
- For wisdom and understanding to know God's will for us as individuals and as a church.



REinspired-Woodley Lessons Autumn 2 2025

Date	School	Year	Question
Mon 10 th Nov	Southlake	Yr 6	Do Christmas celebrations and traditions help Christians understand who Jesus was and why He was born?
Tues 11 th Nov	Highwood	Yr 6	Do Christmas celebrations and traditions help Christians understand who Jesus was and why He was born?
Mon 17 th Nov	Highwood	Yr 5	Is the Christmas story true?
Tues 18 th Nov	Southlake	Yr 5	Is the Christmas story true?
Mon 24 th Nov	Southlake	Yr 3	Has Christmas lost its true meaning?
Tues 25 th Nov	Highwood	Yr 3	Has Christmas lost its true meaning?
Mon 1 st Dec	WCofE	LKS2	What it is like for Christians to follow God?
Tues 2 nd Dec	WCofE	LKS2	What it is like for Christians to follow God?
Mon 8 th Dec	WCofE	EYFS	Christmas story
Tues 9 th Dec	Southlake	Nursery Am Nursery PM	What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today?
Mon 15 th Dec	Highwood	Yr 4	What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today?

Prayer points:

- Give thanks for the positive response to our lessons in Sept/Oct. We had some amazing questions from Yr 1 including 'Who made God?' in our creation lesson!!
- This is our busiest part of the term. Pray for energy and enthusiasm for the team, and enough team for each lesson
- Pray that the message of Christmas will come across in our lessons.

We'd love you to join us at
Woodley Baptist Church's
SCREENING OF

CHRISTMAS WITH
THE CHOSEN
"HOLY NIGHT"

A Christmas movie with popcorn & pick-n-mix

Sunday 7th December
5.30pm to 7pm

Drinks & snacks available. Family friendly. All free.

TRAILER
AVAILABLE
ON YOUTUBE



**WOODLEY
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

UNITED IN KNOWING JESUS AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

Hurricane Way, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire RG5 4UX
Church Office 0118 969 9956

We'd love you to join us at
Woodley Baptist Church's

Christmas Family Events & Services

SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER

5.30pm to 7pm - The Chosen 'Holy Night' Film

A Christmas film with free drinks, snacks, popcorn & pick-n-mix.

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER

10.00am to 11.30am - Café Church including Instant Nativity - (Family Friendly)

Please come along and join in with our Nativity. You can get dressed up if you wish, either bring your own outfit or use one of ours.

SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER

10:15am to 11:30am - Sunday Service with Kids Church

4.00pm to 5.30pm - Carol Service

Followed by refreshments

WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER

3.30pm to 5pm - Family Fun with Christmas Crafts, Games & Refreshments

THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER

10.15am to 11.15am - Christmas Day Service

Come and celebrate Jesus' Birth.

SUNDAY 28TH DECEMBER

10.15am to 11.30am - Testimony Service with Kids Church

Come and find out what God is doing among us. Be ready if you have something you would like to share.



ALL FREE • ALL WELCOME • NO NEED TO BOOK

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