

Services for June

- 4th 10.00am Rev Keith Edwards
Holy Communion
- 11th 10.00am Mr David Neville
Junior Church
- 11th 6.00pm Mr John Bush
United Service at St Mary's
Church
- 18th 10.00am Rev Ann Henman
Junior Church
- 25th 10.00am Mr Ken Harris
Junior Church
- 25th 5.00pm Open-air circuit service at
Swanbourne



Tea and coffee are served after the morning service. Please join us in the Hall.

Princes Risborough

Methodist Church

'The Messenger'

June 2017



*This magazine comes to you with the
good wishes of the Church*

Princes Risborough Methodist Church

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Princes Risborough

Buckinghamshire

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Material for the July/August Messenger to the Editor
by Sunday 11th June at the latest please.

Please note the next Messenger will be a two-month issue.

This Church is proud to be a member of 'Churches Together in Risborough' associated with The Baptist Church, Elim Church, St. Dunstan's Church, St. Mary's Church and St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Church.

Rotas for June

	Duty Stewards	Welcoming Stewards	Bible Readers	Tea/coffee
4 th	Mr M Pullen	Mrs F McMullan Mr J Drake	Mrs V Haydon Mr J Drake	Mrs V Spires Lane
11 th am	Mrs J Gerrard	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Mrs M Stevens
11 th pm			Mrs M Judd	
18 th	Mr M Pullen	Trout family	Mr & Mrs N Trout	Mrs C Palmer
25 th	Mrs M Judd	Mrs F Shephard Mr J Needham	Mrs F Shephard Mr J Needham	Miss P Scott

Weekend	Flowers	Cleaning	Grass Cutting
3/4	Mrs W Carter (Mrs C Palmer)	Mrs S Wilson	Mr B McCleery
10/11	Mrs M Stevens	Miss P Scott	Mr J Needham
17/18	Mrs M Judd (YDA on 17th)	Mrs C Palmer	Mr B Palmer
24/25	Mrs B Oates	Miss M Dore	Mr K Smith



If unavailable, please arrange an exchange or replacement, notify the steward, and amend the porch and vestry lists. If you would like to be involved as a welcoming steward or Bible reader, or any other rota please speak to Joe Needham (01844 343246), or one of the Stewards.

Those who kindly provide flowers please leave the wrappings in the vestry so that the stewards have something to wrap them in when they distribute them after the service. We could always do with more than is provided so if anyone has any suitable paper please leave that in the vestry or the vase cupboard.

Diary Dates for June

4 th June	Fairtrade stall
8 th June	SALT
10 th to 25 th June	Bucks Open Studios
11 th June	'Best Sunday for Ages'
11 th June	Messenger copy deadline
12 th June	Bereavement Drop-in
17 th June	Karibuni Children Fun Day
18 th June	Later
20 th June	Tuesday Fellowship
22 nd June	SALT
26 th June	Silent prayers
27 th June	Church Forum
29 th June	PR Music Society - The Gipsy Baron
30 th June	Princes Centre Quiz and Bingo evening
30 th June	PR Music Society - The Gipsy Baron
1 st July	PR Music Society - The Gipsy Baron

Future Dates

12 th July	Visit to Harris Manchester College
16 th July	Church BBQ in garden following Church Service
24 th to 28 th July	Lighthouse Week

Weekly Church Notices: Please contact Mrs Maureen Judd by telephone (01844 344935) or e-mail - maureenjudd@maureenjudd.plus.com with any information regarding weekly notices by noon on Friday.

Maureen Judd

Rest Day—Rev. Keith Edwards' 'day off' is a Wednesday; please try to respect this whenever possible.

From the Manse ...



Dear Friends

By the time you read this we have probably had our general election and may well have a new or a renewed government. During an election, there is often a heightened awareness of policies and public concerns and issues and workplaces and homes buzz with "election fever". But the enthusiasm is often short lived.

I remember a story of a 5-year-old who enjoyed his first week at school. Over the weekend his older sister said to his mum "do you want to come over to me for lunch one day next week" Instinctively the little boy said, "of course we will". His mum had to then explain why he couldn't go to his sisters because he would have to eat at school. To which he replied, "You mean I have to go back next week too?"

It was evidently quite the shock for him. Unfortunately, they forgot to inform him that he would be going almost every week for the next twelve or so years.

And that reminds me of how some people want to follow Jesus. They are fine with a week or two, but do not always subscribe to a lifetime of following him. Or they do not mind giving up Sunday, but have problems with Christianity being an all-day everyday process. The enthusiasm is short lived.

