

Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

CHILDREY

GROVE

WANTAGE

# SECTOR NEWS



March  
2018

Minister : Rev Keith Underhill – Tel: 01235 763321  
keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk

Should you need a Minister when Keith is not available, please talk to one of the Stewards listed below, who will put you in touch:

Carolyn Roche : 01235 764310  
Su Lockley : 01235 767048  
Doug Legge : 01235 751463

Please send material for the **Weekly Notices** to :

**Grove**

Jenny Marriott : 01235 767624

**Wantage**

Gill & Gordon Skidmore : 01235 766655 / 07710 214601  
email : [wntgmethodistnotices@gmail.com](mailto:wntgmethodistnotices@gmail.com)

Contributions for the **April Newsletter** should be sent to the editor by email, phone or in writing by **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018** to  
[wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com)  
Tel : 01235 766655 / 07710 214601  
Editors : Gill & Gordon Skidmore

**Regular Weekday Meetings**

Monday	2 pm	Handicraft Group at the Cornerstone, Grove
Tuesday	2:15 pm	Grove Tuesday Fellowship (in the church)
Wednesday	7:30 am	Morning Prayers at Grove
	2 pm	Wantage Wednesday Fellowship

**House Group at Wantage**

Weekly

Tuesday 1:30 pm Leader: Eileen Rennie (01235 224284)

**House Group at Grove**

Monthly

Warmed Hearts 8 pm Leader: Peter Hemmings (01235 762504)

**Grove web site** is found from [www.wantab.org.uk](http://www.wantab.org.uk)

**Wantage web site** [www.wantagemethodist.org.uk](http://www.wantagemethodist.org.uk)

**Cicrcuit web site** [www.wantab.org.uk](http://www.wantab.org.uk)

## From the Manse...

March this year, takes us on our continuing journey through Lent and right into Holy Week itself, with the last day of the month being Easter Saturday.

In our churches, we ponder on all that Jesus endured and faced as we use this period of Lent for reflection and self-examination. The various services during Holy Week focus our thoughts more directly on those events that took place in Jerusalem that are at the very heart of our faith.

I'd like to commend to you Mark Topping's one man passion play "An Impossible God", based on the book written by his father, Frank Topping. It is a powerful tour de force and with just a few simple props, Mark introduces us to a whole host of individual characters who encountered Jesus in the days leading up to his crucifixion and resurrection.

We are very fortunate to be able to stage this event during Holy Week itself and you will find details elsewhere in this newsletter with all the information you will need about this evening event.

It is right that our attention is focussed very much on Jesus at this time and especially so in the days leading up to Easter, as we are reminded of all that he faced and went through.

However, don't let us forget that not only are the events of the passion his story, they are ours too. For they speak of the trials and tribulations of our shared, common humanity.

Ridicule, taunting, name-calling, denial and betrayal are things that speak to our own experience only too well. Likewise, violence, pain, doubt, desolation, loneliness and death are part and parcel of what it means to be human.

In all of these things, Jesus experienced and shared our human lot and this month ends with Jesus dead and in a tomb and all the ramifications of that for his friends and family.

That of course is not the end of the story, but we have to wait for the 1st day of the following month to rejoice in and experience that!

Never let us forget that he came to be like us, so that in the end, we may become like him.

With love and God Bless,

*Keith*

# *Sensing God*



## *Silent retreat at Douai Abbey*

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2018

*Organised and led by Becky Fisher and Katherine Bloomer on behalf of 'reflect' (Methodists supporting retreats and spirituality).*

Set in tranquil countryside between Reading and Newbury, the Benedictine Community at Douai offers hospitality, peace, good food, sung Offices and plenty of opportunities to encounter God.

In this post Easter retreat we will use all our senses in prayer. We will walk with Jesus and hear His story. We will sit with Jesus and tell our story and we will travel the Emmaus Road together.

There will be several led sessions with the time between sessions intended for you to continue with your own thoughts and prayers, so we offer each other the gift of silence – uninterrupted by mobile phones, e-mails . . .

(Cost of retreat £205).



There are local country walks, self-service meals, single bedrooms, led prayers, the opportunity to join with the Community for some of their sung Offices, the chances to "play" with arty/crafty materials, time to sit and ponder or just to be open to encounter....

For more information or a booking form or poster to put up in your church, please contact June Grunwald (from Wantage Methodist Church) 01235 760488 [jnurdglaw@live.co.uk](mailto:jnurdglaw@live.co.uk)



Abingdon Progressive  
Christianity Network Group  
invites you to hear about

# Black Sheep and Prodigals

An Antidote to  
Black and White Religion

**Dave Tomlinson**

(Vicar of St Luke's Church, Holloway, N London )

**7.30 pm Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Trinity Church**

**Conduit Road, Abingdon, OX14 1DU**

**Tickets: £5 from Cliff Marshall, on 01235 530480, at  
[cliff.marshall@pcnbritain.org.uk](mailto:cliff.marshall@pcnbritain.org.uk) or on the door**

**With Book Stall (Cash only)**

*The Progressive Christianity Network works to promote and support  
open and contemporary Christian understanding.*

## From the Circuit Web-site

### Christian Aid

Christian Aid invites us to "count our blessings" in Lent.

As in recent years, Christian Aid is proposing a self-denial programme this Lent which individuals can undertake. Each day in Lent, there is an action or reflection, with associated (suggested) giving amounts. Christian Aid say,

"As we follow Jesus' journey this Lent, let's confront the wildernesses in our own world. Let's walk with our neighbours — like Dimma, Ibrahim and Sori — who have been forced to flee their homes.

You'll reflect on the blessings in your life, and you'll see how your support gives people hope."



### Seeking a replacement for Katherine

Whilst Rev. Katherine Pickering is still very much with us and making her mark in so many ways, she decided that she should move on in August 2018. The Circuit therefore entered the Stationing process, hoping to be matched with a Presbyterian to replace Katherine from next September.

Our Circuit Invitations Committee prepared a "profile" of the circuit and the forthcoming vacancy. Along with 145 other appointment profiles, this was circulated to ministers intending to move, and we received 85 profiles of available ministers.

The Committee prepared a shortlist of ministers, and each minister a shortlist of circuits.

The Connexional Stationing panel met early last November, and matched us with Rev. Jocelyn Bennett, currently working in the Hyde & Denton circuit. A visit was arranged, and Jocelyn and her husband Neil visited Milton, Great Western Park, Wallingford and Didcot on Saturday 18th November. After they set out back to Manchester later that day, the committee discussed the match and unanimously agreed that we would invite her. Over the phone the following evening, she was pleased to accept. So next August, Jocelyn and Neil, and their teenage son Elliott, will move into the manse in Lydalls Close, to start work in our Circuit at the beginning of September.

