

## Fressingfield Baptist Church – Parish Meeting Report

Our Sunday congregations have grown this year and we now have a about 130 people, young and old, who call FBC their spiritual 'home'. We have uplifting singing, practical and relevant Bible teaching, prayers and always time for chat over refreshments afterwards.

Sundays are however just a small part of what we're about. Because we want to share and show God's love and message 2023/24 has seen us continue to organise a wide range of events for all ages.

Here's a little taste of what's happened this last year ...

**The Coffee Shop** (10:00am-2:00pm Weds – Fridays) - our first full year of operation has seen it gain a big reputation for it's warm welcome as well as the high-quality barista coffee (many say it's better – and cheaper - than Costs & Nero's!), cakes, scones and light lunches. It's now a favourite place for many in the village and local area to meet up with friends. The menu has grown and now includes light lunches; quality is always high and because it's run largely by volunteers we can keep our prices low!

For 50 years FBC has been renowned in the village for its free children's clubs, and this year we've been able to continue these - '**Friday Fun Time**', our adult and toddler group, has grown massively this year so that it's not uncommon for 50-60 children and their grown-ups to be enjoying games, toys, crafts and the all important 'snack time, with it's delicious homemade cakes for the grown-ups (so much so that the group has been nicknamed 'The cake club' by some!). Friday evenings '**EPIC**' club is also full to overflowing with up to 40 primary school age children enjoying an hour of games, crafts, snacks and a Bible based 'reflection'. **Holiday Club** (August 2023) saw the best attended club for a few years, with over 80 children joining in (over 70 children every day for the week). A new event last October was the '**Light Party**' where nearly 100 children and their adults enjoyed an evening of pumpkin carving, crafts, games and a bouncy castle, as well as the usual cakes and refreshments. Easter 2024 saw another **Easter Egg Hunt** – this year over 300 adults and children enjoyed this trek round the village, followed by crafts, cakes and of course a free easter egg for every child (we gave away over 180 eggs!).

We also organised a **clay pigeon shoot** for 60 men, a **5 aside football competition** and a **sit-down, 'Harvest Supper Roast'** for 120 people.

**Venue hire:** many of our rooms and halls are available for hire, with the Sports hall, kitchen and foyer area making an ideal venue for things like children's birthday parties. See our website or come and chat to us for details.

So it's been a good year! There is always room for more and everyone is welcome to come and join in what we do – even if it's just out of curiosity.

Full details of what we believe and what we do are available on our website –  
[fressingfieldbaptist.church](http://fressingfieldbaptist.church)