

Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

CHILDREY

GROVE

WANTAGE

SECTOR

NEWS



The Methodist Church



April 2019

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Contributions for the **May Newsletter** should be sent to the editor by email, phone or in writing by **Sunday 21st April 2019** to [wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com)  
Tel : 01235 766655 / 07710 214601  
Editors : Gill & Gordon Skidmore

Don't forget the Circuit Calendar can now be viewed on the Circuit website.

Email: [wacctxchange@gmail.com](mailto:wacctxchange@gmail.com)

Tel: 07710 214601

Compilers: 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)

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

## From the Manse...

When did you see your first Cadbury's cream egg this year? I saw my mine in a supermarket petrol station the day after Boxing Day. Talk about not letting the grass grow under your feet!

While we were still singing our Christmas carols, the shops were making sure they were ready for the next commercial opportunity. Now Valentine's Day and Mothering Sunday are safely past, the number and range of Easter eggs is readily increasing and we are being overwhelmed by the shape, size and variety on offer.

On the one hand, it seems somewhat incongruous that the eggs should be on the shelves before the turkey carcass is fully carved, yet on the other, we are being reminded that Easter and Christmas are so intimately linked and part and parcel of the same story that perhaps it is not as odd as it first appears.

Steve Turner in a collection of his poems entitled "Nice and Nasty", writes:

*Christmas is really for the children.  
Especially for children who like animals, stables,  
stars and babies wrapped in swaddling clothes.  
Then there are wise men, kings in fine robes,  
humble shepherds and a hint of rich perfume.*

*Easter is not really for the children  
Unless accompanied by a cream filled egg.  
It has whips, blood, nails, a spear and allegations  
of body snatching.  
It involves politics, God  
and the sins of the world.  
It is not good for people of  
a nervous disposition.  
They would do better to  
think of rabbits, chickens  
and the first snowdrop  
of Spring.*

*Or they'd do better to  
wait for a re-run of  
Christmas without asking  
too many questions about  
what Jesus did when he grew up  
or whether there's any connection.*

Without Christmas, there can be no Easter; without Easter there would be no resurrection.

Happy Easter to you all.

With love and God Bless

*Keith*



## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

12 – 18 May 2019

### 'ALL MUMS SHOULD LIVE'



Sierra Leone is the world's most dangerous place to become a mum. Every day 10 women die from giving birth. In Sawula district, the community struggle with a clinic which has no electricity and only two delivery beds.

Nurse Judith works around the clock to meet the needs of the mums and young children who come to the clinic. But the need is great, and she is sometimes forced to send people away. In addition to this there are often not enough drugs at the clinic. 'I need help,' Nurse Judith says. 'Women are dying in childbirth, children under five are dying, because of poverty. Please help us.'

With your help, Christian Aid could work alongside communities such as Judith's to build bigger, better health centres so that mums can give birth safely.

This Christian Aid week, together, we can make childbirth safe for more mums and babies. Through our gifts and prayers, we can help give the poorest mums a chance to live.

Here are some ways that you can help:-

- **Volunteer to help with delivering and/or collecting envelopes house-to-house** – anyone can deliver envelopes, but you have to be over sixteen to collect them in. The more help we have the more streets we can cover and the more money we raise! Please contact Carolyn Roche 01235 764310 if you can help in this way.
- **Come to the Christian Aid Week service** on Sunday 12 May at Holy Trinity Church, Charlton at 6.00pm, preceded by tea and cake at 5.15 pm.
- **Make your own contribution to Christian Aid's funds – [caid.org.uk](http://caid.org.uk)**

Thank you in advance for the support we know you will give. Last year you helped the Wantage and Grove Christian Aid Group raise over £7000.

### Wantage and Grove Foodbank

Grateful thanks for the continuous generous giving from our church - both in goods and money. With school holidays coming up there is an expectation that the number of requests for deliveries will increase. The weekly notices will continue to highlight specific current needs based on what is in the storage area, or rather what isn't in the storage area. This varies depending on what is donated at community collecting points and other churches. If you want to know more about the food bank, please do talk to Helen Carter.

[wantageandgrovefoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:wantageandgrovefoodbank@gmail.com)

**The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Church have released the following statement in relation to the ongoing Brexit discussions.**

"The Westminster Parliament continues to struggle with the Brexit process. Like no other issue of our time, Brexit has divided our politics, our society and our communities. The coming days and months harbour uncertainty and, for many, even fear.

