

Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

CHILDREY

GROVE

WANTAGE

SECTOR

NEWS



The Methodist Church



October 2019

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:

Alison Phillips : 01235 760335
Marci Sandels : 01235 224083
Doug Legge : 01235 751463

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

Grove

Jenny Marriott : 01235 767624

Wantage

Gill & Gordon Skidmore : 07710 214601
email : wntgmethodistnotices@gmail.com

Contributions for the **November Newsletter** should be sent to the editor by email, phone or in writing by **Sunday 20th October 2019** to
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.

Regular Weekday Meetings

Monday	2 pm	Handicraft Group at the Cornerstone, Grove
Tuesday	2:15 pm	Grove Tuesday Fellowship
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

Wantage web site www.wantagemethodist.org.uk

Circuit web site www.wantab.org.uk

From the Manse...

I have hand sanitisers in hospitals to thank for the fact that I eventually broke my habit of biting my nails! The frequency of visits to a number of NHS buildings and the ubiquitous application of germ-killing gel and hand wash, resulted in an awful taste in my mouth if I dared to bite away at the end of my fingers.

We all have our habits from said biting of nails to spending too much time looking at mobile phones, via a whole host of others known to ourselves that we wish to break or give up.

A recent study in 2009 conducted by Phillippa Lally, a health psychology researcher at UCL, entitled 'How long does it take to form a habit', found that on average it takes 66 days for a habit to become ingrained.

In other words, to change our behaviour we have to put in the effort in order to be successful.

As Methodists, we know something about habits, and the clue is in our name – Methodist. John and Charles Wesley and their Holy Club which met in Oxford, were so habitual about the way in which they studied the scriptures, prayed and reflected on their faith each day before going into the city to do good works, that they were given the insult of being Methodical – hence Methodism and Methodists.

As part of our 2020 celebrations at Wantage Methodist Church we are looking to launch 'Holy Habits' next year. Holy Habits is an adventure in Christian discipleship based upon Luke's picture of the early church in Acts 2:42-47. It explores and encourages the practice of ten disciplines, or holy habits: biblical teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, prayer, sharing resources, serving, eating together, gladness and generosity, worship and making more disciples.

As we begin to prepare for this exciting initiative for the whole church, we are delighted to say that Revd Andrew Roberts, himself a Methodist Minister who developed and produced Holy Habits is coming to spend a Saturday with us on 23rd November. This will start at 10:00am and end around 3:00pm. More information nearer the time, but please do put the date in your diaries. You won't want to miss it!

In the meantime, I continue to persevere at getting to the gym after Liz has left for work at 6:15 am – another 52 times for it to be ingrained!

Love and God Bless

Keith

Saints Alive

All Saints, Abingdon,
welcomes us to
“SAINTS ALIVE”



District REIMAGINE Conference

5th Oct 2019 10am - 3.30pm (doors open 9.30am)



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: TREY HALL



Since 2000 Trey has helped establish and lead new churches in the UK & the US. He has served as Mission Advisor for the Birmingham District, as well as coaching scores of practitioners renewing inherited forms of church or launching fresh expressions of church. In June 2018 he was appointed as the Connexional Director of Evangelism and Growth to The Methodist Church in Britain

Discussions & Workshops including:



- Connecting with your community
- Chaplaincy on new housing estates
- Models for new churches
- Evangelism
- Together Missions
-- and more to follow



TO BOOK YOUR PLACE and find out further information please visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/myevent?eid=59889769914>

The **Methodist Church**
Northampton District
enabling supporting challenging

The Circuit initiative for each church to consider its future strategy led All Saints 'Mission Action' group to decide to have a Local Mission Weekend under the strap-line Saints Alive to consider its mission to the people who live on its doorstep. We have secured Methodism's newly appointed Connexional Director of Evangelism and Growth, Rev Trey Hall, to be the keynote speaker. Our initiative came to the attention of Rev Jill Marsh, District Mission Enabler, who many of you will know, and Saints Alive has now grown into a high-profile District event.

The event will be held at All Saints on **Saturday 5th October** from 10 am to 4 pm. Because this is now a District event and All Saints can only seat 130 / 140 people, attendance may need to be limited and will have to be pre-booked. There will

be no cost but you should put the date in your diaries if you wish to attend. We have reserved 30 to 40 places for All Saints and the Circuit, the remainder will be bookable on an on-line booking site. If Local Preachers and other members of our Circuit want to attend, you need to **book a place** with Paul Williams. Paul urges you to reserve a place soon as they may quickly be snapped up.

His contact details: phone 01235 524654 or email, williamspaul819@gmail.com.

Rev Trey Hall will be the preacher at the morning service at All Saints on the **6th October**, the Sunday following the meeting.

