

Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

CHILDREY, GROVE & WANTAGE SECTOR


The **Methodist Church**

CGW NEWS



APRIL 2024

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Contributions for the **next Newsletter** (May) should be sent to the editor by email, phone or in writing by **Sunday 21st April 2024**

e-mail : wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com

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Sunday Services and Church Activities

Wantage Morning Worship is shared each week on Zoom at 10:30
(for access to this please contact Gordon Skidmore)

Grove web site is found from www.wantab.org.uk
Wantage web site www.wantagemethodist.org.uk
Circuit web site www.wantab.org.uk

CGW News Contribution deadline dates – 2024

May	Sunday 21 st April
June	Sunday 19 th May
Summer (July/August)	Sunday 23 rd June

From the Manse.....

Having celebrated Easter Day on the very end of March and with Pentecost not being until May, we find ourselves this April living in in-between times.

When we stop and think about it, we realise that actually that's where we usually find ourselves anyhow, in-between.

We live in-between the past and the future, in-between birth and death, in-between what was and what is yet to come and of course in-between Easter day and Pentecost.

If we reflect on the Christian story, we are reminded that we are living in-between Jesus' birth and his final and triumphant return. So much of life is spent in the in-between times.

There is always the danger of course that we may feel trapped in these in-between times, feeling that we can't, or don't want to do anything because we're not sure of what is to come or we find that the past prevents us from moving on.

But the truth is that the in-between time is a gift, it is the present, it is this moment in which we live. It is in these in-between times that we are called to live out our faith and to share the good news.

We cannot undo the past and the future is yet to come and so it is in the here now, in these in-between times where we are called to make a difference.

And of course it was in the in-between times that Jesus appeared to his disciples as the risen Christ; outside the empty tomb, in the locked room where they were hiding, on the road to Emmaus and on the beach preparing breakfast for his friends.

As we continue to sing our Easter praises, to declare that "he is risen, he is indeed!", as we wait for the coming of the spirit once more at Pentecost, may we find ourselves encountering the risen Christ for his with us in these in-between times.

Love and God Bless

Keith

Stepping out with Noah – March 2024

Keith Underhill

We are continuing with the pattern of one midweek morning walk and one on a Sunday afternoon.

The dates for April are as below and the details of the routes will be emailed out a few days beforehand to take account of the conditions underfoot etc.

The walks in April will begin from outside the manse at 14 Hayward Close.

Wednesday, the 10th of April at 10 am.

Sunday, the 28th of April at 2:30 pm.

These walks will be between 3 to 4 miles in length and then I look forward to stepping out with you.

If you'd like to be added to the circulation list for the details of the walks please would you let me know.

Love and God bless, Keith

The Environment and Climate Change

The Methodist Church has set an aspirational target of becoming a net zero carbon emissions Church by 2030.

The Methodist Conference has set a target of becoming a net zero emissions Church by 2030.

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth... God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. – Genesis 1:1, 31 5

As Christians, we believe that God created the world. We believe in the inherent goodness of creation, and we believe that God is active and present in the world – sustaining creation from moment to moment. As people made in the image of God, we believe we are called to reflect God's nature in being present and active in caring for creation.

Closing our ears to the voices of those most vulnerable to climate change would be nothing less than giving up our claim to be disciples of Christ. – Hope in God's Future

Celebrate Spring

Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the season – breathe in the fragrance of blossoms, observe budding catkins, note different bird songs, spot footprints, or use the PI@ntNet app to identify spring flowers. Nature can boost our happiness, so spend time in your garden, on your balcony and in local green spaces. Dedicate quality time to appreciate creation's beauty and thank God for the hope that spring can bring.

Lifestyle tip: Plant wildflowers in your garden, common areas or at your church

More than being just beautiful, wildflowers are vital threads woven into the intricate fabric of our planet. They contribute to biodiversity by providing diverse habitats for insects, birds, and other wildlife. They offer nectar, pollen, and shelter, supporting a rich web of life.

Pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds, rely on wildflowers for sustenance. These tiny creatures are crucial in pollinating crops and maintaining ecosystem balance.

Wildflowers attract beneficial insects that prey on pests. Ladybugs, lacewings, and parasitic wasps help keep garden pests in check.

If you live in an area with erosion risks, know that wildflower roots help stabilize soil, preventing erosion. Their intricate root systems improve soil structure and nutrient retention.