We know that faithful Methodists hold a spectrum of views on Brexit, as they do on many other issues that shape our country and world. We do not minimise the challenge of responding to this hugely emotive issue. Yet we believe that, as Christians, we are bound to one another in Christ, whatever our differences. And we are called to serve our communities even, perhaps especially, in these troubling times.

Churches around the country have been providing safe spaces of welcome, reflection and conversation. Places where name-calling and abuse are not acceptable, but where differing views can be heard. Offering such a gift of welcome to our communities is not always easy. We hold each other in prayer as we try to serve others at this time.

We also pray for the politicians and civil servants, in this country and in the EU, who are at the centre of this storm and must make important decisions. We pray for those with whom we disagree as much as those who share our personal views.

While we may feel at sea, blown about by a chaotic political process, we believe that we have an assurance that flows from the faithfulness of God. And therefore we can offer love, practice compassion and speak justice to the communities we serve."

Rev Michaela Youngson, President of the Methodist Conference

Mr Bala Gnanapragasam, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference

**Circuit Services**

Palm Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	6:30 pm at Wallingford - The Passion of St Luke
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	6:30 pm at Didcot - Easter Offerings

**Circuit Meeting**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 7:30 pm at Didcot

The **Circuit Calendar** can now be viewed at <https://www.wantab.org.uk/calendar.html>.

The website and Circuit Exchange exist to link all parts of our Circuit together – let us know what's happening at your church. Send items for inclusion on the website at any time.

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

# **Childrey**

**Tear Fund Lunch:** No Tear Fund lunch until May

## **Easter Day 21<sup>st</sup> April**

We shall be pleased to welcome all friends to tea and an informal service of Holy Communion at 6:00 pm on Easter Sunday. Some of our friends will walk together from Wantage & Grove to re-enact the walk to Emmaus.

## **United Services:**

Good Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 9:00 am Rev Keith Underhill in the Methodist Chapel

29<sup>th</sup> April 11:30 am at St Mary's

## **Prayers:**

Prayers are asked for Amy Rose Legge and her family, 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.

## Grove

The **Lent Programme of Studies** at our church continue at 10 am on Wednesdays, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April as listed below:

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April (4) The Mystery of relationship and reconciliation  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April (5) The Mystery of parenthood and adoption  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April (6) The Mystery of love and sacrifice

The Holy Week services are also given in the leaflet and we invite you to join us if you can. Services taking place at Grove are:

**Maundy Thursday**, 8 pm United service for Holy Communion.

**Good Friday**, 11 am Open air united Good Friday Service on the green at top of Vale Avenue, followed by tea/coffee and hot cross buns in our church.

### **Easter Day**

6 am *Open air Holy Communion at Millennium Stones, Ardington*  
10:45 am Easter morning service with Revd Alan Grist  
6 pm *Road to Emmaus service at Childrey Methodist Church*  
There will be no evening service at Grove Methodist Church

Our **Church Annual Meeting** is being held on **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> April** at 8 pm in the Meeting Room. All interested in the life and work of our Church are invited to come along. We do hope you will do so if possible. Copies of the Annual Report booklet will be available nearer the time.

You are invited to a **Coffee morning** on **Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> April** in the Meeting Room from 10 am till 12 noon. Mark and Linda Jones are our hosts for the morning. Proceeds are for the work of the Emmaus community. Emmaus is different from other homelessness charities, offering a home, not just a bed for the night. Emmaus helps by offering a home for as long as someone needs it, as well as meaningful work in their social enterprises. Find out more by visiting [www.emmaus.org.uk](http://www.emmaus.org.uk)

### **Grove Tuesday Fellowship**

2<sup>nd</sup> April Barbara Kershaw talks about her trip to Vienna  
9<sup>th</sup> April Peter Preston from Wantage shows us his slides of Birds – ‘How Great Thy Art’  
16<sup>th</sup> April Amy from the Blue Cross Animal Centre is coming to speak to us  
23<sup>rd</sup> April To be announced  
30<sup>th</sup> April Michael Bailey is visiting us again showing his wonderful slides

**Warmed Hearts group** will meet on **Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April** at 8 pm at 8, Vicarage Close, Grove. We will be studying session 2 of “Life on the Frontline”, “The Frontline Commission”. We have an evening of discussion and fellowship together and it is always good to see new faces. You are invited to come along. More details from Peter Hemmings on 01235 762504.