Childrey Conversations

Engaging With Contemporary Issues



**These events are free -
simply come along.**

**7:30pm Start with
refreshments**

7:45pm Speaker

8:25pm Q&A

finish by 9:00pm

For further details please
contact:

Rev'd Leonora Hill
Rector, The Ridgeway Benefice
revd.lahill@btinternet.com
Tel: (01235) 760112
Mob: 07867 420234

Rev'd Keith Underhill
Keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk
Superintendent of the Wantage
and Abingdon Circuit
(01235) 763321
Mob 07565 051310

**Childrey Methodist Church & St. Mary's
Childrey, working together, invite you to
'Childrey Conversations' on Thursday
evenings this November.**

An opportunity to hear first class speakers address
some of the issues of our time, engage in
conversation and be part of the discussions.

- 7th November '**Thinking of you: spirituality
and dementia**'. Rev'd Canon Dr Joanne Collicut (Karl
Jaspers Lecturer in Psychology & Spirituality, Ripon College,
Cuddesdon.
- 14th November '**The challenges of rural
poverty**' Rev'd Elizabeth Clark. *National Rural Officer for the
Methodist and United Reformed Churches*
- 21st November '**Mindfulness and spirituality
- for all faiths and none**' *Tim Stead, accredited
mindfulness teacher & former vicar, Oxford Mindfulness Centre*
- 28th November '**Mustard Seed and the Art of
Change**' *Andy Turner Church Action on poverty (South of
England)*

Venue:

**Childrey Methodist Church
Chapel Way, Childrey OX12 9UU**



Yotam Theu has built a preacher training facility in Mzuzu Malawi in partnership with Grove Methodist Church. The facility is being used to train leaders and evangelists to work with Christian Church which Yotam founded in 1994.



The Church hall/training area is in use but needs flooring and the walls, plastering. Please help Yotam and his Church complete this vital project. The target is to raise £800 by November.

Contact details - Marci Sandels,
Grove Methodist Church,
Tel. 07788 712702, 27 Princess
Gardens, Grove, Wantage,
OX12 0QN, email:
msandels@ntlworld.com



Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

You  h

A new group for the young people
in our Circuit

Activities, crafts, games, discussions and tea together

Sun 27th Oct 4.00 – 6.30pm at Wallingford
Followed by worship at 6.30pm

More details from Rev'd Jocelyn Bennett
01235 813242 / 07967 735492 joss@jbennett.org

3Generate manifesto 2019

What is it?

The manifesto was produced following the 3Generate 2018 event. It summarises the key themes that came from the many sessions, conversations and feedback from 8 - 23 year olds. This manifesto is of relevance to the whole Church, not just to those who attended the 3Generate event.

3GENERATE Manifesto 2019

Make 2019 A YEAR TO BE
COURAGEOUS

THE children and young people at 3Generate 2018
HAVE SPOKEN OUT

TRUSTING that GOD is with us, we want to be part
of a CHURCH that knows, shows and shares God's love.

THEREFORE, TOGETHER WE WANT TO

TAKE ACTION
on
homelessness
in LOCAL AREAS



LOOK AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT

by

- Recycling
- Using less plastic
- Picking up litter

SEEK THOSE WHO ARE lonely &
struggling AND DO SOMETHING TO
help them



CREATE safe spaces
INSIDE & OUTSIDE
the Church, where
people DON'T JUDGE,
BUT LISTEN
and offer
SUPPORT

Be creative
and
varied
IN HOW WE
Worship
GOD

GET TO KNOW
and LEARN about
MORE PEOPLE in our
LOCAL COMMUNITIES
so that we
→ build relationships
→ break down
barriers
→ stop prejudice



How will YOU engage with, speak out about and respond
to this manifesto? How will you tell your story?

VISIT www.methodist.org.uk/3Generate for resources and ideas

3Generate 2019

This year's 3Generate is taking place from 22th – 24th November at Pontins in Southport. A group from our church and Circuit will be attending. More details can be found on the website (www.3Generate.org.uk).

“God in love unites us”

Report of the Marriage & Relationships Task Group

In the next few months there will be opportunity to discuss the proposals made in this report, which was received by Methodist Conference in 2019 and is now with the church for study and consultation so that the Synods can reflect the views of the circuits to Conference 2020, particularly regarding the acceptability of proposals made by the 2019 Conference.

Please read the report in the next weeks so you can be properly informed before the consultation event. It can be found on the Wantage Methodist church website at

<https://www.wantagemethodist.org.uk/p/news/church-news/god-in-love-unites-us.html>

If you would prefer a printed copy, please contact Gordon Skidmore (07710 214601) .

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

Circuit Events

1st October Local Preachers' Meeting, 7:30 pm, Grove Methodist Church

5th October Saints Alive, District REImagine Conference, 10 - 3:30, All Saints Methodist Church

Circuit Website - www.wantab.org.uk

The **website** exists 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.