Meanwhile, Katherine and Ian visited the South-west Worcester circuit, and she in turn was invited to fill their post, and she accepted; so she will take up her new appointment in charge of two churches in Worcester at the same time.

Grateful thanks are due to all those who gave their time and effort in the three churches to make Jocelyn's visit a success.



## **Circuit Website - [www.wantab.org.uk](http://www.wantab.org.uk)**

The first aim of the site is that people accessing the site from outside the circuit should find it welcoming and can easily navigate it and find out about our Circuit and its churches. This was demonstrated as achieved during the stationing process, as we know that presbyters including Jocelyn Bennett looked at the site in early October (see a later article for more about Jocelyn.)

Each church has an entry on the “Churches” page, which link to an “online poster” with basic facts and picture(s), together with minister's contact details and information about the coming month's services; this page can be expanded to a “site within a site”, as has been done for Grove. There is a calendar, with colour-coded entries for upcoming Circuit and Church events, and news articles supplied from around the Circuit.

The second aim is that people within the Circuit can use it to find or disseminate information – as a replacement for the online Circuit Directory, and a central repository for downloadable documents. Linked to this is a tool to assist in preparing the preaching plan, which will be put to the test in April.

ThenMedia are continually developing the tools used to build the site (the colour-coded calendar was added at our request and is still being refined) and the site menu was recently modified to accommodate a page about the Youth Music and Drama Group.

Because of the laws on data privacy, we can only store contact details for those who clearly consent to this. Anyone who would like to share their email and/or phone details with others in the Circuit, especially those holding posts in the Churches, are encouraged to email [a.lockley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:a.lockley@tiscali.co.uk)

or fill in the form at [www.wantab.org.uk/signing-in.html](http://www.wantab.org.uk/signing-in.html)

## **Sale of Chapels**

Following the successful sale of Southmoor and Upton, the chapel at Blewbury is now on the market with Savills. They have already shown round several prospective buyers.

The financial resources these sales provide will help us with future planning, as we are challenged to do by the President and Vice-President.

## **Circuit Stewards team**

Carolyn Roche, from Wantage, has begun to ease herself into the role of Circuit Steward, and has taken a full part in the stationing process. This will continue as she finishes her term as Senior Steward at Wantage.

However, Andrew is expecting to move away during 2018, and Mary Hancock is into “extra time” having agreed to extend her term until summer 2018, so we still need new blood to join the team. Our vision is of someone representing each of the larger churches – with a team of six, no-one's share would be unbearably large. The scope of the job may also be adjusted to suit the people who are available.

Everyone who has been a Circuit Steward agrees that it is a fascinating and richly rewarding thing to do. Are you ready for a new challenge? Please pray about this situation, and don't assume someone more suitable will step forward!

To find out more, talk to your minister or to one of the current team:

*Andrew Lockley (Senior), Mary Hancock, Alan Smith, Carolyn Roche*

## **Update on Community Chaplains at Great Western Park**

Sarah and Libby have now been based at Great Western Park for over 9 months and they have now passed their probationary period with flying colours. The time seems to have flown!

They have made and are developing lots of connections in the area. Whilst continuing to wander the parks and alleys of Great Western Park, they are both very much welcomed by many people who live and work in the area.

They regularly go into one of the local secondary schools to have lunch with students, give the occasional assembly at Stephen Freeman School, and support the work of the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, and various Mums & Tots groups.

They regularly meet with the manager of The Station Pub; salespeople at McCarthy & Stone - the local retirement home; the manager of the corner shop; and Chair to the Residents Association.

They bring concerns to Residents' Association meetings, share in the fellowship at the Thursday morning Community Cafe, and are valued members of the wider community.

In December, they trialled a different use for the chaplaincy motorhome, Hope, by turning her into a mobile prayer space. Many of the groups with whom they have contacts offered to host some time out in the busyness of the run-up to Christmas: Northern Community Centre on 30<sup>th</sup> November, Asda on 13<sup>th</sup> December, Boundary Park on 19<sup>th</sup> December and Costa on 27<sup>th</sup> December.

Following the successful "Chaplaincy Everywhere" training course in the Circuit, several people have expressed an interest in volunteering as Chaplains. This is great news, and the team are now considering how best to progress this extension to the project.

May they be assured of the prayers and encouragement of everyone in our churches as they seek to serve God in new and exciting ways. Please pray also for Katherine as she pioneers the extra role of line-managing the chaplains, and for the support group who help the team in so many ways.

## **Safeguarding** – further training sessions and new procedures

Most people requiring the Refresher Course for Creating Safer Space have now been trained and should have received a certificate. More sessions will be arranged as needed. The full Creating Safer Space training, which is required by new post-holders, is being arranged soon, and may be led by a trainer supplied by the District. If you are aware that you or other post-holders in your church need this training, please contact Keith Underhill who will be making the arrangements.

The safeguarding policies drawn up by the Connexion for circuits and churches will be held online and updated at intervals. The current versions can be printed for approval annually at the Circuit Meeting, and individual Church Councils – normally in the autumn.



## **Milton Charity**

One of the Milton congregation, Emma Mtendera, comes from Zimbabwe. Emma told the Church of the desperate plight of people as the social fabric - schools, medical services etcetera - has collapsed. Emma's sister Alice, who is aged nearly 80 and who trained as a teacher, runs a charity to feed and support blind women and their children, called 'Ray of Vision', in Harare. This presented a good opportunity for the church to get directly involved in a small charity, part of our extended church family.

At the beginning of November they held a coffee morning to support Alice's work. It made a very happy morning's fellowship, and £450 was raised. Shortly afterwards, Emma went to Didcot and wired the money directly to her sister.

Alice supplied a selection of pictures, telling the story of how they spent the money. The Milton folk were very pleased to see the large party bags of food at the bottom of the tree and the presents each child received, and look forward to their next fundraising effort for this charity.

## **Yotam Theu**

Mark Sandels, of Grove Methodist Church, met Yotam Theu in 1988 when he visited his sister, who taught Yotam under her VSO placement in Malawi. Yotam registered "Christian Church" in Mzuzu, northern Malawi, with the Malawian Government, and Grove has sponsored Yotam and his work since 1998. There has been long-standing prayer and financial support, which has seen Christian Church grow to many congregations as Yotam's evangelistic programme has progressed.

This support has helped Christian Church to build new church buildings and paid for a truck for Church use in 2014. However, the truck was already 20 years old when he bought it and has had nearly 4 years of heavy use and is in need of replacement.

In a second new development of Yotam's work this year, he and the leaders of Christian Church have decided to build a campus in Mzuzu, the capital of the Northern District where Yotam lives. The campus will provide a focus for training leaders and evangelists.

Fundraising for the new truck has already started. The aim is to send £15,000 or so in Summer 2019. Building work on the Campus is well underway, but additional funding will be needed to roof the buildings, and to resource the training programme based on the campus.

