

GREETINGS

December 2025



*to each other, all our
neighbours - and
everybody whose eye this
leaflet meets!*



Dear Friends

The Christmas puddings and mince pies are already on sale in the shops and have been since October! The TV adverts are starting to focus on Christmas gifts – the 'run up' to Christmas seems to start earlier each year!

Some people will enjoy these early reminders of the parties and family gatherings they are planning to enjoy; others though will start to feel pressured and anxious about expenditure they can't afford, but which the adverts suggest is necessary for a happy Christmas; for some, Christmas will bring poignant memories, sadness or loneliness.

During the period of Advent when we look towards Christmas we are reminded that Christmas is about Hope: The hope of Joseph and Mary as they looked forward to their future together following their betrothal (but before the intervention of the Angel Gabriel!)

The hope of the Magi as they recognised the time they had been waiting for, for so long, finally appeared to be on the horizon when a new King would appear. In a world, and at a time, when hope was so difficult to embrace they had something to look forward to.

The hope of the shepherds, as they realised what the angels were telling them and the hope that Mary and Joseph had for the child that had been born to them in such an unusual situation.

But it made me think, what it is that we hope for, what do we look forward to? There are so many things which we can be despondent about—just listen to the news on TV, but what are we hopeful about?

One of the most read verses in the Bible during the coming weeks will be "The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all people. This very day in David's town your Saviour was born Christ the Lord!
Luke chapter 2 verses 10-11

Those two verses must have given the shepherds great hope.

What about us? Are we feeling the way we're supposed to feel at Christmas? Are you filled with hope and happiness? What's going to give you that feeling?

Even though the commercial takeover of Christmas may depress many people, I still believe the age-old simple story of a baby born in a stable in Bethlehem can continue to offer the world hope for the future. After all, the story of God breaking through into the world in such a special way can only be good news and offer hope. We are not abandoned - we are not alone - we are not left totally on our own in this world.

The Christmas message is "good news of great joy." Christ the Saviour is born!

Come and join us as we celebrate the Christmas message this Christmas

Happy Christmas to all and every Blessing

Liz



We offer a very warm welcome to everyone!

What's on in December

Tuesday 2nd December	7.30pm	Deacons Meeting
Saturday 6th December	10.30am	Greenacres Friendship Choir
Sunday 7th December	10.45am	Family Worship and Holy Communion led by Peter Butler
Friday 12th December	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
	2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Saturday 13th December	5pm	Film Night—'Scrooge the Musical' - see below
Sunday 14th December	10.45am	Family Worship led by Yvonne Campbell
Friday 19th December	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
	2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Saturday 20th December	10.30am	Greenacres Friendship Choir
Sunday 21st December	10.45am	Family Carol Service led by Rev Liz Dean
Christmas Day	11am	Family Worship led by Rev Liz Dean
Sunday 28th December	10.45am	Family Worship led by Peter Butler



'Scrooge The Musical' A Film based on 'A Christmas Carol'

On Saturday the 13th December

Refreshments at 5pm
and the film will start at 5.30pm

Turkey & Stuffing or Brie & Cranberry Muffins,
Mulled Wine, Prosecco. Popcorn and chocolates
Tea and Coffee

No charge but grateful donations to our Christmas Charity—
Wood Street Mission

Flowers For Church

7th December	Joy & Malcolm Dean
14th December	Liz Dean
21st December	Margaret Fowler
Christmas Day	Joy Dean
28th December	Bev Williams

Flower Steward Joy Dean

The Flower List for 2026 will soon be
on the Notice Board. Please feel free
to add your name

THANK YOU

To all who helped and supported the Festive Coffee morning.
A total of £381 was raised, The £140 which was taken on the door will go to our
Christmas Charity Wood Street Mission

Coming up in January

Sunday 4th January 2026 at 10.30am Joint Service at Springhead Congregational Church
This will be a Christingle Service



GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Galland Street, Oldham

Enquiries please contact Joy Dean on 0161 785 0638 or 07971560289

Or on www.greenacrescongregationalchurch.co.uk

Facebook Greenacres Congregational Church

If you have any items you wish to include in the next issue of Greetings please let Liz Dean have them
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