Worship resource: Reflect on the parable of the sower

Matthew 13:1-23

Prayer of the month

By Rachel Parkinson, Chair of Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District

Creator God

when I think of the beauty of all that you have made
my adoring heart is sad and scared;

So much already lost...

And how bad will it get?

Through your Spirit save me from the futility of despair
to the energy of repentance
and the hope of fruitful action.

Show me what is mine to do and help me work with others to do your will. Amen

Cornerstone News – April 2024

In the Café

This month we will be serving creams teas again. Scone, Jam and Cream for just £5 in April. All our scones and most of our cakes are home made by our very talented cooks. Victoria Sponge and Lemon Drizzle are favourites with our regulars.



We will be doing our Free Breakfasts slightly differently in the Easter School Holidays, handing our vouchers to be redeemed from our marble jar. If you know a family who would benefit, let us know. If you want to contribute – ask at the till about buying some marbles.

In the shop

Our Easter book promotion is over and a new promotion will arrive towards the end of the month. In the meantime, we have been stocking up with new cards and gifts.

Join the team

We are blessed with a very friendly team made up of a small team of paid staff and a large team of volunteers. We currently have one paid cook vacancy for 9.15-2.30pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Our volunteer shifts are just two hours long and we are looking to cover a number of regular gaps on our rota for serving in the café, washing up and helping in our Christian Bookshop. If you are interested in any of these roles, either call or email our Manager Sarah (details below) or why not drop in and meet our team?

Monthly hot meal special

This will be served on Wednesday 24th April at 12.30 pm – please do book in advance so that we know how many to cater for.

Outside catering

We are able to supply cold buffet style platters for your events; for example Business lunches, children's parties and wakes – please contact us for more information.

AGM

Advance notice that our AGM will be held on Monday 17th June – more details to follow but please make a note of the date.

Prayer breakfasts

Our monthly prayer breakfasts continue on the second Saturday of each month. The next one will be on Saturday 13th April at 8.30 am and I look forward to you joining us for croissants, tea, coffee, prayer and fellowship.

Blessings

Sarah Shewring

Cornerstone, 10 Savile Way, Grove, OX12 0PT

Tel.01235 772280 email: office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk

JESUS: DEAD OR ALIVE?

What do you think?

A PASSION PLAY

THURSDAY 28 MARCH

WANTAGE BAPTIST CHURCH, MILL ST

DOORS 7PM • PERFORMANCE 7.45PM

TICKETS FROM THE KING'S CENTRE OR

WWW.WANTAGECC.ORG.UK/EASTER



Wantage and Grove
Church Partnership

Sector services and events for Holy Week 2024

Palm Sunday 24th March

Lectionary: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 11:1-11

10:00 am Wantage - Market Place
Ecumenical service to mark Palm Sunday

10:45 am Wantage Methodist Church – Morning Worship
This is a Local Arrangement service (*please note the slightly later start time*)

10:30 am Grove Methodist Church
Morning service led by Rev Keith Underhill

Monday 25th March

8:00 pm. Wantage Methodist Church
A Holy Week reflection led by Rev Keith Underhill

Tuesday 26th March

8:00 pm. Wantage Methodist Church
A Holy Week reflection led by Rev Keith Underhill

Wednesday 27th March

8:00 pm. Wantage Methodist Church
A Holy Week reflection led by Rev Keith Underhill

Thursday 28th March Maundy Thursday

7:45 pm Wantage Baptist Church
Jesus Dead or Alive? A Passion play by Lamps
Please see full details in this newsletter and on posters

8:00 pm. Wantage Methodist Church
A sectional Tenebrae service for Maundy Thursday to include Holy Communion - led by Rev Keith Underhill.

Friday 29th March - Good Friday.

Lectionary: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42

9:00 am Childrey Methodist Church
Worship for Good Friday Morning led by Rev Keith Underhill

11:00 am Ecumenical walking 'pilgrimage' through Wantage stopping at churches along the way (including Wantage Methodist Church) and ending up in the Market Place – full details available soon.