Yotam has recently sent his own report on the progress towards the Campus. This can be found on the Circuit website, or contact Mark Sandels, Circuit Mission Secretary, for a copy.

If you would like to help finance this initiative please could you give the money to your Church Treasurer, asking them to send it to Grove Methodist Church Treasurer, Eric Thomas, using the Circuit Giro account and asking for it to be credited to the "Yotam Theu - Campus project" account. Your Church Treasurer might also be able to Gift Aid your donation.

## Circuit Youth Music and Drama Group

We welcome young people aged 9 upwards to:

- meet at Methodist churches around the Wantage and Abingdon Circuit, one Sunday a month;
- practise singing, music, reading and/or drama;
- eat some pizza together;
- contribute towards the evening worship service.

The group meets at 3:45 pm for a 4:00 pm rehearsal start. We have pizza at 5:30 pm and the evening service starts at 6:30 pm, finishing at 7:30 pm.

We invite young people to have fun, taking part as much or as little as they feel comfortable with and will enjoy - whether singing, playing an instrument or reading. There is no cost for taking part.

Who we are: The group is led by Esther Miller and Abigail Perrow, with assistance from Gill Skidmore. Esther is a Methodist local preacher and musician, and Abigail is a horn teacher.

For more information about the group, please contact Abigail at: [abi.perrow@gmail.com](mailto:abi.perrow@gmail.com)

Next date: **18<sup>th</sup> March - All Saints Methodist Church**, Appleford Drive, OX14 2AQ

## Inspiring youth weekend at 3Generate

A circuit group of 10 young people and three leaders, Rev Katherine Pickering, Ian Pickering and Graham Ifill, had a fantastic time at 3Generate, the national Methodist weekend for children and young people, held in November 2017 at Pontins in Southport.



We joined up with the group from Witney High St Methodist Church and travelled together by train from Didcot. The journey was quite an adventure and it took 4 trains and a short coach ride to get us there. But it was worth it! The weekend was fun, inspiring and challenging and also very cold! It must have been the coldest weekend of the year in Southport with icy winds, hail and rain and yet everyone had a thoroughly good time! There were over 1000 children and young adults aged 8-23 and more than 600 leaders taking part.

There were many options to choose from and one of our group said he wished he could stay for a week to have time to do everything! The children participated in: worship, gospel singing, "tricky" bikes, swimming, computer games, a silent disco(!), messy science, faith challenges, voting for the new Methodist youth president and learning in various workshops how to be "agents of change" by engaging with some of the social and global issues of our world.

Late on Saturday evening our group met together for a time of "chalet worship" sharing thoughts, prayers and reflective comments about the weekend. Each group was given a "worship bag" containing a selection of craft materials and a challenge to choose a favourite Bible story (the children could have covered the whole Bible!) and then use the paper, clay, sticks and pipe cleaners to show a scene from the story. In less than an hour, interspersed with hot drinks, snacks and prayers, the group had completed a wonderful model of Moses and the burning bush, illuminated by some finger torches, acquired at the urban praise session earlier in the evening.

We concluded with prayers, sitting by the torchlight around the glowing burning bush, knowing we were in the presence of Jesus the light of the world who wants us all to be his light in our world.

## **Manifesto 2017**

At 3Generate 2017 children and young people had the opportunity to speak out on a variety of issues that mattered to them. Here is a summary of what was said:

### **A CHURCH COMMUNITY THAT: KEEPS GOD AT THE CENTRE**

Where we do what God asks us to do – love each other.

Where prayer and engaging with the Bible are central.

Where sharing our faith stories is encouraged and valued so that we grow closer to God.

### **IS NOT AFRAID**

To step out in faith and trust God.

To lead the way on issues of injustice and social action.

To have difficult conversations on challenging topics.

### **ALWAYS TAKES ACTION**

By sharing inspiring stories of action and change.

By challenging injustice.

By engaging politically e.g. in the debate around nuclear weapons.

By praying for and responding to those in need e.g. supporting Foodbanks.

By caring for the environment e.g. using less plastics.

### **IS RELEVANT**

Where people are equipped to engage with, and respond to, current issues.

Where worship is engaging.

Where modern technology is used effectively.

Where we work towards being environmentally-friendly and sustainable.

### **IS ABOUT TOGETHERNESS**

Where adults value and support young people.

Where better relationships are built, through conversations and questions, leading to acceptance, kindness, understanding and mutual respect.

Where we learn about and understand other faiths.

### **IS AN INCLUSIVE AND SAFE SPACE**

Where all are welcomed, respected and accepted.

Where we celebrate uniqueness and difference.

Where we can have safe, open-minded conversation.

Where there is support for those with mental health issues.

Where we can be still, rest and connect with God.

### **HAS CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN ALL ASPECTS OF ITS LIFE**

Where we are trusted.

Where there are opportunities for us to lead.

Where our voice is heard and responded to.

## **New worship format launched**

A new worship format, suggested at Worship Consultation, was launched successfully at Grove.

The format:

A feature film is screened in the Meeting Room from 4pm. After the film, light refreshments are served, followed by a short act of worship in the Church which will be based on themes and issues from the film.

A collection is taken as usual during the service — there is no charge for the film.

The premiere:

The first "Film Plus" service was held on 4 January, led by Rev. Keith Underhill. The film on this occasion was "Of Gods and Men", which portrays the life of a community of French monks who share in the life of a village the mountains of rural Algeria, as terrorists move into the area and they must decide whether to return to France or stay.

Around 20 people attended the service and the consensus was that the worship drew out our responses to the film, providing some challenging questions and opening avenues into prayer which are newly relevant today, although the film is based on events over 20 years ago.

The sequel:

On 11 February; the film "Amazing Grace," telling the story of the idealist William Wilberforce as he works to end the British transatlantic slave trade, was shown. Andrew Lockley linked the film with the theme of Racial Justice Sunday.

The trilogy:

One more service is currently planned, on March 18th at 4 pm. The film is not yet finalised, but Rev. Keith Underhill will lead. All are welcome to attend. After this, the outcome will be reviewed and further services may be arranged.

## **CIRCUIT MEETINGS / EVENTS**

Wednesday 14 March, 7:30 pm at Milton : **Circuit Meeting**

Sunday 22 April, 4 pm at All Saints

**Circuit Service** to include dedication of Easter offering

***Don't forget the Circuit Calendar, with these and other events, can now be viewed on the Circuit website at <http://www.wantab.org.uk/calendar.html>. Send items for inclusion to Andrew as below, at any time.***

**Wantage & Abingdon Methodist Circuit Churches are**

**All Saints (Abingdon), Childrey, Didcot, Grove, Milton, Peachcroft Christian Centre (Abingdon), Trinity (Abingdon), Wallingford, Wantage**

## **More news from wider Methodism**

If you use email, you can sign-up to a number of newsletters, some more frequent than others, which will keep you up-to-date on other parts of the Connexion.

