

GREETINGS

January 2026

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

Dear Friends

Its almost unbelievable that 2026 is here because it doesn't seem long since 2025 started. It's true, as the saying goes, that when you get older 'time flies'

Christmas was a lovely time at Greenacres. Walking into church during the Christmas period was such a pleasure—the Christmas tree, the Nativity scene, the beautiful flower arrangements, the advent ring and the people who shared the time with us.

The fellowship was great—there was the Festive Coffee Morning, the trip to see the musical 'Calendar Girls', the joint toy service with Springhead and the Salvation Army and we had a very enjoyable evening when we watched 'Scrooge the musical' and of course the Carol service with favourite carols and readings and delicious mince pies afterwards. Thanks to all who took part.

On Christmas Day we were joined by friends from Hope Congregational Church as we celebrated the 'reason for the season'.

A great time of fun and fellowship throughout Advent and Christmas and all this was made possible by so many of you. Thank you to you all.

But now we are at the start of a New Year!

How many of you have made New Year resolutions?

Over the years I've made many;

- To lose weight
- To exercise more
- To save money
- To be better at staying in touch with family and friends etc.

But unfortunately, often before I've even reached the end of January, some if not all of these resolutions or promises, have gone by the wayside! Over the years I've been rubbish at keeping New Year resolutions, and from what other people tell me, I'm definitely not alone!

So this year I haven't made any New Year Resolutions!

Fortunately for us, God *never* fails in His promises to us, no matter whether we manage to keep ours or not. Right from His first covenant with the people of Israel, right through to us today God has always kept his promises.

So, no matter what this future year may hold for us, it's good to remember that we can always rely on God and His promises.

One of His promises is found in Deuteronomy 31:6; 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

And remember the words of the hymn -

*I do not know what lies ahead,
the way I cannot see;
yet one stands near to be my guide,
He'll show the way to me:*

*I know who holds the future,
and He'll guide me with His hand;
with God things don't just happen,
everything by Him is planned.*

Yes we can always trust our God to keep His promises.

With best wishes for 2026

Liz



*No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no
heart has imagined what God has prepared
for those who love Him
1 Corinthians 2:9*

We offer a very warm welcome to everyone!

What's on in January

Sunday 4th January	10.30am	Christingle Service at Springhead Congregational Church
Tuesday 6th January	7.30pm	Deacons Meeting
Sunday 11th January	10.45am	Family Service and Holy Communion led by Rev Foday Kamara
Friday 16th January	10am-11am 2pm-4pm	Zumba / Pilates Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday 18th January	10.45am	Family Service led by John Pollitt Followed by refreshments and a discussion regarding future Social Events
Friday 23rd January	10am-11am 2pm-4pm	Zumba / Pilates Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday 25th January	10.45am	Family Service led by Judith Haughton

Flowers For Church

4th January	Service at Springhead
11th January	Joy Dean
18th January	Rodney Smith
25th January	Sylvia Uttley

Flower Steward Gillian Knowles

Our thanks to the flower stewards who each week ensure that there are flowers in church and afterwards give them to people who are not well or older members of the fellowship . Thank you to everyone who provided flowers in 2025. The Flower List for 2026 is now on the Notice Board. Please feel free to add your name

Social Events

Following the service on the 18th of January we will, of course, be having refreshments and will take the opportunity to discuss future social events.

Please come along and share ideas of events you feel would be good. If you're not able to be at the service on the 18th please let Joy or one of the deacons have your thoughts for future events

THANK YOU

A very big thank you to everyone who has contributed to our Christmas Charity Wood Street Mission. This is a children's charity helping families on a low income by providing practical help to help meet children's day to day needs. They provide struggling families with children's clothes, bedding, baby equipment and toys and books. They also help provide school uniforms and educational books.

All the families they help will have been referred to them from the professionals who are supporting them.

We have raised a total of £918.50. This is £140 from the Festive Coffee Morning, £ 230 from the Film Night, £298.50 from the Christmas Day Offertory and a donation of £250 from Church.

The Church has also donated £250 to the Salvation Army and £250 to Oldham Community Wardrobe

Thank you to all who made this possible

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