11:00 am United ecumenical open air service on the green opposite Grove Methodist Church followed by tea, coffee and Hot Cross buns at Grove Methodist Church

2:00 pm Wantage Methodist Church
Reflective service led by Rev Keith Underhill

Easter Day 31st March

Lectionary: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2,14-24; 1Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18

6:30 am Millennium Stones, Ardington
Sunrise service to include Holy Communion led by Rev Keith Underhill

10:30 am Wantage Methodist Church
Easter Morning service led by Rev Keith Underhill with Holy Communion

10:30 am Grove Methodist Church
Easter Morning service at led by Ian Sturt

6:00pm Childrey Methodist Church
"Road to Emmaus" service led by Rev Keith Underhill
As is our usual practice, there will be a shared tea (please bring some food with you to share) followed by an informal communion.
For all those wishing to walk to Childrey please note that we will be leaving the car park at Wantage Methodist Church at 4:30 pm.

CHILDREY

Friday 29th March - Good Friday.

9:00 am Morning Worship for Good Friday

led by Rev Keith Underhill

31st March Easter Day

6:00 pm Road to Emmaus Holy Communion

14th April 11:00 am Morning Worship led by Rev Keith Underhill

28th April 11:00 am Morning Worship led by Rev John Anderson

This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion

Prayers

We remember in our prayers:

Vicky, Robin and Becky Legge and the Legge family grandchildren. John Cliffe. Keith, and all members and supporters of Childrey Methodist Chapel.

The congregation at St Mary's, Childrey and the people of the village.

All those unknown to us who are in need of our help and prayers.

Wantage & Grove Church Partnership

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE-DAME: AmEgos Theatre group is putting on a production of the musical of Victor Hugo's classic tale in the atmospheric gothic surroundings of **Wantage Parish Church on Thursday 4, Friday 5 and Saturday 6 April.** Performances nightly at 7.30 pm with an additional Saturday matinee at 2.30 pm. The bar opens at 6.45 pm (and 1.45 pm). Tickets are only available online from www.AmegosTheatre.com. Seating is unreserved, and on church pews, so please bring cushions or blankets if required for your comfort. (Please note: with some adult themes, this is not a show for very young children).

GROVE

You are invited to a **Coffee Morning** on **Saturday, 6th April** from 10 am till noon in the church. Proceeds from the morning are for Wateraid. Kirsty is our host for the morning. We hope you can join us for a chat, coffee/tea and cake. We look forward to seeing you.

Ecumenical “Prayer for Revival” is held on the first Sunday of each month in our church. The next meeting is on **Sunday, 7th April** at 6.30 pm till 8 pm. All are invited to come and pray with us. All are welcome.

Film Club will meet on **Friday, 19th April** at 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room. We will be showing **“Dark Horse”**. In a small valley town in South Wales, a barmaid decides to breed a racehorse she ultimately names Dream Alliance. She and her husband buy a broodmare and she asks other villagers to join in the effort with funding and advice. This is a real-life story that will thrill equine enthusiasts and novices alike.

Cast: Jan Vokes, Howard Davies, Brian “Daisy” Vokes.

All are welcome. Admission is free; a small donation helps to cover the cost of licences and DVDs. Masks are optional.

Tuesday Fellowship will meet on **Tuesday, 30th April** at 2.15 pm. The speaker and venue will be published in the weekly notices nearer the time. All are welcome.

Craft Group meets at the Cornerstone Coffee Shop on Monday afternoons from 2 pm to 4 pm. All are welcome. Bring your own craft to do and enjoy a chat and exchange of ideas with other crafters while you work. We each give a donation of £1 to Cornerstone and buy a drink of our choice.

Thank you for your support for the **Freyja’s Fund Coffee Morning** in March. The total for donations at the coffee morning was £175.30. In addition, Judith’s card sales at the Coffee morning and during the months since Christmas have raised a further £125 (approximately) to enable Freyja’s Fund to benefit by a total of £300. Judith and her family would like to thank everyone who supported the coffee morning and by buying cards throughout the year. It is very much appreciated.

Thank you also to all those who generously continue to support **the Foodbank** by putting contributions in the box in the entrance hall week by week. Thank you. All your contributions are very much appreciated. The need is still great.

We continue to hold in our prayers all those who are in poor health or have other difficulties and problems. We trust that, with care, life has opened up again for you.

WANTAGE

Holy Habits (lite iv)

On Sunday 21st April, Libby Hawkness-Smith will be leading the next service in the Holy Habits series, which will be the 3rd service on "worship".