Email: wacctxchange@gmail.com or Tel: 07710 214601

Wantage Independent Advice Centre

After speaking at Wantage Methodist Church Wednesday Fellowship it has been agreed that IAC information e-mails will be published in the Newsletter.

TV Licencing

Incident:

“I have just received an e-mail from ‘TV Licencing’ asking me to set up a Direct Debit in order for them to collect the licence fee!

As both my wife and I are well over 75 we have already got our free licence sent to us.

I think this is probably a SCAM and needs others to be warned. “

From [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) site

If you already have a free over 75 licence you will be covered until 31 May 2020.

You don't need to do anything now.

We'll be writing to all free over 75 licence holders in good time before 31 May 2020 to let them know how they may be affected and what they will need to do.

Wantage and Grove Foodbank

With continuing thanks to those who are contributing food and money for the foodbank. The unprecedented request rate has continued to increase, and at the end of September the number of parcels delivered has surpassed the highest annual total to date (which was in 2018). The need is increasing all the time it seems.

If anyone can offer to help in any way by offering time, then the organising committee would be delighted to hear from you. There is an application form that I can let you have - or you can get it directly from Liz Swallow by emailing her on wantageandgrovefoodbank@gmail.com.

There is a specific need for more people to be on the telephone rota. You would need to be in contact with Liz to find out what that entails as I am really not sure of the that one.

Thank you for considering this request. Helen Carter.

Wantage & Grove Street Pastors

REPORT OF OUR AUGUST 2019 ACTIVITIES

During August there were:

- 2 Friday night patrols, 2 Saturday night patrols and 1 Sunday night patrol
- 5 Patrols totalling 25 hours of cover involving 16 Street Pastors
- 5 pairs of flip-flops given and 26 bottles of water
- 190 lollies and Love Hearts given

Here are some of the ways Street Pastors cared, listened and helped in August:

- Looked out for a girl who had run away from home
- Found a bunch of keys on the ground
- Cared for a young drunk man who we found lying in the street

The police asked one of our teams to keep an eye out for a girl that had run away from home. We are pleased to report that the police found the girl later that night. We also partner with Missing People (missingpeople.org.uk) an organisation that sends us information and a picture of people who have been reported missing and who might be in our area.

One of our teams found a bunch of keys with a fob of a local gym. The team leader later took the keys to the gym to make an enquiry and they were successfully returned to the owner.

We found a drunken young man lying in the street in Wantage so we moved him to a nearby bench and stayed with him. After being sick a number of times he did revive but not enough to be left to make his own way home. Using our mobile power supply, we powered up his phone, got his friend's number and arranged to take him to their house. We walked the man to his friend's house to ensure his safety and that he would be cared for.

After a scuffle broke out between three men in Wantage we were on hand to provide tissues and wet-wipes and listen to the injured parties. We're often able to intervene before a fight develops, but it's not always possible, especially if it's already underway. On this occasion it was over quickly, we didn't need to call the police and were able to provide support to those involved.

We also chatted to a group of young people at Millbrook Square in Grove and spent time with two people in Wantage who are dealing with bereavement. Another man asked for our contact details asking if he could speak to a Street Pastor sometime.

Coordinator: Nigel Watt

Contact: wantageandgrove@streetpastors.org.uk

Mobile: 07554 655 594

Website: wantageandgrove.streetpastors.org.uk

Little People

We are now posting requests from Little People as soon as possible after they are received on the Wantage web site as “Little People Requests” on the page.

<https://www.wantagemethodist.org.uk/mission/little-people.html>

A message from Jackie Mattam

“I wanted to call your attention to two charities which I have only recently heard of.

One is Tools with a Mission, TWAM, which takes tools, sewing materials, and sewing machines to people in Africa, in order to help them to start their own businesses and make a living.

There is a local collector in Grove Street, at Cartridge UK opposite KA Fitness gym. Although refurbishment is carried out, everything should be in basic working condition. Please contact the shop before descending on them with a lorry full of equipment.

The other charity is **Money for Madagascar**. I have been there myself and experienced first-hand the consequences of having no available toilet. There were cases of plague in the capitol whilst we were there. Much of the land has been denuded of vegetation, because for many people it is the only form of food and fuel. A ragged child begged us for water when we stopped by the road. If you look at the website you will see that even 20p would be very welcome to provide a pen.

Both of the above are Christian charities.”

Centre for Reflection at Aston Tirrold

The following are events being held at the centre in September and October. Various members of our church have been to events in the past and have enjoyed the experience.

SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER 10:30 am — 12:30 pm

ECKHART TOLLE — IN THE PRESENCE OF A GREAT MYSTERY.

Please join me to listen to the second part of this recording.

