



Hardwick Happenings

Sunday, 25 January 2026

10:30am

Scripture: Luke 12:13-24

[Series: Luke.]

Preacher: Matt Oliver

Bring and Share Lunch following morning service.

6:00pm

Prayer Service

Preacher: Stephen Mitchinson

Activities this week

Monday, 26 January

Prayer @ Church	noon
Revive @ Liz's house	10:00am
Discovery	6:00pm
Youth Group, boys	7:30pm

Tuesday, 27 January

Prayer @ Church	9:00am
GA	6:00pm
Youth Group, girls	7:30pm

Wednesday, 28 January

Toddlers	10:00am
Prayer on Zoom	1:00pm
Prayer Meeting at church	7:30pm

Thursday, 29 January

Prayer @ Church	9:00am
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Friday, 30 January

Prayer @ Church	7:00am
Knit, Craft, and Share	10:00am

Sunday, 01 February 2026

am Luke 12:35-59

Preacher: Matt Oliver

pm 1 Kings 4:1-5:18

Preacher: Darrell Wilkinson

Hardwick Baptist Church, Piper Knowle Road, Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 8JQ

HardwickBaptistChurch.org

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counsellor?” “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Prayer items

Our Church

Discovery for Boys

Praise

- for the boys who have kept coming along each week, and new ones who have joined recently.
- for enthusiasm and energy that the boys bring each week.
- for the good numbers of boys and their families who attended the Christmas services.

Pray

- that the things the boys have learnt from the Bible will show them their need of Jesus.
- that we keep the activities and group work fresh and exciting.
- for the continued development of relationships with parents and families as we chat each week before and after Discovery.

Mission

Matt & Judith Hill in Spain

Praise

- We are truly praising God for our new church building. Five years have passed since we originally bought the old warehouse, five years that included COVID, massive price rises, struggles with the town council, numerous changes of plans, and delay after delay. But **finally**, we were able to hold our first service on Sunday the 14th of December. What an outpouring of joy and thanksgiving as we gathered for the first time. We hope to hold our official opening on the 14th and 15th of February, which will be a wonderful time of celebration.
- The work at Editorial Peregrino continues, and the link-up with Poiema is proving to be a very happy arrangement and means we are

now in a much healthier position at the end of the year than at its beginning, and are going into 2026 with a great sense of expectation and trust in the Lord. In the Peregrino bookshop we were able to include over 100 recently-arrived titles from Poiema, which were well received, and helped to boost sales.

Other Churches

Aycliffe Evangelical Church

Praise

- for several visitors to our Carol Service.
- and give thanks for all our speakers in 2025 who supported us.

Pray

- for the seed sown at the Carol Service.
- that the Lord will continue to use our speakers in 2026 and give them strength and help in this work.
- for the unconverted who meet with us regularly and occasionally, that the Lord would open their hearts to know him.
- about our need for a pastor; that we would have wisdom and unity in this search.

Fellowship news

Congratulations to George and Anusia Thomas on the birth of their son at 5:50 p.m. on 04 January 2026, weighing 3.2 kg.



Thought for the week

Five things you might not know about elders:

(1) - They're Held to a High Standard

Having preached through 1 Timothy and Titus in the past, and having done a mini-series on church government, we are hopefully all aware that the qualifications for eldership are a high standard.

Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

1 Timothy 3:1-7

(See also *Titus 1:5-9*)

Even just reading them through again I feel the weight of the words. Without the Spirit's work, no man is qualified for eldership.

Those verses don't ask for perfection, but they require humility. I need to pray for the Lord to keep me, and my fellow elders, qualified.

As we pray for elders for our church we can't accept anything less than what the word of God requires of them, to do so would be disastrous.

Matt Oliver

Giving to Hardwick Baptist Church

To give financially to the Church, you can do so as follows:

1. Placing your gift in the offering box at back left of the main hall
2. Direct Giving using the church account details
Sort Code 09-01-54 Account Number. 5873 6082