



# Hardwick Happenings

Sunday, 31 May 2026

**10:30am**

*(Partnership/Mission Sunday)*

Scripture: Leviticus 21:1-22:33

*[Series: Leviticus. Number 8]*

Preacher: Matt Oliver

**6:00pm**

Prayer Service - Philippians 1:3-11

Preacher: Graham Turner

## Activities this week

### Monday, 1 June

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

### Tuesday, 2 June

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

### Wednesday, 3 June

Toddlers 10:00am  
Prayer on Zoom 1:00pm  
Home Groups 7:30pm

### Thursday, 4 June

Prayer @ Church 9:00am  
Men of Faith 7:00pm

### Friday, 5 June

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

## Sunday, 7 June 2026

am Leviticus 23:1-25:55

Preacher: Matt Oliver

pm Psalm 64

Preacher: Matt Oliver

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

**HardwickBaptistChurch.org**

## Fighter Verses

*Isaiah 40:30-31 ESVUK*

Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

## Prayer items

### Our Church

#### Knit and Craft

##### Praise

- to God that the ladies have been engaging with the Bible discussions, even those who aren't professing faith.
- that the ladies have been committed to the baby hat project, may they serve newborn babies well.

##### Pray

- for those who are currently struggling with pain and ill health.
- that the fellowship between the ladies deepens.
- for the ladies who don't know Jesus, that they will come to trust in Him through the Bible discussions and the conversations with the other ladies.

### Mission

#### Torch Trust

##### Pray

- for the development team and all the projects they are working on.
- that God would use the braille Bibles dispatched by Compass Braille to bring salvation and encouragement to their readers.

##### Praise

- for the volunteers who help at the Torch Together holidays. Pray more will sign up to help at the holidays this year.
- for the Tuesday Chat Group. Pray for good relationships between all who attend.
- for the Torch Groups who meet around the country. Pray for good attendance and fellowship within the group.

# Other Churches

**Spenn Valley Church, Cleckheaton** – Pastor Graham Thomson

## Praise

- for the way the Lord is working through his word in our lives, both in studying 1 Corinthians on Sundays and as we read together during the week (Psalms this month).
- for 5-6 unbelievers regularly reading the Bible with us and/or coming along on Sundays. Please pray the Lord would bring them to himself.

## Pray

- as we think through the best ways for us as a church to look after one another and help one another avoid drift, especially for wisdom as Elders.
- for some struggling with many different issues who are finding it tough to keep going at the minute.

## Notices

### **14 June - Dedication of John Young**

There will be a bring and share lunch after the morning service. Mainly a cold buffet/finger food. Any questions please speak to Rachel Stuttard.

### **20 June - Family Fun Day BBQ**

1-3pm

## Thought for the week

### **What does our building say about us?**

Last time I wrote here, I promised to tell you about another book about going to church. This one is called simply “Church Going”, by Andrew Ziminski. The author doesn’t appear to be a Christian; at least he never writes about going to church to worship. He goes to churches all over the British Isles, because he is a stonemason, whose job is to repair and restore old churches.

Most of the churches he goes to started life as Catholic and now are Anglican. Catholic and Anglican services are a lot more complicated than ours, and different parts of the building are needed for different activities.

So, for example, having dealt with the exterior, he moves on to the important bit, the interior, and tells the reader what used to happen there (and in many cases, still does). He discusses the porch, which sometimes includes a library (or, in the case of Peterborough Cathedral, a school). Then he moves onto the nave, the main body of the church, where the congregation stood; for seats are a nineteenth-century innovation. Then we come to the roofs and vaults, and so on.

For each part of the building, he shows how the architecture and the decoration reflect what happens there. And that made me think. We are not about to install a supply of “holy water” or decorate our building with colourful pictures of “saints” and angels. Still less do we want a font for christening babies! But what does our building say about us?

There are books in the porch, but they are not chained in, like a medieval library! Anyone can take one. There are musical instruments in prominent positions, because singing God’s praise matters. Above all, on the platform, the central place is given to the reading desk, because reading and proclaiming God’s word is the most important thing.

I am not saying that we are perfect, that nothing could be improved in our building. But the question remains: what is most important in our church life? And will an outsider see that from our building—and from us?

*Philip Tait*

## **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