**The Film Club** is not meeting in April.

On **Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> May**, we will be showing “Enchanted April”.

If you would like to receive a reminder of the Film Club meetings please send your email address to Jenny at [alans.marriott@talktalk.net](mailto:alans.marriott@talktalk.net)

**Film Plus** is at 4 pm on **Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> April**. The film will be followed by refreshments and a short act of worship based on themes from the film at 6:30 pm, led by Rev Keith Underhill.

**Handicrafts’ Group** meets at the Cornerstone Coffee Shop, Savile Way, Grove on **Monday afternoons** from 2 to 4 pm to craft and chat together. £1 donation each to Cornerstone and pay for your choice of drink. All welcome.  
*Contact Jenny Marriott, tel: 01235 767624 for further details.*

**Thank you** to everyone who supports or arranges various events.

The proceeds of the March coffee morning for ‘Freyja’s Fund’ were donations £106.10 and card sales £64.10. Judith would also like to thank people who request cards from her on a regular basis. She recently wrote a cheque for £180 to Freyja’s Fund in respect of cards sales since Christmas.

*Well done Judith – that represents a lot of cards to have made.*

She hopes to have Easter cards on sale in church on 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April.

If you are willing to help, either by sharing with someone or hosting a coffee morning, please get in touch with Peter (telephone 762504). At the moment there are still a few gaps to fill for 2019. If you could help by taking on one of these dates it would be appreciated. Thank you.

### **Flower Rota**

7 <sup>th</sup> April	Liz Trew		
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Kirsty Bailey		
21 <sup>st</sup> April	Margaret Bett	EASTER	Additional flowers always welcome.
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Lynda Culley		

**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.



# Impossible God

## One-man passion play

Wantage Methodist Church on 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30 pm



A play re-enacting the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus, is to be performed by actor, Mark Topping.

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.”

**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 *Travesties*, *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.

Refreshments after the performance

**Tickets are £10 (waged) and £7.50 (unwaged)**

**These can be obtained from: Helen Carter, from the King's Centre in Wantage (Baptist church shop) or from the Cornerstone coffee shop in Grove.**

**All profits will be donated to Wantage & Grove Street Pastors**

Local contact details: Helen Carter mobile: 07881 504623

## Holy Week and Easter Services

### Palm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April

10:00 am **Wantage Open air United Palm Sunday service** in the Market Place  
(assemble at 9:45am)

10:45 am **Wantage Methodist Church - Local Arrangement**

10:45 am **Grove Methodist Church – Rev'd Keith Underhill**

6:30 pm **Circuit Service** at Wallingford      The Passion of Luke

### Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April

7:30 pm **Films to make you think – The Passion (part 1)** Cert 12. 131 minutes

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April

7:30 pm **Films to make you think – The Passion (part 2)** Cert 12. 86 Minutes

### Maundy Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April

8:00 pm **United service** for Maundy Thursday at Grove Methodist Church

### Good Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April

9:00 am **A service for Good Friday** at Childrey Methodist Church

11:00 am **Open air Good Friday Witness** at Grove (opposite the Methodist Church) - followed by Hot Cross buns

2:00 pm **Reflective service for Good Friday** at Wantage Methodist Church

### Easter Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April

6:00 am **Early morning Holy Communion** at the Millennium Stones

9:30 am **Kids@church Easter morning breakfast** at Wantage

10:30 am **All age Easter Morning Service** with Holy Communion at Wantage  
led by Rev Keith Underhill

10:45 am **Easter Morning Service** with Holy Communion at Grove  
led by Rev Alan Grist

4:30 pm **Walk to Emmaus –** Walkers leave Wantage for Childrey

6:00 pm **Emmaus Service and supper** at Childrey Methodist Church (with informal Holy Communion) led by Rev Keith Underhill

### Circuit Easter offering service

This year's Easter Offering service will take place at Didcot Methodist Church on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May** at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

# Wantage

## **General Church Meeting**

Our Annual General Church Meeting will be held on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April**.

This year we will be doing things differently and the meeting will be incorporated into our morning service at 10:30 am. The election of our Church Stewards, and representatives to the Church Council as well as the review of the life of the church will be sensitively woven and incorporated into the pattern of worship for the day.

As we worship God together and give him thanks for his continued blessings on us we will offer him all that we are and all that through his love, we are called to be.

