

NOVEMBER 2021

# 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 – 11.30am

### Friday

Badminton  
7.30pm

## MINISTER

Rev Jonathan  
Abernethy-Barkley  
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## SECRETARY

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## TREASURER

Justine Lewis  
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Dear Friends,

Did you know that November is National Gratitude month? It is the month of thanksgiving and the month to remember all the things to be thankful for.

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States and is always held in the US on the fourth Thursday in November. Thanksgiving 2021 occurs on Thursday, November 25.

Thanksgiving Day has been an annual national holiday in the United States since 1863 and is marked by religious observances and a traditional meal. It is a public holiday and a day off for the general population and schools and most businesses are closed.

Thanksgiving Day is a day for people in the US to give thanks for what they have. Families and friends traditionally get together for a meal, and in some towns and cities, there are parades during the Thanksgiving weekend. Many people use it as a day to reflect on the positive things in life and spend time with their families.

The history of Thanksgiving in the United States is often traced back to 1621 when the Plymouth Colony settlers and the Wampanoag shared a meal celebrating the harvest. Their trial began in 1620 with the voyage of the *Mayflower*, a 65-day-long ordeal in which 102 men, women and children set sail for the New World to pursue a fresh start in a land where they hoped they would be able to worship freely. However, that first winter was harsh and many perished. With an astonishing resilience, determination and faith, the settlers not only survived, but enjoyed a bountiful harvest in the Autumn of 1621, for which they praised God.

That first Thanksgiving is an inspiring story but for Christians, Thanksgiving not only has a patriotic history, but it also has spiritual roots that go back to the Old Testament. In the United States, Thanksgiving was historically a day to praise and thank God the Father for blessings and to ask him to heal the wounds of the nation. It was also a national day of penitence to humbly repent for sinfulness and disobedience.

During the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving as 'a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent father who dwelleth in the heavens.'

So what does the Bible say about thanksgiving? The Biblical meaning of thanksgiving is shown as adoration, sacrifice, praise, or an offering. Thanksgiving is a grateful language to God as an act of worship and an expression of gratitude.

Thankfulness is a prominent Bible theme and the Bible is full of stories of thanksgiving and scripture tells us how thankfulness should be a way of life for Christians and that we should be thankful for everything we have in life. Thanksgiving is particularly common in the psalms. About twenty psalms command or invite Israel to sing songs of thanksgiving. The Bible also commands us to give thanks and 'give thanks' appears in the Bible over 128 times in 62 verses. 'Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good' is also a common refrain in the Bible and God commands us to 'be thankful in all things.'

The true meaning of thanksgiving focuses upon the relationship between God and man. Upon their arrival at New Plymouth, the Pilgrims composed The Mayflower Compact, which honoured God. Thanksgiving is a reason for Christian life and it begins with acknowledging God and giving him thanks for his abundant blessings, not only at certain times of the year but making sure that, as Christians, every day is a day of thanksgiving.

This month we also give thanks for the service and sacrifice of all those who lost their lives serving their country. We hope you are able to join us for our annual service of remembrance on Sunday 14th November. The service will be followed by a church meeting and bacon butties will be on sale beforehand. We will once again be supporting the Royal British Legion who this year are celebrating 100 years of serving the Armed Forces Community

Finally, details of our Christmas and New Year services and events are listed overleaf, so please pop these dates in your diary!

With all good wishes - Liz

Baptisms, weddings and funerals by arrangement with the Minister

## OFFERTORIES

3rd October - £52.80  
10th October - £57.80  
17th October - £68.81  
24th October - £86.86  
31st October - £130.35  
Standing orders - £962.00  
**Total £1,358.62**

### Other Income

Faith Lunch (Oct) - £50.00  
Jumble Sale - £223.27  
Toddlers - £100.00  
Congregational Café-£170.00

Thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest appeal this year.

Your donations towards the Baby Bank initiative were very much appreciated.

## MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO JOINED US AT THE CONGREGATIONAL CAFÉ ON WEDNESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER AND TO THOSE PEOPLE WHO SENT IN DONATIONS.

WE RAISED AN AMAZING TOTAL OF £165.50 FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT.

