

Greetings

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

September 2026

Dear Friends

This issue of Greetings is the September issue and it will soon be Autumn.

I learnt from the Met. Office website that in the UK the Astronomical Autumn begins on the 23rd of September 2026 at 01:05 am. This is the day when the sun crosses the celestial equator and this results in day and night being of nearly equal lengths. After this date, nights gradually become longer than days until the winter solstice. The Met Office also talks about the Meteorological Autumn which begins on the 1st of September!

Then to confuse things I read that British Summer Time ends much later when the clocks go back one hour on the last Sunday of October!

So we're still in summertime and when we think about Autumn I'm sure we think of it as the season that bridges the warmth of summer and the chill of winter. In the UK it's most vividly marked by the changing colours of leaves and the harvest season.

I'm writing this newsletter towards the end of August and it's still summer and this year we have experienced 'heat waves'. We have had some very, very hot weather probably a little, if not a lot, too hot for many. It's certainly not been without its problems – we've had a number of wild fires not just in England but throughout the world, there has been the tragic losses of life resulting from people swimming in reservoirs and lakes, trains have been derailed because of the damage caused by the hot sun on the railway lines and everyone has been told to be careful with the amounts of water they are using; many areas have had hose pipe bans imposed, although we in Oldham (so far) have escaped this.

Have you enjoyed the summer?

What does 'Summer' make you think of? Maybe it is barbeques and light nights, or the long summer school holidays or family holidays. Maybe it is hay fever!

For many young people it will have been exams and results! For all young people the summer is a period of change. It is the change from Infants to Juniors, to Senior school: it's the gap between school and college or university or indeed leaving education altogether and entering the world of work. Also the estate agents tell us that it is the most favoured time for moving house!

I suspect that summer for many of us means holidays whether at home or away and no doubt each of us has a favourite holiday place, which brings back memories.

Some people return year after year to the same place. I am sure that over the years there will have been changes and it may no longer be just the same as it was, but yet the memories remain special.

As we remember places that we have loved to visit, may we also remember there are people today who are not as fortunate as we are, who are filled with sadness because for various reasons they are not able to return to their own homes. And may we also pray for a better world in which people's memories are joyful because they feel safe and secure in the places that they love.

Life goes on and change is often inevitable. All of us need to remember whenever changes occur God can be with us.

In the Bible the writer of Psalm 27 wrote:

'Teach me Lord, what you want me to do, and lead me along a safe path'.

Whilst in the hymn it says

One more step along the world I go,
One more step along the world I go,
From the old things to the new
Keep me travelling along with you.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and look forward to the Autumn whenever it arrives.

Best wishes *Liz*

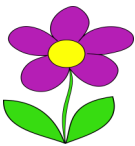


We offer a very warm welcome to everyone!

What's on in September

Tuesday	1st Sept	7.30pm	Deacons Meeting
Friday	4th Sept	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
			2pm-4pm Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday	6th Sept	10.45am	Family Worship led by Susan Titmus of Greenfield Methodist Church. Holy Communion will be led by Peter Butler
Weds	9th Sept	7pm	'All For Jesus' course
Friday	11th Sept	10am-11am 2pm-4pm	Zumba / Pilates Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday	13th Sept	10.45am	Family Service with the 'No Strings Attached' Puppet Ministry from Altrincham Methodist church and led by Rev Liz Dean
Friday	18th Sept	10am-11am 2pm-4pm	Zumba / Pilates Table Tennis Social Group
Saturday	19th Sept	2pm—4pm	Open Day with Greenacres Community Centre
Sunday	20th Sept	10.45am	Family Worship led by Rev Frank Wroe of Hope Cong. Church
Friday	25th Sept	10am-11am 2pm-4pm	Zumba / Pilates Table Tennis Social Group
Saturday	26th Sept	10.30am—12	MacMillian Coffee Morning
Sunday	27th Sept	10.45am	Harvest Thanksgiving Service led by Rev Alan Kennedy of Walkden Cong. Church and joined by friends from Springhead.

The next meeting of the Book Club will be at 2pm on Friday 9th of October. The book chosen for this month is Steve Cavanagh's book The Defence



6th Sept Bev Williams
13th Sept Margaret Fowler
20th Sept Muriel Booth
27th Sept Harvest Festival

Church Flowers Flower Steward Gillian Knowles



At our Harvest we have decided to again support Oldham Food Bank. Foodbanks rely on the goodwill and support of

people who are able, helping people in their local community who are struggling. Gifts that would be appreciated include tinned vegetables, long life fruit juice, tinned fruit, soup, pasta, breakfast cereals, rice, pasta sauce, tinned beans, tinned meat, tea or coffee: sugar, biscuit, snacks and toiletries. Thank you for your support

Tyndale Walk



On Wednesday 11th of July with friends from Springhead C.C., Rev Foday Kamara and Stanley the dog we walked a 4 mile round trip from Greenacres to Springhead to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the first English translation of the Bible. This

was done in the early 1500s by William Tyndale.

Open Day September

On Saturday 19th of September 2026 we will be holding an Open Day with Greenacres Community Centre from 2-4 pm. People from the neighbourhood will be invited to the Church and to the Community Centre to have a look around the buildings.

In the church we are hoping to have displays which will show visitors a little of our history and our church today. We will also serve refreshments, If you can help even if only for a short time please let Joy or one of the deacons know.

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Galland Street, Oldham

Enquiries please contact Joy Dean on 0161 785 0638 or 07971560289

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