



Weekly Prayer Focus: 26th November 2023 Fulmerston Community Church

Fulmerston Church is on the Barnham Cross Estate in Thetford, Norfolk, a place where the church works hard to lovingly build relationships through positive activities, prayerfully hoping to also draw people closer to Jesus. It is an area of need but with real community spirit, and the church works with local people and agencies, to improve people's lives, the local area and its amenities.

The church uses their building to help with this, as it is a well-designed, welcoming, adaptable, practical space. It is regularly used for groups such as the weekly 'Craft Buddies' for older people, 'Chat and Chill' coffee morning, where you sometimes find the local councillor, 'The Meeting Place' – a social group for older people and the externally run 'Life is for Living' exercise group, as well as the Sunday service! Special afternoon all-age services are held four times a year and a monthly bring-and-share meal after church usually attracts extra local people.

The church has five key values: Living for Jesus, Loving People, Working with the community, Helping each other grow, and Working together as a team. These principles are also seen in the leadership structure. Tim Lovejoy has been with the church since 1991 and in post as the Church and Community Worker since 2000, and speaks of the leadership being a team, of which he is a part.

It has been a tough year with the cost-of-living crisis hitting local people hard. In addition, Tim was unexpectedly taken ill and had three months recovery, but the church team rallied around brilliantly.

Encouragingly, over the last two years, the church has celebrated more new people coming and staying in the church than for decades, as well as last year's baptism – the first in 25 years, meaning that during their recent AGM, it was agreed that it had been a good year; a remarkable statement of God's faithfulness through tough times.

Fulmerston Church asks you to join them in praying:

- It has been great to have local people joining us recently, and we pray that they will find their place and be able to use their gifts within the fellowship.
- We thank God for our strong relationships in the local community and pray that we will continue to build on those.
- We pray that we will continue to grow spiritually and numerically, making more disciples and baptising them.
- That the church body will grow in confidence, feel encouraged by God and be eager to share with others about Him.