



OLIVE TREE NEWSLETTER – January 2026

Charity number: 1196158

theolivetreechurch.org.uk

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Dear People of God, Grace and peace to you all.

With grateful hearts and great expectation, we are delighted to share with you the spiritual theme that will guide us as a church family throughout **2026**. This theme flows directly from our **Olive Tree Strategy** and reflects God's continuing call for us to grow, flourish, and shine more brightly in Him.

THEME FOR 2026: GROWING BIGGER AND BRIGHTER IN GOD

This is not simply a phrase for the year, but a shared spiritual journey. It speaks of growth that is both **deep and wide** rooted firmly in God while extending His light into every area of our lives, our families, our church, and our community.

Throughout the year, we will declare together:

Leader: *Growing Bigger and Brighter in God*

Response: *My Year of Amazing Increase*

This declaration is an invitation to personal faith, collective unity, and confident hope in what God is doing among us.

A Year of Purposeful Growth - Each month of 2026 will focus on a specific area of spiritual growth, helping us move steadily and intentionally forward. The monthly sub-themes will guide our Sunday teachings, prayers, and practical application:

- **January – Growing in Vision:** Clarity of purpose and strong foundations
- **February – Growing in Love:** Living compassionately and reflecting God's light
- **March – Growing in Faith:** Strengthening belief, resilience, and trust in God
- **April – Growing in Resurrection Power:** Living out the victory of Easter
- **May – Growing in Purpose:** Discovering and fulfilling our God-given calling
- **June – Growing in the Word:** Deepening understanding and daily application of Scripture
- **July – Growing in Prayer:** Strengthening our communication with God
- **August – Growing in the Spirit:** Developing spiritual sensitivity and gifts
- **September – Growing in Service:** Serving others with humility and excellence
- **October – Growing in Grace:** Walking in God's unmerited favour
- **November – Growing in Thanksgiving:** Cultivating gratitude as a lifestyle
- **December – Growing in Glory:** Celebrating God's faithfulness and anticipating greater works

Moving Forward Together

As an Olive Tree, we believe growth is best experienced together supported, nurtured, and encouraged as one body in Christ. This theme invites every member, at every stage of faith, to participate fully and confidently in what God is doing.

We encourage you to pray with us, speak this theme over your life, and prepare your heart for a year of amazing increase. God is calling us to grow stronger, shine brighter, and bear lasting fruit.

Thank you for walking this journey with us. We look forward to all that God will do in and through us in 2026.

With love and expectation,
Many blessings,

Michael

Events in January:

- **Sunday 4th SUNDAY SERVICE 10.30am – Holy Communion & Covenant Service Preacher: Rev. Michael Anokye**
- **Thursday 8th Coffee Morning 10:30 am – 12:00 pm**
- **Thursday 8th Encounter Prayer Meeting at the Branch 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm**
- **Sunday 11th SUNDAY SERVICE 10.30am Preacher: Rev. Michael Anokye**
- **Thursday 15th Encounter Prayer Meeting at the Branch 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm**
- **Saturday 17th Messy Church 1.30am**
- **Sunday 18th SUNDAY SERVICE 10.30am Preacher: Belinda Freeman**
- **Thursday 22nd Coffee Morning 10.30am – 12.00**
- **Thursday 22nd Encounter Prayer Meeting at the Branch 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm**
- **Sunday 25th 10.30am SUNDAY SERVICE Preacher: Rev. Martyn Travers**
- **Sunday 25th AGM and Church Meeting after the morning service**

All these services and events are for everyone and please invite family, friends and neighbours to come too.

Olive Tree news

Some pictures from our December events

Christingle



Nativity



Christmas Brunch



Please continue to support the **Luton Foodbank** – boxes for your donations in church and the entrance to the hall.

Please send material for the newsletter to helen.owen17@btinternet.com