Please book any of the above events through the Centre. 01235 850423;
coordinator@reflect.freeuk.com

MINDFULNESS COURSE

Sparsholt, Near Wantage

Beginning October 14th 2019



Because our Mental Well-Being Matters

**This 8- week course will take place in a warm, beautiful,
converted barn at Eastmanton House OX12 9PJ**

Monday mornings from 10.45am to 1pm + one Saturday

COST: £280

[we don't want cost to be a barrier so get in touch if you're unwaged/on a low income]

**This is a Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy Course for Life (MBCTL),
which develops skills to flourish in life as well as alleviate anxiety,
depression, stress & chronic pain. This course has been developed by
the Oxford Mindfulness Centre.**

For an application form or further information, please contact:

**Susie Stead: soozstead@gmail.com/ 07962531704,
Ruth Corfield (in Sparsholt): eastmantonbarn@gmail.com**

COURSE TEACHERS:

Conroy Harris (<http://oxfordmindfulness.org/people/conroy-harris/>)

Susie Stead (www.susiestead.com/mindfulness-teacher)

Facebook page: [@mindfulnessinoxfordshire](https://www.facebook.com/mindfulnessinoxfordshire)

Childrey

Tear Fund Lunch: to be advised.

United Service: October 27th 11:30 am at St Mary's

Chapel Anniversary

On Thursday 17th October at 7:30pm, we will be celebrating our Chapel Anniversary. The service will be led by Rev Andrea Colbrook who is the Curate for the Ridgeway Benefice and the preacher will be Rev Helen Cameron, the Chair of the Northampton District.

This will be a special occasion as it marks the 25th Anniversary of the opening of our current church.

Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate with us!

Childrey Conversations – engaging with contemporary issues.....

Childrey Methodist Church & St. Mary's Childrey, are working together, invite you to 'Childrey Conversations' on Thursday evenings this November.

An opportunity to hear first class speakers address some of the issues of our time, engage in conversation and be part of the discussions.

- 7th November **'Thinking of you: spirituality and dementia'**: Rev Canon Dr Joanne Collicut (Karl Jaspers Lecturer in Psychology & Spirituality, Ripon College, Cuddesdon.
- 14th November **'The challenges of rural poverty'**: Rev Elizabeth Clark. *National Rural Officer for the Methodist and United Reformed Churches*
- 21st November **'Mindfulness and spirituality - for all faiths and none'** *Tim Stead, accredited mindfulness teacher & former vicar, Oxford Mindfulness Centre*
- 28th November **'Mustard Seed and the Art of Change'** *Andy Turner, Church Action on poverty (South of England)*

These events are free and will begin at 7:30 pm – please see the posters and flyers for more information.

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

'Film Plus'

On **Sunday 13th October** at 4:00 pm we will be showing the film "O brother, where art thou?", cert 12.

We are experimenting with a slightly different format for Film Plus over the next three months. Each film will still begin at 4:00 pm, followed by some discussion, tea and biscuits and then straight into a short act of worship. All of this will take place in the meeting room.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Theme preaching on the Lord's Prayer

Starting on 13th October there will be a four-week theme preaching series on "the Lord's Prayer" during the morning services. These will be led for us by Keith, Carol, Ian and Peter respectively.

Tuesday Fellowship.

1 st October	Visit to Cornerstone
8 th October	Visit to Wantage Baptist Women's Fellowship Anniversary Speaker: Mrs. Barbara Smith
15 th October	We welcome Malcolm Newton to speak to us
22 nd October	To be announced
29 th October	Today we welcome Rev Frances Blood to our meeting

The **Worship Consultation Meeting** is on **Wednesday, 2nd October** at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room. We invite you to come along and share in the discussion and planning of our worship for the months ahead. All welcome.

You are invited to a **Coffee morning** on **Saturday, 5th October** in the Meeting Room from 10 am till 12 noon. John and Sue Stead are our hosts. Proceeds from the morning are for Freyja's Fund, which is a charity set up by Freyja's family, to support young people with cancer at the J.R. hospital. We will be pleased to see you.

We will be celebrating **Harvest** on **6th** and **7th October**.

Morning service at 10:45 am on Sunday, 6th October will be led by Rev Keith Underhill and **evening worship** at 6:30 pm will be led by Rev Ian Griffiths.

Harvest Supper followed by an auction of fresh produce is on Monday, 7th October at 7 pm. Supper will be jacket potatoes with various fillings (prawns, Coronation chicken or cheese & baked beans) and a choice of dessert. No fixed charge this year but donations for 'All We Can' (the Methodist Relief and Development Fund). Please let Judy, Carol or Noreen know **by Wednesday, 2nd October** if you would like to attend.