Jesus said: *"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."*

Following Jesus is to commit to a life of saying no to ourselves so we can say yes to Jesus. It is to embrace the cross of Jesus. Every day. It is a conscious decision one makes daily to follow Jesus. Deciding to do what he would do. Deciding not to do what he would not do.

Every day we face choices, whether it is politics, religion or education. For us as Christians, Jesus offers us a new life here and then life forever after this. But I believe he expects us to follow him. Not just for a day or a week, but from now on. But it is worth it. Just ask any of his followers.

Grace and peace to you.

Keith

Church News

Junior Church

The dates for **Junior Church** are **11th**, **18th**, and **25th June**

Fran McMullan

Birthdays



Happy birthday to David Robbins who will be 80 on **4th June**.

Fairtrade Stall

The stall in May resulted in the excellent sum of £62 so thank you to everyone who supported it. The next stall will be after the service on **4th June**.

Judith Gerrard

Retiring Collection

There will not be a retiring collection this month as we have an envelope appeal for Methodist Homes

Judith Gerrard

Easter Offering

Thank you very much to those who contributed towards the Easter Offering. A total of £135.00, plus some Gift Aid to be reclaimed, has been sent to the 'Methodist Church Fund for World Missions'.

Pam Scott

United Service -

with St. Mary's Parish Church and the Baptist Church.

These services are held either in our Church, the Baptist Church or St. Mary's Church. We are grateful to the ministers for leading these services.

The next service will be held at St. Mary's Church on **Sunday 11th June** at 6.00pm.

Church Forum

The next Forum will be on **27th June** at 8.00pm. Please make an effort to attend if you possibly can. Agendas and reports will be circulated prior to the meeting. *Pam Scott*

SALT

Everyone is welcome to this small, informal group. Come along and share lively discussion on a variety of subjects with some bible study thrown in for good measure!

We will meet on Thursday, **8th and 22nd June** at 7.30 for Bible Study & Fellowship at the home of Maureen Judd.

For more information please speak to Maureen Judd, Victoria Haydon or Joe Needham.

Victoria Haydon

Fundraising

Easyfundraising



Easy Fundraising does exactly what it says – it raises funds for a good cause (e.g. Princes Risborough Methodist Church) with minimal extra effort required on your part.

If you (or other family members if you do not do internet shopping) would like to join the eight of us currently registered, then go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and register – selecting Princes Risborough Methodist Church as the cause you support. Then all you need to remember is that when you want to do online shopping you first of all log on to the easyfundraising website, and then find the retailer you want.

Try it! It's easy and worthwhile!

'One Can Trust'



Food bank serving families in need.

Our Church box goes to the Food- bank HQ in High Wycombe, before distribution. A list of needs is on the box in the church hall.

Marilyn Dore

Thanks to everyone who supported the stall on 23rd April; resulting in £120 being sent to One Can Trust.

Maureen Judd

Smile

There was a very gracious lady who was posting an old family Bible to her brother.

"Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the post office clerk. "Only the ten commandments." answered the lady!

Source – anonymous



IT'S BACK

KARIBUNI CHILDREN'S

FAMILY FUNDAY

SAVE THE DATE

17TH JUNE 2017

FAIRFORD LEYS COMMUNITY CENTRE
11AM-4PM

—

**STALLS, GAMES, BBQ,
MUSIC AND MORE**

Helping children from the
streets and slums in Kenya
Registered UK Charity Number 1044872

For more information visit: www.karibuni.org.uk/

Pastoral Committee

Our Church Pastoral visitors attended a Pastoral Committee meeting at Pam Scott's home on 10th May, to discuss any concerns and to bring along any ideas for discussion concerning the members of this church and congregation. These informal and confidential quarterly meetings open with a prayer from Rev Keith Edwards, who is the Pastoral Committee Chairman, and close with everybody saying the Grace together.

This church has seven Pastoral visitors; Judith Gerrard, Chris Palmer, Marilyn Dore, Margaret Stevens, Diana Robbins, Pam Scott and me, who have all been allocated a number of church members and members of the congregation over which we have pastoral care, and we are here to listen to anyone who is in need, and to help if we can; after all, we are a family and we should always look out for one another.

Safeguarding was discussed at this meeting, as we have recently undergone or are undergoing up-dated training on this subject. An important reminder for everybody is that we have to Safeguard ourselves, as well as any vulnerable person to whom we are offering help or care.

The date of our next meeting is
Wednesday 20th September.

