



# Woodley Baptist Church

[www.woodleybc.org](http://www.woodleybc.org)

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

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

## **TODAY'S SERVICES**

**10.15am:** Service with Daniel Raimundo leading and preaching

**Refreshments:** Elspeth Cooper and Debbie Hamblin

**Prayer Team:** Julie Russell

**12.30pm** Bring and Share Lunch

**No evening service**

## **SUNDAY – 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2026**

**10.15am:** Café Church with Rachel Hughes leading

**Please note that refreshments are served from 10.00am and worship will start at 10.15am.**

**Refreshments:** James and Linda Hern

**Prayer Team:** Jane van Es and Ann Royston

**6.30pm** Sunday Evening Prayer Hour

Everyone is welcome to join via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87827308029?pwd=Vi9wTIdoejV0bjNwd2xnc3pwK3NyUT09>

Meeting ID: 878 2730 8029

Passcode: 503411

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month 7.30-9pm. However, we will not be meeting in January and the next meeting will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> February. Please join us as we seek the Lord for the direction of WBC.

### GENERAL NOTICES

#### VIDEO FOR THE BOOK OF DANIEL FROM THE BIBLE PROJECT

If you wish to rewatch the video outlining and explaining the book of Daniel, then follow this link to the Bible project website:  
<https://bibleproject.com/videos/daniel/>

#### DOUBLE-KNIT WOOL

If anybody has any double-knit wool that they no longer require, Renew Wellbeing would be grateful for any donations. Please hand to **Grace Hope**.

#### CHURCH DIRECTORY

Later this month we will be reviewing the Church Directory, adding new people, removing people who are no longer part of the fellowship and making sure that the information we have for everyone is still current.

Those who are already in the Directory will be asked to confirm that we have the correct information. Those new to the church should take a copy of our Privacy Policy and complete the Consent Form. This gives us your details, while keeping us in line with GDPR.

Please ask a steward for a Consent Form if you haven't previously completed one.

Thank you,

**Jane van Es**

### FAMILY MATTERS

#### THANKS

Our thanks to everyone for your prayers, messages and visits over the last weeks. John is now at home recovering slowly after his operation. Please continue to pray for God's peace and strength for us both each day.

**Julie Russell**

The funeral of **Rosemary Allen** will take place on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January. Everyone is welcome to the Service of Committal which will be held at Reading Crematorium at 10.45am followed by a Service of Thanksgiving here at Woodley Baptist Church at 12.15pm.

**Request for help** - Please consider if you may be able to help with setting up, serving refreshments and/or clearing up afterwards.

Please also consider if you could bake or donate some small cakes or a large one to add to the refreshments which will be ready prepared.

A sign-up sheet for both requests is available in the foyer.

### ADVANCE NOTICES

#### SPECIAL CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETING

A reminder that we will have a single item meeting on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January when members will make a decision whether to invite Daniel Raimundo to join us as our Minister.

We are conscious that an evening meeting doesn't work for everyone but this date

and time fitted with Jonathan Edward's availability. Please let one of the Leadership Team know if having a lift would enable you to attend.

### **PRAYER WALK**

By God's grace we will be meeting again on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 9.30-10.30am at the front of the Church 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 Osho**.

### **SAFEGUARDING TRAINING**

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



**Please pray for** the conflicts in the Middle East, the ongoing situation in Ukraine and Syria.

**Please pray for the family of Rosemary Allen, Chris and Jane van Es, John and Julie Russell, Val Lee and family, Audrey Goulding, Jonathan Edwards, Peter Kerr, John Tidmarsh, Jean Prince and Mandy & Allan Dodd.**



## A STORY FROM ISAAC – INTERNATIONAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ADDICTION COALITION

**"Abra!, Abra!, Abra!"** shouted all of the rehab residents at the annual Christmas celebration. ("Abra-(o)" is Portuguese for **Open (it)!**). One of the residents in the program, we will call him Rui – a man off the streets - was experiencing his first Christmas celebration ever. He stood there speechless, freezing the moment in time, and just stared at his gift. All of the prodding of his fellow residents could not compel him to open the gift. The gift was from a "secret" friend who had been sending him notes of encouragement and hints of his identity over the previous 4 weeks. Each of the residents would open his gift, and then try to guess who the secret friend was.

But Rui just stood there staring at the gift. At last, he spoke in a timid voice which betrayed a bit of shame he might have been feeling for not opening the gift. He spoke in a whisper: "This is the first gift I have ever received in my life, please let me just hold it for a while." The room fell silent, and many, myself included, had eyes full of tears. What can you say during a moment so special?



This story causes me to ponder many things. One is: how many in the world are offered a gift far greater than anyone can imagine, and don't open it? So many times, the gift of Christ remains available to so many, but is left unopened. It's within one's grasp, but it is never unwrapped and known. This gift is not just for Christmas but is there to be opened at any time – it is truly a gift to be opened and savoured!! "To all who receive Him ...He gave the right to become the children of God." John 1v12

### Some Highlights in 2025 for ISAAC:

#### Praise God for all he has done through the ISAAC Network this past year - 2025

- **221 frontline workers have been strengthened** across 3 continents and via online contact.
- **Global member care visits, consulting, coaching and pastoral care** was provided in 8 countries to local projects and leaders.
- **Expanded team capacity in the UK with a new staff role added** for work in the UK involving church engagement, regional hubs, and ministry growth.
- **African training:** 4 new volunteers are delivering training in 3 African countries: Nigeria, Zambia, and Kenya.
- **New monthly prayer calls for all ISAAC members** have begun, uniting workers from 3 continents already.

**Please continue to pray for Tref and for the work of ISAAC this year.**