She would love for this to be a hymns of worship (aka hymns of praise) service, so please could you send her any favourite hymns you have that remind you of "worship" (or what "worship" means to you). If you can, please could you also include a comment about why you've chosen this particular hymn.

Equally, if you don't have a favourite "worship" hymn, but you have a scripture, poem, or prayer that come to mind when you think "worship", please could you let her know? Thank you! libby.communitychaplain@gmail.com

The **film** that we will be watching is **Sister Act** and will be shown at 7:30 pm on **Wednesday April 3rd** .

There are **two books** that we are suggesting people might like to read this time round:

"A friend for little bear" by Harry Horse (a Children's picture book) published by Walker Books ISBN 978-1-4063-3166-0 and

"The Essex Serpent" by Sarah Perry published by Serpents Tail (2016) an imprint of Profile Books Ltd ISBN 9781788169622

This novel (historical fiction) explores whether there's more to life than meets the eye or that faith convinces us of things not seen (Hebrews 11.1) It addresses the issues of folk religion, superstition, true faith and an awareness of the beauty of creation and a sense of awe and wonder (which as we know, is at the heart of worship)

Book Discussion

Jane Kent (07443 420205)

We will next meet on **Saturday 6th April** at Cornerstone at 10 am to discuss the two books (see above) - feel free to read one or both. Everyone is welcome - as we have a children's book this time it would be wonderful to welcome some children too!

Kids@Church

Jane, Dave, Cath and Keith

In March we had fun thinking about the Palm Sunday story. We listened to the story imagining the scene and then joined in with the song 'Give me oil in my lamp' including lots of actions. Morgan kindly led our prayers before we headed through to the hall and recreated the Palm Sunday scene from clay. We concluded our time together chatting over drinks and hot bacon rolls!

Kids@Church will meet next at 9.30 am on **21st April and** then on **19th May**. We welcome children and their families for this informal service and craft activity followed by breakfast. Any questions please phone Jane on 01235 765421. If you have any questions please feel free to give me (Jane Kent) a call on 07443 420205.

Bible Study at Elmbrook Care Home

June Grunwald

This Bible Study is held at the care home on Grove Road. It is held on the second Monday of the month at 2.30 pm, lasting between 30 and 45 minutes. In March we looked at the passage John 19:12-16 (Jesus is condemned). We talked about how this passage relates to today: how Pilate was influenced and how people in the world are influenced today. On Monday, 8th April we will look at John 20:11-18 (Jesus appears to Mary) and on May 13th, which is near Pentecost Sunday we will look at Acts 2:1-13. Residents really appreciate people from our church joining in their study and we often enjoy fellowship with a cup of coffee in the Elmbrook lounge afterwards.

Tuesday Afternoon Prayer and Study Group

Eileen Rennie

In March we continued and completed our Lent Study ending with a visit to St, Mary's Convent to walk round the Stations of the Cross with reflections and prayer, following the journey Jesus made to the Cross.

In April we will start the Holy Habits Worship studies.

We meet in the Parlour each Tuesday at 2 pm. This is an open friendly group who meet to study and pray each week so please feel free to come along and join us any week. You can be assured of a warm welcome. Please be assured if you cannot meet with us that you are remembered in prayer.

Prayer is an important part of our meeting and we spend time each week praying for people and situations near and far. If you have someone or a situation you would like us to pray for please let me know.

Dates for April are as follows:

- 2nd Holy Habits, Worship Week 1 : God alone is worthy of worship.
Reading: Exodus 20:2-6 This meeting includes the Monthly Prayer list.
- 9th Keith will speak on a subject of his choice.
- 16th Holy Habits, Worship Week 2 : Caring for creation as an act of worship.
Reading Psalm 8:1-5
- 23rd Holy Habits, Worship Week 3 : Being present.
Reading Isaiah 1:11-15
- 30th Holy Habits, Worship Week 4 : The joy of forgiveness.
Reading Zephaniah 3:14-17.

If you have any queries you can contact me (Eileen Rennie) by telephone on 01235 224284 or e-mail: eileenrennie@icloud.com

Several of our recent pastoral reports have included news of people within our church family, which we can only have read with sadness. Without the strength which, through our faith, we are enabled to bear such bad news, that sadness would be infinitely deeper. As we celebrate Easter, our hearts are inevitably lifted and our hopes are raised – we can confidently believe the words of St Augustine; “God loves each of us, as if there were only one of us”, and, as it was so perfectly expressed by the late Cardinal Basil Hume, “the great gift of Easter is hope”. When we see our bare wooden cross transformed from emptiness to beauty, our most important symbol of Easter will become a glorious and reassuring focus for our worship. Once again we will be able to regain the hope, and feel the joy that can only come through Christ’s resurrection.