## **WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY**

### **Thanksgiving services for Robin Trotter and John Fordham**

As a church family we are saddened by the news of the recent deaths of Robin Trotter and John Fordham. Even as we mourn their passing, we give thanks to God for them both and for all that they did and shared with us here at church, Robin and John will be greatly missed.

Robin's thanksgiving service will be held at church on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April** at 12 noon, followed by refreshments in the church hall.

The thanksgiving service for John will be held on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May** in church at 3:00 pm, followed by refreshments afterwards in the church hall.

We assure Mary, Margaret and all the families of our love and prayers at this time.

### **Sunday Morning Bible Study**

9:00 am on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April** in the Hall

### **Lent focus**

**Films to make us think during Lent** in the Chapel at Wantage

Wednesday	3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Au Revoir Les Enfants	Cert 12. 100 min
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup> April	The Mission	Cert PG. 120 min
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	16 <sup>th</sup> April	The Passion (part 1)	Cert 12. 131 min
Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup> April	The Passion (part 2)	Cert 12. 86 min

**Wednesday morning Lenten Study Group** at Grove Methodist Church

Wednesday	3 <sup>rd</sup> April	(4) The Mystery of relationship and reconciliation
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup> April	(5) The Mystery of parenthood and adoption
Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup> April	(6) The Mystery of love and sacrifice

**House Group** at Mill Paddock "Daring to See God Now"

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April Lent 5: Live it! Reading: 1 John 4:17-21

## Tuesday Afternoon House Group

The first week in March Keith came to talk to us about Changing Times and then we began this year's York Lent Course "Daring to See God Now". In April we will study the two remaining sessions of the Lent Course, visit St. Mary's Convent for reflections at The Stations of the Cross and begin a new Lifebuilder Study in 10 sessions "Decisions", Seeking God's Guidance.

The details of the April dates are as follows:

2<sup>nd</sup> April Lent 4. Change your mind. Reading: Luke 5:27-32.  
This meeting includes the Monthly Prayer Meeting

9<sup>th</sup> April Lent 5: Live it! Reading: 1 John 4:17-21

16<sup>th</sup> April Stations of the Cross at St. Mary's Convent.

23<sup>rd</sup> April Decisions - Session 1

30<sup>th</sup> April Decisions – Session 2

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 to 3:15 pm.

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

## Quiet day

*Jane Kent - 01235 765421 / [janevkent@icloud.com](mailto:janevkent@icloud.com)*

I have booked St Mary's convent for a quiet day on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June**. Everyone welcome!

Rough idea of timings for the day -

9:30 am Arrival and coffee

10:00 am Join the sisters in the chapel for their morning eucharist

Meet together (unfortunately a sister is not available this day but I am happy to find some material to help us reflect and meet with God)

Free time to walk in the beautiful grounds, sit, sleep, pray, draw, read...

Lunch (cold buffet)

Free time

Closing act of worship

Tea and cake

I will need to go by 3 pm but feel free to stay on if you wish. The price is £20 and I need to pay a deposit of £5 per person by **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May** so please could you get in touch with me by then if you are interested.

Please tell anyone you know who may be interested!

## PRAYER & PASTORAL

### Prayer list

Loving God, you have chosen each one of us, help us to be worthy of that gift. Thank you for your love and patience. Help me to live a life that honours you. Forgiving Lord, thank you for your love. Help me to forgive others and experience more of your love and unity. Gracious Lord, you have wonderful plans ahead for those who trust you. Help us to be ready for the future as we live day by day. May your word and your peace dwell in our hearts. Amen.

### Please pray for:

Jean M, Pam Scholes, Bethan Grant, Jane, Alan and Eileen Bunn and family, Doug, Carl, Jean Gill, Carol Mackinder, Anne, Pam Rose, Fran and Doug, Emma Wright and family, Mary and family, Margaret and family, 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 May newsletter, please let Eileen know by **19<sup>th</sup> April** in order for her to meet the newsletter deadline.

*Eileen Rennie: Telephone: 01235 224284, email: m.rennie50@ntlworld.com*

**Pastoral - praying for each other** : In April the following people on **Helen Carter's Pastoral List** will be included in the prayer time at Eileen Rennie's house-group: Jo & Simon Aldworth, Valerie & John Broadbent, Diana Gawlas, Trevor & Sheila Johnson, Adrian Richens, and Jane & Harry Rudd, and those on **Faith Culshaw's** list: June Hartle, Jane & Iain Kent and Rita Lawrence.

