

Sunday busyness! THE BOX



WE are mindful that the times when people need to sit and reflect on the service at the end are increasing.

As a result, we are asking people to leave the service quietly and make your way over to the Centre for a coffee and a catch up instead.

Also, to cut down the amount of 'business' done on a Sunday, we are trialling The Box. Any visiting or pastoral requests, forms, orders etc. for the office or the leadership team can be left in The Box, which will then be dealt with on Monday mornings. Pens and paper will be provided, but you can obviously bring these along in an envelope if you prefer.

It will be at the back of the Church until the end of the 10.00am service, when it will transfer over to the Centre ready for coffee.



If you would like to support the Parish financially, please contact the office for information about the Parish Giving Scheme.

Get In Touch

St Leonard's Church Office Rectory Road
Oakley RG23 7ED 01256 782724

Open: 9.00am - 12.00pm Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri

Email: office@oww.church

Web site: www.oakleywithwotton.org.uk

Bookings: bookings@oww.church

Rev'd Ben Kautzer Ben's day off is Friday

ben@oww.church 01256 420903

Rev'd Ceri Deosun 07529 901800 Day off Thurs

Pre Service Prayers

THE Prayer Room upstairs in the Centre is set aside each Sunday morning from 9.50 - 10.15am to be still, to pray for the morning service and to listen for God's words of encouragement for us all. Do come any Sunday and join with others in prayer.

Post Service Prayer

PRAYER Ministry is available after the service. If you feel you would like to receive this, please head to the side chapel on the right of the church.

What's going on

TO keep up to date with what's going on in the parish, why not sign up to our weekly newsletter containing the Welcome Sheet, and all the information about what's going on!



Private Prayer

10.00am-4.00pm
every day @
Wootton

Please pray for

The family and friends of Colin Wood

Peace in the Middle East and Ukraine

The Alpha Course team and participants

The Connect group Leaders

Thought for the week

God will look to every soul like its first love because He is its first love

A friend of mine keeps getting emails offering him cans of chopped ham and pork. I've told him that it's just spam.

Sunday 28 September 2025 Welcome

WHO WE ARE



encounter | depth | belonging | generosity | compassion

WHAT WE DO

This Sunday 28 September

8.00am Holy Communion

@ St. Leonard's Oakley

10:30am Morning Service

@ St. Leonard's including Jago's Christening

And cake will be provided in St Leonard's Centre afterwards

1:30pm Christening of Emma Taylor



@stleonardchurchoakley

FOR FAMILIES OF ALL AGES.
EVERYONE WELCOMED.

3:30pm Sunday Funday
@ St. Leonard's Church & Centre

Next Sunday 5 October

9.00 am Communion Service

@ Wootton St. Lawrence



10:30am Café Church

@ St. Leonard's

7.00pm The Well in St. Leonard's Centre



Genuine email

IF you have received an email recently from the Parish Giving Scheme about their collection service provider changing - its genuine. You don't need to do anything and this is not a scam.

Calling a Wounded Earth Home

Five sessions looking at
how we respond to
climate change as
Christians

Starting
Tuesday 7th October,
St Leonard's Centre
2pm



Connect Groups Roadshow!

ARE you someone looking to join a friendly group to meet and discuss the Bible or the Christian take on life? Perhaps you used to be in one, but have lapsed, or are looking for a change.

For the first two Sundays in October we will be staging a Connect Groups Roadshow, offering an opportunity to see the breadth of existing groups, or to spot what's missing and start a new one!

Perhaps you would like a paint and pray group, or have knowledge to share in an occasional wider form type event?

Representatives from the groups will be to on hand to chat, and a booklet will be available to peruse at your leisure! This info will be available at all the various Sunday services in both churches. See you there!

Working Men's Lunch

ARE you a man working from home, who'd like to connect with others on a Monday lunchtime? This group is meeting up between 12 noon - 1.00pm so you can bring your lunch and enjoy some fellowship to start your week well. The venue changes each week, so please speak to Ben or Deniyi for more information.



Fellowship Walks for October

Wednesdays, 1 and 15 October

**Reflective Themes of
'Fruitfulness / Changing Seasons'**

THIS last week has certainly brought a change of season with a drop of temperature with darker and colder mornings! And yet what a season of fruitfulness with the abundance of apples and hedgerow sloes. So let us walk and reflect together how God provides seasonal abundance and how this can look different with each changing season. And let us also consider how our own spiritual season can ebb and flow: how we can bless others when we are 'fruitful' and when we need to rest and receive from others. Please come along and walk alongside each other in Fellowship, returning to join the mid week Communion Service and/or Community Cafe at the Centre..