Arnold Tucker: We learned with deep sadness that Arnold died on Tuesday 5th March, in the JR Hospital where he had been for a few weeks. As a well loved and respected member of our church family, Arnold had worshipped with us, as well as supporting Childrey Church over very many years, until recently, when ill health prevented him from being able to continue doing so. All of his family have had close connections with our church. His twin daughters, Jane and Belinda, and sons David and Steven all grew up as part of our Sunday School, and his wife Shirley worked hard in many roles. Arnold and Shirley are both remembered with gratitude and thankfulness for everything they contributed to our church over many decades. In particular, Arnold’s skill as a carpenter and wood carver, as seen in examples of his work proudly displayed in the chapel, will always be visible reminders of the way in which he dedicated his woodworking gifts to enhance our church building. Our thoughts are with Arnold’s four children, his grandchildren and wider family. In gratitude for all that Arnold meant to us, we pray that God’s love will comfort, strengthen and support his loved ones who are missing him most.

Arnold’s funeral will be held at Garford Crematorium, at 3 pm on Maundy Thursday, 28th March.

Richard George: We are sorry to record that, in learning of Richard’s death, we acknowledge the loss of another of our nonagenarian members. Richard died on Tuesday 12th March, at Freeland House Nursing Home just outside Witney. He moved there when he became too frail to continue living independently, but was always keen to maintain contact with the friends he had made within our church family. Richard will be affectionately known for his keenness to audibly engage with preachers during a Service, and will also be remembered as a proud Welshman with a love of singing, borne out by his membership of Wantage Male Voice Choir for very many years. We hold Richard’s daughters and grandchildren, and all of his large family in our thoughts, and offer them our love and prayers. Details of his funeral, at our church, will follow as soon as all of the arrangements have been confirmed.

Jill Bunney: Last November we said farewell to Jill as she left us to move to her new home in Somerset. It was good to hear from Jill that, together with her son and daughter-in-law, Nigel and Julie, she is very happily settled in Ilminster, having taken with her many special memories of times spent amongst our church family. We have

received an Easter card, with a request for it to be displayed on our notice board. To ensure that message reaches everyone to whom she has written, this is Jill's greeting:

"To all my dear friends at Wantage Methodist Church, do enjoy your Easter and have a lovely time. I do think of you all a lot, but have wonderful memories", separately adding: "the pot of plants you gave me gets better all the time and it looks lovely"

Eileen Rennie: With thankfulness we are pleased to learn that Eileen's recent heart surgery at the JR Hospital has gone well. Until this took place, her determination to dedicate huge amounts of hard work to many areas of our church life has been compromised by health problems. Hopefully the parity has been restored as a result of this treatment, although we continue to persuade Eileen to practise selfcare as hard as she works in caring for others.

Praying for each other: In April the people listed below will be included in the prayer time at the Tuesday Bible Study group. On **Helen Carter's Pastoral List:** Jo & Simon Aldworth, Valerie & John Broadbent, Diana Gawlas, Trevor & Sheila Johnson, Adrian Richens, and Jane & Harry Rudd, and on **Faith Culshaw's List:** June Hartle, Jane Kent, 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 the Bible Study Group.

Prayer list

Eileen Rennie

Loving God, we come with thankful hearts full of praise for all the blessings the celebration of Easter Day has once more given us of your tremendous sacrifice for each one of us. We pray that you will continue to guide us and inspire us as we seek to live our lives based on your teachings. Your love is for all so help us to share that love with all we meet. Life has blessed us with so many wonderful experiences that so many in your world are not free to enjoy through no fault of their own. We pray for all those whose lives are impacted by war, conflict, oppression, famine, earthquakes and floods. Our urgent prayer is for peace and an equal sharing of the world's resources for all. We offer our prayer in Jesus name. Amen.