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.

**Robin Trotter** It is with deep sadness we record that Robin died on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, following a fall in Wantage two days earlier in which he injured his hip and underwent an operation in the JR Hospital. Robin was a very well loved member who held many positions of responsibility in our church over a period of several decades. He served as a Steward, as Church Secretary and, together with Mary, he made Friday evenings at Shell Club such a special time for our young people in the 1980s. Plans were being made by the family to celebrate Robin's 90th birthday in April, and within our church family too we had begun preparations for sending him greetings on this special occasion. We remember Robin with affection and give thanks for all that he contributed to the life of our church. Our thoughts and our prayers are with Mary, and their children, Paul, Gillian and Ian, and we assure them and all the family of our love at this very sad time.

## From Mary Trotter

The prayers, love and hugs I have been given since Robin died have been wonderful. To feel the comfort that these gifts have brought is beyond words. There will be a Thanksgiving service for Robin on the 27<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon, followed by refreshments in the hall to which you are all cordially invited.

**John Fordham** With sadness we record that John died peacefully at his home on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March. The family had been keeping a continuous vigil over him for many days. Margaret's selfless and dedicated care for John has been an inspiring example to us of Christian love. Whilst we have missed her from Sunday Services and weekday church activities during the past year, Margaret's devotion to John, and full-time care of him, made possible the fulfilment of his wishes to remain at home. As well as holding the prestigious post of Headmaster of Spalding Grammar School for many years, John had also been a highly respected local preacher and Biblical scholar, and a very active member of the previous Methodist churches in which he served and worshipped before moving to Wantage. We are sorry that his ill health prevented him from leading worship for us, but we give thanks for John's life and his service to God in many ways. We assure Margaret, her children Mark, Michael, Kathryn and Christine, the many grandchildren and the whole family of our support. We hold them in our thoughts and prayers, and assure them of our love.

## YOUNG CHURCH

### Kids@Church

*Jane Kent*

We enjoyed listening to Cath's wonderful retelling of the story of lady Procula's dream (Lady Procula being Pilate's wife) and then thinking about Holy Week, the children put the events of the week in order in groups. In the hall the children decorated some pillowcases to take home which had the verse 'I will lie down and sleep in peace, for You alone, O Lord make me dwell in safety' Psalm 4:8 written on it.

We will next meet on **Easter Sunday morning at 9.30am for breakfast** in the church hall and we warmly invite other church friends to join us for that special occasion - please sign up on the board by **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April** so we know how many people to prepare for and if you would like a boiled egg, please bring an egg cup!



Kids@Church is a monthly, informal service for primary school aged children and their parents/carers. New children and their families always welcome!

## YMOSES

*Jane Kent*

In March we met and discussed the film 'The Shack' which we had watched last month. It was clearly a very thought-provoking film.

We also reflected on the circuit youth event (Acts 29) most of the group had attended in February and looked ahead to the youth event ('Dare to be you!') we are hosting on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June when we will be welcoming the Methodist Youth President Jasmine Yeboah.

It was wonderful to welcome Donna Cowieson who works for the fantastic charity 'Be Free Young Carers' to tell us all about the charity and help us think about our future fundraising event for the charity, which supports young carers in our area. Watch this space!

We will not be meeting in April, due to the Easter holidays, but look forward to being together again on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May**, 7:15 – 8:15 pm.

YMOSES is an informal, friendly, discussion group for young people from 11 years upwards. New people always welcome. Please give me a call for more information.

Jane Kent - 765421

## FELLOWSHIP

### Wednesday Fellowship

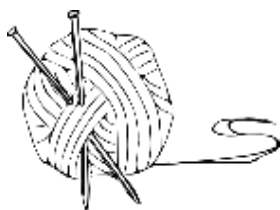
April

3<sup>rd</sup> Dr Lorna Goodwin will talk about First Star Academies UK, a national organisation that partners with universities, schools and social services, community organisations, etc to improve the lives of looked-after young people through their innovative university preparatory programmes.

10<sup>th</sup> We close the term with a service of Holy Communion with Rev. Keith Underhill.