ALL WELCOME

Start Point:

St Leonard's Church 10.00am

1 and 15 October

For further details contact either:

Annie Wilson [07740 597698] /

Barbara Robson [07722 957057]



'THIS is Us' is a welcome gathering for anyone who has started coming along recently. An opportunity to meet some of the leaders of our church and find out a bit more about what happens at St Leonard's!

Please email welcome@oww.church to register your interest



The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra! **What do you think?** Come for introduction evening of film and discussion. No pressure, no cost.

What have you got to lose?

Weds 1 October 7.30 pm

Please contact the Church Office or Tom Favell for more information on the venue.

**NOW STARTING
1ST OCTOBER**



Scan me

www.oakleywithwotton.org.uk/alpha-course



The Welcome Club

New Weekly stay & play club for
SEND children and their families in
school holidays

OPEN DAY

AGES 2-10YRS

Thursday 30th October

10-11.30am.

St Leonard's Centre Oakley

We are looking for volunteers too, please
come along to find out more, or email us

Any questions - OakleyWelcomeClub@outlook.com

OPEN TO RESIDENTS OF OAKLEY AND WOOTTON ST LAWRENCE



Carrier bags

THE Food Bank are very short of carrier bags for people to take groceries etc home with them. If you have any lurking, please could you drop them to Ian Pryce or to the office. Apparently, this is an ongoing issue, so please do keep any and pass them on.



Having a child with extra needs can bring many challenges, this can often be felt most in the holidays when there is a lack of suitable or inclusive activities to share as a family.

This can be frustrating and very isolating.

We are delighted to announce the formation of a new group, called The Welcome Club, especially for SEND children and their families to be run at St Leonard's Centre weekly over the school holidays. The group is for children aged 2-10 and their siblings.

We are holding an open day on Thursday 30 October at St Leonards Centre, at 10am-11.30am. We would love any Oakley or Wootton families to come along and meet us and have a chat and play. We are also looking to create a group of volunteers to help run the club, training will be given and we hope to have a good size team so people can take it in turn to come and help. We would love to see you at the open day too.

New ideas for Mission Action Group support



MAG (Mission Action Group) is now ready to receive applications for our Church's 2025 donation to charities prompted by YOU the Church Family! For the past three months we have been sharing some wonderful stories and details of how MAG works and the changing life donations we are seeking to make. Open the Book is one such charity.

The Oakley Open the Book Team is made up of 11 members from local churches who go into Oakley Junior School every Tuesday morning in term time to present a Bible Story using mime, drama, props, costumes, and audience participation, to years 2, 3 and 4 in a 20-min assembly. At the end of the year we have a special presentation assembly in which we say goodbye to the year 4s, wish them well for the future, pray for them, and give them each an NIV New Testament, with a list of the NT stories we have covered for them to start reading. These cost £1.50 each, and were paid for by a generous grant of £200 from MAG last year. Thank you for your continued interest and support.

So if God has placed on your heart, any Christian charity of modest size where a donation of £500-£1000 would have impact on the lives of others, then please do email mag@oww.church with the details, or call Barbara (07722) 957057 or Ceri (07529) 901 800 if you want to find out more on how it all works.

We love to support overseas charities but please note that the charity must be UK registered. All applications need to be submitted by 12 October.

NEW! Book Club

WE'RE starting a Book Club! We will be reading a mixture of Christian fiction, Christian non-fiction and other books that have caught the public imagination. Feel free to come every time or just when the book appeals to you!

Our first book is *Phoebe* by Paula Gooder and we will be discussing it on 27 October from 12.00pm at CJ's house. Please talk to Ceri or CJ if you would like to join us!

Sometime around 56 AD, the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Rome. His letter was arguably his theological masterpiece, and has continued to shape Christian faith ever since. He entrusted this letter to Phoebe, the deacon of the church at Cenchreae; in writing to the church that almost surely met in her home, Paul refers to her both as a deacon and as a helper or patron of many. But who was this remarkable woman? In this, her first novel, Biblical scholar and popular author and speaker Paula Gooder tells Phoebe's story - who she was, the life she lived and her first-century faith - and in doing so opens up Paul's theology, giving a sense of the cultural and historical pressures that shaped Paul's thinking, and the faith of the early church.



Zambia 2026

We are exploring the opportunity to go on a 2 week mission trip in Ndola, Zambia in Summer 2026. The trip will involve light building work, children's ministry, women's empowerment and health education.

We have had a lot of interest in the trip, so we will be holding an information evening on the **16th October @ 7:30 in St Leonard's centre**. This will be a chance to hear more about the experience and to ask any questions about the trip, logistics, accommodation, and the projects we will be supporting.

16TH OCTOBER 7:30PM

The trip is suitable for anyone over 16, unless travelling with a family member. For more information, please contact Emma Felton 07896004440 or Feltsonamission@gmail.com.