

FEBRUARY 2022

Contact



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday

Family Worship
10.30am

Wednesday

Congregational Café
11am – 1pm

Scoffs
12 noon
(2nd Wednesday only)

Thursday

Rainbows Baby & Toddler
Group
9.30am

Friday

Badminton
7.30pm

MINISTER

Rev Jonathan
Abernethy-Barkley
07927 495583
abernethysmile@
hotmail.com

SECRETARY

Liz Hill
0161 900 1437
07932 750436
lizhill4@sky.com

TREASURER

Justine Lewis
0161 627 2965
07956 916505
justine.lewis1@gmail.com

Hello Friends,

Happy February! The month of love and valentines.

Saint Valentine's Day embraces a time of year that is historically associated with love and it is a reminder of how we have been loved and who has loved us. A faithful source of love is precious, and whether it is familial, platonic, or romantic, it has the capacity to inspire, encourage, and heal.

As Christians, we know that God worked through his life to perform miracles and teach people how to recognise and experience true love. God is love and all love comes from God. Nothing can separate us from God's love. God's love endures and it is everlasting. It never disappears or becomes obsolete or comes to an end. It is unconditional and undefeatable.

Love is talked about at great length in the Bible. It is the sum of the commandments given to all believers by Jesus (Matthew 22:35-40). And 1 Corinthians 13 is focused entirely on love, calling it the greatest thing - even more so than hope and faith.

There are many words in the Bible that are translated in English as 'love,' but each has a more specific meaning in Greek, the original language of the Bible. The Greek word used to describe God's unconditional and self-sacrificing love for us and the love we are commanded to give is 'agapé'.

Too often, we ignore the opportunity to share Christ's love through the simplest of actions. Our faith sends us into the world to love unconditionally. God loves everyone unconditionally, but only those who receive the gift of Jesus' sacrifice will be able to know and experience that love. Once we are his, nothing can separate us from God. Once we have accepted his love, nothing can cause him to take it away from us—that's what makes it unconditional.

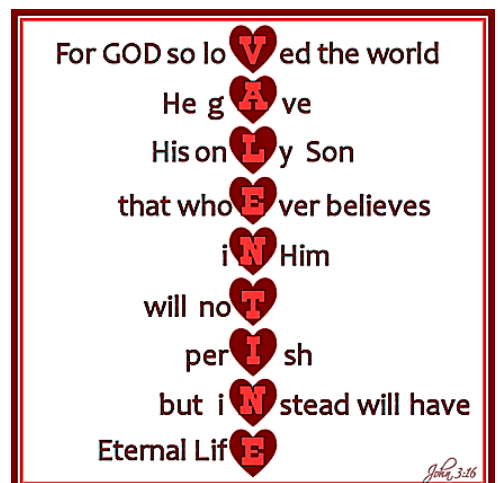
Paul describes the unconditional love of God in Romans 8:38-39: 'For I am certain that nothing can separate us from his love: neither death nor life, neither angels nor other heavenly rulers or powers, neither the present nor the future, neither the world above nor the world below – there is nothing in all creation that will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord.'

As Christians, Jesus is our example for how to do all things, including how to love well. God chose to love us unconditionally, regardless of our faults and failures through the sacrifice of Christ. God loved us so much that he sent his only begotten son to die for us. The cross is the single greatest demonstration of unconditional love the world has ever known.

Unconditional love – love that gives without counting the cost. On that first Easter Friday – that Friday we now call 'Good' – our heavenly Father gave all and more – no strings attached. He gave his only son that we might have everlasting life. Pure unconditional love.

Let Valentine's Day serve as a reminder of God's unconditional love and the command he has given us to show love to others. 'My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you'.

Sending you all good wishes – and hopefully by the time the next issue of Contact is published, Spring will be just around the corner! – Liz



Baptisms, weddings and funerals by arrangement with the Minister

OFFERTORIES

2nd January - £235.72

9th January - £94.87

16th January - £106.42

23rd January - £112.70

Standing orders - £562.00

Total **£1,111.71**

Other Income

Gift Aid - £3,281.11

The Bible Study House Group is moving!

From February onwards, it will be held during the afternoon on the last Monday of every month.

Look out for further details and please support this venture if you can.

FLOWER ROTA 2022

There are still a few gaps on the flower rota for this year.

If you wish to provide flowers, please add your name against a suitable date as soon as possible.
Many thanks.

*Love so
Amazing
So divine*

 Find us on
Facebook

Churches Together in Lees and District will once again meet each Tuesday during Lent to join in fellowship together and share a lunch of soup and rolls.

The meetings will be held at Zion Methodist from 8th March to 5th April and your support would be much appreciated if possible.

Further details to follow shortly.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Just a reminder about the AGM which will be held after morning service on Sunday 13th February 2022.

We hope to see you there!

Church Membership

We are always happy to welcome new church members into our fellowship.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a church member, please speak to either me or Jonathan.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

We will shortly be updating the directory so if any of your details have changed, please get in touch as soon as possible

Upcoming Events – February 2022

Wednesday 2nd February	11am – 1pm	Congregational Cafe
Sunday 6th February	10.30am	Family Service Themed Lunch
Wednesday 9th February	12 noon	Scoffs
Sunday 13th February	10.30am	Family Service AGM
Wednesday 16th February	11am – 1pm	Congregational Café
Sunday 20th February	10.30am	Family Service Communion
Wednesday 23rd February	11am – 1pm	Congregational Café
Sunday 27th February	10.30am	Family Service
Monday 28th February	TBC	House Group at 17 Radcliffe Street
Wednesday 2nd March	11am – 1pm	Congregational Café

Springhead Congregational Church
A Member of the Congregational Federation
www.springheadcongregationalchurch.com
springheadcongregational@yahoo.co.uk


at 50
Congregational
Federation