### Knit & Chat

*Carolyn Roche (01235 764310)*



The Knit & Chat group was somewhat depleted in March due to ill-health and holidays. We hope that good recoveries are being made and look forward to hearing about the holidays at the April meetings. Most of us are hard at work on the angels – will we beat last year's total of 1120? It has been suggested that this year we

take angels to some of the care homes in Wantage. If you are unable to make the meetings but would like to knit at home I have plenty of patterns. With regard to the Christmas tree project we are currently trying out a variety of patterns for the blanket squares. Please come and join us in the Parlour at 2 pm and enjoy an afternoon of conversation, fellowship, tea and nice biscuits – knitting or any other craft optional.

**Dates for April: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April**



## **MISSION & SERVICE**

### **DROP-IN COMMUNITY CAFE**

We are launching a new initiative within our Church. A Drop-In Community Cafe will happen every Monday morning in the Church Hall between 9:00 am and 12 noon commencing on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April**.

It is open to everyone, so we do hope you will spread the news. There is a welcome, coffee, and people to chat with. There will be a table with jigsaws and board games, a box of books which people can borrow, and whatever grows from talking to one another about what people would like.

It is not a Coffee Morning just a welcome social space for all ages, all abilities, for everyone.

Posters have been prepared and are going to be placed in Residential Homes, on our Notice Boards and sent to other Churches in town. If you would like a flyer to take anywhere please ask. If you would like to volunteer to take a turn on the Coffee or Welcome Rota please let us know. The more people who volunteer the less often you will be called upon. For further information please see either Eileen Rennie or June Grunwald.

## ***Community Drop In Cafe***



***in Wantage Methodist Church Hall, Newbury Street***

**Every Monday 9am -12 noon**

**(commencing Monday, 29 April 2019)**

**All welcome.**

**We invite you to drop in anytime  
between 9 am and 12 noon - a warm welcome to everyone.**

**Come and enjoy a coffee and chat.**



**Toilet Twinning:** Church members and friends may be pleased to know that the church has just “twinned” with its twelfth toilet. This one is at Kabaya in North Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo. We first started “Toilet Twinning” in November 2014 and it is good to see how successful the scheme has been with so little effort and the generosity of members and friends. Each toilet costs us £63 and in addition to purchasing toilets we have bought a number of accessories such as toilet rolls!!

### **Lunch dates for April**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April**      Roast Turkey .

If you wish to come ***please sign the sheet*** in the hall vestibule  
or ring Julie on 07812 370 796

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**      We look forward to seeing you.

### **Church Flowers**

#### **April**

7 <sup>th</sup>	Helen Carter	21 <sup>st</sup>	Easter Flowers
14 <sup>th</sup>		28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Flowers remaining

### **FINANCE, PROPERTY & USERS' NEWS**

#### **Church Sunday Collections (Offertory)**

*Clive Phillips*

Church members and friends should know that from April 6<sup>th</sup> 2019, there will be changes to the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme, in favour of the church and other charities. The size of a single donation that can be permitted for a GASDS claim is increasing from £20 to £30. This means that any anonymous or non-gift aided donations of up to £30 can be recorded by the stewards when they count the offertory and the church treasurer will be able to claim the equivalent of gift aid on the total increasing the value by 25%. In addition, the church will be able to claim up to a limit of a total of £8,000 in donations, which means that the church could receive up to £2000/year as a refund from HMRC.

## Wantage Chapel & Hall Bookings

Please **check / book your date** with Gordon **before you commit to** your meeting.

[wntgmethodistbookings@gmail.com](mailto:wntgmethodistbookings@gmail.com)

07710 214601

The following bookings are in place:

### APRIL

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	eve	Poets	Parlour
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	eve	Church Lent Film	Chapel
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	eve	Music Group	tba
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	aft	Private Party	Hall
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Christian Aid	Godfrey
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Church Lent Film	Chapel
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Impossible God	All
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	lunch	Sunday Lunch	Hall
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Church Lent Film	Chapel
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Church Lent Film	Chapel
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	aft	Good Friday Worship	Chapel
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	lunch	Friday Drop in Lunch	Hall
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	day	Robin Trotter Thanksgiving	All
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	morn	Community Drop in Cafe	Hall

### MAY

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	aft	John Fordham Thanksgiving	All
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	morn/lunch	Guideposts Trust	Parlour
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	eve	Wantage & Grove Conservation Group	Hall