Please pray for

Bethan Grant, Anne, Carol Mackinder, Emma Wright and family, Caroline, Anne and Doug Hatto, Richard in York, Adrian, Diane, Diane's daughters Julie and Claire, Geoff, Meriel, Jane Robinson, Maggie, June Hartle, Richard and Anne, Peter, Louise, John and Jo, Mary Spalding, Jane and Harry Rudd, Jane and Enma Soffe and family, Trudy, Jade, Steve, Gordon, Sue, Angela. All at Bullingdon Prison, staff, prisoners and visitors, our Ministers, Deacon, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, Community Chaplains, kids@church, Street Pastors and Cornerstone. 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 me know by **Friday 19th April** in order for me to meet the newsletter deadline.

Telephone 01235 224284, or email eileenrennie@icloud.com

Lunchtime prayers - There is a change of day and time for this half hour session of prayer. We will be meeting on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1 pm. In April we will meet on Friday April 12th. We will meet in the vestry (Haven room) unless numbers grow to the extent of needing a bigger room. Entry to the building is via the side door into the church. We pray for those on our prayer list, those on our prayer tree, those who ask for prayer through the outside prayer box and those known to us. We usually include the Lord's prayer, a short bible reading, and finish with the grace.

All are welcome. If you want more information, please talk to Helen Carter.

Prayer WhatsApp group - the church has a prayer WhatsApp group that is used for urgent prayers. There are just a few of us in it just now and it would be lovely if the numbers were to grow. Please contact Helen Carter if you want to know more.

Community Café

June Grunwald

The Community Café was busy in March. On one morning we had 39 visitors. Regulars continue to visit us each week. We have missed John Cliffe's regular attendance as he has been in hospital and regular members sent a get well card. We shall also miss Chris, who has been a regular attendee for many years, and who has now moved to Abingdon. The café will be open on Easter Monday. On 29th April it will be the café's 5th birthday.

The café does not charge for coffee or home-made cakes, but each week we have "piggy banks" for donations to a charity. Our charity for December, January and February was Grove Day Centre and we raised £503.69. We had a lovely thank you card from the day centre. Our charity for March, April and May is Christian Aid.

The café is open every Monday from 9 am to 12 noon. All are welcome. Our thanks to all the volunteers on the rota who make the café such a welcoming place and to those who provide such delicious cakes. We were very pleased to welcome Jan Charles and Sue Green back as volunteers. If you cannot commit regularly but would be willing to be called upon at short notice it would be helpful. Although we can operate the café with less people, having 2 coffee makers and 2 welcomers each Monday is ideal.

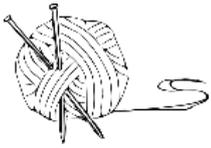
If you would like to learn more about the café please see June Grunwald or Eileen Rennie.

Recycling blister packs

Blister packs can now be recycled in Boots store in Wantage.
Anyone with a Boots advantage card can also earn points – details are on the box in store or on the website – but packs can just be dropped in the box, situated by the pharmacy.

Knit & Chat

Carolyn Roche



This month, due to the Easter Bank Holiday, Knit & Chat will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of April - **Monday 8th April** and **Monday 22nd April** at 2 pm in the Hall. Come and share in an afternoon of companionship, chat and knitting – or whatever other craft you are currently doing.

My Lent Knit-along shawl is making good progress. I am now working with 333 stitches and it is still increasing. All being well it should be finished on Easter Saturday and I will put a photo of it on our Facebook page next month. Please let June G know if you wish to join the Facebook group.

If you need wool, have any other queries or just fancy a chat do please call me.

Wantage & Grove Food Bank

Helen Carter

Thank you very much for all the donations of both food and money to the Food Bank. They are much appreciated. If you wish to donate money, there are various ways of getting that to the Food Bank. One way is to put the money into a sealed envelope and give to one of the stewards. Other ways are detailed in the Food Bank website - <https://www.wantageandgrovefoodbank.org.uk/>.

General Church Meeting and Annual Report

Our General Church Meeting (which we hold annually) will, as has been our custom over the last few years, take place during our service on **Sunday 28th April** in church. This will give us the opportunity as a church community to reflect on the life of the church and to hear about what has been happening as well as identify both the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

We will also be electing our Church Stewards and members to the Church Council (the governing body of the church).

This year we will also be looking to elect two representatives to the Church Leadership Team.

