

Atworth Independent Church

"*It is time to seek the Lord*" Hosea 10 v.12

Affiliated to the

Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches

www.atworthindependentchurch.org.uk

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Dear friends & neighbours of Atworth,

It is a pleasure to share with you all some of the events and services that have been carried out at Atworth Independent Church. During the past year, we have continued to host our Coffee Stop mornings and Soup Lunches on the second Friday of each month. These events have been regularly attended by villagers and also by some from outside the village. At each event we have a guest speaker & entertainer who shares with everyone a testimony of how God has worked in their lives. These testimonies are extremely helpful, encouraging & informative and if you have not attended one of these events, then please make an effort to join us and be encouraged. Of course our main function at the church is to bring the Good News of Our Lord Jesus Christ and we continue to do this each Sunday morning at 11:00am. Although I preach at most of the services we do have guest preachers each month from the surrounding areas to also bring this Good News, so again if you have not heard this news or would like to hear more about it then please join us on Sunday morning.

In September at our Harvest service we celebrated the abundant provision that Our Lord has blessed us with during the past year. This blessing enabled us to give food hampers of fresh and tinned food to Alebere Help Centre, a food and clothing center for those in need. We would like to give much more and more often so if you would like to donate food to us now or in September at our annual the Harvest service then please contact myself or Rodney Price.

With help from the Parish Council it has been decided that the church would purchase two Books of Condolences which would be made available at the chapel as and when the need arises. People will be able to come into the chapel, sign the book & stay for a short while if they so desire. Once completed the book will be passed on to the relevant

family or organization for them to display and or keep with appreciation from Atworth Village.

With regards to other services, each year in November we hold a joint Memorial Service with St. Michael's beginning at the Queen Victoria Memorial Clock and then continuing the service at either Atworth Independent Church or at St. Michael's. This year the service will be held on Sunday 13 November beginning at 10:50 at the memorial and then proceeding into the Chapel for a full service. Please come along as we celebrate and remember those who have given their lives for Atworth and our country.

On New Year's Eve, we held a Midnight celebration service which was open to the village and also shared with other churches in the surrounding areas. Many people attended this wonderful event and we were all blessed by the singing, fellowship and Word of God. This service will be held again this year on Saturday 31 December at 11:15pm; please come along and see in 2017 with fellow villagers and friends. Another new service, which we have introduced this past year, was a Good Friday morning service. This was the first time in living memory that this service had taken place at the Chapel. We again had some people come in from the village, (we would like to see a lot more), and we shared this service with Ebenezer Baptist Church of Melksham. This again will be an ongoing event and will be advertised nearer to the time.

Finally, every Thursday afternoon we have a Bible Study meeting beginning at 2:00 pm. In the winter month's we meet at the home of a member of the congregation and in the summer month's we meet at the chapel. Everyone is most welcome, even if you don't know much about Christianity; come along and enjoy a look at the Bible and fellowship with other like minded villagers.

In closing I would like to thank God for His wonderful mercies and blessing which He has bestowed on us at the Chapel during this past year. We thank Him for leading people into our church and for the friendship, fellowship and love shown from people in the village.

May the Lord be with all of us this year as we endeavor to do His work, live according to His commandments and help each other.

In His Name

Rev. Steve Whitaker

Pastor, Atworth Independent Church