



Minister:
Rev. Bruce Thompson
Tel: 01235 813242

<https://wantagemethodist.org.uk>

Welcome to Wantage Methodist Church

We are sharing Sunday services on Zoom.

The Church Stewards introduce worship, then there is a period of quiet in which we prepare for worship and pray for those leading worship. There are times in the service when most people will stand, such as for singing. However, please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

There is a crèche room for small children.

The Chapel is fitted with an induction loop; Hearing aid users are advised to sit away from the edges of the room and please switch hearing aids to the "T" setting.

Glasses of water are available.

Please join us in the Hall after the service for tea, coffee and fellowship.

Sunday 23rd November Women against Violence **Sunday before Advent**
Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

10:30 am Morning Worship led by **Peter Hemmings**

DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Monday 24th November

9:00 am Community Drop-in Café in the Hall

Tuesday 25th November

12 noon In Conversation with Rev Dr Sonia Hicks at Wallingford
see below for more detail

1:30 pm Tuesday Prayer & Study Group in the Parlour
Advent study 1

Wednesday 26th November

2pm – 8pm Reservoir Consultation at the Beacon

Thursday 27th November

10:00 am Advent Study Group at 1 Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis

Friday 28th November

3:30 pm Caritas in the Hall

Sunday 30th November

Advent Sunday

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44 Luke 18:9-14

10:30 am Morning Worship led by Rev Bruce Thompson
This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion

PRAYER FOCUS

Focus for Reflection : Luke 6:37-38a.

Do not judge, and you will not be judged.
Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned.
Forgive, and you will be forgiven.
Give, and it will be given to you.

Pray for the Churches in the local area and their working together.

Give thanks as we anticipate all that Advent will bring us in our studies & reflections.

Please pray for :-

Adrian, Alison C & family, Alyson, Caroline, Carol Mackinder, Doug & Anne Hatto, Edwina, Eileen, Emma Wright & family, Findley, Mark, Angela & family, Geoff, Gloria Smith, Hannah Morton. Hunter, Jade, Jane Robinson, John & Jo, Marc Hewson's family, June G, Jane & Emma Soffe & family, June Hartle, Mary Spalding, Meriel, Ken & Grace Wright, Lucas & family, Norma, Peter, Richard, Richard in York, Sharon, Sue, Sonia, Tony G, Trudy, John Broadbent, Vicky, Robin & Becky Legge & all the Legge family.
All at Bullingdon Prison, staff, prisoners and visitors,
Our Ministers, Community Chaplains, Local Preachers & Worship Leaders, kids@church and Street Pastors, Cornerstone and those members of our church family who, through frailty or ill health, can no longer worship with us.

WMC Prayer WhatsApp group to share requests for urgent prayer requests. Please let Helen Carter know if you would like to be involved in responding to urgent prayer requests. Thank you.

Prayer tree

Anyone can leave a prayer request on the tree. Please write a date on the tag somewhere. Please take time to check the tree and choose someone or a situation to pray for or about. Also, if any of the prayer cards on the table feel relevant to you please do take one.

Other Users on Wantage premises next week

Monday	eve	Slimming World - Hall
	eve	CA - Parlour
Tuesday	morn	MIND - Hall
	eve	Camera Club - Hall
Wednesday	morn	Abingdon Family Help Team
	eve	Wantage Sings
Friday	morn	Mothers & Toddlers
Saturday	mid	NA - Parlour

NOTE START TIME CHANGES

During November Tuesday Prayer & Study Group will be starting at 1:30 pm

Tuesday 25th November 12 noon “In Conversation” with Rev Dr Sonia Hicks
Chair of our District and past President of the Methodist Conference at Wallingford

Christmas Tree Festival

December 5th / 6th

The time is fast approaching! There is something that everyone of any age can do, and we would love to raise as much as possible for **Alzheimer's Society**. Please volunteer.

Can you ...

1) ... bake cakes/biscuits/mince pies etc for sale on the cake stall?

Contact Ann Barber

2) ... bake mince pies/biscuits to serve at the Dickensian evening and the Saturday coffee morning?

Contact Gill Skidmore

Contact Helen Carter in person, by email or telephone to ...

3) ... help serve on the stall or in the kitchen on Friday evening?

4) ... Chapel-sit on Friday evening (live Christmas music 6.30 to 7.30) or Saturday morning (recorded music only)?

5) ... help with set-up (Friday afternoon) and/or clearing away and putting angels in church (Saturday lunchtime)?

Advent Group 2025

Alison Phillips

The material for the Thursday Advent group has arrived. It is called 'A Strange Christmas' and is a four week course beginning on Thursday November 27th at 10.00 am. We will meet at 1, Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis. We start with coffee and ending by 12 Noon

Anyone is welcome to join the group but please let Alison know so that she can give you a booklet which costs £6.99.

Street Pastors' October Quarterly News and Monthly Report is available on our website.

IBRA

IBRA notes “Fresh from the Word” for 2026 will be ordered at the end of November. If you want to use these notes please sign up on the sheet on the notice board in the hall vestibule or contact Helen Carter or Gordon Skidmore. The cost this year will be £16.

AMSTERDAM TRIP + April 2026

There are just 3 spaces left for the trip to Amsterdam next April. It will be a case of first come first served and the group is limited to 15 in number. There will be an Anne Frank day, a historical day, art day, and tulip, clog and cheese day

If you wish to know more about the Circuit trip to Amsterdam in April please click on the link below and use the password ET211

[Wantage and Abingdon Methodist Circuit Amsterdam 2026 - Tours For Christians](#)

Financial Crisis

At the last Church Council it was clear from last year's financial statement that we have a financial crisis. A small working party has been addressing the issue and reported to the Church Leadership Team on Thursday this last week.

Last year we had a deficit of about £7000 and the church's total balances at the year end – August- were just under 24 thousand pounds. **The first call on our finances is the Circuit assessment** which is our contribution to the work of the Methodist Church in our circuit, district and the connexion. This is £12400 / quarter this year. **At church council it was clear that there is not enough money in the current accounts to pay this, this quarter. This is a serious issue.**

Some costs can be reduced and proposals are going to CLT to action these.

However we must increase our income as well.

This announcement is to share the situation with you all and there will be more information in the notices and next newsletter.

Up to this time the donations for **after-church tea/coffee** have been given to the **Benevolent fund**. However, **due to the church's difficult financial situation, that money will now go into the church general fund**. The responsibility for a Benevolent fund will be taken by the circuit.

As a continuing effort to restore our financial situation, we invite the congregation **not to exchange Christmas cards, but to make a donation to the church instead**. This does not prevent you from exchanging cards with your friends, but just to say that the pigeon holes will not be put out as in previous years.

Food Bank at Christmas time

To help make Christmas special food those receiving food parcels at Christmas it would be great if there were a good number of special items in those parcels such as tins of ham, box of chocolates and other luxury goodies. Please consider donating something special in the next couple of weeks. Thank you.

ZOOM Please contact Gordon Skidmore (07710 214601) for joining details if you wish to join the Sunday Morning Worship Zoom broadcast.

Notices for next week should reach **Gordon Skidmore by the end of Thursday** please.

wntgmethodistnotices@gmail.com

Tel: 07710 214601

Safeguarding

The Methodist Church is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of its life and ministry. Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused

If you have, or become aware of any concern, you must contact our Church's Safeguarding Officer
Ken Smith 01235 767545 or Revd Bruce on 01235 813242

You must not speak to others about your concerns or investigate them yourself.