*Fay Sheppard,
Pastoral Committee Secretary.*

Methodist Homes

Included with this Messenger is a gift envelope for Methodist Homes, the Methodist charity providing care for older people.

The special Sunday to celebrate the work of Methodist Homes will in future be known as 'Best Sunday for Ages' and is on **11th June** this year.

The theme is "Befriending Age" and invites us to look at ways in which we can help one another support older members of our church and society as well as learn from them how best to plan our own ageing journey.

If you are able to make a donation in the envelope and return it via the collection on or around 11th June, Methodist Homes, who support more than 17,000 people each year including those in residential homes, will use it to provide life enhancing services such as chaplaincy, music therapy for people with dementia and support services in their Live At home schemes.

Church BBQ

Sunday 16th July There will be a Church BBQ in the garden following the morning service.

Transport to Church

If you require transport to or from any of the Sunday services or other events please speak to a Steward.

Tuesday Fellowship

At our meeting on 18th April Mrs Jean Orford, from Thame Methodist Church, came and gave us a very interesting 'Magazine' afternoon of readings, jokes, poems and telling us about some of her experiences.

On Wednesday 17th May we went on the arranged Fellowship Outing to Tring Reservoir, Marsworth. Unfortunately it was a very wet day but we visited the Bluebell Tea Rooms and enjoyed very good refreshments; the staff there treated us all very well. There was plenty of chatting and laughter going on during the afternoon.

Despite the rain some of us did have a short walk alongside the canal but it would have been great if we could have spent more time sitting and enjoying the lovely scenery and surroundings.



Thank you to Peter Willett for driving us in the Risborough Area Community Bus, and despite the weather an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

Our next meeting is on **20th June** at 2pm at the Church when our speaker will be our Superintendent Minister, Rev. Helen Kirk who will be telling us about her recent trip to Kenya with Karibuni Children, and you are very welcome to join us.

Pam Scott

Princes Risborough Music Society



The Summer Concert will be held on 29th & 30th June and 1st July, at 7.30 pm at Longwick Village Hall. We will be performing a concert version of "The Gypsy Baron" by Johann Strauss.

Tickets priced at £12.00 will be available from The Risborough Cook Shop, Art and Office, Library, Choir Members and online at www.princesrisboroughmusicsociety.com.

If you need transport to the Thursday performance, the Risborough Area Community Bus will be running- please contact 07941963097

Visit to Harris Manchester College Oxford

Following a very positive response Vic Baker has booked a coach to take people to **Harris Manchester College, Oxford, on Wednesday 12th July**, for what sounds like an interesting afternoon out.

There may still be some spare seats, but contact Vic to make enquiries. His phone number is 01844 690264.

Gardening Matters

After the church clean-up we have also spent time cleaning up the garden area generally.



I continue looking after most of the plots down the right hand side of the garden, but Vicky Spires-Lane has taken over the plot adjacent to the fruit trees. Brenda Willett is still tending the back plot. Between them Judith Gerrard and Marilyn Dore have tidied up the flower bed facing our left hand shed and Marilyn is looking to cultivate it with flowers to attract bees and other insects.

Mike Pullen

Lighthouse (Lighthouse Week 24th to 28th July)

A reminder of items needed for this year's Lighthouse Week.

Donations may be stored at Church.



- Old tights/pop socks
- Socks (*for puppets*)
- Large plastic yoghurt pots
- Wallpaper (*table covers so the pattern doesn't matter*)
- Buttons
- Used birthday or special occasion cards
- Small plastic plant pots.

There is the usual request for cakes for the café at Lighthouse! If anyone is able to bake cakes but is not able to take them up to the Lighthouse site, I am willing to collect.

A Big 'Thank You' to all those who supported the Lighthouse Quiz evening on Saturday 22nd April. 17 teams attended and raised a grand total of £1000.

Thanks,

Fran McMullan

Bucks Open Studios - ART AT ST DUNSTAN'S

Exciting 'Bucks Open Studios' group show in atmospheric, medieval St Dunstan's Church. Meet the nine artists who will be showing paintings, illuminations, photography, paper sculpture, laser cut designs, felt, mosaics, porcelain & jewellery.

Tea, coffee and fruit juice, plus biscuits and delicious home-baked cakes on offer throughout the show, and on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, cream teas are served.

Open Saturday 17th - Sunday 25th June 2017
Weekdays & Saturdays 10 - 5, Sundays 12 - 5

St Dunstan's Church, Burton Lane, off Mill Lane, Monks Risborough,
BUCKS HP27 9JE.