Go to <http://www.methodist.org.uk/news-and-events/sign-up-for-e-newsletters>

## **Wantage & Grove Church Partnership**

### **The Christina Noble Children's Foundation**

I have spent some time living and working in Mongolia with The Christina Noble Children's Foundation and this cold snap has kept me thinking of conditions out there.

Winters in Mongolia can reach -40c and many families have little shelter, living in the traditional Mongolia Ger (yurt) or fragile wooden huts, with little to protect them from the freezing weather.

The Christina Noble Children's Foundation has been working in Mongolia since 1997, supporting children and families living in the most desperate poverty.

Through a contact in this country, we are able to send boxes of much needed warm clothing so if anyone is able to provide knitted cardigans or jumpers, hats, scarves (calling all knitters!), new packets of underwear and good quality thick children's coats/boots/shoes we are able to get them to Mongolia where they will be put to good use.

In addition, if anyone has old cameras, binoculars or laptops we can sell these and raise money to fund the sending of these parcels to Mongolia.

If you are able to help, please contact me on 07843 384016 or catch me at church. We are going out to Mongolia again next summer so will be able to see first-hand how the gifts are welcomed there.

Thank you!

*Miranda Marsh (Wantage Community Church)*

### **Foodbank**

Thank you for the continuing support for the foodbank through donations of requested items. Thank you for responding to the weekly information about what is most needed - that is really helpful. The need continues to grow sadly. That might be due to the change to Universal Credit for some, whilst for others it is because of illness or loss of paid work. Whatever the reason for the requests, the recipients are quite often very embarrassed at having to ask, as well as being extremely grateful for the parcels.

### **Fairtrade Fortnight**

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 26 February — 11 March this year.

This is an opportunity to showcase your support for those producing food in the global south. Visit the Fairtrade Foundation website to download resources and learn more.

[http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Get-Involved/Current-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight?utm\\_source=JPIT&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=9063323\\_January%20Praxis&dm\\_i=1MV9,5E9AZ,KYUW4K,KVNB4,1](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Get-Involved/Current-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight?utm_source=JPIT&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=9063323_January%20Praxis&dm_i=1MV9,5E9AZ,KYUW4K,KVNB4,1)



## News from Aston Tirrold URC

Rev Richard Bittleston is to be the new minister at Aston Tirrold URC. Because of changes in ministry in this area of the URC, including Oxford, the appointment will last in the first instance for two years.

The ministry at Aston Tirrold will be at 25%. A further 25% of Richard's time will be given to work directed by the Wessex Synod, through its pastoral committee for the area.

His induction will be on the afternoon of Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March.



## Centre for Reflection

On **Saturday 10 March**, 11 – 1:30 pm: Part I of “Breathing under Water” by Richard Rohr: an opportunity to listen to a recording which is based on the twelve step programme used by Alcoholics Anonymous. “To survive the tidal wave of compulsive behaviour and addiction, do we need to learn to breathe under water”? Discussion over a bowl of soup. Cost: Donation.

On **Saturday 24 March**, 11 – 1:30 pm: Part II. Same format as above.

The next **Quiet Garden Trust day** will take place on **14 April**, 10 – 4 pm, and the leaders will be Keith Green, Jill Draper, Abigail Perrow. A perfect opportunity to take time, pause and be in the moment. Please book through the Centre or directly through Keith Green. Cost: £15 including light lunch.

The summer **Quiet Garden Trust day** will take place on **Saturday 16 June**.



# QUIZ & SUPPER

*In Aid Of The Framland Pilgrim Home, Wantage*


**5:30pm Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018**  
at Hanney Chapel,  
Main St., East Hanney, OXON. OX12 0HX

***Supper includes; jacket potato & filling,  
dessert and tea /coffee***

**£8 per Adult   £4 per Child (up to age 10 years)**  
**£20 per Family (2 adults & 2 children)**

Tickets available on the night but to aid catering, please reserve in advance  
from: Dave Pepler, 9 Hunters Close, Grove, OXON. OX12 0PX  
**01235 766863   [dave.a.pepler@gmail.com](mailto:dave.a.pepler@gmail.com)**  
Cheques to be made out to 'Pilgrim Homes'

**Pilgrim Homes**  
17, Tower Bridge Road, London SE7 2JH  
Tel: 0200 303 1400 Fax: 0200 303 1415 Email: [info@pilgrimshomes.org.uk](mailto:info@pilgrimshomes.org.uk)  
[www.pilgrimshomes.org.uk](http://www.pilgrimshomes.org.uk)  
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and registered social landlord. Charity No. 242086. AIC No. A0602





## A Modern Version of the 10 Commandments

Compared with modern legislation, or even the small print in any contract, the 10 commandments are crystal clear. Nevertheless, they benefit from modern treatment especially for those who, while less than fully committed to modern religious teachings, feel the 10 commandments have innate worth.

1. You should not worry, for worry is the most unproductive of all human activities.
2. You should not be fearful, for most of the things we fear never come to pass.
3. You should not cross bridges before you come to them, for no one yet has succeeded in accomplishing this.
4. You should face each problem as it comes. You can only handle one at a time anyway.
5. You should not take problems to bed with you, for they make very poor bedfellows.
6. You should not borrow other people's problems. They can better care for them than you can.
7. You should not try to relive yesterday for good or ill, it is forever gone. Concentrate on what is happening in your life and be happy now!
8. You should be a good listener, for only when you listen do you hear ideas different from your own. It is hard to learn something new when you are talking, and some people do know more than you do.
9. You should not become "bogged down" by frustration, for 90% of it is rooted in self-pity and will only interfere with positive action.
10. You should count your blessings, never overlooking the small ones, for a lot of small blessings add up to a big one.

A **prayer** by a former Bishop in South Sudan, consisting of 28 words which he encourages people to repeat twice a day as a way of making a prayerful intention towards peace.

*Love, joy, peace, patience, compassion, sympathy, kindness,  
truthfulness, gentleness, self-control, humility, poverty,  
forgiveness, mercy, friendship,  
trust, unity, purity, faith, hope –  
I love you, I miss you, I thank you,  
I am wrong, I am sorry, I forgive, we forget,  
we are together.  
My brothers and sisters, peace be with you.*



## Staff Vacancies

We are looking for staff to join our friendly team.

