



# **Welcome to Thornbury Baptist Church**



**Thornbury Baptist Church  
Gillingstool  
Thornbury  
South Gloucestershire BS35 2EG  
01454 419118**

**[www.thornburybaptistchurch.co.uk](http://www.thornburybaptistchurch.co.uk)**

## **WELCOME!**

We are so glad that you have taken the time to contact us and to read this small leaflet in which you will find information on:

- Who we are
- When we meet
- Small groups
- Children's and Youth work
- Mission
- Church leadership
- Where to find out more

Please feel free to contact us at any time, either:

- Call into the Church
- Phone the Office on 01454 419118
- Visit the web-site at:
- [www.thornburybaptistchurch.co.uk](http://www.thornburybaptistchurch.co.uk)

## **WHO WE ARE**

We are a Baptist church of some 450 people of all ages drawn from the town of Thornbury and the Severn Vale with many different backgrounds. We were established in 1747, and are linked with:

Nationally:     The Evangelical Alliance  
Regionally:     The Celebration Network  
Locally:         Thornbury Churches Together.

We consider "Church" to be people in Community relating to God and to each other, not a building. Our aim is to express Jesus through being a:

- Loving community
- Praying community
- Mission community
- Growing community

We seek to impact the wider community in which we live.

## **WHEN WE MEET**

We have three main meetings on a Sunday, at 9.15am, 11am and 6.30pm. The 9.15am service has a full range of provision for children and young people.

On the first Sunday of each month the 11am service is followed by a meal and there is no 9.15am service. Morning services and their times usually change during the school holidays, particularly during the summer.

Our Sunday meetings are just a part of Church life with many small groups of people meeting throughout the week in one form of ministry or another.

In addition the Church building, with bookshop, is open on Mon to Fri from 10.00am to 3.00pm, with a coffee shop in the mornings on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

## **SMALL GROUPS**

There is an important dynamic when we meet on a Sunday but we also encourage everyone to be part of a small group. It is in such groups that we grow, share, pray and support each other. There are many very varied, small groups including:

- Children and youth of all ages
- Sports such as football, cricket and unihoc
- Prayer, generally or for specific topics such as our local schools
- Mission, such as preparing teams to go to overseas or to run Alpha courses
- Worship, such as preparing for services or running the supporting equipment
- Ladies and men to have time on their own
- Studying the Bible and pastoral care

...and many, many more!

### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

We consider that young people of all ages are a vital part of the Church today, not just a part of the future. We have a large team of workers, led by a full time worker, that manages an extensive programme for children and youth.

We encourage our young people to play a full part in Church life in an integrated way, but we also recognise their needs for Christian growth amongst their peers and so we have groups for all ages that meet on a Sunday and throughout the week.

Our provision for young people begins with a creche and a Mums and Toddlers group, and goes right through the ages with groups for older teens.

Our young people take part in all of our services but we also hold some services with a greater emphasis on the young.

### **MISSION**

As a church we take the command of Jesus to go and make disciples of all nations seriously and regularly give over 20% of our finances direct to Mission. We believe that it is not the Church of God that has a Mission in the world but the God of Mission that has a Church in the world.

Emphasis is placed on inspiring, training and sending people from the church on Mission in the UK and overseas, we have links with people from Hull to Malaysia and points in between.

We send teams on Mission abroad, to places such as Romania, Malaysia and Nicaragua.

We support mission that promotes the gospel of Jesus in Muslim communities both in the UK and overseas.

We have a strong focus on supporting Alpha at home and overseas.

Locally we seek to be active in our Community as part of our Mission activities in areas such as:

- Taking 'Open the Book' and other assemblies in schools
- Having a strong children's and youth work
- Providing a regular lunch club for the elderly in our Community

We also have a strong focus on the relief of poverty.



We regularly run Alpha courses at Thornbury Baptist Church, so if you would like to know more about the Christian faith then this may be for you. Alpha is a chance to explore Christianity, ask as many questions as you like in a friendly and relaxed way. If you are interested please let us know (see front page for contact details.)

## **LEADERSHIP**

The Church is led by a team of leaders who seek to lead with a servant heart. They accept their responsibility to God under His authority for their own lives and their personal accountability for those under their care.

One of the primary responsibilities of Leadership is to enable the growth of gifts and ministries within the Church which comes through discipleship, and in this respect the Team seek to be enablers.

The Leadership Team contains Elders who have the final authority in matters of doctrine, teaching and discipline. One of the Elders is full-time and is the Team Leader.

The Leadership Team includes a full time leader for Children and Youth.

## **WHERE TO FIND OUT MORE**

This small leaflet will answer some of the questions you may have, and give you an insight into the Church. We hope that you will get to know us better.

There are a number of ways in which you can find out more:

- Visit the Church any time that it is open
- Join us at our Sunday services
- Contact the Church and ask for someone to come and see you or give you a call
- Come to one of our welcome events
- Read any of the other leaflets in this series (see next page)
- Visit our web-site at
- [www.thornburybaptistchurch.co.uk](http://www.thornburybaptistchurch.co.uk)

## **LEAFLETS IN THIS SERIES**

- Welcome
- Being Church
- Baptism
- Communion
- Family Forum
- Children and the Church
- Small Groups
- Membership
- Finance
- Prayer
- Worship
- Sharing your story
- Mission
- Holy Spirit
- Environmental challenge