Dedication of the Fruit Trees

At the end of the morning service on Sunday 7th May, the congregation went to the bottom of the church garden to so that our minister, Rev Keith Edwards, could dedication the fruit trees to our former member, Rev Geoffrey Bending. The trees had been purchased through a gift to the church from Geoff's family, and it was good that his daughter, Hilary, was able to be present for this dedication ceremony. The photo shows Hilary with her two grandchildren Ethan and Hugo with Keith.



Photograph courtesy of Kathryn Trout



Congratulations to John Drake, who was invited to attend a garden party, accompanied by Barbara, at Buckingham Palace on 16th May. This was in recognition of John's many years of service to Age Concern

Youth Matters



The Later Group

The Later Group meet at our church on the third Sunday evening of the month. Our next meeting will be on **18th June** when they will have a BBQ and outdoor games. There is no meeting in July due to Lighthouse week, and we will meet again on 17th September.

We welcome a number of 11-17 year olds, with an average of 14 each session. There are various activities including table-football and snooker.

Fran McMullan



Youth Service for school years 7-13

Meet on 1st Sunday of the month at St Mary's Church from 4-6pm.



Informal Bible Study for school years 10-13

Meet on 2nd Sunday of the month at St Mary's Chapter House from 6-8pm.



Deeper Worship Evening for anyone

Meet on 4th Sunday of the month at St Mary's Church from 6.30-8pm.



Breakout We meet Fridays from 5 - 6.15pm at Elim Church, during term time, and have games, craft, lego, puzzles as well as watching an episode of an exciting DVD called Friends & Heroes, where we watch the adventures of a group of friends who also tell a Bible Story which is part of the theme for that particular week. The dates for our meetings in June are 9th and 23rd.

Doline Gadd
dolinegadd@googlemail.com

us to work through all the numerous renovations we need to undertake in order to make the Centre truly fit for purpose.

The next quiz and bingo evening will take place on Friday 30th June. Please remember to put the date in your diaries and phone Kim if you would like to come along. It's a fun way to show your support for the Princes Centre.

If you wish to contribute financially to our continuing refurbishment needs, you can donate on line by visiting www.princescentre.org.uk, and by clicking on the 'My Donate' button. If you would like to book a hall or offer support in any way please phone Kim, our manager, on 01844 345105.

Maggie Wooster

Deacon Linda Judith Ireland

Revd Den Harding, a friend and colleague of Judith, has contacted this Circuit to tell us of Judith's death.

Judith was a deacon in this Circuit for some years and lived in the upstairs flat at Stoke Mandeville Church; and many people in the Circuit will have fond memories of her.

Judith, who was 63 years old, died peacefully on the afternoon of Sunday 14th May in Castle Hill Hospital, Cottingham, after only six weeks since her illness became apparent. She was immensely grateful and overwhelmed by the love and concern of many people during her illness, and for all the prayers made, and for the visits, cards, messages and phone calls she had received. She was glad to be under the watching eyes of the nursing staff at Castle Hill Hospital, who eased her journey on, devoting their time, skill and compassion to her; they have been exceptional in their care.

Please give thanks for Judith's life, witness and ministry in your prayers. Please also remember in your prayers her dad, Les; brother, Andrew, and sister in law Lynn, her cousin Barbara, and the rest of the family; and Judith's sisters and brothers in the Methodist Diaconal Order.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Princes Centre Update



We will be celebrating our 5th birthday on June 1st and for the clients and anyone involved in the Centre, we will be providing morning and afternoon entertainment throughout the week starting on Monday, 29th May. Marks and Spencer, and Tesco will be providing afternoon teas on the Thursday and Friday.

We are very grateful to our patron, the Right Honourable John Bercow MP for visiting the Centre to talk to our clients, which they thoroughly enjoyed. He has issued an invitation for some of them to visit the Speakers House, probably sometime after the election. Clients have enjoyed complimentary afternoon tea at the Chinnor Railway and there have been various other outings.

Following a Food Hygiene visit, the Princes Centre was awarded the 5 star [highest] rating, although we have been advised that we need a new floor before the next inspection next year; another project! Please feel free to phone before 10 am to order a meal and come along at lunch time and sample what we have to offer in our restaurant.

The Princes Centre is supporting a number of students from Princes Risborough School who are studying health and social care, as well as young adults undertaking new challenges and learning new skills through the National Citizen Service.

We are delighted to learn that the Princes Centre is one of three chosen charities destined to receive a share of a grant from Tesco, where the precise amount will be determined by Tesco shoppers, which later this year will be used to up-grade the paths in the garden area to make them safer and enable the whole area to look good. The actual garden project is progressing well and should be finished in a few weeks time.

