

Contact

MARCH 2024



Dear Friends,

Beautiful and bright, daffodils are the birth flower of the month of March. In the Northern Hemisphere, March signifies the onset of spring, and daffodils are one of the first perennial flowers to bloom after a long, cold winter. Including hybrids, there are over 13,000 distinct daffodil varieties in existence. These blooms that remind us of sunshine and the coming summer are rich with meaning and symbolism.

As a spring flower, daffodils are symbols of rebirth and hope. They signify new life and resilience as they are strong little survivors who have weathered the winter storms.

Daffodils' cheerful bright yellow and white colours are a symbol of positivity. They are a happy flower that signifies joy, and an appreciation for being alive. Although these flowers come in other shades, their yellow and white colours are far better known.

The daffodil is the Welsh National Flower. Its flowering coincides with the first of March and St David's Day, the patron saint of Wales. The flowers' faithful blossoming year after year is equated to David's faithfulness to his people.

In England, daffodils are sometimes referred to as Lenten or Lent lilies as they bloom between Ash Wednesday and Easter.

And in China, daffodils bloom around Chinese New Year and are a symbol of good fortune, good luck and prosperity. If these flowers bloom exactly on Chinese New Year, they mean good luck for the whole year ahead.

The famous poet, William Wordsworth pays homage to fields of these happy flowers in his 1804 poem 'I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud' and more recently, cancer organisations around the world have used the daffodil as a symbol of hope for all people affected by cancer. In this context, they symbolise hope for a cure and also a sort of rebirth.

Lent gives us an opportunity to look to the past but also to look forward and think about the future. During Jesus' ministry he often recalled the past, but he gave us reassurance and hope to help us look forward into the future whatever we are facing.

So, as we journey through Lent and towards Easter, may we once again follow Jesus and listen to what he might reveal to us about what our future might have in store.

Each year we journey through Lent in the hope of celebrating the coming Easter season with the joy and the new life that it symbolises.

With all good wishes - Liz



Flower Rota March 2024

3rd – Val
10th – Liz
24th – Jean
31st – Mary

EASTER EGG SCHOOL APPEAL

Our Community Wardrobe Oldham are currently collecting Easter eggs for their 2024 school appeal.

Could you help by donating a **medium** Easter egg?

Any donations can be left in the vestry and will be passed on to Sally who is extremely grateful for our support.

DIARY – March 2024

Sunday 3rd March	10.30am	Family service led by Donald Slater Lunch
Monday 4th March	7pm	Deacons Meeting
Sunday 10th March	10.30am	Family service led by Alan Kennedy Church Meeting
Wednesday 13th March	12 noon	Scoffs
Sunday 17th March	10.30am	Family service led by Graham Radcliffe Cake Sale
Friday 22nd March	7pm – 9pm	Junior Disco
Sunday 24th March	10.30am	Palm Sunday service led by David Morgan
Thursday 28th March	7pm	Maundy Thursday service at Stalybridge
Friday 29th March	1pm (TBC)	Good Friday Act of Witness in Lees
Sunday 31st March	10.30am	Easter Sunday service led by Frank Wroe

Regular Activities

Sunday

Toddler Sundays 10am – 11.30am

Monday

Exercise Group 2pm

Wednesday

Scoffs 12 noon (2nd Wednesday)

Thursday

Rainbows Toddler Group 9.30am

Friday

Badminton 6pm

Offertories

4th February - £73.11

11th February - £57.10

18th February - £71.21

25th February - £131.94

Standing orders - £737.00

Total £1,070.36

Other Income

Lunch - £24.50

Cake Sale - £53.50

Toddlers' Donation - £100.00

EASTER SERVICES 2024

Palm Sunday – 24th March

Family service at Springhead led by David Morgan

Maundy Thursday – 28th March

Oldham and District United Service at Stalybridge Congregational Church at 7pm led by Audrey Lee

Good Friday – 29th March

Churches Together in Lees and District Act of Witness in Lees at 1pm

Easter Sunday – 31st March

Family service at Springhead led by Frank Wroe

LENT LUNCHES

Just a reminder that the Churches Together in Lees and District Lent lunches will continue every Tuesday until 19th March.

All meetings are held at Zion Methodist Church at 12 noon.

Please join us if you can!

NEW TO YOU

Any New to You can now be brought up to church and left on the stage.

The New to You will take place on Thursday 9th May.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE – WE NEED AS MANY VOLUNTEERS AS POSSIBLE TO HELP OUT ON THE DAY!

LUNCH

The next themed lunch is following the service on

Sunday 3rd March

All welcome to stay and join us

CHURCH MEETING

The next church meeting is after the service on

Sunday 10th March

Everyone is welcome to stay and attend the meeting

CAKE SALE

The next cake sale is following the service on

Sunday 17th March

Any donations of cake would be gratefully received

JUNIOR DISCO

*Friday 22nd March
7pm – 9pm*

Any additional volunteers would be very welcome.

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