Gifts of fresh produce or dried/ tinned goods would be appreciated. The dried/tinned goods will be donated to the Wantage & Grove Foodbank, so please bear in mind what could be useful to them when selecting food items.

Warmed Hearts house group will meet on **Wednesday, 16th October** at 8 pm at 8 Vicarage Close, Grove. We will be studying session 4 of “Life on the frontline”, “The Frontline Concern”. We have a time of fellowship and discussion together and new faces are always welcome to join us.

Contact Peter Hemmings (01235 762504) for more information.

Warmed Hearts house group will meet again this month on **Wednesday, 30th October** at 8 pm at 107 Mayfield Avenue, Grove, when we will be continuing with “Life on the frontline”, session 5 “The Frontline Cry”. You are welcome to come for a time of fellowship and discussion together. We will be pleased to see you.

The Film Club will be showing “**Green Book**” on **Friday, 18th October** at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room. 130mins 12a 2019

A working-class Italian-American bouncer becomes the driver of an African-American classical jazz pianist on a tour of venues through the 1960's American South.

Cast: Viggo Mortensen, Mahershala Ali, Linda Cardellini

Admission is free. Tea/coffee & biscuits served at the end of the film.

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

Grove Church Council meets on **Thursday, 24th October** at 8 pm in the Meeting Room. All interested in the life and work of our church are invited to attend.

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.

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

Thank you to everyone who supports or arranges various events.

The September coffee morning raised £100.90 for ‘Alzheimer’s Research’.

Coffee morning dates for 2019 are now filled – thank you to everyone.

Bookings being taken for 2020. If you like to plan ahead, please contact Peter Hemmings on 01235 762504.

Flower Rota

6 th October	HARVEST. Gifts of greenery, flowers & produce for decorating and offers of help are all welcome. We will be decorating from 2 pm on Saturday afternoon
13 th October	Noreen Hemmings
20 th October	Audrey Hogston
27 th October	Judith Hopkins

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.

Wantage

WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY

Confirmation and Church Membership

Congratulations and welcome to Charlotte, Maureen and Audrey who were confirmed at Church on Sunday 22nd September and to Peter, Mary, Margaret and Margaret, Edwina, Alex, Celia and Joan who we welcomed into membership by transfer from other churches and denominations.

Baptism

We are looking forward to the baptism of Julie's grandson Lincoln on Sunday 27th October during our morning service.

We assure Julie, Lincoln, his parents, Liz and Dave, and all the family of our thoughts and prayers as they prepare for this special occasion

Tuesday Afternoon House Group

In September we studied some more sessions of our study of Christian Character and Keith came to talk to us about things we hold dear.

In October we will conclude the final session on Christian Character and embark on a Cover to Cover Bible Study on Acts 13 - 28, To The Ends of the Earth. We look forward to this challenge by the early Church and how we can impact on our world today for Christ.

The details for October are as follows:.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1 st October | Christian Character Session 12: Called to Persevere – 2 Timothy: 8-2:7 . This meeting includes the Monthly Prayer Meeting. |
| 8 th October | Cover to Cover : Acts 13-28 : Week 1 :- Let's Go.
Acts 13-14, Matthew 28:18-20. |
| 15 th October | Cover to Cover : Acts 13-28 : Week 2 :- Disaster Averted
Acts 15:1-16:10, Ephesians 2:1-22. |
| 22 nd October | Cover to Cover : Acts 13-28 : Week 3 :- Europe responds to the Gospel.
Acts 16:11-18:22, Galatians 3:26-29. |
| 29 th October | No Meeting – School holiday |

In Advent we will using the new York Course “Who are we praying to?” We will begin this four-week course on **26th November**. The course booklet is written by David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College and Professor in the Department of Theology and Religion, Durham University, If you would like to join us for this Advent Study please let me know by the **end of October** and I will order you a booklet.

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.

Bible Study

Please note that there will be no Sunday morning Bible study in October, but it will return on Sunday 24th November in the parlour at 9 am – we will be continuing our theme of the parables of Jesus.

PRAYER & PASTORAL

Prayer list

Loving God, in this beautiful season of Autumn we give you our praise and thanks for all the beauty, colours and plentiful harvest we have enjoyed and rejoiced in. You are an amazing God and we ask that you will help us to praise and thank you more and more each day, even when we face opposition, suffering and fear about the future. Thank you for your promise never to leave us. Help us to walk closely with you day by day and trust you whatever the conditions and help us to testify more often to your love and grace, both at home and in the community. We pray that you will help us to reach out to our next generation for their blessing and your glory. 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, Emma Wright and family, Jean Plastow, Alex, A lady with family problems, Graham Savill, Michael and Mavis Howlett, Sue, Diane, Julie 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 October Newsletter, please let me know by 18th October in order for me to meet the Newsletter deadline.