The project to refurbish the toilets is due to start very shortly, commencing with a survey on the drains, followed by the main work which will be completed by about the end of July.

We gratefully acknowledge all the recent generous donations including those from the Rotary Club, Lacey Green Productions and an anonymous resident, as well as from people sponsoring Revd David Williams' Kilimanjaro climb and those donating through 'My Donate' and standing orders. Your generosity helps

Methodist Connexional news.

The Methodist Conference has elected the Rev Loraine Mellor to be President and Jill Baker to be Vice-President who will start their year of office when the Representative Session of the Methodist Conference meets in Birmingham on 24th June. They succeed the current President, Rev Dr Roger Walton and Vice-President, Rachel Lampard.

Lorraine has been a presbyter since 1995 and is Chair of the Nottingham and Derby District. She is a member of the Church's "Strategy and Resources" Committee, and is the coordinator of the "Larger than Circuit" group, which is considering how the Church can best reflect the missional needs of today's Church. Lorraine says; "I want to encourage and enable the Church to put God back on the agenda in our communities and enthuse people to share the Good News. The Church has reached a tipping point; the time has come for us to take some risks in our mission and in our discipleship in order to help us grow."

Jill is a local preacher and tutor in the Scotland District, exploring and leading pilgrimages. She enjoys writing and in the past, spent eight years as a mission partner in the South Caribbean. Jill was President of Methodist Women in Britain between 2011 and 2013. She says; "I am thankful to the Methodist family for the prayer and support it offers in hard times. I am committed to working locally and connexionally for an inclusive, just, compassionate and creative Church."

The role of President of the Methodist Conference is reserved for presbyters (ministers) and that of Vice-President for lay people or deacons.

(Extracted and adapted from the Methodist Church's website)

Peter Willett

Silent Prayers

The next meeting is at St. Dunstan's Church Hall, on Monday
26th June at 8pm.

We need silence to help us get a perspective on our lives; to hear
the still, small voice of God, and refresh our inner being.
All are welcome.

Christian Aid

The CTR Christian Aid service was held on the evening of 14th May in our church, in place of our usual three-church joint monthly service.



This service was led by the Chairman of CTR, Revd David Williams, and the invited speaker was Phil Evans, the Christian Aid Regional Coordinator for Beds Berks Bucks Herts & Oxon. In his address, Phil shared with the congregation Christian Aid's current campaigns, which was supported by viewing two promotional videos.

A collection was taken for the work of Christian aid; but with no house-to-house collection being made this year, the main fund-raising initiative would be a lunch at the Baptist Church at the end of Christian Aid Week.

David Williams thanked Keith Edwards for operating the PA equipment, for agreeing to have the service in our church, and to church members for providing the refreshments afterwards.

It was while we were having refreshments that Phil handed out "Thank You" posters to the churches whose members serve on the Princes Risborough Christian Aid Group, for raising £5,000 for the project "A voice for the People" of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Under this scheme every pound raised will be matched 3 to 1 by the European Union; thus raising a massive £20,000!



Photograph courtesy of the Parish Office

Phil also presented John Vicary, and Mike and Maureen James, from Iver & District CA Group, with CA Diamond certificates in recognition of their long service to CA, which was followed by a hearty round of applause.

Since the service Phil has written to David Williams thanking him for his help with setting up Sunday's service. He said he really enjoyed the warm welcome and the chance to catch up with supporters from across the town. He wanted to pass on his heartfelt thanks to everyone who is involved in Christian Aid activities.

He reiterated how grateful CA is for our commitment to the Community Partnership project – "A Voice for the People in DR Congo." He said a newsletter should be out in June, which he will forward as soon as he receives it.

*Article compiled from submissions from
Rev David Williams, Kathryn Trout, Phil Evans and Valerie Adams.*

Bereavement Drop in

This group offers a welcome to those struggling with grief. We share together, drink tea or coffee, talk about experiences or just listen.

Many find comfort in talking about their loved ones with others who know what they are going through. We meet on the second Monday of the month, **12th June**, in the Chapter House at St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough, between 3 and 4 o'clock. Everyone is welcome, of any faith, or no faith at all. Further details from Rose Williams 01844 274225.

Crafty Sew & Sews

We meet each Tuesday in St. Dunstan's Church Hall 1.30 to 4.pm. Join us and learn new skills and share knowledge. Bring your own work – Cross Stitch/Tapestry/Knitting etc. £1 per session.

Organisers: Janet East 01844 345028
Pam Scott 01844 346857.