

# Thornborough Methodist Chapel

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## Annual Report May 2023

The Chapel has had a good year with all Covid restrictions now fully lifted. At a weekly service we can have around 24 regular attendees. Our membership has increased, and we enjoy having visitors to the Chapel as well as folk from surrounding villages and Buckingham. Chapel has an induction loop system for the hard of hearing.

Our weekly services start at 11.00am and many stay on afterwards for refreshments. On the first Sunday of every month, we enjoy having a joint service with St. Mary's Church. In the winter months, the joint services are held in the Chapel, and from April we alternate between Church and Chapel. We enjoy the relationship we have with church and the opportunity to worship together, valuing the services Rev. Jacqueline leads.

We continue to hold our monthly pastoral outreach events, these include:

- Meet & Eat - A monthly lunch group which is held on the first Monday of every month. The lunch is a two course meal followed by tea and coffee and a fun quiz. The lunch is always very well attended with around 25 people coming from Thornborough and the surrounding areas.
- Lyrics and lunch - This monthly event is proving to be very successful. The space allows for carers to come with their loved ones who suffer with dementia. Together they share in singing well-known popular songs. During the time a small meal is provided together with a short 'thought for the day'.
- Messy church - this is for children - babies right through to 11-year-olds, to come along with their parents and take part in activities, all linked to stories from the Bible. Numbers have fluctuated in recent times, but the demand is still there.

Our weekly outreach is the Wednesday Drop-in which runs between 10.30am - 12.30pm. It's a time to meet, to chat with friends and have free refreshments. It was very well attended and in the summer months the beautiful garden is taken advantage of and enjoyed by all. Also once a month the Drop-in holds a bring and buy sale too.

In May, we enjoyed opening the Chapel for the Coronation Sunday village funday. For some who came in for refreshments, it was the first time they had been inside the Chapel and found the space peaceful and surprised by just how nice it is. A donation will be made to the Thornborough Village Hall fund from the money made that day.

The Chapel is also involved with the village fun run, an event attend by villagers and runners from the surrounding areas. Our service will start at an earlier time so event organisers can set up. The service will be 10.00am-11.00am.

Other annual events include 'Thy Kingdom Come' which takes place between Ascension Day and Pentecost and was begun by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in 2016. This is a special time when members of our Chapel join with other Christians from all over the world to pray. This year the Chapel is open on Sunday 28th May between 2.00pm - 4.00pm and will have 4 special areas for prayer and reflection within the worship area. All are welcome to come in and have some quiet time. Refreshments will also be available.

At the back of the Chapel, we have a lovely meeting room which is used for the Wednesday Drop-in, and it can also be hired out. The back room has a modern kitchen as well as toilet facilities, including wheelchair access to one of the toilets. Beyond the meeting room, we have a beautiful garden which is always open and many take advantage of its peace and quiet.

We would love to welcome more villagers into the Chapel and so, if you have any suggestions or times that you would like the Chapel to open then please do get in touch because we would like to meet your needs.

Thank you to all in our village for supporting Thornborough Methodist Chapel.

God bless you all.

Louise Springall

<https://www.wellstreetchurch.org.uk/our-chapels/thornborough-methodist-chapel/>