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

Pastoral - *praying for each other*

In October the following people on **Kelvin Rose's Pastoral List** will be included in the prayer time at Eileen Rennie's house-group; Andrew Barber, Ian Campbell, Margaret and Francis McAlpin, Carolyn Roche, Gordon & Marina Scott, and Carole & John Sturney.

On 22nd September, three of our young people, Charlotte Worth, Maureen and Audrey Osei-Akowuah, were confirmed into membership, and Peter Bainbridge, Joan Kidd, Edwina Loftus, Alex Mwangi, Celia Roser, Mary Spalding, Margaret Watts and Margaret Wilson became members through transfer from previous churches. They too will be remembered in prayer.

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.

YOUNG CHURCH

Kids@Church

Jane Kent

In September we had fun thinking about the story of the lost coin. Children were busy hunting round the church for lost coins and then hunting in the hall for the chocolate variety!

Kids@church is an informal monthly service for primary school aged children and their families. New people always welcome!

We will next meet at 9.30 am on **Sunday 20th October** - "Sorry, I can't make it...."

For more information about Kids@church please give me a call on 765421.

YMOSES (Youth Meeting On Sunday Evenings)

Jane Kent

It was great to meet up again in September after the summer break and we started planning our charity fundraising event for the wonderful local charity 'Be Free Young Carers'. We looked at the passage from John's Gospel where Jesus talks about being the vine and this provoked lots of wonderful (and difficult!) questions. We are slowly working through 'The Teenage Prayer Experiment notebook' and this month we are having a go at contemplative prayer and we will share how we found it in October! We will next be meeting on **Sunday 13th October**, 7:15 pm - 8.15 pm at Charlotte's house. Secondary school age young people all welcome to this friendly, informal, faith-based discussion group.

YMOSES is an informal, friendly, faith-based youth discussion group. New young people always welcome.

For more information on either of these groups please give me a call or send me an email.

Jane Kent: 01235 765421 (janevkent@icloud.com)

FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday Fellowship

October

- 2nd Fay Pendell will be telling us about the garden she designed for the Chelsea Flower Show, featuring a statue which was part of the commemoration of the Normandy Veterans. This also has a very local connection.
- 9th Peter Preston's talk is entitled "Delight of our British Birds".
- 16th This is our Harvest meeting led by Peter Hemmings. Please bring goods to decorate the Harvest table.
- 23rd June Grunwald will give an illustrated talk about her visit to Turkey.
- 30th Michael Bailey's talk this time is his visit to Buenos Aires to Rio: Waterfalls and Hummingbirds, visits to two cities, Iguaza Falls.

Lunch dates for October

Sunday lunch in October will be on Sunday 13th and will be Roast Beef. Please **sign up** by the preceding Wednesday or telephone Julie on 07812 370796. **Friday lunch** will be on 25th. This is a drop-in lunch and all are welcome. We look forward to seeing you .

Firebrand

To celebrate the 175th anniversary of Wantage Methodist Church, we are reviving this musical telling the story of John Wesley's life. It was written by two of our former members, Janet Evans and Huw Morgan, in 1988.

The performance will be on **Saturday 13th June 2020**.

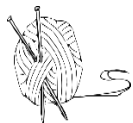
There are opportunities for everyone, aged 0 to 100, to be involved, not just actors or singers, and we hope to include some of our church users and people from around the Circuit.

Please come and find out more at a meeting in the church at **10.30 am** on **Saturday 19th October**. You will not be committing to anything by attending the meeting, but you might find there is something there for you that you were not expecting.

If you are **interested but not able to come on 19th October**, please let Gill Skidmore know (preferably by email: gill.skidmore32@gmail.com, otherwise tel: 07889 815950).

Knit & Chat

Carolyn Roche (01235 764310)



Only two months in which to complete our heavenly host of Christmas Angels. Will we manage to beat last year's record of 1120 angels?



The numbers of green blanket squares are also mounting up. We are knitting squares of 9 inches, 6 inches or 3 inches, in a variety of shades of green. Hopefully they will fit together to make a blanket after they have been used for the Christmas Tree.

Please come and join our small but friendly group meeting in the Parlour on the first and third Mondays of the month at 2pm. Tea/coffee plus yummy biscuits are served during the afternoon.

The dates for this month are **Monday 7 October** and **Monday 21 October**.



Christmas Tree Festival Wantage Methodist Church 6th- 7th December



Once again we are holding a Christmas tree festival on the weekend of Wantage Dickensian evening. This year we will be supporting **Street Pastors**.