### **Cleaner**

4-5pm Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Starting last week of March for induction

Paid monthly at **£7.83 per hour**

Contract includes **paid holiday & sick leave**

The right person will be reliable, hard working and be able to work to a high standard

Training & support given

Good references essential

### **Cook**

Maternity Leave Cover – Dates to be confirmed

9.15am-2.45pm Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

One or two Saturdays a month 9.30-2.30pm

Paid monthly at **£8.75 per hour**

Contract includes **paid holiday & sick leave**

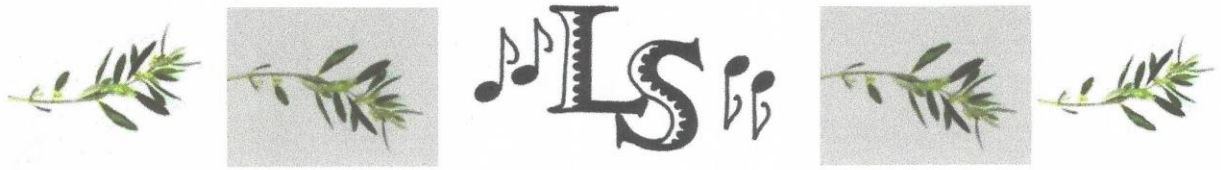
The right person will have experience of working in a commercial kitchen, preparing food to a high standard.

A current Food Hygiene Level 2 qualification is essential.

You will be able to work well as part of a team and using your own initiative to prepare food freshly to order.

Good references essential.

To enquire further please call in or email Sarah:  
[office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk](mailto:office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk)



**The Letcombe Singers present**

**Sir John Stainer's**  
**Crucifixion**

**St John's Church, Grove**

**Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6.00**

**St Andrew's Church, Letcombe Regis**

**Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7.30**

**Retiring Collection**

**Refreshments**



# *An Impossible God*

## *The Passion Play*

Written by Frank Topping

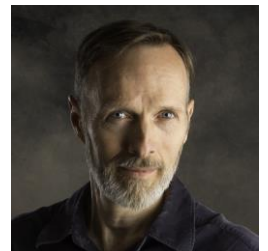
Performed by Mark Topping

### **One-man passion play coming to Wantage**

A play re-enacting the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus, performed by just one actor, is coming to Wantage.

Actor, Mark Topping is staging **An Impossible God at Wantage Methodist Church on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30 pm.**

In the drama numerous characters: servants, soldiers and disciples, relive their experience of the death and resurrection of Jesus.



“The drama is a powerful exploration of events at the heart of Christianity,” says Mark Topping. “You are taken on an imaginative journey and challenged to look again at Jesus of Nazareth and reflect on what it means.”

Tickets are £5 and can be obtained from: 01235 760335 or 07710 214601

**Mark Topping** is a professional actor. He has toured England, Wales and Ireland for many years performing Impossible God and other one-man plays. He has appeared as John Wesley on BBC TV. Theatre work includes *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Anne Boleyn*, *Yes Prime Minister*, *Four Minutes Twelve Seconds*, *A Chorus of Disapproval*, *Travesties*. He is the narrator of numerous audiobooks.

The devotional book ‘An Impossible God’ was written and adapted for the stage by author, actor, broadcaster and Methodist minister, Frank Topping.



# *An Impossible God*

*THE PASSION PLAY*

Written by  
FRANK TOPPING

Performed by  
MARK TOPPING

7:30 pm  
Wednesday  
28th March

Ticket £5

Phone:  
01235 760335  
07710 214601  
01235 766655

at  
Wantage  
Methodist  
Church  
  
Newbury  
Street

## **Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Day**

Palm Sunday		Procession of Witness It will be slightly different this year but full details have to be finalised so watch the weekly notices.
Monday 26th	8:00 pm	Evening devotions for Holy Week at Wantage, led by Rev Keith Underhill
Tuesday 27th	2:00 pm	Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Convent (See p 24)
	8:00 pm	Evening devotions for Holy Week at Wantage, led by Rev Keith Underhill
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	"An Impossible God" at Wantage
Maundy Thursday	8:00 pm	United service of Holy Communion at Grove
Good Friday	9:00 am	United service at Childrey at
	10:00 am – 11:00 am	<i>Good Friday?</i> - craft and storytelling for
		Good Friday for primary school-aged children at Wantage,
	11:00 am	Open Air Ecumenical Service at Grove (Vale Ave) (tbc)
	2:00pm	Reflective Service at Wantage
Easter Day		
7:00am		Open-air communion service at the Millennium Stones - Ardington
10:30am		Easter morning service at Wantage
		All Age Worship with Holy Communion - Revd Frances Blood
10:45 am		Easter morning service with Holy Communion at Grove - Rev Keith Underhill
		Walk to Emmaus at Childrey for tea and
6:00pm		Informal United Holy Communion – Rev Keith Underhill



## Childrey

## United Services:

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	March 25 <sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am : at St Mary's Church
<b>Good Friday</b>	March 30 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am led by Rev Keith Underhill
<b>Easter Day</b>	April 1 <sup>st</sup> Sector Emmaus Walk with Tea followed at 6:00 pm by Holy Communion led by Rev Keith Underhill

## Church Council:

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 2:30 pm**

## Prayers:

Prayers are asked for Amy Rose Legge and her family, Sylvia Rowland, Keith & Leonora, David, Barbara, Shirley, Jean and all those unknown to us who are in need of our help.

We also pray for the continued success of the “Open the Book” Project where the teachings and stories of the Bible are taken into the Ridgeway C of E School in Childrey on a weekly assembly basis by a dedicated band of leaders from local churches using our premises as a base.

Christian Love to all.

## SERVICES FOR WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 at Wantage Baptist Church at 1:15 pm**

You are invited to a Soup Lunch at 12:45 before the Service.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at Grove Methodist Church at 8 pm**

This year's service has been prepared by the women of Suriname.

Suriname is on the north coast of South America. 90% of the population live in coastal areas (more than half in the capital Paramaribo. 10% live in the vast forests of the interior.

The official language is Dutch, but Sranan (Creole language ) is also spoken.

## **Grove**

You are invited to a **Coffee morning** on **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March** in the Meeting Room from 10:00 am till 12 noon. Handmade cards will be on sale. Judith Hopkins and Jean Noddle are our hosts. Proceeds from the morning will for Freyja's Fund. This fund at the J.R. Hospital was set up by Freyja's family so that Clic Sargent social workers can access money quickly and easily as needed, to help children who have cancer and their families. All welcome.

**Open House on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March** at 8:00 pm in the Meeting Room.

We are having an illustrated talk by Al Hopkins of the Oxfordshire Lowland Search and Rescue Group, who do valuable work in assisting the police to find missing people in our area. You are welcome to come and hear about it. There will be a retiring collection for the work of Oxsar.

More information from Lynda Culley (771554)

### **Tuesday Fellowship**

March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Keith Underhill
March 13 <sup>th</sup>	Pam Martin – Second half of slides of Pam's visit to China
March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Tea and Chat – Church
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Liz Wood - about her visit to Zimbabwe

This month the **Warmed Hearts group** will meet on **Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March** at 8:00 pm at 4, Mayfield Avenue, Grove. We are looking at session 3 of the York Course on "Time and waiting for God", entitled "Prepare the way of the Lord!" We enjoy a time of fellowship and discussion together and new faces are always welcome. We will be pleased to see you.

