

# MARCH 2023

# Contact

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### Sunday

Toddler Sundays  
10am – 11.30am

Family Worship  
10.30am

### Wednesday

Warm Spaces  
10am – 12 noon

Scoffs  
12 noon  
(2nd Wednesday only)

### Thursday

Rainbows Baby & Toddler  
Group  
9.30am

### Friday

Badminton 6.30pm

## SECRETARY

Liz Hill  
07932 750436  
lizhill4@sky.com

## TREASURER

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

Dear Friends,

There's no doubt about it – reading improves your life. Books bring us joy and comfort, especially in challenging times. Books can give us hope for a world where we can live in peace, where love has the victory over evil, where there is forgiveness and salvation. Reading is known to boost our mental health too – regular readers report fewer feelings of stress and low mood than non-readers.

As a nation, we are reading at record levels. Last year saw book sales reach a ten year high and the number of new independent bookshops across the country has grown for the sixth consecutive year, following over 20 years of decline.

And every March, World Book Day is celebrated in schools throughout the world. World Book Day was created by UNESCO in 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books, authors, illustrator and the joys of reading. It is marked in over 100 countries around the globe to encourage young people to discover the pleasure of reading.

World Book Day changes lives through a love of books and shared reading and continues to promote reading for pleasure, offering every child and young person the opportunity to have a book of their own. Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success.

According to the Guinness World Records, the best-selling book of all time is the Christian Bible. Over 100 million copies are sold each year and it has been translated into approximately 700 languages.

It is impossible to know exactly how many copies have been printed in the roughly 1500 years since its contents were standardised, but research conducted by the British and Foreign Bible Society in 2022 suggests that the total number probably lies between 5 and 7 billion copies.

The Bible is more than a book though. It is 66 books, in two sections, inside one cover. The Bible is God's living word to offer guidance, inspiration and direction to each and every one of us. God's message of salvation is for all people.

From spiritual to emotional factors, there are numerous benefits of reading the Bible which encompass great hope, joy and the strengthening of our knowledge of the word of God. It allows us to get closer to God, grow stronger in our faith and establish more genuine connections with God.

Whatever the year ahead might bring for us all, let's keep reading. Books free us from isolation; they have the power to unite us and to transform lives.

With all good wishes - Liz

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Sunday 26th March

Afternoon Tea with Live Entertainment

### Saturday 1st April

Easter Family Social  
Tickets available from Sue

### Thursday 4th May

New to You  
Please bring up to church asap

### Sunday 14th May

Coronation Buffet Lunch

Baptisms, weddings and funerals by arrangement

## OFFERTORIES

5th February - £71.63  
 12th February - £95.00  
 19th February - £118.34  
 26th February - £104.17  
 Standing orders - £595.00  
**Total           £984.14**

### Other Income

Faith Lunch - £46.75  
 Disco - £454.68  
 Cake Sale & Raffle - £124.95  
 Solar Panels - £600.10

## JUNIOR DISCO

Friday 31st March  
 7pm – 9pm  
 All volunteers  
 greatly appreciated!

## Flower Rota March 2023

5th - Nan  
 12th -  
 19th - Mary  
 26th - Celeste



Just a reminder that the Lent Lunches will be held at Zion Methodist each Tuesday until 28th March and your support would be much appreciated.

Following the AGM last month, and as we move forwards into another church year, thank you to everyone who has once again held positions of office during the last twelve months.

A special welcome to our new church members, Jim and Jenny Thompson – and our new Life Deacon - Allan Thompson. Following Allan's appointment, there is now a vacancy on the Diaconate, so if anyone is interested, please let me know.

## Easter Family Social



Following the success of the Christmas Eve Social, we are holding an Easter Family Social with games, music and dancing on Saturday 1st April at 6.30pm. Tickets are available from Sue – Adults £4.00 and Children £1.00 including light refreshments.

Sue is also appealing for donations of Easter eggs for the children's raffle.



## Upcoming Events – March 2023

Wednesday 1st March	10am – 12 noon	Warm Spaces
Sunday 5th March	10am – 11.30am 10.30am	Toddler Sundays Family Service led by John Pollitt Traditional Faith Lunch
Monday 6th March	7pm	Deacons Meeting
Tuesday 7th March	12 noon	Lent Lunch at Zion Methodist
Wednesday 8th March	10am – 12 noon 12 noon	Warm Spaces Scoffs
Sunday 12th March	10am – 11.30am 10.30am	Toddler Sundays Family Service led by Liz Dean Church Meeting
Tuesday 14th March	12 noon	Lent Lunch at Zion Methodist
Wednesday 15th March	10am – 12 noon	Warm Spaces
Sunday 19th March	10am – 11.30am 10.30am	Toddler Sundays Family Service led by Jock Molliet
Tuesday 21st March	12 noon	Lent Lunch at Zion Methodist
Wednesday 22nd March	10am – 12 noon	Warm Spaces
Sunday 26th March	10am – 11.30am 10.30am	Toddler Sundays Family Service featuring In My Shoes Theatre Group Afternoon Tea with live entertainment
Tuesday 28th March	12 noon	Lent Lunch at Zion Methodist
Wednesday 29th March	10am – 12 noon	Warm Spaces
Friday 31st March	7pm – 9pm	Junior Disco
Saturday 1st April	6.30pm	Easter Family Social

Springhead Congregational Church  
 A Member of the Congregational Federation  
[www.springheadcongregationalchurch.com](http://www.springheadcongregationalchurch.com)  
[springheadcongregational@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:springheadcongregational@yahoo.co.uk)