We shall be open from **6 pm** on **Dickensian Evening, Friday 6th December** for people to look at the trees and to enjoy refreshments in the hall. There will be a **coffee morning** on **Saturday 7th December** and the trees will remain for the Sunday service. More information about stalls and any help needed will be in the November newsletter.
Carolyn Roche (01235 764310)

MISSION & SERVICE

Community Drop In Café



Every Monday 9 am -12 noon

**All are welcome and invited to drop in anytime
between 9 am and 12 noon - a warm welcome to everyone.
Come and enjoy a coffee and chat.**

We have now been meeting for five months and seeing increasing numbers week by week. Many friendships have been formed through this group and it is a joy to see new faces as well as returning faces. It has been encouraging to hear from people who brought children and grandchildren during the school break how the children loved it and how they are looking forward to coming again. It is wonderful and a privilege to listen to their stories. People attending can sit and enjoy doing jigsaw puzzles, an assortment of table games and colouring books. We also have a box of books which you are welcome to pick yourself some good reading from to enjoy at home. Coffee/tea or soft drinks, cake and biscuits are available between 9.00 am and 12 noon every Monday. Donations for the Methodist affiliated Charity, Fund for Human Need, to date have raised £771.56. Why not come along and join us? We look forward to welcoming you.

For further information please see either Eileen Rennie or June Grunwald.

Ride and Stride 2019

Saturday Sept 14th was a glorious day for cycling and walking around Oxfordshire churches.

Carolyn Roche writes: "What fantastic weather for a bike ride! This year my cycling friend Barbara joined me and having done this ride for four years it was lovely to see it through new eyes. As we usually cycle out for coffee we began with a stop at Childrey Café. Fuelled by caffeine we set off to visit the first of the fifteen churches on our route. This was Childrey Methodist Church and around the corner was St. Mary's. A pleasant ride along the side of the Vale led us to Sparsholt. Here the signer-in was sitting out at the gate in the sunshine. Refuelled by a chocolate it was on, via Westcot, to Kingston Lisle. The person here was very keen to show us round this lovely little church. On to Uffington where we could have a comfort break and then on to Baulking. From here there is a lovely long flat ride – very enjoyable! – out to the A417. Luckily not long on this road before turning off to Goosey and then onto Denchworth. Here we sat in the sun to refuel ourselves with lunch and then onto the two churches in Grove. Finally back into Wantage with five churches to visit here and the end of our 20 mile journey. We had a lovely ride, saw some beautiful and interesting country churches and met some kind and hospitable people. Roll on 2020!"

Alison & Clive Phillips set off later, after lunch, and cycled over the same route as Carolyn but added the two Letcombe churches (but not the Childrey Café!) and covered 22 miles.

Alison Brown and June & Alan Grunwald walked, setting off from Cogges Farm, near Witney and visited 9 churches in Witney, Ducklington and Curbridge. They walked 12 miles, which wasn't the planned distance (!!) and enjoyed rock cakes in Ducklington and a fine Victoria sponge in Curbridge (which probably cancelled out their healthy walking!).

Our church had 31 visitors, which is slightly less than in the last few years. Our thanks to all who took it in turns to church-sit and welcome the visitors: *Irmgard R, Ann B, Eileen R, Nicky A, Gill S, Sue H, Geoffrey S and Kelvin R*. It really does make a big difference to be greeted by people and not just an empty church with an unattended sign-in sheet. Altogether we raised about £342 in sponsorship, to be divided between Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and our church. A big thank you to our generous sponsors.

FINANCE, PROPERTY & USERS' NEWS

Property & Finance Committee will meet on Wednesday October 16th at 7:30 pm.

Godfrey Room

There will be periods in October and December when the Godfrey Room will be used by the Food Bank and Little People. During those periods the room will be locked.

Wantage Chapel & Hall Bookings

Weekly Bookings

October 2019

Monday	morn	Community Drop-in Café	Hall
Monday	eve	Slimming World	Hall
Tuesday	morn	MIND	Hall
Tuesday	eve	Wantage Camera Club	Hall
Tuesday	eve	Rock Choir (not 29 th)	Chapel
Wednesday	aft	Wednesday Fellowship	Hall
Wednesday	eve	Wantage Stage Musical	Hall
Thursday	eve	DBands	Hall
Friday	morn	Babes & Toddlers (not 25 th)	Hall
Friday	aft	Caritas Choir	Hall
Friday	eve	Cheek2Cheek	Hall

1 st & 3 rd Monday	aft	Knit & Chat	Parlour
Second Monday	aft	Age UK Oxfordshire	Parlour/Hall
Second Tuesday	eve	My Life, My Choice	Parlour
Third Thursday	mid	King Alfred's WI	Hall
Third Saturday	morn	Dads Out	Hall

Please **check / book your date** with Gordon **before you commit to** your meeting.
wntgmethodistbookings@gmail.com 07710 214601

The following individual bookings are in place:

October

Tuesday 1 st	morn	Charlton School	Chapel
Wednesday 2 nd	eve	Music Group	Chapel
Sunday 13 th	aft	Goddard AGM	Godfrey
Wednesday 16 th	eve	Property & Finance	Godfrey
Saturday 19 th	morn	Firebrand Talk-in	Chapel
Saturday 19 th	aft	Private Party?	Hall
Wednesday 23 rd	eve	Music Group	Chapel
Sunday 27 th	aft	Wantage Literary Festival	Chapel & Hall
Tuesday 29 th	aft	Art Class	Hall
Thursday 31 st	aft	Superheroes	Hall

November

Friday 1 st	aft	Wantage Literary Festival	Chapel & Hall
Tuesday 5 th	aft	Art Class	Hall
Saturday 9 th	aft	Private Party?	Hall
Tuesday 12 th	aft	Art Class	Hall
Thursday 18 th	eve	Newbury Street PPG	Hall
Tuesday 19 th	aft	Art Class	Hall
Wednesday 20 th	eve	Church Council	Chapel
Tuesday 26 th	aft	Art Class	Hall
Tuesday 26 th	eve	Worship Consultation	Parlour
Saturday 23 rd	day	Holy Habits	All
Saturday 30 th	morn	Clothes Swap	Hall

December

Tuesday 3 rd	aft	Art Class	Hall
Friday 6 th	eve	Dickensian Evening	All
Saturday 8 th	morn	Coffee Morning	Hall
Fri/Sat/Sun 6 th – 8 th		Christmas Tree Festival	All
Saturday 14 th	lunch	Private Party	Hall
Saturday 14 th	tea/eve	YMOSES Event	Hall

DIARY

OCTOBER				Page
Tuesday	1 st	7:30 pm	Local Preachers' Meeting at Milton	8
Wednesday	2 nd	7:30 pm	Grove Worship Consultation	
		8:00 pm	Music Group at Wantage	
Saturday	5 th	10:00 am	Coffee Morning at Grove	14
		10:00 am	Saints Alive District Reimagine Conference at All Saints Abingdon	4
Sunday	6 th		Grove Harvest Festival	14
Monday	7 th	2:00 pm	Knit & Chat in Wantage Parlour	19
		7:00 pm	Grove Harvest Supper	14
Sunday	13 th	12:15 pm	Sunday Lunch at Wantage	19
		4:00 pm	Film Plus at Grove	14
		7:15 pm	YMOSES	18
Wednesday	16 th	7:30 pm	Wantage Property & Finance Committee	
Thursday	17 th	7:30 pm	Childrey Chapel Anniversary	13
Friday	18 th	7:30 pm	Film Club at Grove – “Green Book” (12a)	15
Saturday	19 th	10:30 am	Firebrand “Talk in” at Wantage	19
Sunday	20 th	9:30 am	Kids@church at Wantage	18
			Deadline for the November Newsletter	
Monday	21 st	2:00 pm	Knit & Chat in Wantage Parlour	19
Wednesday	23 rd	8:00 pm	Music Group at Wantage	
Thursday	24 th	8:00 pm	Grove Church Council	15
Friday	25 th	12:15 pm	Drop in Lunch at Wantage	19
Sunday	27 th	10:30 am	Baptism of Lincoln at Wantage	16
		4:00 pm	Wantage & Abingdon Circuit Youth at Wallingford	7
NOVEMBER				
Sunday	3 rd	6:00 pm	Memorial Service at Wantage	
Thursday	7 th	7:30 pm	Childrey Conversations	5/13
Thursday	14 th	7:30 pm	Childrey Conversations	5/13
Wednesday	20 th	7:30 pm	Wantage Church Council	
Thursday	21 st	7:30 pm	Childrey Conversations	5/13
Saturday	23 rd	10:00 am	Holy Habits at Wantage	3
Thursday	28 th	7:30 pm	Childrey Conversations	5/13

Sunday Services – October 2019

	Childrey	Grove	Wantage
October 6th Ordinary 27	11:00 am Barbara Kershaw	Harvest Festival 10:45 am Rev Keith Underhill 6:30 pm Rev Ian Griffiths	10:30 am Helen Carter Worship through Jigsaws
October 13th Ordinary 28 Prisons	11:00 am Malcom Newton	10:45 am Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill 4:00 pm Film Plus Rev Keith Underhill	09:00 am Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill 10:30 am Ian Sturt
October 20th Ordinary 29	11:00 am Holy Communion: Rev Alan Grist	10:45 am Carol Sturt 6:30 pm Helen Carter	09:30 am Kids@Church 10:30 am Daphne Savage
October 27th Ordinary 30 One World	11:30 am at St Mary's	10:45 am Ian Sturt 6:30 pm Holy Communion: Rev Keith Underhill	10:30 am Holy Communion & Baptism Rev Keith Underhill