Further information from Peter Hemmings on 01235 762504.

The **Film Club** will meet on **Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30 pm.**

We will be showing "**A united kingdom**". 2016 PG13 111mins

*The story of King Seretse Khama of Botswana and how his loving but controversial marriage to a British white woman, Ruth Williams, put his kingdom into political and diplomatic turmoil.* Stars: David Oyelowo, Rosamund Pike, Tom Felton

Admission is free. Tea/coffee and biscuits at end of the film for a small donation.

There is an email "alert" service for anyone who is interested in receiving an email reminder before each film, about a week beforehand. If you would like to be on the list to receive an "alert" message please would you let Su know, giving her your email address, at [su.lockley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:su.lockley@tiscali.co.uk)

## Handicrafts' Group

We are meeting for a "Bring & Share" afternoon in Grove Methodist Church on **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March** from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. If you are able to bring something to share with one or two others please do so, otherwise come and join in with what is on offer, or bring your own craft work to do while having a chat and sharing ideas together. Tea/coffee and cake (gluten free also) included. No charge this month. All welcome.

We will be meeting at the Cornerstone Coffee Shop, Savile Way, Grove on **Mondays 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March** to craft and chat together. £1 donation to Cornerstone and pay for your choice of drink. All welcome.

**From April onwards** we will be having all our meetings at the Cornerstone. After 16 years it feels time for a change. Ideas for practical sessions at the church are running low but people enjoy getting together to craft, chat and make new friends. Come along to the Cornerstone and see the various activities which go on – beading, embroidery, cross stitch, card making, crochet, knitting. People are always willing to share know-how and patterns; just ask if you are interested. Like something to knit for? We get requests from different projects asking for help to make useful items from time to time.

*Contact Jenny Marriott, tel: 01235 767624 for further details.*

Copies of the next **quiz** will be available at the beginning of March.

**Thank you** to everyone who supports or arranges various events.  
Proceeds of the February coffee morning for Project Ecuador raised £100.

If you are willing to help, either by sharing with someone or hosting a coffee morning, please get in touch with Peter (telephone 762504). Thank you.

## Flower Rota

4 <sup>th</sup> March	Lesley Hummerston
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Katie King
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Jenny Marriott
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Margaret Merryweather

**Transport to Church:** If you are in need of transport to get to church, then please contact Peter Hemmings on 762504, who has a list of people willing to give lifts. He will do his best to arrange transport for you.

**Children / grandchildren growing out of shoes?** If you have pairs of children's shoes / boots, which have been outgrown but are still in a reasonable condition, then John and Margaret Willemsen would be glad of them to send to Romania for children in the shanty town. They can be contacted at 1 Sycamore Walk, Grove (telephone 01235 798875).

# **Wantage**

## **WORSHIP, PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY**

### **18<sup>th</sup> March at Wantage Methodist Church - Baptism of Mabel Hinks.**

We remember Mabel and her parents Kate and Harry and all their families in our prayers at this time as they prepare for this special service and we look forward to welcoming them to church on Mabel's big day.

### **Tuesday Afternoon House Group**

During February we continued our study of the President's Address to Conference, and on the 20<sup>th</sup> we started this year's York Lent Course "On the Third Day".

The details of the March dates are as follows:

- 6<sup>th</sup> March     Lent Study Session 3 "Let Him Easter in us". Colossians 3:1-4 & 12-17  
                    This includes the Monthly Prayer Meeting.
- 13<sup>th</sup> March    Lent Study Session 4 Celebrating and Praying Easter. Romans 8:31-39
- 20<sup>th</sup> March    Lent Study Session 5 A Risen Church. 1 Peter 2:9-12 & 23-25
- 27<sup>th</sup> March    Stations of the Cross at St. Mary's Convent.

As always we can assure you of a very warm welcome if you would like to join us for any of our meetings. I would be delighted to talk to you if you would like to find out more about this group. We meet at 50 Warmans Close from 1:30 pm to 3:15 pm.

You can contact me (Eileen Rennie) by telephone on 01235 224284 or email: [m.rennie50@ntlworld.com](mailto:m.rennie50@ntlworld.com) or talk to me at Church

### **Stations of the Cross – St. Mary's Convent**

We will be visiting St Mary's Convent during Holy Week to be accompanied round the Stations of the Cross. This will be on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** at 2:00 pm. If you would like to join us please let me have your name by Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March. We end with a cup of tea / coffee and cake so please also let me know of any dietary requirements.

### **Thursday Afternoon Lent Study Group**

Five sessions on Thursday afternoons through Lent beginning on **Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup>** in the Parlour from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

They will be led by Alison Phillips, and will be the same York Lent Course "On the Third Day" that will be followed by Eileen Rennie and her group on Tuesday afternoons. The Resurrection is the big story that turned into a world-transforming religion, and this course will consider how we can be an Easter people, living in the glow of the resurrection, turning the 'there and then' into the 'here and now'.

I do hope you will join us.

### **Count Your Blessings in Lent**

Leaflets from Christian Aid are available in the Chapel. They include a reflection for each day of Lent and practical opportunities to help poor communities round the world in thanksgiving for the blessings in our own lives. Please take one home with you.

## Flower rota

4<sup>th</sup> March June Grunwald  
11<sup>th</sup> March Margaret Fordham

18<sup>th</sup> March Meriel Robson  
25<sup>th</sup> March Diane Barton

## Quiet Day

Would you like to spend some time up at St Mary's convent with time to wander in the grounds, attend the services if you wish, paint, draw, read, pray or reflect? With all this in mind I have booked the convent for **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March**, 9:30 to 3 pm and you would be really welcome to join me! Sister Elizabeth Jane will be giving a talk before lunch but apart from that, the day is yours to spend as you wish. The cost is £15 for the day including lunch - no deposit required but please email me or phone me before **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March** to say you are able to come and if you have any special dietary requirements. *Jane Kent* (janekent@talktalk.net or 01235 765421)

## Prayer list

Loving God, we thank you and praise you for your daily presence in our lives. As we journey through Lent and reflect on your teaching and your great sacrifice for us all we pray that you will guide us in all the decisions we make. We know you bless and long to heal every family on this earth. May each one of us throughout Lent pray for blessing and healing throughout your world. Together we can make a difference, but we need to acknowledge this prayer begins with ME. For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth afford. To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word. Amen.

Jean M, Pam Scholes, Bethan Grant, Lois Knighton, Jane, Alan and Eileen Bunn and family, Alex and family, Barbara Phillips, Sylvia, Sonia and family, Doug, All at Bullingdon Prison, staff, prisoners and visitors, YMOSES, kids@church and Street Pastors.