# JUMBLE SALE

Huge thanks to Joan and everyone who helped out at the Jumble Sale - we raised £223.27 for church funds.

Just a reminder that Ingrid is baking Christmas cakes in aid of church funds.

The cost of the cakes are:

4" £6.00

6" £10.00

7" £12.00

8" £17.00



If you would like to order a cake, please contact Ingrid on 0161 626 0854 as soon as possible.

Cakes are available with or without icing. Please state your preference when ordering.

Many thanks.

### CONGREGATIONAL CAFÉ

We are looking for volunteers to help out in our community café.

If you could spare a couple of hours

on a Wednesday morning once in a while, or do some baking/cooking, we would love to hear from you.

### Christmas Hampers



Treat your family and friends to a Christmas hamper full of seasonal gifts and festive goodies.

Prices start at just £5.00 and can be custom-made according to the recipient.

There will be a limited selection of pre made hampers available to purchase at the Christmas Fayre but why not order one in advance to avoid disappointment?

To place an order, or for further details, please contact Joan Thompson on 0161 652 2043 or [j.thompson05@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:j.thompson05@tiscali.co.uk)

## Christmas Fayre 2021 Saturday 4th December 11am – 2pm



The Fayre is fast approaching and we are still collecting the following items: – **good quality toys, tombola prizes, candles, handmade goods, chocolate for the chocolate tombola, chocolate oranges and any festive items for the Christmas stall.**

Any donations can be left at the back of church or given to Gill or Cath.

If anyone else is free to help out on the day or to deliver any posters or flyers around the local area, please speak to Gill or Cath as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued help and support.



DR KERSHAW'S CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM JEAN VOSS PRICED £3.99 EACH

### FAITH LUNCH

The next themed faith lunch is on Sunday 7th November when burgers and hot dogs will be available after the service for a small donation.

Please stay and join with us if you can.

### CHURCH MEETING

The next church meeting is following the Remembrance service on Sunday 14th November.

### LIFTS TO CHURCH

Just a reminder that we are now providing lifts to church. Please get in touch if you would like a lift to the service or any other activity/event. All drivers will have taken a lateral flow test before picking anyone up.

### SCOFFS

Scoffs Lunch Club for the over 55's is reopening at 12 noon on Wednesday 8th December, when a two-course Christmas lunch will be served followed by entertainment from Westwood Band. We look forward to welcoming you back!

To reserve your place, or for further information, please see Sue Teinert.

### CHRISTMAS EVE SOCIAL

Tickets are now available from Sue or Simon. Adults £4/Children £1 including light refreshments

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR AT SPRINGHEAD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

28th November	10.30am	Advent Service
	4pm	Advent Service at Salvation Army
4th December	11am – 2pm	Christmas Fayre
5th December	10.30am	Family Service followed by themed lunch
8th December	12 noon	Scoffs Christmas Lunch
12th December	10.30am	Carol Service
19th December	10.30am	Nativity Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies
24th December	7.30pm	Christmas Eve Social
25th December	10.30am	Christmas Day Worship
2nd January	10.30am	Christingle followed by themed lunch

We extend a very warm welcome to you and your families over the Christmas and New Year period



## Upcoming Events – November 2021

Monday 1st November	7pm	Deacons
Wednesday 3rd November	11am – 1pm	Congregational Café
Sunday 7th November	10.30am	Family Service Themed Faith Lunch
Wednesday 10th November	11am – 1pm	Congregational Café
Sunday 14th November	10.30am	Remembrance Sunday Family Service Bacon Butties on sale Church Meeting
Wednesday 17th November	11am – 1pm	Congregational Café
Sunday 21st November	10.30am	Family Service Communion
Wednesday 24th November	11am – 1pm	Congregational Café
Sunday 28th November	10.30am 4pm	Advent Sunday Family Service Advent Service at Salvation Army
Monday 29th November	7pm	House Group at 17 Radcliffe Street
Wednesday 1st December	11am – 1pm	Congregational Café
Saturday 4th December	11am – 2pm	Christmas Fayre
Sunday 5th December	10.30am	Family Service Themed Faith Lunch

Springhead Congregational Church  
A Member of the Congregational Federation  
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