### Weekly Bookings

### April/May 2019

Monday	morn	Community Drop in Cafe	Hall
Monday	eve	Slimming World	Hall
Tuesday	morn	MIND	Hall
Tuesday	eve	Wantage Camera Club	Hall
Tuesday	eve	Rock Choir (not 9/16/23 Apr)	Chapel
Wednesday	aft	Wednesday Fellowship	Hall
Wednesday	eve	Wantage Stage Musical (not 15 May)	Hall
Thursday	morn	Disciple	Parlour
Thursday	eve	Yoga	Hall
Friday	morn	Babes & Toddlers (not April)	Hall
Friday	aft	Caritas Choir (not April)	Hall
Friday	eve	Cheek2Cheek (not 12/4 & 19/4)	Hall
+++++			
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	aft	Knit & Chat	Parlour
Second Monday	aft	Age UK Oxfordshire	Parlour/Hall
Alternate Monday	eve	Dietitian	Godfrey Room
Second Tuesday	eve	My Life, My Choice	Parlour
Third Thursday	mid	King Alfred's WI (not April)	Hall
Third Saturday	morn	Dads Out (not April)	Hall

## DIARY

### APRIL

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	2:00 pm	Knit & Chat in Wantage Parlour	p15
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7:30 pm	Film to make you think at Wantage	p11
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10 am to Noon	Coffee Morning at Grove	p7
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	Film to make you think at Wantage	p11
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	“Impossible God” at Wantage	p9

### **Palm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>**

	10:00 am	Wantage Open air United Palm Sunday service (assemble at 9:45 am in the Market Place)	p10
	12:15 pm	Sunday Lunch at Wantage	p17
	6:30 pm	Circuit Service @ Wallingford : The Passion of Luke	p10
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 pm	Knit & Chat in Wantage Parlour	p15
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	Films to make you think – The Passion (part 1)	p11
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	Films to make you think – The Passion (part 2)	p11
Maundy Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>			
	8:00 pm	United service for Maundy Thursday at Grove	p10
Good Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	A service for Good Friday at Childrey	p10
	11:00 am	Open air Good Friday Witness at Grove	p10
	2:00 pm	Reflective service for Good Friday at Wantage	p10

### **Easter Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

	6:00 am	Early morning Holy Communion at the Millennium Stones	p10
	9:30 am	Kids@church Easter breakfast at Wantage	p10/14
	4:30 pm	Walk to Emmaus – leave Wantage for Childrey	p10
	6:00 pm	Emmaus Service and supper at Childrey	p6/10

### **Deadline for the April Newsletter**

Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 pm	Grove Annual Church Meeting	p7
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	12:15 pm	Friday Drop-in Lunch at Wantage	p16
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Thanksgiving Service for Robin Trotter	p11
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	10:30 am	Wantage Annual Church Meeting in Morning Worship	p11
	4:00 pm	Film Plus at Grove	p8
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 – Noon	Community Drop-in Café at Wantage	p16

### MAY

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30 pm	Circuit Meeting at Didcot	p5
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 pm	Thanksgiving Service for John Fordham	p11
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm	Easter Offering service at Didcot	p10

## Sunday Services – April 2019

	<b>Childrey</b>	<b>Grove</b>	<b>Wantage</b>
<b>April 7<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Lent 5</b> <b>Passion Sunday</b>	11:00 am Peter Hemmings	10:45 am Elizabeth Wood  6:30 pm Barbara Kershaw	10:30 am Ian Sturt Worship through History
<b>April 14<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Palm Sunday</b>	11:00 am Helen Carter  6:30 pm at Wallingford	10:45 am Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill  6:30 pm at Wallingford	10:00 am Market Place Witness 10:45 am Local Arrangements  6:30 pm at Wallingford
<b>Holy Week</b>	<b>Good Friday</b> 9:00 am United Service Rev Keith Underhill	<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 pm Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill  <b>Good Friday</b> 11:00 am Open Air Service	<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 pm at Grove  <b>Good Friday</b> 2:00 pm Rev Keith Underhill
<b>April 21<sup>st</sup></b>  <b>Easter Sunday</b>	6:00 pm Emmaus Communion Rev Keith Underhill	6:00 am at Millennium Stones 10:45 am Holy Communion: Rev Alan Grist  6:00 pm at Childrey	6:00 am at Millennium Stones 10:30 am All Age Communion Rev Keith Underhill  6:00 pm at Childrey
<b>April 28<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Easter 2</b> <b>Local Preachers</b>	11:30 am United Service at St Mary's	10:45 am Ian Sturt  4:00 pm Film Plus Rev Keith Underhill	9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Rev Keith Underhill

