

Greetings

July 2026

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

Dear Friends

I write this letter having spent some time this last couple of weeks wandering around garden centres looking for plants that will improve the look of my garden! We have over the last couple of months enjoyed some remarkable weather, long hot sunny days but these so often have been followed by torrential rain and often followed by thunderstorms - I'm hoping that the rest of the summer will be fine - hot sunny days could be a bonus!

It's interesting that Garden centres, home furnishing companies and even supermarkets often do a hard sell on 'summer'. The adverts tell us to enjoy these summery days— and then they encourage us to spend money - on a new barbecue, some garden lights and table decorations or even a picnic hamper!

Central to this ideal picture of summer that we are being sold, is the opportunity that it provides for rest and relaxation. This is clever because this picture taps into the need we have as human beings to stop, take time out from our usual routine and "re-charge our batteries". We all need a break and a breather from time to time. 'So why not spend some money to secure it?' comes the suggestion. But surely the good news is that we can have the things that lie at the heart of such yearnings without necessarily spending any money.

Doing, seeing, experiencing the same things day after day, week after week, month after month can be exhausting. This is the case whether we feel like we are constantly rushed off our feet or if we are continually sitting in the same chair staring at the same four walls.

Each and every one of us reaches a point from time to time when we could do with a change of scenery so that we might simply "re-charge our batteries". If you have ever felt guilty about taking time out to go away—if you have ever felt that everything will fall apart at the seams if you are not there'

If you have felt that your work or responsibilities are too important to "down tools" and simply go and sit and be elsewhere then listen to what Jesus says to his friends who are engaged in work that he sees as being important enough to die for:

He said to his disciples "Come away to a quiet place and rest a while." (Mark 6 v 31)

In other words take a break and a breather."

Over the next couple of months - whether we have wonderful weather or not - let us all do our best to take a break and a breather, because I am sure sometimes we all need one.

Not everyone has to go away for a fortnight to some far flung land. Not everyone wants to do this or could afford to do this. But make the most of the opportunities that this summer provides to take a break and a breather – take time to look at the world around us and when you do remember the words of Jesus when he said

"Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

As we try and take a break and a breather and relax I hope we will take a few moments to leave our worries behind and to see the wonder of nature that surrounds us and thank God.

With love

Liz



We offer a very warm welcome to everyone!

What's on in July

Friday	3rd July	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
		2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday	5th July	10.45am	Family Worship and Holy Communion led by Rev Frank Wroe
Tuesday	7th July	7.30pm	Deacons
Friday	10th	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
		2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday	12th July	10.30am	Family Service led by Judith Haughton
Weds	15th July	7pm	All for Jesus Course
Friday	17th July	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
		2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday	19th July	10.45am	Family Worship led by Susan Titmus
Weds	22nd July	7pm	All for Jesus Course
Friday	24th July	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
		2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday	26th July	10.45am	Family Worship led by Rev Foday Kamara
Friday	31st July	2pm	Book Club. The Book chosen for July is The Lost Women by Tim Weaver.



Church Flowers

5th July	Rowena Bairstow
12th July	Liz Dean
19th July	Muriel Booth
26th July	Margaret Fowler

Flower Steward
Margaret Fowler

Left-handed

Bobby went to the park one Sunday afternoon with his grandmother. It was late summer, but still many flowers were in bloom. Everything was beautiful.

His grandmother remarked: "Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God painted this just for you?"

Only a few hours away from church, Bobby said: "Yes, God did it and he did it left-handed."

Confused, his granny asked him why he thought that. "Easy," said Bobby, "we learned at Church this morning that Jesus sits on God's right hand!"

Murder Mystery Evening

Our grateful thanks to everyone who helped and supported

"The Great British Baking Shock"

on the 13th of June when £588 was raised.

This with £210 from our Easter Offertory and £202 from the Church Benevolent Fund has enabled us to donate £1000 to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Galland Street, Oldham

Enquiries please contact Joy Dean on 0161 785 0638 or 07971560289

Or on www.greenacrescongregationalchurch.co.uk

Or 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
lizdean503@gmail.com or 0161 620 2141 or in person at church