Those members of our church family who, through frailty or ill health, can no longer worship with us.

If you or the person/people you have put on the prayer list would still like to be in the April Newsletter or you want to add anybody please let me know by 16<sup>th</sup> March in order for me to meet the Newsletter deadline. Eileen Rennie Telephone 01235-224284, e-mail m.rennie50@ntlworld.

## Pastoral - *praying for each other*

In March the following people on **Diane Barton's and Alison Brown's Pastoral Lists** will be included in the prayer time at Eileen Rennie's house-group: June Coppock, Glenys and Rodney Deval, Hilary Rewcastle, Mary and Robin Trotter, June and Alan Grunwald, Jane Robinson, Joyce Sharp, Judith and Michael Skinner, and Geoffrey Stokell

In addition to the names listed above, those in our church family, who through frailty or ill health can no longer worship with us on Sundays, will also be prayed for by name at Eileen's house-group.

## The Bible in a Year - Keith's challenge to us all

We started on 1<sup>st</sup> September, and are challenged to join in reading the whole of the Bible in a year. There is an Old Testament passage, a New Testament passage and a Psalm / Proverbs passage for each day.

March's calendar readings are available on the website, as cards in the church vestibule and below.

### The Bible in a Year - Month 7: March

Day	Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalms/Proverbs
182	01-Mar-18	2 Kings 3:1-4:37	Acts 21:1-26	Psalm 78:56-72
183	02-Mar-18	2 Kings 4:38-6:23	Acts 21:27-22:21	Psalm 79:1-13
184	03-Mar-18	2 Kings 6:24-8:15	Acts 22:22-23:11	Proverbs 16:8-17
185	04-Mar-18	2 Kings 8:16-9:37	Acts 23:12-35	Psalm 80:1-7
186	05-Mar-18	2 Kings 10:1-11:21	Acts 24:1-27	Psalm 80:8-19
187	06-Mar-18	2 Kings 12:1-14:22	Acts 25:1-22	Psalm 81:1-7
188	07-Mar-18	2 Kings 14:23-15:38	Acts 25:23-26:23	Proverbs 16:18-27
189	08-Mar-18	2 Kings 16:1-17:41	Acts 26:24-27:12	Psalm 81:8-16
190	09-Mar-18	2 Kings 18:1-19:13	Acts 27:13-44	Psalm 82:1-8
191	10-Mar-18	2 Kings 19:14-20:21	Acts 28:1-16	Psalm 83:1-18
192	11-Mar-18	2 Kings 21:1-22:20	Acts 28:17-31	Proverbs 16:28-17:4
193	12-Mar-18	2 Kings 23:1-24:7	Romans 1:1-17	Psalm 84:1-7
194	13-Mar-18	2 Kings 24:8-25:30	Romans 1:18-32	Psalm 84:8-12
195	14-Mar-18	Jonah 1:1-4:11	Romans 2:1-16	Psalm 85:1-7
196	15-Mar-18	Amos 1:1-2:16	Romans 2:17-3:8	Proverbs 17:5-14
197	16-Mar-18	Amos 3:1-4:13	Romans 3:9-31	Psalm 85:8-13
198	17-Mar-18	Amos 5:1-27	Romans 4:1-15	Psalm 86:1-10
199	18-Mar-18	Amos 6:1-7:17	Romans 4:16-5:11	Psalm 86:11-16
200	19-Mar-18	Amos 8:1-9:15	Romans 5:12-21	Proverbs 17:15-24
201	20-Mar-18	Hosea 1:1-2:23	Romans 6:1-14	Psalm 87:1-7
202	21-Mar-18	Hosea 3:1-5:15	Romans 6:15-7:6	Psalm 88:1-9a
203	22-Mar-18	Hosea 6:1-7:16	Romans 7:7-25	Psalm 88:9b-18
204	23-Mar-18	Hosea 8:1-9:17	Romans 8:1-17	Proverbs 17:25-18:6
205	24-Mar-18	Hosea 10:1-11:11	Romans 8:18-39	Psalm 89:1-8
206	25-Mar-18	Hosea 11:12-14:9	Romans 9:1-21	Psalm 89:9-13
207	26-Mar-18	1 Chronicles 1:1-2:17	Romans 9:22-10:4	Psalm 89:14-18
208	27-Mar-18	1 Chronicles 2:18-4:8	Romans 10:5-11:10	Proverbs 18:7-16
209	28-Mar-18	1 Chronicles 4:9-5:26	Romans 11:11-32	Psalm 89:19-29
210	29-Mar-18	1 Chronicles 6:1-81	Romans 11:33-12:21	Psalm 89:30-37
211	30-Mar-18	1 Chronicles 7:1-9:1	Romans 13:1-14	Psalm 89:38-45
212	31-Mar-18	1 Chronicles 9:2-10:14	Romans 14:1-18	Proverbs 18:17-19:2



## Notes on Wantage “Awayday@Home”

We are continuing to work through all the suggestions and contributions and will be making all the information available as soon possible in a separate booklet that will be circulated widely throughout the church community.

## YOUNG CHURCH

### YMOSES (Youth Meeting On Sunday EveningS!)

It was a joy to welcome Luccia to YMOSES in February and hear about her walk from John O'Groats to Land's End. She showed us some photos of different sections of the walk and people she had met along the way. We were all in awe of her accomplishment and the money she raised for such a worthwhile cause. THANK YOU Luccia!

YMOSES (Youth Meeting On Sunday EveningS) is a friendly, informal, faith-based discussion group for young people at secondary school and beyond which meets monthly. If you would like to join us you will be more than welcome - give Jane (765421) a call for more information. We will next be meeting on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March** at 7:15 pm at Chris and Charlotte's house.

### Kids@Church

In February we had our final session about Moses, focussing on the journey the Israelites made through the desert finishing with God giving Moses the 10 Commandments. At first Keith encouraged us to think about things we would take if we were going on a long journey and then we watched a film of the story in the church, followed by a prayer and an action song and then went through to the hall where the children were invited to paint or draw a picture inspired by the story. You may have seen some of their artwork on the wall in the hall.

Kids@Church is an informal, service for primary school-aged children and their families and new friends are always welcome! We will next meet on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March** at 9:30 am in the church - we'd love to see you there! If you'd like more information please phone Jane (765421).

### Good Friday?

**10 - 11 am** on **Good Friday** in the church there will be craft and storytelling, exploring the events of the first Good Friday for primary school-aged children.

### March Circuit Youth Music and Drama Group

Young people aged 9+ are warmly invited to join CYMDG. The next session is on **18<sup>th</sup> March** at **All Saints Methodist Church, Abingdon**, starting at 3:45 pm. Email Abigail Perrow (abi.perrow@gmail.com) for more info.