We are conscious that discussions are not always easy to facilitate on such occasions, we will therefore, be holding an open meeting on a Saturday morning in late spring / early summer when we can pick up some of the themes from the General Church Meeting in more detail.

If you'd be willing to serve as a church steward, a representative to the Church Council or sit on the Church Leadership Team, then nominations must be handed to Keith or the Stewards in writing by **April 21st** along with the name of a proposer. Those willing to serve must be church members.

What is happening on the Wantage premises at present?

Sunday	9:30 am	Kids@Church		3 rd Sunday
	10:30 am	Morning Worship	In person and on Zoom	Weekly
Monday	Morning	Drop-in Café	in the Hall	Weekly
	Afternoon	Knit & Chat	in the Hall	See article
Tuesday	Afternoon	Prayer & Study Group	in the Parlour	Weekly
Friday	Afternoon	Caritas Choirs		Weekly in term

Users All in the Hall

Monday	Evening	Slimming World		Weekly
		CA Meeting		Weekly
Tuesday	Morning	MIND		Weekly
	Evening	Wantage Camera Club		Weekly
Wednesday	Afternoon	My Life My Choice		Last Wednesday
	Evening	Wantage Sings		Weekly
Thursday	Midday	KAWI		3 rd Thursday
Friday	Morning	Mothers & Toddlers		Weekly in term
Saturday	Morning	Dads Out		1 st Saturday

April

Wednesday 3 rd	Evening	Film		Chapel
Sunday 21 st	Afternoon	Jigsaw		Hall
Thursday 25 th	Evening	Music Makers		Hall

May

Thursday 2 nd	All Day	Local Elections – Polling Station		Hall Building
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DIARY for MARCH / APRIL

MARCH

HOLY WEEK

For services see pp10/11

Tuesday 26th 2:15 pm **Grove Tuesday Fellowship**

APRIL

Wednesday 3rd 7:30 pm **Holy Habit Film – “Sister Act”** p12

Saturday 6th 10:00 am **Coffee Morning** at Grove p11

10:00 am **Holy Habit Book discussion** at Cornerstone p12

Sunday 7th 6:30 pm **Prayer for Revival** at Grove p11

Monday 8th 2:00 pm **Knit & Chat** at Wantage p17

2:30 pm **Bible Study** at Elmbrook Care Home p13

Wednesday 10th 10:00 am **Stepping out with Noah** p4

Friday 12th 12:30 pm **Lunchtime Prayers** at Wantage p16

Friday, 19th 7:30 pm **Film Club** at Grove - Dark Horse p11

Sunday 21st 9:30 am **Kids@Church** at Wantage p12

DEADLINE for May CGW NEWS

Thursday 25th 7:30 pm **Music Makers** at Wantage

Monday 22nd 2:00 pm **Knit & Chat** at Wantage p17

Sunday 28th 10:30 am **Wantage General Church Meeting** p17
within Morning Worship

2:15 pm **Stepping out with Noah** p4

Tuesday 30th 2:15 pm **Grove Tuesday Fellowship** p11

SUNDAY SERVICES during April

All Services from Wantage are shared on Zoom

Sunday 31st Easter Sunday

Lectionary: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2,14-24; 1Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18

- 6:30 am Millenium Stones Sunrise Communion Rev Keith Underhill
- 10:30 am Wantage Rev Keith Underhill
This service will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion
- 10:30 am Grove Ian Sturt
- 6:00 pm Childrey Road to Emmaus Rev Keith Underhill
This service will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday 7th Local Preachers Easter 2

Lectionary: Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

- 10:30 am Wantage Daphne Savage
- 10:30 am Grove Rev Keith Underhill
This service will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion
- 6:30 pm Grove Prayer for Revival

Sunday 14th Easter 3

Lectionary: Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

- 10:30 am Wantage Libby Bolton
- 10:30 am Grove Belinda Kaur
- 11:00 am Childrey Rev Keith Underhill

Sunday 21st Easter 4

Lectionary: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

- 9:30 am Wantage Kids@Church
- 10:30 am Wantage Holy Habits Libby Hawkness-Smith
- 10:30 am Grove Rev Keith Underhill

Sunday 28th Easter 5

Lectionary: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

- 10:30 am Wantage Rev Keith Underhill
This service will include the General Church Meeting
- 10:30 am Grove Tabitha Griffiths
- 11:00 am Childrey Rev John Anderson
This service will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion