



## Weekly Prayer Focus: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Elmswell Baptist Church

Elmswell is a large village in mid-Suffolk halfway between Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket and lies just to the north of the A14.

The church began life as a mission in a tent in 1880's and the present church building was erected in 1887. The current congregation of between 15-20 meets every Sunday and are supported by a regular group of speakers who faithfully lead the services each week.

During the week there is a Bible Study group and a monthly prayer meeting. On the first Monday in the month the Ladies Friendship Group meets in the afternoon with a variety of interesting speakers and there is a monthly Food and Friendship lunch club both of which are well-attended by those who are not otherwise part of the church fellowship. A group from church also take Open the Book Bible story sessions into Elmswell Primary School. The village Foodbank use the church premises on Mondays and Fridays.

There are also some joint activities and events for special occasions held with the local Anglican church including a presence at the village fete.

The church has bounced back after covid with the resumption of all its activities, although moderator Norman Tharby has now stepped back from his role as the church moderator.

The village of Elmswell itself is growing rapidly with lots of new homes being built and there is quite an urgent need for some younger folk to join the church and take on some of the roles and responsibilities that are becoming more difficult for those getting older.

Please pray for:

- Concern about the future of the church and the ageing congregation.
- For younger folk to come along and join the fellowship.
- For new resources and people to be able to take on the workload and all the tasks needed to be done.