## FELLOWSHIP

### Wednesday Fellowship

- 28<sup>th</sup> February      Nathan Rooke from the Wantage and Didcot Fire Service will be talking about Fire Safety in the home and elsewhere.
- 7<sup>th</sup> March            Today we have Readings and Hymns for Lent.
- 14<sup>th</sup> March          We close as usual with a service of Holy Communion led by the Rev. Keith Underhill.

Wednesday Fellowship begins again on **11<sup>th</sup> April**.

### Lunch Dates in March:

**Friday lunch** dates in March: 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup>.  
There will be no lunch on 30<sup>th</sup> as it is Good Friday.

**Sunday** lunches will be 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

Please remember to **sign up** for Sundays by the preceding Wednesday or telephone Ann on 01235 767152 or Julie on 07812 370796 to book in or cancel, to help with catering.

## MISSION & SERVICE

### All We Can....Bring an egg-cup!

*Cath Worth*

Come for breakfast in the church hall before the service, from 9:30 am on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March**.

We will be serving boiled eggs, toast & jam (or marmalade, if you prefer!), tea, coffee & fruit juice. There will be no set charge for breakfast, but donations to our All We Can Zimbabwe project will be welcome.

If you'd like to join us please sign up on the sheet on the notice board. And please do bring your own egg-cup!

### Knit & Chat

The Knit & Chat group which met to knit angels is continuing to meet in the Parlour at Wantage. At present we are knitting items to be sent to various charities who will send them on to help disadvantaged communities around the world. We are intending to knit angels for Christmas 2018 and will start in earnest later in the year.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March** and **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

*Carolyn Roche (01235 764310)*

## Wantage Annual Report

It is time to start to prepare the Annual Report ready for distribution before the **Annual Church Meeting** on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Short reports on activities since March 2017 from all groups and committees would be good so that we can generate an interesting record of the church's work and concerns. Please send contributions to [wmcannualreport@gmail.com](mailto:wmcannualreport@gmail.com) by **March 11<sup>th</sup>** and we will try to publish it with the April Newsletter.

## Property Matters

### Lighting in the Chapel

The lighting involved in the Christmas Eve incident has all been reinstalled with different primary mounts and new secondary restraints to ensure that there will be no repeat of this occurrence. The element which fell was damaged by the fall and as of the middle of February we are waiting for a replacement.

### Toilets

The toilets in the hall have been decorated.

#### 2018 Newsletter Publication Deadlines

April	18 <sup>th</sup> March	September	19 <sup>th</sup> August
May	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	October	16 <sup>th</sup> September
June	20 <sup>th</sup> May	November	21 <sup>st</sup> October
July/August	17 <sup>th</sup> June	Dec/Jan	18 <sup>th</sup> November

**Wantage Annual Report Deadline : March 11<sup>th</sup>**

## Wantage Chapel & Hall Bookings

Please **check / book your date** with Gordon **before you commit to** your meeting.  
The following bookings are in place:

Weekly Bookings		March 2018
Tuesday morn	MIND	Hall
Tuesday eve	Wantage Camera Club	Hall
Tuesday eve	Rock Choir	Chapel
Wednesday aft	Wednesday Fellowship	Hall
Wednesday eve	Wantage Stage Musical	Hall
Friday morn	Babes & Toddlers	Hall
Friday aft	Caritas	Hall
Friday eve	Cheek2Cheek	Hall
Second Monday aft	Age UK Oxfordshire	Parlour/Hall
Alternate Monday eve	Dietitian	Godfrey Room
Last Tuesday	Rethink	Godfrey Room
Third Thursday	King Alfred's WI	Hall
Third Saturday	Dads Out	Hall

### FEBRUARY

Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	lunch	Lunch	Hall
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Worship Consultation	Godfrey

### MARCH

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	aft	Lent Group	Parlour
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	aft	Knit & Chat	Parlour
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Wantage Church Council	Chapel
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Wantage Stage Musical	Parlour
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	aft	Lent Group	Parlour
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup>	aft	Private Party	Hall
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	lunch	Lunch	Hall
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	aft	Lent Group	Parlour
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	aft	Knit & Chat	Parlour
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	aft	Lent Group	Parlour
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	lunch	Lunch	Hall
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Holy Week Meditation	Chapel
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Holy Week Meditation	Parlour
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	eve	An Impossible God	All

# DIARY

## FEBRUARY

Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	Bible Study at Wantage	
	12:30 pm	Sunday Lunch at Wantage	p28
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	Wantage Worship Consultation	

## MARCH

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	2:30 pm	Childrey Church Council	p21
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	12:15 pm	Friday Lunch at Wantage	p28
		<b>Women's World Day of Prayer</b>	p21
	1:15 pm	at Wantage Baptist Church	
	8:00 pm	at Grove Methodist Church	
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	All We Can....Bring an egg-cup! At Wantage	p28
	7:15 pm	YMOSES	p27
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	Wantage Church Council	
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	12:30 pm	Sunday Lunch at Wantage	p28
		<b>Deadline for Reports for Wantage Annual Report</b>	p29
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	Circuit Meeting at Milton	
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	12:15 pm	Friday Lunch at Wantage	p28
	7:30 pm	Progressive Christian Network at Trinity, Abingdon	p5
	7:30 pm	Grove Film Club " <b>A united kingdom</b> ". 2016 PG13	p21
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am to 3 pm	Quiet Day at St Mary's Convent	p25
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	Kids@Church	p27
	10:30 am	Baptism of Mabel Hinks at Wantage	p22
	3:45 pm	CYMDG at All Saints	p10
		<b>Deadline for April Newsletter</b>	
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	12:30 pm	Sunday Lunch at Wantage	p28

**Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter Day Services  
details on page20**

Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	"An Impossible God" at Wantage	p18/19
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## APRIL

Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	13:30	Wantage Annual Church Meeting	p29
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## Sunday Services – March 2018

	Childrey	Grove	Wantage
<b>March 4<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Lent 3</b>	11:00 am tbc	10:45 am Rev Alan Grist 6:30 pm Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill	10:30 am Esther Miller Worship through Pottery
<b>March 11<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Lent 4</b> <b>Mothering</b> <b>Sunday</b>	11:00 am Elizabeth Wood	10:45 am Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill 6:30pm Andrew Dixon	9:00 am Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill 10:30 am Andrew Dixon
<b>March 18<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Lent 5</b> <b>Passion</b>	11:30 am Helen Carter	10:45 am Daphne Savage 4:00 pm Rev Keith Underhill Film Plus	9:30 am kids@church 10:30 am Baptism: Rev Keith Underhill
<b>March 25<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Palm Sunday</b>	11:30 am United Service At St Mary's	10:45 am Gill Morton 6:30 pm Rev Katherine Pickering	10:45 am Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill



