



Crowthorne Baptist Church

What's on – November 2024



Remembrance (photo by Amanda)

Time to Reflect

“So be careful how you act; these are difficult days. Don't be fools; be wise: make the most of every opportunity you have for doing good.”

Ephesians 5:15-16 (Living Bible)

As we turned our clocks back in October, I was reminded of the beauty and significance of time in our lives. Just as the seasons change, the rhythm of our days does too. The extra hour invites us to reflect on how we use our time and appreciate the blessings that each moment brings.

In Ephesians 5:15-16 we are encouraged to *“be careful how you act; these are difficult days. Don't be fools; be wise: make the most of every opportunity”*. This passage urges us to seize the moments God provides, especially as we have gained an extra hour. Let's think about how we can use this time to deepen our relationship with Him and with one another.

Consider using this time to pray, meditate on His Word, or reach out to someone in need. In Matthew 6:33 we are encouraged to *“seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.”* Let's make this opportunity to prioritize what truly matters—our faith and our community.

As the days grow shorter and the nights become longer, let us remember that Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12). During these darker months, may we shine His light through acts of kindness and love, illuminating the path for others.

As the clocks have changed, let this serve as a reminder to embrace each moment that God has given us. May we find joy in the time we share together and in our individual journeys of faith.

God bless – Rev. Kevin Mills (Pastor)

November at CBC

This month we continue the Sunday sermon series considering some of the Parables through Luke's Lens, taking us up to Advent.

Sun 3/11	10:30	Sunday Worship – “The Barren Fig Tree” (Luke 13 : 6-9). Shoebox Send Off
Mon 4/11	19:30	Church Family Prayer meeting in the Heart
Sun 10/11	10:30	Sunday Worship – “The Great Supper” (Luke 14 : 15-24). Includes Remembrance
Sun 10/11	15:00	Shine
Sun 10/11	evening	Youth Social – games at CBC
Mon 11/11	19:30	Church Leaders' Meeting in the Heart
Thu 14/11	14:00	Thursday Fellowship in the Heart Speakers: Sue & Ian Burrow
Sat 16/11	19:00	CBC Barn Dance at Edgbarrow School
Sun 17/11	10:30	Sunday Worship with Communion – “The Prodigal Son” (Luke 15 : 11-32) (Communion offering: MAF)
Sun 17/11	12 noon	Eco Church bring and share lunch after the service. All welcome. Optional walk to enjoy God's creation together after lunch.
Weds 20/11	10:30	Service at St. Brendan's care home
Sat 23/11	08:15	Men's Breakfast
Sun 24/11	10:30	Sunday Worship – “The Pharisee & the Tax Collector” (Luke 18 : 19-24)
Sun 24/11	12:00	Church Forum Meeting follows the service
Thu 24/11	14:00	Thursday Fellowship in the Heart Speaker: Sally Clarke

November Communion Service



In our monthly Communion services, where we celebrate the Lord's Supper, it is CBC's tradition to take up an extra offering for a charity.

This month our offering goes to Mission Aviation Fellowship (www.maf-uk.org)

SHINE! Informal service for all the family on the 2nd Sunday each month.

Shine is a fun time of craft, games, music and reflection, held in the Hub from 3 to 4:30pm on 10th November.

All welcome!



Saturday "Sparkle & Shine" event on December 14th from 10am to 12:15pm. See Sarah to book your places (£2 donation / child)

Youth Evening Social – Sunday November 10th

Games evening at CBC. Details from the Youth leaders: Matt, Phil Joyce, Emma Frost



CBC Barn Dance Saturday 16th November

From 7 to 10:30pm at Edgbarrow School. For adults and children aged 7 and over.

Bring your own snacks and drinks. Please book tickets online via Ticketmaster (or see Sarah for help)



Men's Breakfast Saturday 23rd November 8:15am

Speaker: tba

Cost £5. To book see Wendy or email:

bookings.crowthornebaptist@gmail.com



Christmas Shoebox Sending Time!

Sunday 3rd November during the morning service

We will have an opportunity to pray for the transport of the shoeboxes packed here at CBC and for the children who will receive them.



Maggie would like to say an enormous thank you to all those who have given money for postage for the shoeboxes. Thank you too for all the items that have been collected and made so that the boxes can bring great joy to children in dire circumstances. She looks forward to telling us how many boxes we are able to send next month.

Coming up in December and beyond

Advent Theme – Down to Earth

Advent starts on Sunday 1st December. We will be using material prepared by LICC (The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity) for the Sunday sermon series and on Christmas Day.



Daily Readings

LICC are producing daily Bible readings and reflections from 1st to 25th December – a bit like an Advent Calendar for grown-ups! We encourage as many people as possible connected to CBC to join in with this. You can sign up to receive them by email each day, or you can join in via the YouVersion Bible App. If you don't have email, we can arrange to get a printed version for you. Please speak to Kevin or Elaine if this applies to you. More information on the LICC website:

<https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/down-to-earth-a-christmas-devotional-journey/>

Crowthorne Late Night Shopping Event

This is coming up soon on **Friday 6th December**.

The Heart will be filled with activities and stalls, so lots of volunteers are needed.

Please see Wendy if you can help in any way.



Special Seasonal Events

- **St Brendan's Carol Service** – Thursday 19th December 10:30am
- **CTC Carols on the High Street** – Saturday 21st December from 10 to 11am outside CBC
- **CTC Carol Singing in the Pubs** – Saturday 21st December evening (timing to be confirmed)
- **CBC Carol Service** – Sunday 15th December at 6pm
- **CBC Christingle Service** – Christmas Eve at 4pm



Second Wind Concert of Seasonal Music

Sunday 8th December at 7pm
Wokingham Baptist Church

Tickets £12 (age 16 and under free when accompanied by an adult)

Advance booking by email to second.wind@bwcb.org

Also on the door, subject to availability (See Alan for more info)



CBC Big Christmas Card

Instead of sending each other Christmas cards within the fellowship, we will once again be having our BIG Christmas card to sign. Cheryl has kindly volunteered to make it again this year.



Please sign the card when it appears and give a donation instead of the cost of sending individual cards. Donations this year will be going to Macmillan Cancer Support. More information on their website:

<https://www.macmillan.org.uk>

Quench Christian Book Shop – Holme Grange

Why not visit the shop at Holme Grange for all things Advent and Christmas? Real Advent Calendars, Christmas cards, books, diaries and lots more. Open Monday to Saturday 10:30am to 4:30pm



Christmas Gifts for Yeldall Manor

At CBC we have something of a tradition of providing some gifts for the residents at Yeldall Manor.



Maybe you would like to bless some of the residents with a small gift this Christmas. Why not look out for things whilst you are out shopping this month? Suitable items are men's toiletries, boxer shorts, socks, hats, gloves, scarves, sweets and chocolate (not containing alcohol, please), stationery items, etc.



Please wrap them up and put a post-it note on the outside with details of the contents, including size where appropriate. Bring them to church in early December and Richard E will take them up to Yeldall.

Refresh : Sunday 26th January 2025 7:30pm

Our next informal worship session will be in the Heart and led by Sarah with Phil J. All welcome to come along and see where the Spirit leads!



Macmillan Cream Tea Donations – Thank you!

The total raised from the September cream tea in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support was £279. Well done to Wendy and her team.



HELP WANTED

- **Youth Group:** We are blessed to have a group of great young people at CBC and a team of leaders for Sunday mornings. **More adult help is needed**, though. If you could simply be a presence in the group once a month (no need to lead or participate) please see Matt or Phil J or Emma.
- **Baking Cakes for Edgbarrow:** CTC provides cakes and coffee for staff at Edgbarrow School every Friday in term time. More help with baking cakes or biscuits would be appreciated. Please speak to Marion if you can help.

Prayer Matters

Prayer Space

Would you like someone to pray with you after the Sunday service? Two members of our Prayer Team will be ready and happy to pray with you at the front of the Heart. Please go over and speak with them.



Church Family Prayer – 1st Monday in each month

Please join us in The Heart from 7:30pm until around 8.15pm.

We encourage everyone to join us as we pray. Don't worry if you don't want to pray out loud yourself. Let Emma know of any items for prayer and we can bring these things to our amazing God

Eco Church

Charity Collections at CBC

We collect standard plastic milk bottle tops and used postage stamps for charity. Collection point in the Hub foyer or give them to Elaine.



Eco Tip for November from A Rocha

Green your home. Combat climate change and reduce heating costs by identifying and sealing draughts around your home. Find the gaps that let the cold air in and warm air out (think keyholes, letterboxes, cracks around the edges or bottoms of windows and doors, loft hatches, floorboards, etc.) and fix these gaps using the correct materials and online tutorials. Additionally, place foil or radiator panels to reflect heat into your room. Pray for those who might be experiencing the cold this winter.

Bring & Share Lunches

Our bi-monthly bring and share lunches follow the Sunday service. Optional local walk after lunch for those who would like to go and enjoy God's creation outdoors. **Last one for 2024 is on Nov 17th.**

Crowthorne Foodbank

Donations to the Foodbank are always welcome at any time. We have a box in the Hub foyer where you can leave items.

The list of things needed is subject to change from week to week, so check the website for up to date information (www.crowthorne.foodbank.org.uk)



Some suggestions are:

- Long life milk
- Pasta
- Jars of pasta sauce
- Tins of spaghetti
- Jam
- Tinned meat for stews, etc.
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned vegetables
- Fruit juices
- Tinned puddings
- Toilet rolls
- Anti-bac spray
- Bleach
- Laundry detergent capsules
- Washing up liquid
- Bars of soap
- Shampoos / conditioners
- Shower gel
- Deodorants (men & women)

The Foodbank is located at the Vineyard Centre in Wellington Business Park and is open Mondays and Thursdays from 12 to 2pm. There is an additional session on Mondays from 5:30 to 7pm. If you know of anyone who needs to be referred to the Foodbank for help, vouchers are available.

Please speak to Pastor Kevin Mills or to Sue Burrow.

Have you spotted anything broken / not working?

Call for the CBC Maintenance Team!

Members of the team are: **Alan Gravett : Philip Hood : Wendy Mills and Mike Stephenson.**

If you spot anything that needs fixing or needs attention, please let Philip or Mike know.



Update on our Sponsored Child



CBC has sponsored a child for many years through the Christian charity World Vision. We currently sponsor a boy from Uganda. His name is Joel. He is a 5 year old who lives with his parents, brother and two sisters in Busitema, a forested area in SE Uganda. Joel goes to kindergarten.

Joel is a typical boy in many ways and he loves to play when he gets a chance.

World Vision staff monitor Joel's wellbeing and currently his health is good.

This year Joel and his family participated in and benefitted from:

- Farming training – they can grow more crops that are nutritious for the children, improving their health and income.
- School books and study materials to help Joel with his education.
- Life skills training – skills that he can apply to daily challenges.
- Reading and writing workshops – Joel has worked hard to improve.
- Hygiene workshop – Joel knows how to stay clean and safe from germs so that he doesn't get sick.

If you would like to know more about the work of World Vision and our sponsorship, please speak to Janet Sargeant.

Christmas Craft items needed

We are collecting items for craft activities at the Late Night Shopping event and for the December Shine event. Please save:

- Cardboard tubes from toilet rolls and kitchen rolls
- Coffee tins (100g size with plastic lids)

Pass them on to Wendy, Sarah or Sally



The Leadership Team

Pastor	Rev. Kevin Mills
Elders	Trevor Allwright and Elaine Hood
Treasurer	Justine Wells
Deacons	Ian Burrow, Matt Patterson, Emma Frost and Sarah Webb

Photos of all members of the Leadership Team are opposite the notice board in the Heart Foyer.

There is still a vacancy for the position of Church Secretary. For the time being, the duties of the Secretary will be shared out amongst the rest of the Team. Please continue to pray that the right person to take on this role will be identified.

The team usually meets for a business meeting on the 2nd Monday in the month and prayer on the 4th Monday. A summary of the minutes from each meeting is available on the noticeboard near the Heart. Please ask Kevin if you would like your own copy. Your prayers for these meetings and for issues discussed are very much appreciated.

- Please note that Kevin's day off is normally Tuesday.

Church Meeting Dates 2024 & 2025

The last Church meeting for 2024 will be in November

- **Sunday Nov 24th** – Forum meeting after the service

Dates for 2025 are:

- **Sunday Jan 26th** – Forum meeting after the service
- **Tuesday March 25th** – 7:45pm AGM
- **Sunday June 29th** – Forum meeting after the service
- **Wednesday Sept 23rd** – 7:45pm
- **Sunday Nov 23rd** – Forum meeting after the service



Regular Activities

House Groups at CBC

Groups meet at different times during the week for Bible study and fellowship:

- Monday and Friday mornings
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings

Please speak to Kevin if you would like to join one.
(There is currently room in some of the groups)



Midweek Events at CBC

Good Neighbours	Weekdays 10am to 12 noon in the Hub Foyer (Telephone 01344 761001)
The Ark Preschool	Weekday mornings in term time in the Hub
Zone6 (for year 6)	Mondays in term time 3:15-5:00pm
Zone78 (for year 7/8)	Fridays in term time 7-8:30pm
AA	Every Monday 7:00-8:30pm in the Hub
Breakaway Brass	Every Tuesday 8:00-10:00pm in the Hub
CTC Coffee Shop	Every Thursday 10:30-11:30am in the Heart
CAB	3 rd Wednesday each month 10am to 12 noon

Would you like to book a room at CBC?

Ask Wendy or email
bookings.crowthornebaptist@gmail.com

Find out more on our website:

www.crowthornebaptist.org.uk

Church office phone 07767 186336
(for outside contacts)

